

State bar association to reimburse client losses

The Oklahoma Bar Association Clients' Security Fund will pay nearly \$147,000 to 10 people who lost money or other property from the dishonest conduct of their attorney. The association is reimbursing money to the clients of seven deceased, suspended, or former lawyers whose dishonest actions led to the losses.

OBA President D. Kenyon Williams Jr., of Sperry, said, "The Clients' Security Fund exists to protect the public's trust in the legal profession. When former attorneys violate that trust through dishonest conduct, the fund helps to take care of affected clients. By sharing responsibility for these losses, our members reaffirm their commitment to integrity and accountability."

Claims against the fund result when an attorney misappropriates client funds or property, then is disbarred, suspended or dies, and there is no other source for compensation or recovery.

The OBA Clients' Security Fund Committee reviews client claims and annually makes recommendations to the OBA Board of Governors on the merits of those claims. Committee Chair Micheal Salem of Norman said claims typically arise when these former attorneys become unstable as a result of a personal crisis, substance abuse or illness and fail to follow the Oklahoma Rules of Professional Conduct regarding the safeguarding of client funds or property.

"When an attorney acts unethically or illegally, it can harm the reputation of all Oklahoma lawyers," Salem said. "That's why every active Oklahoma attorney supports the Clients' Security Fund through a portion of their annual bar dues. Since its establishment in 1965, the fund has returned more than \$4.4 million to clients who suffered financial losses."

Former or deceased attorneys for whom the OBA will be paying claims are: Suspended attorney David E. Johnson, Tahlequah; Lee Griffin, Centerton, Arkansas, resigned from the OBA pending disciplinary action; Guy Wade Jackson, Edmond, resigned pending disciplinary action; Chad A. Greer, Tulsa, resigned pending disciplinary action; Michael Arnett, Oklahoma City, deceased; Tamara E. Hurd, Guthrie, deceased; and Michael Brogan, Mustang, deceased.

More information about the Clients' Security Fund can be found on the OBA website at okbar.org/gc/ clients-security-fund.

The 19,000-member Oklahoma Bar Association, headquartered in Oklahoma City, was created by the Oklahoma Supreme Court to advance the administration of justice and to foster and maintain learning, integrity, competence, public service, and high standards of conduct among Oklahoma's legal community.

OKLAHOMA AG GRANTED INTERVENTION IN STATE FARM 'HAIL FOCUS INITIATIVE' LAWSUIT

Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond said he appreciates the court's decision to allow his office to intervene in a case against State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, alleging that the company operated a coordinated program to limit roof-related insurance payouts by denying or reducing valid hail and wind claims.

Judge Amy Palumbo granted Drummond's Motion to Intervene on Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2025, in Oklahoma County District Court, rejecting State Farm's attempt to block Drummond's involvement.

"We are pleased with the court's decision rejecting State

Farm's attempt to block our involvement in this case," Drummond said. "This ruling is a significant win for Oklahoma consumers and affirms the state's authority to step in when the collective interests of insurance consumers are at risk."

Drummond filed the motion to intervene earlier in December, asserting that while State Farm marketed its policies as providing full roof replacement-cost coverage, the company predetermined claim outcomes to meet corporate savings targets rather than honoring policy promises. Drummond is asking the court to award penalties, damages, structural reforms,

and the recovery of profits State Farm allegedly obtained through its scheme.

Drummond said profiting from increased premiums while reducing claim fulfillment undermines public confidence in the insurance system and places Oklahoma homeowners at unacceptable risk.

The motion to intervene followed an Aug. 12 letter to Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner Glen Mulready in which Drummond asked the Insurance Department to collaborate with his office to combat rising homeowners insurance premiums in Oklahoma.

LEGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Tammy Johnston, Plaintiff,

vs.

The Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown, of Levi Sapsucker, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19375, Davison Sapsucker, Deceased, Jensie Sapsucker, Deceased, Henry Sapsucker, Deceased, Als-ah Sapsucker, Deceased, Woodrow Sapsucker, Deceased, Mary Proctor Sapsucker, Deceased and Eli Sapsucker, Carrie Blackfox nee Sapsucker, Grace Wilson nee Sapsucker, Betty Whitley nee Sapsucker, Geneva Proctor Sapp, Willis Wilson Sapp, Wilma Ann Sapp, Vivian Joyce Sapp, Robert Thompson, Judge Owens, Bettie K. Owens Hendrickson, Mildred Owens Raper, Geneva Owens Revas, Marie Owens Goularte, Rickie Pigeon, Joseph Pigeon, Jay Pigeon, Barbara Hopton, and Rose Ann Littlelade, if living, or if

any be deceased, their unknown heirs, successors and assigns

You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the District Court of Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, in Case No. CV-2025-174, by the above-named Plaintiff, wherein the Plaintiff is seeking to judicially determine the Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown of Levi Sapsucker, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19375, Henry Sapsucker, Deceased and Davison Sapsucker, Deceased, and to quiet title to the following-described real property situated in Delaware County, Oklahoma, to-wit:

The W/2 NE/4 SW/4 and the S/2 E/2 SW/4 of Section 21, Township 21 North, Range 23 East of the Indian Base and Meridian in Delaware County, Oklahoma.

You are further notified that unless you answer the Petition of the Plaintiff on or before the 5th day of February, 2026, the allegations of the Petition will be taken as true and judgment rendered determining the identity of the heirs and all of the persons who are and were entitled to inherit the above-described real property upon the death of Levi Sapsucker, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19375, Henry Sapsucker, Deceased and Davison Sapsucker, Deceased, and Davison Sapsucker, Deceased, and further judgment determining that Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown of Levi Sapsucker, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19375, Davison Sapsucker, Deceased, Jensie Sapsucker, Deceased, Henry Sapsucker, Deceased, Als-ah Sapsucker, Deceased, Woodrow Sapsucker, Deceased, Deceased, Mary Proctor Sapsucker, Deceased and Eli Sapsucker, Carrie Blackfox nee Sapsucker, Grace Wilson nee Sapsucker, Betty Whitley nee Sapsucker, Geneva Proctor Sapp, Willis Wilson Sapp, Wilma Ann Sapp, Vivian Joyce Sapp, Robert Thompson, Judge Owens, Bettie K. Owens Hendrickson, Mildred Owens Raper, Geneva Owens Revas, Marie Owens Goularte, Rickie Pigeon, Joseph Pigeon, Jay Pigeon, Barbara Hopton, and Rose Ann Littlelade, if living, or if

Rose Ann Littlelade, if living, or if any be deceased, their unknown heirs, successors and assigns have no right, title or interest in and to the above-described property. Judgment will further be rendered quieting title to the real property in Plaintiff. You are referred to the Petition for further details.

WITNESS my hand this 18th day of December, 2025,

**KARMA SAPP, Court Clerk
DELAWARE County, Oklahoma**
By: /s/ Nikita Smoke
Deputy

Tommy R. Dyer Jr., O.B.A.

#13594
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Attorney for Plaintiff

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LPXLP

STORAGE DISPOSAL

Jay Mini Storage LLC
1441 North Main Street
Jay, Oklahoma 74346

The following Units are in Default

All contents of the units will be sold or disposed of Monday, January 19, 2026

Unit #A38
Kaylee King

6398 E. 432 Road

Eucha, Oklahoma 74342

(Published in the Grove Sun January 6 and 13, 2026)
LPXLP

"NOTICE OF PROPOSED PRESCRIBED BURNS"

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation will be conducting prescribed burns on portions of the Spavinaw WMA in Delaware and Mayes Counties. Prescribed burns will take place

between the dates of January 20th and April 1st, inclusive. For additional information or a copy of the prescribed burn plans, contact the area biologist Russell Perry at 918-629-5286. Burn Plans are also on file with Kenwood, Eucha and Jay Fire Departments, and at the Jay District Forestry Office in Jay, OK.

(Published in the Grove Sun January 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, and 30, 2026)
LPXLP

"NOTICE OF GRAZING LEASE SALE"

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is accepting cash bids for one grazing lease on the Spavinaw WMA in Mayes county. For additional information or a copy of the leases contact the area biologist Russell Perry at 918-629-5286.

(Published in the Grove Sun January 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, and 30, 2026)
LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BEVERLY ANN COX, DECEASED

Case # PB-2025-74 NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to an Order of the District Court of Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, made on the 21 day of October, 2025, in the Matter of the Estate of Beverly Ann Cox, Deceased, the undersigned, as Personal Representative of the estate of said deceased, will sell at public or private sale, to the highest bidder, subject to confirmation by said Court, on or after, the 26th day of December, 2025, all the right, title, interest and estate of the said Beverly Ann Cox, Deceased, at the time of her death and all the right, title and interest that the said estate has, by operation of law, or otherwise, acquired in and to all that certain real property, situate, lying and being in the County of Ottawa, State of Oklahoma described as follows, and upon the following terms and conditions, to-wit:

OMRF receives \$3.4M to study genetic links to lupus

An Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation scientist has received \$3.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate genetic changes believed to be catalysts for the autoimmune disease lupus.

With the four-year federal grant, scientist Swapan Nath, Ph.D., hopes to identify DNA errors that disrupt a routine biological clean-up process called autophagy. In this continual process, cells recycle old parts and discard faulty parts.

"Problems with autophagy in immune cells and kidney cells seem to be closely linked to lupus," said Nath, who holds the William H. & Rita Bell Chair in Biomedical Research at OMRF. "Our lab and others have found that when autophagy goes wrong, immune cells release too many inflammatory signals, and kidney cells become damaged and leak protein, which ultimately can lead to kidney failure."

Nath has spent his career trying to identify specific genetic changes, or variants, associated with lupus – a challenging task since the body has more than 3 million genetic variants spread across about 20,000 different genes.

Lupus is a chronic illness that can cause widespread inflammation and organ damage. It affects more than 200,000 Americans, about 90% of whom are female. Existing treatments mainly focus on managing symptoms and preventing flares of the disease. There is no cure.

Scientists have long known lupus has a strong genetic component, but environmental triggers like sunlight, cigarette smoke, stress, and viruses are also necessary to activate the disease.

Through previous work, Nath's lab analyzed large genetic datasets to identify regions of the genome associated with lupus risk. The data came from samples housed at OMRF and donated by thousands of lupus patients and healthy controls through the Lupus Family Registry and Repository and the Oklahoma Cohort of Rheumatic Diseases.

"The challenge is narrowing down which specific genetic variants are causing the problem and which gene they affect," Nath said. "We do this through statistical analysis and then testing in the lab."

With this grant, Nath's lab hopes to further narrow the list of potential genes associated with lupus by looking specifically for variants in genes of kidney cells. Ultimately, his work could help lupus scientists and physicians better understand the biological mechanism that links genetic disease risk to cell dysfunction and organ damage.

"This could lead to new drug targets, better risk prediction, and perhaps even cell-based therapies in the future," said OMRF Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer Judith James, M.D., Ph.D. "That would be a huge advancement, as it could mean earlier intervention and the prevention of organ damage for our patients."

Nath's grant, No. R01AI191517-01A1, was awarded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the NIH. He previously received funding from the Presbyterian Health Foundation and from the Oklahoma Center for Adult Stem Cell Research, part of the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, for preliminary research.

December, 2025.

/s/ Haley Furr
Haley Furr, Personal
Representative

John W. Thomas
Attorney for Personal
Representative
207 East Central
Jay, Oklahoma 74354
(918) 542-5524

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LPXLP

Dated this 18th day of
November, 2025.

Jeffrey Burton (OBA #31955)
Seth Schwenn (OBA #34777)

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REPRESENTATIVE

(Published in the Grove Sun
December 30, 2025 and January
6, 2026)
LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BEVERLY ANN COX, DECEASED

Case # PB-2025-74 NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

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TO: The Creditors of Mary Jo Goldsborough, Deceased

All persons having claims against Mary Jo Goldsborough, Deceased, are required to present the same, with a description of all security interests and other collateral, if any, held by each creditor with respect to such claim to the named Personal Representative at the law office of John W. Thomas, Attorney at Law, 207 East Central, Jay, Oklahoma 74354, on or before the following presentment date: March 2, 2026, or the same will be forever barred.

DATED this 30th day of

January

2026.

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