

## OKLAHOMA SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

### 2017-2018 Performance Report Oklahoma Indigent Defense System

#### Agency Mission Statement:

To provide indigents with legal representation comparable to that obtainable by those who can afford counsel and to do so in the most cost-effective manner possible.

#### Lead Administrator:

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Executive Director  
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#### Governance:

The agency is governed by the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System Board, which appoints the Executive Director, pursuant to the Oklahoma Indigent Defense Act, 22 O.S. §§ 1355, *et seq.* The Executive Director, as the agency's chief executive officer, performs administrative functions serving the Board. The Board is composed of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate. Current Board members are:

Jake Jones, III, Esq. - Chair  
Don G. Pope, Esq. - Vice Chair  
Dr. Kathryn A. LaFortune  
Patrick E. Moore, Esq.  
Patrick Cornell, Esq.

The Board does not have any committees or subgroups.

#### Governance Accountability:

Minutes for agency Board meetings since March 1, 2016 are provided. There is no specific policy regarding Board member attendance.

#### Modernization Efforts:

The agency is undergoing complete IT services unification with the Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services. This includes implementation of a modern case

management system designed to further improve administration of the agency and more effectively provide legal representation to court-appointed clients, all at a cost savings to the State.

Core Mission:

The agency provides no services outside of its core mission, nor is any service duplicated or replicated by another agency.

Private Alternatives:

The agency provides services through both staff and contract attorneys. Coverage of the substantial caseload of non-capital trial services throughout the state are provided by private contract attorneys through a bidding process conducted on a yearly basis. The remainder of services are provided through staff attorneys in geographic regions and practice areas where the agency has been historically unable to secure adequate contract counsel at a reasonable rate. The agency also contracts with private counsel where either staff or contract attorneys have a conflict of interest precluding them from providing representation. The agency is not aware of any foundations, for-profit or not-for-profit corporations interested in attempting to provide agency functions.