



GENTNER DRUMMOND
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 7, 2024

Via Email

The Honorable J. Kevin Stitt
Governor, State of Oklahoma
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
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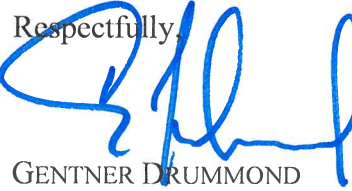
Governor Stitt:

From your October 7, 2024, email, I am now aware that you plan to convene a meeting of the Contingency Review Board on October 8, 2024, presumably to push for a rejection of the consent decree in *Briggs v. Friesen*.

As Yogi Berra would have said, this is déjà vu all over again. Your call for the Contingency Review Board to meet is premature, just as it was when you last called for a meeting. Judge Frizzell, as you know, has scheduled a January 15, 2025, hearing on final approval of the consent decree.

Your eagerness to reject this well-considered, judicious, and altogether appropriate consent decree is bewildering. The state agency that has put Oklahoma in this indefensible position has shown minimal improvement at best. As of September 23, 2024, the victims of 244 criminal defendants are being denied justice while the mental health department fails to restore competency. Thirty-five of these defendants have waited for more than a year, while seven have done so for *more than two years*. In the meantime, crime victims and their families have no choice but to endure their own seemingly interminable wait to see justice done.

Because I am the chief law officer of the State and leading this litigation, I assure you I will promptly inform you when it is appropriate to convene the Contingency Review Board. When that time comes, I urge you to give serious consideration to this consent decree, the only feasible way to ensure justice while saving Oklahoma taxpayers untold millions of dollars.

Respectfully,

GENTNER DRUMMOND
Attorney General