



EDMOND DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

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EDMOND DEMOCRATIC WOMEN ENDORSES BRANDON KIRKPATRICK FOR OKLAHOMA COUNTY TREASURER

Edmond Democratic Women announces endorsement for Brandon Kirkpatrick a Democratic candidate for Oklahoma County Treasurer. Brandon shares the values of the Edmond Democratic Women and we believe he is uniquely qualified to represent all Oklahomans. For more information about Brandon or to volunteer to help with his campaign efforts, please visit his website <https://www.bkforok.com>.

MEET BRANDON

I am a husband, father, local business person, and social advocate. I grew up in Oklahoma City and Edmond, where I graduated from Edmond North High School. While in High School, I was fortunate to attend and graduate from our local vocational program, an educational experience that has blessed my life and laid the foundation for my future success.

At 16, I met my wife and best friend, Stephenie. We knew early that our life would be perfect as long as we had the other, and we recently celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary. In 2004, just days after having our first daughter, we moved to Bethany, where we live today, and have three amazing children. Our kids attend Bethany Public Schools, where my wife works as the assistant librarian for elementary and middle schools. We attend Oklahoma City First Church of the Nazarene and love how they have challenged us to live our lives actively, loving our neighbors.

I have dedicated my professional life to supporting local businesses, especially manufacturing in Oklahoma and the surrounding states. This experience has taught me how to work with diverse groups of people for common goals. My business success has been because of my focus on surrounding myself with others motivated to bring the needed changes for the business and themselves. I have found that success requires exploring all possible outcomes with the people best informed on the problem and desired outcome, the worker.

In 2019, I saw a documentary by Viola Davis called "The Last Defense," which featured Julius Jones, a victim of the racial injustices built into the American justice system. He was incarcerated for murder at just 19 years old, despite compelling evidence that he was wrongfully convicted. I was inspired by Julius's story and started working for the Justice for Julius coalition. Last November, I helped lead the nationwide movement that saved his life and will continue this fight until Julius is home where he belongs.

I am running for Oklahoma County Treasurer because I believe our city needs someone willing to speak up for our community. Someone that has made their career helping our state's businesses and residents evolve and grow. Someone that knows what it takes to speak up for our most vulnerable and has the fortitude to stand

firm until our communities goals have been achieved. Someone that is only beholden to the people of Oklahoma County, not the political party or the people in power.

If elected, I will be a vote on the County's nine-person budget board, and my vote will be the people's vote! I will vote to fund projects that benefit our community. I will bring the people in the community impacted by decisions made to the table so that every voice can be heard and all can understand the impact of our political choices.

I want to be your next Oklahoma County Treasurer. I want to change the trajectory of our state. I want to help better fund education at all levels in all communities in Oklahoma County. I want to fund diversion programs that would allow the mentally ill and those suffering from drug addiction to get the help needed to be functioning members of our community instead of punishing them. I want to be Oklahoma County Treasurer because I believe in our community, and I believe change starts with each of us getting involved.

BRANDON'S ISSUES

Accountability: Collecting Taxes and identifying ways to raise revenue while ensuring that our county agencies and tax dollars are properly accounted for.

I have spent the last 17 years working with our state's most prominent companies and many local businesses, helping them reach their budget goals while adding revenue to their bottom line. I have managed multi-million dollar budgets and understand how to run a business successfully. My career has prepared me to be Oklahoma County Treasurer. It has taught me how to manage a budget and support projects that add revenue to fund growth and further capital. If elected as Treasurer, I will bring this same tenacity for success for Oklahoma County. I will work to fund programs and projects needed in our community. Programs that will bring in jobs and help to develop and restore neighborhoods critical to Oklahoma County's future.

Transparency: Ensuring that the taxpayers of Oklahoma County know where and how their tax dollars are being spent and creating equitable and accessible ways to have questions and concerns addressed.

Most people do not understand what the Oklahoma County Treasurer does, and to me that is a lack of transparency. In 2020, the County Commissioners, jail trust, and budget board attempted to misappropriate 40 million dollars into the county jail. Community members fought back to ensure that CAREs act funds go back to the people in the form of rental and utility assistance and small-business and non-profit relief grants. This is the perfect example of the lack of accountability and transparency and shows the need for responsible spending in Oklahoma County.

Responsible Spending: Ensuring with my vote on the budget board, that county dollars are only spent in the most equitable and beneficial ways for constituents. Citizen-led spending is key to an inclusive budget. Hosting meetings and working with the communities that are impacted the most can deliver success.

This information was taken from Brandon's website: bkforok.com

www.edmondemocraticwomen.org