



Your Best Investment In Real Estate

**REALTORS® Political Action Committee of Oklahoma
CANDIDATE INFORMATION FORM**

SECTION 1

Candidate Name:

Office You Are Seeking:

Campaign/Committee Name and Address:

Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Fax:

E-Mail:

Web Site:

Previously Held Public/Appointive Offices:

Campaign Manager/Treasurer's Name and Contact Information:

Will you accept PAC contributions?

Yes

No

Please specify major endorsements you have received for this race/office.

Tell us about your campaign and what you have planned.

What previous relationships have you had with REALTORS®?

Among the REALTORS® in your district, are any involved with your campaign?

SECTION 2 – STATE REGULATION OF THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY/REAL ESTATE LAW

An increase in consumerism will result in continued efforts to regulate the real estate industry and support services. The Oklahoma Association of REALTORS® is aware of the increasing consumer scrutiny of REALTORS®, REALTOR-ASSOCIATE®S, their services and the cost of those services. The Oklahoma Association of REALTORS® will continue to improve the public image of REALTORS® by supporting high quality education which stresses ethical standards and awareness of the laws and regulations pertaining to our industry. The Oklahoma Association of REALTORS®, in conjunction with the Oklahoma Real Estate Commission, will work to ensure licensing laws balance the needs of the consumer with the economic concerns of licensees.

Question 1: For the past several years, REALTORS® have been involved in a federal battle to keep banks out of the real estate industry. Legislation proposed in Oklahoma in recent years brought our fight to the state level and would have allowed state-chartered banks to provide additional services, including real estate services. We believe that the separation of financial activities, such as banking, and commercial activities, such as real estate, provides a valuable consumer protection. Do you believe that banks should be allowed in other businesses, including real estate?

Question 2: With regards to Question 1, would you support the continued separation of financial and commercial activities? Would you help keep this separation intact on a state level?

Question 3: Real estate licenses in our state are issued by the Oklahoma Real Estate Commission, and many other occupations have similar state agencies which govern their professions. Most of these agencies have a governing board which may grant or deny licenses based on the background of the applicant. As convicted felons re-enter society, some choose to apply for a state-granted occupational license. How would you balance the efforts of a convicted felon to reenter society with the protection of the public with dealing with state licensing of certain occupations?

Question 4: On July 1, the Oklahoma Board of Abstractors became the governing body for abstractors in Oklahoma, a duty previously held by the State Auditor and Inspector. Recent stories in the Oklahoma media have focused on the fact that Oklahoma is one of only two state that uses the abstracting system to prove title to a piece of property before title insurance can be issued. What are your thoughts on the abstracting industry as it relates to protection and affordability in a real estate transaction?

SECTION 3 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TAXATION

Investment in real estate is an essential ingredient in the economic development of Oklahoma. It is imperative Oklahoma's legislative agenda include pro-business legislation aimed at attracting new businesses and retaining and expanding existing business, thereby increasing investment activity in real estate. The Oklahoma Association of REALTORS® believes the structure upon which economic growth is based should be ad valorem tax reform, tort reform, reform of the worker's compensation system and development of education and technology.

Question 1: One revenue-raising proposal raised at the State Capitol during recent years involved a sales tax on services, including those services involved in a real estate transaction such as REALTOR® commissions, appraisal fees, inspection fees and abstracting fees. Would you support or oppose the creation of a sales tax on services? Please explain.

Question 2: In an effort to raise revenue, recent proposals have included an increase in Oklahoma's documentary stamp tax. The documentary stamp tax, which is based upon the purchase price, is levied upon the sale of real property and collected at the time of closing. As any increase in the cost of buying a home will force a certain number of buyers out of the real estate market, our Association is opposed to any increase in these taxes. Would you support or oppose efforts to raise taxes and fees involved in a real estate transaction, even if you agreed with the underlying purpose? Please explain.

Question 3: Independent contractor status is a cornerstone of the business model for most of today's real estate brokers. Recent legislative efforts have focused on increased registration for independent contractors, mirrored after current employer requirements, with the goal of increasing child support collections. What are your thoughts on the status of independent contractors under state law?

SECTION 4 – LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The protection of the quality of our air, water and land, as well as reasonable preservation of natural resources, must be weighed by the impact legislative protection enacts on private property owners and their freedom to enjoy the uninterrupted use of their property without government interference. The Oklahoma Association of REALTORS® recognizes that property development, management and preservation of natural resources is vital to the future of housing and the supply of marketable real estate.

Question 1: As Oklahoma's cities and towns continue to grow, some efforts are made at the State Capitol to override local control. Would you support state programs that provide tools to local governments to encourage collaborative and regional comprehensive planning as long as they support, rather than displace, local control? Please explain.

Question 2: The illegal manufacture of methamphetamine has become a major statewide problem. The impact is far-reaching including the contamination of residential properties to the extent the property may be a health hazard to future occupants. What do you see as the most important thing the legislature can do to protect our citizens against the illegal manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine?

SECTION 5 – GENERAL

Why are you running for elected office?

What are your top priority issues if elected?

Please include any campaign materials and publicity, including brochures.

Please attach additional pages if necessary. Completed forms should be returned to Charla Slabotsky, 9807 North Broadway, Oklahoma City, OK 73114, or e-mailed to Charla@OklahomaRealtors.com or faxed to (405) 848-9947.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Oklahoma RPAC at (405) 848-9947 or 800-375-9944.

Thank you for completing the candidate information form.