



October 16, 2019

Contact: Katie Lenhart  
(405) 248-9280

For Immediate Release

## **2019 Red Ribbon Week in Oklahoma**

**What:** A press event to announce Red Ribbon Week, a national observance to prevent drug and alcohol use among youth.

**Who:** Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame President Mike James, together with United States Drug Enforcement Administration Assistant Special Agent in Charge of Oklahoma City District Office John Scott, Oklahoma Department of Education Superintendent Joy Hofmeister and Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Commissioner Terri White.

**Where:** The press event will be hosted at the Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark in Legends Lounge. Limited parking is available on the corner of Mickey Mantle Drive and Sheridan Avenue, near the Mickey Mantle Entrance. There is metered parking available, as well as free parking at the Bricktown Events Center (in front of IHOP). No parking passes from the ballpark are needed.

Media crews may park against the curb on Mickey Mantle Drive.

**When:** Friday, October 18, at 1:30 p.m. The press event will begin promptly at 1:30. Speakers and representatives will be available for interviews directly after the event, at about 2:00 p.m.

**Why:** Red Ribbon Week is a national observance started by the Drug Enforcement Administration in memory of Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. It is the oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program in the United States. The Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame has been the state's national affiliate for Red Ribbon Week for over 20 years. Drug and alcohol prevention efforts are reflected in Red Ribbon Week school activities to encourage parents to speak early and often about substance abuse with their children. In addition, statewide "Light Oklahoma Red" partners will be announced during the event.

For more details, contact Katie Lenhart, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Communications Coordinator at (405) 248-9280.

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