



NEW SOK INTRANET

We're excited to introduce the pilot version of the SOK Intranet, which launched on Oct. 1. This is just the start – the SOK Intranet is designed to grow and evolve based on the needs of the agency.

As you explore the initial features, we encourage you to share your feedback, which will directly influence the improvements we make. Our goal is to create a system that truly meets your needs, and your insights are key to shaping its future. Stay tuned for updates, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts!

INTRANET

INTRANET SURVEY

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

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Leadership Update



This month's Leadership Update comes from Tralynn Stevenson, Service Oklahoma's Director of Human Resources

Happy Fall, Service Oklahoma! October is one of my favorite months. It is when we start to get the

slightly crisp breezes and smells of autumn that make everything so warm and comforting. As many of you know, October is also the time for state employees to review their current benefits and decide if any changes are needed for the upcoming year.

As a state employee for 12 years, I've always appreciated the generous benefits allowance provided not only for myself but also for my family. Think about this: in 2025, your annual benefits allowance will start at \$9,042 for employee-only coverage, on top of your annual salary. If you choose to cover dependents, that allowance increases. The state is one of the few employers that extends additional benefits for dependents, not just employees. It's reassuring to know that the state understands every family has unique needs and provides multiple medical, dental and vision plan

options to help us choose what's best for our families.

The state also values work-life balance. Upon starting as a state employee, you receive 30 days of annual and sick leave, plus 11 paid holidays. And remember, your leave accrual increases every five years of service. Additionally, a new state law now offers up to six weeks of paid maternity leave for eligible employees, on top of your other leave benefits.

When it comes to planning for retirement, the state matches up to 7% of your contributions to the Pathfinder retirement savings plan, which now includes a Roth IRA option. This means we are investing in your future so that you can build a strong retirement for you and your family. Plus, Pathfinder gives employees the control to manage your money.

As you review your medical, dental and vision plan options during Option Period, remember that our Human Resources Division is here to assist with any questions, big or small. You may reach out to us at ServiceOK-HR@service.ok.gov and we'll ensure you're supported every step of the way!



Open Enrollment for 2025

Open Enrollment for Plan Year 2025 begins on **Oct. 1** and will run through **Oct. 31**. **All employees must actively re-enroll in benefits during this period**, even if no changes are being made.

Plan details with comparisons and an [enrollment overview video](#), are available on the [EGID website](#). There are often plan changes that will impact overall cost, new or lost plans and certain benefits which do not rollover from one year to the next. For those reasons, employees are asked to actively re-enroll each option period, even if you are not making any changes.

Contact our HR team at ServiceOK-HR@service.ok.gov with any questions!

ENROLLMENT OVERVIEW VIDEO

EGID WEBSITE

A blue banner with a large white star on the right side. The star is composed of several smaller photos of diverse people. To the left of the star, the text "OPTION PERIOD" is written in large white capital letters. Below it, "Choose your benefits for Plan Year 2025" is written in white, followed by a white checkmark icon inside a square box.

OPTION PERIOD

Choose your benefits
for Plan Year 2025

Watch: Employee Town Hall

Did you watch our most recent Town Hall? [Check out the recording!](#)





WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



Kristen Wallen
Driver License Examiner
Claremore



Lexi Patterson
Driver License Examiner
Edmond



Justin Kelt
Regional Manager –
Zone 3
Lawton



Nua Pola
Driver License Examiner
(Online Services)
OKC – Classen



Deanna Metzger
Driver License Examiner
OKC – DTC



Sam Davis
Attorney
OKC – HQ



Sara Franco
Attorney
OKC – HQ



Jeremy Wallace
Business Support
Specialist
OKC – HQ



Tammy Henson
Business Support
Services Supervisor
OKC – HQ



Dylan Ramsey
Business Support
Specialist
OKC – HQ



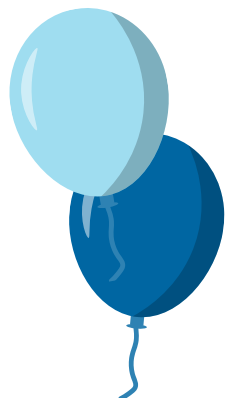
Mary Barrett
Driver License Examiner
OKC – I-240



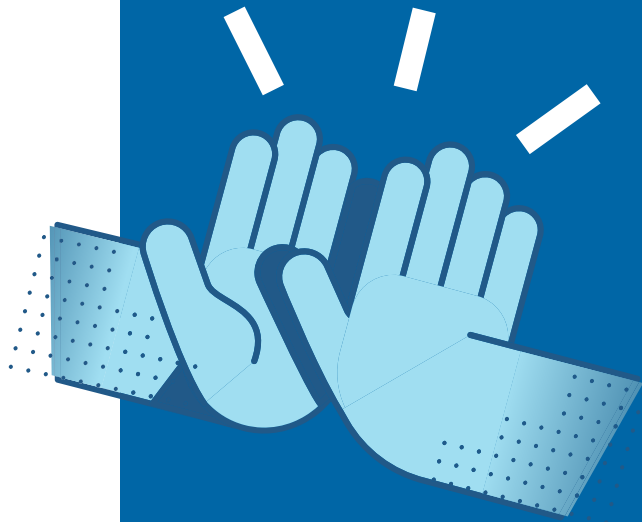
DeBorah Boneta
Driver License Examiner
OKC – I-240



Kenneth Harris
DL Auditor
Tulsa West



Shout Out a Teammate with a High Five!



Did a coworker step up and help you with a challenging project? Or maybe you saw someone delivering outstanding customer service? Maybe you just want to express how much you appreciate a teammate? Give them a High Five!

Recognize a fellow Service Oklahoma team member who truly embodies one of our core values— pioneering, authentic, reliable, neighborly or a trusted teammate. When you submit a High Five, your appreciation reaches not just them, but also their supervisor and our executive team. Show your appreciation and submit a High Five today.

SUBMIT A HIGH FIVE

Check out a few of the recent High Fives given across the agency!

Being new to DL Compliance, I am still learning and have lots of questions. I can always rely on Ginny to answer my questions, whether through Teams, email or a phone call. She is very knowledgeable, authentic and always offers a word of encouragement. Ginny has been very supportive and an amazing teammate. She most definitely deserves recognition and exemplifies what it means to be a Service Oklahoma employee!

- Trina Young gave a High Five to Ginny Patterson

Chance Bates was the presenter for recent in-person training on document recognition. During this training, Chance offered some great suggestions for determining whether an applicant could be involved in fraudulent activity related to obtaining credentials in Oklahoma. His shared tactics have been applied and since the training, at least two probable fraud applications have been confiscated and submitted for investigation. Great work, Chance and the Training Team!

- Lance Frerich gave a High Five to Chance Bates

Doug has proven to be a very valuable hire for the team! His knowledge of technical processes and coding helps us develop and launch incredible products. I can always count on him to lend a helping hand when we need it most!

- Tyler Worsham gave a High Five to Douglas Dearing



State Charitable Campaign

At Service Oklahoma, one of our core values is being neighborly—supporting our communities and giving back is part of who we are. This year, we're thrilled to participate in the State Charitable Campaign, and we invite you to join us in making a difference. Whether you're new to the state or familiar with this initiative, here's a quick overview.

What is the State Charitable Campaign?

Since 1989, the State Charitable Campaign has empowered state employees to extend their public service beyond the workplace by supporting communities across Oklahoma. Partnering with the United Way of Central Oklahoma, this campaign allows you to designate funds to one or more charities that have been vetted by the State of Oklahoma's board of directors—made up of fellow state employees. Your contributions help hundreds of organizations that support essential causes.

Mark Your Calendar!

Starting October 16, we've got a series of exciting events planned to engage you in this year's campaign. More details will be coming soon, but here's a sneak peek at some of the fun activities in store:

- ▶ **Online Raffle and Auction:** Win fun prizes like getting a VIP parking spot at HQ or the opportunity to pie SOK leaders in the face.
- ▶ **Change for Change Competition:** Teams and regions can compete to raise the most change—prizes will be awarded for the winners.

Give a Spooky High Five!

Throughout October, you'll also have the chance to give a "Spooky High Five" to a colleague to support our campaign! For just \$3 (or two for \$5), you can recognize a coworker who exemplifies our five core values—pioneering, authentic, reliable, neighborly, and trusted teammates. Recipients will get a fun seasonal surprise: a skeleton hand and a digital acknowledgment.

And don't worry, non-spooky High Fives are still free for the entire month.

GIVE A HIGH FIVE



Seasonal Saturdays Wrap-Up

As fall arrives, Service Oklahoma's Seasonal Saturdays have officially come to a close! From March to September, our dedicated staff helped us provide an extra day of service on Saturdays, offering greater convenience and accessibility to Oklahoma families in need of driver services.

March marked the beginning of Service Oklahoma's peak season, and with the introduction of Seasonal Saturdays, we were able to offer more options for in-person services, successfully meeting the increased demand that naturally comes with this time of year.

We're proud to share that during this time, we served over **14,000 customers** thanks to the teams at these locations for making that possible:

- ▶ Broken Arrow
- ▶ BA Drive Test Center
- ▶ Durant
- ▶ Edmond
- ▶ Enid
- ▶ Lawton
- ▶ Norman
- ▶ OKC Classen
- ▶ OKC Drive Test Center
- ▶ OKC I-240
- ▶ Stillwater
- ▶ Tulsa Eastgate

Based on customer visit patterns during Seasonal Saturdays, we recognize the need for extended service at centrally located metro sites. With that in mind, starting October 5, our Oklahoma City Classen and Tulsa Eastgate locations will permanently offer Saturday hours from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A huge thank you to our team for stepping up and helping us fulfill our mission of making government services easier to navigate!

New Look for Vehicle Titles

In 2022, Oklahoma transitioned to a title-holding state. As part of this transition, the title stock was reformatted. The new Certificate of Title stock is currently being rolled out, featuring the removal of the black bar. Both customers and dealers may soon start presenting these updated titles so be on the lookout for them when assisting customers!

Current Title:



New Title





Anniversaries

Happy anniversary to our Service Oklahoma teammates celebrating a milestone anniversary in October. We're thankful for their years of service with the State of Oklahoma!

5 Years

Tina Brown

Business Support
Specialist
OKC - HQ

5 Years

Ryan Pope

CDL Lead
Tulsa

10 Years

Michael Slade

Compliance
Officer
OKC - HQ

10 Years

Deborah Everett

Driver License
Examiner Lead
Tulsa

25 Years

Glenn Mays

MV Title
Consultant Lead
OKC - HQ

Retirements

We are pleased to celebrate Dawn for her 25 years of service with the State and we wish her the best in retirement!

25 Years

Dawn Stuart

Oct. 1
Transactional Auditor
OKC - HQ



WE'RE HIRING!

Interested in advancing your career at Service Oklahoma? We're currently seeking internal candidates to fill roles in various driver license examiner positions, central processing, administrative and business support services.

If you're ready for a new role within Service Oklahoma or know someone who may be a great fit, explore our current openings and apply through Workday.

[VIEW STATEWIDE JOBS](#)

EMPLOYEE SHIRT STORE

Employees can purchase as many additional Service Oklahoma shirts as they like while the store is open this month from Oct. 1 - 15.

Those wanting an additional Service Oklahoma t-shirt can purchase it for \$9.50 plus tax. Sizes 2X and up will incur a \$2 increment charge per size up to 6X.

[BUY A SHIRT](#)



Oklahomans Helping Oklahomans

Have you seen our new [social media series](#) featuring SOK employees? Each month, we're showcasing a team member from across the agency, explaining their role in achieving our mission to remove the stress of navigating government services by providing a best-in-class customer experience.



Our success is driven by the dedicated team members who work hard to serve our fellow Oklahomans, and we're excited to share more about who you are! In September, we introduced our social media audience to Dakari Turner, a driver license examiner Lead at our Edmond location.

Over the last year, Dakari has proved to be a reliable and trusted teammate, consistently going above and beyond. From welcoming customers to conducting drive tests and issuing REAL IDs, Dakari always shines.

Hear from Dakari:

- ▶ "I would describe Oklahoma as 'welcoming' because of the friendly and supportive community that makes everyone feel at home."
- ▶ "The best part of my job is creating meaningful experiences for our customers, capturing those moments when they achieve their goal of obtaining a driver license."
- ▶ "My favorite skill to test is an applicant's ability to read and understand all traffic signals and signs. This is crucial for safe and responsible driving. I scare easy, so it also puts me at ease."

Thanks, Dakari, for your dedication to Service Oklahoma and our fellow Oklahomans!



Discount Spotlight

As a State of Oklahoma employee, you have access to all sorts of amazing discounts. From homebuyer down payment assistance to health and fitness resources and other products and services, check out all the awesome deals available to you as a state employee by [clicking here!](#)

If you're starting to think about the holidays, this month's spotlight is perfect for you! [Meideya Jewelry](#) is a woman-owned online jewelry store that gives state employees a 20% discount site wide, using code STATE20 at checkout. Enjoy high quality, tarnish-free and waterproof jewelry at accessible prices!

Tell Me Something Good!

We want to celebrate with you! Have you recently achieved a personal goal, picked up an exciting hobby or experienced a moment of pride? 'Tell Me Something Good' by submitting your positive stories and photos to Vanessa Spaeth, Internal Communications Manager, at vanessa.spaeth@service.ok.gov.



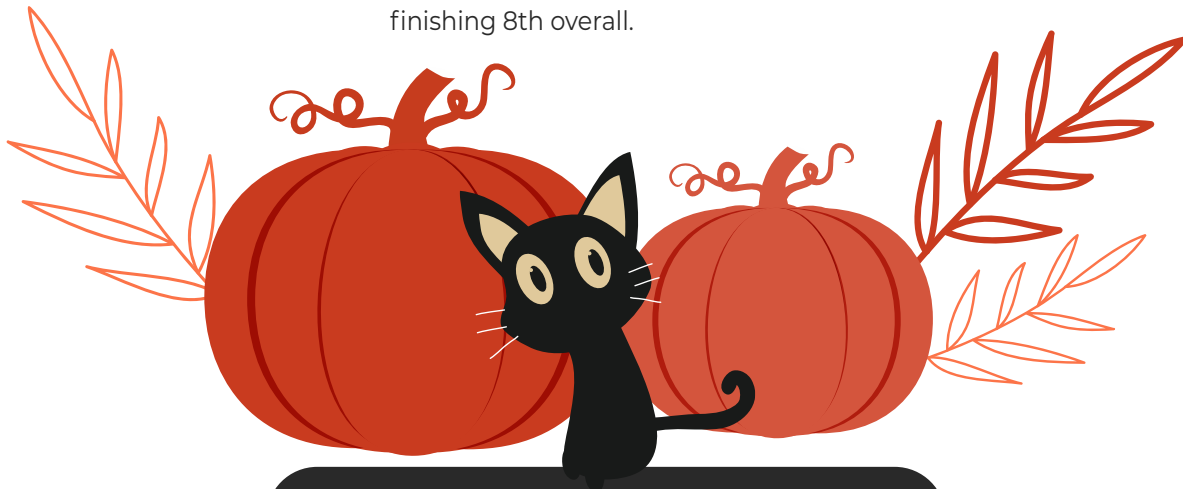
Jeffrey Vaile, DLE from Ardmore, recently reunited with his oldest son, who has been away on military service. After nearly a year apart, Jeffrey was overjoyed to have him back home for a visit.



Ben Drennan, DLE from Bartlesville, recently competed in the challenging Scotfest competitions. As the only novice competitor, Ben performed exceptionally well, securing 3rd place in several events and finishing 8th overall.



Codi Critchlow, DLE from Antlers, recently announced that she and her partner, Corwin Ridgeway, are expecting their first child. Their baby girl is due this December, and the couple is very excited to start their family together.



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