



OKLAHOMA BAR
ASSOCIATION SINCE
1904

Oklahoma High School
Mock Trial Program
2026-2027 Case Materials

State of Oklahoma

v.

Jordan Sparks

Written by: OBA Mock Trial Committee,
adapted from case materials originally authored by
the Minnesota Bar Association

The Mock Trial Committee thanks our dedicated members for this exciting case. We hope you find these materials educational and interesting. This is a work of fiction. All names, characters, events, and incidents are used in a fictitious manner. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or actual events is purely coincidental.



OKLAHOMA
BAR FOUNDATION
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WITNESS LIST

For Plaintiff	For Defendant
ASHTON ("ASH") BLAKE	JORDAN SPARKS
SHEA LANDIS	LOGAN FISCHER
PAYTON HUDSON	HARLEY BOLTON

EXHIBIT LIST

Exhibit No.	Exhibit Title
1	Map of Counties
2	Lightning Boltz Strike Report #321 Reference Map
3	Travis County Resolution
4	Spencer County Resolution
5	Spencer County Resolution #2
6	Oklahoma Forestry Press Release
7	Photo of Lodge
8	CV Ashton Blake
9	CV Harley Bolton
10	Lightning Boltz Strike Report #321 Table

STIPULATIONS

The State and Defense stipulate to the following facts:

1. There is no issue of jurisdiction or venue.
2. The applicable law is contained in the jury instructions. These may not be read into the record. Pleadings and jury instructions may not be objected to at the trial.
3. The exhibits are true and authentic copies. Their authenticity may not be challenged. Unless stated otherwise, admissibility of exhibits may be challenged on other grounds.
4. The witnesses gave their statements on the dates indicated in the case. Each witness was given the opportunity to review the statement prior to and in preparation for trial.
5. The trial is only addressing the guilt or innocence of the Defendant. The sentencing phase shall take place only if the verdict is guilty. Any reference to possible sentencing, including the range of potential punishment is immaterial and inadmissible.
6. Whenever a rule of evidence requires that reasonable notice be given, it has been given.
7. Miranda rights were administered properly to the Defendant. Defense counsel was present for Defendant's statement.

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

STATE OF OKLAHOMA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. CF-2026-26

JORDAN SPARKS

Defendant.

INFORMATION

COMES NOW, Darlene Mashburn, the undersigned District Attorney of Travis County, State of Oklahoma, in the name and by the authority, and on behalf of the State of Oklahoma, gives information that on or about the 4th day of July 2025, in said County of Travis in the State of Oklahoma, Jordan Sparks, did then and there unlawfully, willfully, knowingly and wrongfully commit the crime(s) of:

COUNT 1: **MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE**, a felony, in violation of Oklahoma State Statute Title 21, Section 701.8 (2), by engaging in conduct that was imminently dangerous and which caused a fire resulting in the death of Bill Hudson.

COUNT 2: **MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE**, a felony, in violation of Oklahoma State Statute Title 21, Section 701.8 (2), by engaging in conduct that was imminently dangerous and which caused a fire resulting in the death of Carol Hudson.

By: Darlene Mashburn
Darlene Mashburn, OBA #100
District Attorney in and for
Travis County, State of Oklahoma

LEGAL AUTHORITY

Oklahoma Statutes

21 O.S. § 701.8(2) Second Degree Murder

Homicide is murder in the second degree in the following cases:

1. When perpetrated by an act imminently dangerous to another person and evincing a depraved mind, regardless of human life, although without any premeditated design to effect the death of any particular individual[.]

OKLAHOMA UNIFORM JURY INSTRUCTIONS

OUJI-CR 4-60 HOMICIDE - CAUSATION

No person may be convicted of murder in the second degree unless his/her conduct caused the death of the person allegedly killed. A death is caused by the conduct if the conduct is a substantial factor in bringing about the death and the conduct is dangerous and threatens or destroys life.

OUJI-CR 4-91 MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE BY IMMINENTLY DANGEROUS CONDUCT - ELEMENTS

No person may be convicted of murder in the second degree unless the State has proved beyond a reasonable doubt each element of the crime. These elements are:

First, the death of a human;

Second, caused by conduct which was imminently dangerous to **another/other person(s)**;

Third, the conduct was that of the **defendant(s)**;

Fourth, the conduct evinced a depraved mind in extreme disregard of human life;

Fifth, the conduct is not done with the intention of taking the life of any particular individual.

You are further instructed that a person evinces a "depraved mind" when he engages in imminently dangerous conduct with contemptuous and reckless disregard of, and in total indifference to, the life and safety of another.

You are further instructed that "imminently dangerous conduct" means conduct that creates what a reasonable person would realize as an immediate and extremely high degree of risk of death to another person.

OUJI-CR 8-28 DEFENSE OF EXCUSABLE HOMICIDE - ACCIDENT AND MISFORTUNE - LAWFUL ACT

A homicide is excusable when committed by lawful means, with usual and ordinary caution, and without any unlawful intent, but occurs by accident and misfortune while doing some lawful act.

OUJI-CR 8-30 DEFENSE OF EXCUSABLE HOMICIDE - BURDEN OF PROOF

It is the burden of the State to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the death is not excusable homicide. If you find that the State has failed to sustain that burden, then the defendant must be found not guilty.

AFFIDAVIT OF ASHTON ("ASH") BLAKE

Ashton ("Ash") Blake, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

I am 51 years old, and I am the Superintendent of the Arrowhead Lake Interagency Hotshot Crew ("ALIHC " or "Crew"). It is no surprise to those who know me that I work in the fire service, because as long as I can remember I've been fascinated by fires, especially wildfires. I grew up in the Pine Ridge area and always lived near the Prairie Pine State Forest. It seemed like every summer season there were a slew of wildfires across the state. Whenever there was a wildfire nearby, I would sneak as close as I could without getting caught to watch the firefighters in action. In fact, my fascination with fire is what led to my nickname. My Uncle Ernie started calling me Ash when I was 7 years old and accidentally burned down my tree house while conducting an experiment with fire. As they say, kids will be kids. Anyway, the name stuck with me ever since.

My first position in the fire service was as a Wildland Fire Investigator, a position I held from 1996 to 2000. It wasn't a frontline operations position, like the firefighters I used to watch when growing up and the position I now hold, but it was interesting work. The only mandatory training for that position was a course called "Wildfire Origin and Cause Determination" (FI-210). While I was an Investigator, I also took additional wildfire training and investigative courses.

As a Wildland Fire Investigator, I investigated or assisted in the investigation of somewhere around 25 wildland fires. I testified as an expert in the prosecution of two individuals accused of starting wildland fires. One was found guilty, and the other was acquitted. I got burned out after the acquittal, which left me feeling empty-like I expended a lot of effort for nothing. I decided that I wanted to pursue my dream job on a Hotshot Crew, much like the fire fighters I observed as a child.

Hotshot Crews typically have 20 highly skilled members who understand safe helicopter operations and can safely and efficiently use all fire tools, including Pulaskis (a combination axe on one end and grub hoe on the other, which is used to dig fire lines), chain saws, fusees (a torch used by firefighters to secure firelines and create safety zones), pumps, engines and bulldozers.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group publishes the "Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide" (the "Guide"). One of the primary purposes of the Guide is to establish minimum interagency training and qualification standards for mobilization to wildland fire assignments. The Guide sets forth the minimum qualifications in terms of training, experience and physical fitness level for various positions on Interagency Hotshot Crews. Just as an example, each member of a Hotshot Crew must be able to complete a three-mile hike with a 45-pound pack in 45 minutes. This rigorous fitness level is necessary, because Crews often have to hike into remote fire sites while carrying all the water and supplies they will need for 8- to 12-hour (and even longer) shifts.

I started on my first Hotshot Crew in the early 2000s as a Firefighter 2, which is the lowest position on a Hotshot Crew. Although the position required no prior experience, it did require Basic Firefighter Training and additional firefighting coursework and training, which I successfully completed.

I progressed up the ranks over the years, holding a variety of positions on Hot Shot Crews until I obtained the designation of Incident Commander and became the Superintendent of the ALIHC in 2022.

As Incident Commander, the overall management of the incident is my responsibility. Specifically, it is my duty to (i) determine incident objective and strategy, (ii) set immediate priorities, (iii) establish an appropriate organization, (iv) authorize an Incident Action Plan, (v) coordinate activity for all Command and General Staff, (vi) ensure safety, (vii) coordinate with key people and officials, and (viii) authorize release of information to the media and public.

In order to burn, fire needs oxygen, fuel, and enough heat to ignite and burn the fuel. It is necessary to eliminate one of these three essential ingredients to prevent or fight fire. Needless to say, it is impossible to eliminate oxygen in the environment, so firefighting and prevention focuses on the elimination of fuel and/or heat. Heat and ignition sources created by the weather (i.e., temperature, humidity and lightning) cannot be controlled, but human-caused heat and ignition sources (such as campfires, smoking, combustion engines, open flame, flares and fireworks) can be controlled through education and enforcement of forest use restrictions. Fuel can be living or dead material that will ignite, carry fire and burn, including standing or fallen trees and brush. Many people don't know this, but a tree that is struck by lightning can smolder inside for hours or sometimes even days, if the conditions are right, before igniting into an actual fire. As a preventative measure, property owners are encouraged to create a safety zone free of fuel around their property. When fighting wildfires, crews create fire lines to control and contain the fire by clearing or burning fuel sources.

Weather and topography affect how fire behaves, and both are important--but uncontrollable--factors in fighting wildfires. Weather affects fires in several ways. High temperatures and relatively low humidity dry out fuels, making them more susceptible to igniting. Once a fire is ignited, wind speed and direction affect (i) how large a fire will become, (ii) where it will spread, and (iii) how quickly it will move. The slope of the land also affects how quickly fire will spread. Fire tends to move uphill much more quickly than downhill. In addition, hills facing west or south tend to have drier fuels, because they are exposed to more direct sunlight--causing fire on such hills to spread faster. These factors are important when reconstructing a wildfire because the fire's subsequent movement can provide information about where the fire began. In other words, the investigator does not simply look for the largest or most heavily damaged portion of the fire. The investigator works backward from the fire's observed behavior to identify the area from which the fire spread.

The ALIHC is a Crew based in the Prairie Pine State Forest in Pine Ridge, Oklahoma, and is sponsored by the Forest Service. The ALIHC is one of the Interagency Hotshot Crews in the tri-state area--which includes Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas.

We returned to our home base in Pine Ridge sometime around July 7. During the prime wildfire season, the Crew works extremely long hours and moves from incident to incident very rapidly, so it sometimes is hard to remember exact dates. On July 9, immediately after our mandatory rest period, the Crew was dispatched to take over management of the Travis/Spencer

County fire because the fire had developed into a "complex" incident to which more than 600 personnel were assigned, mandatory and precautionary evacuations were taking place, and there was a high potential for property damage.

Lakeview is a small community with a population of just over 1,000. As shown on the map it is about ten miles north of Pine Ridge and a little more than 15 miles northwest of Arrowhead Lake. Lakeview's elevation ranges from approximately 1,100 to 1,500 feet above sea level. Although the area generally is densely forested, much of the timber is severely dried out due to the extreme drought conditions in the region. That, combined with the invasion of the Eastern Redcedars in the forest, makes the area susceptible to wildfires.

As mandated by ALIHC policy, the Incident Commander briefed me orally and in writing shortly after my Crew's arrival at the incident. The briefing indicated that the Lakeview Fire was a human-caused fire that was first reported by a civilian on the night of July 4, 2025. The first team of 20 local firefighters arrived on the scene very early on the morning of July 5. The team leader initially reported that the fire was in a confined basin area, and that his team should be able to manage and contain the fire. As it turned out, the team leader made an error in judgment in not calling in additional firefighters immediately.

I knew from my familiarity with the area that there is an Arrowhead Co-Ed Scouts ("ACES") camp in the Lakeview community. I learned from the briefing that the campsite was less than a mile away from the Lakeview fire's origin. Although the initial team leader expected quick containment of the fire, as a precaution, the ACES camp director and the Forest Service evacuated the camp in the early morning hours of July 5.

According to the briefing, the wind changed directions late in the afternoon on July 5, and the gusts chased the fire up a hill adjoining the basin where the fire started. From there, the fire quickly spread out of control to the southeast. Although no structures were in imminent danger, the fire continued to spread quickly toward Arrowhead Lake, fueled in large part by strong wind gusts that occurred mid-day on July 8. Later that day, a mandatory evacuation order was issued for the area between Lakeview and Arrowhead Lake, which called for additional firefighting resources and recommended that the incident be upgraded. I assumed command of the incident on July 10.

The Arrowhead Lake area is home to many cabins, lodges, campsites and hiking areas, and the area attracts thousands of visitors during the summer months. I coordinated with the Travis and Spencer County Sheriff's Offices to make sure that all property owners and visitors were apprised of the mandatory evacuation order and the threat that they may be in the fire's path. Although the evacuation order was called "mandatory", neither the Forest Service nor the Sheriff's Office can force people to leave their property--which is unfortunate, because it leads to preventable loss of life in cases like this one.

Before the Lakeview Fire could be contained, it took a beeline straight for the Deer Haven Lodge. Hotshot Crews do their best to protect life and property, and usually they are successful, but the factors coalesced perfectly in this instance to make protecting the Lodge impossible. The Lakeview Fire was contained on July 20, but not before it destroyed the Deer Haven Lodge five

days earlier. Containment means that the fire no longer is spreading and that there is a fire line around the perimeter.

The investigation into the Lakeview Fire's cause began immediately without waiting for the fire to be contained. The first step in this process is to locate the point of origin. This involves analyzing the fire flow and other indicators, including the impingement of flame, char and soot patterns. The point of origin is important because the physical evidence at that location can help identify the source of ignition. Investigators analyze the fire flow and other indicators, including the direction of flame impingement, char and soot patterns, and the damage to vegetation and other materials. The goal is to reconstruct the direction in which the fire traveled and work backward toward the area where those fire paths converge.

One important factor, although not absolute, is that the degree of charring and damage generally is more intense on the side of vegetation facing the fire's origin. That principle is not used in isolation. Rather, an investigator considers the charring and damage patterns together with the overall fire-flow pattern, the terrain, the available fuels, wind conditions, and any physical evidence found in the suspected area of origin. When several of those indicators point toward the same area, they provide stronger support for identifying the origin.

We caught a lucky break in determining the fire's origin in this case, because one of the first firefighters on the scene located debris from exploded fireworks, which according to my briefing still reeked of freshly exploded gunpowder. The first responders immediately suspected that this was the cause of the fire. Although it is impossible to cordon off an entire wildland fire, as would be done with a typical crime scene, the first responders established a perimeter around the area suspected to be the origin.

My subsequent analysis of the fire flow and other factors supports the first responders' determination of the fire's origin. In particular, the observed progression from the area around where the fireworks were found outwards toward the southeast and then to the surrounding area was consistent with the origin identified by the first responders. The fire behavior did not require me to identify some different location as the point of ignition. Instead, the fire-flow evidence and the physical evidence of fireworks pointed to the same general area.

Due to the fatalities in this case, I accompanied the assigned Wildland Fire Investigator to the fire's origin on July 16. In a clearing about 200 feet away from the debris, and about 50 feet outside the established perimeter, we located a rectangular-shaped package wrapped in brown paper with no identifying markings on the outside. It appeared that the ground in the clearing very recently had been smoothed over, as if to conceal footprints. We carefully opened the package and determined that it contained unexploded fireworks. The fireworks (and the package) were destroyed to alleviate any safety hazard.

When the first responders found the fireworks debris, the team leader called for a Wildland Fire Investigator to be assigned to the incident. The Investigator arrived late in the afternoon on July 5 and interviewed several of the campers and counselors who had been evacuated from the ACES camp. During the interview of Jordan Sparks, the Investigator had a technician perform an adhesive film lift on Jordan's hands to test for gunpowder residue. This is one type of test upon

158 which Investigators rely to aid in determining the cause of a suspicious wildland fire. The adhesive
159 was sent to the crime lab for processing, and the results confirmed the presence of gunpowder
160 residue on Jordan's hands. Gunpowder is a major component in fireworks.

161 It is my opinion that the Lakeview Fire and ultimately the death of Bill and Carol Hudson
162 were caused by the ignition of fireworks. Based on the evidence set forth above, I believe that
163 Jordan Sparks is the person who ignited the fireworks.

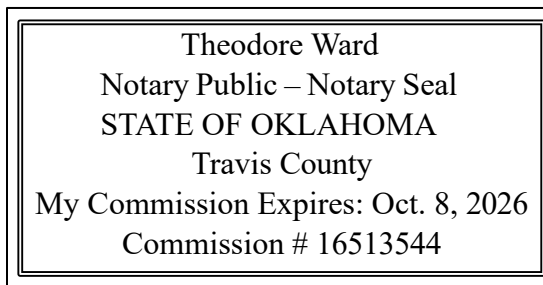
/s/ ASHTON BLAKE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Ashton Blake, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ Ted Ward
Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT OF SHEA LANDIS

1 Shea Landis, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

2 My name is Shea Landis. I am 14 years old and in 9th grade at Jefferson High School. I
3 was born in Buffalo, New York, but now I live in Pine Ridge, Oklahoma with my parents, older
4 brother and two dogs. Before moving to Pine Ridge, both of my parents were teachers. My
5 lifelong dream is to be a stand-up comedian when I grow up.

6 When I lived in Buffalo, we used to come out to Oklahoma during the summers. My
7 parents said it did me good, because they didn't like some of the kids I was hanging out with. I
8 guess they thought my friends were a bad influence or something. Anyway, during 8th grade, I
9 got into some trouble at school. The school administrators were talking about one of my patented
10 fart spray tricks that I pulled a couple of weeks earlier. They asked me about it, but I knew if
11 they found out it was me, they would call my parents and I would be in big-time trouble--so I
12 blamed this other kid at school, P.J. He was so much of a "goody two shoes" that I thought it
13 would be funny to see him freak out and turn all red when he got called to the Principal's office.
14 I never intended P.J. to actually get in trouble, but the Principal believed he did it and gave him
15 detention. As soon as I heard that, I immediately admitted that I was the one that did it.

16 The Principal called my parents and me into the office. I wasn't that concerned and
17 didn't really pay too much attention, but I heard something about "one prank too many." My
18 parents were pretty upset and thought a change of scenery would do me good. Plus, my dad had
19 always talked about getting a cabin out here and starting his "semi-retirement." That's when we
20 moved to Pine Ridge--right after school was over.

21 Even though I had visited Oklahoma before, it was kind of a culture shock when we first
22 moved here. I was in a strange place, about to start 9th grade, didn't know anyone, and it was
23 summer, so I probably wouldn't meet anyone until school started back up. I had nothing to do,
24 and nobody to pull pranks on for my TikTok account, so I started pulling pranks on my parents. I
25 think they had about enough of the pranks and me, because one day out of the blue they told me
26 they signed me up for ACES--the Arrowhead Co-Ed Scouts--and camp was starting the next week.
27 They told me if camp didn't straighten me out, boarding school would be my next stop.

28 At first, I was kind of bummed about camp. Who wants to spend a summer with a
29 bunch of nerds? I mean, I was about to start ninth grade, and I didn't want to be known as a
30 scouting nerd or anything. Then it hit me that camp would be the perfect place to try out some
31 new pranks.

32 Camp Lakeview, the ACES camp, is just a little north of Pine Ridge. It's pretty huge and,
33 I have to say, it's as stereotypical as you'd expect. When you first get there, there are these two
34 giant totem poles and a sign hanging between them with the camp name. That's where I was
35 dropped off. I walked under the sign and saw the mess hall a little way down a trail on the right.
36 A little farther down the trail on the left and down a little slope is the camp pool. If you keep
37 going past the pool down a trail, in a clearing in the forest, there is a little stadium built into the

hill with log benches and a big fire pit. A little ways behind the pool there is a small lake with rowboats and canoes.

The camp is split into two sections. Down to the left and behind the pool and lake is a path with a bunch of campsites. If you follow the trail the mess hall is on, you wind up at several other campsites. When I first arrived, I lined up with a bunch of other kids to meet some of the counselors and figure out which campsite I was in. I was assigned to camp 7. When I got to camp 7, I saw that tents already were set up. They were just canvas tents set up on wooden platforms--not very modern, and certainly not the cleanest. I know I recognize that smell from somewhere, but I still can't figure out where. Anyway, after I got my stuff set up in the tent, we had a meeting at the camp 7 fire pit. At the meeting we had to pick which classes we would take. We were supposed to sign up for at least four. I didn't see anything that really interested me, so I signed up for canoeing, fishing, hiking and wilderness survival.

According to the camp brochures, the wilderness survival class was supposed to teach you how to survive if you are stranded in the middle of nowhere with no food and no supplies. I never expected to be stranded anywhere. I just signed up for the class because Jordan Sparks was teaching it.

Jordan was different than the other counselors. My canoeing, fishing and hiking counselors were really strict and wouldn't let us have any fun, which really kind of defeats the purpose of a summer camp. If you can believe it, we even had homework assignments, books to read, maps to go over, and projects to complete before class even began. Jordan wasn't like that at all--at least at the beginning. Jordan was cool and pretty much let us do whatever we wanted. Even better, Jordan was in charge of the Snack Shack. That meant Jordan could get anything--M&Ms, Skittles, Snickers, Reese's Pieces, Twix, Gummy Worms, Atomic Fire Balls, Hot Tamales, anything! You name it, and Jordan could get it--for cheap. If Jordan didn't have it in the Snack Shack, Jordan had people on the outside that could bring it in. That made Jordan the most popular counselor at the camp.

During one of the classes, Jordan taught us how to enjoy the forest while causing as little harmful impact as possible and the importance of obeying forest use restrictions. Jordan started by telling us that we should always check on closures and restrictions before venturing into the forest. Jordan then passed out copies of a Burn Ban that Jordan said restricted activities in the forest, and another paper that Jordan said closed all or part of the forest. Jordan also gave us a copy of a press release announcing that the forest was reopening. I had never heard of the forest being closed or no campfires being allowed, but Jordan assured me that it happens often in the summer months when the fire danger is high.

During the next class, Jordan was supposed to teach us how to build fires out of sticks, without matches or anything like that, in case we were ever trapped in the middle of nowhere. We took a short hike to a place where Jordan prepared to build a fire. Although there are no fences or boundary markings around Camp Lakeview, I'm pretty sure that we left the camp and entered the forest. All of a sudden, one of the other kids in the class, Reese, pulled the Burn Ban that Jordan gave us the class before out of his backpack. Jordan asked Reese to see the Order, and

78 when Reese gave it to Jordan, Jordan crumpled it up, threw it on the ground and said, "Let's use
79 that for kindling once we get the fire started." Everybody started laughing. We all thought it
80 was pretty funny, but Reese seemed pretty upset. Jordan told him, "Just trust me, I know what
81 I'm doing." With all the laughter, I couldn't hear everything that Jordan said, but I never heard
82 Jordan say anything about not being in Spencer County or having a permit. Nobody else did either.

83 On the morning of July 4th, we had what turned out to be our last wilderness survival
84 class. I remember that class because we were all pretty excited about the special camp-wide
85 campfire scheduled for that night. We knew that there was going to be a big cookout, and they
86 told us to expect some surprise entertainment. I kept asking Jordan what was planned. I could
87 tell Jordan knew but wouldn't tell me. I kept bugging Jordan, and I could tell Jordan was getting
88 a little testy. After class, I even followed Jordan down to the Snack Shack. That's when Jordan
89 snapped at me: "I won't tell you what's going to happen tonight, but it's the 4th of July and I
90 promise you will have a blast." Jordan used finger quotes when saying "blast." I thought for
91 a second and figured it out. I said, "I know what it is--there's going to be fireworks, right?"
92 Jordan said, "Bingo! I'm shooting off fireworks tonight." Jordan then told me not to say anything
93 to anyone, and that it was a surprise.

94 That afternoon I was at the pool with some of the other kids from my camp. We were
95 just swimming and having a good time. I had a Baby Ruth that I got from Jordan and threw it
96 in the pool. I had seen it in a TikTok and thought it would be funny. Boy, was it ever! Kids
97 were screaming and jumping out of the pool. When the lifeguards figured out what happened
98 and started asking questions, I suggested that it might have been one of the kids from camp 8,
99 the camp next to ours. That's when Jordan showed up. I think Jordan knew right away that I
100 did it, because I bought the candy bar at the Snack Shack earlier that morning from one of
101 Jordan's special deliveries. Jordan looked at me, and that's when I fessed up--just like I always
102 do. What's the point of a good prank if you don't get to take credit for it? Anyway, Jordan yelled
103 at me right there in front of everyone else. Jordan said a prank was one thing, but blaming
104 someone else was another. I was so embarrassed. And, on top of that, Jordan threatened to have
105 my parents come to pick me up before camp ended. At that point I got pretty upset, and I was
106 afraid that I would be shipped off to military school. I'd do almost anything to avoid that. In the
107 heat of the moment, I think I even said something like, "You'll be sorry if you tell my parents."

108 After I had enough of Jordan's lecture, I spent the rest of the afternoon in my tent. I
109 didn't even want to go to the stupid campfire that night anymore. After awhile, Jordan came
110 by and we patched things up. We even had a good laugh about the other kids' reaction to the
111 Baby Ruth bar in the pool. I felt relieved that I wouldn't be headed off to boarding school, and I
112 decided to go to the campfire after all.

113 On the way to the campfire, I saw Jordan coming out of one of the counselor's cabins.
114 Jordan was looking all around, as if Jordan wanted to avoid being seen, but I don't think Jordan
115 ever saw me. I saw Jordan carrying a couple of rectangular-shaped packages covered in plain
116 brown paper wrapping. Jordan and the rest of the counselors had been acting pretty secretive,
117 so I assumed the packages had something to do with the big surprise planned for the campfire.

118 The campfire was pretty cool. After the cookout, there were a bunch of awards for
119 individual campers for the first couple of weeks and then the best campsite. Then, this guy in a
120 crazy costume told us the legendary story of the Boggy Bottom Monster. Awesome story, most
121 of the kids were pretty scared. Then we built a campfire. We wanted to make it bigger, but we
122 were shut down right away by the counselors because it was too windy. The embers were drifting
123 off a little ways and if the fire was any bigger they might have gone past the clearing into the
124 forested areas. When I was watching the embers, I saw Jordan sneaking off. Jordan ducked
125 behind the camp pool and toward the forest, and then I couldn't see Jordan anymore. Jordan had
126 the packages that I saw earlier. I knew that Jordan must be involved with the big surprise, and I
127 started to get excited.

128 Some of the counselors led us in singing some patriotic songs for the July 4th holiday.
129 Then the guy who played Reveille every morning, played the Star Spangled Banner and we
130 all sang along. That's when Jordan did it. Right on cue when we sang "bombs bursting in air," I
131 saw the first firework go off. It was from the far side of the pool. Everyone went crazy. It
132 was awesome. There were a lot more fireworks after that. I remember watching them go up, and
133 then get caught in the breeze and get carried away. I was a little worried because we couldn't
134 have a big campfire due to the blowing embers. The fireworks were going further than the
135 campfire embers. The fireworks pretty much concluded the campfire.

136 After the campfire, we all went back to our campsites. When we got back to camp 7,
137 there was Jordan, sitting by our fire pit, with a small fire going. Jordan had graham crackers,
138 marshmallows and chocolate lined up, so that we could all have some s'mores.

139 I was a little worried for a while that night, expecting someone to say that there was a
140 forest fire from the fireworks. I remember some thunder and lightning. It seemed to get pretty
141 close too. I remember that because I was hoping it would rain just in case there was a fire and we
142 didn't know about it yet. We didn't end up getting any rain though.

143 Late that night after everyone was already in bed, there was a lot of commotion. I don't
144 remember how I found out, but I remember everyone had to pack quickly and we had to get going
145 because there was a forest fire. I knew right away that it was the fireworks Jordan had shot off.
146 We all lined up at the camp entrance, where the school buses picked us up before heading west. Early the
147 next morning, a forest service guy told us that the fire had started just east of the camp. That's
148 the direction the wind was blowing the night before. It's the direction that the fireworks were
149 being blown.

150 I know that Jordan and I had a little spat early on July 4th, but all-in-all I liked Jordan. I still
151 do. But as I think back, Jordan didn't seem to take fire safety all that seriously, especially for someone
152 teaching wilderness survival.

/s/ Shea Landis

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Shea Landis, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ Mike Newton
Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT OF PAYTON HUDSON

1 Payton Hudson, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

2 My name is Payton Hudson. My parents, Bill and Carol Hudson, owned the Deer Haven
3 Lodge at Arrowhead Lake (the "Lodge")--that is, until it burned to the ground with them trapped
4 inside. The Lodge had been in the family since it was built in the late 1920s.

5 When I was growing up, we didn't have much money. We lived off the income from the
6 Lodge. Neither of my parents finished school. Dad always told me how he had to quit school to
7 help his parents run the Lodge, how the Lodge was our family legacy, and that the only two good
8 things in his life were me and the Lodge. Back in those days, it took more backbreaking work to
9 run the Lodge than it did when I was growing up, because the Lodge didn't have the modern
10 conveniences that exist today. All that my parents knew how to do was run the Lodge, so I don't
11 know what other job they could have gotten if the Lodge ever shut down.

12 Over the years, we faced a number of close calls with fires. My parents always stayed to
13 make sure the Lodge was safe. No fire ever got closer than 1000 yards from the Lodge--well, no
14 fire before the Lakeview Fire.

15 We always were watchful during the summer months. It is especially dry, and we would
16 get nervous that lightning from a summer thunderstorm would start a fire. We also were worried
17 that a careless camper or a nutcase smoker would start a fire accidentally. My parents worked hard
18 to make sure the Lodge was safe by clearing out brush and keeping the guests from engaging in
19 dangerous acts that might ignite a fire, especially during the summer months.

20 The 4th of July weekends always were particularly frightening. Crazy kids would come
21 into the area and light off fireworks illegally. Kids just don't understand how dangerous they are
22 in the dry area where fires can start so easily.

23 On July 4, 2025, I was home visiting my parents for the first time in years. We were sitting
24 outside at about 1:00 p.m., catching up on old times and having some lemonade and homemade
25 ice cream. We watched one of those summer afternoon thunderstorms develop. We saw some pretty
26 nasty lightning strikes way off in the distance toward Pine Ridge, but there wasn't any rain.

27 About seven or eight hours later, I was outside enjoying a very quiet evening. I heard a
28 faint boom that I first thought was thunder from another thunderstorm, and then I realized it
29 actually was fireworks off in the distance. After hearing a few faint booms, I could barely see some
30 fireworks shoot into the air just above the tree line.

31 Even though the fireworks were off in the distance, they seemed dangerously close to the
32 Lodge. I asked my parents if they wanted me to jump on the ATV and head through the forest to
33 where the fireworks were to look for the culprits. They said, "No, this happens every year. Don't
34 worry about it." We actually sat for a few minutes and enjoyed what we could see of the brief
35 fireworks display. I feel terrible that I never got up and got the person that was shooting off the
36 fireworks.

37 At about 10:15 p.m., we saw that paralyzing glow. It was the familiar--too familiar-- glow
38 of a forest fire. My dad ran inside and called the Forest Service. At the time, the glow looked
39 safely off in the distance. It seemed to be in the same direction of the fireworks, but I can't say for
40 sure if I first saw it in the same location where we saw the fireworks a couple hours earlier.
41 Considering that in those few days I lost my mom, my dad, our family legacy, it's surprising I can
42 remember anything at all from that night. But those memories are crystal clear to me; I guess it's
43 just because they were the last days with my family.

44 We stayed up all night, and we continued to monitor the situation. We kept the radio on to
45 listen to the regular news briefings. We were worried that the fire department would not be able to
46 contain the fire quickly. By the afternoon of July 5th it looked from the Lodge like the smoke from
47 the fire was spreading out. Still, we had not heard of any evacuation orders.

48 Three days later, on July 8th, we heard that there was a mandatory evacuation order for the
49 area around the Lodge. My parents told me to gather the guests and lead them out of the area. We
50 had arrangements with other lodges to assist if we ever had to evacuate. I took our 35 guests to a
51 couple of lodges a few towns over, which was outside the evacuation area, and I made sure that
52 the guests were comfortable and safe. I went back to the Lodge a few times to get luggage and
53 other necessities for our guests.

54 Each time I went back, I tried to talk my parents into leaving with me. The last time that I
55 went back, on July 10th the Sheriff's Deputies, who had been policing the road for two days, told
56 me that they would not let me back in anymore once I left. I told my parents that, and I begged
57 them to leave with me. The fire was getting really close and it wasn't getting contained.

58 My parents refused and told me they were trying to cut a larger clearing to protect the
59 Lodge. They thought they could get out in time if the fire got too close. Every day I tried to contact
60 them, but I think the phone lines and cell towers that service the Lodge had been destroyed by the
61 fire. I went up to talk to the Sheriff's Deputies on the 11th and 12th to see if they had heard from
62 or seen my parents. On July 12th, they told me that one of them had seen my parents looking very
63 tired and worn out. The Deputy said that they were in pain, they had scratches and cuts on their
64 bodies but resolved to save the Lodge. The Deputy shared that one of the firefighters had even told
65 them something about discovering illegal firework remains near the site, but that the fire would be
66 contained soon. I was enraged to think that that little firework show we saw on the 4th might have
67 caused all this damage, but I felt better about the situation with my parents, even though I could
68 not contact them. I went back home and tried calling just about every hour, but I never saw or
69 heard from them again.

70 On July 15th I was watching the news when I saw the firefighters at the Lodge. Although
71 the flames were ripping through the building, I could tell it was the Lodge. I couldn't believe what
72 I was seeing. They were pouring water on the Lodge, but it was absolutely no use -- it was
73 destroyed. Because the Lodge was so old, it just went up so fast. I keep a still photograph of what
74 I saw on the news that day.

75 As soon as I could compose myself, I kept calling my parents' cell phones and waiting for
76 them to answer. They never did. I was frantic and tried to drive up there, but the Sheriff's Deputies

77 wouldn't let me get anywhere close. Finally, a firefighter called me. He told me that he had bad
78 news. They found my parents--both were dead. He said they were huddled in a corner of the Lodge,
79 holding each other, wrapped in what looked like wet blankets. I can't imagine the excruciating pain
80 they endured as the flames burned them to death.

81 I don't know what to do with my life now. I quit my job and I've gone back to graduate
82 school, but I'm not able to focus. I just want to know what really happened that night. If that kid
83 Jordan Sparks set the fire, I want Jordan to pay. I want Jordan to go to jail and never get out. I want
84 Jordan to huddle in a corner of a jail cell knowing that the end of Jordan's life is looming and
85 there's nothing that Jordan can do about it--just like Jordan made my parents go through.

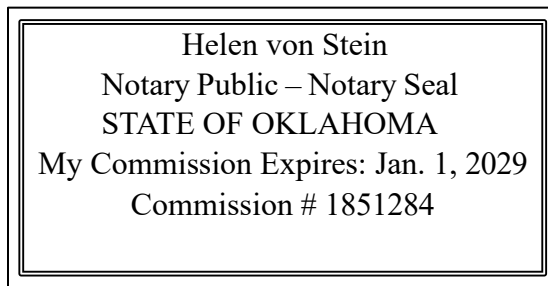
/s/ Payton Hudson

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Payton Hudson, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ Helen von Stein
Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT OF JORDAN SPARKS

Jordan Sparks, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

My name is Jordan Sparks. I am 20 years old, and I should be a sophomore in college. I was studying to enter the Forest Service before this all happened. Now I am on temporary suspension from school pending the outcome of this case.

When I was younger, I was a member of ACES--the Arrowhead Co-Ed Scouts. I used to love summers because that meant it was time for Camp Lakeview. That is the ACES' camp located outside of Lakeview, Oklahoma. It is nestled right between the border of Spencer and Travis County, and it's a beautiful area with tons of outdoor activities. I went every summer, and every summer I had a great time. When I was a senior in high school I turned 18 and was too old to be a scout anymore, so I signed up as a counselor. I loved helping kids, loved the forest, and loved the camp. It was perfect for me. Plus, I could earn a little money to help with books for college.

I was a camp counselor for the first time two summers ago. Because I had been coming to the camp so many years it was a pretty easy transition. Most of the people there already knew me and already had been treating me like a counselor, because most of the kids at the camp are 15 and under. Even though I was pretty young, I was asked to teach wilderness survival. That was perfect for me. The class involves a combination of what I like to call "the worst case scenario" as well as forest conservation and safety.

With respect to the "worst case scenario" part, I teach a bare-bones survival technique. The best way to explain what I mean is to ask the question--if you were stranded in the middle of the forest, with no supplies, what would you do to survive? Students learn how to build a simple, but effective, lean-to shelter, what plants and berries are edible, how to purify water, how to heat and cook food, how to stay warm and how to navigate, all with nothing more than a pocketknife.

With respect to the conservation side of the class, I work with Forest Service personnel. I teach the kids the basics of forest conservation, including erosion, over-growth and fire dangers that are prevalent in dry regions like Oklahoma. A part of that includes providing campers with any current warnings, alerts, and/or closures issued by either Spencer or Travis County, and teaching the kids to routinely check for these things before entering the forest. I also emphasize the importance of obeying orders issued by the authorities, including use restrictions and so-called "mandatory" evacuation orders. I say so-called, because the Forest Service is not allowed to evacuate people by force, and everyone knows that there always are some idiots who would rather put themselves in danger than leave their property unattended.

This last summer, I arrived at camp on June 10th. The counselors generally get to camp a couple weeks early to set up everything, refamiliarize ourselves with the area, and train rookie counselors and counselors with less experience. Generally there were around 200-300 kids in the camp any given week, some staying for a short time, and some spending the whole summer there, like me.

I remember that getting some disappointing mail the first week of camp. The first thing I got was a burn ban notice issued by Spencer County. We're technically located in Travis County,

39 but we get their notices too since we are practically in Spencer County and we usually cross over
40 the border anytime we take trips into the State Forest. The burn ban became effective June 13th,
41 2025, but even worse was when I got the notice for Travis County later that week. I hated seeing
42 it. I mean, it is not uncommon for the county to issue a burn ban during the summers, especially
43 given that the weather has been so dry the last couple years, but usually we get a couple weeks
44 worth of campers before the first one. I had a bad feeling that this ban wasn't getting rescinded
45 anytime soon either.

46 Don't get me wrong, it sucks not being able to have campfires at the main fire pit and at the
47 individual fire-pits in each of the campsites, but we still find ways to make do. Unfortunately for
48 me, I was teaching wilderness survival. One of the best parts of the course, and one of the things
49 the kids like the most, is our trip out into the forest where we learn to build a fire out of only the
50 things available there. No matches and no lighters.

51 My fears were confirmed just days before the first set of campers showed up. The Forest
52 Service issued an Emergency Fire Closure Order effective June 23, 2025. A fire closure meant the
53 Forest Service was pretty worried, because it literally closed off the portions of the forest owned
54 by the State. These orders are issued in the most severe fire conditions--when the Forest Service
55 is afraid that a car might cause a spark, or a person will ignore or be unaware of the Fire Restriction
56 Order. What it meant for me was that the fire conditions had worsened, and my popular wilderness
57 survival forest trip was definitely off.

58 The first group of kids showed up on June 24th. They were all assigned campsites with
59 counselors, and they all signed up for courses. I had a good size group of 20 sign up for my
60 wilderness survival course. I remember Shea Landis was in that class. Shea is easy to remember
61 because Shea goes 100 miles an hour 24/7. Shea is constantly joking around, not paying attention,
62 or playing pranks on other people. Usually nothing big, just annoying. More often than not, Shea
63 was the only one who thought the pranks were funny.

64 I got two good pieces of news at the end of the first week of camp. Effective July 2, the
65 Forest Service put out a press release that the State Forest was going to be reopening. The burn
66 ban for Spencer County, where the State Forest is, was still in effect. I didn't get a new notice for
67 Travis County, which I thought was weird because of how dry we were, but I looked it up and
68 found out the County didn't renew their order, which was great news. Apparently, the other side
69 of the County received a bit of rain.

70 As soon as the forest reopened, July 2nd, I decided to go ahead and take the class on the
71 wilderness trip. We hiked a short ways to an area known as Horseshoe Bend, which is near where
72 the camp abuts the forest and Spencer County. It's actually almost impossible to tell where the
73 camp ends and the forest begins, because there are no markings, but based on my years in the
74 camp, I'm fairly confident that we hadn't ventured into the State forest. I was originally going to
75 have all the kids make their own lean-tos but once I saw that there was a pretty big bare area (which
76 is common in the camp areas but certainly not in the forest), I changed my mind. I mean, there was
77 no foliage, no brush, nothing that could catch fire in this little area.

78 I told the kids to gather up some small tinder and kindling from the surrounding area. Small,
79 dry sticks, twigs, leaves and that kind of stuff. I then gathered a little lint from my pocket, placed
80 it on a flat stone, and was going to show them how to build a fire without any matches or anything.
81 That's when one of the kids, a little "know it all" named Reese, pulled out one of the Burn Bans I
82 had given them and discussed the day before. Reese actually brought the paper with him on the
83 hike. I asked to see it. I assured Reese that the restriction should be followed. I told Reese
84 something to the effect of, "This was a survival course and when you are stranded you sometimes
85 have to break the rules." Then I said that if you have paper at your disposal, you might as well use
86 it. So I crumpled up the order and placed it in the kindling pile. I remember Shea giggling about
87 that, but couldn't figure out why. Anyway, I was just trying to make a point with Reese about the
88 mentality it takes to survive, but I also told Reese that the restrictions only technically applied in
89 Spencer County, but we can do whatever we want because we're technically in Travis County. I
90 then showed everyone how to start the fire. Afterwards, I had the kids put the fire out using water
91 from a nearby pond and then burying the soaked ashes.

92 I had a class on July 4th. I remember that throughout the class Shea would not stop asking
93 me questions about the campfire we planned for that night. I told Shea I didn't know what the plans
94 were, I was not in charge of the campfire, and I was not involved with the campfire. That's the
95 truth, but Shea wouldn't believe me. After the class, Shea followed me to the Snack Shack. I was
96 in charge of the Snack Shack, mostly because I had a friend who worked for a candy distributor
97 and who could get candy in bulk so that it was cheaper. All the way to the Snack Shack, Shea
98 wouldn't stop with the campfire questions. I finally told Shea that the campfire was going to be
99 fun and that s/he would have a blast. I thought that would put an end to it--but Shea just wouldn't
100 give it a rest. Shea said, "You 're shooting off fireworks, aren't you?" I responded sarcastically,
101 "Yeah right! I'm shooting off fireworks tonight!" Before I could even finish, Shea started to run
102 out the Snack Shack. I was afraid that Shea was going to spread a rumor that wasn't true and would
103 get all the campers' hopes up, so I yelled at Shea not to say anything. Obviously, I was being
104 facetious about shooting off fireworks. That's not only prohibited by camp rules, but it's also
105 extremely dangerous and stupid. I've been around the camp as long as I can remember. I remember
106 all sorts of people running into the forest shooting off fireworks around July 4th in past years. One
107 year there was even a rumor that fireworks had started a small fire in the forest. I couldn't believe
108 people could be that irresponsible, especially when it was this dry.

109 Later that day, I had just finished up with my duties at the Snack Shack and was on my way
110 back to the counselor's cabin for a nap when I saw some commotion at the pool. Kids were jumping
111 out, running around and screaming. I was afraid that one of the kids was going to slip and get hurt.
112 I rushed into the pool area, and saw what the commotion was about. There was a candy bar, which,
113 from a distance, looked like something a lot less appetizing, floating in the pool. I looked to one
114 side and saw one of the lifeguards talking to Shea. I heard Shea tell the lifeguard some other kid
115 put the candy bar in the pool. I walked closer and Shea saw me. Shea knew that s/he was busted.
116 Shea's look of surprise immediately became a look of guilt, and Shea's head dropped. I asked what
117 happened. Shea admitted to putting the candy bar in the pool and said it was just a joke. I scolded
118 Shea about how dangerous it was, that someone could have gotten hurt, and that there is more to
119 life than just jokes and pranks. I really let Shea have it. I think I was just fed up with Shea's

120 behavior. There is always one of those kids every summer, but for some reason, I just snapped and
121 lost my cool. I don't even remember everything I said, but I'm sure I threatened to have Shea sent
122 home early.

123 At first, Shea seemed pretty scared. But, as I kept yelling, and as Shea noticed the other
124 kids watching, Shea seemed to get angry. Finally, Shea just turned and ran off. As Shea was running
125 away, I'm certain I heard Shea say something about making me pay. I yelled, "What was that?"
126 Shea stopped, turned and just stared at me. Shea said, "You'll see!"

127 I saw Shea briefly that afternoon at the campsite. I could tell that Shea was still hacked off
128 at me, so I didn't say anything. The next time I saw Shea was at the campfire that night. I said hi,
129 but Shea just looked the other way. About halfway through the campfire activities, after the scary
130 story, I snuck off. I had decided to treat the campers. My friend had gotten a bunch of chocolate,
131 marshmallows and graham crackers cheap. I decided to put some in all the campsites so that the
132 kids could all have s'mores when they returned to their campsites after the campfire. I had given
133 the campsite leaders the chocolate and marshmallows earlier, but I didn't get the graham crackers
134 until just before the fire.

135 When I was dropping off the graham crackers at each campsite, I noticed fireworks going
136 off. I didn't really know where they were or who was doing it because I couldn't see up through
137 the trees, but I could hear them. I was pretty angry at first. If it was a camper or counselor and the
138 Forest Service found out, the camp might lose our good relationship with the State Forest. The
139 fireworks stopped almost as quickly as they began, so I finished up with the graham crackers. All
140 in all, the fireworks were not that big of a deal.

141 To be honest, I was more worried about lightning storms in the area. We didn't get any rain,
142 but there had been a lot of lightning all the way around the area, you know, those heat lightning
143 storms. From my own experience, it seems like most fires are caused by lightning, and with the
144 lightning so close and no rain, I thought that there might be a risk of a fire.

145 In the middle of the night, my fears were confirmed. Forest rangers alerted our camp about
146 a fire nearby and told us we needed to get everyone out of the camp. There was a forest fire spotted
147 east of the camp. They said the wind was blowing east for the moment, so the fire was moving
148 away from the camp, but to be safe the Forest Service wanted everyone out due to the proximity
149 to the camp. I sounded the alarm with the camp director, Logan Fischer, and the other counselors.
150 The counselors all really pulled together and we got all the campers out within a half hour.

151 Later the next afternoon, after the camp had been evacuated, someone who said he was an
152 Investigator with the Forest Service pulled me aside. He told me that some of the kids were talking
153 about the fireworks that I set off and that the fireworks were what caused the fire. That was news
154 to me. The first thing that actually went through my mind was Shea Landis. I asked the Investigator
155 if the kid who said I set off the fireworks was Shea Landis. He apparently was not at liberty to say
156 yes or no. I have since learned that it was Shea. I can't believe it. I mean, I would believe that Shea
157 would initially blame me as one of his/her stupid pranks--just like s/he did with the candy bar. But,
158 this is way too far.

159 After talking to me for a short while, the Investigator asked to see my belongings. He then
160 asked if I had showered since the night before. I said no, I had gone right to sleep. With that, the
161 Investigator asked me to step inside this trailer with all kinds of equipment. Someone in there
162 tested my hands for something, I didn't know what then, but I do now. I know that the Forest
163 Service is claiming they found some kind of residue on my hands. That is bogus. I was at a camp
164 that had a rifle range. I hadn't been up there in a couple of days, but it had to be from there.

165 While they were testing my hands, the Investigator apparently ran a background check on
166 me. He asked about an incident my first year of college. About a month into my freshman year,
167 my roommate was drinking a little bit and apparently shot fireworks from my dorm window. My
168 roommate was not the brightest bulb I've ever met. We were roommates only by random chance.
169 By the time the campus police finally figured out where the fireworks came from, my roommate
170 already had left. When I opened the door, the police saw a case of beer on the table. They wrote
171 me tickets for minor in possession of alcohol and for unlawful possession of fireworks. I got an
172 attorney then, but it was all guilt by association. The easiest way to resolve it all was to agree to
173 enroll in a diversion program and leave the dorm. That's when I decided to transfer to another
174 university and get a fresh start.

175 I still can't believe that they think I'm the one who shot off the fireworks. I know way better
176 than that. I mean, starting a small controlled fire is one thing. Although I think I was on private
177 property, if I was wrong and I have to pay a fine, so be it. But, I had nothing to do with those
178 fireworks--whether they caused the fire or not. Someone needs to tell Shea that this isn't funny
179 anymore.

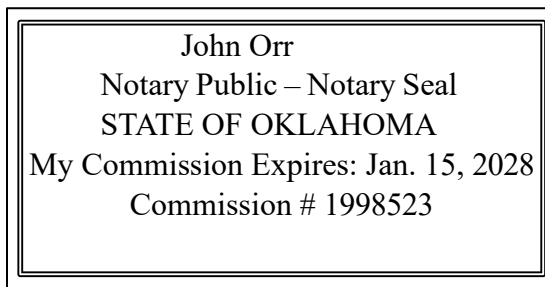
/s/ Jordan Sparks

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Jordan Sparks, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ John Orr
Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT OF LOGAN FISCHER

1 Logan Fischer, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

2 My name is Logan Fischer, and I'm 45 years old. I'm the camp director at Camp
3 Lakeview, which is the camp near Lakeview, Oklahoma that is owned and operated by the
4 Arrowhead Co-Ed Scouts ("ACES"). I've worked as a camp director for 10 years, here at Camp
5 Lakeview. Our camp is recognized as one of the best scouting camps in Oklahoma. The staff has
6 worked hard to develop a program that teaches young campers everything they need to know
7 about the outdoors. I am really proud of our program and our staff.

8 I learned the hard way over the years that a camp is only as good as its staff. That is why
9 I take a very "hands on" approach in hiring all of the camp staff. I first hired Jordan Sparks two
10 summers ago to work as a camp counselor. Jordan just completed his/her senior year in high
11 school at the time, which was somewhat unusual for a counselor, but Jordan had attended our
12 camp as a camper for a number of years before that. I met Jordan as a camper during my first
13 year as camp director and was very impressed. So, it was a no-brainer to hire Jordan as a
14 counselor. Jordan has been fantastic--just like all the other staff.

15 One of Jordan's gifts is great interaction with kids. I think that Jordan relates well to the
16 campers, because Jordan is always having fun and understands first hand the poor decisions that
17 young people often make, like the stupid stunt I heard he/she pulled his first year at college. But
18 Jordan can deal with the kids who habitually cause problems, because Jordan's been there.

19 As a camper, Jordan excelled in wilderness survival. That's why, when I hired Jordan as a
20 counselor, I asked him/her to fill a vacancy teaching the wilderness survival course. Jordan was
21 very excited about the course, and handled the position very responsibly-surprising considering
22 some of the pranks I heard he/she pulled as a camper long before I became camp director.

23 The stories that I heard about Jordan were ancient history. When Jordan was 11 years old,
24 s/he was sent home from camp after being caught trying to light a trashcan on fire with a book of
25 matches that was left in the kitchen. When Jordan was 12, Jordan was sent home after pointing
26 an unloaded rifle at another camper in the rifle range, but Jordan came back a few days later. I
27 learned from the ACES executive director that, about 10 years ago, Jordan's father helped to bail
28 out the camp when it was about to declare bankruptcy. His Dad paid \$60,000 himself and then
29 got a group of donors together to take care of the rest of the debt. I don't know if that had
30 anything to do with Jordan being allowed back at camp. Except for the \$60,000 contribution
31 record, we don't have any records or anything documenting Jordan's pranks, and I don't know of
32 anyone who was on the camp staff that long ago and can confirm them. But even if the events
33 happened as I heard them, Jordan has proven that s/he has grown up a lot since then.

34 The wilderness survival course includes lessons on forest-use restrictions and fire
35 restrictions. Because of his/her teaching experience and demonstrated responsibility, I put Jordan
36 in charge of monitoring the forest conditions for the 2025 summer camping season. As you can
37 imagine, this is a very important job. We are always committed to keeping our campers safe and
38 ensuring that forest fires and other unsafe conditions do not threaten our campers. Moreover, the

camp's ability to take excursions into the neighboring State Forest could be revoked if campers and/or staff were to violate the Forest Supervisor's orders--not to mention the potentially crippling liability that ACES could face, if our actions caused any damage. I certainly would not have entrusted Jordan with this important task unless I was 100% positive that s/he could handle it.

The staff arrived at camp on June 10, 2025 to prepare for the first group of campers to arrive on June 24. Almost immediately after we arrived at camp, Jordan showed me that Spencer County already had issued a burn ban, which meant we couldn't have any fires when we ventured into the State Forest. The ban was less than ideal, because we wanted to have the kids in the wilderness survival class go into the forest and build a fire. But then we got notice of the Travis County burn ban and got really bummed out, because that meant we couldn't even use the firepits. I know that Jordan was really disappointed about his survival class.

Jordan kept me up-to-date regarding forest-use restrictions, and provided me with copies of all of the notices and press releases issued by the relevant authorities. The burn bans made the entire staff more careful and limited what we could do on the public lands and our own property, but we were never in danger of having to cancel the 2025 summer camps--that is, until the Lakeview Fire started sometime on July 4th.

Thunderstorms and heat lightning started to roll in shortly after noontime on July 4th. The annual Fourth of July festivities, which included a big camp-wide cookout and campfire, were scheduled for that evening. We were concerned that the storms were going to spoil the fun. In fact, we did have to cancel some events and close the pool due to the amount of lightning in the area.

The campfire was supposed to begin at 8:00 p.m. on July 4th immediately after the cookout. Given the recent burn bans, and despite the camper's disappointment, I made sure that we kept the fires small and followed all of the precautions that were recommended by a fire marshal who used to volunteer at the camp years ago. Among other things, we were planning to talk about our country's history and tell stories about what makes our country so great. Jordan told me that s/he had a surprise up his/her sleeve that the campers would remember for "a long, long time." I wasn't sure what it was, but knowing Jordan, I figured it was going to be memorable and probably funny.

I saw Jordan at the cookout and during the first part of the campfire. The last time I saw Jordan was about an hour into the campfire, when some of the counselors began leading the campers in singing songs. After about 20 minutes of singing, while everyone was singing "Michael Row Your Boat Ashore", we heard what sounded like missiles being launched and saw fireworks exploding in the air. Of course, the fireworks were beautiful, but I was immediately concerned about the potential for a fire, even though they didn't last very long. I didn't want to alarm the campers, but I decided to call an emergency staff meeting to go over our emergency evacuation plan.

The campfire ended right after the fireworks, and all the campers retired to their campsites. Everyone was abuzz about the fireworks. I spent the next 45 minutes or so rushing

79 around to all of the campsites to alert the staff that there would be an emergency staff meeting
80 right after lights out. I was surprised to see the campers at every campsite making s'mores. It
81 struck me as odd that every campsite had all of the necessary supplies, but when I got to
82 campsite 7, Jordan told me that s/he delivered the supplies to the campsites during the campfire.
83 That's when I realized that the s'mores were the surprise up Jordan's sleeve.

84 After lights out on July 4th all the counselors met to discuss the fireworks and the plan
85 for evacuation, if that became necessary. I was furious and asked whether any of the counselors
86 knew who set off the fireworks. Most of the counselors threw out names of campers who they
87 thought could've done it, but invariably other counselors reported seeing the campers who were
88 mentioned. Jordan repeatedly mentioned that Shea Landis was quite the prankster, and actually
89 became rather adamant that Shea must've done it. I remember that vividly, because Shea was my
90 initial suspect as well. Although I didn't ask, none of the counselors at the meeting vouched for
91 the whereabouts of Shea at the campfire when the fireworks were launched. In any event, we
92 quickly turned to our emergency planning and decided that we would evacuate the camp if we
93 saw even the slightest hint of a fire. I also asked Jordan to monitor the forest conditions even
94 more closely, to maintain regular contact with the Forest Service, and to keep me apprised of any
95 developments.

96 My worst fears came true later that night when forest rangers came by the camp to advise
97 us that there was a forest fire nearby and that we needed to evacuate the camp. I looked around
98 the camp, but couldn't see any flames in the distance. We quickly got all the campers together
99 and evacuated them according to my plan.

100 I know Jordan is accused of shooting off fireworks and starting the Lakeview Fire, but I
101 just don't believe it. Jordan is an avid lover of the outdoors who is mindful of the vulnerable
102 condition of the forest, particularly during the summer. Jordan has experienced danger with
103 forest fires, and Jordan would never be as stupid or irresponsible as to set off fireworks in the
104 forest.

105 I heard about Jordan blowing up during an incident with Shea Landis at the camp pool
106 during the day on July 4th. Some of the kids and staff members who were there told me it was
107 over the top, but I understood why Jordan got upset. Shea means well and deep down inside is a
108 good kid, but Shea had been pulling pranks since the first day of camp. Shea hasn't learned yet
109 when enough is enough. I knew that, as a result, there was some friction between Jordan and
110 Shea. To say the least, Jordan didn't really care for Shea. I think Jordan's dislike for Shea just
111 boiled to the surface during the pool incident.

112 After the incident with Jordan at the rifle range several years ago, the camp director who
113 preceded me established a strict protocol to be followed to gain access to the rifle range. Under
114 the protocol (which still is in effect): (i) keys to the rifle range are checked out from the camp
115 director personally; (ii) the camp keeps a monthly log of all persons who enter the rifle range;
116 and (iii) nobody is permitted to enter the rifle range alone. The log for July 2025 does not reflect
117 that Jordan ever was at the rifle range before the Lakeview Fire forced the evacuation. I know
118 that once in a while a camp counselor will forget to sign in, but I've only seen that happen when

119 the counselor is running a quick errand to the rifle range, not when the counselor is taking range
120 practice.

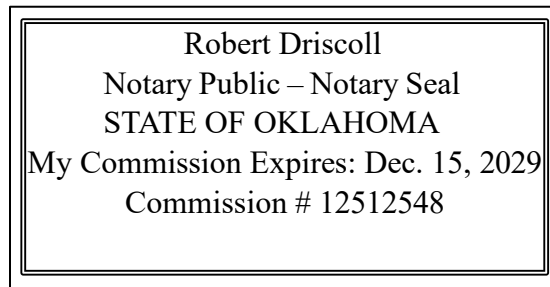
/s/ Logan Fischer

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Logan Fischer, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ Robert Driscoll
Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT OF HARLEY BOLTON

Harley Bolton, first duly sworn, under oath, states as follows:

My name is Harley Bolton. I'm 52 years old, I'm married, and I have a 15-year old daughter. I currently work as a meteorologist.

I received my Bachelor's degree in biology from University of California San Diego in 1996. I attended law school at California Western Law School in San Diego, California, where I received my J.D. in 1999.

I was licensed to practice law in the State of Oklahoma that same year. I moved back home and was an associate at Reilley, Thorsen & Sandick, L.L.P. from 1999 to 2004. I practiced tort litigation, primarily representing plaintiffs. Unfortunately, the stress of practicing law caused me to develop a substance abuse problem, which caused me to engage in behaviors that were completely out of character for me. I failed to make a number of court filings. As a result, five of my clients lost the right to bring their lawsuits. In addition, I sometimes took more than 50% of my clients' settlement awards to fund my drug habit, even though my clients signed agreements stating that I would receive 33% of any judgments collected or money settlements obtained. On February 5, 2004, the Oklahoma Supreme Court, at the recommendation of the State Bar Association, disbarred me. You could say that I hit rock bottom at that point.

With my life in shambles, I attended the Nancy Reagan Substance Abuse Clinic in El Centro, California, where I learned to "just say no" and was able to "clean up." Ever since, I have been a member of NA (Narcotics Anonymous). I decided while I was in the clinic that I needed to make a clean break with my past. Growing up in Oklahoma, the spring tornado season always has been my favorite time of the year. The amount of destruction that mother nature can inflict in the course of an instant, whether through an F-5 tornado or through a bolt of lightning, has always fascinated me. So, I decided that I would study meteorology. I had always wanted to be a storm spotter and chase tornadoes, like in the movie "Twister." I actually got the chance to be an extra in the remake "Twisters," and if you pause the movie at just the right second, you can see the back of my head in one of the scenes.

In 2008, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Meteorology from University of Oklahoma in Norman, where I took advanced classes in VIPR and Doppler radar analysis and Natural Hazards and Processes. During school, I was also involved with OU Broadcasting Society, and I worked (free of charge, of course) as a weather intern at the National Weather Service. With my credentials restored and my demo tape polished, I was hired straight out of school as the weather forecaster on Channel 2 - KNAZ-TV, the NBC affiliate in Pine Ridge, handling weekend newscasts. You might recognize me from TV or one of those billboards. Since 2012, I have been the forecaster on the nightly five o'clock news and occasionally fill in on the ten o'clock news.

I have been a member of both the American Meteorological Society's Board of Broadcast Meteorology and its Board of Meteorological Education. I hold the American Meteorological Seal of Approval for both radio and television, and in 2023, I was awarded its new Certified

Broadcast Meteorologist designation after passing a comprehensive examination. In 2019, the National Weather Association named me its Radio/Television Broadcaster of the Year in Pine Ridge.

I remember July 4, 2025 well. I served as the Grand Marshal for Pine Ridge's 10th annual Fourth of July Parade. There was even some lightning to the northwest of Pine Ridge, but it didn't really impact the parade. I know the kids are disappointed when we don't have a big fireworks display like they do in other parts of the state, but with our drought conditions and the bark beetle infestation of the surrounding forest lands, sometimes it is just too dangerous to have a fireworks display in this part of Oklahoma. Luckily the drone show more than makes up for it. Unfortunately, 2025 was one of those years that all the fireworks shows had to be canceled. Despite the disappointment, everyone up here in this area of Oklahoma appreciates the dire consequences that even a single stray firework can cause with how dry we are.

Lightning is raw untamed electricity that occurs during storms. It is one of the oldest, but least understood, of all natural phenomena. Technically speaking, lightning is a discharge of atmospheric electricity that is accompanied by a vivid flash of light. A "lightning strike" is the generic term for this flash of light. Think of lightning as a giant spark of static electricity—the same kind of electricity that sometimes shocks you when you touch a doorknob.

To be even more precise, a cloud-to-ground lightning strike initiates inside the storm. A negatively charged channel transmits from the storm base toward the ground in a series of steps. This is called a "stepped leader". Each step of the stepped leader is about 160 feet in length and 1 microsecond (one millionth of a second) in duration. The stepped leader is attempting to discharge on an object, and if there is none, then it takes another step until it finds an object. Naturally, the stepped leader is attracted to taller objects, such as trees and structures. One leader can be comprised of over 10,000 steps.

As the stepped leader approaches the ground, the negative charge induces electric channels with a positive charge, called "streamers", up from the ground. When a positive-charged streamer connects with a negative-charged stepped leader between 100 to 300 feet above the earth's surface, the negative charge flows down the established channel, and then a "return stroke" shoots up the channel. This return stroke heats the surrounding air to an incredible 54,000 degrees Fahrenheit (about 30,000 degrees Celsius), creating the visible flash that we see as lightning. Although it actually is traveling from the ground to the cloud, it happens so fast that it appears to the naked eye that the lightning strike is coming from the cloud to the ground. This whole process takes a fraction of a second.

Great progress has been made in developing technology to detect lightning. A company called Lightning Boltz operates the world's largest lightning detection system, which is based in Tucson. Three University of Arizona physicists and an electrical engineer developed the technology in the 1990s. Mr. Butch Sparks was the original financial supporter of the project for the University. Lightning Boltz went public one year ago and I believe Mr. Sparks is the primary shareholder. In short, they developed a sensor that was capable of picking out signals emitted by the return strokes in cloud-to-ground lightning. The sensors were strategically placed, so that it

79 became possible to calculate the location of a lightning strike. The original network of sensors
80 was built in the Western United States to help detect forest fires. That network was expanded
81 over the years by merging it with other networks. There are three other companies competing
82 with Lightning Boltz whose coverage area includes Oklahoma, but I believe Lightning Boltz to
83 be the best; after all they were pioneers in this field. Meteorologists like myself rely heavily on
84 the data provided by Lightning Boltz's system.

85 I obtained a lightning strike report from Lightning Boltz for the area around Lakeview on
86 July 4, 2025. I have relied upon Lightning Boltz lightning strike reports in two other cases in
87 which I testified as an expert. In both of those cases, insurance companies were trying to avoid
88 paying a claim for fire damage. It was my opinion in both of those cases that the fire was started
89 by a lightning strike.

90 On the lightning strike report, you will see that 20 strokes struck the ground within the
91 area and duration of study. Within each visible lightning strike, there may be multiple strokes
92 with multiple ground contacts. In fact, about half of all flashes have more than one ground strike
93 point. On average, at least 30 million points on the ground in the United States are struck each
94 year. All of the strokes indicated in the report occurred between noon and 2 p.m. on July 4, 2025.
95 You see on the report that latitude and longitude have been substituted for grid locations on the
96 map (Exhibit 2); this was done by me for ease of demonstrating on the map where the lightning
97 actually struck.

98 I am not the world's foremost forest fire expert by any stretch of the imagination, but I do
99 know from my meteorological studies that lightning is responsible for causing 60 to 70% of all
100 forest fires in the Southwestern United States. Fortunately, 97% of lightning-caused fires
101 consume less than ten acres. One study from the University of Arizona indicated that 10% of
102 500,000 lightning strikes result in fires. It's not surprising to anyone who watches the news that
103 the Great Plains lead the nation in both the average number of lightning-caused forest fires and
104 the number of acres burned by lightning-caused forest fires each year. Two-thirds of the
105 lightning-caused fires occur in June, July and August, because the lightning occurring in
106 summer months occurs during the hottest and driest part of the year. July accounts for 25% of
107 lightning-caused forest fires, the most of any month. To be specific, dry lightning is a common
108 cause of wildfires. Dry lightning happens when no rain falls during a storm or when the amount
109 of moisture isn't great enough to reach the ground. The moisture simply evaporates into the air
110 on its way to the ground. Lightning still strikes the ground and if it should strike some dry
111 kindling in a forest, a fire may start. The conditions on July 4th were perfect for dry lightning.

112 It is my opinion that one of the lightning strokes occurring on the afternoon of July 4,
113 2025 likely caused the Lakeview Fire, even though the fire was not discovered until many hours
114 later. If struck by dry lightning, a tree can smolder for hours before the fire is visible. You can see
115 from the lightning strike report that several strokes were detected within a 15-mile radius of
116 Camp Lakeview.

117 I normally charge \$200 per hour for meteorological consulting services, but I am not
118 being paid by the defense to prepare this affidavit or to testify at trial. I feel so bad for the Sparks

119 family. Jordan's father, Butch Sparks, is the News Director for Channel 2. Mr. Sparks was
120 instrumental in hiring me right out of the OU meteorology program when most people probably
121 wouldn't have dared touch anyone with my background. I was certainly grateful and always told
122 Mr. Sparks that if there was any way I could pay him back for giving me the chance to put my
123 life back together--I would. This is the least I could do. Of course, my loyalty to Mr. Sparks and
124 his family has not affected my analysis of the weather data in this case in any way. After all, I'm
125 not willing to sacrifice my dignity. I believe that any competent meteorologist would reach a
126 conclusion similar to mine.

/s/ Harley Bolton

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

On this date before me personally appeared Harley Bolton, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the County and State aforesaid, the day and year first above written.

/s/ Shirley Winters
Notary Public

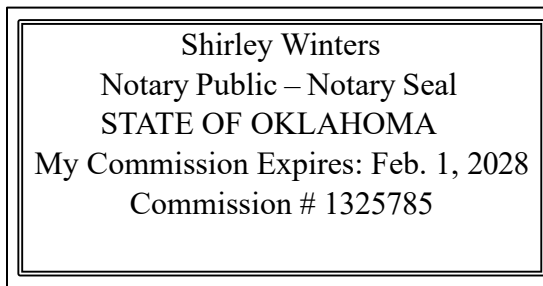


EXHIBIT 1

Map of Travis and Spencer Counties

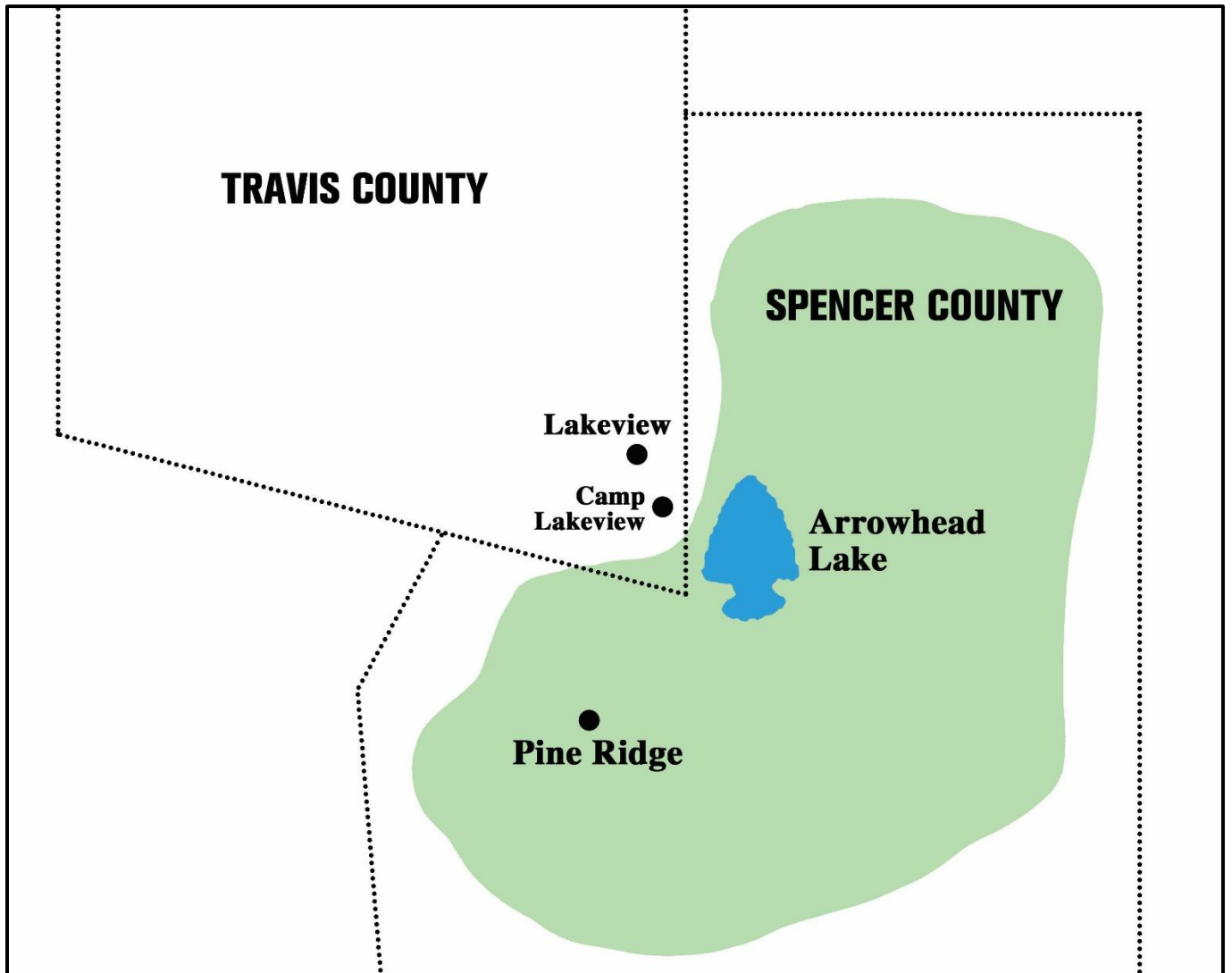


EXHIBIT 2

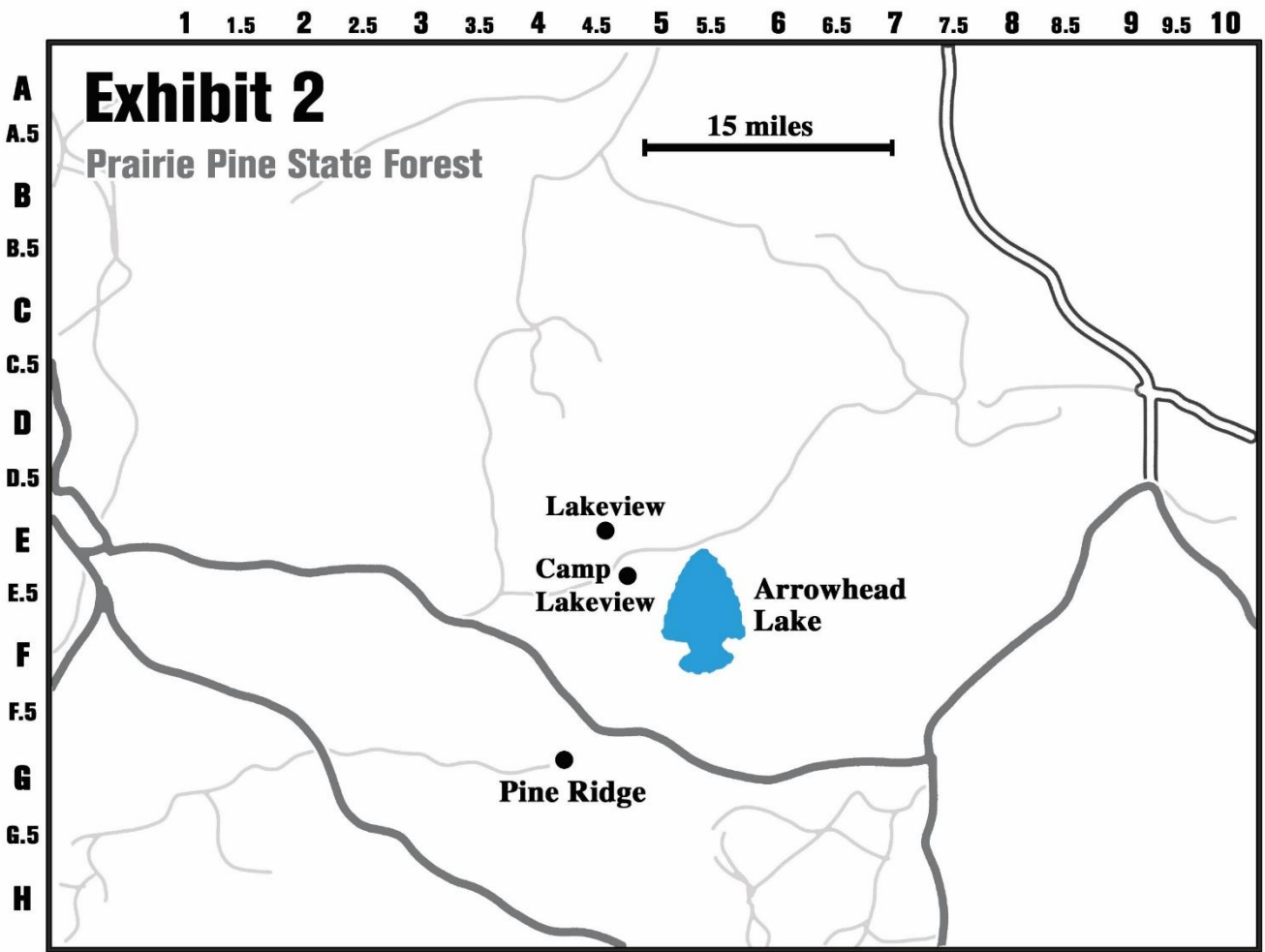


Exhibit 3

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-4

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA DECLARING A PERIOD OF EXTREME FIRE DANGER IN TRAVIS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, PURSUANT TO TITLE 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); PROHIBITING CERTAIN BURNING ACTIVITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE AND NOTICE.

- §1 WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Oklahoma Statutes, § 16-26(B), authorizes the board of county commissioners of a county to pass a resolution declaring a period of extreme fire danger when the statutory conditions for such a declaration exist; and
- §2 WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Travis County has reviewed current drought, weather, fuel, and wildfire conditions affecting Travis County; and
- §3 WHEREAS, severe, extreme, or exceptional drought conditions exist within Travis County as determined pursuant to the criteria of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and
- §4 WHEREAS, precipitation of no more than one-half (1/2) inch is forecast for the next three (3) days; and
- §5 WHEREAS, fire occurrence and/or fire behavior in Travis County demonstrates conditions constituting extreme fire danger within the meaning of Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); and
- §6 WHEREAS, the Board has received documented concurrence from a majority of the chiefs, or their designees, of the municipal and certified rural fire departments located within Travis County that a period of extreme fire danger exists; and
- §7 WHEREAS, the Board finds that immediate restrictions on activities capable of causing wildland fires are necessary to protect the lives, property, forests, grasslands, rangelands, croplands, and other natural resources of Travis County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Travis County, Oklahoma:

- §8 THAT, pursuant to Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B), the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares that a period of extreme fire danger exists throughout Travis County, Oklahoma, effective immediately upon passage of this Resolution.
- §9 THAT, during the period this Resolution remains in effect, it shall be unlawful for any person to:

Set fire to any forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildlands;

Build or maintain a campfire or bonfire; or

Burn trash, debris, or any other material that may cause a forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildland fire,

except as otherwise expressly permitted by applicable Oklahoma law or by an exception established pursuant to this Resolution.

- §10 THAT, this Resolution shall remain in effect for a period not exceeding fourteen (14) days from the date of passage, unless the Board removes the burn restriction earlier through the same process by which it was approved.
- §11 THAT, if extreme fire danger conditions continue beyond the effective period of this Resolution, the Board may consider a subsequent resolution as authorized by Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B).
- §12 THAT, upon passage of this Resolution, the County Clerk is hereby directed to provide notice as required by Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B), including submission to:
- The Forestry Division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry;
 - Local news media;
 - Local law enforcement officials;
 - The state headquarters of the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety;
 - The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department; and
 - The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- §13 THAT, this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage by the Board of County Commissioners.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of June, 2025, by the Board of County Commissioners of Travis County, Oklahoma.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

/s/Russel Shackelford

CHAIRMAN

/s/Marty Griffin

VICE-CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

/s/Jamie Wilson

COUNTY CLERK

Exhibit 4

RESOLUTION R-2425-78

SPENCER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A PERIOD OF EXTREME FIRE DANGER IN SPENCER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, PURSUANT TO TITLE 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); PROHIBITING CERTAIN BURNING ACTIVITIES; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE, NOTICE, AND ENFORCEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Oklahoma Statutes, § 16-26(B), authorizes the board of county commissioners of a county to pass a resolution declaring a period of extreme fire danger when the statutory conditions for such a declaration exist; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County has reviewed current drought, weather, fuel, and wildfire conditions affecting Spencer County; and

WHEREAS, severe, extreme, or exceptional drought conditions exist within Spencer County as determined pursuant to the criteria of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

WHEREAS, precipitation of no more than one-half (1/2) inch is forecast for the next three (3) days; and

WHEREAS, fire occurrence and/or fire behavior in Spencer County demonstrates conditions constituting extreme fire danger within the meaning of Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); and

WHEREAS, the Board has received documented concurrence from a majority of the chiefs, or their designees, of the municipal and certified rural fire departments located within Spencer County that a period of extreme fire danger exists; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that immediate restrictions on activities capable of causing wildland fires are necessary to protect the lives, property, forests, grasslands, rangelands, croplands, and other natural resources of Spencer County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County, Oklahoma:

1. Pursuant to Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B), the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares that a period of extreme fire danger exists throughout Spencer County, Oklahoma, effective immediately upon passage of this Resolution.
2. During the period this Resolution remains in effect, except as otherwise expressly permitted by applicable Oklahoma law, it shall be unlawful for any person to set fire to any forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildlands; build or maintain a campfire or bonfire;

or burn trash, debris, or any other material that may cause a forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildland fire.

3. This Resolution shall remain in effect for a period not exceeding fourteen (14) days from the date of passage, unless the Board removes the burn restriction earlier.
4. The Board may consider a subsequent resolution if extreme fire danger conditions continue beyond the effective period of this Resolution, pursuant to Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B).
5. The County Clerk shall provide all notice as required by Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B).
6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage by the Board of County Commissioners.
7. Effective immediately upon approval of this Resolution, the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares an emergency within Spencer County based upon extreme fire danger, which shall continue until termination of this resolution or as may be modified by subsequent action of the Board.
8. All persons within Spencer County are urged to exercise extreme caution with respect to any activity involving fire, heat, sparks, or other potential ignition sources during the period covered by this declaration.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th day of June 2025, by the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County, Oklahoma.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SPENCER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

/s/ Jequita Childers

Chairman

/s/ Laney Ramiro

Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelvin Johnson

County Clerk

EXHIBIT 5

RESOLUTION NO. R-2425-80

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A PERIOD OF EXTREME FIRE DANGER IN SPENCER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, PURSUANT TO TITLE 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); EXTENDING RESOLUTION R-2425-78; PROHIBITING CERTAIN BURNING ACTIVITIES; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING NOTICE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Oklahoma Statutes, § 16-26(B), authorizes the board of county commissioners of a county to pass a resolution declaring a period of extreme fire danger when the statutory conditions for such a declaration exist; and

WHEREAS, on June 13th, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County passed Resolution R-2425-78 declaring a period of extreme fire danger; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County has reviewed current drought, weather, fuel, and wildfire conditions affecting Spencer County; and

WHEREAS, severe, extreme, or exceptional drought conditions continue to exist within Spencer County as determined pursuant to the criteria of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

WHEREAS, precipitation of no more than one-half (1/2) inch is forecast for the next three (3) days; and

WHEREAS, fire occurrence and/or fire behavior in Spencer County demonstrates conditions constituting extreme fire danger within the meaning of Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B); and

WHEREAS, the Board has received documented concurrence from a majority of the chiefs, or their designees, of the municipal and certified rural fire departments located within Spencer County that a period of extreme fire danger exists and extension of the burn restriction period is warranted; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that extension of burn restrictions is necessary to protect the lives, property, forests, grasslands, rangelands, croplands, and other natural resources of Spencer County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County, Oklahoma:

1. Pursuant to Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B), the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares that a period of extreme fire danger exists throughout Spencer County, Oklahoma,
2. Effective immediately, Resolution R-2425-78 is hereby extended and shall remain in effect for a period not exceeding fourteen (14) days from the date of passage of this Resolution,

unless the Board removes the burn restriction earlier through the same process by which it was approved.

3. During the period this Resolution remains in effect, except as otherwise expressly permitted by applicable Oklahoma law, it shall be unlawful for any person to set fire to any forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildlands; build or maintain a campfire or bonfire; or burn trash, debris, or any other material that may cause a forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildland fire.
4. This Resolution shall remain in effect for a period not exceeding fourteen (14) days from the date of passage, unless the Board removes the burn restriction earlier through the same process by which it was approved.
5. The Board may consider a subsequent resolution if extreme fire danger conditions continue beyond the effective period of this Resolution, pursuant to Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B).
6. Upon passage of this Resolution, the County Clerk is hereby directed to provide notice as required by Title 2 O.S. § 16-26(B).
7. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage by the Board of County Commissioners.
8. Effective immediately upon approval of this Resolution, the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares an emergency within Spencer County based upon extreme fire danger, which shall continue until termination of this resolution or as may be modified by subsequent action of the Board.
9. All persons within Spencer County are urged to exercise extreme caution with respect to any activity involving fire, heat, sparks, or other potential ignition sources during the period covered by this declaration.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of June, 2025, by the Board of County Commissioners of Spencer County, Oklahoma.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SPENCER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelvin Johnson

County Clerk

/s/ Jequita Childers

Chairman

/s/ Laney Ramiro

Vice-Chairman

Exhibit 6

Prairie Pine State Forest to Partially Reopen on Wednesday; Burn Ban to Remain in Effect

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 1, 2025

Pine Ridge, OK – Prairie Pine State Forest will reopen to public access at 8:00 A.M. Wednesday, July 2, after preventative measures have been taken to sufficiently mitigate potential fire danger. The entire Prairie Pine State Forest has been under closure since Monday, June 23.

"Since closing the forest on June 23rd, our Forest Information Center has received over 1,000 calls inquiring about the forest closure. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation while the Forest Service employed this ultimate fire prevention strategy," said Ida Fector, Prairie Pine State Forest Supervisor. "The forest closure was effective. No human-caused wildfires have been reported on the forest so far during the closure."

Visitors should note that despite the forest reopening, extreme fire conditions continue and burn ban restrictions are still in effect in the portions of Prairie Pine State Forest that are within Spencer County. In addition, the following restrictions are in effect in all state-owned areas of the forest:

- Campfires-including charcoal fires-are prohibited, including in developed recreation sites. Pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns and heaters are allowed.
- Operating a chainsaw for personal use with a firewood permit is prohibited between 9:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.
- Smoking is prohibited.
- Welding is prohibited.
- Using an explosive is prohibited.
- Operating any internal or external combustion engine without a spark arrester is prohibited.
- Operating a motor vehicle off State Forest System roads is prohibited, except when parking in an area cleared of vegetation, and except in the Prairie Pine Off-Highway Vehicle Area north of Pine Ridge.
- Due to high risk of fire danger posed, possession or use of fireworks is STRICTLY prohibited anywhere on State property.

"We understand that people want to celebrate the Nation's birthday, but we encourage folks to enjoy Pine Ridge's drone show this year and not set off their own fireworks," continues Fector. "Fireworks can ignite dry grass, brush and forest vegetation in an instant, and a small spark can become a wildfire before anyone has an opportunity to react. There are plenty of ways to celebrate Independence Day without putting our forests, our neighbors, and our firefighters at risk."

These restrictions will remain in place until enough precipitation falls to further decrease fire danger. For the latest information concerning forest conditions, fire restrictions and closures, visitors should check official Prairie Pine State Forest announcements before traveling.

###

Media Contact: Oakley Woodrow

Prairie Pine State Forest

Pine Ridge, Oklahoma

(405) 555-0174

Exhibit 7

Photo of Deer Haven Lodge Taken July 15, 2025



Exhibit 8

Ashton Blake 1948 Alvero Lane

Lakeview, Oklahoma, 55555

firefighter@PrairiePine.com

Education:

1995-A.A.S. Travis County Technical College- Firefighter Academy

Courses Include: Intro to Incident Command System (ICS), Task Force/Strike Team Leader, Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface and Advanced Incident Management.

Professional Experience:

2022-Present: Superintendent: Arrowhead Lake Interagency Hotshot Crew

2012-2022: Division/Group Supervisor: Arrowhead Lake Fire Department

2011-2012: Task Force Leader: Arrowhead Lake Fire Department

2010-2011: Strike Team Leader: Pine Ridge Fire Department

2009-2010: Crew Boss, Single Resource: Lakeview Fire Department

2007-2009: Firefighter Type 1: Lakeview Fire Department

2003-2007: Firefighter Type 2: Arrowhead Lake Interagency Hotshot Crew

1996-2000: Wildland Fire Investigator: Arrowhead Lake Fire Department

Community Service:

2018-Present:

Big Brother Volunteer, Girls & Boys Club of Lakeview

1995-1998: Volunteer Firefighter, Lakeview Fire Department

EXHIBIT 9

Harley Bolton, J.D.
225 Lightning Lane
Pine Ridge, Oklahoma 55515
forecaster@knaz.com

Education:

2008 University of Oklahoma: B.S. Applied Meteorology
1999 California Western Law School: J.D.
1996 University of California San Diego: B.S. Biology

Professional Experience:

2008-Present: Meteorologist, KNAZ-TV, Pine Ridge, Oklahoma
2007-2008: Intern, National Weather Service
1999-2004: Associate Attorney, Reilley, Thorsen & Sandick, LLP.

Professional Associations & Awards:

2023: American Meteorological Seal of Approval - Radio & Television
2023: Certified Broadcast Meteorologist
2019: National Weather Association - Radio & Television, Broadcaster of the Year in Pine Ridge
2007: OU Broadcasting Society
2020: Director, American Meteorological Society's Board of Broadcast Meteorology
2021: Director, American Meteorological Society's Board of Meteorological Education

Exhibit 10

LightningBoltz

Report #321

Total Lightning Strokes Detected: 20

**Lightning Strokes Detected within 15 mi/25 km
radius: 14 Search Radius*: 15 mi/25 km**

Time Span: 7/4/2025 12:00 PM to 7/5/2025 5:00 AM

Date	Time	Peak Current (kA)	Grid Location
7/4/2025	12:42:45 PM	-11.9	E-4
7/4/2025	12:44:39	-19.9	E-4
7/4/2025	12:44:39	-12.1	E-4.5
7/4/2025	12:45:34	-13.4	E-4.5
7/4/2025	12:47:46	-9.2	E-4
7/4/2025	12:47:46	-14.1	F-5
7/4/2025	12:47:46	-12.2	F-5
7/4/2025	12:47:46	-13.8	E-4.5
7/4/2025	12:47:46	-19	E.5-5
7/4/2025	12:48:55	-13.2	E.5-5.5
7/4/2025	12:48:55	-8.9	F-5
7/4/2025	12:50:17	-15.4	E-4.5
7/4/2025	12:53:42	-11	E-4.5
7/4/2025	12:54:31	-10.3	E-4.5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	-76.7	E-4.5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	22.6	E.5-4.5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	-30.1	E.5-5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	-14.7	F-5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	-9.3	F-5
7/4/2025	1:03:29	-22.1	F-5