



2025 TRIBAL ELECTION GUIDE

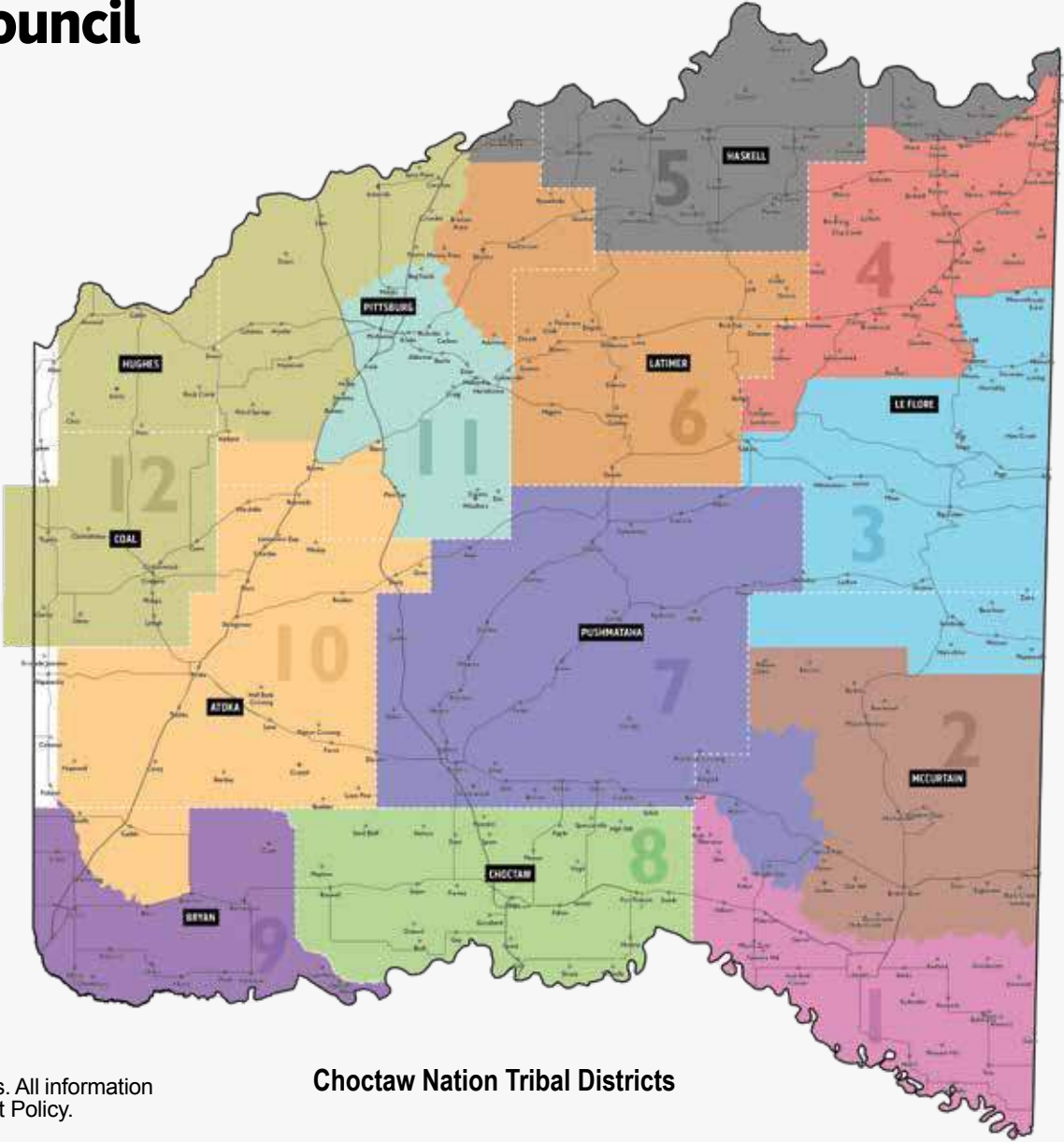
Early Voting: Friday, July 11 • 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
General Election & Special Election: Saturday, July 12 • 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Same-Day Registration Available
For More Information, Visit <https://www.choctawnation.com/elections>

Candidates file for offices of Council Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12

Elections are held at alternating two-year periods for the four-year terms of Chief and Tribal Council. This year, filing opened April 21, 2025 for candidates for the offices of Tribal Council in Districts 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 and the Special Election in Council District 5. All candidates for the elective offices of Council District 6, 9 and 10 were qualified, unopposed, and will not appear on the ballot. Elections will be held for Council Districts 4, 5, 7 and 12. The list of qualified candidates for elective office are:

General Election	Special Election
Council District 4	Council District 5
Jess Henry (incumbent)	Tami Gonzalez Cantrell
Kenneth G. Marshall	Marlena Crase
Council District 7	Sharona Farmer
Joey D. Tom (incumbent)	Kimberly Ford
Adrian Johnico	Earl Smith
Council District 12	Vincent "Vinnie" Terrell
Regina Mabray	Jennifer Turner
Vickie McClure	

Additional candidate and voting information is listed on the following three pages. All information submitted may have been edited per guidelines of the Election Candidate Insert Policy.



Choctaw Nation Tribal Districts

General Information for Choctaw Voters

Below information is from the Chief and Tribal Council Election Ordinance . For full document, visit <https://www.choctawnation.com/election>.

Voter Registration
Section 1 Any person who has obtained tribal membership as defined by Article II of the Constitution and who has or will have attained the age of eighteen (18) years by the date of any election shall be eligible to register to vote, except as provided in subsection (d) of Section 8 of this Article. Every eligible tribal member shall be required to be registered with the Voter Registration Department to vote in tribal elections.
Section 2 Each eligible tribal member shall complete a Voter Registration Form which shall include a provision for a voter to permit or prohibit the release of his or her address to candidates as provided in Sections 1 and 2 of Article IX of this Ordinance. The information provided on the voter registration form shall be signed under oath. The Voter Registration Form shall be issued by the Voter Registration Department and may be amended from time to time at the discretion of the Department.
Section 3 Tribal members residing inside the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma shall be registered in the district in which they reside.
Section 4 A tribal member not residing within the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, as defined by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution, may become affiliated with a district of his or her choice or may opt to be unaffiliated with any district. Once a non-resident voter has affiliated with a district while residing outside the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, he or she shall be required to remain affiliated with the chosen district, unless the voter establishes residency in another district within the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; provided, in the event that the boundaries of a district are redrawn or are otherwise changed, any non-resident voter affiliated with the district shall be notified and shall be allowed to change his or her district affiliation in accordance with procedures set forth by the Election Board.
Section 5 A non-resident voter unaffiliated with a district shall only be eligible to vote in an election for the office of Chief and on any proposed ballot measures.
Section 6 The Director of Voter Registration shall be authorized to develop an electronic system of voter registration and may contract with a provider to implement such system. Eligible tribal members may register to vote with the Voter Registration Department at any time during regular business hours except holidays recognized by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. An eligible tribal member who has not previously registered to vote may do so during a gener-

al election, or if authorized by the Secretary, during a run-off or special election, at the times and locations provided in Sections 1 through 3 of Article XI of this Ordinance, by completing a voter registration form at the voting location.
Section 7 A voter may make any registration changes allowed by this Ordinance by submitting a new voter registration form to the Voter Registration Department, during regular business hours except holidays recognized by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, or during an election as provided in Section 6 of this Article.
Section 8 A voter's registration may be cancelled for any of the following reasons: (a) A tribal member appears before the Voter Registration Department and executes a written notice stating that he or she no longer desires to be a registered voter of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; (b) A member sends a notarized request to the Voter Registration Department stating that he or she no longer desires to be a registered voter of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; (c) The Election Board or the Voter Registration Department receives notification, that may be independently verified, of the death of a voter; or (d) The Tribal Membership Department is notified by another tribe that a member has registered with such tribe. No enrolled tribal member of another tribe or person who votes as a citizen or member of another tribe shall be eligible to vote in elections of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The Tribal Membership Department shall notify the Voter Registration Department in such event.
Election Dates
Section 1 General elections shall be held every two (2) years. Elections for Chief and six (6) Tribal Council members shall be held during one election and the election for the other six (6) Tribal Council members shall be held two years later. An election for an office shall not be held in the event that any candidate for such elected office fails to draw an opponent or otherwise runs unopposed.
Section 2 General elections shall be held on the second Saturday in July in odd-numbered years, with early voting on the Friday preceding Election Day. Run-off elections shall be held on a Saturday in accordance with Article XXI of this Ordinance. If a candidate does not receive more than fifty percent (50%) of the total votes cast for the respective office, then a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes in the general election shall be conducted on the fourth (4th) Saturday following the general election.
Section 3 Special elections shall be held on a Saturday and shall be conducted pursuant to Article XXI of this Ordinance and Article XIV and Article XVI of the Constitution.

Mail-in Ballots

All registered voters will start receiving ballots in the mail beginning the week of June 14.

All ballots completed by voters must be mailed and processed by the United States Post Office in Durant, OK on July 11.

For more information about Choctaw Nation elections, visit <https://www.choctawnation.com/elections> or contact the Election Board Secretary by email at ElectionBoard@choctawnation.com or by phone at 580-634-0679.



Open Voting Locations

Early Voting: Friday, July 11 • 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. General Election & Special Election: Saturday, July 12 • 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Same-Day Registration Available	
Council District 1 Choctaw Community Center 2408 E Lincoln Rd, Idabel, OK 74745	Council District 7 Choctaw Community Center 302 SW O St, Antlers, OK 74523 Choctaw Community Center 5718 Rodeo Grounds Rd, Wright City, OK 74766
Council District 2 Choctaw Community Center 3839 Battiest Pickens Rd, Broken Bow, OK 74728 Choctaw Community Center 1346 E Martin Luther King Dr, Broken Bow, OK 74728	Council District 8 Choctaw Community Center 1304 W Victor St, Hugo, OK 74743
Council District 3 Choctaw Community Center 39618 N Hwy 259, Smithville, OK 74957 Choctaw Community Center 100 Railroad St, Talihina, OK 74571	Council District 9 Choctaw Community Center 2746 Big Lots Pkwy, Durant, OK 74701
Council District 4 Choctaw Community Center 208 B St, Poteau, OK 74953	Council District 10 Choctaw Community Center 1625 W Liberty Rd, Atoka, OK 74525
Council District 5 Choctaw Community Center 19400 AES Rd, Spiro, OK 74959 Choctaw Community Center 2208 E Main St, Stigler, OK 74462	Council District 11 Choctaw Community Center 3274 Afullota Hina, McAlester, OK 74501
Council District 6 Choctaw Community Center 1056 NW 1003 Ave, Wilburton, OK 74578	Council District 12 Choctaw Community Center 103 E California, Coalgate, OK 74538 Choctaw Community Center 707 Bond St, Crowder, OK 74430

Affiliated voters may choose to vote by mail or go to vote in person at any open voting location listed as such. For more information, <https://www.choctawnation.com/elections> or contact the Election Board Secretary by email at ElectionBoard@choctawnation.com or by phone at 580-634-0679.

Uncontested Candidates

All candidates for the elective offices of Council District 6, 9 and 10 were qualified, unopposed, and will not appear on the ballot.



2025 Election Candidates

District 4

Jess Henry Incumbent

Councilman Jess Henry is a proud member of the Choctaw Nation with deep roots in southeastern Oklahoma. Born and raised on a cattle farm in Tamaha, Jess comes from a strong Choctaw lineage. His mother was a full-blooded Choctaw, and his grandparents were listed on the Dawes Rolls as full-blood enrollees.

Jess has dedicated his life to honoring his Choctaw heritage through service and leadership. He spent 32 years on the Highway Patrol, rising through the ranks of Trooper, Lieutenant, Captain, and Trooper Commander, becoming the highest-ranking Choctaw in the agency's history.

In 2021, Jess was elected to represent District 4. During his first term, he made good on his promises to increase housing, expand services, and improve access to tribal programs. Under his leadership, District 4 has seen the addition of new LEAP homes and affordable elder housing. He also played a key role in expanding senior nutrition programs, children's summer nutrition, and increasing access to essential services.

One of Jess' proudest achievements has been seeing the long overdue Dale Cox Community Center in Poteau now under construction. Thanks to his efforts, the center broke ground and is set to open next January, providing a vital hub for events, services, and connections.

Jess believes in getting results, not just making promises. Over the past four years, he's fought to make Tribal Government work better for the people of District 4. But he knows the work isn't finished. That's why Jess will continue to push for more housing, strong healthcare access, and expanded services right here in District 4.

A man of faith, family, and culture, Jess has been married to his wife Joy for 44 years. Together, they've raised two children and proud grandparents to four. They have lived in Pocola, Oklahoma for 40 years.

Councilman Jess Henry is asking for your vote for re-election so he can continue working for you and all the families of District 4. Yakoke!



District 4

Kenneth Marshall

I, Kenneth Marshall, announce my Candidacy for District 4 Tribal Council.

I have been employed with Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for 13 plus years in Maintenance.

I believe that tribal voters should know what my platform is and why I believe it is right for our people at this time.

(A) I will serve the Choctaw people with dedication.

(B) Practice ethical standards, honesty and transparency in our district.

(C) Protect Choctaw Sovereignty.

(D) Restore positive relationships with other Tribal, Local, State and Federal governments.

(E) Demand safe atmosphere and protection.

My values and principles are "To be respected and to be a man of good character, be honest and truthful.

If elected I shall not betray that trust you will have given me. You can help me by helping you to lead our district.

I ask you for that opportunity. YAKOKE



District 5

Tami Gonzalez Cantrell

My name is Tami (Gonzalez) Cantrell and I am proud to announce my candidacy for Choctaw Nation Tribal Council District 5. I am a proud Choctaw woman that comes from a long line of full blood Choctaws. My family has lived on their original allotment in Haskell County their entire life. I am a lifelong resident of Haskell County and a proud wife, mother and educator. I am proudly married to Brandon Cantrell and together with our 4 children we work as stewards of the land on our cattle ranch outside of Stigler. As a certified teacher I am extremely dedicated to instilling a love of education and the pursuit of higher education and training opportunities for all our Chahta youth. Throughout my life I have worked on both the local and national tribal levels. I have worked directly for the Choctaw Nation with positions serving youth and our vulnerable adults and elders. On the National level I worked with Self-Governance Communication and Education working with The Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services advocating for our sovereign rights. The continued fight for our tribal sovereign rights is one that I will continue throughout my life as we as proud people deserve the rights to govern ourselves. The decision to embark on this journey within the tribal government comes from a love and dedication to my fellow Chahtas. I have a servant's heart and am dedicated to the betterment of life for our elders and the advancement of our tribal youth. I know that we must honor our past while focusing on the native belief of looking ahead to the next 3 generations. Without past knowledge and understanding our tribe cannot progress.

My campaign will be dedicated to giving a voice to our citizens in District 5 and our Tribal members across the nation by:

- Visiting all areas within our district and gaining knowledge of the needs of our people
- Advocating for more tribal youth involvement in cultural programs that encourage the knowledge and love for the Chahta heritage
- Increasing agriculturally based programs that help improve mother earth by teaching our youth to be good stewards of the land and its products
- Increasing more activities that encompass youth involvement with our elders so that they may learn the ways of the Chahta life and our past
- Increased access to education and employment opportunities for all our tribal members
- Giving a voice to all Chahta people within and outside of our tribal nation

My life is dedicated to the Choctaw motto of Faith, Family and Culture. Without faith and family nothing in my life would prevail. I am blessed with a family that supports me beyond measure and a church family that is as close as blood. My cultural dedication can be summed up with one phrase- Chahta Sia Hoke, it is who I am, and I am proud of the sacrifices and the dedication that comes with being Choctaw.

Yakoke,
Tami (Gonzalez) Cantrell



District 5

Marlena Crase

Dear Choctaw Nation Community,
I am Marlena Crase, a proud member of the Choctaw Nation, raised in the rural community of Rocky Point. My journey began at McCurtain High School, followed by studies at Carl Albert State College and Poteau Beauty College, where I earned my cosmetology license. With a strong foundation in leadership, I served as a department manager at Walmart before founding my own beauty salon. For the past 14 years, my husband Chad and I have successfully owned and operated two pawn shops—one in Stigler and another in Spiro for four years. Together, we have been married for 31 years and are blessed with three children and four grandchildren.

Community service has always been at the heart of my life. For 11 years, I was an active member and past president of MRS, a local organization dedicated to providing scholarships and donations to strengthen our community. My commitment to service is rooted in the values of faith, family, and culture—core beliefs that define our Choctaw tribe. These values guide my vision to support and sustain our people, from our youth to our elders.

Having grown up in a single-parent household, I understand the financial challenges many face. The Choctaw Nation Summer Youth Program was a lifeline for me, providing not only income but also invaluable lessons in work ethic that have shaped my career and life. As District 5 Councilor, I will champion our Choctaw youth by advocating for programs that equip them with the tools and opportunities needed to thrive as future leaders of our tribe.

Looking ahead, I recognize that healthcare is a pressing concern for many. Balancing full-time work with the care of aging parents or relatives can be daunting. To address this, I propose exploring assisted living options to ensure our elders receive the dignified care they deserve while supporting working families.

I am committed to serving our tribe with integrity, compassion, and a forward-thinking approach. Together, we can build a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant Choctaw Nation for all generations.

Sincerely,
Marlena Crase



District 5

Sharona Farmer

My name is Sharona J. Farmer, and I am a lifelong resident of District 5. I am uniquely suited to taking on the role of councilperson because I have deep roots in both LeFlore and Haskell counties. I grew up in Spiro, but my family ties run strong in Haskell County, where my father's side still owns our original allotment land. I am the daughter of Joe and Pam Perry and the granddaughter of Campbell Phillip "C.P." Perry and Mary Opal King Perry. My grandfather was an original Dawes enrollee, and my father grew up speaking Choctaw as his first language. That cultural foundation shaped my values and continues to guide me today.

I have dedicated my life to education and community service. For 13 years, I served as a classroom teacher, working directly with students to foster curiosity, learning, and growth. I hold a master's degree in school counseling and am pursuing my doctorate in education.

I've had the privilege of working alongside passionate colleagues in the Career Development Department to develop award-winning programs like Choctaw HEROES, which received the Redefining Rural Healthcare Award. I currently assist Choctaw students interested in healthcare careers, and HEROES has met or exceeded every objective for the entire life of the program. I've served on numerous Boards, including the Executive Board for Pervasive Parenting and the Spiro Schools Indian Education Board. I've also been recognized as a Sequoyah Fellow by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

I've been married to my husband for 29 years. We have a son, CJ, a daughter, Delaney, and one grandson, McCree, who calls me Nonna and is the light of my life.

If elected to represent District 5, I will focus on:

- Education – Supporting Choctaw students and promoting culturally rooted learning.
- Career Opportunity – Strengthening pathways to employment and entrepreneurship.
- Healthcare – Expanding wellness and quality care access, especially in rural areas.
- Housing – Advocating for affordable housing that meets the needs of our families and elders.
- Cultural Preservation – Honoring our language and traditions and passing them on to future generations.

I am running for Tribal Council because I believe our future is strongest when we lead with our hearts and are guided by our values. My Dad always taught me that if there is work to be done, you just put your head down and get to it. That's what I'm ready to do for District 5. I'm committed to service, guided by our culture, and prepared to work for the people of District 5.

If you want to reach me, my number is 918-649-5183, or you can email me at electsharona-farmer@gmail.com.

Yakoke. Let's do this together!
Instagram: @electsharonafarmer | Tiktok: @elect.sharona.farmer
Facebook: Elect Sharona Farmer – District 5 Tribal Council



District 5

Kimberly Ford

Halito,
My name is Kimberly Sue Ford, I am 11/16 Choctaw, and I am a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. I am running for the position of District 5 Choctaw Tribal Council. I am a Licensed Practical Nurse, a former restaurant owner and me and my husband, James owned and operated a cattle business in Kinta, Oklahoma until his passing.

Born and raised in Talihina, Oklahoma, I am the daughter of Daisy Perry and the granddaughter of Katherine Ward. I graduated from Talihina High School in 1985, where I played softball and basketball throughout my school years. After graduation, I attended the LPN program at Kiamichi Area Vocational School. I have been a licensed practical nurse for 39 years, with twenty of those years dedicated to the Choctaw Nation Health Service Authority. In addition to my nursing career, I owned and operated the Kinta Kafe for 8 years, cherishing the connections I made with the people of District 5 who supported my establishment.

Currently, I am a widow with a wonderful son, a beautiful daughter-in-law, and a granddaughter, Bella Rose. I aspire to demonstrate to my granddaughter the importance of working for and supporting our Choctaw community and making District 5 a desirable place to live. My family has always taught me the value of serving our Choctaw people while enjoying the process. My uncles, Sherman, Wayne, and J.D. Ward, have been involved in Labor Day Softball for years, and my cousin, Daryan Eubanks, is the current District 9 Junior Miss for 2024-2025.

Having lived in this district for 30 years, I am eager to contribute to our tribe beyond my medical expertise and offer my skills generously. I am committed to listening to our people, understanding their concerns, and taking action to provide the necessary support. My current experience caring for my mother has deepened my understanding of the support required for families who care for their loved ones. A robust support system, extending beyond hospitals and hospice care, would be invaluable for those balancing work and caregiving responsibilities. Our community center can serve as a vital resource and gathering place to address family challenges and celebrate community successes.

If elected, it would be my profound honor to serve our nation with the respect and dignity that only the Choctaw people can offer.

Thank you for your time and review. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yakoke,
Kimberly S. Ford
1-539-237-0014 | Ksford.ksf@icould.com



District 5

Vincent Terrell

Candidate Name: Vincent "Vinnie" Terrell
Position Running for: Tribal Council Member District 5
Phone Number: (580) 559-6637
Email: vbt3rr3ll@gmail.com
*No biography or photo available.

District 5

Earl Smith

My name is Earl Smith, and I am proud to officially announce my candidacy for District 5 Councilman for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. As a dedicated community member, I bring years of experience in working for Choctaw Nation. I have deep roots in the District 5 community and a strong commitment to tribal values. I believe in preserving the Choctaw heritage for future generations. With integrity, transparency, and a heart for the people, I am ready to serve and strengthen our community. My hope is to bridge the gap between leaders and community members ensuring everyone has a say in shaping our future and uphold the Choctaw values of Faith, Family, and Culture.

If elected as your District 5 Councilman, I plan to bring positive change to our community due to my deep understanding of local issues. I believe in working together with the people of District 5 to ensure every voice is heard. My commitment to transparency and open communication will help build trust within our community, making it a better place to live and thrive for generations to come. I would appreciate your vote!



District 7

Adrian Johnico

Unfortunately, we received news on May 22, 2025, that Adrian Johnico passed away. The Choctaw Nation is saddened by the news of his passing and would like to extend condolences to the Johnico family.

As a result of this news, Johnico will not appear on the 2025 Election Ballot.

Adrian Johnico is a proud Choctaw and resident of Clayton for 35 years. Adrian is the youngest of four children. He’s been married to Jessie Pugh Johnico for 25 years. Jessie teaches Kindergarten at Buffalo Valley School District. He has three children: a 24-year-old son, Carson; a 20-year-old daughter, Maggie; and a 16-year-old son Aidan.

Adrian Johnico is a dedicated servant-leader with a deep commitment to the people he serves. With a natural ability to understand and meet the needs of others. Adrian approaches leadership with a mindset of service first. As a candidate for Choctaw Nation Tribal Council District-7, his top priority is to ensure that the community’s highest needs are met with compassion and care. Adrian embodies the principles of servant leadership through his unwavering work ethic, resilience, integrity, and devotion. His passion for his community and his dedication to uplifting others will bring a fresh, dynamic energy to the Choctaw people of District-7. Adrian is determined to be a leader who walks beside the people, working tirelessly to make a difference every day. He believes in the power of consistent action, never wavering in his commitment to his values and his vision for the future. “I’m here to fight for what I believe in. This is worth fighting for,” he says. “You can’t count me out. I will rise, because this isn’t a sometimes thing – it’s a mindset every day. It’s a great day to get up, show up, lead up, lift up, and never give up.” Adrian Johnico is ready to be the servant-leader that District-7 deserves, and he is committed to making a lasting impact for the Choctaw people.



District 7

Joey Tom Incumbent

Halito,
As District 7 Tribal Councilman of the Choctaw Nation, my journey over the past four years has been both transformational and deeply fulfilling. When I first took office, I was filled with a sense of responsibility to my people and a commitment to serve with integrity and dedication. This role has allowed me to connect with our community on a profound level, listening to the voices of our members and understanding their needs and aspirations for our communities. Throughout my tenure, I have been fortunate to work alongside dedicated individuals who share a passion for our Nation’s growth and prosperity. Together, we have tackled various challenges, from economic development initiatives to cultural preservation efforts. I am immensely grateful for the support of my fellow Tribal council members, Chief Batton, Assistant Chief Austin and our community, which has been instrumental in the progress we have made. Each success has reinforced my belief in the strength and resilience of the Choctaw Nation. Through this we have homes built for our families in the District 7 area marking 100 homes through ARH, LEAP and Independent elderly homes, new wellness center; Choctaw language and Hymn singing classes, community park revitalization and providing lunch at our facility on the Tuskahoma grounds.

I am the 41 year old son of Jimmy Tom and the late Betty Tom of Broken Bow. My siblings are Jared Tom and Gennavie Tom whom both are employed by the Choctaw Nation Cultural Department and the late Margo Tom. I am currently a member at Tohwali United Methodist Church and a member of the Wright City School Board where I have served for the past 11 years. I have been married for 21 years to my wife Hope Tom an we have 3 children Konnor 21, Raynie 18, and Ace’Lee 6 years old.

I am eager to continue this journey, advocating for our people and ensuring that our voices are heard in every decision made. I am look foward to the possibility of continuing to make a positive impact in the lives of our community members. With your support, I hope to build on our achievements and strive for an even brighter future for the Choctaw Nation. You may contact me at

Email joeytom0419@yahoo.com | Phone 580-236-0797 | Facebook Joey Tom Choctaw Tribal Council District 7

Yakoke, Joey Tom



District 12

Vickie McClure

Halito,
Su hohchifo yut Vickie McClure, ulhti awak tuklo ya ohoyo nan apesa baleli la chi.

Hello, my name is Vickie McClure, I am running for councilwoman of district 12. I am a proud Choctaw tribal member who has lived in the Tupelo, Oklahoma for the last 30 plus years. I have three (3) daughters, seven (7) grandchildren, one (1) great granddaughter and two (2) sons-in-law.

My parents are the late Rev. Lee Burris and Mildred Bohanon Burris. My home church is Round Lake Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Centrahoma, Oklahoma, where I currently serve as the sesion clerk. March 31, 2025, I retired with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma after serving 21 years as an associate as a community based social worker of Outreach Services. I also served as a trustee for the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority Board for 10 years as well as serving on the princess pageant committee.

If elected to serve District 12 and the Choctaw people, I would like to uphold the tribes value of faith, family, and culture. I feel, we as Choctaw people need to continue to work together to move forward and prosper but to never forget who we are and where we came from. We are truly blessed with the many services our tribe has to offer not only our tribal members but the community as well.

If given the opportunity, I would love to be the voice for District 12 and want to work hand in hand with the people. Ideas and concerns are welcome. Please feel free to reach out to me via email; mcclure_vickie@yahoo.com or cell phone; 580-320-2839 if you have any questions regarding my campaign.

Yakoke



★ ★ Election Candidate bios are printed exactly as submitted to the Election Board. No edits have been made, other than formatting. ★ ★

If a bio or photo is missing, it wasn’t submitted by the due date.

2025 Election Candidates

District 5

Jennifer Turner

Halito
My Name is Jennifer Turner, And I am honored to official-ly announce my candidacy for the Choctaw Nation Tribal Council, District 5 seat.

I am a proud Choctaw with deep and lasting roots in Haskell County. My grandfather, Houston Perry, was an original enrollee, and my grandmother was Ola Perry. The Perry family first appeared on the Haskell County census in 1850s. I am a member of Bethel Indian Baptist Church, Founded in 1894 by my great-grandfather, Daniel Perry. My faith is strong, and one of my heartfelt hopes is to see out Native churches grow and flourish again.

My husband, Mark Turner, and I have been married for over 32 years. We are blessed with two sons, Brady, a Licensed Practical Nurse at Choctaw Nation Stigler Clinic and a Student at SWOSU; and Carson, who will be graduating from Carl Albert State college this May. My parents are Linda Perry York, A registered Choctaw artist, and Kenneth and Esther Sutton of San Antonio Texas

My life has been spent caring for others. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and have worked as a Registered Nurse for 30 years. I am currently the RN Unit Manager of the residency clinic at Choctaw Nation Healthcare Center, where I previously served as House Supervisor. Healthcare is not only my profession, but also my calling- and I will continue to advocate for every tribal member to receive the compassionate, high-quality care they deserve.

Beyond healthcare, I have had the privilege of serving on the Stigler Public School of Education for the past 13 years. Education is the key to opportunity, and I am committed to ensuring that ever Choctaw youth have access to the tools, resources, and support they need to graduate, pursue high education or vocational training, and build a strong future. Lifting up our youth and removing barriers to success will be one of my top priorities.

As your District 5 Council woman, I will bring experience, dedication, and a deep love for our people in this role. I will focus on issues that matter most to us-caring for our elders, strengthening healthcare, supporting education, and preserving our precious Ancestry and culture. I believe in transparency, hard work, and listening to the voices of our community.

I humbly ask for your support and vote on July 12. Together, we can honor our ancestors, serve our people, and build a bright future for the generations to come.

Yakoke,
Jennifer Turner



District 12

Regina Mabray

Regina (Folsom) Mabray is a resident of District 12 with deep ancestral ties to the Choctaw Nation. Born at the Tahina Indian Hospital to J.D. and Rita Folsom, she was raised with the language, values, and traditions of her people. Regina is 19/32 Choctaw, and her grandparents, Jackson and Lizzie James, were full-blood enrollees listed on the Dawes Rolls. Her roots run deep in the communities of Quinton and Kiowa where she lived for several years in a home without indoor plumbing and was raised in part by her Choctaw-speaking grandmother.

From those humble beginnings, Regina developed a lifelong commitment to service, education, and culture. She graduated from Kiowa High School in 1983 and earned her bachelor’s degree from East Central University in Ada, followed by two advanced degrees. Supported by the Choctaw Nation throughout her education, Regina dedicated over 34 years to public service as a teacher, school librarian, Director of Indian Education, and Johnson O’Malley Coordinator. She has worked tirelessly to preserve and pass down Choctaw values and heritage to future generations, securing critical funding and resources for schools and students.

As a wife, mother, and grandmother, family is at the heart of everything Regina does. She and her husband, Robert, were high school sweethearts and have been married for 38 years. They live in Ashland and are active members of their community church, where Regina serves as Sunday School superintendent, church secretary, and a long-time board member.

Regina understands the day-to-day challenges facing Choctaw citizens in District 12. She has seen firsthand the burden of having to travel outside the district to access basic tribal services. Regina is running to be a voice for the people and to bring essential services closer to home. Her top priorities include bringing more jobs to the district, expanding access to healthcare, improving the education opportunities for our children, and increasing the number of LEAP homes and elder housing units in District 12.

Grounded in her faith, driven by her love for the Choctaw people, and inspired by the stories and needs of her neighbors, Regina is ready to serve. If elected, she will be a strong advocate for progress and will work closely with the Tribal Council to ensure District 12 receives the attention, resources, and recognition it deserves.

For more information, please contact Regina at 918-424-0362.

Yakoke!



Additional Information

For more information regarding the 2025 Choctaw Election, voter registration information and voting statistics, visit <https://www.choctawnation.com/vote>. Tribal Voter Registration information is also available on Chahta Achvffa. If you need assistance, please call 580-642-8600.

TRIBAL VOTER REGISTRATION
INFORMATION NOW ON CHAHTA ACHVFFA

Visit, chahtaachvffa.choctawnation.com
For assistance, call 580-642-8600

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Choctaw Nation Voter Registration

Constitutional Amendment Questions

On January 15, 2025, Tribal Council passed the resolution to add five constitutional amendments to the 2025 Tribal Election ballot. Below are the proposed constitutional amendments that will appear on the ballot:

Amendment 1

“Amend the description of the boundaries of the Choctaw Nation Reservation in Article I, § 2”

Proposed Change

Section 2. “Where in this Constitution the term “Choctaw Nation” or “the Nation” is used to denote a geographical area, it shall mean all lands within the exterior boundaries of The Choctaw Nation Reservation including those lands within the original boundaries of the Choctaw Nation Reservation determined by federal statutes and treaties and to such other lands as may hereafter be acquired by or for.

Amendment 1 Related Questions

Q: What is the purpose of changing the physical description of the Choctaw Nation Reservation to a broader and more general description?

A: Those boundaries are based on a map that is not available. The proposed description of the boundaries is clearer and more readable.

Q: How could this new, broader description impact the current boundaries of the Choctaw Nation?

A: It will not impact the current boundaries of the Choctaw Nation as the new description is based on existing federal statutes and treaties.

Amendment 2

“Amend Article IV, § I and Article XVII to remove the reference to the State of Oklahoma and the federal government, as the Nation is a separate and distinct sovereign which has the right to make its own laws and be governed by them.”

Proposed Change

Article IV, Section 1. Nothing in this Constitution shall be interpreted in a way which would diminish the rights and privileges that tribal members have as citizens of this Nation

Article XVII. All elected or appointed officials shall take the following oath:

“I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the Constitutions of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.

I further swear (or affirm) that I will devote my best efforts toward the preservation of the heritage and tradition of the Choctaw Nation in order that all mankind may better understand, evaluate, and appreciate the history of its glorious past and enjoy its brilliant future, so help me God.”

Amendment 2 Related Questions

Q: What is the purpose of removing the reference to the State of Oklahoma and the federal government from the constitution?

A: Removing this language strengthens the Nation’s sovereignty by enabling the Choctaw Nation to be ruled by its own laws. This proposal also amends the Article XVII Oath of Office by removing “the State of Oklahoma, and the United States of America” from the Oath of Office to be uniform and further strengthen the Nation’s ability to make, amend, and be governed by its own laws.

Amendment 3

“Removing the description of the 12 Districts of the Nation, as they are no longer accurate and have since been amended.”

Proposed Change

Article VIII, Section 2. The Tribal Council shall consist of twelve (12) members, one (1) each to be elected from twelve (12) districts which lie within the boundaries set forth in Article I, Section 2 of this Constitution. The Tribal Council is responsible for determining the area embraced within each district and shall have the responsibility for reappointment based on population when necessary.

Amendment 2 Related Questions

Q: What is the purpose of removing the reference to the State of Oklahoma and the federal government from the constitution?

A: The current description of the twelve (12) Districts and land they embrace is no longer accurate due to reapportionment by Tribal Council, which is within Tribal Council’s power. Removing the individual land descriptions for each District and providing the Tribal Council’s general authority to determine the area each District embraces by making these amendments makes the Choctaw Constitution more accurate and clearer.

Voting Location Board Recruitment 2025

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Election Board is seeking 2025 Tribal Election Voting Location Board Members.

If you are interested in helping at this year's voting locations, please fill out the application on the left and submit it to the Election Board via mail or email.

Mailing Address	Email Address
Choctaw Nation Election Board PO Box 748 Durant, OK 74702	electionboard@choctawnation.com

Voting Location Board Members will need to be able to attend training in Durant, Oklahoma on either July 2 or July 3.

All interested tribal members must reside within the reservation boundaries of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The Election Board makes the final decision on all positions and assigned locations of the Voting Location Board. The Election Board Secretary will contact all Voting Location Board members with more information through email and mail.

For more information, contact the Election Board by email at ElectionBoard@choctawnation.com or by phone at 580-634-0679.



Amendment 4

“Correct the spelling of Tvshka Homma in Article VIII, § 5.”

Proposed Change

Article VIII, Section 5. At the hour of twelve (12) noon on October 1, 1983, following the ratification of this Constitution, the successful candidates for Tribal Council shall meet with the elected Chief and the Choctaw Election Commission at the Capital at Tvshka Homma at which time and place the Chairperson/Arbitrator of the Commission will place twelve (12) slips of paper in a receptacle, six (6) of which will have the number four (4) on them and six (6) will have the number two (2) written on them. Each slip will be folded so that the number thereon cannot be seen. In the presence of each other and the elected Chief, each successful candidate shall draw one (1) of the slips from the receptacle and the number on the slip each of the successful candidates draws will be the number of years he shall serve during the first term.

Amendment 2 Related Questions

Q: What is the purpose of updating the spelling of “Tvshka Homma”?

A: This amendment exercises sovereignty and protects and promotes Choctaw Culture by correctly referring to the Capitol of the Choctaw Nation by its Choctaw translation from “Red Warrior.”

Amendment 5

“Remove the requirement for approval of constitutional amendments by the Secretary of Interior in Article XVIII, § 2, which is no longer required.”

Proposed Change

Article XVIII, Section 2. Adoption by not less than fifty-one percent (51%) of the total number of qualified voters of the Nation voting in the last Chief’s election shall be required to amend this Constitution.

Amendment 2 Related Questions

Q: What is the purpose of removing the Secretary of the Interior approval requirement?

A: This amendment exercises sovereignty and protects and promotes Choctaw Culture by correctly referring to the Capitol of the Choctaw Nation by its Choctaw translation from “Red Warrior.”

Voting Location Board Recruitment Form 2025

Name: _____

VR # _____

CN# _____

FirstMiddleLast(Maiden)Married

Phone Number: _____

Preferred Contact Method:

Email Address: _____

☐ Phone☐ Text Message☐ Email☐ Mail

Mailing Address	City	State	Zip
1) Are you interested in serving on the Voting Location Board for this year's tribal election?			
Qualification Questions			
2) Are you currently an enrolled tribal member with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma?			
Article XII. Voting Location Board, Section 1.			
3) Are you related within a 3rd degree of consanguinity to any candidate(s)?			
Article XII. Voting Location Board, Section 2.			
...related within the third degree of consanguinity/affinity (including adoption) to a candidate or prospective candidate for office, defined as a spouse, parent, step-parent, parent-in-law, sibling, step-sibling, sibling-in-law, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, step-grandparent, child, legal guardian, stepchild, grandchild, nephew, first-cousin, in a dating relationship...			
4) Do you reside within the same household as an Election Board Member?			
Article XII. Voting Location Board, Section 1.			
5) Are you currently employed by a Candidate or Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma?			
Article XII. Voting Location Board, Section 1.			
6) Are you available for the following dates/times?			
July 2nd	9am - 4:30pm	Training (Durant, OK)	Y / N
July 3rd	9am - 4:30pm	Training (Durant, OK)	Y / N
July 11th	8am - 4:30pm	Early Voting	Y / N
July 12th	7am - 7pm	General/Special Election	Y / N
August 8th	8am - 4pm	Run-off Early Voting	Y / N
August 9th	7am - 7pm	Run-off	Y / N
Training dates will be assigned by the Election Board; letters will be mailed to selected workers.			
7) Are you willing to work at another Voting Location if one is not available in your area?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Idabel, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Stigler, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Wright City, OK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broken Bow, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiro, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Hugo, OK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Battiest, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Wilburton, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Durant, OK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Smithville, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Antlers, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Atoka, OK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Talihina, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Wright City, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> McAlester, OK	
<input type="checkbox"/> Poteau, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Antlers, OK	<input type="checkbox"/> Coalgate, OK	
8) Do you have reliable transportation to travel to the Training Site (Durant, OK) and Voting Locations?			
Election Board will consider preferences, but will make final decision of assigned locations and positions			
Date Form Completed: _____	Selected? Y/N	Declined to Work? Y/N	
If selected, position/location assigned: _____			