



**TIM HARRIS  
TULSA COUNTY  
DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY**

*Child abuse  
casts a  
shadow  
the length  
of a  
lifetime.*

— Herbert Ward

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# In Pursuit of Justice

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## DA Sends 24 to Prison So Far in 2011 For Crimes Against Children

Since declaring 2011 the Year of the Child, the Tulsa County District Attorney's office has sent 24 offenders to prison for Crimes Against Children. Prosecutors have recommended stiff sentences and juries have levied significant prison terms against those convicted, resulting in many defendants opting to enter "blind pleas" to allow judges to determine a sentence rather than going to trial or accepting a plea negotiation from prosecutors.

**IN JANUARY:** **JERRY DAVELLE BENSON** entered a "blind plea" of guilty to two counts of **CHILD ABUSE BY INJURY**, two counts of **CHILD NEGLECT** and five counts involving **DRUG DEALING**. District Judge William Musseman sentenced Benson to two **LIFE** sentences for **CHILD ABUSE**, and two **25-YEAR TERMS** for **CHILD NEGLECT**. The judge ordered those sentences to run consecutively. Sheriff's deputies who served a search warrant for drugs at Benson's home in September 2010 said they found two badly beaten **8-YEAR-OLD BOYS** with bruised and swollen heads and faces. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis prosecuted. Benson had **FIVE PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS** for **BURGLARY, ROBBERY, OBTAINING MONEY BY FALSE PRETENSE, DEFRAUDING THE STATE** and **ASSAULT AND BATTERY ON A POLICE OFFICER**. Co-defendant **PRECIOUS JOY BENSON** entered a "blind" plea to two counts of **ENABLING CHILD ABUSE** and two counts of **CHILD NEGLECT** and was sentenced to a **15-YEAR SUSPENDED SENTENCE** by District Judge Carlos Chappelle. Assistant DAs Sarah McAmis and Gary Davis prosecuted.

A jury convicted **MICHAEL JOHN TIBBETTS** of three counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION** of three **GIRLS, AGES 8, 7, AND 4**. The abuse occurred between May 2006 and July 2008. The jury sentenced Tibbetts to **15 YEARS IN PRISON** on each count, and District Judge Dana Kuehn ordered the counts to run consecutive, for a total of **45 YEARS**. Assistant DA Erik Grayless prosecuted.

**SHAWN STEPHEN CLARK** halted jury selection in his trial and pled guilty to six counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION** of two **GIRLS 8 and 10 YEARS OLD**, in February–March 2010. Clark was sentenced to **15 YEARS IN PRISON** and **5 YEARS PROBATION** by District Judge Tom Gillert. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis prosecuted.

**ROBERT DANIEL BURNS** entered a "blind plea" to three counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION** and one count of **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE** in assaults on a **6-YEAR-OLD GIRL** and two **12-YEAR-OLD GIRLS**. The abuse of the younger girl occurred between January 2008 and January 2009 and the older girls were abused between March 2009 and March 2010. District Judge Tom Gillert sentenced Burns to **FOUR TERMS OF LIFE IN PRISON**, to run concurrently. Burns had **FIVE PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS** for **POSSESSION OF DRUGS** and **DUI**. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis prosecuted.



**IN FEBRUARY:** **MICHAEL ALCALA** was convicted of two counts of **SEXUAL ABUSE** of a **GIRL**. The child was abused from the time she was **8 YEARS OLD** until she was **10 YEARS OLD** from December 2006 until February 2009. The jury sentenced Alcala to **50 YEARS** in prison, 25 Years on each count. District Judge William Kellough later ordered the two sentences to run concurrently and suspended five years for a total of **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Erik Grayless prosecuted.

**JARED THROWER** pled guilty to two counts of **CHILD ABUSE BY INJURY** of **8 AND 9-YEAR-OLD GIRLS** in May 2008 and **DOMESTIC ASSAULT AND BATTERY** on his wife and was sentenced to **10 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Ben Fu negotiated the plea.

**JOHN SWYDEN** pled guilty to **LEWD MOLESTATION, SODOMY, AND SECOND-DEGREE RAPE** of two **GIRLS, 12 AND 14 YEARS OLD**. He was sentenced to **15 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Linsey Williams negotiated the plea.

See **MORE CHILD CASES** Page 2

# MORE CHILD CASES Continued from Page 1

## IN MARCH:

A jury convicted **CURTIS MCELROY** of **SEXUAL ABUSE** of a **3-YEAR-OLD GIRL** and sentenced him to **15 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DAs Sarah McAmis and Nalani Ching prosecuted.

**MICAH J. WALDRON** was convicted by a jury of two counts of **CHILD ABUSE BY INJURY** of his girlfriend's **3-MONTH-OLD SON** in July 2009. He was sentenced to **12 YEARS** on Count 1 and **8 YEARS** on Count 2. District Judge Tom Gillert ordered the sentences to run consecutive for a total of **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. The mother left the child with Waldron while she worked. Testimony indicated Waldron struck the baby, causing bruises, and shook the baby, causing a subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhages. The child suffered permanent brain damage. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis prosecuted.

**DOMINIQUE LAGAIL LEE** pled guilty to **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the death of her infant son in September 2009. **K Aidan Terry** was **48 DAYS OLD** when he died of blunt trauma to the head. Lee had another infant child who died in 2007, but no charges were filed. Lee entered a "blind plea" and District Judge William Kellough sentenced Lee to **LIFE IN PRISON**. She also pled guilty to two counts of **ROBBERY WITH FIREARMS** in December 2009. District Judge James Caputo sentenced Lee to two **20-YEAR** terms to run concurrently with the life sentence. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis prosecuted.

**LISA ZILLMAN** pled guilty to **SECOND-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the September drowning death of her **TWO-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER, HANNAH**. She was sentenced to **FOUR YEARS IN PRISON**. Zillman told police she had taken Xanax, methadone and alcohol before she took a bath with her baby. Zillman's husband said he pried open the bathroom door and found the mother slumped in the bathtub. He said after he lifted the mother, he could see the baby in the water. Assistant DA Sarah McAmis negotiated the plea.

**FERMIN FUENTES** pled guilty to two counts of **SEXUAL ABUSE** of an **8-YEAR-OLD GIRL** between August 2009 and August 2010. He was sentenced to **25 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Ben Fu negotiated the plea.

**MARY LEE GONZALES** entered a "blind plea" to two counts of **CHILD NEGLECT** and was sentenced to **20 YEARS IN PRISON** by District Judge William Musseman. Gonzales' **INFANT DAUGHTER** suffered a skull fracture, broken arm and bite marks and bruises on her face, back, and arm and an infection on her neck during the first 10 months of her life. Assistant DAs Sarah McAmis and Gary Davis prosecuted. Gonzales had **PRIOR CONVICTIONS** for **SECOND-DEGREE BURGLARY** and **ASSAULT AND BATTERY ON A POLICE OFFICER**.

**CHRISTOPHER GARRETT** pled guilty to five counts of **SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR CHILD**, a **GIRL** between the ages of **12** and **16 YEARS OLD** from December 2006 until September 2010. He was sentenced to a total of **20 YEARS IN PRISON** and **5 YEARS PROBATION**. Assistant DAs Sarah McAmis and Gary Davis prosecuted.

**AMBROSIO GOMEZ** pled guilty to **LEWD MOLESTATION** of a **3-YEAR-OLD GIRL** in July 2010 and was sentenced to **8 YEARS IN PRISON**, and **17 YEARS PROBATION**. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement placed a hold on Gomez' release after serving his prison term. Assistant DA Kristin Fulton prosecuted.

## IN APRIL

**EDWARD WATSON** pled guilty to three counts of **SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR CHILD**, a **GIRL** between **13 AND 15 YEARS OLD**, from 2006 to 2008. He was sentenced to **7 YEARS IN PRISON** and **3 YEARS PROBATION**. Assistant DA Erik Grayless negotiated the plea.

**CHARLES REA** pled guilty to **LEWD MOLESTATION** of an **11-YEAR-OLD GIRL** in February 2011 and was sentenced to **5 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Nalani Ching prosecuted.

**WILLIAM RAY SMITH** pled guilty to **CHILD ABUSE BY INJURY** for inflicting facial injuries on a **2-YEAR-OLD BOY** in October 2010. He was sentenced to **3 YEARS IN PRISON**, and **2 YEARS PROBATION**. Assistant DA Meredith Stanton prosecuted.

## IN MAY

**JACKIE B. THURMOND** pled guilty to molesting a **GIRL** from the **AGE OF 7 UNTIL 9 YEARS** from March of 2009 until March of 2011. He was charged with six counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION** and one count of **POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**.

Assistant DA Michelle Keely prosecuted. Thurmond entered a blind plea, and District Judge Kurt Glassco sentenced him to **30 YEARS IN PRISON** for the molestations and **10 YEARS IN PRISON** on the pornography charge.

**CHRISTOPHER E. REYNOLDS** pled "blind" to five counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION**, two counts of **POINTING A FIREARM** and **CONTRIBUTING TO THE DELINQUENCY OF A MINOR**. District Judge Tom Gillert sentenced him to **40 YEARS IN PRISON**. Reynolds held two **15-YEAR-OLD BOYS** at gunpoint and forced them to pose in sexual positions while photographing them. He also allowed the boys to drink and smoke marijuana in his home. He had coached one boy in basketball at Thornton YMCA. Assistant DA Nalani Ching prosecuted.

**DAVID GEORGE CLARK** pled guilty to **SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD**, **LEWD MOLESTATION** and **KIDNAPPING** and was sentenced to **35 YEARS IN PRISON**. In May 2010, the mother of a **4-YEAR-OLD GIRL** noticed she was missing from where she had been playing with other children. When she found the girl, the child she said that a man had grabbed her and taken her into an apartment where he confined her and abused her. Assistant DA Nalani Ching prosecuted.

## IN JUNE

**MICHAEL MATLOCK** pled guilty to two counts of **LEWD MOLESTATION**, and **POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**. He molested one **GIRL** from **11 to 15 YEARS OLD** from 1996 to 2001, and another **12-YEAR-OLD GIRL** in 2009. He was sentenced to a total of **26 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Julie Doss prosecuted.

**JESSIE DOBSON JR.** pled guilty to two counts of **SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR CHILD**, a **GIRL** between the ages of **5 AND 6 YEARS OLD**, from February 2010 to February 2011. He was sentenced to **25 YEARS IN PRISON**, and **5 YEARS PROBATION**. Assistant DA Michelle Keely prosecuted.

A jury convicted **VERNON FOSTER** of **LEWD MOLESTATION** of a **9-YEAR-OLD GIRL** in April 2010 and sentenced him to **3 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Erik Grayless prosecuted.

# Puppets Teach Kids How To Get Help, Stop Sexual and Physical Abuse

The children watched and listened intently as the Kids on the Block Puppets performed at their Tulsa elementary school last fall, talking about the difficult subject of sexual and physical abuse. Puppet Joanne told her puppet friend Stephen how she was confused and afraid when her mother's boyfriend touched her in the places her bathing suit covers.

"At first I thought he was nice and I was happy because he took us places and stuff," the puppet said. "But later I felt bad about what he was doing to me." The puppet said she finally got the courage to tell a trusted adult what happened to her. "Telling was the hardest thing I ever had to do, but it was the best thing I ever did!" the puppet proclaimed.

After the show, the children asked the puppets questions about how to handle certain situations. Later, they were asked to write letters to the puppets, telling them what they learned and if they had problems they needed help solving. Sixteen children at that one school told the puppets and their school counselor about sexual abuse that happened to them. The children were referred to the Child Abuse Network and criminal investigations began. Services were provided to children and families where appropriate and criminal charges filed where evidence warranted.

Assistant District Attorney Ben Fu prepared to prosecute one of the cases where the stepfather of one girl had been molesting the child for years. He said he was amazed when he saw the letter the child had written to the puppet describing what he had done to her in her 8-year-old words.

As a prosecutor, he had seen how difficult it was for children to speak of abuse. Fu said he planned to use the letter that the girl wrote to the puppets in court.

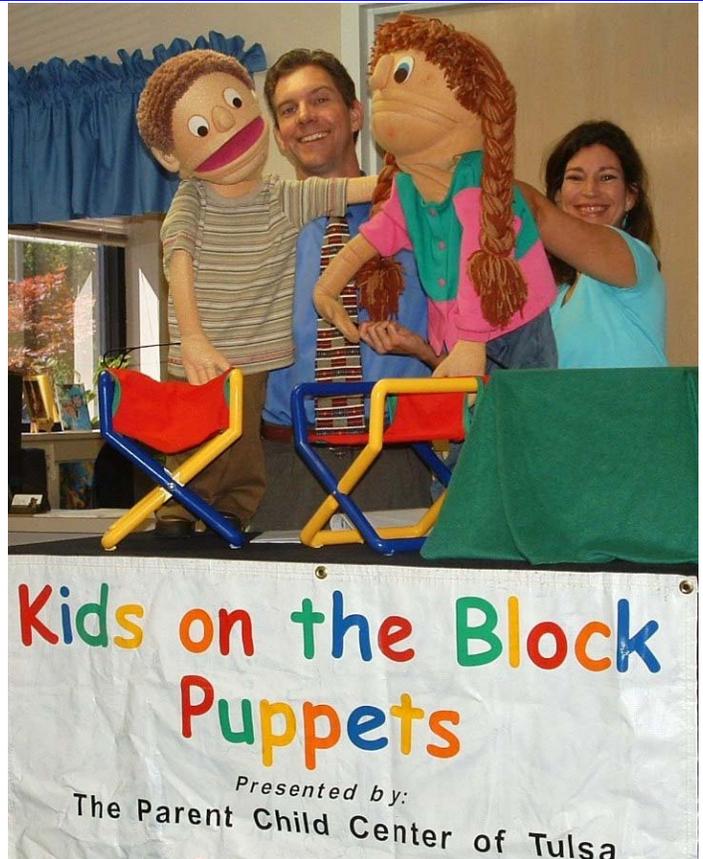
"I felt if a jury saw this little girl's letter to the puppets, they would put the perpetrator in prison for a long, long time," he said.

Faced with that and other evidence, the defendant pled guilty to four counts of child sexual abuse and was sentenced to 25 years in prison. The girl did not have to testify about the abuse in front of her stepfather and a courtroom of strangers. She was given access to counseling and services.

After securing the plea, Fu asked the puppeteers from Tulsa's Parent Child Center what he needed to do to see that their puppet show was presented in every school in the county.

"This puppet show, this simple puppet show, has a major impact. It gives children the courage and the knowledge to tell what is happening to them," Fu said.

The puppets are one of many programs the Parent Child Center of Tulsa offers in our community to prevent child abuse and neglect. Fifty shows about sexual and physical abuse were presented at elementary schools last year, to teach children how to get help by telling a trusted adult.



**Kirk McAnany and Jacqueline Gallegos are "shadows" behind Kids on the Block puppets that teach children how to stay safe from sexual and physical abuse.**

One school counselor wrote of the impact the program had at her school. "Your presentation was perfect. Second graders were totally focused and engaged. One of my second graders talked to me after the presentation about a sexual abuse situation. Your presentation provided the medium for this child to share and for me to take the necessary action to provide appropriate follow up and support for the child."

Another school counselor wrote: "There was such an impact, you could hear a pin drop and many students came to see me later to discuss physical and sexual abuse they had experienced . . . I am already scheduling the puppets return next fall . . ."

To schedule a Kids on the Block puppet presentation at a school, camp or other venue, or to learn about how to volunteer as a puppeteer, contact Jacque Gallegos at the Parent Child Center, 918-599-7999 or [jgallegos@parentchildcenter.org](mailto:jgallegos@parentchildcenter.org)

Major funding for the Kids on the Block puppet presentation is provided by the Sherman Smith Family Foundation.

# Murder, Manslaughter Convictions

**T**wenty-five killers were sentenced to prison from January to June, either convicted at jury trial or as a result of pleas to charges filed by prosecutors in the District Attorneys Office. Three others were convicted as Accessories, and a fourth for conspiracy to commit a felony. A jury acquitted one man of murder, but sentenced him to a lengthy prison term for pointing a gun at the dead man's mother.

## IN JANUARY:

**DARRELL STEVEN KING** was convicted by a jury of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the July 2007 gang-related shooting death of **MARK WILLIAMS, 22**. King was sentenced to **LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE** for the murder and received two other **LIFE** prison terms for the **CONSPIRACY** to murder Williams and for **POSSESSING A FIREARM AS A FELON**. Williams, who was to testify in court about the March 2007 death of **DEMONZO WASHINGTON**, was shot three times in a north Tulsa crack house, prosecutors alleged. Assistant DAs Tony Evans and Stephanie Milburn prosecuted the case. They told jurors that Williams was executed by gang members because he was scheduled to testify in the murder trial of another gang member. Prosecutors contend that three shooters fired three bullets into Williams. King fired the first shot into the back of Williams' head, Jeremy Finch and Von Christopher Butler then each shot Williams once in the back, Evans said. Finch was convicted by a jury in September of murdering Williams and was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON**. Butler's trial is pending. King pleaded no contest in 1999 to the 1998 shooting death of his cousin and was convicted of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** as a Youthful Offender and sentenced to **10 YEARS**. King was released on that sentence in 2006.

**AMBER KETCHER** pled guilty to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the meth lab fire that killed her husband, **SEAN KETCHER, 28**, in March 2009. She was sentenced to **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. She also pled guilty

to **CHILD ENDANGERMENT** for allowing meth to be cooked in her apartment while her three children were present. The children now live with family members. Assistant DA Tony Evans negotiated the plea.

**AMOS ADETULA** was convicted by a jury of **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the July 2009 shooting death of **NORRIS WALTON, 54**, and **ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH A DEADLY WEAPON** in the shooting of **JOSEPH DOYLE**. He was sentenced to **25 YEARS** for the murder and **10 YEARS** for wounding Doyle. Assistant DA Michelle Keely, who prosecuted the case, maintained that Walton was not the intended target. Doyle was shot in the leg in a drive-by shooting, then got up and ran to a nearby service station for cover, running past Walton who was in a wheelchair. Walton was shot and killed.

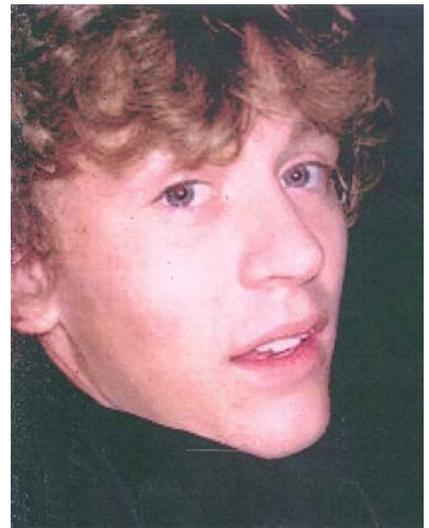
**DEBORAH KAYE WEAVER** pled guilty to **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the shooting death of husband **JIMMY LEE WEAVER, 42**, in March 2009. She was sentenced to **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Kristin Fulton negotiated the plea. Weaver was convicted in 2007 of **DOMESTIC ASSAULT AND BATTERY** in an attack on her husband and given a one-year suspended sentence.

## IN FEBRUARY:

**JEFFREY CURTIS PROCTOR** pled guilty to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the July 2009 shooting death of **TEVIN MATHIES, 14**. Proctor also pled guilty to **SHOOTING WITH INTENT TO KILL** and **POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AFTER FORMER CONVICTION OF A FELONY** and was sentenced to **40 YEARS IN PRISON**. The fatal shooting occurred in an apartment complex near 31<sup>st</sup> Street and US 169 in Tulsa. Police reported that there had been an earlier altercation at the complex between two groups of people, but that Mathies had not been involved. Proctor fired a gun toward the teenager and three companions. He also pled guilty to **ROBBERY WITH FIREARMS** and **FIRST-DEGREE BURGLARY** for a June 2009

crime. Co-defendant **TYLER ROSS DEERINWATER** pled guilty to **ACCESSORY TO SECOND DEGREE MURDER AFTER THE FACT** and **SHOOTING WITH INTENT TO KILL** and was sentenced to **15 YEARS IN PRISON**. Co-defendant **ANTHONY AHAISSE** pled guilty to **ACCESSORY TO SECOND DEGREE MURDER AFTER THE FACT** and was sentenced to **10 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Steve Kunzweiler negotiated the pleas.

**MARIO WILSON** was convicted by a jury of two counts of **FIRST-DEGREE FELONY MURDER** in the November 2009 shooting deaths of **JONATHAN "RANDY" RUSH, 22** and **MICHAEELE RICHARDSON, 29**. He was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON** on each count. Richardson and Rush were each shot multiple times at a home at 67 N. Victor Ave. in Tulsa. Evidence indicated that Wilson and others broke into the house and held Rush, Richardson and two others at gunpoint. One of those held at gunpoint ran and a struggle ensued outside and when a gun went off, Wilson began firing at Rush and Richardson inside the house. Assistant DAs Doug Drummond and Michelle Keely prosecuted.



**Randy Rush, 22, was shot to death in November 2009**

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# More Murder, Manslaughter Convictions 2011

Continued from Page 4

**A**NTHONY STAFON PORTER pled guilty to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the December 2009 shooting of **JERRON PETERS, 31**, and was sentenced to **30 YEARS IN PRISON**. Police said the shooting was related to a drug transaction. Co-defendant **JESSICA JOHNSTON** pled guilty to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in April and was sentenced to **15 YEARS IN PRISON**. Johnston had a prior conviction for **ROBBERY**. Co-defendant **RAPHEAL CARTHELL** pled guilty in April to **ACCESSORY TO A FELONY** and was sentenced to **10 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Stuart Ericson negotiated the pleas.

**IN MARCH:**

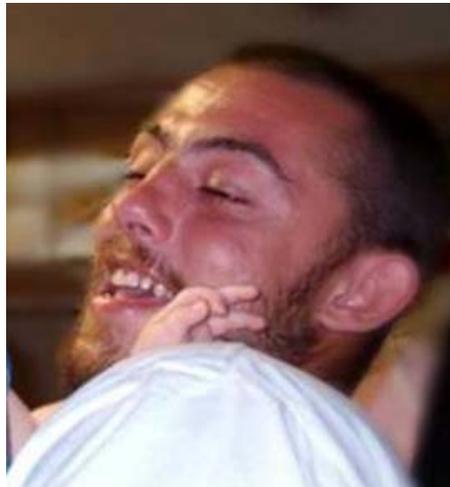
**TYRONE MICHAEL FAILS JR.** pled no contest to **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the November 2009 shooting death of **HASSAN SMITH, 28** at a Tulsa apartment complex in the 12700 block of East 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Fails admitted shooting Smith but maintained it was in self defense. Smith and Fails had been together at a party the night before and argued before the shooting. No gun was found on or around Smith's body. In a plea agreement negotiated by Assistant District Attorney Doug Drummond, Fails was sentenced to **5 YEARS IN PRISON** and **10 YEARS PROBATION**. Fails was tried by a jury in October 2010, but the jury deadlocked 8-4 for acquittal.

## Burglar Pleads Guilty To Shooting Homeowner

**CHRISTIAN RABER** entered a "blind plea" to shooting and robbing **WESLEY NELSON**, who interrupted Raber while he was burglarizing Nelson's Brookside home in July 2010. Nelson was shot four times—in the head, both shoulders and between the shoulders. Raber pled guilty to **SHOOTING WITH INTENT TO KILL, ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM, KNOWINGLY CONCEALING STOLEN PROPERTY** and two counts of **SECOND-DEGREE BURGLARY**.

At a preliminary hearing, Nelson described Raber "pulling the trigger over and over" with the gun "dry-firing" when it was pointed at his face. I was just hoping the pain would stop before I died," he said. District Judge Kurt Glassco will determine Raber's sentence in August.

**CANDICE NEARY** pled no contest to **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the September 2010 stabbing death of **BRECK LEWIS BARTON, 42**, in Broken Arrow. She was given an **8-YEAR DEFERRED SENTENCE**. Neary told police Barton assaulted her as she tried to escape and call police. Police had been called to the residence earlier. Assistant DA Ben Fu negotiated the plea.



**Anthony James Whitaker, 24, was shot to death in June 2009**

**IN APRIL:**

A jury acquitted **ANTONIO RAY JONES** of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the June 2009 shooting death of **ANTHONY JAMES WHITAKER, 24**. Jones maintained that he was defending himself when he struck Whitaker with a gun and it accidentally discharged. The jury convicted Jones of **FELONIOUSLY POINTING A FIREARM** at Whitaker's mother at the scene and sentenced him to **25 YEARS IN PRISON**. The jury also convicted Jones of **POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AFTER FORMER CONVICTION OF A FELONY** and sentenced him to **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DAs Kristin Fulton and Gary Davis prosecuted.

**EVERETT GILLUM** was convicted by a jury of **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the May 2009 beating death of **MARCUS LEON JONES, 51**. He was sentenced to **25 YEARS IN PRISON**. Jones was beaten in his apartment near 61<sup>st</sup> Street and Peoria Avenue. There was evidence that the beating was over a drug debt. Assistant DAs Erik Grayless and John Salmon prosecuted.

**DESHAWN A REED** pled guilty to **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the April 2010 shooting death of **VANDELL NELSON, 19** at the Apache Manor apartment complex in Tulsa. He was sentenced to **22 YEARS IN PRISON**. Police said Nelson was in the parking lot when Reed pulled a gun and shot him as he ran. Assistant DA Stephanie Milburn negotiated the plea.

**LAWRENCE KEITH BALLARD** pled no contest to **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the April 2009 shooting death of **COLBY HARRIS, 20**. He was sentenced to **20 YEARS IN PRISON**. Police reported that Harris woke up to find \$600 missing from his pants pocket. He went to an apartment where Ballard was sleeping and reportedly tried to wake him, then removed money from Ballard's pocket. A confrontation resulted and a witness told police that Ballard shot Harris outside the apartment. Assistant DA Steve Kunzweiler negotiated the plea.

**IN MAY:**

**PATRICK SHANE YARGEE** was convicted by a jury of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the August 2010 shooting death of his uncle, **DAVID "WILLIE" HARJO, 48**. He was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON**. Yargee shot Harjo eight times at his home in the 1000 block of North Delaware Avenue. Assistant DA Julie Doss prosecuted.



**David "Willie" Harjo, 48 was shot to death in August 2010.**

See More Homicide Results Page 6

## More Homicide Case Results continued from Page 5

A jury convicted **GARY EUGENE BEATY** of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the January 2009 shooting death of **BILLY DON FOSTER JR., 33**, at the Riverview Park Apartments in Tulsa. Beaty was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON**. Foster was shot multiple times, including the back of the neck. Assistant DA Stuart Ericson prosecuted.

A jury convicted **DERRICK D. HORNER** of **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the September 2009 shooting death of **KEBRON SANDERS, 32**, at an apartment complex near 68<sup>th</sup> Street and Lewis Avenue in Tulsa. Prosecutors had charged Horner with First-Degree Murder but the jury acquitted him of the lesser offense and sentenced him to **25 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Erik Grayless said Sanders had no gun and was shot five times by Horner. Evidence indicated the shooting was the result of a drug transaction.

A jury convicted **MICHAEL WAYNE DORSEY** of **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the November 2009 shooting death of **RYAN L. JONES, 20**, of Okmulgee. Dorsey was sentenced to **30 YEARS IN PRISON**. Evidence indicated the shooting was the result of a drug transaction in a car. Assistant DAs Steve Kunzweiler and Stephanie Milburn prosecuted.

**MARCELO ROBLEDO PEREZ** was convicted by a jury of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the July 2010 stabbing death of **ANTERO MORALES RODRIGUEZ** at a Tulsa taco stand near 21<sup>st</sup> Street and Garnett Road. He was sentenced to **LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE**. Assistant DA Ben Fu prosecuted.

### IN JUNE

A jury convicted **CARMILLE SULVETTA** of **FELONY MURDER** in the December 2009 beating and stabbing death of **GUY GILMORE JONES, 40**, and sentenced her to **LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE**. Jones died of massive trauma after five people broke into his home and beat him in a dispute over a bulldog. Assistant DA Steve Kunzweiler told the jury that Sulvetta “orchestrated the attack on Jones, recruiting four men to beat him up, and paying them with marijuana. Sulvetta has **FOUR PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS**. Assistant DA Ben Fu assisted with prosecution. Co-defendant **SHANNON HUNT** pled guilty in March to **FIRST-DEGREE FELONY MURDER** in **JONES’** death and was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON**. **ADELSON BARNES** pled guilty in February to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the assault,

**IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE**



**Michael Mulanax, 42, James Mulanax, 18, and Angela Mulanax, 41, were killed in a Christmas Eve car crash in 2009 near Sand Springs.**

and was sentenced to **35 YEARS IN PRISON**. Co-defendants **JOVON CALDWELL** and **JAMES EDWARD CALDWELL** pled guilty in June to **SECOND-DEGREE MURDER** in the death. **SABRINA LEE CUMMINGS** pled guilty to **CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT A FELONY**. They will be sentenced in August. ADA Steve Kunzweiler negotiated the pleas.

**STEVEN WADE JAMESON** entered a “blind plea” to three counts of **FIRST-DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER** in the 2009 Christmas Eve crash that killed three members of a Sand Springs family. **MICHAEL MULANAX, 42, ANGELA MULANAX, 41, and JAMES MULANAX, 18**, died in the crash. Jameson said he had turned around to check on his dog before losing control of his Hummer vehicle on icy roads.

Assistant DA Steve Kunzweiler said blood testing showed marijuana in Jameson’s system at the time of the crash. District Judge Matthew Henry will determine Jameson’s punishment, without a recommendation from prosecutors. Sentencing is scheduled July 29. ADAs Kunzweiler and Julie Doss prosecuted.

**ISAAH HASAN GILBERT** was convicted by a jury of **FIRST-DEGREE MURDER** in the May 2010 shooting death of **KENNETH L. DANIELS, 17**, at a Tulsa apartment complex. He was sentenced to **LIFE IN PRISON** plus **30 YEARS** for **MURDER, SHOOTING WITH INTENT TO KILL, ROBBERY WITH FIREARMS, and ASSAULT WITH A DANGEROUS WEAPON**. Assistant DAs Kristin Fulton and Stephanie Milburn prosecuted.

## Karate Teacher Convicted of Sexual Assault

**HASKELL A. WILLIAMSON JR.**, who billed himself on his website as a Fifth-Degree Black Belt, taught karate and self defense classes in Sapulpa. He also beat and raped one woman, and is accused of beating and raping a second woman.

In June, a jury convicted him of **RAPE BY INSTRUMENTATION** in the April 2010 attack on a woman who was beaten, strangled and molested in her own vehicle outside a Tulsa bar. The woman told police she left the bar and got into her vehicle, when a man, whom she identified as Williamson, pulled open the driver’s side door and

punched her several times before sexually assaulting her. The jury sentenced him to **80 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Ben Fu prosecuted.

Williamson also was charged in June with **FIRST-DEGREE RAPE, KIDNAPPING, and ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH A DANGEROUS WEAPON** in a March 2009 attack on another woman after he and the woman left a Broken Arrow bar.

Williamson also faces a charge of **SECOND-DEGREE BURGLARY** in Tulsa County and has prior convictions for **BURGLARY** and **AUTO THEFT**.

# Armed Robbers Convicted

## IN JANUARY:

**JACK BILLINGSLEA** was convicted by a jury of **3 Counts of ROBBERY WITH FIREARM** in the January 2008 robbery of three women in a house near the campus of the University of Tulsa. Alexis Childers and Wendy Apuan were preparing to move out of the house and had boxed up belongings. Another woman, Rhonda Adams, was visiting. Billingslea knocked on the front door, put a gun in Apuan's face when she answered it, and forced his way inside. He and another man bound the woman's hands and feet with duct tape, put pillowcases over their heads, took their cash and phones then filled Billingslea's car and Apuan's car with most of what they owned and drove away. On the way out, Billingslea removed the pillowcases from the women's heads, looked each in the eyes and said, "Don't call the cops or I will come back and kill you." The jury sentenced Billingslea, who had **EIGHT PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS**, to a total of **50 YEARS IN PRISON**, but District Judge Jefferson Sellers ordered the three terms to run concurrently, cutting the sentence to **20 YEARS**. Assistant DA Michael English prosecuted.

A jury convicted **RICHARD CARY MOORE, JR.** of **ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM** and **FIRST-DEGREE BURGLARY** of **ALBERT DARNELL** in October 2009. Moore and co-defendant **FREDDIE EUGENE RANKINS** kicked in the door of Darnell's house, beat him and robbed him of his Jeep and phone. The jury sentenced Moore, who had **TWO PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS**, to **40 YEARS** in prison. Assistant DA Julie Doss prosecuted Moore. **RANKINS**, who had **ONE PRIOR FELONY CONVICTION**, pled guilty to the robbery and burglary charges in August 2010 and was sentenced to **26 YEARS IN PRISON**.

## IN FEBRUARY:

A jury convicted **JOSHUA LARKPOR** of **ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM** for holding **BOBBY POWELL** at gunpoint in his home in June 2009 and stealing a flat-screen television and laptop computer. He was sentenced to **18 YEARS IN PRISON**. Larkpor had prior convictions for **BURGLARY** and **CONCEALING STOLEN PROPERTY**. Assistant DA Ben Fu prosecuted.

## IN MARCH

A jury convicted **SKYLER JAMES NEIL** of **ROBBERY WITH A WEAPON** and **ASSAULT AND BATTERY** in the robbery of **TY GATHRIGHT** and **SECOND-DEGREE ROBBERY** of **ANGIE REYDER**. The robberies occurred on February 8 and 9, 2010. **GATHRIGHT** was beaten and robbed with a knife of his vehicle, cell phone, iPod and wallet. **REYDER'S** purse was stolen from her at a bus stop. The jury sentenced Neill to **20 YEARS IN PRISON** for robbing Reyder, **27 YEARS IN PRISON** for the robbery of Gathright, and **90 DAYS** for the Assault and Battery. District Judge Kurt Glassco ordered the robbery terms to run consecutively. Assistant DA Stephanie Milburn prosecuted.

## IN APRIL:

**DARNELL WRIGHT** was convicted by a jury of two counts of **ROBBERY WITH FIREARMS** and **ASSAULT WHILE MASKED**. He was convicted of robbing two LaQuinta Inns in December 2009. The jury sentenced him to **40 YEARS** on each count of robbery and **20 YEARS** on each count of assault with a mask. Judge Tom Gillert ordered the two **40-YEAR** terms to run consecutively, and the **20-YEAR** terms to run concurrently. Assistant DA Stephanie Milburn prosecuted. Wright is awaiting trial for the robbery of a third LaQuinta Inn in February 2010.

After the victim testified against him in court, **WILLIE LANORRIS WALKER JR.** stopped his trial by entering a "blind plea" of guilty to **FIRST-DEGREE ROBBERY, FIRST-DEGREE BURGLARY, ATTEMPTED RAPE, LARCENY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE AND ELUDING A POLICE OFFICER**. He was charged with breaking into a woman's hotel room in Tulsa, choking and punching her, attempting to rape her and then fleeing with her money, cell phone and car in May 2010. The "blind plea" meant that District Judge William Kellough determined the sentence without a recommendation from prosecutors. Kellough sentenced Norris to a total of **35 YEARS IN PRISON** on all five counts. Assistant DAs Linsey Williams and John Salmon prosecuted.

**DERRICK L. JEFFERSON** was convicted by a jury of **FIRST-DEGREE ROBBERY** in the June 30, 2008 robbery of Arvest Bank near Edison Street and Gilcrease Museum Road and sentenced to **30 YEARS IN PRISON**. Assistant DA Michael English prosecuted.

Jefferson has six prior felony convictions in Arkansas. He is awaiting trial on the robbery of another Arvest branch inside the Walmart store at 81st Street and Lewis Ave, also in June 2008.

A jury convicted **JOSEPH RANDAL ARNDT** and **JEREMY LEE JOHNSON** of **ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM** in the drug-related robbery of **MAHDI OUNI** in a car in Tulsa in October 2008. The jury sentenced Johnson to **7 YEARS IN PRISON** and **ARNDT** received a **12-YEAR PRISON** term. Assistant DA Michelle Keely prosecuted.

**DEMARI DEVON FRAZIER** pled guilty to **ATTEMPTED ARMED ROBBERY** in the September 2010 robbery of a Tulsa convenience store that left a 14-year-old accomplice, **QUALYNN DABNEY**, shot to death by the store clerk. Frazier and Dabney were masked and carried guns into the store. Dabney fired at clerk **ZAHID KHAN**, who fired back and shot Dabney. Frazier was sentenced to **25 YEARS IN PRISON** for the attempted robbery. Assistant DA Steve Kunzweiler prosecuted.

## IN MAY:

Jurors convicted **KEVIN MAURICE BROWN SR.** of five counts of **ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM**, one count of **FIRST-DEGREE ROBBERY** and two counts of **POSSESSION OF FIREARM AS A CONVICTED FELON**. Brown held up six businesses in February and March 2010. After convicting him of the robberies, the jury learned Brown had **16 PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS** and sentenced him to **EIGHT LIFE PRISON TERMS**. Assistant DAs Kristin Fulton and Stuart Ericson prosecuted.

A jury convicted **JORDAN SMITH** of two counts of **ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM**, two counts of **FIRST-DEGREE BURGLARY** and one count of **ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH A DANGEROUS WEAPON** in home invasion robberies on two families in November and December 2008. He was sentenced to a total of **90 YEARS IN PRISON**. Co-defendant **DEANDRE MARQUIS TOTTRESS** was acquitted. Assistant DAs Michael English and Michelle Keely prosecuted.

**ANTONIO WAYNE SELLS** was convicted by a jury of **ATTEMPTED ROBBERY WITH A FIREARM** in March 2010 for trying to hold up **RECHINDA BIBLE** as she closed the National Quick Cash store in Sand Springs. The jury sentenced Sells to **30 YEARS IN PRISON**. Sells had three prior felony convictions for burglary and stolen property. Assistant DA Nalani Ching prosecuted.

# Child Predators: The Online Threat Continues to Grow

**I**t's a recipe for trouble: naive teenagers, predatory adults, and the Internet that easily connects them.

**It's an unfortunate fact of life that pedophiles are everywhere online.**

When a young person visits an online forum for a popular teen singer or actor, parents can be reasonably certain that online predators will be there. It is believed that more than half a million pedophiles are online every day.

Pedophiles go where children are. Before the Internet, that meant places such as amusement parks and zoos. Today, the virtual world makes it alarmingly simple for pedophiles—often pretending to be teens themselves—to make contact with young people.

Even without being someone's "friend" online, which allows access to one's social networking space, pedophiles can see a trove of teenagers' personal information—the town they live in, the high school they attend, their favorite music and TV programs—because the youngsters often post it for anyone to see.

**For a pedophile, that personal information is like gold and can be used to establish a connection and gain a child's trust.**

There are basically two types of pedophiles on the Internet—those who seek face-to-face meetings with children, and those who are content to anonymously collect and trade child pornography images.

Those seeking face-to-face meetings create bogus identities online, sometimes posing as teenagers. Then they troll the Internet for easy victims—  
youngsters with low self-esteem, problems with their parents, or a shortage of money. The pedophile might find a 14-year-old girl, for example, who has posted seemingly harmless information on her space for anyone to see. The pedophile sends a message saying he goes to high school in a nearby town and likes the same music or TV shows she likes.

Then the pedophile cultivates a friendly online relationship called "grooming." It could continue for days or weeks before the pedophile begins bringing up sexual topics, asking for explicit pictures or for a personal meeting. By that time an emotional connection has been made—and pedophiles



**Pedophiles are online trying to make contact with children**

can be master manipulators. Even if an actual meeting never takes place, it is important to note that youngsters can be victimized by such sexually explicit online contact.

**Even worse than posting personal information for anyone to see, many youngsters will accept "friends" who are total strangers.**

Nobody wants to just have five friends online. It's a popularity thing. Many youngsters will accept "friend" requests regardless of whether they know the requester.

Law enforcement cyber investigators say a relatively new trend among pedophiles is to begin grooming youngsters through online gaming forums, some of which allow two-way voice and video communication. Parents who might be vigilant about monitoring their children's Internet activity often have no idea that online video gaming platforms can pose a threat.

"Parents need to talk to their children about these issues," he said. "It's no longer enough to keep computers in an open area of the house so they can be monitored. The same thing needs to be done with online gaming platforms."

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Innocent Images Initiative

More Information: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cyber/innocent/innocent>

## Advice for Parents

**Parents should talk to their children about the danger of being sexually exploited online, and they should monitor their children's Internet use along with online video gaming, an area where pedophiles are increasingly operating.**

**Parents should also understand that teens are not always honest about what they are doing online. Some will let their parents "friend" them on social networking sites, for example, and will then establish another space online that is hidden from their parents.**

**Youngsters often employ a secret Internet language to use when their parents are nearby. Examples include:**

- PAW or PRW: Parents are watching
- PIR: Parents in room
- POS: Parent over shoulder
- P911: Parent emergency
- (L)MIRL: (Let's) meet in real life

# Judge Denies DA Request to Send Teen Killer to Adult Prison After Violations

**S**ydney Dailey was only 13 years old when her middle school classmate, Montoya Harris, came to her Tulsa home to visit. The girls were sitting on the porch when Harris pulled out a knife and stabbed her 10 times for “stealing” her boyfriend. Sydney died on March 1, 2008.

Harris was just days shy of 15 years old when she stabbed Sydney to death. She pled no contest to First-Degree Murder and was sent to a juvenile facility as a Youthful Offender. She was given a life term with the understanding that she could be released at the age of 20 if she complied with her treatment plan.

Now 18 years old, Montoya has threatened to “slit” another girl’s throat in the juvenile facility and repeatedly broken rules, shown inappropriate behavior and displayed a chronic pattern of defiance toward authority, according to juvenile justice officials.



**Sydney Dailey was stabbed to death in March 2008**

In June, Assistant District Attorney Julie Doss asked that Harris be “bridged” into the adult prison system to serve her life sentence based on her failure to comply with a treatment plan.

District Judge William Kellough, who noted Montoya Harris’ “deplorable conduct” refused to bridge her into the adult system and told Harris in court that she holds the keys to her future.

“The Office of Juvenile Affairs professional assigned to Montoya Harris’ case testified that she is not in compliance with her treatment plan and should be bridged into the adult system. With that and other evidence, it is hard to understand why she was not bridged,” Doss said.

“It is a true shame that Montoya Harris is given chance after chance when her victim, Sydney Dailey, had no chance,” Doss said.

## ACE Study Shows The Human, Economic And Social Costs of Childhood Trauma

**By Robert Anda, MD, MS**

*Co-Principal Investigator*

*Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study*

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study is a decade-long and ongoing study designed to examine the childhood origins of many of our Nation’s leading health and social problems. The Study represents collaboration between the Nation’s leading prevention agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kaiser Health Plan’s Department of Preventive Medicine in San Diego, CA.

The key concept underlying the Study is that stressful or traumatic childhood experiences such as abuse, neglect, witnessing domestic violence, or growing up with alcohol or other substance abuse, mental illness, parental discord, or crime in the home (which we termed adverse childhood experiences—or ACEs) are a common pathway to social, emotional, and cognitive impairments that lead to increased risk of unhealthy behaviors, risk of violence or re-victimization, disease, disability and premature mortality. We now know from break-

throughs in neurobiology that ACEs disrupt neurodevelopment and can have lasting effects on brain structure and function—the biologic pathways that likely explain the strength of the findings from the ACE Study.

We found that ACEs are common, even in a relatively well-educated population of patients enrolled in one of the Nation’s leading HMOs. More than 1 in 4 grew up with substance abuse and two-thirds had at least one ACE! More than 1 in 10 had 5 or more ACEs! And we found that ACEs are highly interrelated.

In order to assess the relationship of the ACEs to health and social problems we developed the ACE Score, which is a count of the number of ACEs designed to assess their cumulative impact on childhood development and therefore, their impact on a variety of health and social priorities in our country.

What we found, using the ACE Score, stunned us even more. As the ACE Score increases so does the risk of numerous health and social problems throughout the lifespan. These problems are a

“Who’s Who?” list of problems that encompass the priorities of many agencies, public and private, that are working to prevent and treat a vast array of problems.

Adverse Childhood Experiences have a strong influence on adolescent health, teen pregnancy, smoking, alcohol abuse, illicit drug abuse, sexual behavior, mental health, risk of re-victimization, stability of relationships, and performance in the workforce.

ACEs increase the risk of heart disease, chronic lung disease, liver disease, suicide, injuries, HIV and STDs, and other risks for the leading causes of death. . .

. . . The ACE Study calls for an integrated approach to intervene early on children growing up being abused, neglected, witnessing domestic violence, or with substance abusing, mentally ill, or criminal household members. . . Prevention and treatment of one ACE frequently can mean that similar efforts are needed to treat multiple persons in affected families. . .

**Learn more about the ACE Study at [www.acestudy.org](http://www.acestudy.org)**

# Burglary Prevention Tips For Your Vacation

It's summer. Time for vacations. Weekends at the lake. Burglars will have plenty of time to enter your home, remove large items and search leisurely for hidden valuables.

You can take precautions to protect your home while you are away. The key is to make your home look occupied and make it difficult to break in!

- ◆ Secure all doors, windows, pet entrances and garage doors.
- ◆ Keep some window shades up to maintain a normal appearance.
- ◆ A timer on indoor lamps is a great first step. You can set timers to turn radios and televisions on randomly during the day.
- ◆ Stop the mail and newspaper, or have a neighbor take it in. Arrange for lawn care as needed.
- ◆ Lower the ringer volume on your phone so it can't be heard outside.
- ◆ Remove messages from your telephone answering machine daily so that the "beep" is always short. And don't indicate on your message that you are on vacation.
- ◆ Never leave keys under flower pots, doormats or hiding places.
- ◆ Consider having one trusted friend check your home, inside and out, each day.
- ◆ Do not post about your vacation on Facebook or other social media until after you get back. If that takes more discipline than you can muster, at the very least keep your location status off any public social networking pages. Many burglars use these sites to identify "safe" targets.
- ◆ If you have an alarm system, use it. Amazingly, many people forget to set the alarm. Conversely, do not think that an alarm system makes you invulnerable. Burglars can still cause you a great deal of misery in a smash-and-grab, leaving before the police can respond.



- ◆ Park a car in the driveway, but be sure to take the garage door opener out of the car first.
- ◆ Remove obvious temptations. Take a walk around your property and make sure you cannot see any easily pawned valuables through uncovered windows. Are there any ladders left out, or particularly easy or well-concealed access points?
- ◆ Prepare for the worst. If your computer were stolen, what might the consequences be? For most of us, this would be dire indeed. So, back up and password protect. Make a quick run-through around the house with a video recorder, listing off the valuables. This could save a lot of hassle with the insurance company if you should need to file a claim.
- ◆ Strike the right balance between security measures and the burdens they impose. You may wish to place irreplaceable items in a secure location, such as a fireproof safe. This can include expensive jewelry, family photos, and financial records.
- ◆ Your security efforts do not need to be perfect. Most crime is opportunistic, and if the guy down the street failed to take a few simple precautions, his house is more likely to draw the attention of the thief than yours. Frankly, there are no measures that can stop the most determined criminals. But a few simple steps can improve your odds and peace of mind. It will make your getaway that much more relaxing.

## Some things you should know about locks.

- ◆ Get a good system with a long bolt and screws to hold it on. It is worth the investment and costs less than an alarm system.
- ◆ Get a pin and/or a bar system for sliding glass doors.
- ◆ For double hung windows - Slide bolts into windows so that they cannot be jimmed open.
- ◆ For casement windows replace lever locks with key-lockable devices which are available at hardware stores.

## How To Start a Watch Program in Your Neighborhood



THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS WATCHED  
CALL 911  
Crime Commission

### Why an Alert Neighbor Program?

It works! Police report that burglary and related offenses decrease in neighborhoods where citizens learn to serve as eyes and ears for police and report suspicious activity.

- ◆ Learn how to keep your home safe.
- ◆ Watch out for your neighbor. Know your neighbor.
- ◆ Help law enforcement identify and return stolen property by encouraging Operation I.D.

### How to Get Started

- ◆ Organize a small planning committee to discuss level of interest.
- ◆ Call the Citizen's Crime Commission at 918-585-5209 to schedule a start-up meeting. Or email [cbush@crimecomok.org](mailto:cbush@crimecomok.org).

# Meth Labs: More Than a Drug Problem

In five minutes, a methamphetamine cook can walk into a store and buy everything needed to destroy himself, his family, his neighbors and cost the community thousands of dollars.

The collateral damage reaches far beyond the addicts themselves, and takes a horrible toll on the entire community.

At a city-wide meth summit in June, District Attorney Tim Harris called on legislators and other community leaders to take "bold actions" to solve this major threat to our community. See Harris' message on the meth epidemic on Page 12.



Meth lab fire near Riverside Drive and 37th Place in Tulsa in March 2009



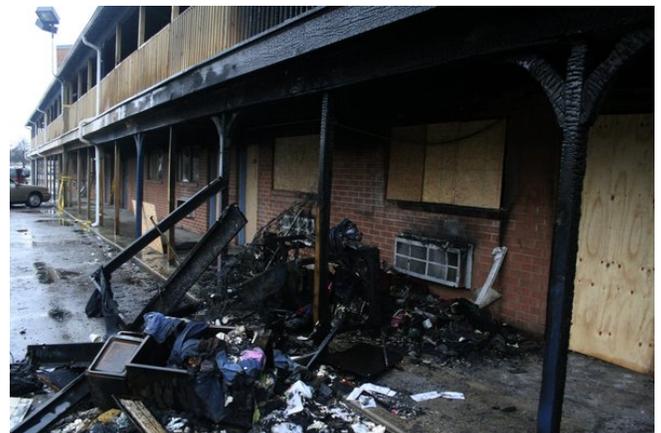
March 2011 meth lab fire in house near 76th Place and Sheridan Road



"Shake and Bake" Lab



Meth Lab Dump Near Union School Bus Stop



Tulsa Motel Fire Caused by Meth Lab



**TIM HARRIS**  
Tulsa County  
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Tulsa, OK 74103

To Receive Email Alerts  
From the DA's Office  
Send Your Email Address  
Name & Street Address  
City & Phone Number to  
[DistrictAttorney@tulsacounty.org](mailto:DistrictAttorney@tulsacounty.org)

**Tulsa County District Attorney**

**Fighting the Meth Epidemic**

I believe requiring a prescription for pseudoephedrine tablets - a key ingredient in the manufacture of methamphetamine - is a simple solution to curtail the epidemic that is quite literally burning through our community.

We cannot afford the collateral damage and astronomical cost of cleaning up the one-pot labs that the cold pills fuel. PSE – the “D” in cold medicine – is a fast and cheap decongestant. Too bad it is also a precursor for crystal meth, a major health hazard for our community. Methamphetamine is by far the most dangerous drug I have seen in my 26 years as a prosecutor.

**SHAKE AND BAKE** is a faster, cheaper way to cook methamphetamine that results in more than a drug problem. In five minutes, a meth cook can walk into a store and buy everything needed to destroy himself, his family, his neighbors and cost our community thousands of dollars. This mobile meth lab can be carried in a backpack and cooked on the run.

**IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE**

A one-pot lab requires only:

- ◆ A two-liter soda bottle
- ◆ A handful of cold pills and
- ◆ Household chemicals

Shake the bottle and the chemical reactions produce one of the world’s most addictive drugs. But if the super-hot chemicals burn through the side of the bottle, and oxygen or water feeds the reaction, the cook has created a deadly fireball in a bottle. People, houses, apartments, motel rooms go up in flames. No part of our community is safe.

**DANGER CONTINUES TO GROW**

In 2008, before the shake & bake method arrived, 43 meth labs were discovered in the city. In 2009, the number grew to 315 labs. In 2010, the number of labs rose to 323.

Costs are estimated at a conservative \$350,000 per lab for clean up, law enforcement, incarceration, property damage, treatment, child welfare, hospital burn units, environmental costs, exposure for police, firefighters, EMTs, and hospital staff. There is future liability for property owners,



**Tim Harris**

drug-endangered children, exposure of innocent citizens to dump sites and contaminated property.

**A LITTLE HISTORY**

Before 1976, PSE was a prescription drug. In 2004, Oklahoma led the fight against meth labs by ordering the decongestants “behind the counter” and

requiring pharmacies to keep a log of sales. Labs declined for a few years until meth cooks learned to evade controls by making purchases in several stores, with several IDs. “Smurfers” now buy a box for \$5 and exchange it for a batch of meth or sell it at a huge markup on the black market.

**SIMPLE SOLUTION**

Returning PSE tablets to prescription status has solved the problem in Oregon and they have five years of statistics to prove it. That state has seen a 96% reduction in meth lab incidents, and 35% reduction in meth arrests and prosecution. It is far past time that our entire community works together to end this unnecessary epidemic.