

Coal County Sheriff responds after State of Oklahoma files accusation for his removal

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COAL COUNTY, Okla. (KXII) - The State of Oklahoma has filed an accusation for removal towards Coal County Sheriff Jason Smith.

According to court documents, Smith is accused on two counts of misconduct: oppression in office, and habitual drunkenness. They allege Smith made several inappropriate comments and gestures towards female coworkers, and engaged in a physical altercation with both his wife and coworker's husband on separate occasions. They also allege Smith was drunk while on duty on more than one occasion.

When asked for comment, Smith provided the following statement:

"These allegations are false. The allegations made are personally and politically motivated based on one-sided testimony from employees of the previous administration. I've been indicted by a multi-county grand jury on hearsay testimony and I have never been allowed to give my side of the story, even though I've asked to do so several times. I'm looking forward to my opportunity to be heard in court and I absolutely believe I will be completely vindicated of these accusations. I fully intend to keep serving the citizens of Coal County as your duly-elected Sheriff."

A multi-county grand jury has requested for Smith's suspension, as he awaits a hearing for the accusation for removal.

Smith (R) was elected Coal County Sheriff on November 5, 2024, defeating incumbent Bryan Jump (D).

KXII 12 will continue to follow this story. Stay with us for the latest updates.

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