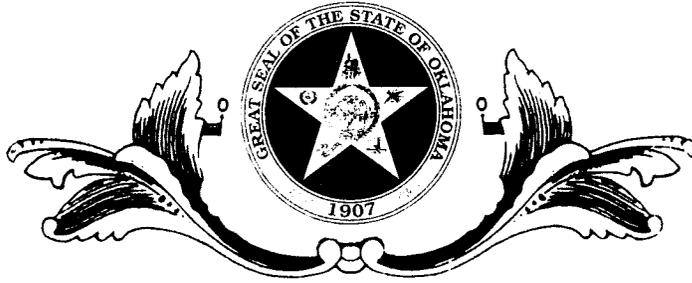


OCT 12 2020

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, originating over 200 years ago in Sweden, ombuds are government officials charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and

Whereas, today's ombuds are confidential, independent, impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of, and complementary to, formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and

Whereas, ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within the state of Oklahoma and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and

Whereas, ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and adds significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and

Whereas, recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage the greater use of ombuds programs; and

Whereas, citizens of the state of Oklahoma are encouraged to become familiar with the ombuds profession and the professionals in this role across sectors, and to make use of these essential services as needed;

Now Therefore, I, Governor J. Kevin Stitt, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2020, as

"Ombuds Day"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this twelfth day of October, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and twelfth year.



Acting Assistant

Michelle Waddell
SECRETARY OF STATE

Kevin Stitt
GOVERNOR

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