## **Timeline of Main Events**

<u>Pre-2015:</u> Over a century of operation: Stuart & Clover LLP establishes itself as a firm with deep expertise

in municipal law in Oklahoma, offering services such as drafting ordinances, annexation policies, TIF and public-trust formation, and handling open-records/open-meetings compliance.

- <u>Unknown Date (Prior to 2025):</u> Florida AG vs. USSSA whistleblower case: Stuart & Clover LLP gains "insider knowledge" or "observed counsel" in this litigation, acquiring insight into "opaque revenue-reporting tactics" related to youth sports. This includes awareness of "illegal practices" as confirmed by a "direct meeting" with Joe Vorndran.
- **2015:** Stuart & Clover begins engagement with Shawnee: The firm starts its municipal-law counsel role with the municipality of Shawnee, which subsequently generates over \$1 million in tournament entry-fee revenue.
- **2018:** Stuart & Clover begins engagement with Seminole County Subdivisions: The firm starts its municipal-law counsel role with Seminole County Subdivisions, which subsequently generates over \$150,000 in tournament entry-fee revenue.
- **2019:** Stuart & Clover begins engagement with Choctaw: The firm starts its municipal-law counsel role with the municipality of Choctaw, which subsequently generates over \$1.6 million in tournament entry-fee revenue.
- **2015-2025:** Ongoing Stuart & Clover engagements: The firm continues its municipal counsel roles in Shawnee, Choctaw, and Seminole County Subdivisions, during which time significant tournament entry-fee revenues are generated by third-party operators.

Strategic silence regarding revenue reporting: Despite their insider knowledge from the Florida USSSA case, Stuart & Clover LLP does not advise their Oklahoma municipal clients on best practices for revenue reporting or bidding obligations, potentially allowing opaque fee flows to continue.

Potential commodification of public facilities: The firm's actions (or inactions) are observed to potentially enable the commodification of taxpayer-owned sports facilities through strategic silence and omission, raising questions of professional responsibility and potential malpractice.

June 21, 2025: Publication/Presentation of "Stuart & Clover LLP and the Commodification of Public Facilities in Oklahoma": A research lecture is delivered, detailing findings on Stuart & Clover LLP's practices, their potential conflict of interest, and the implications of their strategic silence regarding youth sports facility revenue. The lecture highlights the financial stakes involved and suggests recommendations for further investigation.

## Post-June 21, 2025 (Recommendations):

<u>Formalize conversations:</u> The author of the research is advised to document their meeting with Joe Vorndran and seek written confirmation of Stuart & Clover's stance on transparency.

Targeted records requests: The author is advised to request specific memoranda from Stuart & Clover LLP regarding youth-sports facility agreements, revenue flows, and bidding compliance from the involved municipalities.

**Ethics opinion inquiry:** The author is advised to seek an opinion from the Oklahoma Bar Association regarding whether the firm's strategic silence constitutes a professional-ethics violation.

Public whistleblower collaboration: The author is advised to engage media and local officials to shed light on the internal law firm discussions.

## **Cast of Characters**

Stuart & Clover LLP: A law firm with over a century of practice in Oklahoma, specializing in municipal law. They serve as municipal counsel for entities like Shawnee, Choctaw, and Seminole County Subdivisions. The firm is the central subject of the research, accused of strategic silence and potential conflict of interest regarding youth sports facility revenue.

<u>Joe Vorndran:</u> An individual who had a "direct meeting" with Stuart & Clover LLP, during which the firm's awareness of "illegal practices" related to youth sports was confirmed. He is implied to be a whistleblower or a source of critical information regarding the Florida USSSA litigation. Oklahoma Bar Association: The professional organization responsible for regulating the legal profession in Oklahoma. The research recommends seeking their opinion on the ethical implications of Stuart & Clover's strategic silence.

<u>USSSA (United States Specialty Sports Association):</u> An organization involved in youth sports. The "Florida AG vs. USSSA whistleblower case" is a significant legal proceeding that provided Stuart & Clover LLP with "insider knowledge" regarding opaque revenue-reporting tactics in youth sports.

<u>Attorney General (Florida AG):</u> The chief legal officer of the state of Florida, involved in the whistleblower case against USSSA.

Municipalities (Shawnee, Choctaw, Seminole County Subdivisions): Public entities in Oklahoma that are clients of Stuart & Clover LLP. They are the recipients of tournament entry-fee revenue and the potential victims of the alleged lack of advice from their municipal counsel regarding revenue transparency and bidding obligations.

<u>Tournament Directors/Youth-Sports Operators:</u> Individuals or entities responsible for organizing youth sports tournaments. They generate significant "tournament entry-fee revenue" in the municipalities served by Stuart & Clover LLP. The research implies that their revenue reporting may be opaque due to the firm's alleged strategic silence.

**Author of the Research/Lecture:** The individual who conducted the independent research and delivered the lecture titled "Stuart & Clover LLP and the Commodification of Public Facilities in Oklahoma." They are the active investigator and proponent of the recommendations.