



## Mission Statement

Post Adjudication Review Boards (PARB) of Oklahoma ensure the best interests of Deprived/Delinquent children are being met through external citizen review, to monitor the efforts of the children services programs and make recommendations for system improvement in order to enhance the management of individual children's cases as well as the administration of the system. As a result, children will achieve safety, stability and permanency without undue delay; enjoy continuity of relationships; and have the opportunity to develop their full potential.

## A Message From the Chair

The benefits to a judge of an active and experienced PARB are quite significant. PARB reviews are useful tools for the juvenile court judge on both an individual case basis and collectively. Individually, a PARB review brings a case into focus, not as a legal proceeding, but as an in-depth look at a child's life, within the custody of Oklahoma Department of Human Services in a way that treats the child as the focus. Their review critiques whether the individual child is having his or her needs met. Collectively, PARB gives an overview to the juvenile judge of all the children in the custody of DHS, under the auspices of the court system. This overview can help illuminate recurring issues, "across-the-board"; an overview which is an informed, common sense perspective is helpful in assessing needs within the existing, as we seek to improve it.

PARB is an important voice for children who need it the most: abused or neglected, and sometimes overlooked. PARB makes a difference.

The Honorable Judge Dynda Post,  
12th Judicial District

## How it Works

A PARB is composed of at least five volunteers (members) who live or work within the local judicial district. The volunteer board members have a desire to help our children create a brighter future for themselves. The volunteers are appointed by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth through the recommendation of the local judge with the juvenile court responsibility. The primary responsibility of a PARB is to be an advocate for children who live within the local PARB's judicial district. In addition, the PARB reviews encourage interagency coordination and cooperation.

## Why Do We Need PARB?

PARB emphasizes preventive services and permanent placement. In the 1980's federal and state laws created PARB out of a concern for the welfare of children and each child's right to live in a stable and nurturing home.

## What is Reviewed and How is a Review Completed?

PARB members examine each child's court file and may request additional information from the social worker, foster parent(s), court officials, and other people involved in the case to decide whether the child and the child's family are receiving the necessary and appropriate services to correct the conditions in the home which led to court intervention.

The PARB evaluates the goals stated in the case plan and the progress made toward these goals. By written recommendation, the PARB advises the Court whether these goals and services support the best interests of the child.

## 2013 PARB Annual Report Data

- 4,539 Reviews Completed
- 6,200 Children Reviewed
- 10,345 Volunteer Hours
- 339 Volunteers
- 24 Judicial Districts Served

In 2013, PARB volunteers reviewed an average of **13** cases, donating an average of **30** volunteer hours.

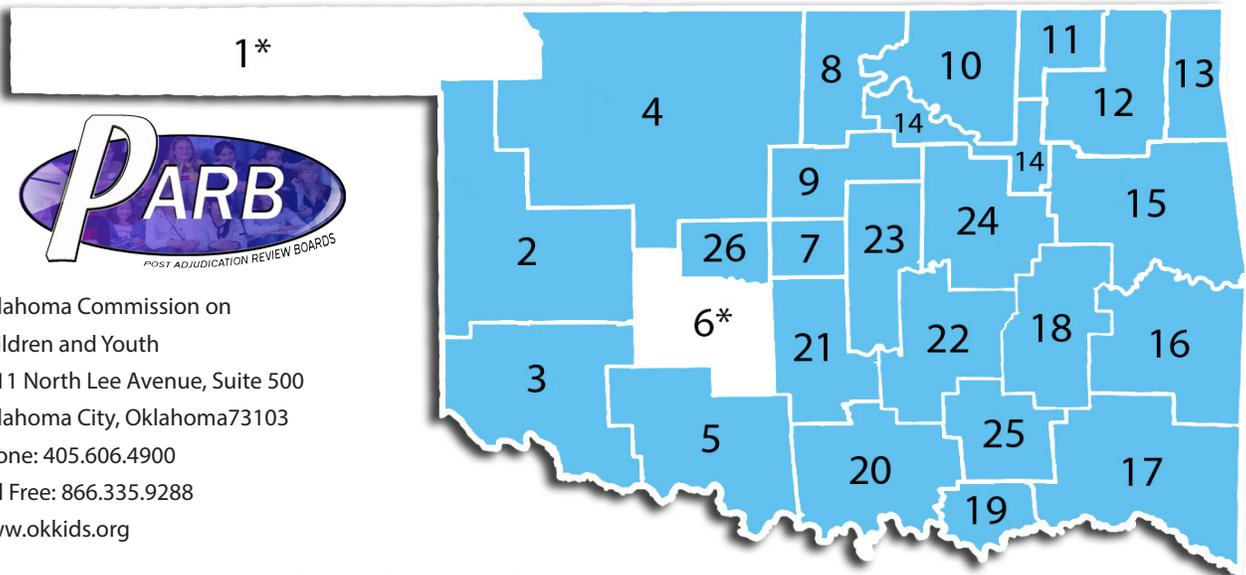
## Advisory Board Recommendations

1. In considering the Governor's proposed tax cuts, please ensure that sufficient funding will be provided for children's services in Oklahoma.
2. Request an interim study for the elimination of jury trials in termination of parental rights cases.

## State Post Adjudication Review Advisory Board Members

Jay Scott Brown (At- Large)  
 Linda McDaniel (At-Large)  
 Clara Cunningham (At Large)  
 Carol Collins (At-Large)  
 Melanie Johnson (At-Large)  
 Cindy Nocton (At-Large)  
 Honorable April Sellers White (Judicial)  
 Honorable Mark A. Moore (Judicial)  
 Honorable Pat VerSteeg (Judicial)  
 Honorable A. J. Henshaw Jr. (Judicial)

Honorable Dynda Post, Chair (Judicial)  
 Sandra Brown (Active PARB)  
 Destry Hawthorne (Active PARB)  
 Mary Jo Wimbish (Active PARB)  
 James Cooper (Active PARB)  
 Holly Morris (Foster Parent)  
 David Ross (Foster Parent)  
 Julie Kennedy (TFC Foster Parent)  
 Millie Carpenter (Ex-Officio OKDHS)  
 Greg Delaney (Ex-Officio OJA)



Oklahoma Commission on  
 Children and Youth  
 1111 North Lee Avenue, Suite 500  
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103  
 Phone: 405.606.4900  
 Toll Free: 866.335.9288  
 www.okkids.org

This publication printed and issued by the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth as authorized by 65 O.S. 2001, § 3-110. 50 Copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$15.11. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

PARB Coverage  
 by Judicial District  
 \*not covered