

Adam Doverspike of TYPros: 'Tulsa still has room to improve ... but the renaissance is amazing'

- By Colleen Almeida Smith Tulsa World



Adam Doverspike

1. How did you get involved in Tulsa's Young Professionals?

Before moving home to Tulsa in 2012, I joined TYPros' email list. It kept me up to date on events, new venues and exciting developments happening in Tulsa. When we moved home, I attended a TYPros 360 to learn more about the group and joined the Government Relations Crew. In that crew, I met local elected officials and learned about local and state policy issues, including liquor law reform and education funding.

2. What are your goals for TYPros this year?

As always, to attract and retain young talent to Tulsa through our seven work crews: diversity, sustainability, urbanism, arts & entertainment, leadership & service, government relations and business development.

This year, we are reviving our annual StreetCred event on April 27 to highlight Tulsa Art Alley, converting a forgettable downtown alleyway into an interactive, public art space. We are also introducing an Ambassadors program to greet prospective and new Tulsans. And we will work closely with the TYPros Foundation to fund Tulsans' great ideas similar to past grantees: the Tulsa Flag project, the Outsiders House Museum and the Black Wall Street mural.

3. You were born and raised in Tulsa but left after high school. What brought you back, and what were the most significant changes you saw when you returned?

In 2012, I left a national law firm in Washington, D.C. We desired to live where civic involvement is valued, and Tulsa was the right place. The family-friendly culture, high volunteerism rates and growing optimism makes this a great time to be a Tulsan.

Downtown had changed since I left in 1999. We arrived a month before Guthrie Green was finished. Already, I can barely recall what the Arts District looked like in 2011. In high school, we would go downtown at night because no one was there, which made it a great playground. Today, downtown is lively most nights. Tulsa still has room to improve on creating a walkable, connected urban living environment, but the renaissance is amazing.

4. For your day job, you're a shareholder with GableGotwals. What drew you to the law?

Our legal system provides a nonviolent way to settle disputes. Sometimes we overlook that foundational role of the rule of law in our society. But despite its imperfections, our legal system helps resolve quarrels fairly through rules, not force.

At GableGotwals, I enjoy providing clients legal guidance to ensure compliance with their legal obligations. Each case involves different industries and facts, making law a great career for those who enjoy continuous learning. I frequently draft persuasive arguments in litigation, arbitration and mediation. So, the years spent at Booker T. Washington High School debate tournaments and Duke Law School moot court competitions are finally paying off.

5. Who has had the most influence on your career and why?

My father, Terry Doverspike. His career as an attorney no doubt opened my eyes to that career. And he taught me many helpful professional habits, including showing respect to everyone — even when you disagree.

His public service from leading our neighborhood association to serving on the Board of Adjustments to being elected to the City Council shaped my view of those willing to serve. Most elected and appointed officials are motivated by a desire and duty to serve.

Since hammering yard signs into the frozen ground before his first City Council election, I understand the sacrifices public servants make to improve our city and state. My respect for public service motivated me to pursue a law degree and to dedicate time to serve TYPros for the past five years.

https://www.tulsaworld.com/business/adam-doverspike-of-typros-tulsa-still-has-room-to-improve/article_381f625a-3bbb-571a-b6da-06ef8630900f.html?fbclid=IwAR0G7XEuUtATTmWremZOfeltxSNcZA_dCcR6MXhJgzIkGJaDXsBV5f6ImWs