

Northeastern Oklahoma prosecutors suspended, under investigation

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The Rogers County Courthouse in Oklahoma is seen in a 2021 file photo. (KTUL)

TULSA, Okla. (KTUL) – The Rogers County District Attorney has informed the Oklahoma Attorney General of a potential felony committed by two of his assistant district attorneys.

Matt Ballard – who oversees Rogers, Mayes, and Craig counties – said in a letter to the AG he was notified of the potential crime by a judge on July 7.

Ballard said the judge had presided over a trial recently prosecuted by Chief of Criminal Division Isaac Shield and ADA George Gibbs.

The letter said the judge told Ballard about an allegation that Shields and Gibbs were some of those who watched jury deliberations through a camera linked to a monitor in the courthouse security office.

Ballard said he did not believe the audio for the cameras was activated or that they made contact with any juror, but said it potentially violates state law.

Gibbs and Shields were suspended and are no longer acting as assistant district attorneys, wrote Ballard.

Both prosecutors are military veterans, according to Ballard's website.

Shields was the lead prosecutor for the majority of major crimes in District 12, according to his biography. He previously worked in the Tulsa County DA's office as the lead prosecutor and director of the Organized Crime and Gangs Unit.

NewsChannel 8 has reached out to several people in Rogers County about this investigation, including the DA's office, Ballard, and all three county commissioners, but none have responded.

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