

Sheriff hires former TPD officer after social media controversy

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Wayne Brown--known as "Duke" to some-- has now been hired as a detention officer in Rogers county.

Just last month Brown was fired from the Tulsa Police Department after social media posts surfaced that some felt called into question his ability to police diverse communities.

Screenshots of those posts were shared hundreds of times by concerned community members.

Tulsa police told us at the time, they investigated the incident and terminated Brown for violation of the department's social media policy.

Sheriff Walton tells us that he believes the social media posts were made several years ago and says his office dug deep into Brown's history.

"If I thought that Wayne Brown had a racist bone in his body he and I would not have had a conversation. We could have canned that application at the very start if we had gotten any bad feedback. Instead, we went way above and beyond what we would do in a background check. " Says Sheriff Scott Walton.

" We have given an opportunity for him to continue his career in law enforcement. It's up to him to do the rest of it and I don't have any reason to believe that he won't serve this community well. " Says Sheriff Walton.

The Roger's County Sheriff's office also hired former Tulsa police officer Betty Shelby in 2017 after she was acquitted of manslaughter in the shooting death of Terence Crutcher.

The shooting caused outrage within the community calling into question police racial bias.

Sheriff Walton has said he stands by both of his hires.