# OKLAHOMA

# COUNTY GRASSROOTS TRAINING GETTING STARTED AND GETTING ORGAINZED



# **OKLAHOMA COUNTY** REPUBLICAN PARTY

#### NOTE:

There are many resources available outside those listed in this book. More QR codes are on the back page, and below is link to message me or contact the OK County GOP office. All of this information will make your precinct organizing much more efficient.

And by all means - HAVE FUN! This book is not only to help you get your precinct going, but let's have fun doing this. There is nothing like meeting a whole new set of friends or getting reacquainted with old friends, to make you feel that you are doing something worthwhile and connecting you with your neighborhood.



or Call the Oklahoma County GOP Office at 405-849-5198

# INTRODUCTION

You've decided to get involved in your local government to make a difference, or maybe you simply want to see how government works. There's no better place to start than at the precinct or grassroots level.

This is the level that is the closest to the voter and can have the most dramatic and quickest effect. **This doesn't require 24/7 commitment**. Here are some techniques and methods that will make your work the most effective.

### WALKING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Amazingly, the simplest steps are the first steps. Do NOT discount this step. It's simple but extremely effective and powerful.

Walking your neighborhood means making getting a walklist. Here in Oklahoma County that means you will need to have a list from Voter Gravity. Oklahoma County is lucky enough to have their own database, and from that we have many up-to-date data entries for each voter.

All you have to do is contact me (Claire) for any lists that you might need. I can get your volunteers trained and set up with walk lists for their precinct so that they can get out and work the ground. If there is no precinct chair, then you can walk the list (also check your "1st list" in the information packet I gave you.)

We like to ask that the first time you are elected to your precinct or district post that you walk your precinct/district for the first time. This is an opportunity to introduce yourself to the voters in your precinct/district. It's also an opportunity to start the connection between you and the voter.

### SAMPLE FIRST LETTER

Here is a sample letter.

Hello-My name is (your full name), and I'm your new district/precinct chair! I'm walking to introduce myself to you and to connect with the voters in this precinct. sorry I missed you, but you can contact me anytime: Phone: 405,555,5555 Email: (write your email) I've also started a Facebook Page: facebook.com/District\_\_\_ Look forward to seeing you, Your name and signature

You can create an email to use for walking your neighborhood and get a Google Number to use here too. Also starting a Facebook page is a great way to funnel in people and then you can PM them for their contact information. Eventually you will want to set up a Signal Group that is much more secure. (A Signal Primer is included in your information packet). Each District Information Packet contains the 4 x 4 voters (the voters that have voted in EVERY election since the last presidential election) sorted by precinct and a map of each precinct. These are the lists you want to give to your precinct chairs. All they have to do is contact these active people in their precinct and get them involved.

There are many volunteer places they can

participate, phone calling, texting, on a Brigade (check the Brigades at your next HD meeting), or as a neighborhood or block captain, in charge of a street or two in your precinct. When vou get 4 or 5 people involved like this it will take a short time to cover your whole precinct for a candidate or cause.



# THE WALKING SUPPLIES

There are some essentials for walking that will make your working the neighborhood so much better.

Summertime:

- Water
- Comfortable Shoes
- Hat
- Sunglasses

Winter time:

- Good warm shoes with socks
- Good coat

Anytime:

- A surface to write on
- blank fill-in sheets for long information
- voter registration forms (you can get at your local post office or tag agent, you may have to ask for them)
- Have the <u>OKVoterPortal</u> on your phone so that you can make minor changes to a voter's information such as
- changing address within a county
- changing names
- changing party affiliation

# THE WALKING SCRIPT

It's best to write down your script before you take off, and practice 2 or 3 times to make sure you include the following key points:

- 1. You are a Volunteer
- 2. Name of the **Candidate or Cause**
- 3. Would like to **pass on information**.

Information like **political events** speakers and events), **legislation** that is pending at the state capital (using the useful OAEC 59th App for <u>Apple</u> or <u>Google</u> for current legislators in office), **policies** before city council (like Oklahoma City Human Rights Commission), or **general information**.

Or your may be doing a **literature drop** and handing off information on a **candidate** - asking if that home-owner would like more **information**, a **yard sign** or **donation**.

My script goes something like this: Hi, I'm Claire, I live just around the block (usually pointing in the direction of my home) and I'm walking the neighborhood to give let my neighbors know about conservative legislators, policies, elected officials and events happening in our county, but I need your email and phone number to do that. Can I get that today?

You will be amazed at how often you get a yes.

# DOOR-KNOCKING TECHNIQUES

These are the best techniques to use:

- **Ring** the door bell
- Step away from the door 3 6 feet
- Take off hat or sunglasses
- Give them **your spiel** (don't worry if you mess up that makes you authentic) Be natural
- If they respond **yes**, mark down their info
- if they respond **no**, say thank you politely and mark them on your list as "no" and go on to the next house.

When you and take off your hat, immediately they see who you are. You can also wear a button or pin to identify you as volunteering for a candidate. When you step away from the door, that invites them to come outside, where you now have their full attention.

You may like to go in pairs, which helps keep track of all the information. It's also fun to take your grandchild or school-age kids along with you. This is an excellent opportunity to teach civics by example.

# CITY CODES AND HOAs

Oklahoma City allows solicitors with political information to call on home-owners, even if they have a no-solicitation sign on their door. Code <u>§39-19</u> exempts political volunteers from the "No solicitation" sign.

Check with other cities for their codes, but most of the other metro cities follow Oklahoma City's lead and allow political literature drops.

**HOAs** (Home Owners Associations) may have separate rules and the best way to get material to these residences is to recruit someone who lives in these HOAs to walk their neighborhood. If this isn't possible, the most effective way is to mail to these home-owners.

**NOTE:** It is a federal crime to place anything that is not U. S. Mail in a mailbox for a \$10,000 fine per mailbox. So if you have something you want to leave, take some tape and tape to glass or other surface that won't be damaged by the tape. I don't like to tape on wood or stained surfaces.

# WORKING YOUR PRECINCT

After the first run through your precinct you will begin to know a lot more about your area. You will find that you become a neighborhood center of information and what's going on in the neighbor-hood. The next question you will get is:

#### Who do I vote for?

I get this all the time, and I prefer to send folks to various information that they can look up and check out their candidates.

- <u>Oklahoma Supreme Court Network</u> contains all the legal court records for all courts in the state of Oklahoma
- <u>The Guardian</u> the reporting site where all candidates must report their income and expenses
- <u>The Oklahoma Secretary of State</u> which gives information on entities that you find in the financial reports.
- <u>Oklahoma Voter Portal</u> where voters can download and study their ballot before they cast their ballot.
- Doing basic web searches can also reveal leads on where else to look for information.

But when all else fails, I usually show them who I'm voting for and why.

### STAYING IN CONTACT

Now that you are establishing your neighborhood, staying in contact is vital to nurture your precinct power.

Ways to stay in touch:

- **Email** send out emails once a month is a vital way to stay in touch. It lets your voters know you are still around and active.
- <u>Facebook</u> group, private group, pages all work well to bring folks into your group, and then you can led them into more secure and safer places to post.
- <u>Truth Social</u> is a great place to post without fear of being censored
- <u>Signal</u> Excellent end-to-end encryption messaging app for your phone and PC. Handles large files (larger than email) and graphics. Get phone first, then sync with PC.
- <u>Twitter</u> has become amazingly fair, and some of my friends and I have tried to get kicked off, and haven't yet!
- Weather permitting, your group can gather at a local park. Some city parks require <u>reservations</u>. (for OKC only)
- **Block parties** -you can block off part of a street are lots of fun. Be sure to check with the local police and authorities for regulations. Pot luck dishes and the host can supply water and ice, with a local leader or political leader can bring a lot of people out.

# WORKING YOUR PRECINCT

One way to stay in contact with your precinct chairs and other district leaders, is to have a set meeting time every month. This does NOT have to be fancy or formal. This can be at the local coffee shop or meet at a local diner for chips and salsa, or meet at a church on a Sunday afternoon.

The main point is to have a set time, the 3rd Thursday evening, or the 2nd Saturday morning or the 1 Sunday afternoon - a set time each month where you meet with all your people.

At first, you will only get a few, but especially as we get closer to the election, more will want to be involved. This is where it's important to have a place where they can come and listen to others talk about what's going on in the district.

Please let me know the first couple of times you meet so that I can come and help you lead and get the ball rolling for you.

## MORE CONTACT IDEAS

- You can even combine with a couple of precincts and invite a CD candidate they love these events like this.
- Schedule a weekly, by-weekly, or monthly coffee time on the weekend the third Saturday of the month to meet at a local coffee shop to discuss issues, events, and news.

#### **BE CONTAGIOUS!**

Outside gatherings and block parties and other public "displays" of solidarity, unity and numbers can do wonders for **energizing your precinct voters**..

The liberals have done an excellent job of isolating and disorganizing the conservatives. Getting out, getting active and nurturing conservatives can go a long way toward larger numbers voting, and help make each voter a more informed and energized voter.

Statistics prove this is true, and it still works today. In the most recent Primary and Runoff races, those precincts that were actively informed and contacted, were the precincts that delivered the most voters.

In a world that seems rife with apathy and a "whatever" attitude, walking and working your precinct is still the gold standard for activating and energizing precincts and making conservative voting powerful and effective.

#### HAVING FUN IS CONTAGIOUS

We are very engaged in making this program pertinent, powerful and effective **for you** the grassroots. Please give us feedback. If there is anything that is too much, too little, confusing, or otherwise needs adjustment, please let us know. There's a QR code on the back with my text number to get in touch with me for answering questions and feedback!

> HAVE FUN!!! LET'S WAKE UP THE **RED VOTE**!





To view this booklet online or to get an extra copy, scan the QR code above, or please visit: https://www.okredprecincts.com/documents/ Grassroots\_training\_General\_most-recent.pdf

### RESOURCES





https://tinyurl.com/SearchOSCN



# https://guardian.ok.gov



#### https://okvoterportal.okelections.us