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RICK WARREN
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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE MULTICOUNTY) Case No. SCAD-2020-1
GRAND JURY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA) D.C. Case No. GJ-2020-1

FINAL REPORT

We, the undersigned members of the State of Oklahoma's Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury, having been duly empaneled on the 3rd day of March 2020, upon the verified application of the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma, and pursuant to the Order of the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma dated January 13, 2020, and pursuant to provisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Oklahoma, OKLA. CONST. Art. II, § 18 and 22 O.S. 2001 §§ 350 *et. seq.*, have been charged with the responsibility of investigation in all seventy-seven (77) counties of the State, all manner and grade of crimes constituting public offenses under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, including, but not limited to, murder, rape, bribery, extortion, arson, perjury, fraud, embezzlement, violations of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, organized crime, public corruption, securities violations, and crimes involving the sale or purchase of goods or services by State and local subdivisions. We have regularly met and faithfully investigated allegations of such criminal conduct over these eighteen (18) months as provided by law.

The Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury, sitting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, at its principal meeting place, having met for forty-two (42) days over fourteen (14) sessions, having issued 1,313 subpoenas, having entertained 160 witness appearances, and having, in a fair and impartial manner, duly considered all such testimony and exhibits to the best of our ability and understanding, with due regard to the Court's instructions, and having heretofore,

after due deliberation; voted according to law, and having previously issued to the Court partial *Interim Reports* at the conclusion of each of its several sessions that are each, hereby, reaffirmed, do hereby submit to the Honorable Court this, its *Final Report*, as follows:

BACKGROUND

During this term, the Eighteenth Multicounty Grand Jury has used its statutory powers to investigate various types of alleged criminal activity throughout the State. These crimes include: Murder; Embezzlement; Uttering of Forged Instruments; Perjury; Controlled Dangerous Substance violations; Conspiracy Against the State; Sexual Assault; Fraud; Workers' Compensation Fraud; Medicaid Fraud; Obstruction of Justice; Human Trafficking, Violation of the Computer Crimes Act; Larceny; Official Misconduct; and other character and grades of crime.

Ever mindful of the protections afforded individuals under the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Oklahoma, it has become clear that the power to subpoena documents, records and other evidence, compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses under oath, and investigate allegations unrestrained by county boundaries are an extremely effective tool in combatting the far-reaching crimes occurring across Oklahoma for which the Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury was created. The power to compel testimony has enabled the Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury to obtain the testimony of reluctant witnesses whose vital information would likely not have been obtained by other processes. The authority to subpoena different types of financial, business, and phone records has been pivotal in discovering and documenting criminal activity throughout the State without prematurely alerting those under investigation which provides them the opportunity to dispose of evidence, change their method of operation or otherwise hinder lawful investigations.

The grand jury process is critical to a free citizenry in a representative republic such as ours. The Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury is composed of ordinary citizens from our State. The grand jury process ensures that no government agency, power, or person will unjustly or unfairly accuse or incriminate another citizen or public official without due process. It is important that no person, either governing or governed be subjected to unfair or unjust accusation without access to a court of competent jurisdiction in which to meet his or her accusers. The Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury does not determine guilt or innocence but rather, determines whether there is sufficient evidence which, if unexplained or uncontradicted and presented in court to a jury of one's peers, would prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. When there is sufficient evidence of both type and quality, the grand jury's responsibility is to bring an indictment, or accusation of crime, so that the State may require the indicted to face his or her accusers and stand trial. We have worked diligently and believe we have fulfilled our responsibility to the best of our ability in this regard.

The necessity and effectiveness of the Multicounty Grand Jury has been demonstrated by the assistance this body has rendered to numerous federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies investigating crimes within our State. Most law enforcement agencies, either by manpower, resources and/or authority, do not possess the investigative tools that the Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury provides to ensure complete and thorough investigations are conducted. This Multicounty Grand Jury has made a significant difference in many investigations.

II. INVESTIGATIONS

The Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury has employed its powers to investigate a variety of crimes involving all manners and grade of crimes. These include but are not limited to:

Murder; Embezzlement; Uttering of Forged Instruments; Perjury; Controlled Dangerous Substance violations; Conspiracy Against the State; Sexual Assault; various types of Fraud; Workers' Compensation Fraud; Medicaid Fraud; Human Trafficking, Lewd Acts, Child Abuse, Child Neglect.

In the investigation of the above-reference crimes, the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury assisted fifty-three (53) local and State law enforcement agencies and divisions.

III. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS TAKEN

The Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury, during its investigation, returned thirteen (13) indictments. While we were in session, we invested our time investigating various matters arising throughout the State of Oklahoma.

In several instances, this Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury directly assisted District Attorneys in their pursuit of criminal investigations within their jurisdictions. The Multicounty Grand Jury also worked closely with numerous Assistant District Attorneys from various districts. The Multicounty Grand Jury was able to aid with investigations into a variety of criminal activity by receiving evidence that produced investigative leads, enabled prosecutors to make more informed charging decisions, eliminated suspects, and helped prosecutors determine what facts at issue were in dispute.

As previously noted, the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury assisted numerous local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies including the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, the Oklahoma City Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Department of Homeland Security, the Oklahoma State

Auditor and Inspector, the Oklahoma Insurance Department, the Medicaid Fraud Unit of the Office of the Attorney General of Oklahoma, The Oklahoma Department of Health, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, and the Workers Compensation Fraud Unit of the Office of the Attorney General of Oklahoma, in conjointly investigating criminal offenses.

IV. PARTICULAR AREAS OF INVESTIGATION

We do not find it necessary to use this report to address each investigation covered by the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury. This report details areas which we believe worthy of specific mention as follows:

A. EPIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Multicounty Grand Jury devoted much of its time and energy investigating the management of Oklahoma Taxpayer dollars within the largest public school district in the State. As a result of the findings of the investigation, the Multicounty Grand Jury issued an Interim Report listing concerns regarding the structure of the organization, the flow of state appropriations through Epic Charter School, and whether the money was going to the students as intended. We are pleased to learn about changes occurring within the organization and the improved transparency of the flow of taxpayer dollars within the institution to ensure students are receiving the benefits of an alternative path to traditional forms of education which is needed by many families in our State. Such transparency also helps prevent unjust enrichment from the State in the face of many other school districts throughout the State in need of more financial support.

B. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Multicounty Grand Jury received testimony from multiple witnesses concerning a scheme that consisted of: locating females on various websites designed to facilitate younger adult

females in need of financial assistance with older men who are able to provide financial assistance in exchange for a relationship, grooming the females to become prostitutes, advertising them on various websites, and coercing them to continue to engage in prostitution by using fear or some other form of manipulation. The Multicounty Grand Jury worked with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics who investigated the scheme through their Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force and provided a complete and thorough investigation that took over a year to conduct. After receiving all the testimony and observing the physical evidence in the case, an indictment was returned by the jury.

C. UNLAWFUL DISTRIBUTION OF FENTANYL AND OPIOID DIVERSION

The Multicounty Grand Jury aided law enforcement agencies to locate sources of illegal narcotics, to determine chains of distribution, and operations of drug tracking organizations. Specifically, the grand jury spent time investigating the flow the fentanyl pills in certain portions of our State due to an increase in overdose deaths due to fentanyl intoxication. The grand jury also investigated physicians who were believed to be prescribing medications unlawfully either outside the usual course of practice or without a legitimate medical necessity and as a result diverting the medications to the public.

VI. EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION

The Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury wishes to express our appreciation to several individuals and agencies who have contributed to a successful term. In appreciation, we thank the Oklahoma Supreme Court for their Order convening the Grand Jury, and for their appointment of the Honorable Paul Hesse, District Judge, Judicial District 26, as Presiding Judge of the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury. Judge Hesse and his staff made every effort

to accommodate the grand jury's scheduling needs, as well as the scheduling needs of the legal advisors, even when the grand jury session coincided with his jury trial docket. We are very thankful for Judge Paul Hesse and his staff's hard work and kindness.

We also commend Attorney General John O'Connor and his staff of attorneys and investigators for their legal advice, their assistance, and continued efforts to provide a safe environment during an unprecedented pandemic that presented numerous hurdles throughout the session. The grand jury would like to offer a special thanks to Crystal Ryan and Tara Shields, legal assistant and forensic analyst for the Office of Oklahoma Attorney General Multicounty Grand Jury Unit, in particular for their hard work in providing assistance to the grand jury over the past eighteen (18) months.

Additionally, we would like to offer our gratitude to the office of the Oklahoma County Public Defender, Bob Ravitz, and his staff for providing legal counsel to indigent witnesses; to the Honorable Rick Warren, Oklahoma County Court Clerk, and his staff for their professionalism; and to City Reporters, who ably served as the official court reporters for the grand jury.

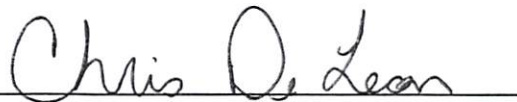
Finally, we wish to thank our families and employers for their support and patience, during our jury service, which has been long and arduous.

V. CONCLUSION

Based upon our experience, we believe the Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury serves as an essential, necessary, and invaluable tool for achieving the goal of fair, impartial, apolitical, and adequate enforcement of the laws of the State of Oklahoma. Not only did we exercise multicounty investigative jurisdiction, we, the jurors of the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury happen to be residents of twelve (12) different counties across this State. We have been a

“Multicounty Grand Jury” in every sense of the word. We are pleased to have served as the Eighteenth Oklahoma Multicounty Grand Jury. We believe we have served to fulfill an important role in many criminal investigations where justice may not otherwise have been served. Information and evidence were obtained, investigations progressed, and many cases were solved that likely may not have been solved. We are confident this grand jury has played an important role in many criminal investigations wherein justice may not have been served. We are pleased to have served as part of the Eighteenth Multicounty Grand Jury.

Respectfully submitted,



FOREMAN

Eighteenth Multicounty Grand Jury of Oklahoma

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Oklahoma County



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