

OSBI and our Commission

- **Mission:** Protecting Oklahoma, One Partnership at a Time

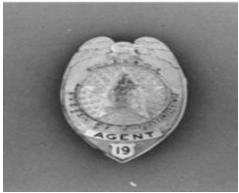


- **Vision:** Delivering excellence through innovative expertise, solutions, and services.

Commissioner Ron Cunningham, Lay Member
Aungela Spurlock, OSBI Executive Director
405/879-2585 Office
918/698-0798 Cellular
aungela.spurlock@osbi.ok.gov



OSBI Historic Notables



Commission
Created



1924 Bank robberies

Created 1925; JG Duncan- 3 agents- OSBCII-down 75%

1938-39; to DPS- 26 to 7 agents "Crime Bureau"

1957- Removed from DPS put under Governor- Renamed OSBI

1975-76 Investigation of Governor David Hall

1976- 7 Member Commission Created

1993 Probe of Governor D. Walters; Commission insulator

2002- First OK State Public Safety agency to obtain CALEA Accreditation

2022- First Female Director in almost 100 year history



OSBI Commission Structure §74-150.3

- 7 Members, not more than two of whom shall be from same congressional district, removable only for cause as provided by law and includes:
 - One chief of police, while serving in that capacity
 - One sheriff, while serving in that capacity
 - One district attorney, while serving in that capacity
 - Four lay members
- All members are appointed by the Governor and approved by the OK Senate
- Each member shall serve 7 year, staggered terms and may serve more than one term
- Each member shall continue to serve so long as qualified until a successor is named and confirmed by the OK Senate
- Vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the same procedure
- Annually the Commission shall select one member to serve as chair and vice-chair
- Members of the Commission serve without salary, but may be reimbursed under the State Travel Reimbursement Act

OSBI Commission- Powers and Duties §74-150.4

- ✓ To appoint the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.
- ✓ To hear any complaint against the Bureau or any of its employees.
- ✓ To make recommendations to the Director of any action necessary as a result of their review of an investigation conducted upon a complaint received.
- ✓ To establish general procedures with regard to OSBI assisting stakeholders.
- ✓ To establish a program of training for agents utilizing such courses as the National Police Academy conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- ✓ To require the Director to advise the Commission on the progress of pending investigations.

OSBI Commission Members



[Vic Regalado](#)
Chairman & Sheriff Member



[Bryan Smith](#)
Vice Chairman & Lay Member



[Ron Cunningham](#)
Lay Member



[Jeff Van Hoose](#)
Lay Member



[Russ Landon](#)
Chief of Police Member



[Angela Marsee](#)
District Attorney Member



[Jerry N. Cason](#)
Interim Lay Member

Commission Composition and Selection

- Representation: A well-structured selection process ensures that diverse perspectives and skill sets are included
 - Individuals with various skills and experiences, such as legal, social work, or community organizing backgrounds can enhance the commission's effectiveness.
- Accountability: A transparent selection process holds commission members accountable to the public and ensures that commission members act in the best interests of those they represent.
- Sustainability: A strong selection process can contribute to the long term stability and effectiveness of the commission.
 - Being a member of a commission can be very time-consuming. It is imperative that members are committed to the long term and the mission at hand.

Commission Benefits

- ✓ Accountability:
Commissions ensure that agency practices and procedures are transparent and accountable to the public. This can enhance trust between the community and the agency.
- ✓ Oversight:
Commissions provide an external layer of oversight and review of complaints made against the agency employees or the agency as a whole. This can help identify areas for improvement and ensure that proper protocols are followed.
- ✓ Policy development:
Commissions often play a role in developing and reviewing agency policies related to practices, ensuring that they align with contemporary standards and community needs.
- ✓ Community engagement:
Commissions serve as a bridge between the agency and community, fostering dialogue and collaboration. This engagement can lead to better understanding and cooperation.
- ✓ Training and guidance:
Commission can recommend training programs for the agency to address Issues such as bias, use of force, community relations, or other process improvements ultimately leading to better practices and reduced liability.
- ✓ Statistical analysis:
Commissions can analyze data related to agency activities, identifying trends that can inform better strategies for operations and resource allocation.
- ✓ Insulation from undue influence:
Commissions ensure that agency actions are equitable without regard to position, thorough, ethical, and free from undue influence. This benefit extends to agency stakeholders who can be assured that the agency functions autonomously in the pursuit of facts.

Recommendations for the most Robust Commissions

- Sufficient framework for:
 - The performance of established commission duties
 - Efficient access to necessary resources and information
 - A well-tailored member selection and appointment process
 - Structured processes to eliminate undue influence of outside entities or persons on nominations or appointments
 - Supporting the organizational mission and agency's service to stakeholders

Recommendation for more Robust Commission Structure

- 7 Members, not more than two of whom shall be from same congressional district and includes, as an example:
 - One chief of police, while serving in that capacity, selected by the Oklahoma Chiefs of Police and confirmed by the Oklahoma Senate
 - One sheriff, while serving in that capacity, selected by the Oklahoma Sheriff's Association and confirmed by the Oklahoma Senate
 - One district attorney, while serving in that capacity, selected by the District Attorney's Council and confirmed by the Oklahoma Senate
 - One member selected by the OK Senate and confirmed by the OK Senate
 - One member selected by the OK House and confirmed by the OK Senate
 - One member selected by the OK Attorney General's Office and confirmed by the OK Senate
 - One member appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the OK Senate

Commissions- Needed by All?

- Some questions to ask when determining need:
 - What “powers and duties” will the commission have? Why?
 - What limitations will the commission have? Why?
 - Do stakeholders and/or the community demand a commission for oversight? Why?
 - Is the size of the agency conducive to commission oversight?
 - Is the mission of the agency best accomplished through commission oversight?
 - Are the benefits afforded through use of a commission the standard that should be set for all OK Law Enforcement or are there specific qualities that make it necessary for some and not for others?
- As it concerns State law enforcement in Oklahoma, commissions are:
 - Vital
 - Proven through the operations, engagement, effectiveness, accountability, and transparency of the agencies already using them

Thank you for your time!



Commissioner Ron Cunningham, Lay Member
Aungela Spurlock, OSBI Executive Director
405/879-2585 Office
918/698-0798 Cellular
aungela.spurlock@osbi.ok.gov