

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Melissa Houston, [Melissa@929strategies.com](mailto:Melissa@929strategies.com)

### **Kyla Guyette Hired as CEO of the Oklahoma Workforce Commission**

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (December 5, 2024)—The Oklahoma Workforce Commission is pleased to announce the hiring of Kyla Guyette as its new Chief Executive Officer. With over 20 years of experience in workforce development and a proven record of transformative leadership, Guyette is set to spearhead efforts in workforce coordination and development across Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Workforce Commission was created via Senate Bill 621 in 2023. House and Senate leaders came together alongside Governor Kevin Stitt to create the Commission to transform the future of the workforce for Oklahoma. The Commission has been hard at work since its inception, working with stakeholders across the State to lay the groundwork for the future of workforce in Oklahoma.

Guyette brings a wealth of experience to the role, having previously led workforce development initiatives across the United States. Her work has consistently demonstrated an ability to build collaborative partnerships, secure significant funding, and develop systems that deliver impactful outcomes. Consistently throughout her career, Guyette has championed innovative solutions that aligned economic development with equitable access to training and employment opportunities.

Governor Kevin Stitt, Senate Pro Temp-elect Lonnie Paxton, House Speaker-elect Kyle Hilbert as well as Rep. Brian Hill (Mustang) and Sen. Adam Pugh (Edmond), the authors of legislation establishing the Oklahoma Workforce Commission, — expressed their strong support for Guyette's hiring and the future of workforce in Oklahoma.

"The Oklahoma Workforce Commission is coordinating important initiatives to drive our workforce forward, and Kyla is the right person to lead the team," said Governor Stitt. "She'll help us deliver on our commitment to creating opportunities for Oklahomans and ensuring businesses have the skilled workers they need to succeed. We have incredible momentum right now, and to make sure we stay the most business-friendly state in the nation, we have to build a workforce ready to power Oklahoma's future. I'm looking forward to working with Kyla."

"Kyla Guyette has the background, experience and knowledge to help us as we continue to transform the way we do business in Oklahoma," said Senate Pro Temp-Elect Paxton. "The Oklahoma Workforce Commission will be instrumental in creating a robust workforce to meet our needs as we continue to grow and bring business to the state. We also believe by better aligning public and private entities to create a comprehensive workforce strategy, it will help existing companies recruit, attract and retain a qualified workforce. I am excited to keep our momentum going and look forward to continuing our work on this issue."

"We know workforce is a critical issue in every corner of our state and we must invest in ourselves to produce better outcomes for our students and our state's employers," said Speaker-Elect Kyle Hilbert. "I want to thank the Commission for hiring someone with such extensive experience who can bring an outside perspective as we seek to improve our state's workforce and position Oklahoma as a state who has the best workforce in the nation."

“The Oklahoma Workforce Commission was created to meet the needs of in-demand industries and grow our economy, while ensuring Oklahomans are equipped with the necessary skillset to be successful in these jobs,” Sen. Pugh said. “Since I have been in the Senate, one of my main priorities has been to enhance career readiness and connect education to industry so Oklahoma can remain competitive in a modern and rapidly changing economy. I was proud to author this legislation that aims to work toward this goal. I am excited about the announcement of the hiring of Kyla as CEO, and I look forward to working together to improve our state now and for future generations.”

“Developing a trained and knowledgeable workforce is one of the most pressing issues facing Oklahoma. I’m excited to see the Oklahoma Workforce Commission take this step of hiring a CEO with more than 20 years of experience in this pressing area. I know this will advance our goal of closing our workforce gap, benefitting everyday Oklahomans seeking better jobs as well as employers and move our Great State forward to a Stronger Future for our Children, Families and Communities.”

“I am grateful for the leadership of the House, Senate and Governor Stitt, to make workforce a priority for Oklahoma. Their forward-leaning vision to do something new and innovative will not only provide qualified workers for Oklahoma businesses and businesses seeking to move to Oklahoma, but will also create jobs and prosperity for Oklahoma families. Hiring Kyla is just the beginning of great things to come for our state.” Tim Pehrson, Commission Chair.

As CEO, Guyette will lead efforts to coordinate workforce development activities statewide, ensuring alignment with industry needs and creating robust opportunities for job seekers. Her work will directly support the goals outlined for the Workforce Commission by fostering collaboration between public and private sectors, educational institutions, and community organizations to address Oklahoma’s workforce challenges effectively.

Guyette’s headshot is available here [\[NEED LINK TO HEADSHOT\]](#)