



GENTNER DRUMMOND  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 4, 2025

**Via Email**

Governor Kevin Stitt  
Governor of the State of Oklahoma  
Kevin.Stitt@gov.ok.gov

Governor Stitt:

I am writing you directly after a concerning conversation with your appointed Director of OMES, wherein he informed me he is refusing to process a statutorily authorized transaction for my office—presumably at your instruction.

More specifically, OMES Director Rick Rose has refused to process the lawful purchase of vehicles my agents need to perform their statutorily required law enforcement activities. His stated reason for doing so is that I have not responded to an unrelated inquiry from his office seeking information to which he already has access.

The vehicles I reference are for the agents I have tasked with cracking down on illegal marijuana grow operations and organized retail theft. As you are aware, both are tremendous problems in our state. I have had incredible success in shutting down the illegal marijuana grow operations, which are almost exclusively run by Mexican cartels and Chinese criminals. In fact, no attorney general in Oklahoma history has busted more of these operations than I have.

Organized retail theft costs Oklahoma businesses many millions of dollars each year. In response to the pleas of these businesses, I sought authorization and funding from the Legislature to establish a specialized unit to go after the thugs who steal with impunity. You may recall the Legislature agreed that my office should take on this fight, then overrode your inexplicable veto to enact my new authority into law.

It appears that what you could not achieve by the exercise of your veto power, you now seek to achieve by circumventing the very law that was enacted over your opposition. If it is true that you or your staff instructed Director Rose to block the purchase of these vehicles, such an act would represent a serious misuse of your authority, causing direct harm to the ability of my law enforcement agents to do their job. If you did not direct or authorize this action, then you should remove Director Rose for abusing his position in a way that impedes ongoing law enforcement activities. Now that you are aware of this misconduct, I will watch closely to see how you proceed.

More broadly, Director Rose seems to be under the impression that the elected Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma is somehow required to do his bidding. He is badly mistaken. Unlike the previous Attorney General whom you hand-picked and answered only to you, I was elected by the citizens of this great state and answer only to them. I understand this frustrates career bureaucrats and special interest groups, but I am here to serve the People of Oklahoma, not the political insiders.

To that end, I will elaborate on the outstanding and impactful work of my office since being sworn in on January 9, 2023. This narrative should be responsive to much of what Director Rose sought to learn from the separate inquiry he sent to my office. I gather that various OMES systems house specific data related to total FTEs and spending, and he has ample staff capable of referencing the enabling statutes for all authority vested in my office.

First, it is important to understand the poor condition of the Office of Attorney General upon my taking over from your failed appointee. There had been a mass exodus of talented staff because they did not want to work for a weak Attorney General who only cared about serving the man who handed him the job. There was no meaningful leadership or direction. Illegal marijuana grow operations were spreading across the state like a cancer, completely unchecked by the chief law enforcement officer you installed. I walked into an office that had been hollowed out by neglect and poor leadership, and I immediately set about rebuilding it to serve all four million Oklahomans.

The Attorney General, by statute, is the chief law enforcement officer of Oklahoma. Yet the office had no meaningful law enforcement focus. I had heard from Oklahomans across the state that they were fed up with illegal foreign nationals who had invaded their communities to produce illegal marijuana. I promised to fight the Mexican cartels and Chinese criminals who were principally responsible for this illegal activity, and I delivered. I asked the Legislature to authorize and fund an Organized Crime Task Force (OCTF) so I could lead the way in fighting the battle. They responded, and you signed the legislation. I thanked you publicly.

At the time, there were more than 12,000 marijuana grow operations, the vast majority of which were illegal. I recruited top law enforcement agents to join and lead the OCTF, using millions appropriated by the Legislature to fund nearly 50 agents and outfit them with the equipment necessary to take on the cartels and Chinese criminals. We also partner with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics, the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority, local law enforcement and various federal law enforcement agencies on numerous operations to bust these dangerous traffickers. Today, we are down to roughly 3,000 grow operations. While many are legitimate businesses, it's estimated that at least 1,000 are illegal. My Organized Crime Task Force remains committed to our mission of shutting down every illegal grow operation and prosecuting those involved for their unlawful activity. My office has over 150 criminal cases pending against conspirators, unlawful manufacturers, and traffickers engaged in the marijuana black market.

Another important anti-crime initiative I started is the Attorney General's 10 Most Wanted list. After participating with various state, local and federal partners on a massive warrant bust operation early in my tenure, I had the idea to make this activity a continual focus. I instructed my agents to consult with jurisdictions throughout Oklahoma and establish a running list of the 10

Most Wanted criminals. My office provides key resources and leadership to track down these dangerous individuals on an ongoing basis. Since launching this initiative in September 2024, we have captured 13 fugitives, including one who had been wanted since 2017 for the rape of a 12-year-old girl.

All of this is in addition to the important work of Oklahoma's Multicounty Grand Jury, which has indicted 87 criminal defendants since I took office for alleged crimes including public corruption, child sex crimes, and organized drug crimes by foreign nationals. Specifically, this includes the successful prosecution of an elected official for the embezzlement of public funds, the indictment of a Texas megachurch pastor for allegedly sexually abusing a 12-year-old Oklahoma girl, and the ongoing prosecution of attorneys for allegedly facilitating the straw purchase of Oklahoma land for use by foreign nationals to illegally grow marijuana.

Attorneys within the criminal justice division of my office have successfully prosecuted other serious offenders, including a high school choir teacher guilty of sexually abusing his student, and a Chinese national guilty of quadruple murder at a marijuana grow. These prosecutors are currently prosecuting the founders of Epic Charter Schools following a forensic audit and OSBI investigation requested by you and your predecessor. They are also pursuing allegations of fraudulently obtained state funds through doctored invoices submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation. Agents and attorneys within the criminal justice division—cooperatively with federal, state, and local law enforcement—are actively investigating numerous other allegations of fraud, corruption, and misconduct within state government.

Securing criminal convictions is not the end of my efforts to deliver justice. My office also is charged with defending those convictions, whether secured by my office or by district attorneys throughout the state. I have increased the number of staff in that unit in response to a more aggressive execution schedule so families of victims finally see justice done for their loved ones. We have won countless appeals, keeping scores of violent criminals in jail and in many cases clearing all legal obstacles to their execution.

All of this is what I refer to as the “criminal” side of the Attorney General's Office. On the “civil” side, there are numerous other units carrying out their statutory duties in the best interests of Oklahomans. For instance, the Legislature charged my office with ensuring that Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) are following the law and not injuring our local pharmacies, plan sponsors, or patients. This new responsibility was initially given to my office without any funding, despite requiring significant staffing and resources to implement. My PBM Unit has processed 1,501 complaints so far in 2025, and 4,682 total since November 2023. Since assuming enforcement authority, the PBM Unit has compelled material behavior changes by the largest PBMs in the country, resulting in increased reimbursements to pharmacies and improved transparency for plan sponsors, including the State of Oklahoma's Employee Health Plan, HealthChoice. The PBM Unit has also worked closely with legislative leaders to ensure that Oklahoma's PBM laws are reasonable, enforceable, and as minimal as possible, crafted only to achieve compliance by PBMs and guarantee fairness and transparency for pharmacies, patients, and plan sponsors.

Also, on the civil side of the office, I have added staff to help fulfill my duty to protect Oklahoma consumers. While these cases sometimes are coupled with criminal prosecutions, most involve shady contractors or other scam artists who make their victims whole rather than go to jail. Additionally, my consumer protection unit is involved in a large number of multistate investigations that include social media platforms, healthcare fraud, automobile issues, financing platforms, and data breaches. Working with the Trump administration, my office sued Apple and LiveNation for using their monopolies to illegally advance their market position and Walmart for scamming its delivery drivers out of tips from customers. My office is aggressively pursuing action against Meta for its failure to protect our children from the damaging mental health effects and addictiveness of its platforms.

My office also administers millions of dollars in grants to assist local communities in their efforts to reckon with the impact of opioid abuse. These funds were available and awaiting deployment for years, but the lack of leadership from your appointee resulted in zero awards. Not a dime was distributed by him to the communities who have suffered immeasurably due to opioid abuse. Since I became Attorney General, we have administered grants totaling more than \$12 million to 85 cities, counties, school districts and public trusts throughout Oklahoma. We awarded an additional \$16.6 million to 42 political subdivisions in a second round of funding, with more awards to come.

Another vital function of my office is responding to requests for Attorney General opinions. All legislators and statewide elected officials are authorized to request formal and binding opinions from me, which requires a large amount of research and writing. Previous attorneys general had been notoriously reluctant to issue opinions, frustrating the Legislature and others who seek legal guidance as they discharge their own duties. I dedicated additional staff to help fulfill this important duty, resulting in a significantly higher response rate. My first year in office, I issued 16 formal opinions—double the number issued by the previous AG. I issued 20 more in 2024 and expect to exceed those numbers this year.

Finally, I wield my solicitor general unit to engage on several important constitutional issues and support President Trump as he battles through legal challenges to implement his America First Agenda. This unit also defends Oklahoma law against anyone seeking to overturn the will of the Legislature. I have celebrated many victories thanks to the hard work and dedication of this unit, which I have strengthened during my tenure. We defeated the Biden Administration at every turn, whether it was protecting Oklahoma's oil and gas industry, defending religious liberty, or upholding our Tenth Amendment rights. When the Biden Administration weaponized the Department of Justice to destroy President Trump, I joined with attorneys general from across the country to file legal briefs supporting his defense. Now that he is once again our President, my office works with the White House and Department of Justice to help implement his agenda and defend him in the courts. Most recently, I entered into a settlement with President Trump's Department of Justice to end the unfair and unlawful practice of allowing illegal immigrants to pay the lower "in state" tuition rate while American students from outside Oklahoma pay twice as much. And, of course, I secured an historic victory for Oklahoma's children when the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that we can legally ban so-called "gender affirming care" for minors.

While this is nowhere near a complete list of the work my office does each day, I hope it illustrates for you and your agency appointees that we are delivering meaningful results for all four million Oklahomans while operating within our constitutional and statutory authority. As Attorney General, I am leading the fight each day to protect Oklahoma families, enforce the law, and defend our God-given rights. I will continue doing this with or without the cooperation of your appointees.

When those you place in leadership positions obstruct the lawful work of my office, they are not undermining me personally. They are undermining the will of the people and risking the safety of our communities. I urge you to take immediate action to resolve this matter so that my office may continue to fulfill its mission without interference.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gentner Drummond', with a stylized, cursive script.

GENTNER DRUMMOND  
*Attorney General*