



GENTNER DRUMMOND  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 30, 2023

*Delivery Via Email*

The Honorable Kevin Stitt  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Ste. 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
[kevin.stitt@gov.ok.gov](mailto:kevin.stitt@gov.ok.gov)

Dear Governor Stitt,

I write to share with you my conclusion based on the findings of the investigation into allegations of wrongdoing on the part of McCurtain County Sheriff Kevin Clardy.

After a complete and thorough investigation by my office and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, there is no evidence that Sheriff Clardy committed any criminal act. Additionally, the investigation did not uncover any evidence of conduct that would warrant ouster proceedings pursuant to 51 O.S. 2021, § 93 or 22 O.S. 2021, § 1181.

While I understand this outcome may be frustrating to you after calling for the Sheriff's resignation and removal, it is the only appropriate conclusion under the law. There are countless examples of incidents from across the country where public officials make inflammatory comments that spark severe condemnation. Oftentimes the offending official resigns in disgrace. Sometimes the outrage fades and the matter is forgotten. Regardless, there is no provision of law in Oklahoma to throw elected officials out of office merely for saying something offensive.

There remains but one authority to remove a duly elected county official who has broken no law: the People of Oklahoma. To the extent you remain committed to seeing Sheriff Clardy removed from office, I suggest you appeal to the men and women responsible for electing him. You have demonstrated a formidable ability to endorse candidates who go on to win their elections. If you are resolved to see a new person serving in that office, then I encourage you to identify and endorse a candidate in the upcoming election. The voters of McCurtain County will have the final say over who will serve them as Sheriff.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Gentner Drummond".

GENTNER DRUMMOND  
*Oklahoma Attorney General*