

PRESS RELEASE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Contact Information for Media Inquiries:

Payne County District Attorney
Laura Austin Thomas
405-338-6010

District Attorney Laura Austin Thomas Establishes Hotline For Victims and Certain Eyewitnesses of the Homecoming Parade Incident

STILLWATER, OK - District Attorney Laura Austin Thomas announced today that a hotline has been established for victims and certain eyewitnesses of the homecoming parade incident that took place in Stillwater the morning of October 24, 2015.

"The victims and certain eyewitnesses of the incident that took place in our community are afforded certain rights to notification of court proceedings, and my office would like to hear from each of these individuals to ensure those rights are met," said District Attorney Thomas.

"In addition, families of the deceased victims, those who were injured, and eyewitnesses who were in the direct threat of violence may be eligible for assistance under the Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation Act," Thomas said.

Due to the large nature of this incident, Thomas reports difficulty in locating contact information for individuals who were impacted by the event, some of whom were visiting from outside the perimeters of the Stillwater area.

District Attorney Thomas is requesting family members of the deceased, all persons injured, and eyewitnesses to the incident call the hotline at **405-338-6023** and/or email them directly at OSUParade-CrimeVictims-Witnesses@dac.state.ok.us. Those calling the hotline will receive a recorded message guiding the caller to leave contact information that is vital for notification of court proceedings.

The District Attorneys Council administers the Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation Program, and reports that anyone wishing to file a claim for compensation should call **1-800-745-6098** to request a claim form and get details on expenses that may be eligible through the program.