



Taking the Plunge for a Great Cause!

On Saturday, February 20th, area law enforcement and fire department personnel participated in the 9th annual Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Oklahoma. Our own D.O. Justin Kaczynski braved the 39 degree water at the Bass Pro Shop pond in Broken Arrow to help this great cause. This event drew more than 100 plungers, including 19 teams, and their efforts raised over \$16,000. The Polar Plunge is coordinated by the Law Enforcement Torch Run, which is an international charity made up of law enforcement personnel who raise money and awareness for Special Olympics. Each participant collects pledges from family, friends and businesses in the hopes of raising lots of money for Special Olympics. Justin would like to offer a challenge to his fellow officers to get involved and plan to participate in next year's 10-year anniversary event!



D.O. Kaczynski, TCSO, center plunger, in dark shorts



NOTICE

If you have not attended the ROPES training, please notify your supervisor that you would like to put in for either this April or May weekends. The two ROPES weekends will be April 23-25 and May 14-16. Thank you, LeAnna Cook

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Sheriff's Corner

by Sheriff Stanley Glanz

During the last five years, we, in the field of corrections, have been following the progress of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). This Act will apply to all correctional facilities: from Community Corrections to our State Department of Corrections, and will be mandatory for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

As a former member of the National Institute of Corrections Advisory Board, I have followed this effort quite closely. I have met with several members of the commission and believe their efforts are sincere, but, they don't seem to realize the consequences of the standards they seek to impose. On January 25th, I was invited to a listening session at the Department of Justice in Washington D.C. I was part of a group which included sheriffs and jail administrators that represented jails throughout the Nation. We met with representatives of our Government to discuss the standards as recommended by the commission. During the discussions, we were able to give general comments about the standards. We were by large united in opposition to some of the standards, and we commonly agreed with the goal of preventing abuse in facilities. Most of the facilities represented were ACA accredited, and I believe they represented agencies that presently operate constitutional jails and agree with the overall goal.

The main issue discussed was gender specific supervision. The group was fairly unanimous in opposition to the standard as

written. It was related that the corrections profession has worked diligently to increase minorities', including females, opportunities to advance within their careers. We have worked with our employees and organizations that represent our employees to insure there are opportunities for advancement for all, regardless of race or gender. One administrator stated that it would set our profession back twenty years if we could not have cross gender supervision and he did not understand how such a standard could be condoned by the Department of Justice.

Also discussed is the difference between local jails and penitentiary facilities. The standards as published include jails and prisons in the same document with the same standards. The group emphasized the openness of jails and how they have constant intake and release throughout the day as well as movement of inmates to court each day of the week. Darren Hall, Sheriff from Nashville, has made the comparison of a prison being equal to an old folk's home and a jail as an emergency room. Inmates going to prison have been convicted of a crime and have a history in the jurisdiction where they were convicted. Jails receive anyone who comes through the doors, who are medically cleared, even though they may be drunk, high on drugs or in severe need of psychological assistance. These persons are also presumed innocent until found guilty by a court.

After the hearing, and discussions with the members

present, it was my opinion that the Justice Department will mandate some form of the commission's standards. With this in mind, I foresee litigation on the horizon regarding this set of standards because they have been issued by a commission created by the Federal Government. I personally have contacted the Oklahoma State Attorney General to discuss this issue with him. He related that he was unfamiliar with any of these proposed standards and that he was active with attorney generals from other states and this topic had not been discussed during any of their meetings. I then contacted the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and he related that he had not discussed these standards with the Attorney General. I asked that he forward the Attorney General the information about PREA; I plan to follow up with the Oklahoma Attorney General. While discussing the PREA issue with our State Attorney General, he related that the next meeting of State Attorney Generals will be in the first part of March. He stated that he plans on discussing this topic at their meeting.

PUBLIC ACCLAIM

Wesley Johnson, Attorney at Law, would like to commend Deputy Eric Anderson for his assistance in obtaining a hold on an out-of-state client. Johnson stated, "Deputy Anderson was of considerable assistance to my office and took the extra time to walk me through the procedures."

••• Our History •••

TCSO History

By Retired Sgt. Lyndall Cole
TCSO Historian

"Bixby Axe Murder"

Part I

It was a Sunday night, August 24th, 1930, and as Doctor G. M. Davis was relaxing at his home in Bixby, he heard a knock at his front door. It was getting late, nearly 8:30 p.m., and as the doctor made his way to the front door, I'm sure he wondered who could be calling at this hour of the night. When he opened the door, a man identifying himself as a Mr. Perry McKay, told the doctor he was needed immediately at the home of Legus Brown. McKay informed the doctor that Alva Shanks, a farmer from Leonard, had been 'badly cut up' and that he would follow the doctor back to the Brown home.

Doctor Davis left immediately and drove to Legus Brown's home about four miles southeast of Bixby. As Doctor Davis pulled up near the house, he saw the body of Alva Shanks lying in the front gate. When the doctor examined Shanks, he found numerous wounds all over his body. The 50-year-old farmer had been cut and slashed multiple times, and his head was nearly severed. The doctor also noticed a bloody axe leaning up against a nearby fence. Perry McKay had told the doctor he would follow him back to the Brown home, but when he had not returned, Doctor Davis had to leave to find a telephone to call the local undertaker, and to notify the Sheriff.

Tulsa County deputies Han Carter, Forrest Kramer, John Sherrill and Bill Pinion arrived at the Brown home a short time later to investigate the crime. When interviewed, the doctor told deputies that the homeowner, Legus Brown, was at the home when he had arrived, but when he returned with the undertaker, Brown was gone. He added that he had not seen Perry McKay ever return to the home. During their investigation, deputies found bloody clothing at the house where someone had apparently changed their clothes. After their investigation, this 'someone' deputies believed, was Legus Brown. Deputies learned that Brown had relatives who lived in Creek County, and believing he may attempt to flee to that area, the Creek County Sheriff's Office was told to be on the lookout for him.

Deputies also learned that Mr. McKay owned the farm Alva Shanks lived on and was with the two men that day, and had possibly witnessed the crime. They began a search for him as well.

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, August 26th, Tulsa and Creek County deputies had just started the second day of their search for Brown, when Perry McKay, the key witness in the case, walked into the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office. McKay had not been seen since going to Doctor Davis's house on Sunday night. He told deputies that he wanted to speak with Sheriff Price. Sheriff Price told his deputies to continue their search for Brown while he interviewed McKay. McKay told Sheriff Price what had happened the day Shanks was killed and informed him that Legus Brown would surrender this same day. Even with this statement from McKay, deputies continued their search, and by noon, Chief Criminal Deputy John Evans reported to the Tulsa Tribune that no trace of Brown had been found.

It was nearly 3:30 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, and most of the deputies were out searching for Legus Brown. Deputy Forrest Kramer happened to be standing in the doorway of the Sheriff's Office when Legus Brown, the man who was the focus of the deputy's two-day hunt, walked up to him with a broad smile on his face, and surrendered. Deputy Kramer placed Brown under arrest and while escorting him to the jail elevator, the prisoner casually waved at a couple of people along the way. When they had reached the jail on the top floor, Brown asked the deputy to send for the county doctor to treat some wounds on his left arm. During treatment, it was discovered that Brown also had a wound on his left ear, and his left thumb had been bitten. When questioned, Legus Brown refused to talk to Sheriff Price or W. L. Coffey, the county prosecutor, until he had an attorney.

Unlike Brown, Perry McKay had talked. When McKay was interviewed by Sheriff Price Tuesday morning, he told him the following account of the murder; "The three of us had been out looking over some land belonging to Brown

which Shanks wished to rent. The deal had been consummated, I thought, although the two men had argued over a minor detail in connection with it. They came to blows once while we were driving to Brown's house. I was driving. We reached Brown's house late Sunday. I went into the house to get a drink. I heard a scuffle and ran out to see Shanks lying on the ground. He had been stabbed." McKay told Sheriff Price that as he ran to Shanks, and the wounded man told him, "Perry, for God's sake, get me a doctor!" McKay also admitted that when he finally arrived back at the house, the doctor was not there, so he picked up Brown and took him to an Indian doctor at Brown's request.

On Thursday, Legus Brown's attorney, Luther Lane, would make a statement to the Tulsa Tribune. Brown had confessed to the slaying, but claimed self-defense giving his account of the murder through his attorney; "We won't deny that Brown killed Shanks, but we will insist it was in self-defense. Shanks came to Brown's home Sunday late in the afternoon, to see him about leasing some land. McKay was with him. Brown who was asleep at the time arose and the three went over a portion of the farm to see about the proposed leasing. An argument arose, so Brown told me, concerning what price would be paid, Shanks claiming it was too high and Brown claiming that the other was unreasonable. Later, it was suggested by Brown that the three go to a nearby country store to eat, which was done. Then they went to Legus' home. There they renewed the argument, and one word led to another until blows were struck."

On Saturday, August 30th, Alva Shank's body was exhumed and an autopsy was performed by county physician Dr. J. B. Gilbert. County Attorney W. L. Coffey would only state, "The autopsy was vital to the state's case. Other than that we cannot divulge the reason for it now, but at the proper time the report will be made public and its connection with the prosecution of

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••• Our History, Continued •••

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Brown will be shown." It was reported that Shanks suffered fifteen knife wounds and two axe wounds. Based on evidence from the autopsy, W. L. Coffey charged Legus Brown, a 42-year-old Creek Indian, and father of ten children, with murder.

At his arraignment, Legus Brown entered a plea of not guilty. At his

preliminary hearing, held Saturday, September 6th, Dr. Gilbert testified that Shanks had died from a blow to the head, apparently delivered by the bloody axe found at the scene, and that slashes on his legs would have prevented Shanks from rising off the ground to defend himself. This was the main point of evidence that led County Attorney W. L. Coffey to charge Brown with murder. It was not

self-defense as Brown had claimed, because Alava Shanks was defenseless, the extreme knife wounds in his legs prohibited him from being able to defend himself against the apparent death-blows delivered by the axe. Judge William Randolph ordered Legus Brown held without bond for the murder of Alva Shanks.

Next Month Part II



A Special Thank You

To my Tulsa County Sheriff's Office Family:

On December 11, 2009, I came home from work to find that my home had been burglarized. The thieves had stolen my television, computer, jewelry, my children's video game systems, etc. What hurt the most is that they had opened my children's Christmas gifts and stole most of them. Being a single mother who was already struggling financially, I knew I wouldn't be able to afford to replace any of those items right away. Although I was happy that my family and I were not at home during the invasion, I was heartbroken to know that my children didn't have much to look forward to on Christmas. I also felt totally violated knowing that these criminals had much of my personal information that I had stored in my computer.

I no longer felt safe in my home so I packed a few things and moved in a small apartment with my cousin. I'm sure you could imagine how it feels to be forced out of your home especially at Christmas time. I returned to work the day after the break-in to find that most of my co-workers had learned of what had happened; which surprised me being that I had only told one person. Several phone calls were made and before I knew it, my TCSO family had come together, donated gifts, and made other contributions to help in my time of need. I also learned that many of my co-workers had even put me on the prayer lists at their churches. My supervisor, Sgt. Joel Pence, presented me with donations and gifts from the members of his church, Broken Arrow Church of Christ. Chaplain Kenneth Farnham also presented me with a cash donation from the members of his church, Forty-First Street Christian Church.

I am overwhelmed with the outpouring of love that I've received not only from my TCSO family, but also from complete strangers. I'm not one to ask for help but in this case, I didn't have to. You saw my need and acted; for which I am very grateful. My family and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your prayers, contributions, and phone calls but especially for making it a memorable Christmas. May God bless you all just as you've blessed me.

Sincerely,
Corporal Megan Brown

VINCENT'S VIEW

From Paris With Love

Starring: John Travolta & Jonathan Rhys Meyers



by Detention Officer Vincent Fesler

If you are an action movie lover, you will love this one! It is a return for John Travolta to the action genre, with a character that you cannot tell whether or not is sane. Every time he acts crazy, you find out he had a purpose behind his actions. His is a character that is suited for him, a lot like the character in "Face Off", where he got to play both the good guy and the bad. The character of Jonathan Rhys Meyers is the straight man to Travolta's craziness. This movie has several twists that will keep you guessing. It is not a movie you will find on any awards lists, but it will entertain you. So leave your stress at the door and go see a movie.

A REMINDER...

DEPUTY OF THE YEAR BANQUET

TOWNWEST AND SOUTHSIDE SERTOMA CLUBS HOST THE

2010 TULSA COUNTY AREA

LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

MARCH 23, 2010

(Nominees to be announced through e-mail and flyers)

Freddie's Barbecue & Steakhouse Restaurant
1425 New Sapulpa Road • Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Banquet and dinner begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Event will take place in Banquet Hall behind restaurant

- GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE EVENING -

Mrs. Linda Schwarz, a former teacher and current researcher. Linda has a unique story about her search for information about one of her family members who was killed in the line of duty here in Oklahoma. During her trek to uncover his story she visited the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Oklahoma City and Washington, D.C. Her story is supported by photos and videos of memorial sites and services. Linda will be assisted by her husband Bob, a researcher in his own right.

Tickets are \$10.00 per person

For

Law Enforcement Personnel and Guests

Please show your support for our nominees by attending!

For Reservations Contact: LeAnna Cook @ 596-4974, Courthouse: Carrie Knauf @ 596-5641

**** Reservation Deadline is March 18th, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. ****