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Category



OKLAHOMA CRIMINAL DEFENSE WEEKLY

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[James L. Hankins,](#)
Publisher

(with special thanks to Mark Hoover, OIDS, for contributing regularly)

“I have lived my life, and I have fought my battles, not against the weak and the poor—anybody can do that—but against power, against injustice, against oppression, and I have asked no odds from them, and I never shall.”---Clarence S. Darrow, *Attorney for the Damned* 491, 497 (Arthur Weinberg ed. 1957).

OKLAHOMA

[Stephen Schoeffler v. District Court of Wagoner County, The Honorable Rebecca Hunter](#), No. PR-2025-294 (Okla. Cr., May 9, 2025): This is an order out of Wagoner County denying extraordinary relief from an order of the district court denying a motion to remand for preliminary hearing. The issue arose when, after PH and bindover, it was discovered that the State had failed to disclose a witness statement and related supplemental police report prior to PH. The Court denied relief on the basis that the PH was not terminated. NOTE: This opinion was emailed to me as a Published Opinion, but I do not find any notation that it has been published.

TENTH CIRCUIT

No new cases.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

“Only Supreme Court justices and schoolchildren are expected to and do take the entire summer off.” –*Chief Justice John Roberts* (statement made while he served as a lawyer in the Reagan Administration).

No new cases.

OTHER CASES OF NOTE

[United States v. Jay M. Sadrinia](#), No. 24-5464 (6th Cir., April 16, 2025): **Burks Notice/Bad Acts**: Sadrinia was a dentist convicted of prescribing a CDS without a legitimate medical purpose after his patient died of a morphine overdose. The panel reversed based upon the introduction of “intrinsic evidence” unrelated bad acts.

[United States v. Quamaine Donell Smith](#), No. 22-4338 (4th Cir., May 6, 2025): **Waiver (Appeals Waiver)**: In this guilty plea case, the panel held that an appeal waiver was not knowingly and intelligently entered and that enforcing it would result in a miscarriage of justice.

[United States v. Luis Ramirez Avila](#), No. 23-4731 (4th Cir., April 14, 2025): **Federal Sentencing Guidelines (Use of Minor)**: Sentence vacated because the use of a minor enhancement applied by the district court was insufficiently supported.

VICTORIES

None noted.

HEARSAY

FAMILY JUSTICE: Ground has been broken in OKC for the new Family Justice Center.

FENTANYL: Tulsa police have discovered a new formulation of fentanyl on the streets.

AWARD: The Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Public Defender's Office for the W.D. Oklahoma will receive the Opio Toure Award at the annual meeting of the Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

DOC: DOC has asked the Oklahoma Legislature to purchase the Lawton Correctional Facility as a turn-key operation.

ALCATRAZ: President Trump has been floating the idea of re-opening the prison at Alcatraz.

VICTORY: Here is the media coverage of the trial win by Sarah Kennedy in Payne County last week.

SHERIFF: Retired FBI Special Agent Keith Frutiger has been named interim Sheriff of Woodward County.

NOT RENEWED: Turn Key Health will not renew its contract with the Cleveland County Jail.

RECORDS: In a follow-up report on the story about the Tulsa FOP seeking an injunction on the distribution of personnel records, The Frontier has reported on some of the disciplinary records it has received.

WACKY CRIME

SPEED: A Tesla driver doing 133 mph in a 60 mph zone in OKC has been stopped for speeding...and asked for a warning.

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