



**Cherokee Nation Councilmember
Johnny Jack Kidwell
Announces Re-Election Campaign to
Continue Serving At-Large Citizens**

Tulsa, OK – 1/13/25 – Councilmember Johnny Jack Kidwell is honored to announce that he will seek re-election to the Council of the Cherokee Nation. He is eager to continue building on his record of advocating successfully for the expansion of benefits and resources for Cherokee tribal citizens living outside the 14 counties of the Cherokee Nation Reservation.

In nearly four years, Councilmember Kidwell has applied his extensive organizational skills, developed over twenty years of distinguished military service in the U.S. Coast Guard, to support tribal citizens. He has transformed at-large services by listening to citizens, collaborating with others, advocating for legislation, and implementing several improvements that address the critical needs of at-large citizens, which they rightfully deserve.

Some examples include the establishment of the first-ever Cherokee Nation At Large Mutual Assistance (www.cnalma.org) program, a national non-profit dedicated to assisting at-large citizens in need. Working cooperatively, Councilmember Kidwell helped engineer an unprecedented expansion in both the number and dollar amount of scholarships designated for at-large students, expanded the Hearing Aid Program, budgeted new Healthcare Patient Experience Team positions dedicated to assisting at-large citizens with healthcare issues, and championed the first-ever Community Impact Grants to at-large CCO-participating community organizations. During Councilmember Kidwell's first term, he worked diligently to reform the election code, expand the school clothing assistance program, enhance the sports team and livestock programs, broaden the Cherokee Nation history and language courses, and offer first-time technological grants to at-large students. Many more first-term achievements can be found at www.voteforkidwell.com.

With your vote on June 7th, Councilmember Kidwell will continue his efforts to improve the lives of at-large citizens, regardless of where they live. Some of the many issues Kidwell will focus on in his second term include providing virtual healthcare options, assisting seniors with Medicare premiums, reforming the voting process, expanding vehicle tags beyond Oklahoma, and increasing both the quantity and dollar amount of scholarships, including for trade schools for at-large citizens who choose that career path. Councilmember Kidwell firmly believes that through cooperative and collaborative leadership, everything is possible when it comes to enhancing the lives of at-large citizens.

Johnny Jack Kidwell currently represents over 320,000 Cherokee At-Large citizens. He was born on the Cherokee Nation Reservation in Claremore and raised in Spavinaw. After graduating from Ketchum High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard and later received his commission as an officer. Councilmember Kidwell served honorably for more than twenty years and was widely recognized for his leadership in intelligence, anti-narcotics, and anti-terrorism operations. Councilmember Kidwell retired from active duty at the rank of Lieutenant Commander, earning military decorations such as the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, and a State of Oklahoma Personal Citation. Johnny is a proud recipient of the Cherokee Warrior Medal of Patriotism and was inducted into the U.S. Coast Guard OCS "Wall of Gallantry" for his distinguished and valiant service during high-risk operations overseas. Johnny's full bio can be found at <https://linktr.ee/johnnykidwell>

Councilmember Kidwell received his bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and holds three master's degrees, including an MBA and a Master of Legal Studies in Indigenous People's Law from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. He lives in Tulsa, OK, with his wife, Charybel, and their two sons, Jonathan and Joseph.

Please follow Johnny Jack Kidwell's campaign at www.voteforkidwell.com or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/kidwell4cherokeesatlarge>

###