

Candidate for Governor

Jari Askins

Party: Democrat

Address: P.O. Box 391, Duncan OK

Phone: 580-255-7595 Age: 57

E-Mail: jariaskins2010@aol.com

Campaign Address: P.O. Box 890665, Oklahoma City OK 73189-0665

Campaign Phone: 405-601-8144

Website: www.JariAskins.com

Vocation: Public Servant

Question #1: List your academic and professional credentials, specific accomplishments and volunteer activities. State why you are running and what qualifies you for this office. (100 words total)

I want to put my experience and ability to work for Oklahoma. These are tough times-and I want to help the state I love with all my heart-I think my experience as a judge, legislator, head of the Pardon and Parole Board and Lt. Governor gives me the right background to lead. I also believe we need a governor who can work with both parties and bring them together in the best interest of all Oklahomans. That is what I did as a legislator and that's what I will do as governor.

Question #2: What do you see as the most important issues facing your office and staff? (200 words or less)

The list is long, beginning with crafting a budget that preserves vital services while recognizing the reality that state revenues won't recover to previous levels for quite sometime. State government must become more efficient. That's why I have long advocated a constitutional amendment requiring every-other session of the legislature to be dedicated to the budget and the budget only. I'll fight for that reform. If the legislature won't send it to a vote of the people, I'll lead an initiative petition drive to put it on the ballot. Oklahoma must make better and smarter investments in education, protection of children, care for the elderly and roads and bridges. I believe that can best be accomplished by a thorough examination of where our tax dollars are spent so waste and duplication can be eliminated. That's not going to happen when spending decisions are made at the last minute without the thorough deliberations a budget-only session can provide. I also believe Oklahoma can become a leader in medical research, green energy and aerospace. In order to accomplish those goals, we must become a national leader in government reform and in both parties working together.