Chief of Police William Fancil
End of Watch: Monday, June 1, 1970
Age: 25  Tour of Duty: 3 years
Cause of Death: Gunfire
Date of Incident: Monday, June 1, 1970
Weapon Used: Gun
Suspect: Found guilty

Chief Fancil was shot to death when he surprised three attempted robbers of the Big John's supermarket as they were breaking into the store. He had detained two men and was beginning to search them when a third suspect came out and began firing. The chief emptied his revolver, wounding two of the three robbers, and was hit by return fire from the suspects. One suspect plead guilty to murder and burglary, another plead guilty to burglary, and the third was convicted of murder.

Chief Fancil served with the Oblong Police Department for 11 months. He had previously served as a deputy sheriff. He was survived by his wife, two sons, parents, three brothers, and four sisters.

The Village of Oblong Police Department is a full service agency that serves a population of approximately 1,600 located in western Crawford County. The department consists of 7 police officers that include the Chief of Police Chad E. Pusey (member of Region 57), two full-time police officers and four part-time police officers.

The Department web site has a very nice tribute to the officer lost in the line of duty, Chief of Police William Fancil. It can be viewed at www.villageofoblong.com/ It is very heart warming to see such a tribute to a fallen officer. Well done Oblong!