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Category



OKLAHOMA CRIMINAL DEFENSE WEEKLY

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[James L. Hankins,](#)
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(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

[State v. Walter S. Brunson](#), No. S-2025-619 (Okl.Cr., June 18, 2026) (unpublished): **Speedy Trial:** In Okfuskee County, the State had charged Brunson with Bogus Check, but then made no other effort to prosecute. The Hon. Maxey Reilly granted his motion to dismiss for lack of prosecution. In this State appeal, the Court affirmed, analyzing the issue under speedy trial criteria. NOTE: Shout out to Laura R.E. Johns, OIDS Appellate Counsel, for this nifty win.

TENTH CIRCUIT

[United States v. Mitchel Crow](#), No. 24-1377 (10th Cir., May 19, 2026) (Published) (Holmes, C.J., Bacharach & Moritz): **Discovery; Evidence (Rebuttal)**: As phrased by the panel concerning whether the accused has a right to pre-trial notice of the Government’s rebuttal evidence: “We ask: Is that right triggered when a governmental witness responds to evidence that the defendant himself hadn’t disclosed? We answer *no*.”

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)*.

[United States v. Hemani](#), No. 24-1234 (U.S., June 18, 2026): **Second Amendment**: Government investigation of a suspected terrorist in Dallas ended up with a search warrant which yielded a handgun and some marijuana, which resulted in a prosecution under 922 for possession of a handgun by an unlawful user of CDS. The Court reversed, holding that such a prosecution is inconsistent with the Second Amendment. NOTE: Although there were several concurring opinions, there were no dissents.

[Hunter v. United States](#), No. 24-1063 (U.S., June 18, 2026): **Waiver (Appeals Waiver)**: In this bank fraud case, part of the supervised release was mental health treatment and medication. There was an appeal waiver, but also ambiguous statements by the district court about the ability of the accused to contest forced medication. The Court affirmed the waiver, but held that even a valid waiver of appellate rights is unenforceable when it would result in a miscarriage of justice, “meaning, when it would leave in place the kind of egregious error that would bring the judicial system into disrepute.” The Court remanded to the lower courts to determine this question.

VICTORIES

TREVOR REYNOLDS, Tulsa County P.D., had a big win in Creek County. The client was the mother of the alleged victim of eight-counts of Child Abuse/Neglect/Sexual Abuse as well a Rape counts. The jury was out a total of 45-minutes (barely enough time to elect the foreman and eat the pizza) before returning verdicts of Not Guilty on all counts. Client had been in jail for 380 days on \$1 million bail. Trevor not only walked her out of the courtroom, but also bought her dinner and put her up in a hotel until her parents could pick her up. Outstanding work, Trevor!

HEARSAY

WARRANTS: Oklahoma County plans to dismiss many stale warrants, some decades old.

LAWSUIT: The Oklahoma County lawsuit involving the jail has been re-assigned to Canadian County Judge Paul Hesse. Also, a new **report** details deficiencies at the jail.

DENIED: The “atomic wedgie” defendant’s request for re-sentencing pursuant to the Survivor’s Act has been denied.

JUVENILES: The Tulsa County juvenile detention program will expand its mental health services beginning July 1.

STAFFORD: Relatives of employees killed at the Sirloin Stockade restaurant have opposed parole for Verna Stafford.

HISTORY: Oklahoma was almost two separate states: Oklahoma and Sequoyah.

CONVICTED: A former correctional officer at the Garvin County Jail has been convicted of violating the civil rights of an inmate which resulted in her death.

COUNSEL: Colorado has become the second state to grant the right of counsel in civil forfeiture hearings.

LEAVE: The Tahlequah Assistant Chief of Police has been placed on administrative leave and may be terminated for vandalism.

DEFEATED: Two sitting judges have been defeated in recent elections: Kay/Noble County District Judge Lee Turner and Alfalfa Associate District Judge Loren Angle; also, Pott/Lincoln County District Attorney Adam Panter and interim Carter County District Attorney Melissa Handke lost their respective elections.

WACKY CRIME

EWVV: A former manager of an Arby's in Broken Bow has been accused of spitting in a customer's food and giving her herpes.

GLORY: A Tulsa man led police on a chase after telling them that he would go out in a blaze of glory...only to end up in handcuffs and jail.

GUMBALLS: A Wichita Falls, Texas, man has been charged with assault and battery after arming himself...with a gumball machine.

TULSA: A Tulsa woman is behind bars for shooting a man and beating him...with a bible.

TULSA: A man at an area Quik Trip was robbed...of the pistol he was openly carrying for self-defense.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS: No subscriptions are necessary. I will post the issues weekly to my web site: www.ocdw.com. Submissions of articles, war stories, letters, victory stories, comments or questions can be sent to Mr. Hankins via e-mail (jameshankins@ocdw.com) or you can contact him by phone at 405.753.4150, by fax at 405.445.4956, or by regular mail at James L. Hankins, MON ABRI BUSINESS CENTER, 2524 N. Broadway, Edmond, OK 73034.

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