



LINDA NEAL



EARNEST WARE



STEVE BURRAGE

HELLO, GOODBYE

Oklahoma Board of Corrections Members

We say goodbye to three members of the Oklahoma Corrections Board and hello to three new members from very diverse backgrounds.

LINDA NEAL was asked to serve on the Board of Corrections by then Governor Brad Henry in 2009. They simply told her at the time they were looking for a woman from the Southwestern portion of the state. It wasn't surprising that she accepted. A native of Elk City with a degree in Education from the Univer-

sity of Texas, Ms. Neal has a long history of volunteering. She has served as president of the Lawton Public School Foundation, the Lawton Junior Service Organization, The United Way, and the Oklahoma Chapter of P.E.O. and served as Chairman of the Corrections Board during her tenure. She is now serving as

president of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. Ms. Neal says her time on the Board of Corrections opened her eyes to the many facets of Corrections. She remains an advocate for changing the way Oklahoma deals with incarcerating women and diversionary programs for nonviolent offenders.

EARNEST WARE was appointed to the Oklahoma Board of Corrections in May of 2003. A graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma he has serviced on number of Correction Board committees including those that interfaced with the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board. He is currently the Manager of Operations for the Spencer facility of Integris Mental Health. He was a three term City Councilman in Spencer and active in the NAACP, Legal Aid Services, Precinct Chairman for the Oklahoma Democratic Party and the Oklahoma Health Care Project.

STEVE BURRAGE is a native of Antlers Oklahoma. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma he is a Certified Public Accountant and was a partner in the firm of Burrage and Burrage before he moved into the banking industry. He served as President and CEO of the First National Bank in Antlers until he was

appointed Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector by then Governor Brad Henry. Burrage served as Chairman of the Oklahoma Bankers Association, the Oklahoma Federal Reserve Board, and the President's Associates at OU and sits on the Bizzell Memorial Library Board of Directors for the University of Oklahoma. Burrage left the Corrections Board in 2015 after being appointed to the Tax Commission by Governor Mary Fallin.

Since July of 2008, **IRMA J. NEWBURN** has served as an Assistant District Attorney in Comanche County. As an ADA, Ms. Newburn is responsible for prosecuting violent felony crimes. She is an experienced trial lawyer, representing the State in both jury and non-jury trials. Prior to working in the District Attorney's Office, Ms. Newburn was in private practice defending clients in municipal, federal and state court.

She is a member of Kiwanis and was re-

cently appointed to serve on the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women. She is an adjunct professor at Webster University on Fort Sill teaching Labor Management Relations and Employment Law. She is a past board member of Teen Court, Inc., and Hospice of Southwest Oklahoma. Ms. Newburn also served as President of the Comanche County Bar Association in 2010.

Ms. Newburn is a graduate of Cameron University in Lawton and Oklahoma City University School of Law. While attending law school she worked full-time for the City of Lawton where she was employed for more than nine years.

She is a member of the Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Lawton and the mother of two daughters, Alicia and Beverly.

JOHN HOLDER is a lifelong resident of northwest Oklahoma. Growing up, he attended Alva Public Schools and



IRMA J. NEWBURN



JOHN T. HOLDER



JAMES M. TILLY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University where he earned his bachelor's degree in business administration.

Currently, Holder is the owner of Holder Drug, a pharmacy in Alva that has been serving the community for over 40 years.

In addition, he has been a pilot for over 30 years and in 2013 was recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) with inclusion in the prestigious FAA Airmen Certification Database.

The database recognizes Holder and other certified pilots who have met or exceeded the high educational, licensing and medical standards established by the FAA.

Holder was appointed to the board of corrections in March, by Governor Mary Fallin, to replace Steve Burrage, who

resigned. Holder is serving the remainder of Burrage's term expiring in March 2017.

MATT TILLY has served as a senior attorney at Devon Energy since 2012. As senior attorney, he negotiates and transitions acquisitions and divestitures that relate to Devon's midstream and marketing business throughout North America, and drafts and negotiates contracts in areas such as the sale, transportation, storage, processing, and marketing of natural gas, NGLs, and crude oil.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University, where he earned a BA in Political Science. He also holds a law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where he served as the Articles Editor for the Oklahoma Law Review, the

President of the Board of Advocates, and the President of the Oklahoma Law chapter of the Federalist Society.

Matt is a member of the boards of directors of Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma, the Uptown 23rd District, and the Oklahoma City Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society. He currently serves as the President of the Board of Trustees for the Oklahoma State chapter of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, as well as the Vice President of the Gatewood Historic District. Matt is also a member of the Downtown Club of Oklahoma City and the Mineral Lawyers Society of Oklahoma City.

Matt is married to Megan, who serves as the Chief Assistant Attorney General for the Multicounty Grand Jury Unit at the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General.