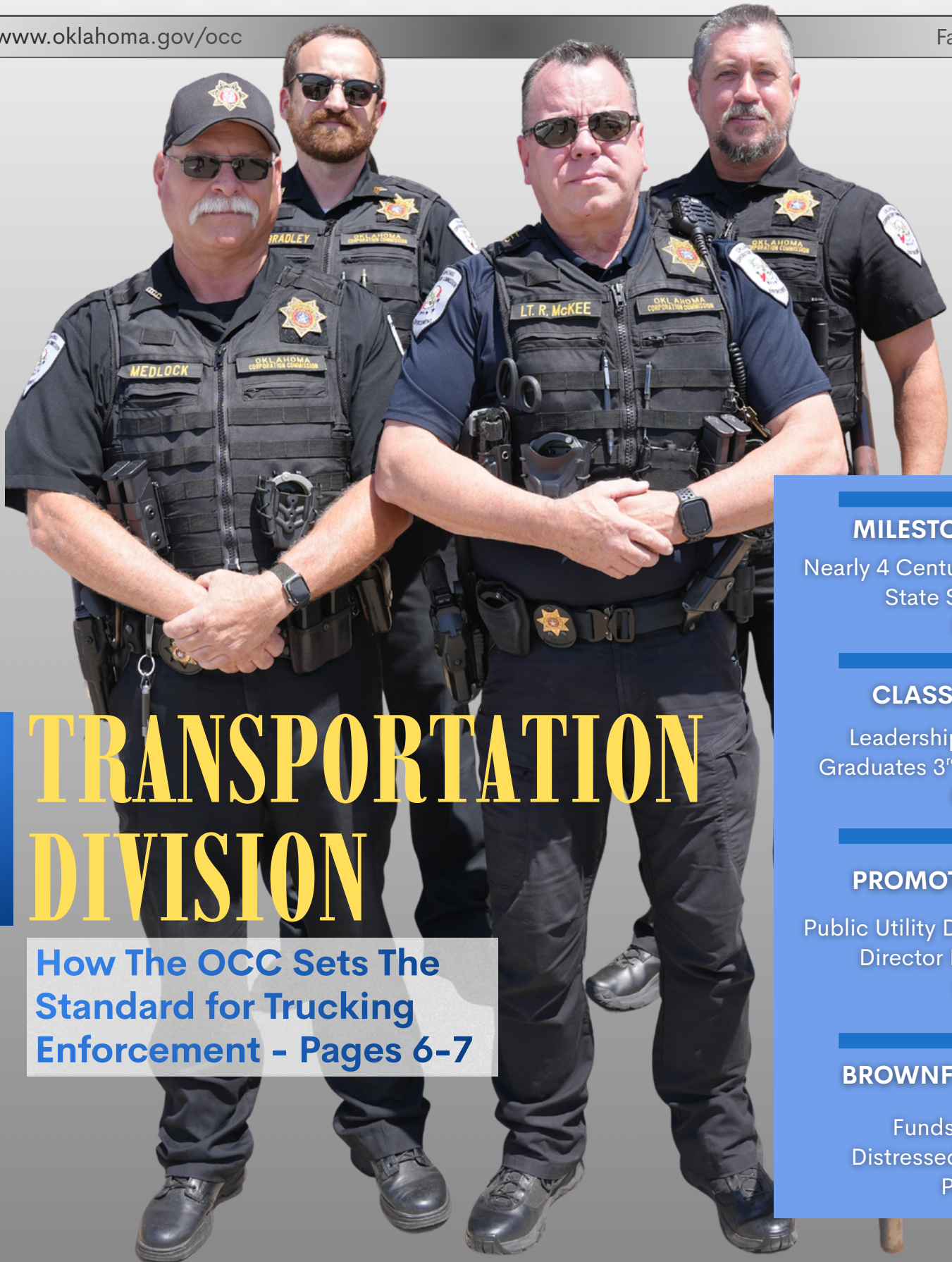


OCCURRENCES

www.oklahoma.gov/occ

Fall 2026



TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

**How The OCC Sets The
Standard for Trucking
Enforcement - Pages 6-7**

MILESTONES

Nearly 4 Centuries of
State Service
Page 3

CLASS ACT

Leadership OCC
Graduates 3rd Class
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PROMOTION

Public Utility Division
Director Named
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BROWNFIELDS

Funds Target
Distressed Sites
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MILESTONES

Honoring Years of Service & Commitment

We are proud to recognize the dedication and contributions of our team members who have reached significant milestones. *Their commitment continues to drive our mission forward every day.*



**Duncan
Woodliff**
OGCD

45 Years of Service



**Richard
Shephard**
Transportation

35 Years of Service



**Kimberly
Dobbins**
PUD

30 Years of Service



**Susan
Harwell**
PUD

30 Years of Service



**Nancy
Hendrickson**
PSTD

30 Years of Service



Chris Joslin
Transportation

25 Years of Service



**Rick
Matthews**
Pipeline Safety

25 Years of Service



**Daniel
Sanders**
Transportation

25 Years of Service



Ty Massey
PSTD

20 Years of Service



Tommy Lane
Transportation

15 Years of Service



**Brysen
Powell**
PSTD

15 Years of Service



**Tramesha
Teague**
AJLS

15 Years of Service



**Travis
Johnson**
Transportation

10 Years of Service



Ankur Oliver
AJLS

10 Years of Service



David Tate
Transportation

10 Years of Service



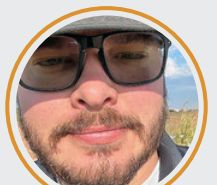
Josh Welk
Transportation

10 Years of Service



Billy Anglin
Pipeline Safety

5 Years of Service



**Dylan
Bearman**
OGCD

5 Years of Service



**Jerrold
Howell**
OGCD

5 Years of Service



**Angie
Huffaker**
Information
Services

5 Years of Service



**Madison
Jones**
Transportation

5 Years of Service



Brent Pulliam
PSTD

5 Years of Service



Chad Walters
Transportation

5 Years of Service

TOMMORROW'S LEADERS CONGRATULATED

Oklahoma Corporation Commission Leadership Class 3 concludes

"It's an honor to be here and participate in this process. You folks have put in a year of extraordinary effort on behalf of the agency. Leadership is a difficult task ... it requires good judgement, requires a steady hand and you folks have demonstrated that in your respective positions."

Jim Marshall, Interim Director of Administration and Appointing Authority

"We touch everybody's lives in Oklahoma. Now that you all have completed this, you have a better understanding of what your coworkers do in their respective divisions, and it makes you all certainly candidates for leadership positions as we go down the road. Thank you for your commitment. We need to do a better job on the outside of letting people know what a great job you all do."

Commissioner Brian Bingman

"There have been many surprises during my 12 years at the commission, some good and some not. But, one of the good surprises has been the caliber of the employees of this agency and the passion they have for the people they serve. Thank you so much for all that you do for the commission and the people of Oklahoma."

Commissioner Todd Hiatt

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission's Leadership program identifies future agency leaders and exposes them to what everybody else in the agency does.

Through a year-long program including lectures, presentations, site visits and interactions with current agency leaders, they learn how the Commission touches Oklahomans' lives each day.

This year's class celebrated completing its program where former Commissioner and former United States Representative J.C. Watts talked to them about how he had learned to be an effective leader.

Watts remembered his time as a commissioner, noting both good and bad days.

"But the people in the trenches – you all – really made it work. You executed on a daily basis, kept things where they should be and kept focus on the agency's responsibilities."

Watts counted himself blessed for having to have served as a leader at a high level in ministry, sports, business and politics throughout most of his life.

"Leadership is the ability to influence, motivate and guide individuals and teams to achieve a common objective," he told the graduates.

United States Army General Norman Swartzkoff believed leadership to be a potent combination of strategy and character, adding that if a person had to be without one, he or she should be without strategy, Watts explained.

"So, character and integrity should be the foundation of any leader. When a leader loses trust, you've lost your leadership," Watts said.

Sponsors and members of OCC's Leadership 3 class pause to be photographed at Deeprock Oil Operating, LLC in Cushing, Oklahoma.

Protecting People and the Environment, Conserving Natural Resources, Improving Quality of Life

POWERED UP

Commission hires Fairo Mitchell to lead the Public Utility Division



The Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) has named Fairo Mitchell Director of the Public Utility Division (PUD), promoting a longtime agency leader with more than 25 years of utility regulatory experience and nearly two decades of service to the Commission.

Mitchell most recently served as Deputy Director and Interim Director of the Public Utility Division, where he helped oversee regulatory matters involving electric, natural gas, water and telecommunications providers serving millions of Oklahomans. He succeeds Mark Argenbright, who retired after 13 years of service with the Commission.

"For nearly two decades, Fairo has demonstrated the expertise, integrity and leadership that define the Public Utility Division," said Commission Chair Kim David. "His technical knowledge, commitment to public service and vision for the future make him exceptionally qualified to lead the division as Oklahoma faces new challenges in energy, infrastructure and utility regulation."

Mitchell joined the Oklahoma Corporation Commission in 2005 and brings more than 25 years of experience in utility regulation, telecommunications and electric utility operations. During his nearly 18 years with the Commission, he has served in progressively responsible leadership positions within the Public Utility Division, including Regulatory Analyst, Chief, Policy Director, Deputy Director, Policy Advisor and Interim Director. His progression through nearly every level of the division has provided him with a comprehensive understanding of the Commission's regulatory mission and operations. In addition to his new responsibilities as director, the Commission on Thursday appointed Mitchell to serve on the Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Council.

At the OCC, Mitchell has led multidisciplinary teams responsible for reviewing some of Oklahoma's most significant electric, natural gas, water and telecommunications proceedings. He has provided expert testimony and policy recommendations on utility finance, cost of capital, rate design and regulatory policy, while also administering federal grants supporting energy assurance planning and professional development for regulatory staff.

"Fairo understands both the technical and policy sides of utility regulation," Commissioner Todd Hiatt said. "His experience and steady leadership will ensure the Public Utility Division continues providing the Commission with the high-quality analysis necessary to make sound decisions for Oklahoma."

Prior to joining the OCC, Mitchell worked as a Fixed Asset Accountant for MCI/WorldCom, specializing in capital assets, depreciation, regulatory accounting and compliance. He also served as an Adjunct Professor of Economics at Rose State College. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting, a Master of Business Administration in Finance and a Juris Doctor, and is a licensed attorney in Oklahoma.

"It is an honor to lead the Public Utility Division," Mitchell said. "My focus is on supporting our employees, maintaining the Division's tradition of professionalism and technical excellence, and ensuring the Commission has the information it needs to make well-informed decisions in the public interest. I also look forward to expanding transparency and public engagement through modern communication tools, including social media, to help Oklahomans better understand the utility issues that affect their daily lives."

"Throughout his career at the Commission, Fairo has earned the trust and respect of those who work alongside him," said Commissioner Brian Bingman. "His commitment to excellence, collaborative leadership and dedication to the public interest have prepared him well for this role. I look forward to working with him as we continue addressing Oklahoma's evolving utility challenges."

As Director, Mitchell will lead a division responsible for providing the Commission with technical, financial and policy expertise on matters involving electric, natural gas, water and telecommunications utilities. The division also administers the Oklahoma Universal Service Fund and provides the technical and policy analysis that helps the Commission balance reliable utility service, infrastructure investment and consumer protection.

Mitchell assumes leadership of the Public Utility Division as Oklahoma continues to experience significant growth in energy demand, utility infrastructure investment and broadband expansion across the state.

TRANSPORTATION ANTI-FRAUD TOOL SPOTLIGHTED

QR codes give quick, easy access to Oklahoma's commercial trucking records

Real-time verification.

QR codes made part of Oklahoma-issued International Registration Program (IRP) cab cards and International Fuel Tax Authority (IFTA) licenses provide just that.

Motor carrier enforcement professionals from across the nation were briefed on Oklahoma's success using the codes during a recent Performance and Registration Information Systems Management workshop arranged by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and FMCSA.COM, an independent trucking compliance resource to help carriers, owner-operators brokers and fleet managers navigate federal requirements with confidence.

Mark Willingham, the chief legal counsel for the Corporation Commission's Transportation Division, showed participants an Oklahoma-issued cab card with a fraudulent QR code included.

Willingham invited participants to use their smart phones to target the code, then click the link that prompted a 'FAIL' response regarding the record's authenticity. Willingham explained a QR code that works, developed by Toyota more than 30 years ago, is extremely difficult for a forger to create.

"I can create something that looks like a QR code, but it will just bring up nonsense or take you to a website like createmyqrcode.com. Our valid QR codes link to OK.GOV, and that is the only place they go. You get the notification of where it is sending you before you click the link," he said.

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has about 150 officers who screen 6 million vehicles per year across nine fixed facilities (ports of entry and weight stations), primarily on interstate highways, Willingham said.

During the most recent fiscal year, Oklahoma prosecuted 878 carriers whose drivers presented falsified credentials – mostly issued by other states.

The most common carriers the Oklahoma Corporation Commission encounters are from Texas, followed by California and Illinois.

Oklahoma-based carriers are only the fourth most-commonly encountered carrier. "We really are a crossroads state. What is happening here is probably happening in your jurisdictions as well," he said. "Because we also are an IFTA/IRP joint shop, we are able to control what our credentials look like. "The whole idea behind this is to turn a paper credential into an electronic one that can be verified in real time. The harder it is to falsify your credential, the more safe everyone is going to be," he said.

Oklahoma also created an anti-fraud working group led by Lt. Tyler Jones to work with other jurisdictions to let them know what Oklahoma motor carrier enforcement officers are seeing and is willing to work with any jurisdiction to help it create QR codes for its credentials.

"QR code standardized across IRP jurisdictions are our long-term vision of what we are hoping to see here," Willingham said.

Before learning more about Oklahoma's credentials, Virginia State Trooper Lt. Billy Johnson discussed the various types of fraud he and other law officers recently have uncovered with seminar participants. Typical credential fraud extends beyond just fake tags or decals, Johnson said.

Operators of illegal trucks attempting to escape detection by enforcement officers also have been known to produce fake utility bills, fraudulent titles, bogus Internal Revenue Service records, residency forms, secretary of state records and false bills of lading.



He showed participants numerous examples, pointing out how hard persons behind the scams work to create stickers, tags or cab cards that at a casual glance could appear to be legitimate.

Some were good enough to escape notice, especially if the officer inspecting the records was pressed for time or standing on the side of a busy highway with vehicles whizzing by.

"They don't have to be perfect. They just have to be good enough," Johnson said.

"We love what the state of Oklahoma is doing with QR codes. It is the gold standard."

OK Invalid QR Code



Oklahoma Corporation Commission • Transportation Division • IRP 5/17



SAFETY HAUL

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION PROTECTS
MOTORISTS ON OKLAHOMA HIGHWAYS

— HOW WE ARE DOING —



FISCAL 2024

48,098
CITATIONS ISSUED



FISCAL 2025

48,718
CITATIONS ISSUED



FISCAL 2026

47,542
CITATIONS ISSUED



TOP CITATIONS



APRIL 2026



- Overweight on axle, gross or bridge



- Failure to carry/present vehicle registration/fuel license decal



- Failure to yield for inspection

MAY 2026



- Overweight on axle, gross or bridge



- Failure to register commercial vehicle



- Failure to yield for inspection



BUSIEST MONTH FOR CITATIONS JANUARY

HAPPENINGS

Promotions, retirements and outreach events kept Commission employees busy

Efforts our agency's employees make both on and off the job aim to improve the lives of our fellow Oklahomans. Here are some highlights during the past three months.

DECADES OF SERVICE MARKED



Virginia Hullinger, the Oil and Gas Conservation Division's Technical Services Manager, celebrated completing a 21-year career helping Oklahomans at a retirement event June 30.

BADGING OUT AFTER FOUR DECADES

Oklahoma Corporation Commission Motor Carrier Enforcement Lt. Steve Peltó recently retired from the agency after serving 40 years in law enforcement.

He served the public as a member of the Commission's Transportation Division for the past 16 years.

"We are thankful that he spent the last 16 years ... sharing his vast law enforcement knowledge and history with the Commission," a Facebook post noting the event stated.



HAPPENINGS

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BE ALERT PLEASE



The Commission is reminding motorists to stay alert while driving after this accident in September where a car struck Transportation Motor Carrier Enforcement officer's vehicle while the officer was working a stopped a tractor trailer near a port of entry. While the officer was seriously hurt, he is expected to recover well.

MOTOR CARRIER ENFORCEMENT OFFICER COMMENDED BY COMMISSION



Oklahoma Corporation Commissioners in August issued two commendations to Motor Carrier Enforcement Sgt. Justin Kling for going above and beyond what the job calls for.

Kling was cited for actions he took during a response to a fatal accident and for assisting the agency in an unrelated investigation.

His actions are an example of the dedication and excellence the Oklahoma Corporation Commission strives for, a post about the commendations stated.

TURNING BROWNFIELDS INTO GREEN DREAMS

Commission Gets Help to Support Needed Redevelopment Efforts

CORPORATION COMMISSION TO USE FEDERAL DOLLARS TO HELP IMPROVE LEGACY LOCATIONS

Help is on the way for owners of properties in Broken Bow, Commerce and Langston and perhaps others, thanks to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's Brownfields program.

The Commission will use a \$2 million Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant issued by the EPA to identify environmental conditions and potential cleanup requirements with various sites that used to be gas stations in those communities.

The goal, Brownfields officials said, is to prepare the sites for future economic development investments.

Sites this grant target include a 0.28-acre restaurant and ice cream shop and a 0.09-acre gas station on Historic Route 66 in Commerce, and three former gas stations in Broken Bow and Langston. But the Commission also will be able to use the grant's funds at other sites across the state.

The grant was awarded as part of the EPA's Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Brownfields Grant Competition.

The OCC's Brownfields program primarily focuses on properties impacted by historic oil and gas exploration and production activities, as well as former gas station sites.

Those property types represent a significant share of Oklahoma's brownfield inventory and often present challenges that can hinder redevelopment without environmental evaluation and planning.

The Commission has five years to complete its work at the above-listed locations.

"This grant strengthens the Commission's ability to assist communities in addressing environmental concerns at underutilized properties," said Jeff Myers, department manager of OCC's Brownfields program.

"By expanding assessment capacity statewide, we can help communities better understand site conditions, attract redevelopment opportunities, and support the safe return of these properties to productive use."

Through this funding, the OCC will expand technical assistance services, accelerate environmental site evaluations, and help the communities identify pathways for cleanup and redevelopment, Myers said.

The latest-announced EPA grant supports the Commission's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, economic development, and revitalization efforts across Oklahoma.

More information about the Commission's Brownfields program can be found by visiting Oklahoma.gov/occ.



Brownfield help is on the way for a Dairy King and Allen's Conoco in Commerce.



OKLAHOMA
Corporation Commission

This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Copies have not been printed and are available for download at oklahoma.gov/occ. This publication has been submitted in compliance with 65 O.S. § 3-114.