



Congressman Kevin Hern (center) and Gov. Kevin Stitt discuss Oklahoma National Guard deployment to Washington, D.C.

Task Force Thunder lands in DC

Kayla Hawley
Gaylord News

Task Force Thunder, of the Oklahoma National Guard arrived in Washington earlier this month. It was announced on Dec. 1 that Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt would be sending 160 members of the guard to assist in President Trump's "D.C. Safe and Beautiful mission."

Congressman Kevin Hern, Oklahoma State Senate Pro Temp Lonnie Paxton, and Stitt all met with some members of Task Force Thunder at Union Station in D.C. last week. Hern posted on Facebook and Instagram about the meeting stating: "We are incredibly grateful for their service to our country and their commitment to ensuring our nation's capital is safe."

Stitt, in his own post, said he "got a chance to see some of the incredible men and women of the Oklahoma National Guard in DC today... Thankful for their selfless volunteer service on this mission!"

Oklahoma Sen. MarkWayne Mullin, a member of the Armed Forces committee, was not there that day and it is not clear if he has met with the guard since their deployment; his office did not reply to questions about the Oklahoma Guard's deployment.

In August, Stitt said that he had no plans to send the National Guard to Washington unless President Trump asked him to. Months later though, he criticized the deployment of National Guardsmen to cities like Chicago and Portland, saying "Oklahomans would lose their mind if Pritzker in Illinois sent troops down to Oklahoma during the Biden administration."

Stitt also noted he believes it's a violation of "state's rights." He and his team did not reply for comment when asked if he felt comfortable with sending in Task Force Thunder because D.C. does not have statehood.

Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser said, "It's times like these when America needs to know that DC should be the 51st state," when troops were originally deployed in August. Bowser has been a big proponent for D.C. statehood and has been noted saying she believes the current deployment is a "slippery slope."

The crime rate in D.C. has been down since a small rise in 2023, but Bowser will not be seeking reelection in 2026, after more than a decade in the office.

Guardsmen from D.C., Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, South Carolina, West Virginia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, Georgia, South Dakota, and Ohio have been in D.C. at different periods since President Trump launched the mission, which included a federal

takeover of the local law enforcement.

When previously asked about National Guard Deployment, Oklahoma Sen. James Lankford said that "short-term to help local police is not uncommon, but it is short term, they're not local law enforcement. You need local law enforcement to take the lead." It is not clear if Lankford has met with any members of the task force since their deployment and his office has not replied for comment on the deployment.

Members of the Oklahoma Guard have been told they will be there for 90 days, complying with the current order to extend National Guard presence until the end of February 2026.

Sen. Tammy Duckworth of Illinois recently stated that the mass deployment of guards this year has cost over \$340 million, not counting the troops stationed along the U.S.-Mexico border. It is estimated it costs around \$1.5 million a day for the more than 2,000 troops in D.C.

When speaking to four members of the South Carolina National Guard in D.C., they said, "We just want to help make the area safe. Some of us want to be here and some of us don't but at the end of the day we're just doing our job."

LEGALS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
v.

RITA M. THOMPSON,
DECEASED; SPOUSE OF RITA
M. THOMPSON, IF MARRIED;
OCCUPANT 1, (REAL NAME
UNKNOWN); OCCUPANT 2,
(REAL NAME UNKNOWN);
AND UNKNOWN HEIRS,
SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
OF RITA F. THOMPSON,
DECEASED
Defendant(s).

Case No. CJ-2020-48
Judge Barry V. Denney
NOTICE OF HEARING MOTION
TO CONFIRM SHERIFF'S
SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN TO: Rita
M. Thompson, Deceased; Spouse
of Rita M. Thompson, if married;
Occupant 1, (real name unknown);
Occupant 2, (real name unknown);
Unknown Heirs, Successors and
Assigns of Rita F. Thompson,
Deceased, and their unknown
successors and assigns, that the
hearing on the above Motion to
Confirm Sale is set on the 21 day
of January, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock
a.m., before Judge McAffrey, at
the Ottawa County Courthouse,
Miami, Oklahoma.

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP
770 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-6431
(405) 848-1819
Attorneys for Plaintiff
File No. 24-140386

(Published in the Miami News
Record December 26, 2025)
LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF

COMMERCE,
Plaintiff,
v.

RICKY LEE LOVETTE,
DECEASED; SPOUSE, IF ANY,
OF RICKY LEE LOVETTE;
JOHN DOE, OCCUPANT;
AND UNKNOWN HEIRS,
SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
OF RICKY LEE LOVETTE,
DECEASED
Defendant(s).

Case No. CJ-2025-117
Judge Jennifer McAffrey
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA,
TO: Spouse, if any, of Ricky Lee
Lovette and Unknown Heirs,
Successors and Assigns of Ricky
Lee Lovette, Deceased, if living or
if dead, and to said Defendant(s)
unknown successors, if any.

TAKE NOTICE that you have
been sued by International Bank
of Commerce, in the District
Court of Ottawa County, State
of Oklahoma, and that you must
answer the Petition on or before
March 1, 2026, or the allegations
of said Petition will be taken as true
and judgment rendered against
you awarding Plaintiff a first lien
upon the following described real
estate, situated in Ottawa County,
State of Oklahoma, to-wit:

A TRACT OF LAND IN THE
SW1/4 NE1/4 OF SECTION
19, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH,
RANGE 24 EAST OF THE
INDIAN MERIDIAN, OTTAWA
COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, MORE
PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED
AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT
THE SOUTHWEST CORNER
OF SAID SW1/4 NE1/4
THENCE NORTH 385.5 FEET;
THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY
ON A CURVE TO THE RIGHT
HAVING A RADIUS OF 1909.85
FEET; THENCE SOUTH 44°
08' EAST 37 FEET TO A POINT
IN THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID
SW1/4 NE1/4; THENCE WEST

500.5 FEET TO THE POINT OF
BEGINNING. LESS THAT PART
DEEDED TO THE STATE OF
OKLAHOMA FOR HIGHWAY
PURPOSES.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 62551 E.
Highway 137, Miami, OK 74354

for the sum of \$ 138,697.00, with
interest from May 1, 2025, at 5.625
percent per annum, together with
a reasonable attorney's fee, \$
225.00 for abstracting, advances
for taxes, insurance and property
preservation, and the costs of this
action, and ordering said property
sold to satisfy said judgment, and
forever barring you and all persons
claiming by, through or under you
from ever setting up or asserting
any right, title, equity or interest in
and to said real estate adverse to
the right and title of the purchaser
at said foreclosure sale, and for
such other and further relief to
which it may be entitled.

WITNESS MY HAND AND
OFFICIAL SEAL, this 18 day of
December, 2025.

Cassie Key, Court Clerk
By: /s/ Deputy Clerk

LOGS Legal Group LLP
770 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-6431
(405) 848-1819
File No. 25-141986

(Published in the Miami News
Record December 26, 2025, and
January 2 and 9, 2026)
LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

SHELTER MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY, as
subrogee of Cynthia Rios,
Plaintiff,

vs.

JOSEPH ANACITO, Defendant.

Case No. CS-2025-258
Judge McAffrey
PUBLICATION NOTICE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO:
JOSEPH ANACITO

You are hereby notified that an
action has been filed in the District
Court of Ottawa County, State of
Oklahoma, styled Shelter Mutual
Insurance Company vs. Joseph
Anacito, alleging that Plaintiff is
entitled to judgment against the
Defendant.

You are hereby notified that you
have been sued and must answer
the Petition filed by the Plaintiff on
or before the 8th day of February,
2026, or the allegations contained
in said Petition will be taken
as true and judgment entered
thereon against you as prayed for
in Plaintiff's Petition in the amount
of \$6,880.33.

Given under my hand and seal
this 10th day of December, 2025.

Cassie Key, Court Clerk
By: /s/ Tisha Nading
Deputy

FELKER, SANDER &
ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Lori A. Sander (OBA# 16577)
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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

(Published in the Miami News
Record December 19 and 26,
2025, and January 2, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of
Zella Aretha Blevins, Deceased.

PB-2024-35
NOTICE OF HEARING
FINAL ACCOUNT AND

PETITION FOR ORDER
ALLOWING FINAL ACCOUNT,
DETERMINATION OF HEIRS,
AND DISTRIBUTION AND
DISCHARGE

Notice is hereby given that
Randy Darrell Blevins, Personal
Representative of the Estate of
Zella Aretha Blevins, Deceased,
having filed in this Court his Final
Account of the administration of
said estate and Petition for order
allowing same, Determination of
Heirs, and Distribution and for
final discharge of said Personal
Representative, and the hearing
of the same has been set by
the Court for the 19th day of
February, 2026, at 11:30 o'clock
a.m., at the courtroom of said
District Court in the courthouse
of the County and State aforesaid,
and all persons interested in said
estate are notified then and there
to appear and show cause, if any
they have, why the said account
should not be settled and allowed,
the heirs, of said Zella Aretha
Blevins, Deceased determined
and said Estate distributed and
the Personal Representative
discharged.

Dated this 10th day of
December, 2025.

/s/ R. Matt Whalen
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT
COURT

RICHARD LOY GRAY, JR. OBA
16839
Attorney for Estate
Richard L. Gray & Associates,
P.C.

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Wagoner, OK 74467
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(Published in the Miami News
Record December 19 and 26,
2025)
LPXLP

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

Brian Brassfield, Purchasing
Agent for the City of Miami will
receive sealed proposals until
11:00 A.M. CST, on Thursday
January 29, 2026, for The City
of Miami (RFP 25-89) Employee
Benefit Broker for Health, Dental,
Vision and Life Insurance. All
proposals that have been duly
received by the appropriate date
and time will be opened in the
Office of the Purchasing Agent,
located at Miami City Hall, 129 5th
Ave. NW, Miami, OK. Everyone
is welcome to attend sealed
proposal opening.

(RFP 25-89) The City of Miami,
requests proposals from qualified
Proposers to provide Employee
Benefit Broker Services for Health,
Dental, Vision and Life Insurance.

SMALL BUSINESS AND
MINORITY BUSINESSES ARE
ENCOURAGED TO MAKE A
PROPOSAL. ENVELOPES
SHALL BE CLEARLY MARKED
"SEALED PROPOSAL" WITH
THE PROPOSERS NAME &
APPROPRIATE SOLICITATION
NUMBER (RFP 25-89) CLEARLY
SHOWN ON FRONT OF THE
ENVELOPE.

The City of Miami reserves
the right to reject any and all
proposals.

Any proposal received after
the time set for the opening of
proposals shall not be considered
by the awarding agency and shall
be returned unopened to the
proposer submitting same.

Full solicitation packets can be
downloaded from our website.. at
www.miamikla.net.

(Published in the Miami News
Record December 19 and 26,
2025)
LPXLP