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Oklahoma's New State Auditor Is Already Making History

OKLAHOMA CITY – State Auditor-elect Cindy Byrd will make history for the second time in as many months when she is sworn-in as Oklahoma's 13th State Auditor during inauguration ceremonies at the State Capitol on Monday.

Byrd is the first woman to hold the office of State Auditor. And, last November, Byrd garnered the "most votes in an election for state office in Oklahoma history" when she "topped the 800,000 vote milestone (*Sooner Politics, November 9, 2018*). Byrd also won election to her first term as State Auditor receiving the highest percentage of votes cast among all statewide candidates.

"The election process is really pretty grueling and it also brings out what people are passionate about," said State Auditor-elect Cindy Byrd. "I learned so much as a candidate for office, including that Oklahomans expect the people they elect to govern with honesty and integrity while remembering just who it was that put them in office.

"Governor Kevin Stitt has made accountability and transparency in the expenditure of public funds a priority of his administration. The State Auditor's primary role is to do just that. I look forward to working with our new governor and legislators to accomplish this goal."

Audits published by the State Auditor are conducted in accordance with government auditing standards. Chief among these requirements is that the auditor be truly independent.

"My core values and personal principles will guide me in serving as State Auditor," Byrd said. "The job we do for taxpayers will quickly define our success in accounting for how agencies and officers spend tax dollars and in rooting out public corruption in order to protect those dollars. I look forward to the challenge and accomplishing the critical mission of this office."

Constituents attending the inaugural event are invited to drop by the State Auditor's Office, Room 123, beginning about 1:30 PM, Monday afternoon.

"Transparency begins and ends with the State Auditor," Byrd said. "I want all Oklahomans to know this office is open to them, their concerns, their complaints, and their support. We serve all residents in protecting both the receipt and expenditure of public funds and we do it together."

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