

# Former MGCO sheriff faces DUI charges in Cowley County

A former Montgomery County Sheriff who sought an investigation into a domestic altercation involving a former deputy has wound up behind bars in an area jail.

According to the Montgomery County *Chronicle*, former sheriff Robert Dierks was arrested in Cowley County on Sunday, July 6 where he faces charges of driving under the influence of alcohol, transport of an open container of a cereal malt beverage, and failure to report a traffic incident. The basic details of Dierks arrest were made available on the Cowley County Sheriff's Department website.

No other details are available concerning Dierks' arrest or his first hearing in Cowley County District Court.

In April, Dierks, along with former Coffeyville resident Bo Rupert, who now resides in North Carolina, made a public statement criticizing current sheriff Ron Wade in

his handling of a domestic altercation involving a now-former deputy.

Dierks and Rupert filed a request with the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training, also known as KS-CPOST, to investigate the 2021 domestic incident in which no arrests were made. The former deputy was suspended after the domestic incident and ultimately resigned. The former deputy also had his law enforcement certification revoked by the KS-CPOST.

A special prosecutor who was hired by then-county attorney Lisa Montgomery to investigate the case chose to not file any charges against the former deputy or his spouse.

In their statement released in April, Dierks and Rupert say that all laws must be applied equally — even to persons within law enforcement. No preferential treatment should be given to officers who break the law, they said.

Dierks was ousted as Montgomery County Sheriff in early January 2020 after being suspended in March 2019 for an incident in which he attempted to interfere in the arrest of his then-girlfriend on a charge of driving under the influence. Additionally Dierks was accused by the State of Kansas of attempting to persuade sheriff's deputies from testifying in an administrative hearing concerning the suspension of the girlfriend's driver's license.

Dierks did not serve any jail time for his ouster. As a condition of his ouster, Dierks was prohibited from seeking public office for at least full year after his ouster.

He sought the Republican nomination for county sheriff in August 2024 but lost that election to Wade, who was the incumbent.

Rupert claims to be a social activist with specific focus on law enforcement improprieties.

## Shriners to hold free orthopedic screenings for area children

PITTSBURG — Do you know of a child with signs of an orthopedic condition or in need of an orthopedic second opinion?

Families are invited to a complimentary screening clinic in Pittsburg, Kan., on Monday, July 21, sponsored by the Mirza Shriners.

Children will be evaluated to see if their bone, muscle, or joint problem is a treatable condition at Shriners Children's St. Louis. Shriners Children's provides comprehensive medical, surgical and rehabilitative care for children with orthopedic conditions regardless of their ability to pay or insurance coverage. If a child requires follow-up care at the clinic, complimentary transportation may be available through the local Shrine Center upon request.

The screening will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday July 21 at the Mirza Shrine Center, 110 W. 5th, in Pittsburg. Appointments can be made by calling (620) 231-4180.

Shriners Children's St. Louis is part of Shriners Children's, a pediatric health care system dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing specialty care, innovative research and outstanding teaching programs. Children up to the age of 21 with orthopedic

conditions receive all care in a family-centered environment regardless of the patients' ability to pay.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and relies on the generosity of donors. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

To learn more about Shriners Hospitals for Children, visit [www.shrinerschildrens.org](http://www.shrinerschildrens.org).

### Fishes & Loaves served July 17 at Fredonia's FUMC

Next Thursday, July 17, is Fishes and Loaves night at the First United Methodist Church, 8th and Madison, in Fredonia.

This month's meal is meatballs, potato salad, fruit, and dessert. Meals may be picked up from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the church basement.



The inflatables obstacle course race proved hilarious for participants and fans alike during the July 4 celebration at Rotary Park.

Rob Morgan/Neodesha Derrick News

Published in the Wilson County Citizen on Thursday, July 10, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 25-006

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF FREDONIA, KANSAS, REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REINVESTMENT HOUSING INCENTIVE DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY OF FREDONIA, KANSAS

**WHEREAS**, K.S.A. 12-5241 *et. seq.* as amended (the "Act") authorizes any city incorporated in accordance with the laws of the State of Kansas (the "State") with a population of less than 60,000 to designate reinvestment housing incentive districts within such city; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to such designation the governing body of such city shall conduct a housing needs analysis to determine what, if any, housing needs exist within its community; and

**WHEREAS**, after conducting such analysis, the governing body of such city may adopt a resolution making certain findings regarding the establishment of a reinvestment housing incentive district and providing the legal description of the property to be contained therein; and

**WHEREAS**, after publishing such resolution, the governing body of such city shall send a copy thereof to the Secretary of Commerce of the State of Kansas (the "Secretary") requesting that the Secretary agree with the finding contained in such resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, if the Secretary agrees with such findings, such city may proceed with the establishment of a reinvestment housing incentive district within such city and adopt a plan for the development or redevelopment of housing and public facilities in the proposed district; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fredonia, Kansas ("the City") has an estimated population of less than 60,000 and therefore constitutes a city as said term is defined in the Act, and

**WHEREAS**, the City has conducted a Housing Needs Analysis dated July 8, 2024 (the "Analysis") to determine what, if any, housing needs exist within its community, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**WHEREAS**, based on the Needs Analysis, the Governing Body of the City proposes to commence proceedings necessary to create Reinvestment Housing Incentive Districts, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the City of Fredonia, Kansas as follows:

**Section 1. Findings and Determinations.** After review of the Analysis, the governing body of the City hereby finds and determines as follows:

- There is a shortage of quality housing of various price ranges in the City despite the best efforts of public and private housing developers;
- The shortage of quality housing can be expected to persist and additional financial incentives are necessary in order to encourage the private sector to construct or renovate housing within the City;
- The shortage of quality housing is a substantial deterrent to the future economic growth and development of the City; and
- The future economic well-being of the City depends on the Governing Body providing additional incentives for the construction or renovation of quality housing in the City.

**Section 2. Proposed Reinvestment Housing Incentive District.** Based on the foregoing findings and determinations, the governing body of the City hereby declares its intent to establish a Reinvestment Housing Incentive District (the "District") within the City. The legal descriptions of the proposed Districts are attached hereto as *Exhibit A*. A map of the proposed District is attached hereto as *Exhibit B*.

**Section 3. Publication.** This Resolution, including *Exhibits A* and *B* hereto, shall be published once in the official newspaper of the City.

**Section 4. Approval by Secretary of Commerce.** Following the adoption and publication of this Resolution, a certified copy of this Resolution, including *Exhibits A* and *B*, and the Analysis shall be submitted to the Secretary with a request that the Secretary review such documents and advise the governing body whether the Secretary agrees with the findings contained herein. If the Secretary advises the governing body in writing that the Secretary agrees with each of the findings of the governing body, the governing body may proceed to establish the District in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

**ADOPTED** by the Governing Body of the City of Fredonia, Kansas on July 16, 2025.

(seal)

Allen Miller, Mayor

ATTEST: Suzanne Pekrul, City Clerk

**Fredonia Arts Council**

**Celebrating Summer Arts Open House**

**Saturday, July 12**

**10a.m. to Noon**

Join us in celebrating the talent of our young artists! Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

**Stone House Gallery**

320 N 7th • Fredonia, Kansas

620-378-2052

**CASA thanks all who helped make our 19th Annual Father's Day Golf Tournament a success!**

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Looking forward to seeing you at our 20th Annual Tournament.

Thank you very much to all our sponsors & volunteers!