



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Traci N.W. Ballard  
Assistant Attorney General

May 6, 2024

**Via Email**

Thomas Jones  
American Accountability Foundation  
**records@american-af.org**

**Re: Open Records Act request, our internal number 24 ORA 29**

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter is in response to your Open Records Act request for the following:

Under the Oklahoma Open Records Act, 51 §24A.1 et seq., the American Accountability Foundation (AAF) makes the following request.

Specifically, we are requesting copies of the following records:

- 1) Copies of emails between (to, from, cc, bcc) Mr. Gentner Drummond and any of the following:
  - a. email accounts at the domain @cmastrategies.com
  - b. email accounts at the domain @blackrock.com
  - c. Sharon Caldwell
  - d. Pat McFerron
  - e. Matt Ball
  - f. Sumer Curry
  - g. Jennifer Gilbertson

Please exclude any news clippings or newsletters in which Mr. Drummond makes no comment.

- 2) Copies of complete text message threads in the custody of Gentner Drummond, (on both personal and official devices) with individuals or groups, in which the phrase "BlackRock" is present (please search without regard to capitalization). These can be obtained by searching within the text messaging application (iMessage, Google Messages, Telegram, Confide, Signal, Dust, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or other similar messaging application) for the word "BlackRock." To be clear, if Mr. Drummond is on a group or individual chat, and a participant, even if they were not an employee of or affiliated with the BlackRock, were to text something like

“Is BlackRock going to weigh in on this issue,” please provide that whole text thread – including all comments, not merely those where the keyword “BlackRock” was mentioned.

3) Copies of text messages or text messages threads in any text messaging application (on both personal and official devices - including but not limited to iMessage, Google Messages, Telegram, Confide, Signal, Dust, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or other similar messaging application), in the possession of Mr. Gentner Drummond related to official business of the office of the Attorney General, in which any of the following individuals are present:

- a. Sharon Caldwell
- b. Pat McFerron
- c. Matt Ball
- d. Sumer Curry
- e. Jennifer Gilbertson

We would note that Mr. Drummond should have contacts on his device(s) which would associate the above individuals with certain telephone numbers. We would suggest that as a starting point for conducting a search for responsive records. Additionally, a keyword search in the search function of his various messaging applications should assist with locating responsive records.

4) Copies of complete calendar entries on the calendar of Mr. Gentner Drummond for meetings with any of the following individuals or organizations:

- a. Sharon Caldwell
- b. Pat McFerron
- c. Matt Ball
- d. Sumer Curry
- e. Jennifer Gilbertson
- f. CMA Strategies
- g. Any company containing the word “Blackrock” in its name.

Please include all attachments associated with the invitation, any attachments associated with the calendar entry, as well as any materials provided by the individual or organization requesting the meeting either before or after the meeting.

5) Copies of text messages or text messages threads in any text messaging application (including but not limited to iMessage, Google Messages, Telegram, Confide, Signal, Dust, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or other similar messaging application) in the custody of the Attorney General, related to official business of the office of the Attorney General, in which any of the following telephone numbers are present:

- a. (706) 955-5767
- b. (405) 596-4181
- c. (405) 388-0054
- d. (405) 793-1087
- e. (405) 921-3242
- f. (405) 315-3668
- g. (405) 474-7597
- h. (405) 627-4079

Please search for responsive records from March 1, 2023 through present.

The Oklahoma Attorney General's Office has reviewed its records in accordance with your request and determined that the enclosed records are responsive to your request and not subject to an exemption under the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

It has been determined that any additional responsive documents which may exist in the possession of the Office of the Attorney General would be exempt and/or excluded from disclosure under 51 O.S.2021, § 24A.5(1)(a), 51 O.S.2021, § 24A.12, or 51 O.S.2021, § 24A.14 of the Open Records Act.

Please note, the Open Records Act exempts from disclosure records protected by a state evidentiary privilege, such as the attorney work product doctrine. 51 O.S.2021, § 24A.5(1)(a). The Open Records Act also authorizes the Attorney General to maintain litigation files as confidential. 51 O.S.2021, § 24A.12.

Attorney General Gentner Drummond is committed to transparency and our office seeks to fully comply with the Oklahoma Open Records Act. However, our office does not serve as a repository for the records of other state actors subject to the law, and is unable to search records not in our possession. It is possible that some of the records you seek may be obtained from the originating agency or other public body.

Please sign the attached Acknowledgment of Records to verify you received the records. This response completes your Open Records Act request to the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office and closes your file.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Traci N.W. Ballard', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TRACI N.W. BALLARD  
*Assistant Attorney General*

# Acknowledgment of Records

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of records from the  
Attorney General this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sign

**From:** [Amber Alphin](#) on behalf of [Gentner Drummond](#)  
**To:** [Amber Alphin](#); [Kathy Hubbart](#)  
**Subject:** Meeting w/ Mark McCombe, Chief Client Officer of BlackRock  
**Date:** Monday, May 1, 2023 12:40:47 PM

---

Added 5/1/23 by AFA  
Requested by Pat/Approved by Trebor

This day and time works for Mr. McCombe. Let's out in ink. Thanks!

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone  
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---

**From:** Amber Alphin <[Amber.Alphin@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Amber.Alphin@oag.ok.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2023 11:02:51 AM  
**To:** Pat McFerron <[pat@cmastrategies.com](mailto:pat@cmastrategies.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Scheduling Item

Absolutely.

Amber Alphin  
Executive Assistant  
Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General  
(918) 581-2173  
(405) 522-4391  
[amber.alphin@oag.ok.gov](mailto:amber.alphin@oag.ok.gov)

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Thank you. Can you place a hold on that time and I will work today to see if we can make that work.

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am on May 11 at our Oklahoma City office. The address is 313 NE 21st Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Thank you,

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Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General  
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We are hoping to do something during the first half of May. How does May 11 look?

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Trebor

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**To:** [Trebor Worthen](#); [Amber Alphin](#); [Kathy Hubbart](#)  
**Cc:** [Amie Ely](#)  
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**From:** [State of Oklahoma](#)  
**To:** [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Filed – Executive Order 2023-11, 2023-12, 2023-14  
**Date:** Monday, May 8, 2023 4:05:42 PM

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OK logo



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## Executive Order 2023-11, 2023-12, 2023-14

Good Afternoon,

Today Gov. Stitt issued three executive orders designed to reduce the size of government.

- [Executive Order 2023-11](#) requires state agencies to conduct a detailed review of job positions created since March 2020 and provide that list to the Secretary of Operations and Government Efficiency.
- [Executive Order 2023-12](#) states a moratorium shall remain in place on nonessential out-of-state travel for all state employees that is paid for by the State of Oklahoma and requires advance written notification for travel paid for by an entity other than the state.
- [Executive Order 2023-14](#) directs administrative heads and chief executives to take the necessary actions to insure all vehicles owned by the state and under the control of a state agency have been scheduled with OMES Fleet Management, no later than June 30, 2023, to be equipped with an automatic vehicle locator (AVL) and placed on the Fleet Management M5 System.

The filed executive orders are attached and will take effect immediately.

Thank you,

Sumer Curry  
Office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt

[EO 2023-11](#)  
[EO 2023-12](#)  
[EO 2023-14](#)

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This service is provided to you at no charge by the [Office of Management and Enterprise Services](#).

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This email was sent to [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov) using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of:  
Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services · 2401 N. Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 · (405) 521-2141



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**To:** [Amber Alphin](#); [Kathy Hubbart](#)  
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**Date:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 11:55:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

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Requested by Pat/Approved by Trebor

From BlackRock will be:



Mark McCombe vice chairman (<https://www.blackrock.com/corporate/about-us/leadership/office-of-the-chairman/mark-mccombe#:~:text=McCombe%20has%20had%20an%20international,of%20HSBC%20Global%20Asset%20Management.>)

Chad Slawner Managing Director  
Peter Vaughan Managing Director

From CMA Strategies:

it will be myself and



Matt Ball

This day and time works for Mr. McCombe. Let's out in ink. Thanks!

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24 ORA 29 Jones 00001



24 ORA 29 Jones 000014

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**To:** [Trebور Worthen](#); [Amber Alphin](#); [Kathy Hubbard](#)  
**Cc:** [Amie Ely](#)  
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Chad Slawner Managing Director  
Peter Vaughan Managing Director

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24 ORA 29 Jones 00001



24 ORA 29 Jones 000020



**From:** [Domain postMaster address](#)  
**To:** [Gentner Drummond](#)  
**Subject:** Your message couldn't be delivered  
**Date:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 3:19:30 PM

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Logo



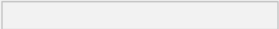
## Your message couldn't be delivered

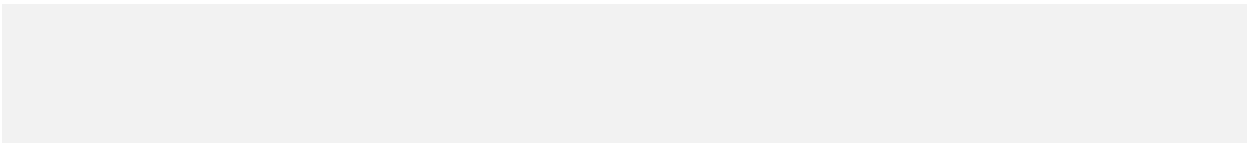
The message you sent to [peter.vaughn@blackrock.com](mailto:peter.vaughn@blackrock.com) couldn't be delivered due to:  
Recipient email address is possibly incorrect.

### Further information

#### 5.1.1 User Unknown

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**From:** [Office of Management and Enterprise Services](#)  
**To:** [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 2024 State holidays  
**Date:** Friday, May 12, 2023 3:11:47 PM

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State of Oklahoma logo



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Good afternoon,

Please find attached Governor Stitt's [Executive Order No. 2023-16](#).

Filed May 12, 2023, with the Oklahoma Secretary of State, the Order directs the following [2024 dates](#) be observed as holidays by the State of Oklahoma.

Thank you,

Sumer Curry  
Office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt

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**From:** [McCombe, Mark](#)  
**To:** [Gentner Drummond](#)  
**Cc:** [Slawner, Chad](#); [Vaughan, Peter](#); [pat@cmastrategies.com](mailto:pat@cmastrategies.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Oklahoma/Blackrock  
**Date:** Friday, May 12, 2023 3:45:49 PM

---

Dear Attorney General Drummond,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us yesterday, we recognize your schedule is demanding.

I know we covered a lot of ground, and we appreciated the conversation. We'll certainly work with Pat to get you the information in the coming days.

Thank you again and we look forward to speaking soon.

Best,  
Mark

**Mark McCombe**

Vice Chairman | BlackRock

Phone: +1-212-810-8809 | Mobile: +1-646-656-0651

---

**From:** Gentner Drummond <[Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** McCombe, Mark <[mark.mccombe@blackrock.com](mailto:mark.mccombe@blackrock.com)>  
**Cc:** Slawner, Chad <[chad.slawner@blackrock.com](mailto:chad.slawner@blackrock.com)>; [peter.vaughn@blackrock.com](mailto:peter.vaughn@blackrock.com);  
[pat@cmastrategies.com](mailto:pat@cmastrategies.com)  
**Subject:** Oklahoma/Blackrock

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Mark:

I enjoyed our meeting this morning, and I valued your input as we navigate in impact of the Oklahoma Energy Discrimination Elimination Act of 2022. I look forward to receiving empirical data from your team and from Pat, who is a deeply respected and influential consultant.

Gentner

Gentner Drummond  
Oklahoma Attorney General  
[gentner.drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:gentner.drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
918.581.2173 Tulsa (Amber)  
405.522.2975 Oklahoma City (Kathy)

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**To:** [McCombe, Mark](#)  
**Cc:** [Slawner, Chad](#); [Vaughan, Peter](#); [pat@cmastrategies.com](mailto:pat@cmastrategies.com)  
**Subject:** Re: Oklahoma/Blackrock  
**Date:** Friday, May 12, 2023 9:16:21 PM

---

Mark,

Thank you. I would like to continue our productive corporate-state partnership.

By the way, it is simply  
Gentner

Gentner Drummond  
Attorney General  
313 NE 21st Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
(405) 522-2975

---

**From:** McCombe, Mark <mark.mccombe@blackrock.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 3:45:49 PM  
**To:** Gentner Drummond <Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov>  
**Cc:** Slawner, Chad <chad.slawner@blackrock.com>; Vaughan, Peter <Peter.Vaughan@blackrock.com>; pat@cmastrategies.com <pat@cmastrategies.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Oklahoma/Blackrock

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Vice Chairman | BlackRock  
Phone: +1-212-810-8809 | Mobile: +1-646-656-0651

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Gentner

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Oklahoma Attorney General  
[gentner.drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:gentner.drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
918.581.2173 Tulsa (Amber)  
405.522.2975 Oklahoma City (Kathy)

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**To:** [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Filed – Executive Order 2023-13  
**Date:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 9:02:48 AM

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OK logo



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## Executive Order 2023-13

Good afternoon:

Please find [Executive Order 2023-13](#), filed May 8, 2023, with the Oklahoma Secretary of State's office.

The gubernatorial order concerns anticompetitive actions.

Thank you,

Sumer Curry  
Office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt

[EO 2023-13](#)

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521-2141



**From:** [Pat McFerron CHS](#)  
**To:** [Pat McFerron CHS](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Oklahoma Voters: Stay Strong on Crime. Provide Justice for Victims.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 3:30:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Final Sooner Survey Volume 35 No 4.pdf](#)

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Attached and at the link <https://chs-inc.com/sooner-survey-be-strong-on-crime-death-penalty/> is our latest edition of The Sooner Survey.

The Sooner Survey stems from our quarterly statewide omnibus survey of 500 registered voters in Oklahoma. This particular study was conducted June 19-22, 2023 and has a margin of error of +/- 4.3%.

This is free to distribute or quote. Please don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions.

**PAT MCFERRON** | PRESIDENT



**COLE HARGRAVE SNODGRASS & ASSOCIATES** | PO BOX 2034 | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73101  
P [405.415.3017](tel:405.415.3017) | M [405.388.0054](tel:405.388.0054) | F [405.236.2755](tel:405.236.2755) | E [Pat@chs-inc.com](mailto:Pat@chs-inc.com)

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# Oklahoma Voters: Be Strong on Crime

## *Despite high profile cases, two-thirds support death penalty*

By Pat McFerron, President  
 X @McFerron

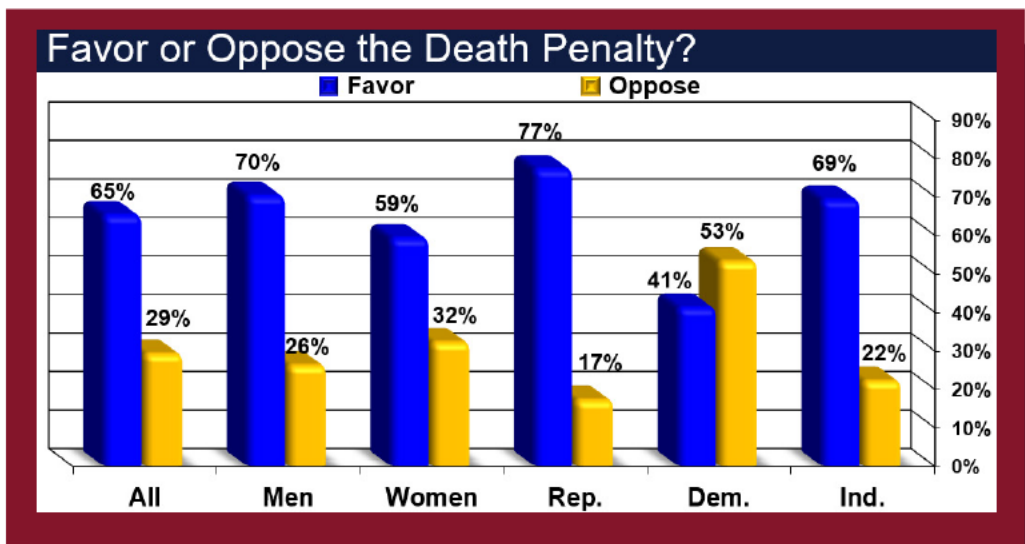
Too often, politicians and others try to force choices when the reality is, voters want an all of the above. One need look no further than criminal justice reform efforts. It is a given, voters don't want to lock-up those violating simple drug possession laws (they proved that by voting for SQ 780 in 2016). But that does not mean they want a soft-on-crime approach. They proved that with the overwhelming defeat of SQ 805 which sought to lessen time in prison for repeat violators of Oklahoma's laws. As someone who did polling in favor of SQ 780, opposing SQ 805, and consulting on Marsy's Law for victim rights (which garnered 78% as SQ 794 in 2018) I will argue there is no conflict with voters here. Of course, any campaign can shape the discussion, but our polling shows voters are very consistent in their desire for a strong public

safety presence in this state.

The death penalty is a case in point. From our firm's first look at the death penalty until today, we have seen support range from 64% to 67%. When they voted on this issue (SQ 776 in 2016) 66.36% voted in support of the state question. In our latest survey, support for the death penalty sits at 65% with fewer than half that many (29%) saying they oppose it. More striking is that 46% say they definitely favor capital punishment while only 19% ardently oppose it. This issue should be a tough

political decision for Democrats as this issue divides members of that party (41% Favor vs. 53% Oppose), but largely unites Republicans (77% Favor vs. 16% Oppose). In rural Oklahoma we see very strong support (75% Favor vs. 17% Oppose) and we still see substantial majority support in the two great metro areas (56% Favor vs. 40% Oppose).

What is fascinating about these numbers is that high profile cases, celebrity interventions, and political rhetoric have not changed opinions. Before Kim



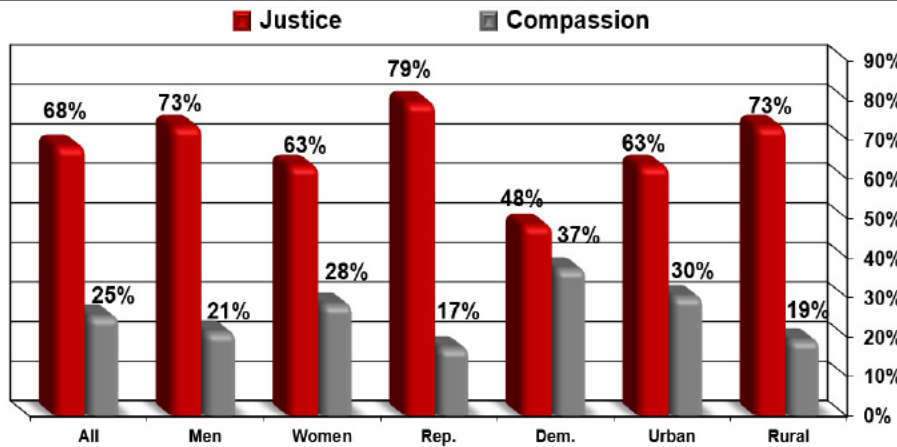
Kardashian cared about Julius Jones, two-thirds of Oklahomans supported the death penalty, virtually identical to what we see today. Prior to the state having

free. They all agree on low-level property crimes and simple drug possession – two crimes that are no longer incarcerable offenses since passage of SQ 780. This

should be, 58% say it should be charging and convicting criminals while 37% opt for finding alternatives to incarceration so better rehabilitation could occur. Of course, most would hope both could be accomplished, but if voters are asked to pick between those two sides, it is very clear where they will fall.

The partisan gap on the priority for DAs is wider than we see on the death penalty. We still have three-quarters of Republicans (74%) on the law and order side, but Democrats are close to inverted with 63% on the side of incarceration alternatives and just under a third (32%) on the tough on crime side. For all regions (including metro areas) as well as age and income groups, we see majority support for the tough on criminals side. This does narrow among those under the age of 45 (52% Charge / Convict; 44% Alternatives / Rehab), but really widens over that age. This is one place where those in homes making less than \$50,000 a year

Primary Goal of CJR?



complications with its drug cocktails, two-thirds supported the death penalty – and that is still true today. There are numerous other interventions that have occurred, and none have changed the fundamental fact that two-thirds of Oklahoma voters support the death penalty.

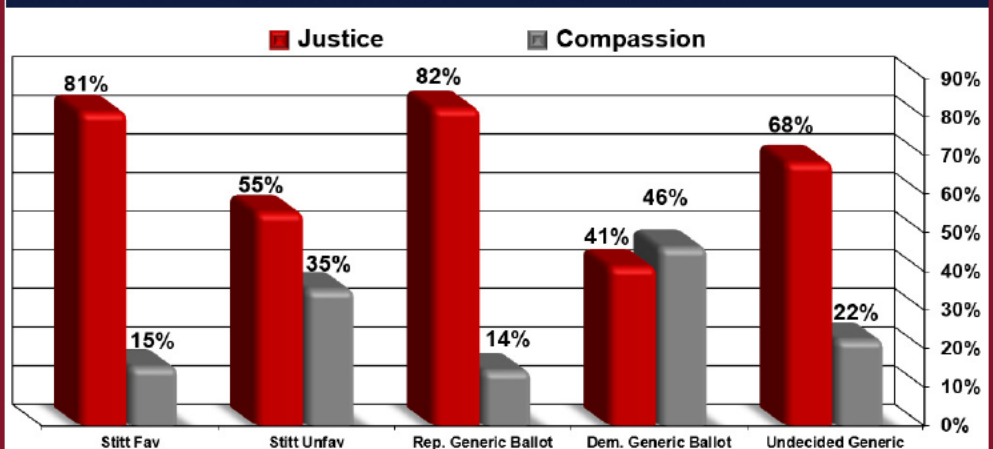
Of course, while one person’s poll shows support for the death penalty, you can find others saying voters don’t want an innocent person put to death. While positioned as opposite findings, these two ideas are not inherently in conflict.

Criminal justice reform efforts are similar. We have seen polling showing voters don’t want Oklahoma to incarcerate as many people as it does – but when you dig into particulars, it is difficult to determine who they want set

study took a step back and asked Oklahomans to express their views not on the details, but on their basic approach to prosecution and criminal justice reforms. For those wanting a full revamp of Oklahoma law, these should be sobering findings.

When voters are asked what the priority of district attorneys

Criminal Justice Reform? – Different Asks



(59% Charge / Convict) and those with household earnings exceeding \$150,000 per annum (58% Charge / Convict) look very similar.

priority of any reform.

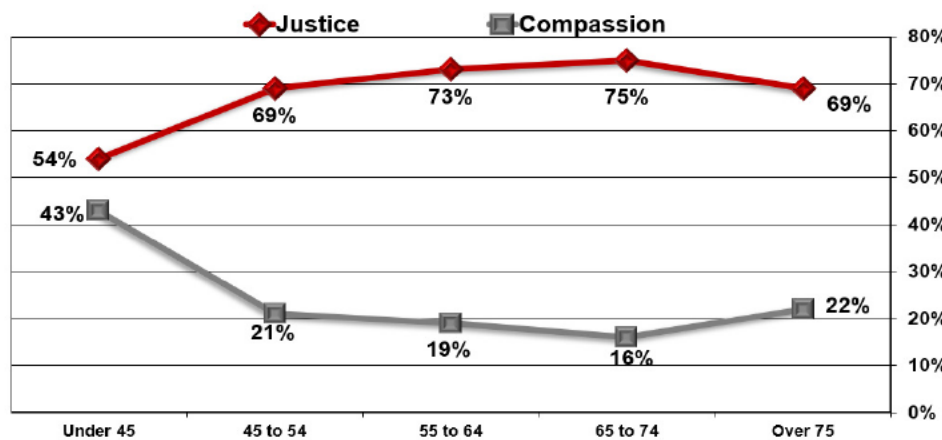
Those who have a favorable impression of statewide Republicans with the ability to take

we see very strong support for the tough on crime aspect (68%) than for rehab (22%), and those supporting a generic Republican are very strong (82% Justice / Protection) while those supporting an unnamed Democrat are more evenly split, leaning slightly toward compassion and rehab (46%) than opting for justice and protection (41%).

As someone who has been intricately involved in both sides of elections involving criminal justice issues, there is no doubt that safety and justice for victims emerges as the priority for voters.

While I see little opposition to efforts easing assimilation back into society or efforts to provide second (or even third) chances, they are only supported as long as the safety of self and family are not threatened. That is why simple drug possession laws were able to be changed, but further efforts that don't take into account a person being responsible for their own actions are landmines for CJR proponents. ♦

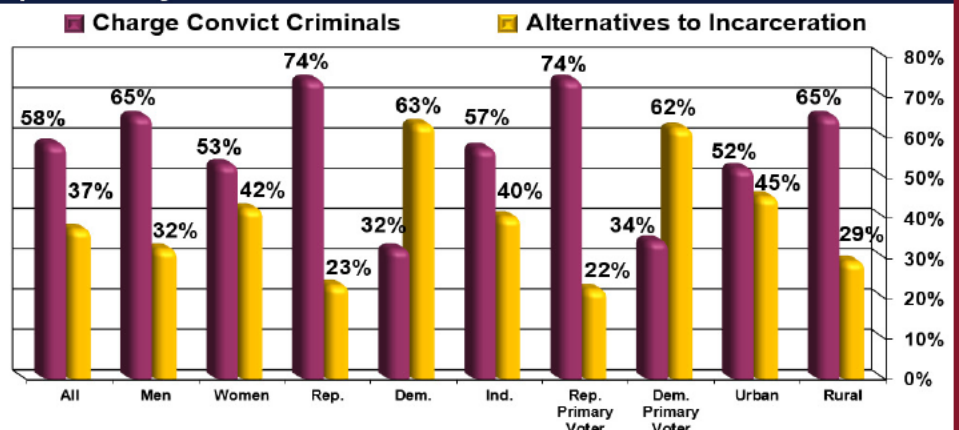
### Criminal Justice Reform? – Age



When we look at the goals for criminal justice reforms effort, the tough-on-crime stance of Oklahomans is even more clear. Almost seven-in-ten (68%) say “it is time to hold people responsible for their actions and provide justice for victims. We need a system that protects families from bad people”, while just a quarter (25%) prefer a system that does “a better job of understanding why criminals are in their situation... and help them find a way to be productive instead of locking them up”. Clearly, there is no desire for Oklahomans to rid our prisons of criminals. As one might suspect, Republicans are the most bullish with 79% wanting justice for victims, but they are joined by a solid plurality of Democrats (48%) on this issue. Even in the two metro areas, 63% say justice and protecting families should be the

noteworthy stands come decisively down on the side of justice for victims. Among those with a favorable impression of Governor Stitt, 81% choose the justice option while only 15% select the compassion / rehab statement. We see similar numbers among those with a favorable impression of AG Drummond (71% Justice / Protection vs. 23% Compassion / Rehab). Among those undecided on a generic legislative ballot,

### Top Priority for OK DAs?



# QUESTIONS

## Death Penalty Favorability?

46%

18%

10%

19%

6%

## CJR Priority

68%

25%

7%

## Top Priority for OK DAs?

58%

37%

4%

This edition of Sooner Survey was conducted June 19-22, 2023. The study of 500 registered voters in Oklahoma were collected by live agents on mobile (44%) and landline (29%) phones as well as through our text-to-web CAWI system (26%). The confidence interval associated with this sample is that 95% of the time the results are within 4.3% of the true value.



During his 30 years with Cole Hargrave Snodgrass & Associates, Pat McFerron has supervised polling and telephone voter contact programs in more than 40 states - including polling for numerous successful gubernatorial, U.S. Senate, congressional and legislative clients throughout the nation. McFerron also oversees marketing research projects for CHS clients who range from Fortune 100 companies to non-profits, universities and entrepreneurial start-ups.



**From:** [State of Oklahoma](#)  
**To:** [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Filed – Amended Executive Order 2023-08  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 5:04:50 PM

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## Amended Executive Order 2023-08

Good Afternoon,

Today, Governor J. Kevin Stitt signed Amended Executive Order 2023-08, directing his Cabinet be comprised of the following Secretaries:

1. Secretary of Agriculture;
2. Secretary of Budget;
3. Secretary of Commerce;
4. Secretary of Education;
5. Secretary of Energy and Environment;
6. Secretary of Health and Mental Health;
7. Secretary of Human Services;
8. Secretary of Licensing and Regulation;
9. Secretary of Operations and Government Efficiency;
10. Secretary of Public Safety;
11. Secretary of State;
12. Secretary of Tourism, Wildlife, and Heritage;
13. Secretary of Transportation;
14. Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Military; and
15. Secretary of Workforce and Economic Development.

The newly amended executive order is linked below.

Thank you,

Sumer Curry  
Office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt

[Amended EO 2023-08](#)

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**To:** [Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov](mailto:Gentner.Drummond@oag.ok.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Filed – Executive Order 2023-24  
**Date:** Monday, September 25, 2023 4:26:40 PM

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## Executive Order 2023-24

This afternoon Governor Stitt signed Executive Order 2023-24, ordering the creation of the Governor's Task Force on Emerging Technologies until Dec. 31, 2023. Per the governor's directive, this Executive Order shall be distributed to each member of the Task Force, all cabinet secretaries and the directors of all state agencies and departments subject to his authority.

Thank you,

Sumer Curry  
Office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt

[EO 2023-24](#)

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