LEGALS

Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission

Notice Of Intention To Apply For An Alcoholic Beverage License

In accordance with Title 37A, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 2-141, Forge Inc 59801 E Hwy 60 Fairland OK 74343, a/an Limited Liability Company, hereby publishes notice of its intention to apply within sixty days from this date to the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission for a CMB License under authority of and in compliance with the said Act: That it intend(s), if granted such license to operate as a CMB establishment with business premises located at 27600 S Hwy 125 in Afton, Delaware County, Oklahoma under the business name of Forge.

Dated this 25 day of July, 2026.
/s/ Dale Esh
County of Ottawa, State of Oklahoma.

Before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared: Dale Esh to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing application and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

/s/ Kallee Reyes, Notary Public Comm. #23007693
My Commission expires June 5, 2027.

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

Crossland Construction Company is accepting bids for the Grove Schools Playground Renovations. Bids are due by 2:00PM on Thursday, July 30th, 2026 at the Grove Superintendent Office – 310 S Broadway, Grove, OK. Only hand delivered bids accepted, no email/online bids will be accepted. The scope of work consists of the renovation of the playgrounds for Early Childhood, Upper Elementary, and Middle School. A non-mandatory prebid walk will be hosted at 2:00 PM on Monday, July 20th starting at the Early Childhood Center, all potential bidders are highly encouraged to attend.

Bid Packages and all other project specific information will be available through the Crossland Construction Columbus, KS Office at 620-429-1414. If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Nick Humble at nhumble@crossland.com.

(Published in the Grove Sun July 14, 17, 21, 24, and 28, 2026)
LPXLP

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

Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc., an Oklahoma Corporation, Plaintiff,

vs.

Keith Dwain Smith and Larissa Smith, husband and wife and the Delaware County Treasurer, Defendants.

Case No. CS-2026-223
Judge Jennifer McAffrey
ALIAS NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 14th day of September, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the front door of the Courthouse at Jay, Delaware County, Oklahoma, the undersigned Sheriff of said County of Delaware will offer for sale and sell for cash at time of sale at public auction to the highest and best bidder, with appraisement, that certain real property situated in Delaware County, Oklahoma, to-wit:

Lot 104, Block 17, Berryhill Area, Flint Ridge No. 4. a subdivision located in Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, according to the recorded plat thereof, TOGETHER with the buildings, improvements, appurtenances, hereditaments and all other rights thereunto appertaining or belonging.

subject to taxes and tax sales, said property being duly appraised at a value of $6,000.00.

Sale will be made pursuant to an Order of Sale issued upon a Judgment entered in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, in Case No. CS-2026-223, in favor of Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc. and against Defendants Keith Dwain Smith and Larissa Smith, husband and wife, in personam and in rem, and all other Defendants, in rem, in the amount of $7,155.00, together with additional assessments accruing from and after July 1st, 2026, penalties, interest, costs and attorney fees in the amount of $4,000.00 together with costs of $779.24 and costs accruing; and a further judgment finding that the lien of Flint Ridge POA is a valid, subsisting first and prior lien upon the real property above described and ordering that if said judgment be not paid, that a Special Execution issue from the office of the Court Clerk, directed to the Sheriff of Delaware County, commanding such Sheriff to levy upon, advertise and sell said real property, with appraisement, as provided by law; and whereas, the judgment in favor of the Plaintiff remains wholly unpaid and the Plaintiff has requested a Special Execution and Order of Sale to issue in accordance with said judgment.

WITNESS my hand this 22nd day of July, 2026.

/s/ Thurman Ray Thomas
Ray Thomas, Sheriff of Delaware County, Oklahoma

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@davisandthompson.net
Attorneys for Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc.

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

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

Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc., an Oklahoma Corporation, Plaintiff,

vs.

Pamala I. Houchin, a single person, if living, or if deceased, her Unknown Heirs, Successors and Assigns, Defendants.

Case No. CS-2026-241
Judge Jennifer McAffrey
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 31st day of August, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the front door of the Courthouse at Jay, Delaware County, Oklahoma, the undersigned Sheriff of said County of Delaware will offer for sale and sell for cash at time of sale at public auction to the highest and best bidder, with appraisement, that certain real property situated in Delaware County, Oklahoma, to-wit:

Lot 123, BLOCK NO. 1, BEAR LAKE AREA, FLINT RIDGE NO. 1-AMENDED, a Subdivision located in Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, according to the recorded plat thereof, TOGETHER with the buildings, improvements, appurtenances, hereditaments and all other rights thereunto appertaining or belonging.

subject to taxes and tax sales, said property being duly appraised at a value of $2,500.00.

Sale will be made pursuant to an Order of Sale issued upon a Judgment entered in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, in Case No. CS-2026-241, in favor of Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc. and against Defendant Pamala I. Houchin, in personam and in rem, and all other Defendants, in rem, in the amount of $12,735.00, together with additional assessments accruing from and after June 26, 2026, penalties, interest, attorney fees in the amount of $4,000.00 together with costs of $728.17 and costs accruing; and a further judgment finding that the lien of Flint Ridge POA is a valid, subsisting first and prior lien upon the real property above described and ordering that if said judgment be not paid, that a Special Execution issue from the office of the Court Clerk, directed to the Sheriff of Delaware County, commanding such Sheriff to levy upon, advertise and sell said real property, with appraisement, as provided by law; and whereas, the judgment in favor of the Plaintiff remains wholly unpaid and the Plaintiff has requested a Special Execution and Order of Sale to issue in accordance with said judgment.

WITNESS my hand this 15th day of July, 2026.

/s/ Joe White
Ray Thomas
Sheriff of Delaware County, Oklahoma

Tommy R. Dyer, Jr.,
O.B.A. #13594
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC
314 S. 5th Street
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E-mail: tommy@davisandthompson.net
Attorneys for Flint Ridge Property Owners Association, Inc.

(Published in the Grove Sun July 21 and 28, 2026)
LPXLP

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
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(918) 253-4220
Facsimile:(918) 801-4493
E-mail: tommy@davisandthompson.net
Attorneys for Plaintiff

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AFTON LAND LEASE COMMUNITY, LLC

The Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) is in receipt of an application to transfer the existing permit for Hudson Bay Resort into the name of Afton Land Lease Community, LLC. The project is located in Delaware County, Oklahoma. The applicant has no plans to modify the existing 4 docks with a total of 8 slips that are located on the property.

A public meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 14, 2026 at 10AM 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 July 28 and August 4, 2026)
LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES LEON WICKLIFFE, Deceased.

Case No. PB-2020-60
NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION TO REOPEN ESTATE PURSUANT TO 58 O.S. § 692 AND FOR APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, LEGATEES AND DEVISEES AND ISSUANCE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons interested in the Estate of Charles Leon Wickliffe, deceased, that on the 22nd day of July 2026, a Petition was filed in this Court for the appointment of Tom Wickliffe as the Personal Representative, that Letters of Administration with Will Annexed be issued to him, and for the determination of the identity of all heirs, legatees and devisees of the Decedent. Pursuant to an Order of said Court made on the 22nd day of July 2026, notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of August 2026 at the hour of 1:30 o'clock p.m. of said day, has been appointed as the time for hearing said Petition at the District Courtroom in the Courthouse in the City of Jay, County of Delaware, State of Oklahoma, when and where all persons interested may appear and contest the same.

WITNESS my hand this 22nd day of July 2026.

/s/ Dave Crutchfield
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

/s/ Clayton M. Baker
Clayton M. Baker,
O.B.A. #32347
Clayton M. Baker
Attorney at Law
117 Anchor Rd., Suite A
Grove, OK 74344
(918) 801-2990
Attorney for Petitioner

(Published in the Grove Sun July 28, 2026)
LPXLP

DISTRICT COURT OF DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALETA SUE RHODES, DECEASED.

No. PB-2026-1
ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S FINAL REPORT AND PETITION FOR ORDER ALLOWING FINAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTING, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FINAL DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION AND DISCHARGE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the duly-appointed and qualified Personal Representative of the above-captioned Estate has filed in this Court a Final Report and Petition for Order Allowing Final Report, Determination of Heirs, Final Decree of Distribution, and Discharge of Personal Representative, and which the Court finds should be set for hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Personal Representative's Final Report and Petition for Order Approving Final Report, Determination of Heirs, Final Decree of Distribution and Discharge is set for hearing on the 11th day of August, 2026, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma in the city of Jay, Oklahoma, and that all persons interested in said estate are notified then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why such Final Report should not be settled and allowed, heirs determined, the estate distributed, and the Personal Representative discharged. This Order and Notice of hearing shall be given as required by law.

DATED THIS 23rd day of July, 2026.

/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) 801-4454;
Fax (918) 801-4493
rvaughan@davisandthompson.net
Attorneys for Personal Representative

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

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

In the Matter of the Estate of JAMES L. MCGUFFEY, deceased.

Case No. PB-2026-16
NOTICE OF HEARING FINAL ACCOUNT, PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, LEGATEES, AND DEVISEES, DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION AND DISCHARGE

Notice is hereby given that James Francis McGuffey, the duly appointed and qualified Personal Representative of the Estate of James L. McGuffey, deceased, has filed in this Court a Final Account of the administration of said estate and a Petition for Determination of Heirs, Legatees, and Devisees, Decree of Distribution and Discharge; hearing of the same has been fixed by the Judge of the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma for the 8th day of September, 2026, at the hour of 1:30 o'clock p.m., at the Courtroom of said Court, in the County Courthouse at Jay, Delaware County, Oklahoma, and all persons interested in said estate are notified then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why said Final Account should not be settled and allowed, heirs determined, said estate distributed and the Personal Representative discharged.

/s/ Nicholas Lelecas
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

LOGAN & LOWRY, LLP
101 South Wilson Street
P.O. Box 558
Vinita, Oklahoma 74301
(918) 256-7511
(918) 256-3187 (fax)
Attorneys for the Personal Representative

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

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JIMMIE J. SAWVEL*, Deceased

CASE NO. PB-2026-23

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING PETITION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY UNDER PROVISIONS OF TITLE 58 SECTION 239

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate Of Jimmie J. Sawvel, Deceased, that on the 15th day of July, 2026, the Personal Representative, Jimmie D. Sawvel, filed in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, a Petition praying that an Order Authorizing the Personal Representative to Proceed Under Provisions of Title 58 Section 239 – Sale of Real and Personal Property be entered herein.

Pursuant to an Order of said Court made on the 16 day of July 2026, notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of August, 2026, at the hour of 1:30 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 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 16 day of July, 2026.

/s/ David Crutchfield
HON. DAVID CRUTCHFIELD
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

By: _____
Deputy Court Clerk

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

(Published in the Grove Sun July 21 and 28, 2026)
LPXLP

DISTRICT COURT OF DELAWARE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

PB-2026-30
NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that Larry Reamer, Personal Representative of the Estate of Jerry Daniel Sexton, will sell at private sale, to the highest bidder for cash or on terms approved by the Court, subject to confirmation by the District Court, on or after August 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., all the right, title, interest the estate has in and to the following-described real property located in Delaware County, Oklahoma:

Lot 19, Mohawk Addition, Delaware County, Oklahoma according to the recorded plat thereof (the "Real Estate")

all in accordance with the terms, covenants and conditions set forth, for cash or on terms approved by the Court with the closing to be held subject to and immediately after the confirmation of said sale by the District Court of Delaware County.

Bids must be in writing and may be submitted to the offices of Davis and Thompson, PLLC, P.O. Box 487, Jay, Oklahoma 74346 to the attention of Randall Vaughan.

DATED this 16th day of July, 2026.

/s/ Randall G. Vaughan
Randall G. Vaughan,
OBA #11554
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC

PLEASE SEE **LEGALS** *PG 7*

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AUCTION

AUCTION, AUGUST 5TH: Commercial Building (Former Convenience Store) * SH 8/US 60 Frontage * Exc. Visibility from US 412 * High Traffic Count * Fairview/Cleo Springs Area, Major Co., OK * **WigginsAuctioneers.com * 580.233.3066**

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Put your message where it matters most – **IN OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPERS.** We can place your ad in 132 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.**

REQUEST FOR QUALIFIED BUILDING INSPECTOR / AUTHORIZED INSPECTION PROVIDER

The Town of Colcord is seeking qualified individuals or firms to provide Building Inspection Services for residential and commercial construction within the Town of Colcord, Oklahoma.

This opportunity is open to Oklahoma-licensed Building Inspectors, Authorized Inspection Providers, and Circuit Riders who are authorized to perform inspections in accordance with the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC), the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB), the Oklahoma Inspectors Act, and all applicable state laws, rules, and adopted construction codes.

Qualified Building Inspectors, Authorized Inspection Providers, Circuit Riders, or firms interested in providing inspection services are encouraged to submit their interest or contact the Town for additional information,
Monday through Friday 9 – 5
or by phone at (918) 326-4200.

Tribe asks 10th Circuit to reconsider Osage Reservation disestablishment decision

Tristan Loveless
NonDoc.com

The Osage Nation is asking the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals to reconsider its 2010 decision in Osage Nation v. Irby and declare that its reservation was never disestablished.

The new case, Osage Nation v. Taylor, argues the 2010 decision is incompatible with the 2020 McGirt v. Oklahoma decision, which fundamentally changed how courts in the United States analyzed questions of reservation disestablishment.

Before the McGirt decision, the leading case on Indian Country reservation disestablishment was Solemn v. Bartlett, a 1984 decision involving the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Solemn established three factors that courts would examine to determine whether a reservation was disestablished: The text of acts of Congress, the "circumstances surrounding passage of the act(s)" involving the reservation, and the "post-enactment history" of the reservation.

The McGirt decision is broadly understood to have narrowed the Solemn factors to focus solely on the text of the acts of Congress, an analysis both originalist and to the benefit tribal governments. Prior to McGirt, arguments about demographic changes and land status were given greater weight under Solemn's third factor, which the Osage Nation argues was dispositive in the prior decision that said their reservation was disestablished.

"This court's decision in Irby and the Supreme Court's decision in McGirt cannot stand together. They apply different legal tests to the same question — whether Congress disestablished a reservation — and they reach incompatible conclusions about what evidence may support a disestablishment finding," attorney Eugene Bertman wrote for the Osage Nation. "Irby relied on extratextual evidence as an independent ground for finding disestablishment, after concluding that no statutory text supported it. McGirt held that extratextual evidence may not do that work."

Solicitor General Gary Gaskins has responded on behalf of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, the opposing party in the Osage Nation's suit, arguing the Irby case was rightfully decided and that the Osage Nation Reservation was disestablished.

"If this court were to go to the merits, it should hold that Irby remains good law even in light of McGirt. McGirt disclaimed any application to the Osage Nation. And McGirt did not purport to establish a new legal test for disestablishment. McGirt, that is, did not repudiate the Solem test utilized by this court in Irby," Gaskins argued. "Thus, in Irby this court did exactly what McGirt now requires; the court found the relevant statutes ambiguous before turning to circumstances surrounding their passage to resolve the ambiguities. Accordingly, McGirt does not repudiate Irby's reliance on the Solem test or consideration of extratextual evidence in the face of statutory language which is 'not unambiguous.'"

The case comes before the federal appellate court on a procedural motion, meaning judges could decide the case without deciding the status of the Osage Reservation. The nation has requested oral arguments, while the state did not. No oral argument order has been issued as of the publication of this article.

Osage Reservation's unique history

The new case comes after the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals cited the Irby decision in 2024 to find that the Osage Nation Reservation — which spans the entirety of Osage County — does not exist for purposes of criminal jurisdiction following the McGirt decision.

In McCauley v. State, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals' then-Vice Presiding Judge Robert Hudson wrote for a unanimous court to find that the Irby decision was the controlling precedent.

"The 10th Circuit's decision in Osage Nation applies here because of its preclusive effect," Hudson wrote. "Appellant's claim is entirely derivative of the Osage Nation's original claim, and as such cannot be relitigated here by appellant."

The OCCA's decision in the McCauley case has largely kept criminal cases involving Indian defendants accused of crimes within Oklahoma's largest county in Osage County District Court instead of in the Osage Nation's courts.

But for Oklahoma historians, the notion the Osage Reservation did not survive the 20th century while the reservations of the Five Tribes did can be a bit perplexing. At statehood, the Osage Reservation was the only Indian Reservation required to be its own county, and it was one of the last reservations allotted. The unique "underground reservation," where the tribal nation retains the mineral rights in Osage County, also points to the tribe's special status in Oklahoma.

The Osage Nation's history is unique amongst tribes in Oklahoma. As the United States grew from a set of colonies into an expanding nation in North America, tribal nations were pushed west, through both forced removal and migration away from encroaching settlers. One of the most immediate problems with the attempts of eastern tribes to move west involved the fact other tribes already inhabited the region.

Before the United States could secure Oklahoma as a destination for Indian Removal, the federal government had to negotiate with the Osage Nation, which by that point was armed through trade with French and Spanish explorers. The Osage had come to dominate large swaths of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas by the 1750s.

By 1839, the nation was forced onto a reservation in Kansas. But by the 1870s, Kansas settlers were demanding further removal. The Osage Nation was required to purchase its current reservation south of the Kansas border — which was previously Osage territory before the United States utilized it for Indian removal — from the Cherokee Nation in 1883.

Historically, the Osage Nation consisted of several clans or sub-tribes each with their own hereditary chief, but by 1869 the last Osage hereditary chief had died, according to Terry Wilson's The Underground Reservation. In 1881, the nation adopted its first written constitution alongside the now familiar office of principal chief.



Tres Savage

Wind turbines loom over cattle at a pond within the Osage Nation in 2025.

AG's relationship with Osage Nation

Gaskins' signing of the new brief appears to indicate the Attorney General's Office is handling the Osage Nation's appeal in-house. While it is normal for the Attorney General's Office to handle appeals on behalf of the state, some other pending appeals involving federal Indian law like the Kunzweiler v. Muscogee Nation case are being represented by private counsel.

Attorney General Gentner Drummond, whose family is one of the largest landholders in Osage county, has publicly opposed efforts to overturn the Irby decision.

"I do believe that the law is settled. I do believe in the case of the Osage that the jurisdictional boundaries have been dissolved — from just a strict legal position," Drummond told Osage News in 2025. "I believe that Irby was rightly decided. I fully respect and acknowledge the sovereignty of the Osage Nation and will always take steps and actions consistent with it, notwithstanding the jurisdictional boundary issue."

Drummond's family has been entwined with the Osage Nation since his ancestor, Frederick Drummond, settled in the nation in 1887. A review of Newspaper.com records shows Drummond family members were estate administrators for at least 15 Osage citizens, guardians for at least seven Osage citizens, and held various other legal relationships with tribal citizens during the Osage Reign of Terror in the 1910s through as late as 1930.

Gentner Drummond appears to have been somewhat unaware of the extent of his family's legal involvement in Osage citizens' affairs prior to a 2022 podcast by Bloomberg.

"Oh, I'm a realist. We only pass along the good stories, we don't pass along the bad stories typically, so it would not surprise me at all if there are bad stories out there that would not have been the subject matter of the family lore passed down," Drummond said in 2022.

Despite his family's complicated relationship with the Osage Nation, Drummond has campaigned as the tribal-friendly candidate during this year's Oklahoma gubernatorial election, and he has frequently pushed for better relations with tribes.

During a Republican gubernatorial debate in late May, Drummond was the only candidate not to support the state having concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute Indian defendants within the Indian Country reservations affirmed across eastern Oklahoma by the McGirt decision. Instead, Drummond offered an ambitious plan to compact with tribal governments and allow Oklahoma district attorneys and judges to prosecute and adjudicate cases in the name of tribal governments using Oklahoma's court resources.

He claimed the Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Cherokee nations would sign such a compact if he were elected governor.

"What they can do instead of spending the billions of dollars — which they are not spending yet — on courthouses, prosecutors, and judges, they can spend on health care and mental health, and we can partner with them in that," Drummond said. "So the solution is the state of Oklahoma doing it in the name of the tribe showing respect, courtesy, and comity."

LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM **PG 6**

**Mail P.O. Box 487;
Physical 314 S. Fifth St.
Jay, Oklahoma 74346
Phone (918) 801-4454;
Fax (918) 801-4493
Attorney for Personal Representative**

(Published in the Grove Sun July 21 and 28, 2026)
LPXLP

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

In the Matter of the Estates of DARREN DEAN FERGUSON, Deceased and CAROLYN ROSE FERGUSON, Deceased

**Case No. PB-2026-58
NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN ROSE FERGUSON**

TO THE HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN AND CREDITORS OF CAROLYN ROSE FERGUSON:

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of Carolyn Rose Ferguson, that on the 23rd day of July, 2026, Kim Stambaugh filed in the District Court of Delaware County and State of Oklahoma, her amended petition praying for the issuance of Letters of Administration of the estate of Carolyn Rose Ferguson and the Court determine the heirs of Carolyn Rose Ferguson, Deceased.

THAT said amended Petition will be heard at the courtroom of said Court in the Town of Jay, in said County on the 11th 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 23rd day of July, 2026.

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

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

(Published in the Grove Sun July 28, 2026)
LPXLP

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HELEN STEUBING, DECEASED.

**Case No. PB-2026-70
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of Helen Steubing, Deceased:

All creditors having claims against Helen Steubing, 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 Ronald Steubing, Personal Representative, at the law offices of Harp Law 33 W. Third Street, Grove, OK 74344, addressed to Bryce P. Harp, attorney for the Personal Representative, on or before the following presentment date: September 19, 2026, or the same will be forever barred.

DATED this 14 day of July, 2026.

/s/ Ronald Steubing
Ronald Steubing
Personal Representative

**Prepared by:
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(Published in the Grove Sun July 28 and August 4, 2026)
LPXLP

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Derald C. Hurt, Deceased.

**Case No. PB-26-77
NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR (1) ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE, (2) APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR AND ISSUANCE OF LETTERS, (3) APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND ISSUANCE OF LETTERS, AND (4) DETERMINATION OF HEIRS AT LAW**

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of Derald C. Hurt, Deceased (the "Estate"), that on the 16th day of July, 2026, Agela Hurt filed in the District Court of Delaware County, State of Oklahoma, a Petition for (1) Administration of Estate, (2) Appointment of Special Administrator and Issuance of Letters,(3) Appointment of Administrator and Issuance of Letters, and (4) Determination of Heirs at Law ("Petition"), requesting among other things the appointment of Angela Hurt as Administrator, that Letters of Administration be issued to Angela Hurt as Administrator of the Estate, and that the heirs of Derald C. Hurt be determined by the Court.

Pursuant to an Order of this Court entered on the 16th day of July, 2026, Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of August, 2026, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., the Petition will be heard in District Courtroom No. 2, Delaware County Courthouse, Jay, Oklahoma.

Dated: 7/16/26

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

**Submitted by:
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ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER**

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

In the Matter of the Estate of ANNA NOLENE HENSLEY, deceased.

**Case No. PB-2026-81
NOTICE OF HEARING OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, AND DETERMINATION OF HEIRS**

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the estate of Anna Nolene Hensley, deceased, that on the 23rd day of July, 2026, Clyde Dean Sharp filed in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, a Petition praying that Letters of Administration be issued thereon to Clyde Dean Sharp, and that the heirs of said decedent be judicially determined. Said Petition will be heard at the Courtroom of the said Court, in the City of Jay, County of Delaware, State of Oklahoma, on the 11th day of August, 2026, at the hour of 1:30 o'clock p. m. of said date, when and where all persons interested can appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayers contained in said Petition should not be granted.

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

**/s/ Nicholas Lelecas
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT**

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHNNY M. STONECIPHER, Deceased

Case No. PB-2026-82

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 JOHNNY M. STONECIPHER, Deceased, that on the 23 day of July, 2026, JOHNITA LEA STONECIPHER filed in the District Court of Delaware County, Oklahoma, a Petition praying that Letters Testamentary be issued thereon to JOHNITA LEA STONECIPHER, and requesting that the Court determine the identity of all heirs, devisees and legatees.

Pursuant to an Order of said Court made on the 23 day of July, 2026, notice is hereby given that on the 25 day of August, 2026, at the hour of 1:30 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 23 day of July, 2026.

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

**By: _____
Deputy Court Clerk**

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