



# Different uniform option approved

Officers have a new option for more comfortable uniforms while out on patrol.

They can ditch the polyester/wool-blend, dry-clean only pants for tactical ones that move, breathe and are a machine-washable poly/cotton blend. The shirts follow suit with side panels to help heat escape during the summer as well as embroidery in exchange for the collar brass and nametag.

Chief Richard Smith said it's the fulfillment of a promise.

"When I was going through the process to become chief, the No. 1 issue people here approached me about was with the uniform and wanting it fixed," Chief Smith said. "It's been the same for 30 years. It wasn't about the colors; it was the fabrics. We needed something breathable and much lighter."

Kansas City Missouri Police have had the same uniforms since the department switched from brown ones in the early 1980s.

Officers were allowed to purchase the new uniforms beginning May 22 as an optional Class B uniform. The special order announcing the change states that due to budget restrictions, the Department will not provide the new uniform pieces, which are \$48 for pants and from \$53 to \$115 for the shirts.

The Department will continue to provide the traditional uniform at no cost. Members are prohibited from mixing and matching pieces of the old uniforms with the new ones. Members will continue to receive a uniform allowance in their paychecks, which originally was intended for dry-cleaning costs.

Captain Lonnie Price chaired the Uniform Committee during the testing of new uniforms last year and has long pushed for a change. Nearly 20 officers tested three different uniform types over a period



**The new Class B uniform option, which is on display at the Police Academy, is machine-washable and was deemed more comfortable by Department testers.**

of time to try them in all types of weather. They evaluated them on comfort, durability, ease of care, public response, peer response and more. Captain Price said the main concern was about the pants.

"The new ones are practical and comfortable with pockets on the sides," he said. "They dry in about 5 to 10 minutes. In the old ones, if you got you wet, you were wet for the rest of your shift. With the wool, they were brutal in the summertime. They're just not practical for our people out on the streets who are running, jumping, bending over to search cars."

The new pants do not have the traditional French blue stripe.

The embroidered shirts also offer advantages.

"There's no more worry about losing collar brass or name tags or them being crooked, and they're much more comfortable," Captain Price said.

And while the Uniform Committee gave higher marks to some other brands of shirts, Chief Smith wanted to stick with a vendor that provides KCPD's signature French blue.

Captain Price said many officers have been eager to get the new uniform.

"When the special order came out, there was a line out the door," he said.

The Galls store in North Kansas City is the distributor of the new uniforms.

"People wanted this for a long time," Captain Price said. "I just wanted people working out in the field to have the option to have something practical and comfortable."

**Pgs. 2-3** Internet exchange areas  
Sworn serial numbers jump  
2019 Memorial Service

**Pgs. 4-5** KCPD members lighten up  
Officially Speaking

**Pg. 6** EOC 165 graduates  
Upcoming Events

# KCPD offers internet exchange areas

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department has long encouraged residents to conduct online-based transactions at its stations, and now there is formal signage in place at every patrol division parking lot to indicate that.

Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, OfferUp, LetGo, – all offer a convenient way to buy and sell items with people nearby at a bargain. Sadly, it can also be an easy way for criminals to take advantage of unsuspecting victims. Police have seen many cases of this in Kansas City, which is what prompted the designation of all patrol division parking lots as internet exchange zones during daylight hours. The signs went up the week of May 20.

From Jan. 1 to May 31, 2019, KCPD officers responded to 19 robberies originating from online sales. They have become more frequent, with six in May. The most common items being bought or sold were iPhones. Victims met suspects at homes, convenience and grocery stores, restaurants, gyms, community centers and parks.

One May 20, one victim agreed to meet someone through the LetGo app at a church parking lot in the 5500 block of Wayne to buy an iPhone 8s Plus. Two suspects got into the victims' vehicle. They began to discuss price, but then one of them pulled a gun, threatened

the victim, and took his money. That's a fairly typical example of how the crimes occur. Shots were fired in three of the 19 online sales robberies so far in 2019, but no one was seriously hurt.

Police encourage those who set up sales or trades in online forums to come do the in-person transaction at any of the department's six patrol division stations throughout the city. The goal is to provide a safe space for residents to conduct transactions during daylight hours. Buyers and sellers should be aware that anyone who is unwilling to meet at



a police station for the transaction may have ulterior motives and could be unsafe.

The new police station parking lot signage is intended not only to direct online buyers and sellers where to park for exchanges, but also to formally welcome them.

“Hundreds – maybe even thousands – of people are making these exchanges across Kansas City every day,” Chief Richard Smith wrote on his blog. “Our mission statement is to protect and serve with professionalism, honor and integrity. We believe providing these safe internet exchange zones both protects residents and serves a growing demand for secure internet transaction spaces.”

Robbery detectives advise buyers and sellers not to sacrifice safety for convenience or a lower price. Speaking of price, if it seems too good to be true, it probably is. No legitimate seller is offering the latest iPhone for \$150. This is a common tactic used to lure victims to a robbery, and they will often use the price as an excuse for victims to meet them in a questionable location.

“We’re hoping that just proposing one of our police stations as a meeting place will put off anyone who had nefarious plans,” Chief Smith wrote.

The idea was extremely popular with residents, spreading quickly once the department shared it on social media to reach more than 200,000 people.

## Sworn serial numbers make big jump

The members of the Entrant Officer Class that graduated on May 9 have a unique identifier never before used on the Department: a five-digit serial number starting with the number 5.

It's unclear when KCPD started assigning serial numbers. The Personnel Records Section has a hand-written book, however, listing all sworn members in alphabetical order at the time it was written and assigning them a corresponding number, starting with No. 1, Paul Acord, and ending with No. 557, William Lee Young. The book is not dated.

As recent recruits graduated and started using up the 5900 series of numbers, the Personnel Records Section knew they had to do something different. The 6000 series is assigned to reserve officers, and the 7000 is for parking control officers. The numbers 8000 through 49999 already are designated for civilian employees.

A collaborative effort between Application Development staff, Accounting and Payroll, Retirement and Personnel Records determined the best series of numbers to use for full-time

sworn members going forward is 50000 – 56999.

The series 58000 – 58999 eventually will be used for reserve officers once the 6000 four-digit numbers are used up. The series 57000 – 57999 was sporadically used for contract employees in the past and therefore will not be assigned to future sworn employees. The group decided not to reuse any previously issued serial number because it would erase the history that went with it.

The 28 officers who graduated in May all have 50000 serial numbers.

“We didn't have enough four-digit numbers for the entire class, and we didn't want to split the class having some with four digits and some with five digits, so all were given five-digit numbers,” Personnel Records Supervisor Reneé Gatewood said.

A few four-digit 5900 numbers remain, and those will be used for lateral police officers who are appointed individually, until they are all used.

# 2019 KCPD Memorial Service

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department's annual Memorial Service took place May 23 in front of Police Headquarters to honor the 119 officers who have died in the line of duty throughout KCPD's history. Mary Faulkner, widow of fallen Officer Stephen Faulkner, stood alongside their son as she recounted how his death in a 1992 helicopter crash impacted their family. Chief Richard Smith said one of the main purposes of the Memorial Service is to show KCPD's continued support of surviving family members.



# KCPD members lighten up

There is a downward trend going on around the Kansas City Missouri Police Department. Recently, several members have taken drastic measures to lose significant amounts of weight.

Major Keith Kirchhoff, Metro Patrol, was tired of buying larger clothes and tired of feeling miserable. He was the Captain in Homicide when he saw several other coworkers losing weight and started questioning how they were doing it. Kirchhoff was introduced to their doctor, who started him on a strict eating plan on Aug. 13, 2018.

“The first eight to 12 weeks are the hardest,” Kirchhoff said about his eating plan, which focuses on burning stored fat.

Eating mostly foods high in protein, vegetables and low calories is how he was able to lose 96.4 pounds.

“I walk past people I have known for over 20 years and they don’t even recognize me,” Kirchhoff said.

Several friends have even shown concern, thinking he may be sick, but quite the opposite is true; he is healthier than he has ever been. Most important to him, he has an energy level that allows him to be active with his young son and family.

Sergeant Chris Onik’s weight loss journey was motivated through seeing Major Kirchhoff’s success; along with the realization he was going to be a first-time dad at the age of 40. He wanted to be the dad who could get down on the floor and play with his daughter and be healthy enough to see his daughter grow up.

“I knew I was big,” Onik confessed, “but I had to find that thing to motivate me to give everything.”

He began his change on Feb. 11 of this year, losing over 63 pounds and counting, through diet and will be adding in more exercise in the coming weeks. He is now using all the extra energy on his newborn baby girl.

Being diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes in August 2017, was a wake-up call for Sergeant Jamie McAdams. He has always had an interest in CrossFit, starting back in 2010 when the department started it, but was never fully committed until July 27, 2018. It was the start of his

healthy-living journey consisting of a flexible, clean-eating plan along with CrossFit.

McAdams has found accountability, encouragement and friendship with the people he works out with at CrossFit816. He can be found there four to five times a week and recently attained his CrossFit level 1 teaching certificate.

“Anybody can do this, it just takes consistency,” McAdams says of his weight loss.

In January of this year, he found out his diabetes was gone and as of June, he has lost 45 lbs.

Running became the means to the goal of weight loss for Detective Jeremy Wells. About a year ago, Wells was trying to keep up with his active 1-year-old granddaughter, but at nearly the largest he had been, he realized it was time for a change to his lifestyle. At the end of October 2018, he signed up for his first 5K, and there was no turning back.

With little training, he barely finished his first race, but set the lofty goal to run at least one 5K race every month in 2019. Wells is crushing his goal, running up to four 5Ks a month and just signed up for his first half-marathon in November of this year. He is focused on meal prepping to eat as healthy as possible, especially at work.

“I had to cut out all of the good stuff, but all the running in the world won’t help if you are eating with horrible habits,” he said.

His dedication is paying off as he has lost 78 lbs. since October 2018.

KCPD’s Wellness Unit offers several resources for weight loss and nutrition. Sergeant Luther Young encourages department members to use the website Darbee.com for great workout and nutrition programs and their blog kcpdwellness.org for helpful tips.

“We also encourage employees with knowledge and experience in a well-being subject to let us know so we can offer a space for them to teach others,” Luther said.

Before and after photos continued on p. 5



Sergeant Jamie McAdams

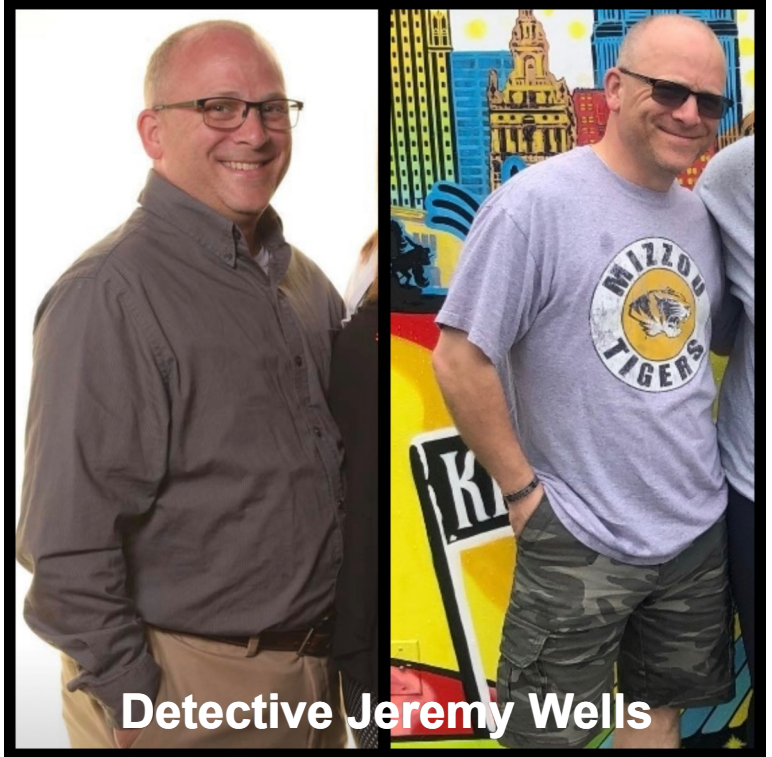


Major Keith Kirchhoff

# Before and after photos show health improvements



**Sergeant Chris Onik**



**Detective Jeremy Wells**

## Officially Speaking

### Awards

#### **Distinguished Service Medal**

Officer Cody Halterman

#### **Certificates of Commendation**

Officer Luke Abouhalkah

Officer Joshua Hartley

#### **Meritorious Service Awards**

Detective Scott Emery

Detective Brandon Winders

Officer Erik Enderlin

#### **Life-Saving Awards**

Officer Ronald Davis

Officer William Edwards

Officer Timothy Griddine

Officer Andrew Miller

### **Special Unit Citation**

Captain Ryan Mills; Sergeants Michael Lenoir and Troy Phillips; and Officer Nicole Wright

### Promotions

#### **Promotion to Deputy Chief**

Mark Francisco

#### **Promotion to Captain**

Santiago "Sonny" Garza

Matthew Young

#### **Promotion to Sergeant**

Trevor Hachman

William Hooley

David Kissee

Scott McGregor

George Sterling

Michael Vulje

Kevin Zoellner

### 25-Year Rings

Building Operations Technician Rene Banuelos

Officer Timothy Fillpot

Communications Specialist

Traci Nunley

Assistant Supervisor Lisa

Randle

Officer Phillip Travis

### Retirements

Deputy Chief David Bosworth

Major Matthew "Tye" Grant

Sergeant Brian Karman

Detective Mark Rice

### Obituaries

Retired Civilian Lucile Dickey

Retired Officer Millard Fischer

## Upcoming Events

June 27  
KC Regional Law  
Enforcement Memorial  
Garden Ground-  
Breaking

July 9  
Board of Police  
Commissioners  
Meeting

July 18  
Headquarters Blood  
Drive

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# E.O.C. 165 graduates



Entrant Officer Class 165 graduated May 9 with 28 officers being sworn into the Kansas City Missouri Police Department, and 12 sworn into outside agencies. Valedictorian of the class was KCPD Officer Scott Fixler, and the Richard Fletcher Director's Award went to Officer John Ulberg of the Blue Springs Police Department.

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