

Oklahoma Headlines

 kten.com/news/oklahoma-headlines/coal-county-undersheriff-faces-multiple-charges/article_c175c956-fa96-4ad0-b070-f13573e43d5a.html

Sabine Welsh, KTEN News Sabine Welsh

November 25, 2025



Coal County Sheriff's Office

COAL COUNTY, Okla. (KTEN) — The sheriff and undersheriff of Coal County, Oklahoma, are now facing criminal charges.

A multi-county grand jury indicted Undersheriff Jesse Yother on two counts: Felony intimidation of a witness and obstructing an officer, a misdemeanor.

Sheriff Jason Smith is also facing two misdemeanor counts: Assault and battery and domestic assault and battery.

Charges against both law enforcement officers stem from an alleged domestic dispute in July.

Court documents state that Smith allegedly hit his wife and another man, while Yother is accused of preventing a Coalgate police officer from doing his job and telling a witness to change her statement.

This is a case that now has Oklahoma Attorney General Genter Drummond weighing in.

"There can be no tolerance for a sheriff sworn to preserve the peace, but whose actions clearly undermine the law and endanger public safety," Drummond wrote. "These allegations against the sheriff are serious, and, if proven true, indicate he is unfit to continue serving the citizens of Coal County."

A grand jury is requesting that Sheriff Smith be immediately suspended from his position pending trial.

Smith has denied the allegations.