



PRESS RELEASE

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OJA WANTS NEW LEGISLATION ON AGE REQUIREMENT

OKLAHOMA CITY – Robert E. “Gene” Christian Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) Executive Director is concerned about current limitations judges have in placing Youthful Offenders. The Dillingham case is an example of the current “aging out” process. Without further action from the court, he will no longer be eligible to stay on OJA custody. “According to the law, Dillingham will be released on his 20th birthday,” stated Christian. “We are looking to change legislation on the age limit currently in place for custody of Youthful Offenders.”

The courts ability to sentence an individual based on their needs is limited. OJA believes the courts should be given more options to address those needs at the time of sentencing.

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