

JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTIONS: NOVEMBER 6, 2018

<http://oklahomawatch.org/2016/08/05/the-never-ending-battle-over-selection-of-okla-judges/>

PART 1 of 3: OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

SUMMARY of SUPREME COURT JUSTICES:

Supreme Court Justices in Oklahoma are appointed by the governor and retained by voters thereafter.

- Justices James Edmondson, Yvonne Kauger, and Noma D. Gurich were appointed by Democratic governors. Each of these 3 Justices concurred with the removal of the 10 Commandments from the State Capitol.
<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=476438>

- Justice Patrick Wyrick was appointed by a Republican governor. Wyrick was the Solicitor General in the Attorney General's office during the argument regarding the 10 Commandments. He backed keeping the 10 Commandments. Wyrick has also been the president of his local branch of the ultraconservative Federalist Society.
<https://www.afj.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Wyrick-Full-Report.pdf>

https://ballotpedia.org/Oklahoma_Supreme_Court_elections,_2018

GENERAL INFORMATION:

In October 2012, political science professors Adam Bonica and Michael Woodruff of Stanford University attempted to determine the partisan ideology of state Supreme Court justices. They created a scoring system in which a score above 0 indicated a more conservative-leaning ideology, while scores below 0 were more liberal. Where possible, this system is used. This study was not a definitive label of a justice, but an academic summary of various relevant factors. The study was based on data from campaign contributions by the judges themselves, the partisan leaning of those who contributed to the judges' campaigns, or, in the absence of elections, the ideology of the appointing body (governor or legislature).

- **PATRICK WYRICK – District 2**
He was appointed to this court by Republican Governor Mary Fallin on February 9, 2017, to succeed retired Justice Steven Taylor. Wyrick was included on President Donald Trump's (R) June 2018 list of 25 potential Supreme Court nominees to replace Justice Anthony Kennedy on the court. Trump first released such a list during his 2016 presidential campaign and stated that "This list is definitive and I will choose only from it in picking future Justices of the United States Supreme Court." Trump ultimately chose Brett Kavanaugh as the nominee to replace Kennedy. No score given.

On April 11, 2018, Republican President Donald Trump nominated Wyrick to a seat on the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Wyrick previously served as the solicitor general of Oklahoma from 2011-2017.

https://ballotpedia.org/Patrick_Wyrick

· NOMA D. GURICH – District 3

She was appointed to this court by Democratic Governor Brad Henry on January 7, 2011, to succeed the late Justice Marian Opala.

Gurich was first appointed to the District Court by Governor Frank Keating in 1998. After winning a contested election in November of 1998, she was re-elected in 2002 and 2006 without opposition. She served as Presiding Judge of the District Court for 2 years.

In 2012, Gurich received a campaign finance score of 0.26, indicating a conservative ideological leaning.

https://ballotpedia.org/Noma_D._Gurich

· YVONNE KAUGER – District 4

Kauger was appointed to this court by Democratic Governor George Nigh on March 11, 1984. She served as chief justice from January 1997 to December 1998. She is the only woman to serve as the court's chief justice and vice chief justice.

In 2012, Kauger received a campaign finance score of -0.23, indicating a liberal ideological leaning.

https://ballotpedia.org/Yvonne_Kauger

· JAMES E. EDMONDSON – District 7

He was appointed by Democratic Governor Brad Henry on December 2, 2003. He served as chief justice from 2009 through 2010 and was succeeded by Justice Steven Taylor.

In 2012, Edmondson received a campaign finance score of 0.48, indicating a conservative ideological leaning. This was more conservative than the average score of 0.33 that justices received in Oklahoma.

[https://ballotpedia.org/James_Edmondson_\(Oklahoma\)](https://ballotpedia.org/James_Edmondson_(Oklahoma))

PART 2 of 3: OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

· DANA KUEHN – District 1

She was appointed by Republican Governor Mary Fallin in 2017 to replace former Judge Clancy Smith. Kuehn was formerly an Oklahoma associate judge for Tulsa County, which is located in District 14. She was re-elected in 2014 after running unopposed. Her term would have expired on January 13, 2019.

<http://okcca.net/judges/judgekuehn.html>

https://ballotpedia.org/Dana_Kuehn

· SCOTT ROWLAND – District 4

He was appointed by Republican Governor Mary Fallin in 2017 to succeed former Judge Arlene Johnson.

Rowland served as the first assistant district attorney in Oklahoma County for almost 11 years. He also served as general counsel to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs

Control and as assistant attorney general for the state of Oklahoma. He became an adjunct instructor of criminal and constitutional law at Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City in 1998.

<http://okcca.net/judges/judgerowland.html>

https://ballotpedia.org/Scott_Rowland

· DAVID B. LEWIS – District 5

He was appointed to the court on August 5, 2005, by Democratic Governor Brad Henry.

In 2012, Lewis received a campaign finance score of 0.26, indicating a conservative ideological leaning. This was less conservative than the average score of 0.33 that justices received in Oklahoma.

<http://www.okcca.net/judges/judgelewis.html>

https://ballotpedia.org/David_B._Lewis

PART 3 of 3: OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

· BARBARA GREEN SWINTON – Office 1

She was appointed to this court on September 14, 2016, by Republican Governor Mary Fallin to succeed retired Judge William Hetherington.

Since 2002, Swinton has served as district court judge for the 7th Judicial District. She served as a special judge in Oklahoma County for six years before she was elected to her current position.

Swinton has presided over more than 100 jury trials involving civil and criminal felony matters.

Swinton is a registered Republican Voter.

<https://voterrecords.com/voter/37451601/barbara-swinton>

https://ballotpedia.org/Barbara_G._Swinton

https://www.normantranscript.com/news/government/governor-mary-fallin-selects-judge-barbara-swinton-to-fill-vacancy/article_e0a2e28e-7ac6-11e6-9e95-eb8c6a27df66.html