



Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission

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NEWS RELEASE

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Stucky Reappointed to Aeronautics Commission

OKLAHOMA CITY – Oklahoma Aeronautics Commissioner Wes Stucky of Ardmore has been reappointed by Gov. Mary Fallin to serve another six years on the Commission. His term expires Dec. 31, 2017.

This will be Stucky's third consecutive term on the Commission. He was first appointed in 1999 by former Gov. Frank Keating and then reappointed six years later by former Gov. Brad Henry. Stucky represents the fourth congressional district.

"It's hard to believe that I will be starting my third term on the Commission," Stucky remarked. "I am very humbled that Gov. Fallin had the confidence in me to reappoint me. Aviation is extremely important to Oklahoma and a vital tool for many companies doing business in our state. I look forward to further advancing the state's aviation and aerospace industry."

Since 1987, Stucky has been president and CEO of the Ardmore Chamber of Commerce; Ardmore Development Authority; Ardmore Tourism Authority; and Ardmore Chamber Foundation, a unique combination of a public development trust authority, membership association and tax-exempt charitable organization. The Ardmore Development Authority also manages the Ardmore Industrial Airpark (Ardmore Municipal Airport).

Prior to his arrival in Ardmore, Stucky served as vice president for the Baton Rouge (La.) Chamber of Commerce and the Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce. He also spent five years employed by the City of Shawnee (Okla.), culminating with a stint as city manager.

Stucky has served as chairman for numerous organizations such as the Governor's Economic Development Team, Governor's International Team, Oklahoma Economic Development Council and the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce Executives Association. He also served on the Governor's Aerospace Task Force. In 2002 he was the first recipient of the International Economic Development Council "Leadership in Public Service Award" and is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the organization. He is also in the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce Executive Hall of Fame.

Stucky earned a bachelor's degree in education from Bethel College in North Newton, Kan., and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo.

Oklahoma's aviation and aerospace industry is one of the state's largest employers, resulting in approximately 144,000 jobs statewide. The industry yields an annual industrial output of \$12.5 billion and

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generates an annual payroll of \$5 billion. One in 11 Oklahomans derive their income from the aviation and aerospace industry with an average salary of nearly \$55,000 compared to about \$30,000 for the average Oklahoman.

Oklahoma is also one of seven centers in the world for the modification, maintenance, repair and overhaul of aircraft, boasting the world's largest military aircraft repair facility, Tinker Air Force Base, and the world's largest commercial aircraft repair facility, the American Airlines Engineering Maintenance and Engineering Center in Tulsa.

In addition, Oklahoma has 111 publicly owned airports, 43 of which have runways of at least 5,000 feet in length, the minimum distance needed by most business jet aircraft to safely land or take off.

Approximately 93 percent of the state's population lives within 25 miles of an airport with a jet-capable runway.

-30-

The mission of the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission is to promote aviation, which includes ensuring that the needs of commerce and communities across the state are met by the state's 111 public airports that comprise the Oklahoma Airport System, and fostering the growth of the state's aerospace industry.