

# WAGONER COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY 2023 PARTY PLATFORM

(as adopted by the Wagoner County Republican Party Convention held on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Platform Committee Members:

- Chris Corcoran Chair
- Ed Balcerak
- Grant Huskey
- Matthew Vermillion (Ex Officio)

### PREAMBLE

We in the Republican Party of Wagoner County strive to build a more prosperous local community, state and nation where individual prosperity is encouraged, a person's productivity is limited only by his individual ability and personal initiative and where citizens may enjoy the freedom to pursue life as described by the Constitution of the United States of America. The Wagoner County Republican Party, composed of individuals of many views and opinions regarding the means to achieve that goal, unite with the common belief that those individual rights and the limitation of government set forth in the Constitution of the United States are sacrosanct, and the ideals of moral and fiscal conservatism and individual responsibility are paramount to maintain liberty for all people of our great state and nation.

#### WAGONER COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY CORE CONSERVATIVE VALUES

### WE BELIEVE

- 1. In limited, efficient government; individual liberty, natural God-given rights; and personal moral integrity and responsibility.
- 2. Moral integrity and good character are a must in all elected officials Character counts.
- 3. Our rights of life, liberty, and property are natural rights granted to us by God, protected by the Constitution, and to be defended by our elected officials.
- 4. God is the Author and Creator of life and that all human life, both born and unborn, should be protected.
- 5. The religion clause of the First Amendment was meant to protect individuals' freedom of religion, not remove religion from public life and in the right to worship as we please without government intrusion or interference.
- 6. Traditional marriage consists of one man and one woman, with those two exclusive human gender identities determined at conception and solely on the presence or absence of the Y chromosome in human DNA.
- 7. The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land and should be interpreted according to the original intent of the founding fathers.
- 8. Our founding fathers based our Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights on the Bible and traditional Judeo-Christian ethics and values, and those documents are the basis for law, order and social behavior.
- 9. That we are to function as a Constitutional Republic with undefined state power as described in the Constitution, where Oklahoma Sovereignty is considered constitutionally superior to a Federal government that has limited and defined power, and our State Sovereignty must be protected by State elected officials.
- 10. The Federal government's power is constitutionally limited, with the primary responsibility being defense of our liberty, by protecting National sovereignty and establishing justice under the law.
- 11. In the right under the 2nd Amendment for citizens to keep and bear arms.
- 12. Economic freedom is the cornerstone of individual liberty and the private sector and free market principles are the best to stimulate economic development rather than government subsidies or programs.
- 13. Revenues collected at all levels of government should be used only for well-defined, legitimate government functions, and should be carried out efficiently so that tax rates may be kept as low as possible.
- 14. The primary goal of public schools should be to teach proficiency in the basic subjects of phonics-based reading, written and oral communication, mathematics, sciences, traditional history, founding documents and the Godly heritage of our nation, with a focus on developing one's ability to reason.
- 15. The Federal government has no constitutional role in education.
- 16. It is the right of every parent to act in their children's best interest including health decisions and choosing the form of their education, whether at a public school, private school, or homeschool.
- 17. Welcoming immigrants who want to legally seek freedom and opportunity, who want to work and who will embrace our values, learn the English language and respect our Union's border and State's sovereignty.

Cover Page	1
Wagoner County Republican Party Core Conservative Values	2
Table of Contents	3
I Family	4
I A Marriage, Children & Adoption	4
I B Right to Life & Medical Ethics	4
I C Health Care	5
I D Elderly	6
I E Religious Freedom	6
I F General	6
II Education	8
	8
II A Philosophy	8 9
II B Curriculum	9 10
II C Administration & Management II D Higher Education	10
III State	12
III A State General	12
III B Criminal Justice	12
III C Economic Development	13
III D Election Reform	13
III E Environment, Water & Energy	13
III F Immigration	14
III G State Agencies and State, County & Local Government	14
III H State Legislation & Legislature	14
III I Transportation	15
III J Insurance	15
IV Federal	16
IV A Federal General	16
IV B Agricultural	16
IV C Constitutional Issues	16
IV D Defense	17
IV E Election Reform	18
IV F Foreign Policy	18
	19
IV G Immigration	
IV H Social Security	19
•	19 19
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations	19
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation	19 21
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation V A Federal, State & Local Budgets	19 21 21
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation V A Federal, State & Local Budgets V B Federal Taxes	19 21 21 21
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation V A Federal, State & Local Budgets	19 21 21
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation V A Federal, State & Local Budgets V B Federal Taxes V C State Taxes	19 21 21 21 21 21
IV H Social Security IV I United Nations V Budget & Taxation V A Federal, State & Local Budgets V B Federal Taxes	19 21 21 21
IV H Social Security   IV I United Nations   V Budget & Taxation   V A Federal, State & Local Budgets   V B Federal Taxes   V C State Taxes	19 21 21 21 21 21 23

Note: This Platform is styled after and based on the Oklahoma Republican Party Platform and all cross-references to the State Platform are the 2020 Edition (the most recent at the time of adoption).

Traditional marriage, consisting of one man and one woman, is designed to provide each family member's physical, emotional, financial, spiritual, and social needs. Both parents are needed to support and encourage happiness, health, and a good education for their children, creating the next generation of citizens who are constructive members of society. We believe God is the Author and Creator of human life and that each individual should be treated with dignity and compassion. We insist that any candidate receiving money and/or support from the Republican Party shall affirm and promote the Pro-Life concept.

### I A. MARRIAGE, CHILDREN & ADOPTION

# WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe the State's recognition that marriage between one man and one woman is a covenant relationship, instituted by God, not to be entered into casually, and is fundamental to our very existence and survival as a nation. [OKGOP PLATFORM IA WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We believe that in order to encourage and protect family values, those promoting homosexuality or other aberrant lifestyles should not be allowed to hold responsible positions over children or other vulnerable persons.

# WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the right of parents to rear, educate, discipline, nurture and spiritually train their children without government interference. [OKGOP PLATFORM IA WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support tax policies, enactment of legislation and public assistance policies that encourage a commitment to traditional marriage and strong families.
- 3. We support Federal and State legislation that prohibits recognition of same-gender marriages or domestic partnerships.
- 4. We support strict adherence to due process of law in child abuse investigations and the protection of the constitutional rights of persons accused of child abuse. We oppose the removal of children from their family unless abuse allegations are confirmed or the child is in immediate danger. [OKGOP PLATFORM WE OPPOSE 1]
- 5. We support holding Department of Human Services and other State agents accountable and provide for civil and criminal penalties when agents abuse their authority. [OKGOP PLATFORM IA WE SUPPORT 2]
- 6. We support an adoption process that recognizes the rights of parents while maintaining safeguards for the children. We support adoption only by traditional families or qualified relatives. [OKGOP PLATFORM IA WE SUPPORT 3]

#### WE OPPOSE

**1.** We oppose no fault divorce.

# **IB. RIGHT-TO-LIFE & MEDICAL ETHICS**

#### WE BELIEVE

 We believe in the sanctity and value of human life from conception through natural death. We oppose abortion (including the use of RU-486 and partial birth abortion), infanticide, euthanasia and mercy killings, and the funding of such by the government. We support a Constitutional Amendment protecting innocent human life. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB – WE BELIEVE 3 & WE OPPOSE 1] 2. We believe that abortion clinics should be required to comply with the same medical and safety standards required of hospitals, as long as the unsafe practice on abortion continues.

# WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the right of hospitals, doctors, and staff to refuse to provide abortion services. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB WE SUPPORT 3]
- 2. We support a 24-hour waiting period for a woman planning to have an abortion, in which time informed consent should be provided to patients of the developmental status of the unborn child, supply patients with all ultra-sounds, inform the patient that medical evidence indicates an unborn child can feel sensations of pain, and inform women of the psychological and medical risks associated with abortion including the link between breast cancer and abortion, and provide information on services available to mothers who choose to carry their children to birth.
- **3.** We support enactment of legislation that requires a guarantee of parental notification and authorization 72 hours prior to a minor receiving an abortion, as long as abortion continues.
- 4. We support abstinence outside of marriage and parental notification before a minor is given birth control information and/or contraceptives. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB WE SUPPORT 6]
- 5. We support legislation that prohibits using any unborn child for the purpose of harvesting and/or any service related to the donation or purchase/sale of organs and tissue. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB WE SUPPORT 7]
- 6. We support adult, but not fetal stem cell research. We do not support unethical scientific experimentation. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB WE SUPPORT 8]
- **7.** We support the total ban on all gender-transition surgeries and hormone therapies on minors in Oklahoma. (Added 03/25/2023)

### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose the manufacture of human life through the process of cloning. [OKGOP PLATFORM IB – WE OPPOSE 4]

# IC. HEALTH CARE

#### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe that no person should have nourishment, water, and/or medical care withheld, unless a written legal directive has been signed by that individual. [OKGOP PLATFORM IC WE BELIEVE 1]
- 2. We believe parents should receive complete information and must give informed consent prior to their child, or themselves, receiving any immunizations and may refuse any such vaccination(s) for medical, religious or other reasons of conscience without retribution.

#### WE SUPPORT

- We support the patient-family-doctor relationship and oppose nationalized medicine. [OKGOP PLATFORM IC WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support Medical Savings Accounts (MSA) and Health Savings Accounts (HSA) that also allow the individual freedom of choice in services both traditional and alternative. [OKGOP PLATFORM IC WE SUPPORT 6]

#### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose all disability specific legislation, including "Nick's law". Any legislation based on limited diagnostic criteria creates duplication of programs and services, resulting in increased and unnecessary spending, as well as creating gaps and confusion for those who truly need assistance.

# WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that strict standards should preserve the dignity of the elderly when in a retirement or nursing home. [OKGOP PLATFORM ID – WE SUPPORT 5]

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support tax incentives that help alleviate cost and thus encourage family members to care for their elderly parents. [OKGOP PLATFORM ID WE SUPPORT 3]
- We support financial policies that do not penalize the elderly who choose to marry. [OKGOP PLATFORM ID WE SUPPORT 4]
- 3. We support vigorous prosecution of those who financially exploit or otherwise abuse the elderly. [OKGOP PLATFORM ID WE SUPPORT 2]

# I E. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

#### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe our Founding Fathers based our Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights and early laws on the Bible and traditional Judeo-Christian ethics and values. We believe these documents are the basis for law, order and behavior, allowing individuals, including government workers and officials, the freedom to involve God in all activities according to their consciences. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE BELIEVE 1]
- 2. We believe the religion clause of the First Amendment was meant to protect individuals' freedom of religion, not remove religion from public life. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE BELIEVE 2]
- 3. We believe no foreign or Sharia law shall be recognized in any USA courts.

# WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support retaining the religious significance of national holidays. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We strongly support federal and state legislation to encourage and preserve inscriptions, in or on, public buildings, and on our currency, that have reference to God, such as "In God We Trust". [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE SUPPORT 2]
- 3. We strongly support retaining the phrase "One Nation under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE SUPPORT 5]

#### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose any government oversight, harassment, licensing, or taxation of religious institutions and their ministries. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE – WE OPPOSE 1]

# IF. GENERAL

### WE BELIEVE

- **1.** We believe that homosexuality is not a genetic trait, but a chosen lifestyle.
- 2. We believe in welfare reform to help those truly in need. We support programs including faith-based organizations that promote traditional marriage, stabilized marriages, abstinence education, decrease out-of-wedlock births and encourage responsible parenting. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE WE SUPPORT 3]

3. We believe that civic and religious organizations have the right of free association without interference by special interest groups.

# WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support limiting welfare benefits to only citizens of the United States and legal residents, including military service members and their dependents. We believe in a welfare policy that promotes family unity, hard work, and individual responsibility.
- 2. We support rigorous enforcement of all anti-pornography laws. Government agencies or tax supported institutions, especially libraries and public schools should not provide access to pornography. [OKGOP PLATFORM IC WE SUPPORT 7]
- **3.** We support the "Save Women's Sports Act" sighed into law in Oklahoma in 2022 and encourage its adoption by National and International sports governing bodies. (added 03/25/2023)

# WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose the promotion of homosexuality and the granting of minority protection or special status to any person based upon sexual preference or lifestyle choices. [OKGOP PLATFORM IE – WE OPPOSE 3]

The primary goal of public schools should be to teach proficiency in the basic subjects of phonics-based reading, written and oral communication, mathematics, sciences, traditional history, founding documents and Godly heritage of our nation. Locally elected school boards should have the authority to determine and implement all public-school curricula, policies and procedures for their districts. We demand excellence and accountability from all tax-funded institutions of education in Oklahoma. The federal government has no constitutional role in education.

It is the right and responsibility of parents to direct their children's upbringing and education whether public, private, charter or home school, without interference, regulation or penalty from the government.

### II A. PHILOSOPHY

### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe the traditional family unit is the foundation of our social structure. The Oklahoma Department of Education should uphold and teach this definition of family at all levels of public education. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE BELIEVE 1]
- 2. We believe parents and legal guardians are responsible and accountable for the education of their children. We support a parent's choice of schools, including public, private, parochial, charter or home schooling. We believe all parents should be allowed to use their education tax dollars for the family's choice of schooling by the use of tax credits.
- **3.** We believe parents have a right under the Oklahoma Constitution to home school their children. We oppose any and all regulation of home schooling.
- 4. We believe in the right of students and teachers to the free exercise of religion as Guaranteed by the First Amendment, including: the right to wear and display religious symbols, voluntary vocal prayer, optional Bible and religious study, religious expression, and equal access to use school facilities for these activities. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE BELIEVE 4]
- We believe the American flag should be displayed in the classroom. Students should start the day by reciting the traditional Pledge of Allegiance and be taught the history of and respect for our American flag. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA – WE BELIEVE 5]
- 6. We believe student participation in any program or counseling should be based upon prior written parental consent, without repercussion (opt in vs. opt out). Notification to parents should be clear, simple and descriptive. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE SUPPORT 3]
- 7. We believe the Ten Commandments may be posted in all public schools as a means of moral guidance along with our national motto "In God We Trust" and the Bill of Rights. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE SUPPORT 4]
- We believe computer technology and calculators should only be used after basic math and reading proficiency are achieved in order to reinforce, not replace, the learning of basic skills. [OKGOP PLATFORM WE SUPPORT IIA WE SUPPORT 5]
- 9. We believe the Federal Department of Education should be eliminated, and its functions transferred to the states. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC – WE SUPPORT 19]
- **10.** We believe a high school diploma should represent a 12th grade level of proficiency in basic subjects.
- **11.** Public schools are prohibited from promoting any religion. We believe that prohibition should include promoting or using secular Humanism, New Age philosophy, Deep Ecology, reincarnation, psychotherapy, channeling, transcendental meditation, altered states of consciousness or any occult practice.

#### WE SUPPORT

1. We support parental access to examine and evaluate in advance, educational, assessment, psychological, medical, physical, and all records pertaining to their children. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA – WE SUPPORT 2]

# WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose any government required community service condition of graduation. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE OPPOSE 1]
- 2. We oppose the revision of American history. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE OPPOSE 4]
- 3. We oppose the imposition of national curricula, aptitude testing, and teacher certification or education standards on any Oklahoma school. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIA WE OPPOSE 2]

### **II B. CURRICULUM**

### WE BELIEVE

- We believe basic school curriculum should include reading, composition, literature, mathematics, science, history, and government. Reading shall include phonics instruction, and composition shall include grammar and spelling instruction. Fine arts, foreign language, and physical fitness should also be included in school curricula. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB – WE BELIEVE 6]
- 2. We believe American heritage should be taught in public schools and include representative government, limited government, lives and beliefs of the founders, influence of the Bible and religion on our laws and principles, and the concept of free enterprise. Students should study directly from the primary founding documents, which teach the distribution of power among three branches of federal government and between federal and state government. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE BELIEVE 1]
- 3. We believe where evolution is taught, intelligent design must be taught as well. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE BELIEVE 2]
- 4. We believe local school boards should maintain the right to choose curricula and textbooks without state limitations. They further maintain the right to insert disclaimer statements into textbooks. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB – WE BELIEVE 3]
- 5. We believe parents must maintain the right and responsibility to educate their children regarding sexuality and sexual conduct. Neither classroom instruction nor school-based health services shall usurp parental rights to educate their children. (OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE BELIEVE 4)
- 6. We believe multiculturalism promotes cultural segregation and should not be taught. We respect different cultures and affirm that U.S. citizens of any race, creed, or culture are fully Americans, not hyphenated Americans. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE OPPOSE 2]
- 7. We believe English, the dominant language of our nation, should be the primary language taught in public schools with other languages offered as electives. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB WE BELIEVE 5]

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the inclusion of moral philosophy based on Judeo-Christian values into our educational system (K-12) to create a framework for students/youth to understand and build upon as to the basis and importance of our individual Rights as detailed in the U.S. Constitution.
- 2. We support curriculum that promotes national sovereignty and oppose one world government and global citizenship. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB – WE SUPPORT 1]

#### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose the portrayal of homosexual or promiscuous behavior in a positive light in public schools. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB – WE OPPOSE 1]

### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe compulsory education should continue to be applied only between the ages of 8 and 16, as set forth in the Oklahoma Constitution. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC WE SUPPORT 18]
- 2. We believe extensive background checks of prospective school employees are necessary, with the right of local school boards to refuse employment to anyone. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC WE SUPPORT 1]
- 3. We believe teachers, school administrators and the local school board should work together to set and implement policies that give teachers the freedom and authority to lawfully maintain order and discipline. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC WE SUPPORT 10]
- 4. We believe in the enforcement of Oklahoma statutes that prohibit teachers from striking during the school year. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC WE SUPPORT 3]
- 5. We believe local school districts should be able to place year-end excess monies into an interest-bearing account, to encourage fiscal responsibility; and they should not be penalized by the State Department of Education for doing so. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIC WE SUPPORT 4]
- 6. We believe the state school funding formula should be simplified and made understandable and equitable.
- 7. We believe open student transfer, with receiving school approval, should be implemented.
- 8. We believe high school seniors should not be required to attend a full school day if they have otherwise satisfied graduation requirements. The district should receive a full day's financial credit by the State Department of Education for those seniors.
- 9. We believe unions must be limited to negotiate wages and conditions of employment. We believe that organizations should be denied tax-exempt status and all federal funds if they are labor unions and lobbying bodies. Any administrator who discriminates against any employee who refuses to join a particular union shall forfeit their credentials and/or teaching certification in Oklahoma.
- **10.** We believe alternative teaching certification programs should allow skilled professionals to teach in public schools by passing the State Teacher Certification Test.
- **11.** We believe efforts should be initiated to merge teaching resources and better utilize the technical and educational resources available. School administrations should be allocated based on enrollment.
- **12.** We believe any current, past, or future revenue appropriation supporting education must be, by statute and law, integrated into the current fiscal year's budget.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support immediate decertification of all Teachers' Unions in Oklahoma, so the local school boards are free to hire, direct, train, retain or terminate any teacher that fails to provide the highest quality of instruction, based on merit, not years of service.
- 2. We support public independent auditing of all public schools and institutions of higher education in Oklahoma.
- **3.** We support a constitutional amendment in the Oklahoma state legislature requiring a student to be a legal resident of the United States before being enrolled in the Oklahoma public school system.

#### WE OPPOSE

**1.** We oppose all un-funded mandates.

# WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe there should be a required course in phonics for elementary teacher certification, as well as for certification at all levels of reading and language arts. [OKGOP PLATFORM IID WE BELIEVE 2]
- 2. We believe state appropriated higher education funds should support state citizens.
- 3. We believe Federal and State grants and other aid for higher education should be applied consistently and fairly without regard to marital status.

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support meaningful reform in the structure of our higher education system, including: [OKGOP PLATFORM IID WE SUPPORT 1]
  - **a.** Evaluation of all programs and elimination or reform of substandard programs.
  - b. Accountability of administrators to include performance evaluation.
  - c. Reforming of the faculty tenure system.

**d.** Budgeting tied to comprehensive planning process with increases in funding directly related to specific goals and objectives listing expected improvements. [OKGOP PLATFORM IID – WE SUPPORT 2]

We believe all persons are responsible and should be held accountable for their actions. We believe in transparent and honest government with minimal intrusion, providing protection for all its citizens with fair and equitable treatment, enforcement and justice. We realize without economic freedom there is no political freedom. We believe the greatest incentive for the creation of wealth lies in the respect for private property rights and the free enterprise system is the best and most efficient distribution of resources.

### **III A. STATE GENERAL**

### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe that the size of state government should be reduced. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIG WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We believe that the Oklahoma Legislature, all legislative committees, and state and county agencies should be subject to the Open Meeting Act and Open Records Act. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIG WE OPPOSE 1]
- 3. We believe that the judiciary should apply the law and should not make law or policy by fiat. We support a strong review process for sitting justices.
- 4. We believe that all state retirement plans be gradually shifted to individual private retirement plans.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the implementation of "sunset laws" and believe that outdated and irrelevant statutes should be repealed. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIH – WE SUPPORT 11]
- 2. We support external annual audits and public disclosure of all financial records of public institutions including trusts, authorities, libraries, funds.
- 3. We support the adoption of English as the official state language.
- 4. We support Workers Compensation reform and a change to an administrative system.
- 5. We support term limits for all state elected officers.

#### WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose un-funded mandates by the State Legislature. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIG WE OPPOSE 2]
- 2. We oppose expansion of gambling or lotteries.

#### III B. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

#### WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that the criminal should make restitution for crimes and riots. Charitable compensation for loss is always encouraged, but we believe that taxpayer money should not be used. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIB – WE BELIEVE 3]

#### WE SUPPORT

1. We support strict law enforcement as well as swift trial and punishment for all crimes, including the use of the death penalty when appropriate. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIB – WE SUPPORT 3]

2. We support legislation that would eliminate the filing of frivolous lawsuits by incarcerated persons. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIB – WE SUPPORT 4]

### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose all hate crime laws.

# **III C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that Oklahoma's efforts to attract industry should be grounded upon the establishment of a favorable and friendly economic climate rather than upon tax and other governmental subsidies to individual businesses. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIC – WE BELIEVE 1]

### WE SUPPORT

1. We support the revision of corporate laws and regulations to encourage business and economic development while reflecting free market principles. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIC – WE SUPPORT 1]

# III D. ELECTION REFORM

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support centrally located polling places in each precinct in order to make them more accessible to voters. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIID WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support the consolidation of election dates in order to conserve state money and to increase voter participation.
- 3. We support requiring the Bureau of Vital Statistics to report, in a timely manner, any deaths reported to them to all affected state and county agencies, especially county election boards. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIID WE SUPPORT 2]
- 4. We support a requirement that each vote cast in all elections be documented by a paper or other physical record. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIID – WE SUPPORT 6]
- We support requiring government-issued picture ID for voting. (Added 03/25/2023) [OKGOP PLATFORM IIID WE SUPPORT 3]

# III E. ENVIRONMENT, WATER & ENERGY

#### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe that a sustainable supply of water for a local area should be a priority before any permit is granted which would transfer water outside a local basin or aquifer area. Water is a natural resource, not a commodity, and should be protected for use by local residents, agriculture, and industry. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIE WE BELIEVE 2]
- 2. We believe that water permits should not allow the withdrawal of water in large volumes such that the private property rights of other landowners are infringed. (OKGOP PLATFORM IIIE WE BELIEVE 3)

# WE SUPPORT

1. We support environmental regulations that respect the rights of property owners, and that do not impose unreasonable burdens on our state's businesses. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIE – WE SUPPORT 1]

# WE OPPOSE

We oppose the State of Oklahoma selling water or water rights to out-of-state buyers. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIE – WE OPPOSE 1]

# **III F. IMMIGRATION**

### WE SUPPORT

We strongly support enforcement of state and federal laws dealing with illegal aliens. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIF – WE SUPPORT 1]

### **III G. STATE AGENCIES AND STATE, COUNTY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

#### WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that no state, county, or municipal agency should require from any citizen any information not essential to the performance of the agency's operation or mandate. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIG – WE BELIEVE 5]

### **III H. STATE LEGISLATION & LEGISLATURE**

#### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe that it is the responsibility of individual legislators to read and to be knowledgeable of all pieces of legislation prior to voting. We believe that all bills should be limited to one issue. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH WE BELIEVE 1]
- 2. We believe that all state-tribal compacts and agreements should require the approval of both houses of the Legislature in addition to the ten-member Joint Committee on State-Tribal Relations. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH WE BELIEVE 3]
- 3. We believe that Oklahoma should ratify a proposed Balanced Federal Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution promptly upon its submission to the states. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH WE BELIEVE 4]
- 4. We believe that the Oklahoma driver's license should be required to reveal enough facial features to provide positive photo identification.
- 5. We believe the Oklahoma Legislature, through its houses and committees, should exercise more aggressive oversight and review of the actions and policies of state agencies and officials.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the effort by our state legislature to take back the powers given to the states by the 10th amendment of the Constitution of the United States. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIH WE SUPPORT 8]
- We support the use of eminent domain only for public use; protecting private property from government abuse under eminent domain and restricting the government authority from taking private property to increase the tax base. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIH – WE OPPOSE 3]
- 3. We support the fundamental right to own and to enjoy our private property, and we oppose restrictions or losses of that right. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH WE SUPPORT 9]
- 4. We support fair, just, and timely compensation for property owners when governmental regulations limit property use. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH – WE SUPPORT 10]

We support the repeal of fingerprinting or other traceable biometric information, and we oppose the maintenance of a biometric database, in connection with an application for a driver's license or government ID. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH – WE SUPPORT 13]

# WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose the introduction, consideration, or passage of any legislation the full text of which has not been written. [OPGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH – WE OPPOSE 1]
- 2. We oppose Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) on driver's licenses or government ID. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIIH WE BELIEVE 6]

# **III I. TRANSPORTATION**

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support efficient and necessary spending on our state's roads and bridges. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIII WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support the elimination of toll roads. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IIII WE SUPPORT 5]

# III J. INSURANCE

### WE OPPOSE

- **1.** We oppose the State Legislature mandating the rollback of insurance premiums.
- 2. We oppose no-fault insurance.

The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land and should be interpreted according to the original intent of the founding fathers. We call for reaffirmation of our God given rights enumerated in the first ten amendments, the Bill of Rights. The Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches, separate but equal, are bound by the powers granted them by the Constitution, which limits the powers of the federal government and protects individual rights from illegal and excessive encroachment by the government. We support foreign policy that acknowledges the sovereignty of the United States and places the interests and values of its citizens above those of the United Nations or any international organization. We believe in a strong national defense and support for our military.

# IV A. FEDERAL GENERAL

# WE SUPPORT

1. We support the Constitution of the United States and believe all laws in opposition to the Constitution should be repealed.

### WE OPPOSE

**1.** We oppose the military occupation of Washington DC.

# IV B. AGRICULTURE

### WE OPPOSE

1. We oppose any government interference or legislation which would restrict or regulate family farms or farmers' markets. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVA – WE OPPOSE 5]

# IV C. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

#### WE BELIEVE

- We affirm our right under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution to exercise our freedom of speech including religious speech. We believe the First Amendment's Establishment Clause was intended to prevent a statesponsored religion, not to separate God from our government or to remove religion from public life. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVC – WE BELIEVE 1]
- 2. We believe the United States Constitution empowers the judiciary to interpret law, not make law or create law through judicial activism. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVC WE BELIEVE 3]
- **3.** We believe the other provisions enumerated in the Bill of Rights, including the right to due process and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure. Private property should not be taken for public use without just compensation.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the right under the Second Amendment for Americans to keep and bear arms; therefore, we oppose any attempts, whether by law or regulation at any level of government, to restrict any law-abiding citizen's right to keep and bear arms. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVC WE BELIEVE 2]
- 2. We support legislation that will protect gun manufacturers from lawsuits attempting to hold the manufacturers liable for criminal misuse of guns. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVC WE SUPPORT 2]

- We support the Tenth Amendment that states "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." [OKGOP Platform IVC We Believe 6]
- 4. We support and recommend the display of religious symbols, including the Ten Commandments in public places. [OKGOP Platform IVC We Support 1]
- **5.** We support capital punishment.
- 6. We support an amendment to the Constitution that will limit the institution of marriage to one man and one woman, thus prohibiting persons of the same gender from establishing the bonds of marriage under the laws of any of the several states. [OKGOP Platform IVC We Support 6]

### WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose any legislation that would require the use of trigger or other locking devices on firearms. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVC WE OPPOSE 3]
- 2. We oppose the assault weapons ban and any efforts to register previously owned firearms. [OKGOP PLATFORM IBC WE OPPOSE 4]

### IV D. DEFENSE

#### WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe that adequate research and development of new weapons and defense technologies, including anti-ballistic missile systems, are a vital part of a strong national defense and should be fully funded.
- 2. We believe any learning institution that inhibits the normal operations of ROTC or military recruiters should be ineligible for government funding. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IVD WE BELIEVE 2]
- **3.** We believe that the oath of allegiance sworn by all U.S. military personnel shall be upheld under all circumstances; and furthermore, we assert that no other oath shall replace or amend it.
- 4. We believe defense initiatives should protect against threats from weapons of mass destruction.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support maintaining a strong national defense and advocate "peace through strength." [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IVD WE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support improved pay, living conditions and educational opportunities for our armed forces to aid in retention and recruitment as well as spending to provide facilities, training, and equipment for our armed forces.
- 3. We support an increase in veterans and survivors benefits and support the fulfillment of the promises of those benefits.
- 4. We support the vigorous execution of the war on terror, both foreign and domestic, including preemptive use of force, when necessary, as a vital part of our national defense, while ensuring the protection of individual rights.

#### WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose the erosion of our military's readiness through: [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IVD WE OPPOSE 3]
  - **a.** "Gender-norming" for training and promotion.
  - **b.** Co-ed basic training and housing.
  - c. "Sensitivity training" that supports or promotes the homosexual lifestyle.
  - **d.** Homosexuals serving in the military.

**e.** The promotion of homosexuality through LGBTQ+ or gay-pride events, parades, flags, etc. on any military base. (Added 03/25/2023)

2. We oppose re-instituting the draft unless Congress declares war. [OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IVD - WE OPPOSE 1]

- 3. We oppose the use of U.S. military troops where they would not be under the leadership of American commanders-[OKGOP STATE PLATFORM IVD – WE OPPOSE 2]
- 4. We oppose the relinquishment of strategically essential U.S. military facilities worldwide and support the military's unrestricted use of their training areas.

# IV E. ELECTION REFORM

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the continuation of the Electoral College as prescribed by the U.S. Constitution. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVE SUPPORT 1]
- 2. We support the repeal of the Motor Voter Act. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVE SUPPORT 2]
- 3. We support stricter penalties for voter fraud. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVE WE SUPPORT 4]
- 4. We support repeal of the McCain/Feingold Campaign Reform Act. [OKGOP PLATFORM WE SUPPORT 5]
- 5. We support strict verification of voter eligibility when registering.
- 6. We support adoption of Oklahoma's voting system nationwide.
- 7. We support a call for the full disclosure, by political entities, of the sources of their funding.
- 8. We support the investigation of credible allegations of voter fraud or other improprieties including foreign election tampering and voting irregularities.

#### WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose the broadcast of projected and/or actual election results before all the polls have closed.
- 2. We oppose same day voter registration and postcard registrations due to the fact that these laws open the door to voter fraud and should be prohibited. [OKGOP Platform IVE We Oppose 1]
- **3.** We oppose campaign finance laws that restrict our First Amendment right to freedom of speech by excessively limiting private contributions and resources.
- 4. We oppose voting via the Internet. [OKGOP Platform IVE We Oppose 2]

# IV F. FOREIGN POLICY

#### WE BELIEVE

1. We believe we should support Israel politically, economically, geographically, and militarily.

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the revocation of "Permanent Normal Trade Relations" status and oppose admission to the World Trade Organization for any country that is a security threat to the United States. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE OPPOSE 1]
- 2. We support the protection of American intellectual property rights including access to our patents. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE SUPPORT 3]
- 3. We support policies that protect all U.S. allies. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE SUPPORT 2]

4. We support the import of medication from other countries in order to lower the cost, if U.S. standards are enforced.

# WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose any compromise of national sovereignty by treaties or trade agreements. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE OPPOSE 2])
- 2. We oppose the sale of dual-use technologies by U.S. corporations not only to designated terrorist nations, but also to antagonistic nations. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE OPPOSE 3]
- **3.** We oppose the creation of a common currency for North, Central, and South America.
- 4. We oppose foreign control over any ports or bases in or around the United States. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVG WE OPPOSE 5])
- 5. We oppose the normalization of diplomatic or economic ties with Cuba until democracy has been instituted there.
- 6. We oppose monetary foreign aid. Foreign aid should be in the form of credits to buy United States-made goods.

# IV G. IMMIGRATION

# WE BELIEVE

- 1. We believe legal guest workers should assume social costs, such as education and health care for themselves and their dependents. [OKGOP Platform IVG We Support 5]
- 2. We believe the United States government should vigorously enforce and demand that all local law enforcement agencies uphold and enforce all federal laws concerning illegal immigration. [OKGOP Platform IVG We Support 7]

### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support the elimination of "sanctuary cities" for illegal aliens. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVH WE SUPPORT 8]
- 2. We support substantial state fines for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

#### WE OPPOSE

**1.** We oppose any form of amnesty.

# IV H SOCIAL SECURITY

#### WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that Social Security and government pension funds should be used only for the original purposes for which they were intended. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVI – WE BELIEVE 1]

#### WE SUPPORT

- **1.** We support heightened security to safeguard individual Social Security numbers.
- 2. We support privatization of Social Security.

# IV I. UNITED NATIONS

# WE BELIEVE

1. We believe that the United States Constitution is the supreme law of the land, and that no other laws will supersede it,

including conventions and resolutions, rulings, mandates or any other laws or policies written by the United Nations or any other international organization.

- 2. We believe the United Nations should be held accountable financially, ethically, and morally or the United States should withdraw from the United Nations. The United Nations operations should be fair and unbiased. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVJ WE BELIEVE 1]
- **3.** We believe the United States should withdraw from the United Nations.

# WE OPPOSE

- 1. We oppose relinquishment of our national sovereignty to the United Nations and oppose the action of any international organization that would supersede the rights of a United States citizen or conscript their person or property in any fashion.
- 2. We oppose the United Nations' treaty titled the Rights of the Child.
- 3. We oppose the Law of the Sea Treaty because it would turn 7/10ths of the earth's surface over to the United Nations. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVJ WE OPPOSE 2]
- 4. We oppose Agenda 21 in any form. (added 03/19/2013) [OKGOP PLATFORM IVJ WE OPPOSE 1]
- 5. We oppose any UN tax applied directly or indirectly to the citizens of the U.S.
- 6. We oppose any United Nations small arms treaty.

We believe the economic success of honest and hardworking individual Americans should be respected and not penalized by calls for 'fairness', higher taxation or redistribution of wealth. Taxes are only valid where they provide for legitimate government functions, where they are for the least amount necessary, where they are equitably derived, and where government agencies are held to strict accountability for the efficient use of such funds. We oppose double taxation, the estate tax, any tax increases, fee increases, lotter or other revenue-raising schemes to balance the budget(s).

# V A. FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL BUDGETS

### WE SUPPORT

1. We support zero-based budgeting with transparency in government spending. [OKGOP Platform IIIA – We Support 7 & IVB – We Believe 7]

# V B. FEDERAL TAXES

#### WE SUPPORT

- 1. We support eliminating the marriage penalty, Capital Gains taxes, the Alternative Minimum Tax, and double taxation of dividends. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVB WE SUPPORT 10]
- 2. We support replacing the federal income tax with a national consumption, sales tax, flat tax or Fair Tax. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVB WE SUPPORT 1]
- **3.** We support tax and economic policies that encourage industry and agriculture to locate, remain, and expand in the U.S.A.
- **4.** We support changing the \$3 to the presidential election campaign fund contribution so that the taxpayers who check yes on their federal income tax return pay the \$3. [OKGOP PLATFORM IVE WE SUPPORT 6]
- 5. We support eliminating the Earned Income Tax Credit or any other redistribution of wealth.
- 6. We support tax-free and fee-free access to the Internet.
- 7. We support reduction of the size of government.
- 8. We support making recent federal tax cuts permanent.
- **9.** We support the total deductibility of all non-elective health care costs.

# V C. STATE TAXES

#### WE SUPPORT:

- 1. We support increasing the Homestead exemption to at least \$5,000.
- 2. We support eliminating taxes on qualified retirement plans. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIA WE SUPPORT 1]
- **3.** We support the use of all vehicle fuel taxes and license fees for the roads and bridges as they were originally designated.

- 4. We support requiring any tax or fee earmarked for a specific purpose be used solely for that purpose. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIA – WE SUPPORT 2]
- 5. We support lowering or removing state sales tax on food. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIA WE SUPPORT 3]
- 6. We support a Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) amendment such as that proposed by the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs to limit annual growth in state government bureaucracy, excessive spending, and in rainy day funds. [OKGOP PLATFORM IIIA WE SUPPORT 6]
- 7. We support increasing the personal exemption and standard deduction on the State Income Tax return to equal the exemption claimed on the Federal return.
- 8. We support equalization of taxes on retirement income for federal, state, and private employees.
- **9.** We support the ability of a school district to opt out of a Career Tech Board and corresponding millage. We also reject the ability of the Career Tech Board to override such a vote of the people.
- **10.** We support eliminating State Corporate Franchise tax.
- **11.** We support the inclusion of small business owners to be eligible to draw the same benefits as any employee should the business fail.
- **12.** We support legislation that does not encourage/promote the raising of any taxes by allowing any elected officials to raise their salaries based on taxes collected.
- **13.** We support the correction of Oklahoma Income Tax forms by allowing the deduction of Federal Income Tax paid when calculating the state tax owed using Method I.

### WE OPPOSE

- **1.** We oppose the state tax on business inventory.
- 2. We oppose a de-facto annual increase in assessed valuation of real estate.

While Wagoner County Citizens may not agree on all issues, we in the Republican Party strive to build a better community and state for future generations. Our Party, while composed of many individual views, unites within the ideals of moral and fiscal conservatism.

### VI A. REPUBLICAN PARTY

- 1. We invite all Oklahomans who support the mandate on family values and fiscal responsibility to register as Republicans and vote. We urge everyone to help restore and protect integrity and our constitutional rights and responsibilities through limited government.
- 2. Knowing the importance of input and participation for all citizens in our republic, we recommend continuing to document individual ideas, concerns, and suggestions from within our Republican Party. Legislators, candidates, or individuals within the Party may not agree with every detail of the platform; however, we believe Republican candidates should read our Party Platform and consider it as a document submitted as a consensus of grassroots concerns.
- **3.** We, the Wagoner County Republican Party, conclude that morality and good character are a must for all elected officials. Character counts.
- 4. In order to strengthen grassroots involvement in elections, encourage the good faith sacrifices made by candidates for office, preserve funds for general election, ensure fair and transparent primaries, and increase local accountability, we urge all Political Action Committees (PACs) controlled by Republican elected officials, the Oklahoma Republican Senatorial and State House Committees, in particular-to remain neutral in candidate recruitment and in all Republican primary races.
- **5.** We urge the Republican State Committee should promulgate rules to clarify the authority of county and state resolutions committees to introduce new resolutions, change precinct and county resolutions, and reject or merely not recommend submitted resolutions at the committee level.
- 6. We oppose "affirmative action" while supporting the concept of "affirmative access".
- **7.** We urge the Party to endorse those candidates who are registered Republicans, and who affirm and promote a Pro-Life concept, support limited government, free markets, and the original intent of the U.S. Constitution.
- 8. We Support the increased use of new technologies for Republican Party communication and public education about our principles.
- **9.** We urge the Oklahoma GOP to hold at least one candidate training class a year, and precinct training classes in various regions of the state.
- **10.** We urge the State and National parties to develop a rapid-response strategy, incorporating a 24-hour hotline for the purpose of gathering information centrally and responding to breaking news on behalf of Republican candidates or issues.

# VI B. CONDOLENCES

 We express our condolences to the families and friends of those members of the Armed Forces who have given their lives to help guarantee the freedom of our nation and Americans around the world. [OKGOP PLATFORM IV – CONDOLENCES]