



FILED

2015 Grand Jury Report – Case # GJ-2015-1

SEP 30 2015

SALLY HOWE SMITH, COURT CLERK
STATE OF OKLA. TULSA COUNTY

At the request of the May 6th 2015 petition, written by We the People (10231-1501), a grand jury was impaneled. The grand jury met a total of 20 days, interviewed 32 witnesses, and 164 exhibits.

The grand jury approached the petition by reviewing each inquiry then applying testimony and exhibits to each inquiry. Once all testimony and exhibits were compiled the grand jury reviewed the causes and referenced the inquires that did or did not support each of the five causes.

The grand jury received 15 additional investigation requests. The grand jury has reviewed each additional petition and they were investigated. None required additional action by the grand jury but each were notified by letter that their matter was reviewed.

The grand jury was required to make a personal inspection of the condition of the County Jail, as to the sufficiency of the same for the safekeeping of prisoners, their convenient accommodation and health, and to inspect the rules and regulations of said Jail, to ensure all persons are being brought in front of the judge in a proper fashion, and to make any recommendations that seem proper in your final report. There were 29 persons that were detained for 5 days or more without being charged on the grand jury's original inquiry. Upon investigation all 29 people had timely charges that were in the system. The grand jury did not find any issues upon their visit and inquiry into the County Jail.

OSBI Investigation

The grand jury is aware that there is an ongoing investigation regarding the TCSO. The grand jury has been advised of the nature of that investigation and is supportive of its continuation.

Recommendations for Improvement at TCSO

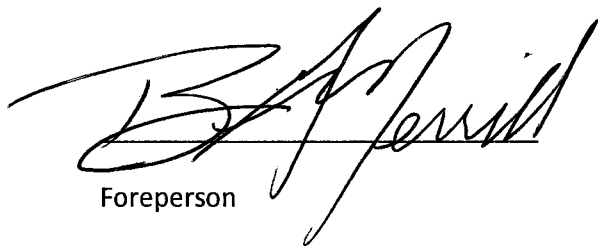
1. The grand jury recommends that TCSO policies are adhered to closely and uniformly.
2. Although CLEET has a grandfather policy the grand jury suggests that the TCSO adopts a internal policy that even if person has been certified by CLEET if they have been absent from law enforcement for more than 5 years they must complete the full application process, testing, and training requirements of a full time deputy.
3. The grand jury finds it necessary that the TCSO establish and adhere to policies specifically regarding training and experience requirements for assignment by department. In specific, specialized units such as SOT, task forces etc.
4. It has been determined that the method of training and personnel documentation compliance needs to be improved. The grand jury suggests a person or committee specifically tasked with making sure the training and personnel records are complete, uniform, and up to date. These records should be subject a regular audit.
5. Better accountability of field training hours.

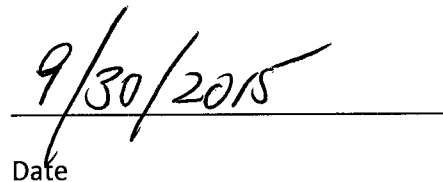
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6. The grand jury recommends that at any time a transfer or reassignment occurs, a copy of the deputy's training records shall accompany that reassignment and be signed off on as complete and sufficient for the new assignment by the new chain of command.
7. The grand jury requests that TCSO make the internal affairs department more autonomous from the TCSO itself. In addition it is recommended that each and every investigation be assigned an internal affairs number.
8. The grand jury suggests that TCSO create some type of fully anonymous avenue for employees to report an issue. It is also suggested that these reports are documented and maintained.

The grand jury would like to express its sincere thanks to all of the staff that assisted us throughout this process. Tami Morse (court reporter), Christine Bluford (bailiff), Judge Rebecca Nightingale, Okmulgee County District Attorney Robert Barris and Washington County District Attorney Kevin Buchanan.

The grand jury would also like to recognize the men and women of the Tulsa County Sheriff's department. We respect and appreciate the service and sacrifice of the deputies and reserve deputies who despite recent attention on the sheriff's department have served with honor, respect, and integrity.


Foreperson


Date