

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GARVIN COUNTY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 v.)
)
 VICTOR LEE HAWKINS,)
)
 Defendant.)

CF-2026-74

STATE OF OKLAHOMA }
GARVIN COUNTY } SS.
FILED
MAY 01 2026
AT 12:35 O'CLOCK M.
LAURA LEE, Court Clerk
BY [Signature] DEPUTY

COURT'S FINDINGS AND ORDERS FOLLOWING HEARING ON DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO PROHIBIT EXTRAJUDICIAL STATEMENTS

Now, on May 1, 2026, the matter comes on for hearing on Defendant's Motion to Prohibit Extrajudicial Statements. Defendant appears in person and with counsel, OIDS/Tyson Stanek and Lauren Canaan, as well as investigator Deidra McCloud. State appears through District Attorney Jennifer Austin and Assistant District Attorney Corey Miner. Pursuant to 20 O.S. § 120.6(A)(2), as a court reporter is not available to the court on this date, proceedings are recorded and may be transcribed later by the official court reporter.

Defendant's Exhibits 1-3, which are Facebook posts by the Garvin County District Attorney's Office, Pauls Valley Police Department, and OSBI pertaining to the case, are admitted via stipulation of the parties. The court will deliver said exhibits to the official court reporter for safekeeping and preservation with a transcript of today's hearing, if one is requested. Defendant's Exhibit 4, which contains three video clips of television news stories pertaining to this case, is not admitted; however, Defendant is allowed to make an offer of proof related to their contents. The court hears the arguments of the parties and finds as follows:

The District Attorney's Office has not as of this date made any extrajudicial statements that would violate Rules 3.6 and 3.8 of the Oklahoma Rules of Professional Conduct. The court

reminds the District Attorney's Office of its responsibilities under Rule 3.8 to refrain from making extrajudicial comments that have a substantial likelihood of heightening public condemnation of Defendant and to exercise reasonable care to prevent investigators, law enforcement personnel, employees or other persons assisting or associated with the District Attorney's Office from making any extrajudicial statements that the prosecutors would be prohibited from making under Rule 3.6 or Rule 3.8.


Defense counsel makes a verbal request for the court to order agencies associated with the case not to comply with requests made under the Open Records Act. As that request was not made in Defendant's motion, and the agencies to whom that request would apply have not been given notice of that request, said request is denied.

As the proceedings involving this court are non-jury hearings, they are far less prone to be affected by any speech referenced in Rules 3.6 and 3.8, particularly as the court has no involvement with social media. However, those types of statements may be materially prejudicial if made closer to the time of trial, should this court enter an order binding Defendant over for trial. All attorneys and the investigators, law enforcement personnel, employees, or other persons assisting or associated with the District Attorney's Office are reminded to avoid making extrajudicial statements that they know will have an immediate and materially prejudicial effect on the fact-finding process in this proceeding, as it may later involve lay fact-finders and carries the possibility of incarceration. If either defense counsel or the State become aware of any extrajudicial statements made by persons falling under the purview of Rules 3.6 and 3.8, they may request further hearing dates from the court.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 1st day of May, 2026.



TRISHA MISAK
Special Judge

 Cc: Garvin County District Attorney's Office
OIDS/Staneck and Canaan, Attorneys for Defendant