

Deputies preparing for more calls

As TPD cuts back, the Sheriff's Office vows to respond if requested.

BY MATT BARNARD AND JARREL WADE World Staff Writers

Tulsa County sheriff's officials are preparing deputies to handle an anticipated increase in calls to some crimes and collisions that Tulsa police are no longer responding to, Sheriff Stanley Glanz said Friday.

Although the Sheriff's Office is already staying busy with its regular calls, Glanz said his office will keep its longtime policy of responding any time someone in Tulsa County requests a deputy.

In the wake of 124 officer layoffs, the Tulsa Police Department announced Thursday that its officers temporarily will not respond to reports of fraud, forgery, larceny, car break-ins and noninjury traffic accidents unless the crime is still unfolding or other circumstances

'The agency won't respond just because Tulsa police won't. We will cover as much as we can with what we have.'

Stanley Glanz Tulsa County Sheriff

The Police Department will still take reports via Internet, telephone, walk-in or mail and will assign them

to investigators, police officials said.

To meet the needs of Tulsa County residents, Glanz said, sheriff's deputies are "refamiliarizing" themselves with how to handle collisions, which normally are worked by police in the cities in which they occur or by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol if outside city limits.

Glanz said his office will not do the Tulsa Police Department's job — and can't because of the manpower needed — but he said his deputies

are obligated to taxpayers to respond when they are called.

"The agency won't respond just because Tulsa police won't," Glanz said, explaining that a caller would have to specifically request a deputy before one would be sent. "We will cover as much as we can with what we have."

People are still urged to contact the police through the new procedures rather than call the Sheriff's

SEE POLICE A4

Sales-tax revenue continues to decline

Tulsa's dips 9.9 percent while Glenpool, Catoosa and Wagoner rebound.

BY BRIAN BARBER, SUSAN HYLTON AND RHETT MORGAN World Staff Writers

Tulsa's sales-tax revenue payment this month dropped 9.9 percent from the same month last year, bringing the city's tax slide to 11 consecutive months, officials said Friday.

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For more The city's current crisis began as long ago as 2003. A11

But it is only slightly less than the city's revised budget projections — roughly \$350,000 — and does not demand more cuts than already were planned, Finance Director Mike Kier said.

"We're going to hold steady at this point," he said.

The city's use taxes — levied when products are bought from another state — were down, but not as much as city officials expected, Kier said, and the difference will leave the sales tax gap for the month at less than \$100,000.

The City Council next week is set to consider budget amendments to reduce the general fund's revenue intake by \$10 million.

"We will continue to monitor expenses closely until the end of the (fiscal) year," Mayor Dewey Bartlett said. "It should be clear that the economic problems that we are experiencing are the result of declining revenues due to the national

SEE TAX A5

Volunteers create smiles



Dental assistant Kimberly Kennedy and Dr. Justin Beasley work on a patient in the Tulsa Convention Center during the Oklahoma Mission of Mercy on Friday. More than 1,600 people were expected to receive free basic dental care during the two-day event, which continues at 5 a.m. Saturday. MICHAEL WYKE/Tulsa World

More than 900 people receive free dental care at the clinic, but 400 are turned away.

BY KIM ARCHER World Staff Writer

The first group of people in line spent two nights in the cold just for an opportunity to get free dental care.

Many have full-time jobs but no dental insurance.

"We all have homes. We have jobs and children," said Michael Hardesty, 38, of Sand Springs.

After paying his mortgage, car insurance, utility and food bills, there's not enough left over for his teeth, Hardesty said.

"Dental isn't even an option. It's back to the basics," he said. Dentists "won't treat you unless you have the money up front." And that can cost thousands of dollars.

Hardesty was among a group of friends who camped out at the beginning of a line that snaked through the parking garage at the Tulsa Convention Center.

On Friday, they were the first patients in the Oklahoma Mission of Mercy, the largest free dental clinic ever held in the state.

Volunteer dentists and hygienists came from across Oklahoma and out-of-state to offer their services free of charge. They performed root canals, cleanings and fillings, but extractions were the most common request.

Other volunteers were nursing students, medical students and dental students. Some volunteers had no medical skills but served as "runners" who escorted each patient through the process.

More than 900 people were treated, 100 more than planned, said Dr. C. Rieger Wood, the clinic's organizer and president of the Oklahoma Dental Association. Sadly, 400 people had to be turned

SEE MERCY A4

Former Arrow CFO alleges direction in false filings

He is one of the defendants in a lawsuit against Arrow.

BY D.R. STEWART World Staff Writer

Responding to a Utah bank's lawsuit against bankrupt Arrow Trucking Co. and its executives, former Chief Financial Officer Jonathan Moore alleges he submitted inaccurate financial statements and

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false invoices to the bank at the direction of "his employer."

Repeatedly, Moore alleges he participated in fraudulent activity "upon instructions" from his superiors to deceive the bank about

Arrow's financial condition.

Moore is one of the named defendants along with Arrow and its affiliates in a lawsuit filed by Transportation Alliance Bank of Ogden, Utah. The suit was filed Jan. 8 in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma in Tulsa.

The Utah bank was Arrow's lender, which canceled the company's fuel credit cards Dec. 22, causing Arrow to suspend operations and stranding hundreds of drivers and freight around the country.

Arrow filed a Chapter 7 bankruptcy liquidation petition in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma in Tulsa on Jan. 8, the same day TAB's lawsuit was filed.

TAB alleges Moore, former Arrow CEO Doug Pielsticker and former General Counsel Joseph Mowry conspired to submit thousands of fraudulent invoice reports that cost the bank more than \$12.5 million.

SEE ARROW A4

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Today High 40, Low 26

Cloudy and cold. More weather on D6

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