



Oklahoma Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of August 26, 2016

History of Office

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma was established with the Constitution of 1907.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Oklahoma was created in 1907 with statehood.

Qualifications for Office

The Council of State Governments (CSG) publishes the Book of the States (BOS) 2015. In chapter 4, Table 4.13 lists the Qualifications and Terms of Office for lieutenant governors: [The Book of the States 2015 \(CSG\) at www.csg.org](#).

Method of Election

The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) maintains a list of the methods of electing gubernatorial successors at: <http://www.nlga.us/lt-governors/office-of-lieutenant-governor/methods-of-election/>.

Duties and Powers

A lieutenant governor may derive responsibilities one of four ways: from the Constitution, from the Legislature through statute, from the governor (thru gubernatorial appointment or executive order), thru personal initiative in office, and/or a combination of these. The principal and shared constitutional responsibility of every gubernatorial successor is to be the first official in the line of succession to the governor's office.

Succession to Office of Governor

In 1923, Governor Jack C. Walton was impeached and removed from office. Lt. Governor Martin E. Trapp succeeded to office, finishing the unexpired term.² In 1929, Governor Henry S. Johnston was impeached and removed from office. Lt. Governor William J. Holloway succeeded to the office of Governor upon Johnston's removal.³ In 1963, Governor J. Howard Edmondson resigned to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat, and Lt. Governor George Nigh finished the remaining two weeks of his term, appointing Edmondson to fill the vacant Senate seat.⁴

¹ Oklahoma Constitution of 1907

² National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid