LEGALS

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

CAROL A. LINN, Plaintiff,

v.

ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD, Trustees of THE ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD REVOCABLE TRUST UTD 07-02-1996, if living, or if either be deceased, their Unknown Successor Trustees, if any, including, VICKI SOARD CLINE, and ERNEST SOARD, JR., Successor Trustees of THE ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD REVOCABLE TRUST UTD 07-02-1996, Defendants.

**Case No. CV-2026-114
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, TO: ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD, Trustees of THE ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD REVOCABLE TRUST UTD 07-02-1996, if living, or if either be deceased, their Unknown Successor Trustees, if any, including, VICKI SOARD CLINE and ERNEST SOARD, JR., named Successor Trustees of THE ERNEST E. SOARD and PHYLLIS J. SOARD REVOCABLE TRUST UTD 07-02-1996;

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that you have been sued in the District Court of Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, in Case No. CV-26-114, by the above-named Plaintiff, wherein the Plaintiff alleges that she is the sole owner of and is in the actual, open, notorious and adverse possession of the following-described real property situated in Delaware County, Oklahoma, to-wit:

Lot 5, Block 2, Iron Horse subdivision, Final Amended Plat, according to the recorded Plat thereof, Delaware County, Oklahoma, subject to restrictions and easements of record, TOGETHER with all and singular the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging ("the subject property").

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that, unless you answer the Plaintiff's Petition on or before September 11, 2026, the allegations contained in said Petition will be taken as true, and a Judgment entered quieting Plaintiff's title in and to the subject property determining that the above-named Defendants, each and all, have no right, title or interest in or to the above-described subject property. You are referred to the Petition on file for more details.

WITNESS my hand this 23rd day of July, 2026.

**Karma Sapp, Court Clerk
By: /s/ Amber Dudley
DEPUTY CLERK**

**Tommy R. Dyer, Jr.,
O.B.A. #13594
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC
314 S. 5th Street
P.O. Box 487
Jay, Oklahoma 74346-0487
Telephone: (918)801-4454
(918) 253-4220
Facsimile:(918) 801-4493
E-mail: tommy@davisand thompson.net
Attorneys for Plaintiff**

(Published in the Grove Sun July 28, August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

KENTON COPE and KAREN COPE, Plaintiffs,

vs.

The Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown, of JOSIAH JONES, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19350; JIM JONES, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19353, if living, and if not living, his known and unknown heirs, successors and assigns; and OO-LOO-CHE JONES, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19351, if living, and if not living, her known and unknown heirs, successors and assigns, Defendants.

**Case No. CV-2026-123
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, TO: The Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown, of Josiah Jones, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19350; JIM JONES, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19353, if living, and if not living, his known and unknown heirs, successors and assigns; and OO-LOO-CHE JONES, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19351, if living, and if not living, her known and 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-2026-123, by the above-named Plaintiffs, wherein the Plaintiffs are seeking to judicially determine the Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown of Josiah Jones, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19350, and to quiet title against the Defendants to the following-described real property situated in Delaware County, Oklahoma, to-wit:

The Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW¼ SW¼) and the South Half of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (S½ NW¼ SW¼) LESS AND EXCEPT the East 778 feet thereof, in Section Thirteen (13), Township Twenty-three (23) North, Range Twenty-three (23) East of the Indian Meridian, Delaware County, Oklahoma.

You are further notified that unless you answer the Petition of the Plaintiffs on or before the 25th day of September, 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 Josiah Jones, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Citizen, Roll Number 19350, and a further judgment determining that the Successors, Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Devisees and Assigns, Immediate and Remote, Whether Known or Unknown of Josiah Jones, Deceased, Full Blood Cherokee Roll Number 19350, and the remaining Defendants 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 Plaintiffs. You are referred to the Petition for further details.

WITNESS my hand this 6th day of August, 2026.

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

**Tommy R. Dyer Jr.,
O.B.A. #13594
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC
P.O. Box 487
Jay, Oklahoma 74346
Telephone: (918) 253-4220
(918) 801-4454
Fax: (918) 801-4493
tommy@davisandthompson.net
Attorney for Plaintiff**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 11, 18, and 25, 2026)
LPXLP

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
4 THE LANDINGS MARINA, LLC**

The Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) is in receipt of an application to transfer the existing permit for Wings to Water into the name of 4 The Landings Marina, LLC. The project is located in Delaware County, Oklahoma. The applicant has no plans to modify the existing 8 docks with a total of 123 slips that are located on the property. As part of the application, the applicant is requesting the addition of a 12' X 100' breakwater.

A public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 9:30 AM at GRDA's Ecosystems & Education Center, located at 420 E Hwy 28, Langley OK 74350.

GRDA wishes to solicit comments on this proposed project from all interested individuals and businesses. If you would like to submit written comments or have any questions, please contact Jacklyn Smittle at jacklyn.smittle@grda.com or 918-981-8473.

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of: JANICE M. BRYANT, deceased.

**Case No. PB-2022-70
AMENDED NOTICE
OF HEARING FINAL
ACCOUNT, PETITION
FOR DETERMINATION OF
HEIRS, DISTRIBUTION AND
DISCHARGE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Andrew T. Doney the duly appointed and qualified Personal Representative of the above captioned estate, has filed in this Court a Final Account, Petition for Determination of Heirs, Distribution and Discharge; said hearing of the same has been fixed by the Judge of the Court for the 24th day of August, 2026, at 2:00 o'clock p.m. at the courtroom of and before the Honorable David Crutchfield, Judge of the District Court in the County Courthouse at Jay, in 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 said estate should not be distributed and the Personal Representative discharged.

Dated this 30th day of July, 2026.

**/s/ David Crutchfield
HONORABLE R. DAVID CRUTCHFIELD
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT**

**Andrew T. Doney, OBA #31366
DONEY LAW PLLC
2 N. Main, Ste. 404
Miami, OK 74354
918-540-2199 fax 918-540-1999
andrew@doney.law
Personal Representative**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of SHARON KAY KNUDSON, Deceased.

**Case No. PB-2025-45
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

All creditors having claims against Sharon Kay Knudson, 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 estate, to the named personal representative, care of:

Joyce & Graddy, PLLC
515 S. Main St., Suite 300
Tulsa, OK 74103-4489

On or before the presentment date of September 17, 2026, or the same will be non-suited, void and forever barred.

**/s/ Kevin B. Joyce
Kevin B. Joyce,
Attorney for the Personal Representative**

Filed July 20, 2026
Karma Sapp
Delaware County Court Clerk

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of CHRIS D. CHARLES, Deceased

**Case No. PB-2026-6
NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR ORDER
DETERMINING HEIRSHIP,
DISTRIBUTION AND
DISCHARGE**

NOTICE is hereby given that Christy Charles, Personal Representative of the Estate of Chris D. Charles, Deceased, has filed in this Court her Petition for an order determining heirs, determining distribution and discharge of the Personal Representative.

Notice is further given that the hearing on the same is hereby fixed by the undersigned Judge of said Court for the 1st day of September, 2026 at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the Delaware County Courthouse in Jay, Oklahoma; and all persons interested in said estate are then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why such Petition should not be settled and allowed, the heirs of Chris D. Charles, deceased be determined, the assets of the estate distributed and the Personal Representative thereupon discharged.

DATED this 5th day of August, 2026.

**/s/ David Crutchfield
Judge of the District Court**

**John W. Thomas, OBA #22445
Attorney for Personal Representative
207 East Central
Miami, Oklahoma 74354
918-542-5524**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 11 and 18, 2026)
LPXLP

**DISTRICT COURT OF
DELAWARE COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JERRY DANIEL SEXTON, DECEASED.

**PB-2026-30
ORDER AND NOTICE FOR
HEARING ON RETURN OF
SALE OF REAL PROPERTY**

NOW on this 5th day of August, 2026, the Personal Representative having filed his Return of Sale, and the Court, having reviewed the Return, FINDS that the Return of Sale should be set for hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Hearing on the Return of Sale should be and is hereby set for hearing before the undersigned Judge on the 25th day of August, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. and that counsel for Personal Representative should give notice as required by law.

**/s/ David Crutchfield
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT**

**Presented by:
Randall G. Vaughan,
OBA #11554
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC
Mail P.O. Box 487;
Physical 314 S. Fifth Street
Jay, Oklahoma 74346
Phone (918) 253-4220;
Fax (918) 253-8110
rvaughan@davisand thompson.net
Attorneys for Personal Representative**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of FREDDIE F. HUDSON, deceased.

**Case No. PB-2026-59
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

All creditors having claims against FREDDIE F. HUDSON, deceased, are required to present the same, with the description of all security interests and other collateral (if any) held by each creditor with respect to such claim, to the named Personal Representative, Keith Finley, c/o Kay Lyn Beauchamp, P.O. Box 451987, Grove, Oklahoma 74345-1987, on or before the following presentment date: September 30, 2026, or the same will be forever barred.

Dated this 27th day of July, 2026.

KEITH FINLEY,
Personal Representative

**By: /s/ Kay Lyn Beauchamp
Kay Lyn Beauchamp,
OBA #15529
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 451987
Grove, OK 74345-1987
(918)787-5540**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of MICHAEL E. LAWRENCE, deceased.

**Case No. PB-2026-65
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

All creditors having claims against MICHAEL E. LAWRENCE, deceased, are required to present the same, with the description of all security interests and other collateral (if any) held by each creditor with respect to such claim, to the named Personal Representative, Amanda E. Handle, c/o Kay Lyn Beauchamp, P.O. Box 451987, Grove, Oklahoma 74345-1987, on or before the following presentment date: September 30, 2026, or the same will be forever barred.

Dated this 27th day of July, 2026.

AMANDA E. HANDLE,
Personal Representative

**By: /s/ Kay Lyn Beauchamp
Kay Lyn Beauchamp,
OBA #15529
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 451987
Grove, OK 74345-1987
(918)787-5540**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KIT LANCE COUGHRAN, Deceased

CASE NO. PB-2026-67

NOTICE AND ORDER SETTING HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR

The Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Administrator having been filed herein, the Court finds that the Petition should be set for hearing and that notice thereof should be given as required by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Administrator shall be heard before the District Court of Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, at the Jay County Courthouse, located at 327 S. 5th, Jay, Oklahoma 74346 on the 25 day of August, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all heirs and all other persons interested in the Estate of the above-named Decedent that, at the time and place stated above, the Court will hear the Petition and determine:

1. Whether the Decedent died intestate;

2. Whether the Court has jurisdiction over the Estate;

3. The identity of the Decedent's heirs at law;

4. Whether the Petitioner is qualified and entitled to appointment as Administrator;

5. Whether Letters of Administration should issue;

6. Whether bond should be required or waived, and if required, the amount thereof; and

7. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Any interested person may appear at the hearing and present evidence, objections, or other matters authorized by Oklahoma law.

The Petitioner shall provide notice of this hearing in the manner and within the time required by the Oklahoma Probate Code and shall file proof of such notice with the Court prior to the hearing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 5 day of August, 2026.

**/s/ David Crutchfield
DISTRICT JUDGE**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 6 day of August, 2026, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice and Order Setting Hearing on Petition for Letters of Administration and Appointment of Administrator was mailed, postage prepaid, delivered, or otherwise served upon all persons entitled to notice under the Oklahoma Probate Code.

ISABELLA M. COUGHRAN
62831 E. 312 Rd.
Grove, OK 74346

**SUSAN A. MUSCARI,
OBA#16521
Muscari Law, PLLC
P. O. Box 452409
Grove, Oklahoma 74345
PH: (918)791-3150
s.muscari@muscarilaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 11 and 18, 2026)
LPXLP

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM JAMES MARLAR JR, Deceased

Case No. PB-2026-86

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR; DETERMINATION OF HEIRS; AND ISSUANCE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of WILLIAM JAMES MARLAR JR, Deceased, that on the 30th day of July, 2026, KAITLYN NICOLE MARLAR filed in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, a Petition praying that Letters Testamentary be issued thereon to KAITLYN NICOLE MARLAR, and requesting that the Court determine the identity of all heirs, devisees and legatees.

Pursuant to an Order of said Court made on the 30th day of July, 2026, notice is hereby given that on the 17th day of August, 2026, at the hour of 1:00 o'clock p.m. of said day has been appointed as the time of hearing said Petition at District Courtroom No. #2 in the Courthouse located at 327 South 5th Street, in the City of Jay, County of Delaware, State of Oklahoma, when and where all persons interested may appear and contest the same.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said Court this 30th day of July, 2026.

**/s/ David Crutchfield
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE**

**By: /s/ Dollie Roberts
Deputy Court Clerk**

**SUSAN A. MUSCARI,
OBA #16521
Muscari Law, PLLC
P. O. Box 452409,
Grove, OK 74345
PH: (918)791-3150
s.muscari@muscarilaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner**

(Published in the Grove Sun August 4 and 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of CLAUDINE HILDERBRAND, Deceased.

Case No. PB-2026-88

PLEASE SEE
LEGALS *PG 7*

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$469M settlement with Sandoz over generic drug price-fixing scheme

On Wednesday, Aug. 5, Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond announced a $469 million settlement with Sandoz Inc. to resolve allegations that the generic drug manufacturer engaged in widespread, long-running conspiracies to artificially inflate prices, reduce competition, and unreasonably restrain trade involving numerous generic prescription drugs. The settlement is part of an ongoing multistate litigation against dozens of companies for illegal agreements to fix prices on generic drugs.

"Drug companies that illegally inflate prices are taking money directly out of the pockets of Oklahomans," Drummond said. "When companies manipulate the marketplace for their own financial gain, consumers ultimately bear the cost. My office will continue fighting to hold bad actors accountable and protect a fair, competitive marketplace."

As part of the settlement, Sandoz has agreed to implement significant internal reforms designed to strengthen compliance with antitrust laws and promote fair competition. The settlement also resolves allegations involving Sandoz's current and former international affiliates, including Novartis AG, Sandoz AG and Sandoz Group AG.

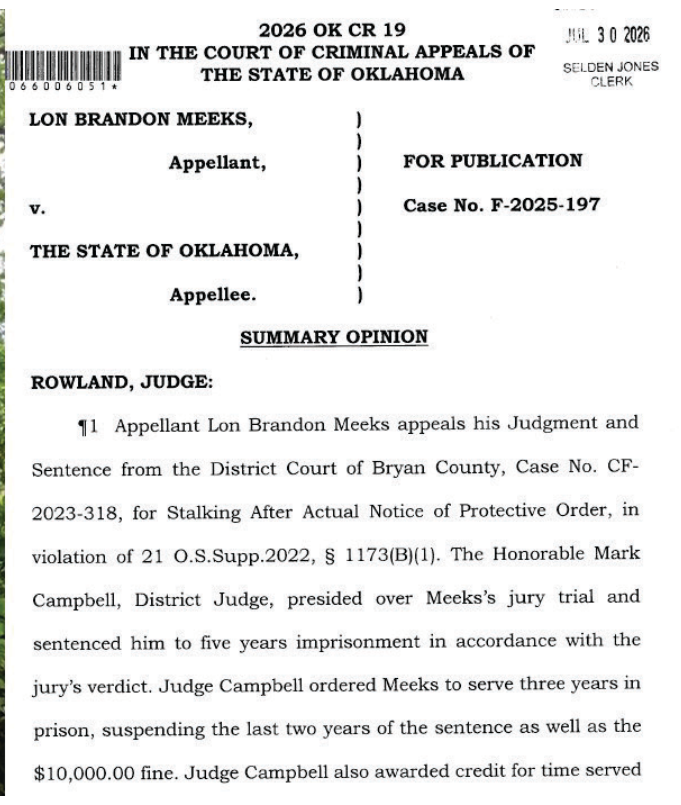
The settlement remains subject to final approval by the participating states and territories and comes as the multistate coalition prepares for trial in 2027. The litigation alleges that numerous generic drug manufacturers engaged in coordinated schemes to manipulate prices and allocate markets for a wide range of prescription medications. Drummond said the states' investigation is supported by years of evidence, including millions of documents, extensive telephone records, and testimony from cooperating witnesses.

To date, the coalition has secured approximately $96.5 million in settlements with Glenmark, Lannett, Bausch, Apotex, and Heritage, in addition to the Sandoz settlement.

Drummond is joined in securing this settlement in principle by the attorneys general of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OVERTURNS STALKING CONVICTION FOR YOUTUBE RANT





2026 OK CR 19
IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JUL 30 2026
SELDEN JONES CLERK

LON BRANDON MEEKS, Appellant, v. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, Appellee.

FOR PUBLICATION

Case No. F-2025-197

SUMMARY OPINION

ROWLAND, JUDGE:

¶1 Appellant Lon Brandon Meeks appeals his Judgment and Sentence from the District Court of Bryan County, Case No. CF-2023-318, for Stalking After Actual Notice of Protective Order, in violation of 21 O.S.Supp.2022, § 1173(B)(1). The Honorable Mark Campbell, District Judge, presided over Meeks's jury trial and sentenced him to five years imprisonment in accordance with the jury's verdict. Judge Campbell ordered Meeks to serve three years in prison, suspending the last two years of the sentence as well as the $10,000.00 fine. Judge Campbell also awarded credit for time served

NonDoc

On Thursday, June 30, 2026, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals overturned the stalking conviction of Lon Brandon Meeks after finding that YouTube videos focusing on his ex-wife did not constitute criminal action.

Tristan Loveless
NonDoc.com

Divorcees across the state may want to review a new Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals decision before uploading angry rants about their exes online. Released Thursday, the precedential decision in Meeks v. State tossed the stalking after notice of a protective order conviction of Texan Lon Brandon Meeks, who posted a nearly 40-minute video about his ex-wife to YouTube.

The OCCA's decision included the relatively rare order to send the case back to the district court while requiring the court to dismiss the criminal case. While Meeks' challenge focused on the First Amendment, the court opted to overturn his case on more procedural grounds that his videos alone could not justify a conviction.

"We find that Meeks's claim in his third proposition — that the evidence is insufficient to sustain his conviction — requires discussion and relief," Judge Scott Rowland wrote for a unanimous court. "Because reversal is required on that claim, we need not address his other claims including the First Amendment challenge."

Meeks and his ex-wife separated in 2018 and divorced in 2019, according to the court's summary of the facts. She filed for a protective order "because of harassment," which was granted in January 2020. The main point of contention between Meeks and his ex appeared to be custody of their daughter.

"The protective order forbade Meeks from, among other things, having contact with the listed individuals, directly or indirectly, including but not limited to calls, texts, emails, or communications via social media platforms even if not sent directly to them," Rowland wrote.

Meeks responded to the protective order by posting several rants to his YouTube channel which include demeaning remarks about his ex-wife, accusations against Bryan County attorneys, and suggestions that local Freemasons were involved in a conspiracy against him. Meeks' ex-wife was showed the 40-minute video by her boss, and Meeks was charged in Bryan County District Court for stalking in violation of a protective order. After a jury trial, he was sentenced to three years in prison — followed by a two-year suspended sentence — by District Judge Mark Campbell and ordered to pay a $10,000 fine.

"Meeks argues his stalking conviction after actual notice of protective order must be reversed and dismissed because the state failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that his YouTube video was directed toward his ex-wife. We agree," Rowland wrote. "Meeks' post was undeniably about his ex-wife, and we are not indifferent to the embarrassment and harmful emotional toll being the subject of a spiteful rant concerning one's personal life can have, especially in such a public forum as YouTube. It does not necessarily follow, however, that the offending post in this case was directed toward Meeks' ex-wife and this case illustrates that difference."

The court went on to explain the difference between the prepositions "toward" and "about," before concluding that Meeks' YouTube rants were "about" his ex-wife and there was not enough evidence his posts were "directed toward his ex-wife." Meeks appeared to celebrate the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals decision to overturn his stalking conviction by relisting several of the video rants about his divorce on his YouTube channel Defiant Against Injustice.

YouTube rants: Free speech v. harassment

Meeks' case drew attention from the Oklahoma Council on Public Affairs, which filed an amicus brief arguing Meeks' conviction violated the First Amendment's speech protections. Oklahoma's top criminal court ultimately decided to side-step that constitutional question, however, instead issuing a decision which offers some clear speech protections.

"Meeks' post on YouTube was his way of airing his grievances with those involved in what he perceives as the unjust taking away of his daughter rather than harassing his ex-wife. As the court and prosecutor below observed, Meeks could have made the same statements about his ex-wife to people he encounters (as he apparently often does) without violating the protective order," Rowland wrote. "The anti-stalking law is designed to shield a person from unwanted conduct directed toward them, meaning intended for their intake, and not to censor someone from randomly talking negatively about a private third party to others. In other words, 'directed toward' limits communication to a person, not communication about a person."

Under the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals' decision, a person posting a video including disparaging comments about someone who has a protective order against the poster does not commit the crime of stalking when they do not tag the protected person, send the video to the protected person, or otherwise attempt to ensure the person sees it.

The court's decision is limited to the facts of Meeks' case, although it does provide guidance in terms of criminal culpability for online posts.

While judges unanimously sided against Meeks' imprisonment, Rowland's opinion did not offer a glowing review of his conduct:

"Cyber stalking former intimate partners is a growing societal problem, especially with the number of social media platforms that can be used to contact someone. The evidence presented at trial, however, failed to prove Meeks' video was directed toward his ex-wife.

"Instead, the evidence showed a purportedly jilted ex-husband engaging in a drunken rant to an Internet audience about his failed marriage and custody situation. Admittedly, he crudely explains his ex-wife's relationship history with him and other men to express his feelings of betrayal by her and the legal system. He is emphatic that he will forever call out the injustice inflicted upon him by his ex-wife and the legal system.

"This scenario in today's world is somewhat akin to the frustrated, drunken bar patron venting to everyone in the vicinity of his voice about the fallout from a bad romance and divorce. Unfortunately, doing so on social media platforms often has a far more widespread audience."



LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM **PG 6**

NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

TO THE HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN AND CREDITORS OF CLAUDINE HILDERBRAND:

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of Claudine Hilderbrand, that on the 5th day of August, 2026, Amanda Arneecher filed in the District Court of Delaware County and State of Oklahoma, her petition praying for the issuance of Letters of Administration of the estate of the decedent and the Court determine the heirs of Claudine Hilderbrand, Deceased.

THAT said Petition will be heard at the courtroom of said Court in the City of Jay, in said County on the 25th day of August, 2026 at the hour of 2:00 p.m. when and where all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why such petition should not be granted.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court here unto affixed this 5th day of August, 2026.

/s/ David Crutchfield
Judge of the District Court

John Thomas, OBA #22445
DAVIS and THOMPSON, PLLC
Attorney for Petitioner
207 East Central
Miami, Oklahoma 74354
(918) 542-5524

(Published in the Grove Sun August 11, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estate of FREDERIC H. LAIR a/k/a FRED LAIR, Deceased

Case No. PB-2026-89
NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO THE HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN AND CREDITORS OF: FREDERIC H. LAIR

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of Frederic H. Lair, that on the 5th day of August, 2026, Jeff Lair produced and filed in the District Court of Delaware County and State of Oklahoma, an instrument in writing purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Frederic H. Lair, Deceased, and also filed in said Court his petition praying for the probate of said Will, and that Letters Testamentary be issued thereon to Jeff Lair as the Personal Representative and the Court determine the heirs, devisees and legatees of Frederic H. Lair, Deceased.

THAT said Petition will be heard at the courtroom of said Court in the Town of Jay in said County on the 25th day of August, 2026 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock p.m. when and where all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why such petition should not be granted.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court here unto affixed this 5th day of August, 2026.

/s/ David Crutchfield
Judge of the District Court

John W. Thomas, OBA #22445
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Attorney for Petitioner
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Miami, Oklahoma 74354
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(Published in the Grove Sun August 11, 2026)
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"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 August 10th and September 30th, 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 August 11 and 18, 2026)
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