

WEEK
5,331

**SINCE THE
1921
TULSA
RACE
MASSACRE**

It's long overdue for the criminals who destroyed the Greenwood community in 1921 to be held accountable. Each week we remember a departed member of our community.

STATE
**NO CHARGES FOR
OKLAHOMA SHERIFF,
PROSECUTOR SAYS. A2**
By SEAN MURPHY, ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE
**WALTERS' FAITH COMMITTEE
WANTS TEN COMMANDMENTS
IN EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL A5**
By JENNIFER PALMER OKLAHOMA WATCH

WHAT OKLAHOMA LAWMAKERS DID AND DIDN'T DO FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

After months of negotiations, lawmakers committed to putting \$625 million in additional recurring appropriations into public education.

By KEATON ROSS, OKLAHOMA WATCH
OK LAWMAKERS, TEACHERS *On*

A6

NATION

COULD THIS CURRICULUM MAKE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY EASIER?

By AZIAH SIID, WORD IN BLACK

Whether through words in her Brown Baby 321 series or from behind the desk at her nearby disabilities services chapter, Maryland resident Meeka Cadwell wears many hats when it comes to advocating for people with

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY *cont. A12*

STATE

APPELLATE COURT RULING EXTENDS FIGHT OVER JURISDICTION IN INDIAN COUNTRY

By KATRINA CRUMBACHER, NONDOC

A U.S. District Court decision in a case concerning a city of Tulsa traffic violation that involved a member of the Choctaw Nation was reversed Wednesday by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. The case now heads back to

TRAFFIC TICKET JURISDICTION *cont. A9*

ARTS & CULTURE

IN DEFENSE OF HONEST TELLINGS OF HISTORY

By MICHELLE COLES, WORD IN BLACK

I recently learned the heart-breaking news about a challenge brought against my book "Black Was the Ink" — a young adult historical fiction novel about the Reconstruction Era. The parent felt the book violated the state's so-called

HONEST TELLINGS *cont. A11*



REINSTATEMENT
FOR OK OFFICERS

Two southwest OK police officers who fatally shot an unarmed Black man have been ordered o be reinstated. A10

TEN COMMANDMENTS
IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

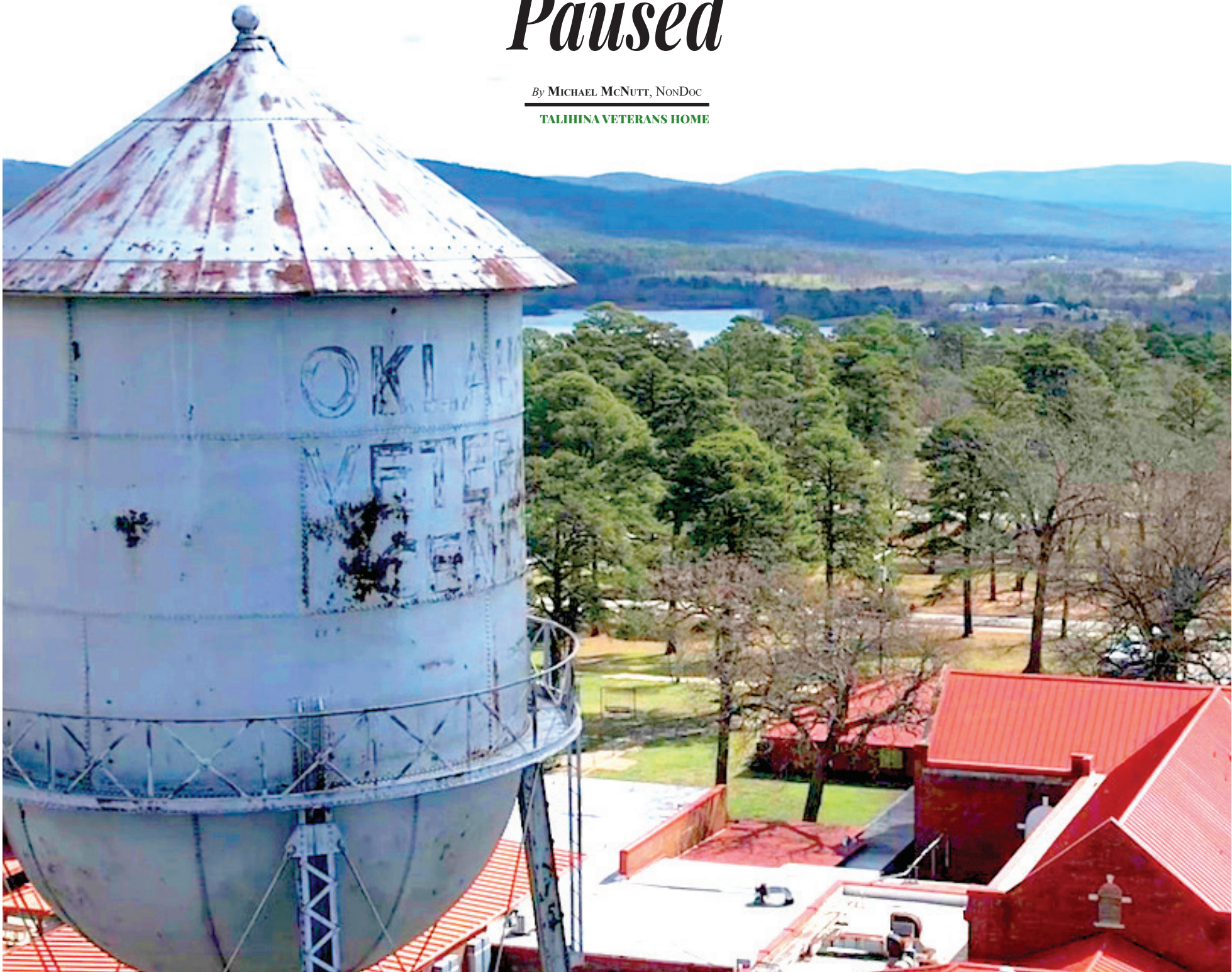
Walters urged all schools to “begin faithfully observing” the one-minute of silence right away. A5



DAYS
AFTER VOTE
Talihina Veterans Home Closure
Paused

By MICHAEL McNUTT, NonDoc

TALIHINA VETERANS HOME



THE TALIHINA VETERANS HOME, 10014 SE 1138th Ave., is slated to close Oct. 1, 2023, following a June 22, 2023, decision by the Oklahoma Veterans Commission. PHOTOS NONDOC

One week after the Oklahoma Veterans Commission voted to close the Talihina Veterans Home by Oct. 1, those plans are now on pause.

Greg Slavonic, interim executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, confirmed today that efforts to shut down the facility in three months will stop after legislators raised concerns over timing.

A new nursing and residential veterans home being built in Sallisaw will eventually replace the Talihina Veterans Home. That facility had been scheduled to open next month, but construction delays and complications with an architect have pushed back its completion as far as January 2025. Construction is scheduled to be completed in October 2024, but getting necessary federal regulatory approval could take another three months, officials say.

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission voted unanimously June 22 to close the outdated Talihina Veterans Home because the facility is losing \$500,000 a month owing to low occupancy and high contract employee costs. On that day, commissioners were told the Talihina home had only 36 residents, which represented 21 percent of its 175-veteran capacity. Since then, another eight residents have departed, dropping the occupancy rate to only 16 percent.

Slavonic, hired in March by the Veterans Commission, said the decision to halt closure proceedings came after a meeting with Senate President Pro Tempore Greg Treat (R-OKC), Sen. Warren Hamilton (R-McCurtain), Sen. Paul Rosino (R-OKC) and Secretary of State and Native American Affairs Brian Bingman.

Hamilton issued a press release Wednesday regarding those talks.

“After meetings and conversations with key leaders, those plans are on hold while the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs works closely with the Legislature to find a better solution,” he said. “It is easy for competing priorities to become confused when the situation is tense and fluid, which this situation clearly is. We must always put our obligation to our veterans first.”

‘Not forcing any veterans out of the home’

Slavonic said a few words of state law have been interpreted differently among parties. SB 1814, which was passed and signed into law in 2022, struck a provision from a 2018 law that stated the Talihina Veterans Home “shall continue until such time as operations are transferred” to the veterans home being built in Sallisaw. The Veterans Commission thought the 2022 meant it could close the Talihina Veterans Home



“I’m just waiting for the commission to give me some guidance on what they want to do.”

GREG SLAVONIC, interim executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

instead of waiting until the new nursing home opens. Some lawmakers disagreed.

“I’m not trying to challenge the Legislature,” Slavonic said. “We’re wanting to be teammates, good players and work with everyone. We’re just trying to understand all of this.”

Slavonic said he was unaware of the language in SB 1814. He plans to discuss the matter with Secretary for Military and Veterans Affairs John Nash and Commission Chairman Robert Allen.

“I’m just waiting for the commission to give me some guidance on what they want to do,” he said.

Commissioners were told during a special meeting June 22 that ODVA would need additional funding next year if the Talihina home were to remain operational until the agency’s new Sallisaw Veterans Home is ready to open. Commissioners expressed reluctance to do that after lawmakers in May granted their last-minute request for an \$11.6 million appropriation increase to cover anticipated operating losses.

Lawmakers also approved about \$22 million of one-time funding for the Sallisaw construction project, which has been delayed more than a year by complications with an architect and subsequent cost overruns. In 2018, the agency and its governing commission initially agreed to close the Talihina Veterans Home only after the new Sallisaw center was completed, as specified in the 2018 law.

But a special study into the operations of the Talihina Veterans Home showed it was causing ODVA to lose

TALIHINA VETERANS HOME cont. A10



GLENDIA AUSTIN OF IDABEL, Okla., holds a sign with other protesters, Monday, April 17, 2023, outside the McCurtain County Commissioners meeting room in Idabel, Okla. A number of McCurtain County residents were outraged by comments made by local officials on a recording and are asking for the resignation of the sheriff, two county commissioners and others. McCurtain County Sheriff Kevin Clardy, who was among several county officials caught on tape discussing killing journalists and lynching Black people, won't face criminal charges or be removed from office, Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond said Friday, June 30, 2023. PHOTO LORI DUNN/THE TEXARKANA GAZETTE VIA AP

No Charges For Oklahoma Sheriff Who Talked Of Killing Journalists, Prosecutor Says

NO CHARGES FOR OK SHERIFF from AI

Clardy and several other county officials sparked outrage after a local newspaper’s audio recording captured them complaining about two of the paper’s journalists and knowing hit men and where two holes are dug.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A sheriff in southeast Oklahoma who was among several county officials caught on tape discussing killing journalists and lynching Black people won't face criminal charges or be removed from office, the state's top prosecutor said Friday.

In a letter to Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt, Attorney General Gentner Drummond said his office and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation had completed their investigation and found no legal grounds to dismiss McCurtain County Sheriff Kevin Clardy.

"There are countless examples of incidents from across the country where public officials make inflammatory comments that spark severe condemnation," Drummond wrote. "Oftentimes the offending official resigns in disgrace. Sometimes the outrage fades and the matter is forgotten.

He added: "Regardless, there is no provision of law in Oklahoma to throw elected officials out of office merely for saying something offensive."

Drummond said McCurtain County voters will make the final decision on whether Clardy remains in office and suggested Stitt appeal to voters there and perhaps identify someone to run against Clardy.

Clardy and several other county officials sparked outrage after a local newspaper's audio recording captured them complaining about two of the paper's journalists



OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY GENERAL GENTNER DRUMMOND speaks on Feb. 1, 2023, during an interview in Oklahoma City. McCurtain County Sheriff Kevin Clardy, who was among several county officials caught on tape discussing killing journalists and lynching Black people, won't face criminal charges or be removed from office, Drummond said Friday, June 30, 2023. PHOTO AP PHOTO/SUE OGROCKI, FILE

and knowing hit men and where two holes are dug. Stitt quickly called for the resignation of Clardy, sheriff's Capt. Alicia Manning, District 2 Commissioner Mark Jennings and Jail Administrator Larry Hendrix. Jennings was the only one to resign.

A message left Friday with the McCurtain County Sheriff's Office seeking comment wasn't immediately returned.

Bruce Willingham, the longtime publisher of the McCurtain Gazette-News, said the recording was made March 6 when he left a voice-activated recorder inside the room after a county commissioner's meeting because he suspected the group was continuing to conduct county business after the meeting had ended in violation of the state's Open Meeting Act. Chris Willingham, a reporter at the paper, is Bruce Willingham's son.

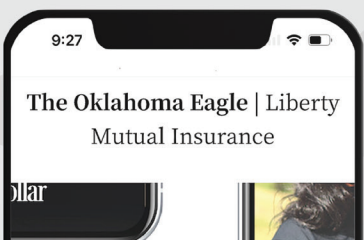
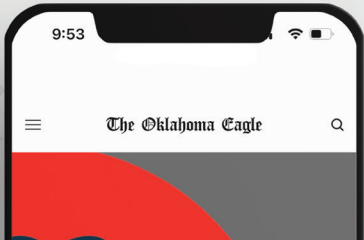
Bruce Willingham said he believes the local officials were upset about "stories we've run that cast the sheriff's office in an unfavorable light," including the death of Bobby Barrick, a Broken Bow, Oklahoma, man who died at a hospital in March 2022 after McCurtain County deputies shot him with a stun gun.

With a population of about 31,000 and bordering both Arkansas and Texas, the county has a long history of lawlessness dating back to days before statehood, but in recent years it has become a tourism hotbed, drawing thousands of visitors from the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

The Oklahoma Eagle

Our Mission

To amplify our core value of equity, through journalism and editorial" is the cornerstone of our continued success.



Second Street: The OKC African American District

By ANITA G. ARNOLD, THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF OKLAHOMA HISTORY AND CULTURE

The African American business and cultural district in Oklahoma City dates to around the turn of the twentieth century.



By the 1920s the three hundred block of Northeast Second Street had become known as “Deep Deuce,” “Deep Two,” and “Deep Second.” By day it served as a business district with barbershops, doctors’ offices, beauty shops, clothiers, restaurants, a newspaper office, a cab company, lawyers’ offices, a drugstore, a movie theater, a hardware store, and many other businesses, depending on the decade.

At night Deep Deuce turned into a cultural center for African Americans, with nightclubs, supper clubs, and a legendary dance hall featuring outstanding local talent, many of whom gained national acclaim, such as Jimmy Rushing and Charlie Christian. The Blue Devils, a famous territorial band, called Second Street home. The Pulitzer Prize-winner Ralph Ellison grew up in the district. Deep Deuce was famous for parades, street dances, breakfast dances, New Orleans-style funerals, and for a Thursday night tradition called “maids night out,” a grand “street” fashion show involving the whole community as

either spectators or participants.

The future of African Americans during the early 1900s rested in the activities, resources, and the sharp minds of business people on Second Street. Roscoe Dunjee, editor of the Black Dispatch, located at 324 Northeast Second Street, blazed a civil-rights path unparalleled by anyone in the state. With the power of the press, Dunjee broke down the barriers of segregation in housing, education, transportation, and public facilities. Considered by many to be one of the nation’s foremost civil rights champions, Dunjee used his newspaper, the courts, the Oklahoma Legislature, and the federal government to win justice for African Americans in the state, as well as nationally.

Deep Deuce existed as the place where it all happened for African Americans in Oklahoma City until the late 1950s. Ironically, many have viewed racial justice and improved opportunity as the major reason for the demise of a thriving business district

that had been born of injustice. Integration coupled with more choices in housing, consumer spending, and education sent Deep Deuce into a serious decline and a state of complete deterioration existed at end of the twentieth century.

As a new century dawned, however, Deep Deuce rekindled great interest, resulting in the area’s redevelopment as a residential community adjacent to the entertainment district of Oklahoma City’s “Bricktown.” The name Deep Deuce has been trademarked, and an apartment complex built at the location in 2001 carries that title. The National Register of Historic Places lists three properties in the district: Calvary Baptist Church (NR 78002244), Littlepage Hotel Building (NR 95001500), and Melvin Luster House (NR 83002101). There are few other physical reminders of this legendary marker of a people, a place, and a culture.

THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY is an agency of the government of Oklahoma dedicated to promotion and preservation of Oklahoma’s history and its people by collecting, interpreting, and disseminating knowledge and artifacts of Oklahoma.

ALDRIDGE THEATRE on Second Street in Oklahoma City (22055.9461, Ray Jacoby Collection, OHS).

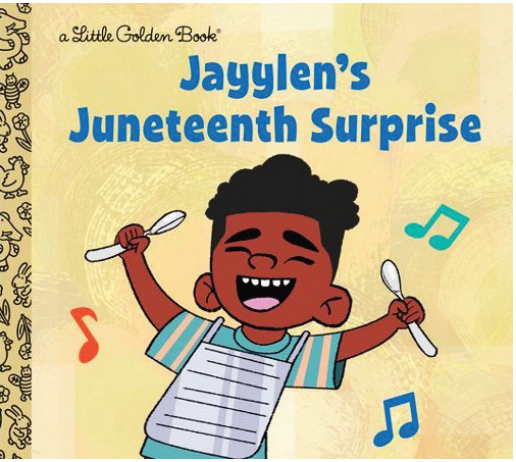
Featured Last Week



The Evans-Fintube Saga



‘Tantrum’: Legislature Overrides 19 Stitt Vetoes



We Must Not Forget We Must Remember

The Oklahoma Eagle

Founded in 1921

- James O. Goodwin**
Publisher 1980-Present
- Robert K. Goodwin**
Publisher 1972-1980
- Edward L. Goodwin, Jr.**
Co-Publisher 1980-2014
- Edward L. Goodwin, Sr.**
Publisher 1936-1972
- Theodore B. Baughman**
Publisher 1921-1936

Business

- M. David Goodwin**
Principal
- Ross D. Johnson**
Principal
- David W. Cole**
General Council
- Marsh Media**
Advertising

News

- Gary Lee**
Managing Editor
- Ray Pearcey**
Sr. Contributor
- Nkem Ike**
Contributor
- Russell LaCour**
Contributor
- Victor Luckerson**
Contributor
- John Neal**
Contributor

Photography

- Cory Young**
Photographer

Print

- Sam Levrault**
Production Director

Circulation

- Kirstein Lynn**
Subscription Manager

Digital

- Web**
TheOKEagle.com
- Facebook**
TheOKEagle
- Twitter**
OKEaglePaper

Contact

- Letters to the Editor**
editor@theokeagle.com
- Advertise**
advertise@theokeagle.com
- Circulation**
publishers@theokeagle.com
- Subscribe**
theokeagle.com/subscribe

The Oklahoma Eagle
Enjoy articles, events and featured content online



Online

WEB: www.theokeagle.com
FACEBOOK: #TheOKEagle
TWITTER: #OKEaglePaper

Delivery
For questions about deliver, billing and our membership program, please contact us at +1 (918) 582-7124, ext. 241.

Submissions
Submitted content may be edited for space, clarity and for considerations of liability. All submissions become the sole property of The Oklahoma Eagle, which reserves the right to run all or part of any submissions due to timeliness or newsworthiness.

Letters to the Editor
Want to write a letter to be published in the paper and online? Email us online to submit.

Advertising
For print and online advertising information, go to theokeagle.com/media-kit/ or call . +1 (918) 582-7124.

The Newsroom
Know something important we should cover? Send an inquiry to theokeagle.com/subscribe.

A poster of the Ten Commandments, in every public classroom.

A committee examining prayer in schools asked the state Board of Education to require every classroom to display a poster of the Ten Commandments and require students to take a course on Western civilization for graduation.

WALTERS' FAITH COMMITTEE from AI



(ABOVE) AN AMERICAN FLAG displayed on the northern side of a neighborhood church. PHOTO ADOBE IMAGES

The Oklahoma Supreme Court in 2015 ordered a Ten Commandments monument removed from the grounds of the state Capitol, and voters in 2016 rejected an attempt to repeal a section of the state constitution that prohibits public money from being spent for religious purposes that would have allowed the monument’s return.

(BOTTOM) STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION RYAN WALTERS says a prayer at the start of a State Board of Education meeting on Jan. 26, 2023. He recently announced the recommendations of a committee looking at role of prayer and faith in public schools. PHOTO WHITNEY BRYEN/OKLAHOMA WATCH

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ryan Walters announced the recommendations at Thursday’s state Board of Education meeting. The committee also wants the state to enforce an existing state statute requiring a minute of silence at the start of every school day. Walters urged all schools to “begin faithfully observing” the one-minute of silence right away — and not cut it short for a “moment” of silence, although state law allows for

“approximately one minute.” “We’re going to continue to look at every way possible to ensure everyone’s religious liberties are protected,” Walters said. Though not up for a board vote, the recommendations were part of Walters’ superintendent update. The Legislature sets state graduation requirements, not the board of education. Any requirement to display the Ten Commandments would surely be contested in court. The Oklahoma Supreme

Court in 2015 ordered a Ten Commandments monument removed from the grounds of the state Capitol, and voters in 2016 rejected an attempt to repeal a section of the state constitution that prohibits public money from being spent for religious purposes that would have allowed the monument’s return. Walters announced the formation of the committee during February’s board meeting at the request of a group of religious leaders who wrote to him Feb. 14.

“We are requesting you take every action possible to allow corporate prayer and expressions of faith in God back in our public school system,” wrote Wade Burleson, Jesse Leon Rodgers, Bob Linn, Howard Hatcher, Mike Biggs and Jackson Lahmeyer. All but one of them ultimately served on the 11-member committee. None are educators. In February, Walters said he would select the committee members, but on Thursday he said “they weren’t chosen by us.” The committee’s work was completed outside the agency. Fr. Stephen Hamilton, a pastor at St. Monica Catholic Church in Edmond, chaired the committee, which met over two-and-a-half months. Their stated goal was to “reflect upon the founding principles of the United States and the place that Christian faith, virtue, and morality plays in making this Nation such a place of blessing...”

Other members of the committee are Lahmeyer, pastor at Sheridan. Church in Tulsa and founder of Pastors For Trump, who unsuccessfully ran for Congress in 2022; Burleson, a retired Baptist pastor who also unsuccessfully ran for Congress in 2022; Rodgers, president of Tulsa-based City Elders; Linn, president of the Oklahoma Conservative Political Action Committee; Hatcher, Michelin Butler-Lopez; Derwin Romani; Masood Abdul-Haqq; Aiya Kelley; and Silvie Tacker.

OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Oklahoma public school system (prekindergarten through grade 12) operates within districts governed by locally elected school boards and superintendents.

In 2022, Oklahoma had 658,323 students enrolled in a total of 1,720 schools in 512 school districts.

There were 41,323 teachers in the public schools, or roughly one teacher for every 16 students, compared to the national average of 1:16.

In 2020, Oklahoma spent on average \$9,508 per pupil.[The state’s graduation rate was 85 percent in the 2018-2019 school year.





PHOTOS ADOBE IMAGES

THE BIG IMPACT CERT. STAFF, COUNSELORS, NURSES AND SPECIALISTS

OK LAWMAKERS, TEACHERS *from AI*

Here’s a look at what the Legislature did and didn’t do for teachers and students during the 2023 session, which ended Friday:

The Big Impact: Certified school staff, including teachers, counselors, nurses and speech pathologists, will receive a pay raise of at least \$3,000 beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. The increase raises Oklahoma’s first-year teacher annual salary for bachelor’s degree holders up to \$39,601.

Here’s how the raises are structured based on experience:

- \$3,000 for less than four years
- \$4,000 for five to nine years
- \$5,000 for 10 to 15 years
- \$6,000 for more than 15 years

Up to six weeks of paid maternity leave for teachers is also part of a larger education funding deal struck between Gov. Kevin Stitt and GOP lawmakers earlier this month.

Also Notable: Every public school district in the state will receive nearly \$300,000 over three years for security upgrades or hire a school resource officer.

Lawmakers also approved Senate Bill 100, which requires the Oklahoma School Safety Institute or another risk assessor to audit the security and vulnerability of every public school district in the state by July 2026. The measure stipulates that the report generated may be kept confidential.

Left Behind: A proposal to prohibit physical punishment of students with disabilities cleared the House but stalled in the Senate.

House Bill 1028 narrowly failed on an initial vote in the House on March 14, with one opponent, Rep. Jim Olsen, R-Roland, arguing that prohibition of such a punishment is unbiblical. But principal author Rep. John Talley, R-Stillwater, filed a motion to reconsider and the proposal advanced to the Senate with just three no votes on March 20.

While the measure advanced without opposition through the Senate Education Committee, it never received a full chamber vote. Oklahoma is one of 19 states that allow corporal punishment in schools, according to the National Institutes of Health.

KEATON ROSS covers democracy for Oklahoma Watch. Contact him at (405) 831-9753 or Kross@Oklahomawatch.org. Follow him on Twitter at [@_KeatonRoss](https://twitter.com/_KeatonRoss).



THE OKLAHOMA EAGLE CHURCH DIRECTORY



The Oklahoma Eagle publishes news and announcements for churches currently listed in *The Oklahoma Eagle's* Church Directory. For information, please call our office at (918) 582-7124

Church Of The Living God

1559 E Reading St. Tulsa OK
(918) 584-3206

Minister RJ Smith

Sunday school - 9:30am
Sunday Worship - 10:45am
Monday Worship - 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study - 5:00pm

CAPERNAUM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1962 N. Sheridan Rd.
(918) 834-4747

Pastor Ruthie I. Howard

Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

Bible Study & Prayer Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
For Transportation (918) 402-6027

Words of Wisdom Ministries FC

Temporarily meeting at the Courtyard Marriott 3340 S 79th E Ave Tulsa OK
(918) 230-3022

Pastors Wesley & Alfie Gray would like to invite you to come and experience the Word of God in action this Sunday! God has a word for you, He Guarantee's it! You'll be glad you did!!!

The Oklahoma Eagle Church Directory

List your church in one of the largest church directories in Oklahoma.

Participation in the directory allows free church announcements/ church news.

Post events and celebrations. Priority over non-listed churches for news.

GTOMi

Gospel Tabernacle Outreach Ministries, Inc.
Traveling Outreach Ministries

609 E. Zion Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Elder Julius W. Bland
Sr., Pastor
918-810-3882

ALL ARE WELCOME



MOHAWK FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

3329 E. 30th St. North • 834-0391

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning
Worship 11 a.m.

Bible Study
Wednesday
7 p.m.



Rev. Emanuel L. Collier, Sr.
Pastor

Gethsemane Baptist Church

727 East 56th St. North
(918) 425-6613

Dr. W. T. Lauderdale

Sunday School
9:00 a.m.

Church Services
11:00 a.m.

Zoe' Life Church of Tulsa

Rudisill Regional Library
1520 N Hartford Ave.
Tulsa OK 74106
(918) 409-4899

Pastor Richard and Cher Lyons

Sunday Worship: 1pm
Wed- Healing School: 6:30p - 8p

"The Righteous Are As Bold As A Lion." - Prov.28:1a

SOLID ROCK 7th DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

123 E. 59th St. North
Ph: (918) 425-2077

Pastor Rick Bruner

Sabbath School (Saturday)

9:30-10:45 a.m.

Praise & Worship 11:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

"The Seventh Day Is Still God's Sabbath"

Northside Christ Gospel Church

3101 N. M.L King Jr. Blvd.
Tulsa OK
(918) 625-2374

Sunday School - 10 am

Sunday Morning
Worship - 10:45

Sunday Evening Prayer - 7 pm

Sunday Worship - 7:30 pm

Wednesday Prayer - 7:30 pm

Wednesday worship - 8pm

Rev. John W. Anderson

VERNON AME CHURCH

307-311 N. Greenwood Ave.

P: 918-587-1428

F: 918-587-0642

vernonamechurch@sbcglobal.net

Sunday
Church School
8:30 am

Worship Service
10:00 am

Wednesday
Bible Study
6:00 pm

Rev. Dr. Robert R. Allen Turner

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH TULSA

THE CHURCH WHERE THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS US



Pastor Anthony L. & Mrs. Kelly Scott

Sunday
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday
Prayer Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study - Noon & 7:00 p.m.

1414 N. Greenwood Ave.

Tulsa, OK 74103

918-582-5129

www.fbcnt.org

"Teaching Minds

Changing Hearts

Touching the World"

Place your church directory with us today! Advertising your church in *The Oklahoma Eagle* will get you results! Call (918) 582-7124

The Oklahoma Eagle Church Directory

Participation in the Directory allows free church announcements and church news. Post events and celebrations. Priority over non-listed churches for news.

BOSTON AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1301 S. Boston
(918) 583-5181
Rev. David Wiggs
Senior Minister

Sunday Worship
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School
9:40 a.m.

Sunday TV
Worship
11:00 a.m.

KTUL Channel 8



TIMOTHY BAPTIST CHURCH

821 E. 46th St. N. • 425-8021

REV. TWAN T. JONES

Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship

11:00 a.m.

"We've come this far by faith"

NORTH PEORIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

2247 N. Peoria
Tulsa, Okla. 74106
(918) 425-1071

Warren Blakney, Minister

Sunday Bible School.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

There's no place, like this place, anywhere near this place.

Pettie Chapel CME



19364 S. S. Mingo Road.

Bixby, 74008

Phone: (918) 366-8870

Rev. Robert Givens

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

"Where Peaceful Waters Flow"

Church In Power

732 E. 31st North
Tulsa, OK 74106 - (918) 835-1525

Service times: 9am Sundays, 7pm Wed, and Special Supernatural Breakthrough Services every last Friday and Saturday of every month at 7pm and Sunday at 9am

Wednesday Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m.

Church Ministries:
Children's Church, CIP Praise Dancers, and CIP Praise Tem.

For Further Information call (918) 835-1525.

"Have Faith In God." Mark 11:22



Pastor Bukky and Wunmi Alabi

List Your Church Today!

The Oklahoma Eagle Church Directory

Participate in *The Oklahoma Eagle's* weekly church directory. List in one of the largest church directories in Oklahoma.

- Participation in the Church Directory allows free Church announcements and Church news. Post your church events and celebrations.
- Priority over non-listed churches for news.

Worship with us in our
CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
Every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.
Livestream | allsoulschurch.org

ALL SOULS
Love beyond belief



2952 S. Peoria Ave. | Tulsa, OK 74114



Mount Zion Baptist Church
419 N Elgin Tulsa, Oklahoma

Office:

918-584-0510

Fax:

918-584-1958

Prayer Line:

918-584-PRAY

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Morning

Worship 10:45

Wednesday

Bible Study

Noon and 7:00



In The Spirit Christian Church

"Come And Experience The Spirit"

1020 South Garnett
Tulsa, Okla., 74128
Phone: (918) 836-6823
Fax: (918) 836-6833

Eclectic Praise, Extraordinary
Worship, And Spirited Preaching.

Wednesday Services
10:00 a.m. Spirit Seniors
5:30 p.m. Support Groups
6:30 p.m. Community Dinner
7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Sunday Worship
Church School
9:45 a.m.
Worship
11:00 a.m.

Ministries: Administration, Children's Church, Children's Choir, Spirited Kids, Guest Services, Intercessors, Men's Fellowship, Outreach and much more...



Rev. Sharyn Cosby-Willis,

List Your Church Today!

The Oklahoma Eagle Church Directory

Participate in *The Oklahoma Eagle's* weekly church directory. List in one of the largest church directories in Oklahoma.

- Participation in the Church Directory allows free Church announcements and Church news. Post your church events and celebrations.
- Priority over non-listed churches for news.



SMILING HEARTS The NICK BLAKELY Foundation

Our vision is to turn every potential tragedy of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) into a story of survival.

www.nickblakelyfoundation.org

The Oklahoma Eagle

CLASSIFIEDS

**OKLAHOMA
CLASSIFIED
AD NETWORK**
FOR MORE INFO CALL
1-888-815-2672
WANT TO BUY

OLD GUITARS WANTED! LARRY BRINGS CASH for vintage USA guitars, tube amps, banjos, mandolins, etc. Fender, Gibson, Martin, Gretsch, others. Call or text 918-288-2222. www.stringswest.com

USE HAPPY JACK
Use Happy Jack® Seal N Heal® On dogs, cats & horses to close wounds with a bitter taste. Allow healing. Distributed by K&K vet supply (479-361-1516) (www.fleabeacon.com)

ONLINE ONLY FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION 6/15 @ 6PM: Full Line of Equip | Tractors | Grain & Planting | Hay & Harvest (Incl. Corn) | Trucks | Sprayer | Tillage | Trailers & More! WigginsAuctioneers.com | 580.233.3066

OIL & GAS MINERAL
OIL & GAS MINERAL AUCTION 6/15 @ 2 PM (ONLINE ONLY): Garfield & Noble Co., OK Producing & Nonproducing Minerals|INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY| WigginsAuctioneers.com | 580.233.3066

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE
Put your message where it matters most – IN OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPERS. We can place your ad in 146 newspapers. For more information or to place an ad, contact Landon Cobb at (405) 499-0022 or toll-free in OK at 1-888-815-2672.

The Oklahoma Eagle

Arts
Culture
History
Education
Business
Sports
Faith

CLASSIFIEDS

**METAL ROOFS
\$4750***
COMPLETELY INSTALLED
SIDING/WINDOWS 40%. OFF
Factory warranty • Free Estimates LIMITED TIME
TM CONSTRUCTION
CALL NOW! 800-664-4856
Sr/Military Discounts *1500 SQ

OIL & GAS AUCTION
MINERAL INTERESTS/ OVERRIDING ROYALTY INTERESTS/WORKING INTERESTS
US BANKRUPTCY COURT & OWNERS
PROPERTIES LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA, ARKANSAS, NEW MEXICO, KANSAS, TEXAS, & PENNSYLVANIA
TUES. JUNE 20TH AT 10:00 A.M.
200 N.W. 114TH STREET, OKLA. CITY, OK
CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE AUCTION, BID LIVE ON-LINE AT WWW.DAKIL.COM
For More Information Contact: Dakil Auctioneers, Inc.

Dakil AUCTIONEERS
405-751-6179
www.dakil.com

Equity

**Fairness
Justice
Honesty
Integrity
Righteousness
Decency
Objectivity
Impartiality
Honor
Fair-mindedness
Truth**

Subscribe today
@ theoklahomaeagle.net

The Oklahoma Eagle

NOTICE

Published In The Oklahoma Eagle:
June 9 and 16, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
SEALED BIDS FOR
TULSA METROPOLITAN UTILITY
AUTHORITY
PROJECT NO. TMUA-W 19-09

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority, a Public Trust, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m., 7th day of July, 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. TMUA-W 19-09
A.B. JEWELL WATER TREATMENT PLANT SITE MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 2331W00010.WaterDist. Water.7400.74003122-541101 2131W0010Z.WaterSupp. Water.7400.74003122-541101 2231W00004.WaterSupp. Water.7400.74003122-541101

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: <https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/engineering-services/construction-bids/>

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holder of valid pre-qualification certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A or C

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services for the City of Tulsa, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority by check or money order.

Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non-discrimination in employment.

Attention is called to Resolution No. 18145 of August 23, 1988, requiring bidders to commit to the goal of employing on the project at least fifty percent bona fide residents of the City of Tulsa and/or MSA in each employment classification.

Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

The Authority, acting on behalf of the City of Tulsa, is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the Authority are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority. See Contract Article IIB.

A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidder's Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the Authority, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall, 175 E. 2nd Street, in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 7th day of July 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 9th day of June 2023.

(SEAL)
Rick Hudson, Chairperson
Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority

NOTICE

Published In The Oklahoma Eagle:
June 2 and 9, 2023.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
SEALED BIDS FOR
PROJECT NO. SP 22-7

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, sealed bids will be received in Room 260 of the Office of the City Clerk, City of Tulsa, 175 E. 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 until 8:30 a.m. the 30th day of June, 2023 for furnishing all tools, materials and labor and performing the work necessary to be done in the construction of the following:

PROJECT NO. SP 22-7 TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT HELIPORT

The entire cost of the improvement shall be paid from Account No. 2159FR0283.Capital.Bldgs.3001.30013122-541104

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held through video conferencing with Microsoft Teams, invitation presented on the City of Tulsa's website at this link: <https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/engineering-services/construction-bids/>

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is MANDATORY. Bids will not be received from contractors who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bids will be accepted by the City Clerk from the holders of valid pre-qualifications certificates from the City of Tulsa in one or more of the following classifications: A or B

Drawings, specifications and contract documents for construction of said public improvements of the said project have been adopted by the Mayor of said City. Copies of same may be obtained at the Office of the Director of Engineering Services at the City of Tulsa Engineering Services, 2317 South Jackson, Room 103, North Building, for a non-refundable fee in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the City of Tulsa by check or money order.

Contract requirements shall include compliance as required by law pertaining to the practice of non-discrimination in employment.

The overall aspirational Small Business Enterprise utilization goal for this project is ten (10) percent.

Attention is called to Resolution No. 18145 of August 23, 1988, requiring bidders to commit to the goal of employing on the project at least fifty percent bona fide residents of the City of Tulsa and/or MSA in each employment classification.

Attention is called to Resolution 7404 of November 8, 2006, requiring bidders, their subcontractors and their lower-tier subcontractors to hire only citizens of the United States.

The City of Tulsa itself is exempt from the payment of any sales or use taxes, and pursuant to Title 68 O.S. Section 1356(10), direct vendors to the City are also exempt from those taxes. A bidder may exclude from his bid appropriate sales taxes, which he will not have to pay while acting for and on behalf of the City of Tulsa.

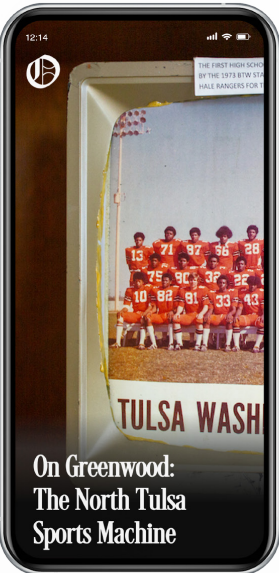
A Certified or Cashier's Check or Bidders Surety Bond, in the sum of 5% of the amount of the bid will be required from each bidder to be retained as liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails, neglects or refuses to enter into said contract for the construction of said public improvements for said project and furnish the necessary bonds within thirty days from and after the date the award is made.

The bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish public liability and workmen's compensation insurance; Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds acceptable to the City of Tulsa, in conformity with the requirements of the proposed contract documents. The Performance, Statutory, and Maintenance bonds shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

All bids will be opened and considered by the Bid Committee of said City at a meeting of said Committee to be held in the City Council Room of City Hall in said City at 9:00 a.m. on the 30th day of June 2023.

Dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 2nd day of June 2023.

(SEAL)
Christina Chappell
City Clerk



APPELLATE COURT RULING EXTENDS FIGHT OVER
TRAFFIC TICKET JURISDICTION
IN INDIAN COUNTRY



THE CHURCH STUDIO, a recording studio in Tulsa, Oklahoma. PHOTO ADOBE IMAGES

In Tulsa’s appellate court brief, the city warned that reversing the district court’s decision would lead to a “system where municipal laws would only apply to some inhabitants, but not others, depending on a complex algorithm with variables based on tribal membership of a defendant as well as discrete geographies within the city limits.”

TRIBAL JURISDICTION *from AI*

federal district court where it will likely garner additional attention as the state of Oklahoma and sovereign tribal nations continue to litigate jurisdictional disputes following a 2020 landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision.

The reversal in Hooper v. City of Tulsa came after the 10th Circuit ruled Section 14 of the Curtis Act, a law predating Oklahoma statehood, no longer applies or grants jurisdiction to Tulsa to enforce city rules and regulations.

Signed into law by President William McKinley in 1898, the Curtis Act amended the Dawes Act in an effort to break up tribal governments and communal lands in Indian Territory. Section 14 of the Curtis Act allowed for municipalities to be established within Indian Territory under certain conditions and empowered them to enforce laws and ordinances within municipal limits.

In 2018, Justin Hooper received a \$150 speeding ticket within Tulsa’s city limits and the boundaries of the Muscogee Reservation, which the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed is still in existence with its July 2020 ruling in McGirt v. Oklahoma. Five months after the McGirt decision, Hooper filed an application for post-conviction relief with Tulsa Municipal Court.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Congress had never disestablished the Muscogee Reservation, Hooper argued Tulsa lacked jurisdiction to prosecute him, a Choctaw man in Indian Country, for violation of a municipal ordinance. In U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma, Judge William P. Johnson granted the city’s motion to dismiss Hooper’s case.

Hooper appealed, and on Wednesday the 10th Circuit ruled that although the city of Tulsa was incorporated in 1898, prior to the Curtis Act, Tulsa developed a city charter and reincorporated when Oklahoma became a state in 1907, effectively relinquishing any jurisdiction granted by the Curtis Act. The appellate court remanded the case back to the district court for “proceedings consistent with this opinion.”

In Tulsa’s appellate court brief, the city warned that reversing the district court’s decision would lead to a “system where municipal laws would only apply to some inhabitants, but not others, depending on a complex algorithm with variables based on tribal membership of a defendant as well as discrete geographies within the city limits.” The state of Oklahoma filed an amicus brief in support of the city.

John M. Dunn, the attorney for Hooper, argued in his brief that the McGirt decision means Oklahoma municipalities located within Indian Country reservations have no right to prosecute crimes committed by tribal citizens.

“The district court failed to recognize that reservation status has a broader impact. Crimes not described in the [Major Crimes Act] committed by Indians in Indian Country are subject to either federal or tribal jurisdiction under federal law,” Hooper wrote. “Like the state, Tulsa’s municipal judicial authority on the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee Reservations is limited to authority to prosecute crimes by non-Indians against non-Indians.”

Most of the sovereign tribal nations whose reservations have been affirmed within Oklahoma boundaries filed amici briefs in support of Hooper’s case. While the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Quapaw and Seminole nations

In 2018, Justin Hooper received a \$150 speeding ticket within Tulsa’s city limits.

filed a joint amicus brief, the Muscogee Nation filed its own amicus brief.

“The nation presently exercises highly effective criminal law enforcement throughout its reservation — including in traffic matters — in close cooperation with other governments,” wrote Geri Wisner, attorney general for the Muscogee Nation. “Reversing the district court’s decision will allow that cooperative enforcement to continue to flourish, while affirmance will lead to a range of unwelcome consequences.”

In writing her decision, however, 10th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Carolyn McHugh focused more on a need for Hooper and the City of Tulsa to follow a different court process for adjudication than on the ultimate question of whether the city can write a traffic ticket against a tribal citizen. Specifically, McHugh emphasized the Curtis Act being an inapplicable reason for dismissal by the district court.

“Both Tulsa and Mr. Hooper speculate about possible unintended consequences of either affirming or reversing the district court, but ultimately, we are limited to interpreting the law Congress enacted and not the parties’ ‘dire warnings,’” McHugh wrote. “Accordingly, even if Tulsa proves correct that reversing the district court’s decision will lead to disruption, we must base our decision on the plain text of Section 14 (of the Curtis Act). If the system in place in Oklahoma proves untenable, ‘Congress remains free to supplement its statutory directions about the lands in question at any time.’”

Stitt fears ‘no rule of law,’ Hill says ‘sky is not falling’

Michelle Brooks, Tulsa’s communications director, said late Wednesday that the city’s legal department is reviewing the opinion and will be evaluating next steps.

But on Friday, Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum announced on social media that he was authorizing the city’s attorneys to request that the U.S. Supreme Court hear an appeal to the 10th Circuit’s decision.

“When the Supreme Court issued their ruling (in McGirt v. Oklahoma), there was an implication that Congress would act to clean all of this up. Three years have gone by and Congress has failed to do anything. This has left the tribal nations, the state of Oklahoma, and the City of Tulsa to pursue clarity around these questions through the other mediator at our disposal: the courts,” Bynum wrote on Facebook. “Over the last few years, the City of Tulsa has been seeking clarity on a seemingly basic issue: do city ordinances apply to everyone in Tulsa? The city’s attorneys interpret federal law to say they do, and the federal district court agreed with them. Attorneys for a tribal citizen disagree, and the federal court of appeals agreed with them. This leaves us one last venue to clear it up: the United States Supreme Court.”

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt issued a statement Wednesday about the 10th Circuit’s decision, saying undermines the City of Tulsa and its ability to enforce laws.

“Citizens of Tulsa, if your city government cannot enforce something as simple as a traffic violation, there will be no rule of law in eastern Oklahoma,” Stitt said. “This is just the beginning. It is plain and simple, there cannot be a different set of rules for people solely based on race. I am hopeful that the United States Supreme Court will rectify this injustice, and the City of Tulsa can rest assured my office will continue to support them as we fight

ODVA or the commission is not forcing any veterans out of the home



“We’re not going to have any more discussions with residents unless they want to have a discussion about relocating. Literally, everything is at a pause right now.”

- **GREG SLAVONIC**, Choctaw, interim executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs

TALIHINA VETERANS HOME from. A2

\$500,000 a month. Commissioners were told that maintaining the Talihina Veterans Home, which was built in 1921 in the wooded hills just west of what became Lake Carl Albert, would require ODVA to ask legislators to appropriate \$9 million over the next 18 months.

Slavonic said ODVA staff talked with the Talihina Veterans Home’s residents and approximately 120 employees to explain the plans to close it by Oct. 1. He said ODVA is not rushing residents to move.

“The ODVA or the commission is not forcing any veterans out of the home. We’re not forcing anyone out,” Slavonic said. “We’re not going to have any more discussions with residents unless they want to have a discussion about relocating. Literally, everything is at a pause right now.”

World War II veterans to be recognized in Norman

Slavonic a former undersecretary of and a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy, is scheduled to be at the Norman Veterans Center on Friday to help recognize 14 World War II Veterans who live at the facility, 1776 E. Robinson St.

The ceremony, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., will feature a keynote address from Vice Admiral Jeffrey Trussler, a native Oklahoman who serves as deputy chief of naval operations for information, chief of naval operations and director of naval intelligence.

MICHAEL MCNUTT became NonDoc’s managing editor in January 2023. He has been a journalist for nearly 40 years, working at The Oklahoman for 30 years, heading up its Enid bureau and serving as night city editor, assistant news editor and State Capitol reporter. He is an inductee of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame. Most recently, he served as communications director for former Gov. Mary Fallin and then for the Office of Juvenile Affairs. Send tips and story ideas to mcnutt@nondoc.com.

The long-standing fight to MAINTAIN TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY



PHOTO ADOBE IMAGES

TRIBAL JURISDICTION from. A9

for equality for all Oklahomans, regardless of race or heritage.”

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief David Hill responded to Stitt, saying race has nothing to do with the issue at hand and noting that a long-standing cross-deputization agreement with the Tulsa Police Department allows traffic cases involving tribal citizens to be adjudicated in Muscogee Nation District Court.

“It’s unclear to me whether the governor’s remarks are born of intentional dishonesty or an inexcusable

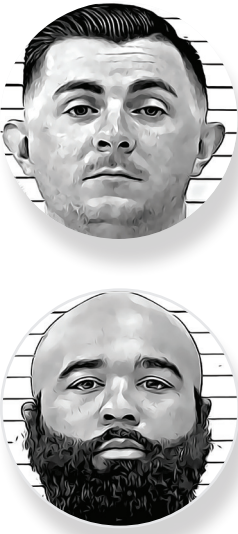
ignorance of the laws. But either way, he should be ashamed. The people of Oklahoma deserve better,” Hill said. “There is no law that Tulsa PD can’t enforce. That’s the part Stitt keeps ignoring as he perpetuates needless attacks on tribes — more is more. The city of Tulsa and the MCN have been working together under a cross deputization agreement since 2006. The sky is not falling. We know what to do, the 10th Circuit opinion helps solidify that. When tribes are empowered and municipal partners work with us, communities are safer.”

Choctaw Nation Chief Gary Batton also released a statement on the 10th Circuit decision.

“The court’s ruling today affirms what we already know: Under the McGirt decision, Indian people accused of crimes on reservations are subject to prosecution from the federal government or tribal courts, not states and cities,” Batton said. “We strongly believe in appropriate punishments for people who break the law, just as we believe it is important to maintain tribal sovereignty by respecting the U.S. Constitution and the laws passed by Congress.”

Reinstatement Ordered For Oklahoma Officers Who Fatally Shot Unarmed Black Man

By ASSOCIATED PRESS STAFF, ASSOCIATED PRESS
OKLAHOMA OFFICERS REINSTATEMENT



FORMER OKLAHOMA POLICE OFFICERS RONAN NATHAN AND ROBERT HINKLE, were charged with first-degree manslaughter on May 6, 2022, in the fatal shooting of Quadry Sanders in December while responding to a 911 call of an alleged protective order violation.
PHOTO COMANCHE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER VIA AP, FILE

LAWTON, Okla. (AP) — Two southwest Oklahoma police officers who fatally shot an unarmed Black man have been ordered by an arbitrator to be reinstated, according to an attorney for the two officers.

Ex-Lawton Officers Robert Hinkle and Nathan Ronan were fired following the December 2021 shooting death of 29-year-old Quadry Sanders while investigating reports of a man waving a gun inside a home.

Both officers have been charged with manslaughter by prosecutors, who said Sanders was unarmed.

Body camera footage released by the Lawton Police Department shows Sanders appeared from around a refrigerator, his hands visible and appearing to holding a ball cap.

Sanders then moved partially behind the refrigerator and

Hinkle fired four times as Sanders appeared to have his right hand raised above his head before falling to the ground. Sanders sat up with his hands above his head and Hinkle, who is Black, fired seven more times.

Ronan, who is white, also fired four times at Sanders, according to prosecutors.

An autopsy revealed Sanders was struck 12 times in various parts of his body.

The two officers saw Sanders reach into his pocket as he first stepped behind the refrigerator after exiting the house and thought he was reaching for a gun, defense attorney Gary James said.

“You have to go back and see what was going on when the decision is made” to use deadly force, James said. “Mr. Sanders made movements that prompted the officers to fire.”

James said the Hinkle and Ronan have not yet been reinstated as

a result of the May 30 order and he does not know when that will occur. He said they will receive back pay.

City officials did not immediately return phone calls for comment Wednesday.

In a statement to KSWO-TV, the city said that is disappointed with the ruling, and is reviewing its legal options.

“Under existing Oklahoma law, arbitration awards are legally binding and therefore require the City’s compliance unless successfully appealed,” according to the statement. “City officials are reviewing all options to determine whether to appeal.”

Sanders mother, Mina Woods, has filed a federal wrongful death lawsuit against Hinkle, Ronan and the city.

The officers and the city filed a response to the lawsuit, which is pending, denying wrongdoing.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHELLECOLES.COM

MICHELLE COLE'S “BLACK WAS THE INK”

Told through the eyes of a modern African American teen

HONEST TELLINGS from AI

“anti-critical race theory” law. As a result, all copies of it were subsequently removed from classrooms.

While this is my first time navigating such a challenge, it will likely not be the last. Without commenting on the constitutionality of these laws, most prohibit teaching that white people are inherently racist and should feel guilty about the past. “Black Was the Ink” does just the opposite by excavating the memories of overlooked white Americans who worked with African Americans during the Reconstruction Era to protect quintessential American values, like equality under the law and freedom and justice for all, which is something all Americans can all feel proud about.

“Black Was the Ink” is told through the eyes of a modern African American teen named Malcolm who embarks on a miraculous journey to Reconstruction-era America with the help of a ghostly ancestor. While in the past, Malcolm witnesses the historic contributions of Black legislators, who worked alongside white allies to bring justice, education, and land ownership to America’s newest citizens, the 4.4 million African Americans emancipated from slavery at the end of the Civil War.

“Black Was the Ink” was inspired by the horrific Mother Emanuel Massacre, committed by an avowed teenage white

supremacist in Charleston, South Carolina, on July 17, 2015, in a harrowing echo of the racial violence that represents the worst of America’s past. But it was fueled by my hope for a brighter American future where racial harmony finally triumphs over racial division.

The Reconstruction Era is the period in American history that immediately followed the Civil War when the U.S. Constitution was amended through the ratification of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to outlaw slavery and grant African Americans, and others born or naturalized in the United States, full citizenship rights for the first time — an important step toward America becoming a more perfect union.

During the Reconstruction Era, a multiracial coalition of elected representatives passed laws that prohibited racial discrimination in most public places a full century before the modern civil rights movement, expanded educational opportunities for all Americans by establishing public schools in the South, and empowered the federal government to address the epidemic of racial violence led by white supremacist domestic terrorist groups like the Ku Klux Klan, among other great accomplishments.

Sadly, the progress made during the Reconstruction Era did not last. It was quickly followed by the Jim Crow Era, when

numerous states passed laws that stripped African Americans of their newfound rights and forced many into conditions resembling slavery. Further, the achievements of the Reconstruction Era were largely erased from public memory.

**“Black Was the Ink”
was inspired by the
horrific Mother Emanuel
Massacre, committed by
an avowed teenage white
supremacist in Charleston,
South Carolina, on July 17,
2015, in a harrowing echo
of the racial violence that
represents the worst of
America’s past.**

For far too long, the importance of the Reconstruction Era — and its demise — has been left out or deemphasized in schools, which is likely why teachers and students alike have gravitated to “Black Was the Ink” as a helpful teaching tool. “Black Was the Ink” uses thoroughly researched historical facts to introduce students to the Reconstruction Era, often incorporating the historical figure’s own words as evidenced by the Library of Congress’s catalog of Congressional records, as well as contemporaneous letters, speeches, and news articles.

In addition to the sixteen Black men who served in the U.S. Congress between 1870 and 1877, including two U.S. Senators, “Black Was the Ink” highlights several white American patriots, including: U.S. Senator Charles Sumner (R-Mass. 1851-74), who fought for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1875, a precursor to the modern Civil Rights Act of 1964; President Ulysses S. Grant, who signed into law numerous pieces of legislation that protected the civil rights of the millions of African Americans emancipated from slavery; and Attorney General Amos Akerman, the first Attorney General to lead the U.S. Department of Justice as well as a former Confederate soldier, who nevertheless marshalled the full weight of the federal government to

fight the wave of white supremacist domestic terrorism that swept the South during the Reconstruction Era.

The present-day portion of the book, which takes place during the summer of 2015, centers around the plight of Malcolm, a fictional African American teen who experiences personal growth as a result of what he learns about the Reconstruction Era, while also dealing with problems that are common to many Black and brown youth. His journey is informed by my family’s personal experiences as African Americans who have resided in Louisiana for more than 200 years, as well as larger patterns I observed as a former career trial attorney and policy counsel in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice across multiple presidential administrations.

While Malcolm’s perspective may be different from the parent who objected to my book, that is the beauty of books — they expose you to perspectives and experiences that are different from your own, thereby helping broaden one’s worldview. Furthermore, even the present-day portion of the story depicts a white and Black teen who overcome their initial negative impressions and work together to achieve a just outcome, thus demonstrating that people are not defined by their race but instead by their choices.

For those considering whether to ban “Black Was the Ink” from your schools, I respectfully request that you read it with an open mind instead of harping on a sentence or word from a fictional character devoid of context and without knowing if the objected-to statement is part of the character’s arc.

If you read the book in its entirety, I believe that you will see that, more than anything, “Black Was the Ink” is an attempt to bring Americans together through an honest telling of history to help us understand and navigate some of the thorniest challenges that continue to plague our nation today. Only by facing our past and learning from it, not by attempting to ignore or bury it, will America truly become a nation that is indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

Michelle Coles is a novelist, experienced civil rights attorney, and mother. As a 9th generation Louisianan, she is highly attuned to the struggles that African Americans have faced in overcoming the legacy of slavery and the periods of government-sanctioned discrimination that followed. Her goal in writing is to empower young people by educating them about history and giving them the tools to shape their own destiny. Visit her online at michellecoles.com.



CREATING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF BLACK
TEACHERS

The Black Educators Initiative is on a mission to train 750 Black teachers by 2024. **A13**



Could This
Curriculum
Make **Special
Education
Advocacy**
Easier?

By AZIAH SIID, Word In Black

Photo by Pavel Danilyuk/Pexels

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY *from. AI*

disabilities. While this may be true, the hat she wears as a mother advocating for her son may trump them all.

Cadwell, 46, has created an entire book series centered around her 9-year-old, Anian Cadwell, who was born with Down Syndrome. Through stories, families are given both the representation in media and tools they can use to navigate new things and experiences with their loved ones.

“He’s still a 9-year-old little boy, so that’s really what I want people to understand,” Cadwell says. “What we have to go through to get educated and figure these things out, it’s not to ‘fight,’ it’s just to arm ourselves with information to get the best possible outcome for our kids.”

As part of being a resource to other families, she continues to seek out information to learn more as well. The Arc@Schools, a nationwide network of chapters that provide resources for special education, developed an initiative to offer parents like Cadwell assistance, training, and resources — and it could be a model for special education advocacy nationally.

The school is part of The Arc, “the largest national community-based organization advocating for and with people with intellectual and developmental

disabilities (IDD) and serving them and their families,” according to its website. There are about 600 state and local Arc chapters across the country, and the school’s resources are accessible online or directly through your local chapter.

The school’s Advocacy Curriculum includes eight modules on topics like the anatomy of an individualized education plan, special education services, and more. With Black children being 17% of Black students identified as having intellectual or developmental disabilities, it’s a resource that could prove valuable to plenty of Black families.

Although this program is filled with the basics that members of this community need to know, a \$99 fee for the curriculum might deter families from accessing the content. But, through a partnership with the Lids Foundation, this program is now offered free to Maryland families.

Cadwell happens to be one of the folks who accessed the program through the partnership.

“As our children are matriculating through school, and we’re trying to figure out all the things, there’s always a necessary need for more information,” Cadwell says. “This is something I wanted to take up because I’m always in a constant fight or battle just so my child could have the same rights as any other child in their school, and that sometimes comes with a lack of information.”

Robyn Linscott, The Arc’s national director of education and family policy, says when you make information like this available, it helps move the needle in support of the families.

“The more that parents, and families, and caregivers, and students themselves know their rights and know what is really there to protect them, really that makes our job on the policy end easier,” Linscott says. “When parents, and students especially, are bringing to light disparities and things they see happening, that really helps us elevate the points we’ve been talking about.”

In addition, the pandemic led the public to see these disparities among students, particularly Black students with disabilities, more clearly than before. Therefore, changes had to be made.

“There are so many questions, and there’s not always honest, transparent communication coming from the other side. When we’re at the table when we’re talking to teachers, you know I just want someone to be a human to a human, and that’s sometimes not always happening,” Cadwell says.

In the end, parents like Cadwell simply want to be heard.

“We just want the best for our kids,” she says. “This is a great tool to arm yourselves and understand and keep learning about it all.”



PHOTOS ADOBE IMAGES

Creating The Next Generation Of BLACKTEACHERS

By MAYA POTTIGER, WORD IN BLACK

NEXT GENERATION TEACHERS *from AI*

Before Kiana Beamon started teaching, there weren’t any Black or Brown teachers in her school.

Now, she’s one of a few on her elementary campus outside Hartford, Connecticut, where she teaches third grade. At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, a parent of one of Beamon’s student’s said she hoped her daughter would be assigned to Beamon’s class — and her daughter did, too.

Shortly before the end of the year, this student told Beamon that she now wanted to be a teacher because “she knew that she could because she saw me,” Beamon says.

“I’m not gonna lie, I almost started crying,” Beamon says. “It warned my heart so much to be able to be that person for her.”

But Beamon wasn’t always a teacher. She initially got her bachelor’s degree in history, and later began working as a substitute teacher. Beamon wanted to get the certifications, but she wasn’t sure how to go about it since she’d already gone through traditional college.

A teacher in the district told her about a program she’d seen online: The Connecticut Teacher Residency Program, a grantee of the The Black Educators Initiative run by the National Center for Teacher Residencies. All Beamon needed to do was apply.

“I was like, ‘Alright, what’s the worst that can happen?’” Beamon says.

After starting in the summer of 2021, Beamon finished the 18-month program shortly before the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

And now, as the person standing in the front of the classroom, Beamon realized her students are looking at her as a model to see what they can do next.

“I need to be that person for them,” Beamon says, “to tell them that they can do whatever they want to do no matter who tells them what they can be.”

The Black Educators Initiative

Launched in 2019, the Black Educators Initiative was created around “one pressing challenge,” says Keilani Goggins, the director of the Black Educators Initiative.

And that challenge was helping more Black people get to the front of the classroom. Through a \$20-million grant from the Ballmer Group, the Black Educators Initiative was created to recruit, develop, and retain 750 new Black teachers over five years through NCTR’s national network of teacher residency partners.

At the end of the 2021-2022 cycle, its third year, 669 Black teacher residents were enrolled,

The Black Educators Initiative is on a mission to train 750 Black teachers by 2024.

and 511 of them had graduated.

The funds go toward various things, like scholarships, stipends, and emergency funds — anything that can help lower the financial barriers for Black teacher residents.

Providing financial support is key for Goggins, who has seen the impact firsthand.

A resident fell behind on rent and was facing eviction. Her school district was on strike, so she wasn’t getting paid. Through BEI emergency funding, she was able to make rent payments and stay in her home.

Those financial supports “give them a certain sense of comfort and security knowing that the program has the means that will not allow them to fail,” Goggins says. “That allows them to feel comfortable and be able to really focus on the task at hand, which is to teach students and to become a world class teacher.”

And, at the end of the third year, 89% of residents said they felt supported by the program.

Beamon is quick to put an end to anyone who says programs like this aren’t the same as going through a traditional college route. It’s the “exact same classes, exact same information, just crammed into 18 months,” she says. Classes were held all day Monday through Friday during the summer. And, during the school year, residents were in the classroom with another teacher during the day, with more classes in the evening twice a week.

Of course there were the typical courses, like classroom management and subject-matter classes, but BEI residents also had training in how to take the given curriculum and make sure that it’s accessible to all of your students.

“It taught me to be a role model for our students because the students — no matter what color, race, ethnicity, religion,” Beamon says, “whatever they are, they’re benefiting from seeing a person of color in the classroom.”

A Built-In Support System

The Black Educators Initiative pairs every resident with a mentor, which has proven to be very popular.

“Going in, people think teaching is you close your door, and your classroom is your kingdom,” Goggins says. “You need to be able to have a system of support to lean on, and mentorship has shown itself to be such a viable way of doing that building that support, having a thought partner.”

Teacher turnover rates tend to be highest during the first few years in the classroom — and have ticked up since the pandemic.

So, with BEI, the mentor provides a sense of security and helps a resident try out something they might not have been comfortable trying if they were alone in the classroom.

And these mentorship networks don’t just disappear after graduation. Beamon still meets monthly with a mentor and a group of teachers of color. It’s a “safe space to just talk and be ourselves and figure out what we’re going through and know that we’re not alone.”

“It’s being with a group of people that not only look like me, have the same mindset as me, all trying to work towards a common goal, but also being able to let my guard down,” Beamon says. “Because, in a lot of spaces, we really can’t let our guards down.”

Outside of the monthly meetings, they regularly communicate through ongoing group chats, discussing the goings on and checking in on each other. These networks empower Beamon as a person of color in the teaching field. She’s able to run ideas past her group and get both feedback and hyped up.

“It makes me feel like I can do what I set out to do,” Beamon says. “They’re always there to say, ‘You got, you can do it.’”

Creating Generations of Mentors

About halfway through her program, Beamon was already getting excited about the prospect of returning later on to be a mentor for a future resident.

“I want to also be that person for the next generation of teachers that are coming in,” she says. It was a sentiment echoed throughout her group chat with other teachers. “Having people of color being mentors to other people of color is going to foster better relationships, make them feel comfortable asking different questions.”

Goggins also shares this vision. She wants the program to continue creating a bunch of leaders — folks that end up leading not just classrooms, but schools and beyond.

“It’s really making sure that students all across the country have access to Black teachers, because research shows that it’s not just Black students who benefit from having Black teachers,” Goggins says.

“I hope this goes on forever.”

MAYA POTTIGER, is a data journalist for Word in Black. She was previously a data journalist for the Howard Center for Investigative Journalism at the University of Maryland, where she earned both her BA and Master of Journalism. Her work has been featured in publications across the country.

Our mission,
“To amplify our core value of **Equity**...”

Fairness
Justice
Honesty
Integrity
Righteousness
Decency
Objectivity
Impartiality
Honor
Fair-mindedness
Truth

Subscribe today
@ theoklahomaeagle.net

The Oklahoma Eagle



Homeownership could be
closer than you think!



Gregg Talley

Community Development
Lending Loan Officer

NMLS ID# 834522

O: 918.293.6839

MidFirst Dream Home Loan¹

- Up to 100% financing²
- No Private Mortgage Insurance (PMI)
- Lender origination fees of \$895 waived
- Flexible underwriting
- Borrower must be a first-time homebuyer³

¹ **Dream Home Loan Eligibility:** Must be 18 years or older. The collateral securing the loan must be located in a MidFirst Assessment Area and must be the primary residence of the applicant(s). Also, either the collateral property must be located within a Majority Minority Census Tract (tract minority population greater than 50 percent) or Low-to-Moderate Income Census Tract (tract income is less than 80% area median income), or the applicant(s) combined annual income must be considered Low-to-Moderate (less than 80% of the median family income of the MidFirst Assessment Area) based on data published by Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC). ² Limited downpayment may be required under certain circumstances - ask for details when you apply. ³ MidFirst follows FNMA guidelines which considers a first-time homebuyer as someone who has not owned a property in the last three years.

