

Tulsa Police Department Homicide Unit



**DETECTIVE
DIVISION**

Phone 918.596.9133
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www.tulsapolice.org



TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT

600 CIVIC CENTER • TULSA, OKLAHOMA • 74103-3822

The information provided in this packet is intended to help you and your family better understand the process during the aftermath of losing a loved one to an act of violence. The physical and emotional reactions you are experiencing may not be the same as the reactions you notice from another member of your family. This is normal; everyone reacts to tragedy in a unique manner.

The detective assigned to your loved one's case will do everything in their power to arrest the individual responsible for the death of your loved one. That being said, there is no guarantee that an arrest will be made. If an arrest is made that is not the end of the case. The ultimate goal is for the offender to be convicted. Again, there is no guarantee that the individual arrested will be convicted.

Homicide cases are difficult to solve. According to the FBI, the national clearance rate for homicide in 2019 was 61.4%. However, in Tulsa the clearance rate is much higher; usually around 90% every year.

The information included in this packet will probably not answer all your questions, but it should give you the resources to help you find those answers. We have included information on services offered for victims as well as information about the court system and what you may encounter during this process.

The detective assigned to your loved one's case needs your and the community's help. Countless hours of detective work can and often do lead to the discovery of witnesses. However, "word on the street" gives the detective a place to look but without someone willing to do the right thing and testify the information is not likely going to be allowed in court. Despite what you see on television and in the movies, forensics (DNA, fingerprints, video footage, etc.) are rarely the sole reason a case is solved.

The Tulsa Police Department extends its condolences to you and your family. Your loved one deserves justice.

Report # _____

Detective Assigned _____

Crime Victim Assistance

The Tulsa Police Department has services in place to help you during this difficult time.

Tulsa Police Department Victim Services Unit

The Victim Services Unit is available to assist victims of crime and their families with information and referrals to services that may be needed as a result of their victimization in Tulsa. You can reach an advocate with the Victim Services Unit at any of the following numbers with questions about services such as grief counseling and application to the Oklahoma Victim Compensation Fund.

918-596-9165

918-596-9323

918-596-9320

Tulsa Police Chaplaincy Corps

A loss of a family member will place you actively involved with police officers, paramedics, Medical Examiners, Fire Fighters, and others. For some, this could be their first time. Our chaplains are there to assist you as you navigate unsettling waters by informing you, helping you find answers, and calling upon your faith to strengthen you. Our chaplains are familiar with the system and will help you steer through these troubling times. You can reach the Chaplaincy Corps at the following number.

918-596-9138





Financial Assistance for Victims of Violent Crime

Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation (OCVC) may be available if you or someone you love suffered physical or psychological injury due to a violent crime that occurred anywhere in the state of Oklahoma. Expenses that may be covered under the Crime Victims Compensation Program are:

- Funeral, Cremation or Burial
- Traditional American Indian Services
- Loss of Support for Dependents
 - Counseling for Victims
 - Income Loss
- Crime Scene Cleanup
- Medical and Dental Care

To file a claim, contact the Tulsa County District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Center at
918-596-4915

or call the Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation Program at
1-800-745-6098.

You can also start a claim or learn more about the program by logging on to their website.

www.okvictimscomp.com



www.vinelink.com

1-877-654-8463

Would you like to receive electronic information of the offender's custody status?

Vine is the nation's most reliable and confidential source for updated custody status and criminal case information. Register and stay informed.

If the offender has been arrested or convicted in your loved one's case, you can access the offender's location and custody status by registering with VINE.

- Notified via text, email, phone, or in-app notifications
- Real time alerts
- 24/7 Contact Support
- Service provider directory to connect with local and national service providers

Once registered, you will be notified of the location of the offender following arrest, during prosecution, after sentencing and if the offender is released or escapes from confinement.

Victims Have Rights

Victims of crimes have certain rights in the State of Oklahoma. The rights have been created by the legislature, Title 19, Oklahoma Statutes, section 215.33.

Below is list of websites dedicated to victims' rights. Please visit these websites to better understand the rights you have in the State of Oklahoma.

www.da.tulsacounty.org/home/billofrights

www.ok.gov/dac/victims/victims_rights

www.marsyslaw4ok.com



Oklahoma State Courts Network (OSCN)

After the suspect has been arrested, go to the following website to track court dates and criminal proceedings: www.oscn.net.

To locate a suspect, follow the steps below. If you do not have the case number, you can also search under suspects' name.

To search for an offender:

- Click "case search"
- Select "Tulsa County"
- Type in case number
example: CF-1996-0123

- The following page will explain where to look for court dates and court minutes related to the case.

| Event | Party | Docket | Reporter |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 9:00 AM PRELIMINARY HEARING ISSUE (PUBLIC DEFENDER) | HAMILTON, RAPHAEL R | Preliminary Hearing Docket | |
| Monday, November 7, 2011 at 9:00 AM DISTRICT COURT ARRAIGNMENT | HAMILTON, RAPHAEL R | CF Docket C | |
| Monday, November 21, 2011 at 9:00 AM STATUS CONFERENCE | HAMILTON, RAPHAEL R | CF Docket C | |
| Monday, November 28, 2011 at 9:00 AM STATUS CONFERENCE | HAMILTON, RAPHAEL R | CF Docket C | |

Where do the court hearings take place?



Tulsa County Courthouse
500 S. Denver Ave
Tulsa, OK 74103

Please check in at:
District Attorney's Office
Victim Witness Center
Suite 860 (8th floor)
918-596-4915
www.da.tulsacounty.org

- Once the District Attorney's Office files charges, the defendant will be scheduled for an arraignment and court proceedings will be scheduled shortly thereafter. A prosecutor and a court advocate will be assigned to your loved one's case.
- The picture above is the Tulsa County Courthouse. This is where most court proceedings will be held until the case is resolved.
- To enter the Tulsa County Courthouse, doors are located at the East and North sides of the building. At either entrance you will be met by a Deputy Sheriff and a metal detector.
- When you arrive go to the 8th floor and check-in at the Victim Witness Center. A Victim Advocate will assist you through the court process from beginning to end. The goal of the Victim Advocate is to make your experience in the court process less intimidating and to provide support to empower you through a very difficult and challenging time.

How do I contact the Medical Examiner's Office?

Your loved one will be transported to the Medical Examiner's Office where an autopsy will be performed.

There is no public access to the Medical Examiner's Office, and you will not be allowed to view your loved one.

The number for the Family Coordinator at the Medical Examiner's Office is **918-295-3402**

How do I contact a funeral home?

There are numerous funeral homes in the Tulsa metro area. A simple internet search will list multiple options.

Inform the funeral home personnel that your loved one is at the Medical Examiner's Office. The funeral home will contact the Medical Examiner's Office to make arraignments.

Who cleans up the crime scene?

Many homicides take place in the victim's home. The Tulsa Police Department processes the crime scene to collect evidence. The Department does not cleanup the crime scene nor does the Department pay for the cleanup.

There are professional cleaning companies that specialize in crime scene cleanup. A simple internet search will list multiple options. In some cases, homeowner's insurance policies will cover cleanup services. The Oklahoma Crime Victim Compensation Fund is another resource to help cover these expenses.

Vehicles that are towed will be at Allied Towing-Phone # 918-438-0288

Once the vehicle has been processed for evidence, the detective will release the hold.

How do I get my loved one's property back?

Unfortunately, most of the property will not be returned to you. The property is most likely evidence that may be used in court. There is no statute of limitations on murder and even if an offender is convicted there are countless appeals that can (and usually are) filed.

However, if an item is determined to not be evidence it can be returned to you. Submit your request to the detective assigned to your case. The detective will confer with the District Attorney's Office and determine if the item can be released. If so, the proper paperwork will be completed and sent to the property room. The detective will contact you when this has been done and the property is available to be picked up.

To reduce confusion, only make one request to the detective via a phone call or email. This information will be on the detective's business card.

Tulsa Police Department Property Room

You will have to go to the Tulsa Police Department Property Room (with a valid ID) to collect the property.

The Tulsa Police Department Property Room is located at 1111 W. 17th St. Tulsa, OK, the OSU Center for Health Sciences building on the northeast corner of West 17th Street and Southwest Boulevard. The entrance is on the south side of the building.

The phone number for the property room is 918-596-9355.

The hours for the property room are Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. The property room is closed to the public on Saturday & Sunday.



How long will it take to get lab work completed?

There is no set date on how long it takes to test an item. It can take up to a year for testing to be completed, especially with DNA testing. The Tulsa Police Department Forensic Laboratory handles thousands of cases each year. Once testing has been completed the results are subjected to a multi-layered review process to ensure accuracy.

The wait time can be frustrating for everyone involved. Please be patient and understand it is of the utmost importance for the results to be accurate to prevent future issues in court.



Cash Rewards Up To
\$1,500



Three ways to submit an anonymous tip:

- 918-596-COPS
- Text a tip to “CRIMES” or 274637
- www.tulsacrimestoppers.org

Additional method to provide information:

- Email to homicide@cityoftulsa.org

If you know someone who has information about the murder of your loved one, encourage them to do the right thing and speak to a detective.

If they wish to help but want to remain anonymous, encourage them to use one of the above methods to report their information. Even though this information may not be allowed in court, it may lead detectives to someone that is willing to provide a statement and testify in court.

While the above methods are helpful, the best method to solving a case is for someone to do the right thing and speak to a detective. The detectives assigned to homicide will support citizens cooperating in the prosecution of offenders. The easiest way to help is to provide detectives with the name and contact information for potential witnesses and allow them the opportunity to speak to the person. This will allow for the information to be properly documented. This provides the best opportunity for valuable information to be presented in court.

Remember, the smallest piece of information could lead to the big break in the case.

What happens after an arrest is made?

The time from arrest to conviction can take years in some cases. The defense attorney will likely file numerous motions that will require a hearing. The District Attorney may also file motions that will require a hearing. Each of these motions take time.

The Tulsa Police Department Homicide Unit suggests that you and your family attend the preliminary hearing and jury trial to show support for your loved one. When attending these hearings dress and act appropriately. The judge and jury are watching everything.

Remember to follow the case on www.oscn.net for the court dates and stay in touch with your Victim Advocate at the District Attorney's Office.

Additional information.

Some areas of The City of Tulsa are in Osage County and Wagoner County. If the crime occurred in one of these counties the process is basically the same, but the venue is different. There is also a chance that your case could go to the United States Attorney's Office. Below you will find some helpful numbers should your case go to a separate jurisdiction.

Osage County Courthouse

600 Grandview Ave.
Pawhuska, OK
918-287-4104

Osage County District Attorney

628 Kihekah Ave.
Pawhuska, OK
918-287-1510

Wagoner County Courthouse

307 East Cherokee St.
Wagoner, OK
918-485-4508

Wagoner County District Attorney

307 East Cherokee St
Wagoner, OK
918-485-2119

United States Attorney's Office

110 W 7th Street
Tulsa, OK
918-382-2700

