

January 23, 2007

## **BOARD OF JUVENILE AFFAIRS ELECTS NEW CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

OKC-- During a regularly scheduled meeting of the Oklahoma Board of Juvenile Affairs, Retired Tulsa Police Department Deputy Chief Charles Jackson, Tulsa resident, was unanimously elected Chair of the seven member Board. Retired District Judge George W. Lindley, Duncan resident, was elected Vice-Chair. The Board of Juvenile Affairs is responsible for developing and approving agency rules and policy, reviewing the budget for the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA), developing the mission and values for the agency and assisting in agency strategic planning. "I will serve in this capacity with the expectation that the Board and the agency's mission is carried out in the same efficient manner as those before me," stated Jackson. Jackson represents the Criminal Justice field and Lindley represents the Juvenile Justice System.

"The Office of Juvenile Affairs, in my opinion, is Oklahoma's best hope when it comes to stemming the influx of adult offenders into the Department of Corrections. OJA's recidivism rates are some of the most successful in the nation. Of the approximately 2,100 custody youth OJA treats and rehabilitates, 75% become successful adults without any further law enforcement involvement. Additionally, OJA plans on working very closely with the legislature this year to increase staff pay, deal with Youthful Offender issues and fund badly needed capital projects," explained Jackson.

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