

[REDACTED]

From: pam Kurt [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 02, 2020 9:43 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Thank you!

Dear Police Chief:

I am writing to all of your brave, courageous, and dedicated police officers in an effort to show that there are people within this country who respect and fully appreciate all of the services that your station provides to each community. We understand how dangerous, unjust and discriminatory each serviceman and woman may feel when confronted with the demands of their office everyday.

Please know many people including myself would like to break their silence today and say THANK YOU!!

"A hero is an individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."

You are also our Heros in a time of uncertainty and fear.

Dear Lord, I am your most humble servant;
who attempts to serve the public with both compassion and insight.
I will proudly put on God's armor daily;
protecting the innocent while defeating evil that often hides in the night.

Watch over me sweet Lord,
as my enemies abound.
Shelter me within your loving arms,
when my body lies weak on unforgiving ground.

I wish to thank you Lord for my loved ones;
my family and dear friends.
For I know one remarkable day;
Love will overcome, and towards Paradise we will all ascend.

Pam-NewJersey

[REDACTED]

From: Becky Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:26 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: I support KCPD

I support law enforcement period! What I don't support are elected officials with no police training what so ever telling the police how to NOT do their jobs. The law is the law and only our police can make all people abide by it. I thank you for putting your lives out there to be sure mine is safe. It breaks my spirit when I see you treated like the criminal! I question how any good cop can stand down to the hateful ignorant (college educated in most cases) humans screaming vulgarity in your face, I'm not sure I could do that. You are remarkable!
I will always stand with KCPD!
Sincere thanks to all in blue!
RD and Becky Moore

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[REDACTED]

From: Penny Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 4:31 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Back the Blue

Hello all,

I feel that it is my civic duty to send a note of my appreciation and gratitude for the brave men and women serving in the KCPD under the strong and fair leadership of Chief Smith. I think this country is doing irreparable damage to itself by speaking out against police and throwing politics into the middle of it all. We can obviously see that this is happening in the violence that has been shown towards police lately. It is heartbreaking and makes me fearful that it's going to be impossible to keep/hire good officers. Why would they choose to do a dangerous job that doesn't have the backing of their superiors or community? I think it would be a terrible decision to relinquish state control of our police department and hand it over to local governance that has a proven track record of corruption. Please advise me of other opportunities or ways to make my voice heard on this matter.

Sincerely,
Penny Thomas

Sent from Penny's iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Michelle Nordyke [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 4:58 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Letter of KCPD

Board of Police Commissioners,

I'm writing to voice support for the continuance of State Control, to keep corruption and politics out of OUR Police Department and the backing of Chief Smith and the Officers. The police department needs to be independent of political interference or motive.

A topic discussed in the board meeting today was regarding minorities hired by the police department. It is indicated there is a low number of minorities hired/or in the process of being hired. Does anyone look at the number of minorities who have even put in an application? Everyone goes thru the same hiring process and if someone doesn't meet the requirements or pass a polygraph test should they just be hired based on color? You have to consider you issue these people a gun for God's sake. Also, if KCPD didn't have a residency requirement I'm sure they would attract a lot more people interested in working for the department. Not to mention, isn't it the minorities who are out in the streets protesting and shouting they don't like police!

The public has voiced a need for more social workers/or money spent toward working in the community. KCPD does have units/people who work in the community. Plus, they have hired social workers for each division station. More social workers would be great, but with a 10m dollar deduction in the budget they barely have officers to man the streets. When KCPD receives a 911 call for help they respond. Say you have a DV call involving a 300lb naked male armed with a gun who is high on PCP. You tell me how a social worker is going to handle that situation!

What we have in KC is not a police problem, it's a prosecutor problem. If the cases involving criminals were prosecuted and these people were incarcerated, it would definitely cut down on repeat offenders and the violent crimes we see in this city. People want to place blame on Police Chief Smith for the outrageous homicide rate. Seriously, is he out there promoting it? Of course, the public is not a help in solving crimes because no one talks or claims they don't see anything. So that's not fair to place blame on the police department for unsolved cases when they have no help! Plus, when they do get a case file together, will the prosecutor even file charges on the suspect?

Another thing I want to point out is the BLM protests. These protests in KC were NOT peaceful. The police officers in this city canceled vacations, family birthdays/anniversaries and worked on their days off to protect our city, only to have rocks, bricks, canned food and even urine thrown at them! They were trying to keep law and order in our city, plus protect people's property from destruction. Then what do they get for their efforts-----charges dropped on offenders! What message does that send to the citizens of KC----I'll tell you what--NO consequences for wrong doings and you wonder why the crime rate is high.

Why would anyone want to be a police officer based on lack of support, fear of law suits or being falsely accused of misconduct. There will be no incentive for doing the job or protecting the community. What officers are on the job now are going to retire early or just start another career.

Chief Smith and his administration are doing an excellent job, especially during these turbulent times. I support him and our police department. I voice my support in the continuance of State control.

Michelle Nordyke

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 9:35 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Attachments: text_0.txt

Good morning, I am a Kansas City resident and I 100% support out KCPD. I felt safer in my community when the KCPD had more support. Please give them the support they need. Our Chief of police, Rick Smith has been doing an excellent job. There is no reason he should be fired or let go. Please keep politics out of this. I supported Mayor Lucas because he was in step with our police. I am not sure he is still supporting them. It seems that his values have changed when we started having the protests. We need to get back to business and let the police do the job. Training needs to go out people who think this job is easy. Let's have citizens do ride alongside and risk their lives for our safety. Pam Watson Kansas City Resident

T-Mobile

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

[REDACTED]

From: Rachel [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 10:18 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support our officers

I'm sending this email in support of our local police officers and chief Rick Smith. I don't understand why our police are not being supported more strongly during these hard times. These men and women put their lives at risk every single day for the safety of our community. Without them we would suffer many unfortunate things. Please give them the financial support to keep our communities safe. Our children and future generations deserve to feel safe and these police officers are not going to keep coming back to a dangerous thankless job. I don't have the answer but hopefully who ever reads this will have a heart enough to try and do the right thing.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Melissa V Patti [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 10:10 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Thank you to our police department

Dear Sir or Madame:

In times like this, history is defined not by the loud minority but the silent majority. Horrible things have happened when the silent majority don't stand up for they know is right and I refuse to be on the wrong side of history.

Like many profession, there are good and bad people. I truly believe that the men and women of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department are good people that hold true to oath they recited on the day they entered the police department. With so any people voicing their displeasure with not only our police department but also our chief of police, I want you to know that silent majority support our police and do NOT want them defunded. I also want to commend our police chief, Rick Smith, for how he handled the recent shooting of our officers. He showed great leadership and compassion when it was truly needed. It is very clear he does care for not only his officers, but also the community he serves.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and god bless.

Melissa Patti

[REDACTED]

From: KC R [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 10:39 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Listen to the law-abiding citizens - please

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner,

I am writing in full support of and appreciation for the Kansas City Police Department. They have served and continue to serve with excellence and professionalism in a time and place where it seems everything - including those who should be supporting them - are against them. **The hatred they are receiving is horrific.**

Our officers have, in sum, received the misdirected hatred and venom from those who protest against mistreatment occurring by individuals -not police departments as a whole- in other times and places than ours. **And you are allowing this to happen? Why?**

Chief Smith himself is serving with dignity and integrity in a seemingly impossible role. He has maintained careful insight and professionalism in directing his officers to protect and serve those very people who are fighting against him and those officers. Therein lies the irony in this entire situation.

If the officers simply had not shown up to these protests to be the object of the protestors' actions, what would have happened then? We have seen by the vandals' behavior that they would proceed to destroy businesses, endanger our community, and bring shame on Kansas City.

Do not defund or cut budgets in our Police Departments. We are quickly moving toward becoming one of the scariest places in the country to live. Allowing these dissenters to manipulate our city and defunding or reducing funds and resources in our police department will do just that. You will cause our city to lose the very officers that give their lives, daily, to the efforts that keep our city safe and livable. **To keep YOU and your families safe.**

While those angry, protesting voices may seem loud right now, consider it is because the patient, law-abiding citizens are working. They may not have as much time to dedicate to write to you or to show up at your meetings in support of the protection of our city as those complainers have to dedicate to protests and to the ruin of our city. That is why you exist. To do what is BEST for all of the citizens of Kansas City. Please fulfill your role accordingly.

You have shown your support of the angry protesters by allowing them free reign of our city without consequence and subsequently you have devalued, punished and disrespected our officers. **You have pardoned those arrested for violent acts and created an atmosphere of hate for the officers who serve this city tirelessly.**

It must stop. **Mayor Lucas - you campaigned as one to support our police force and you have turned your back on all officers with your actions. You are a disgrace to this city. You have done nothing to defend our police officers and have not batted an eye when they have been attacked. You didn't even make an appearance when our last officer was shot in the head and lay in the hospital fighting for his life. You have lost any respect from the police department that you once had. You can be sure you won't be backed by officers when election time comes around.**

Don't succumb to this madness...

[REDACTED]

From: Ken Rumney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 4:14 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support for KCPD and Chief Smith

I am writing to let you know I fully support and appreciate the efforts of the KCPD and of Chief Smith. They have and continue to serve with excellence and professionalism during a time when so many are against them, including our local govt. who is leaving them out to dry.

Our officers continued to be demonized by protesters and media coverage, and feel unsupported by you and our elected officials. When the peaceful protests turned into violent riots, looting and destruction of private property, our own city officials decided not to hold those rioters accountable for their action. The actions of our elected officials have emboldened many to turn to lethal force as evident in the recent shootings of our KC Police Officers, one, who continues to fight for his life.

We continue to see, nightly, that more officers across the country are leaving the profession at alarming rates. Depending on the winds direction on any given day, our own city officials at times have called for defunding, and the very next week call for more police presence due to violence in their neighborhood- (18th and Vine). You have been selected to lead and provide support to our officers, not dismantle the very mechanisms put in place to provide law and order. Every officer I know welcomes as much training as they can get, but understaffing issues keep officers on the patrol vs more training time, and you consider reducing the budget? You are putting our at risk neighborhoods at risk, and our officers at risk by these actions. Stop listening to the mob, and listen to your officers on the streets who can give you examples daily of the need and wants of the community.

As I write this letter I hear that federal agents will be coming to our city to assist in solving the violent crime issues. How pathetic that instead of taking action and being proactive with your support of KCPD, that you as a board allow the *ever efficient* federal Govt. to try and clean your mess. You have the most highly trained, respected police force in the state. Their training through the KCPD Academy is the benchmark in the region, don't waste our cities resources by losing officers to low morale due to city leadership.

Chief Smith has served with dignity during this challenging time. His leadership serves as an example to our officers who continue to protect and serve this great community against those that actively seek to dismantle the fine line that stands between society and violent chaos. It appears this isn't about racial equality issues but political ideology at its lowest level.

We do not want our beloved city to join the ranks as one of those most "dangerous cities" in the United States. Do not cut budgets or defund our police department. You as city officials should have the best interest for all the citizens of Kansas City, not just those that are angrily protesting. Many law-abiding citizens that are working 9-5 don't always have the time to show up to meetings and/or voice their opinions to you in person. Please understand, there is a silent majority, and for those of you who are elected we will remember you speaking from both sides of your mouth.

Please make sure you do your job and do what is BEST for all the citizens of Kansas City – do NOT defund or cut the budget of our police department.

Sincerely,

Ken- Kansas City resident

From: Lori Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:10 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: KCPD

I am writing a letter to cover three topics (as of now) and make my voice heard.

First, I want to wholeheartedly support Chief Smith. He has done an amazing job since he was appointed, and it was a much needed change. Chief Smith started his career with KCPD as a young, eager, excited officer. He is incredibly dedicated to this department, to the officers, and to the city they serve. This is HIS city, too, I might add. Since there IS a residency requirement, he also lives within the city and experiences the same issues the rest of us do. Chief Smith has incredible integrity, and he cares deeply about each officer and their family. This didn't happen overnight when he became chief. He has ALWAYS led by example in every assignment and promotion along the way. He has earned the respect and brotherly/sisterly love of his officers. He is not in this for the "money and perks". He is not out to fleece the department at the end of his tenure (like someone else I know). Chief Smith is very intelligent and understands the dynamics of this city and the residents. To push him to the side during this time of extreme stress and turmoil would be a huge mistake, both from the view of the city AND the view of the officers who look to him for strength guidance and the leadership that has been lacking for so many years prior to his appointment.

Secondly, I DO NOT SUPPORT in any way, shape or form, the local takeover of the PD. This would be - again - a huge mistake. The reasons the State of Missouri took control of KCPD during the Pendergast era are still around today. We have had too many corrupt council members over the years, and there is nothing to make me think that there aren't corrupt council members now. Corruption is sneaky. Corruption is insidious. And if local control is granted, we will begin to see corruption again in the manipulation of the department & their thinking they are above the law.

Thirdly, I am completely disgusted and angered by the comments of Mark Tolbert in this week's BOPC meeting regarding WHITE women within the ranks of LE. THIS IS ANOTHER REASON THAT LOCAL CONTROL SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. If Mr. Tolbert thinks this, who else within the Board or council feels the same?? I am a WHITE FEMALE FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC. How dare he disparage us and our desire to serve our communities. There have been some squawking about hiring more minorities into the PD. We have had the same issue on the FD side. Here's the deal We have TRIED. We have gone into the urban core and TRIED to recruit candidates. You want to know what they do?? They laugh & keep on walking. I believe the comments (among others) were that they "didn't want to work that hard." We have never had blatant corruption within the PD like so many other cities. I don't want to start now. If we start hiring people who aren't 1) qualified (everyone must take & pass the same tests) or 2) want the job, then we cannot have them as members of the PD (or FD). The citizens look to us as their protectors, to be above the line, to be good people. Are there bad officers? yep. Are there bad firefighters? Yep. Are there bad doctors/lawyers/businessmen/priests?? Yep, yep, yep & yep. But we must do what we can to protect the integrity. And for Mr. Tolbert to disparage ME, a white female firefighter paramedic, is despicable. I don't make a decision to render care or not render care to someone based on their ethnicity, race, religion, color of their eyes, the shape of their nose, because they are pretty/not pretty. I render care to EV-ERY-ONE. PERIOD. We hire candidates because THEY WANT THE JOB. THEY ARE QUALIFIED FOR THE JOB. Let me repeat that THEY. ARE. QUALIFIED. FOR. THE. JOB. I don't care if I'm working alongside a rabbit. If the rabbit is qualified and sincerely wants to be there to do a good job, YAY.

You know how many little girls get so excited to see a female on a firetruck?? You know how many Girl Scout troops I have talked to? How many grade school children we have presented to? You don't think that influences future females, regardless of race/ethnicity/color to look to law enforcement or the fire service?? And How about the elderly woman who has fallen in the bathroom or the shower, naked, alone, and messy?? You think maybe she wants her dignity and

modesty preserved a little? I go in, calm her down, clean her up, cover her up before the men come in. The gratitude in her face, the tears in her eyes, tell me what she feels without a word ever being spoken.

Shame on you, Mr. Tolbert, for your comments. Shame.

Lori Johnson

[REDACTED]

From: Andrew Passman [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 1:43 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support of resident in the metro and an opinion. Please read!

I will preface this with, I support all Police and have more respect to all of you than I do for politicians. That is why I am writing to all of you.

Good afternoon,

I am writing to say thank you to all for what you do on a daily basis. One thing I am concerned about is the allowance of painting "Black Lives Matter" on the streets. I know you do not have anything to do with that as it is not your department. But as we have seen the strong divide and violence in other cities over that mural. I think it will have the opposite effect they think it will. We have enough violence in our city that you all have to deal with. I think it will add to that and attract unwanted rioters from out of town to perform the same acts of violence we have seen in other cities.

Where does this end? We all agreed that the actions of the officer in the Floyd indecent were not good. I maybe the only one with this opinion but I think the blame can be shared with Floyd also.

Police everywhere agreed to make changes. The whole thing should have been over and protests should have died down by now.

By doing this. They will have people defacing the streets. These murals will be damaged by people who disagree causing tax payers to have to pay to clean up the paint mess that get dumped on it. Then the disagreements will start causing fighting and more. It will waste your time by having to look after it or investigate who damaged it. I think we all get the idea.

I will close my long winded rant by saying. If we stay neutral. It will show our support for our city as a whole and all of the people who live here. Also with writing it. They are basically continuing to smack good police departments in the face and not allowing things to return to normal for them.

Last,I promise. Show the Mayor the real " Black Live Matter" website.

Thank you for reading,
Andrew Passman
Olathe, Kansas

[REDACTED]

From: Lisa Parker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2020 12:49 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Mayor/member Board of Police

Our Mayor and City Council have taken it upon themselves to allow Black Lives Matter to paint street murals saying Black Lives Matter in at least 6 different locations throughout Kansas City, Missouri. They also want to paint on buildings and residential streets. There was no citywide/countywide vote on this. Supposedly they will begin doing this September 5. Our Mayor is the one elected member of the Board of Police Commissioners and this is not good for the morale of the Kansas City Police Department. The Mayor does not back the blue nor respect police. Please help!! The Governor and State are in charge of KCPD and the Board of Police. Our Mayor is divisive and needs to resign immediately from both of his elected positions. Thank you!!

Lisa Parker
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Ronda Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:15 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support for state controlled police department and for chief Rick Smith

To whom it may concern I am sending this email in support of the KCPD chief Smith and his officer's. They are exceptional, professionals and deserve respect from our citizens. I also support the department staying under state control and would appreciate it not being handed over to our local city officials. We already know what defunding the police does and not supporting and backing them does in other cities. We can see a way for corruption if we allow local officials control. Please keep state control and keep the peace. Thank you. Ronda

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Suzan Kelley-Corcione [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:16 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: State control

I wanted to let you know how important it is to keep the KCPD under state control. This would keep out corruption out of the KCPD. I feel that Chief Smith and all of our KCPD officers have done an amazing job under these tough circumstances.

Suzan Corcione, MSW

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Mark Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 2:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Police Department Control - State vs City

Good Day,

I understand that the Board is receiving a lot of emails against the police department, Chief Smith and police in general. It is also my understanding that many of these emails support removing the Board and returning control to the city.

I would like to strongly voice my opinion against such a move. A little background is in order. I was a Kansas City, Missouri police officer 19 years ago. I worked 14 years for the department then left and specialized in the computer forensics arena, both in the civilian world and now for the DOJ. I actually worked in the same sector as Chief Smith.

Back in the day many of us felt it would be in our best interest to go back under city control. The Pendergast days were a long time ago and we didn't think those concerns were relevant in modern times. Additionally, we all really wanted to do away with the residency requirement and felt there might be a better chance if we were city controlled.

Fast forward to today. I no longer feel that it is in the best interest of me, the police and the citizenry for the city to take control of the department. In the past two months, it's clear that the city has other priorities that run against a safe society for its citizens. A minority block of citizens, in my opinion, mostly from the inner city core, have been raging about systemic racism in the department, even though there is no evidence of this at all.

Our brave men and women from KCPD deployed to several areas of the city to quell riots, looting and illegal protesting (I recognize there were some peaceful protesters too who were allowed to do so). Even though a number of officers, including my daughter, were injured as a result of these illegal activities, the city council proposed and passed a resolution to drop all non-violent charges on those offenders who were arrested at The Plaza.

This is just one of the actions from the council that doesn't just set a bad precedence, but undermines the authority given to the police to enforce the law. Not to mention the huge slap in the face felt by the officers.

Shortly thereafter the city announced a proposed 10.5 million dollar cut to the police budget. This would result in a strong possibility of layoffs, unheard of in our difficult modern times. There would also be no more overtime pay. Officers would have to take compensatory time. It sounds great, officers getting more time off, but when will they be able to take it? With less people in the field minimum staffing can't be maintained if officers having too much comp time on the books need to use or lose.

We also have to look at a Mayor and council who made all bus transportation free, at a cost to the city of 9 million dollars. Don't forget the 25 million the city wants to give to the 18th and Vine district for yet another revitalization. If I thought that money would bring on tourism and local patrons enough to make that money back I could see supporting it, but history has shown that the district has never brought that kind of interest.

I point all these issues out to highlight that the city is not managing what it has already very well. It seems the council is more concerned with pandering to a small group of vocal rabble-rousers than listening to the voices of reason and common sense.

Do we really want to put the department back into the wild, and which is based on a false narrative that all

those him as our police chief. He is one of the most hard file, again more so than any chief in recent history. Homicides are way up (up nationwide too). His success story as well. I hope you keep him on as Chief.

Department is not a good idea at this time. As it is, at this time, I would like to see the chief work to retire this December. We need to keep some

[REDACTED]

From: Frank Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 3:07 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Local control

All,
The police department needs to stay under state control. If you place it under local control, it will become a political instrument for the mayor and city consul. They want control of the pension plan money and healthcare money the police department has. We must keep corruption and politics out of OUR Police Department and the backing of Chief Smith and the Officers.

Frank Smith

[REDACTED]

From: James Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 10:33 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Say NO to City Control.

I have been a life long resident of Kansas City, Missouri and I am as a strong supporter of State control for our Police Department.

To see why, just look at the number of City Council members indicted or charged with crimes in the past. In many ways the Pendergast era of politics still exist in Kansas City. No way do I want the politicians having control of police operations and the money.

Recent example. How about St. Louis. What a disaster that's been after caving to City control.

Now look at New York, where they are debating on a State board. Let's keep the Board of Police Commissioners and be the leaders and an example of good and progressive policing and over-site.

The Board of Police Commissioners must stay intact and say NO the City control.

James Morgan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:06 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: City Control

To the Board of Police Commissioners;

As a law abiding, tax paying community member of Kansas City, I strongly oppose the take over of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department by the political arm of a few. Politics and corruption should not be part of any Police Department, just look at what is happening nationwide. Good hard working Police Officers are being thrown under the bus by the pandering politicians all in the name of votes, corruption and criminal terrorist. We need to not look any further then our own Prosecutor's Office, to see politics and corruption at work. Jean Peters Baker refuses to do her job and prosecute violent criminals, but she has no problem head hunting good honest hard working Police Officers all in the name of votes and political corruption. We have a non-working city council, who most members hate the Police. Do we really want a bunch of Police haters running our Police Department? The Police Department and all that is good will be at the mercy of political pundits. KEEP THE POLICE DEPARTMENT UNDER STATE CONTROL. Keep corruption and politics out of the Police Department.

Respectfully;

Rita Olson-Stawicki
tax payer
voter

[REDACTED]

From: Ronda Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 5:09 PM
To: mayorq@kcmo.org; Robinson, Melissa; Sanders, Marilyn; Pearson, Angela; Justis, Amy; Ellington, Brandon; bopc@kcpd.org; Bunch, Eric; Wickham, Fred; Hall, Heather; Foster, Katrina; McCoy, Keema; Shields, Katheryn; Kevin O'Neill; Loar, Teresa
Subject: No To Local Control

https://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/st-louis-lawmaker-wants-state-to-once-again-take-control-of-city-police-department/article_655c7743-4ed1-5efe-a972-c48019e59ca7.html

Sent from my iPhone

https://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/st-louis-lawmaker-wants-state-to-once-again-take-control-of-city-police-department/article_655c7743-4ed1-5efe-a972-c48019e59ca7.html

St. Louis lawmaker wants state to once again take control of city police department

Jack Suntrup
Dec 18, 2019

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A St. Louis police officer puts up crime scene tape at a shooting scene on Hebert Street near Garrison Avenue on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014. One man was shot and rushed to a hospital, where he later died. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com

JEFFERSON CITY — A St. Louis lawmaker wants to return control of the city police department to the state of Missouri.

Rep. Chris Carter, D-St. Louis, said in a news release the department lacks oversight and that he was concerned about unfair distribution of resources in north St. Louis, where his 76th House District is located.

Carter has introduced legislation that would place control of the police department in the hands of a state-controlled Board of Police Commissioners, which had been the case prior to a statewide vote in 2012.

“It seems to be a consensus throughout the 76th district, that the St. Louis Police Department is out of control and the Mayor and other leaders in the community have been unable to control them,” Carter said in a news release.

One of the backers of the 2012 effort told the Post-Dispatch on Wednesday she was wrong to back local control of the police department.

“I was wrong,” said state Sen. Jamilah Nasheed, D-St. Louis. “It’s worse now under local control than it was under the Board of Commissioners.”

She said she would vote for Carter’s legislation if it came up for a vote in the Senate.

Many local leaders had for **decades advocated for local control of the police department**, which had been managed by the state since the Civil War.

The mayor controlled just one seat on the five-member Board of Police Commissioners. Former Mayor Francis Slay argued this made it more difficult to respond quickly to crime trends or direct department spending.

In 2012, nearly 64% of voters statewide approved returning the police department to local control.

Jacob Long, spokesman for Mayor Lyda Krewson, said the mayor hadn't reviewed Carter's bill and said "a strong majority of voters agreed to go to local control" in 2012.

He said the police department has devoted more resources to an area of north St. Louis known as Chief John Hayden's "**rectangle**," where violent crime rates are persistently high.

“I’d say because of our Chief’s continued emphasis on his rectangle where a large amount of crime happens in the city, that we are actually dedicating more police resources to north St. Louis,” Long said in a statement.

The first Hayden “rectangle” covered an area roughly bounded by Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, West Florissant Avenue, Goodfellow Boulevard and Vandeventer Avenue. The program has since been expanded.

Asked to assess the chances of Carter’s bill becoming law, Nasheed said: “It won’t happen overnight. They can start the conversation.”

Carter is serving in his first term. His district includes several neighborhoods in northeast St. Louis, including Walnut Park East, Mark Twain, Penrose, Kingsway West and Kingsway East.

Lawmakers return to Jefferson City on Jan. 8 for their annual legislative session.

The legislation is **House Bill 1544**.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 1:59 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Letter of Concern and Support

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

“Tell my family I love them!” The last words of Toledo, Ohio Police Officer Anthony Dia as he was murdered on Independence Day during a disturbance call at a Home Depot. P.O. Dia did not initiate the contact, he responded to a citizen’s call for help. P.O. Dia had no choice in his service, he was dispatched per his Department’s policies. He leaves a wife, his two sons, and his parents. Unfortunately, no politician will paint these words on the street, protest, label NFL or NBA jerseys or play it repeatedly on main street media. As you well know, P.O. Dia is but one Police Officer who has been summoned for help and ultimately gave their life rendering that help.

And then I experience the horror of Kansas City Police Officers being seriously injured . . . responding to calls for service. It hits home because I was brought up to respect the Police and help them any chance I get. Broaden the focus and the horror is expanded as news of members of Law Enforcement across our great nation are being targeted, assassinated, and left for dead.

Black Lives Matter (BLM) has declared war on the Police. They proudly announced that they will develop a “highly-trained military arm” of the BLM. I find comfort in knowing that the Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) is not only highly-trained, but that training is constant. The KCPD has embraced continuing education and has focused their In-Service

training on past practices that have been improved or new practices that will better serve the citizens of KCMO and/or those who visit our city.

I am born and raised in KCMO. I have been a resident for 58+ years. Regrettably, I have personally experienced a great many riots that used race as a catalyst. I feel that each administration of the KCPD responded with a huge amount of patience. More importantly, each action during the riots was closely examined to reinforce what worked and to modify what didn't. This is the practice of a Department that has the interests of those they serve as a strong barometer of future training and procedure that will be followed.

Chief Rick Smith was a great "hire" by the BOPC. His entire career has been an exercise in efficiency as a Police Officer; development of subordinates as a Sergeant; continued development of pattern and practice as a Captain and Major (while still developing his subordinates); and the sound delivery of his administration as Police Chief. Chief Smith has the respect of his Department and they are motivated to reduce crime, increase safety, and improve relationships with the people they serve. Chief Smith is leading the Kansas City Police Department in one of the hardest times in the Department's history, in our country's history. This is a man who represents true leadership and will fight for the men and women in blue. Chief Smith loves the Police Department, loves KCMO, and the people who live here. This is a man who is working hard when other people are working just to get him out. He is working hard to do the right thing- by all of us. Having known Chief Smith his entire career, it is my strong recommendation that he be retained and supported by the BOPC.

I would like to request that the BOPC participate in maintaining the Missouri State Statutes that govern the KCPD. While, on the surface, it appears a good idea that a City Council should govern the Police

Department serving their city, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Kansas City have shown countless times that they operate with at least some corruption.

Councilwoman Melissa Robinson says the City Council is a vestige of the Pendergast Era, when municipal government was deemed to be too corrupt to oversee the KCPD.

In 2016, former Councilwoman Alissa Canady initiated a faceoff with Police over whether Officers had the right to tow her car for expired plates. Canady represented the city's 5th District and sat on the ethics and Public Safety committees. Police dashcam video showed a simple tow job turn into a mess. "I'm asking you to give me consideration," the voice of Canady could be heard on the video. Four officers responded to the scene, while Canady sat in her vehicle making phone calls and refusing to exit.

Former Councilwoman Sandra McFadden-Weaver, in 2007, was indicted on mortgage-fraud related charges. She was accused of being a straw buyer for a Lee's Summit home in a scheme meant to result in her receiving funds to renovate her house in Kansas City. Her two-month sentence was followed by four months of home detention.

Former Municipal Judge Deborah Neal was sentenced in 2006 to 28 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to mail fraud. The charge was related to Neal's acceptance of loans, to feed her gambling addiction, from lawyers who practiced before her. The Judge in Neal's case sentenced her to more time behind bars than government prosecutors recommended.

In 1999, Delbert Anderson, Chairman of the Kansas City Port Authority, was sentenced to two years in federal prison and ordered to forfeit

\$64,500 for bribing Kansas City Councilwoman D. Jeanne Robinson and Jackson County Legislator James Tindall in exchange for directing public funds to his public relations business.

Edward Phillips, President of the Kansas City fire fighter's union, was sentenced in 1997 to 12 months in federal prison and fined \$117,500 for participating in a fraud scheme with Kansas City Councilwoman D. Jeanne Robinson.

In 1996, Councilwoman D. Jeane Robinson the Kansas City Councilwoman pleaded guilty to defrauding her employer, Marion Merrell Dow, to the tune of \$295,000 from 1994 to 1995. She cooperated with investigators on the Anderson case and received a reduced 18-month sentence for ripping off her employer.

In 1995, Councilman Mike Hernandez pleaded guilty to accepting \$70,000 in bribes from Northland developers and evading \$17,000 in federal income taxes. He was sentenced to 15 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release and an agreement that he pay back taxes.

CHUCK WEBER. Weber was the go-between in the bribery scheme that sent fellow councilman Mike Hernandez to prison. Because he cooperated with authorities, he was sentenced to five months and fined \$5,000.

Charles Hazley, a titan of East Side politics while on the Kansas City Council, from 1971 to 1991, spent less than a month in prison after pleading guilty in 1988 to not filing a federal tax return. He remained on the council and resumed his service after he was released from prison.

The above examples are simply a thumbnail sketch of problems that will only be aggravated if the City of Kansas City takes control of the

KCMOPD. One need look no further than the experience in St. Louis, Missouri, to see what is likely to happen in Kansas City.

I thank you for your time and consideration,

Dave Reyburn

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Emily Keimig [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 02, 2020 4:10 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org; MayorQ@kcmo.org
Subject: Use of Force Policy Recommendations

Dear Commissioners and Mayor Lucas:

I know you are receiving many requests for action to curb and pre-empt police violence in Kansas City. I would like to add my voice, as a city resident in 64110, to the throng.

I think it's particularly important that you revisit and update the following use of force policies:

1. Please ban all neck holds. It is too easy to use a Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint improperly, and even when used properly it restricts blood flow to the brain.
2. Please ban the use of all chemical riot control agents, including CN gas, CS gas and OC spray. Destruction of property or failure to comply with orders does not warrant violence against people which is banned in wartime.
3. If these prohibitions do not already exist within the KCMO Police Department, I urge you to enact them:
 - o Law enforcement officers shall not discharge their firearms in defense of property. [Defending property is not worth risking lives.]
 - o Law enforcement officers shall not discharge their firearms to subdue a fleeing individual who does not currently or actively pose an immediate threat of death to the officers or another person. [Fleeing individuals are not a threat and do not deserve to die.]
 - o Under no circumstances may a law enforcement officer use force on an individual for insolence, where the individual does not pose a current, active, and immediate threat to the safety of bystanders, other law enforcement officers, or the primary law enforcement officer. ["Talking back" is not violence and does not warrant use of force.]

I was glad to hear, in reviewing minutes from the June 16 BOPC meeting, that de-escalation was formally added to the department's Response to Resistance policy in 2016. I would love to read this policy; where can I find a copy?

I would also like to thank you for investing in body cameras for the force. I think these will be an important accountability tool and hope to see their use required for all officers with the authority to conduct searches or make arrests.

Many thanks to you for serving our community. I hope to see conversations around de-escalation and accountability continue, and look forward to attending the next BOPC meeting on August 25th.

Thank you,

Emily Keimig
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Ben Bullington [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:52 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Re: Officially end the use of choke holds and tear gas

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

I wrote last month, attempting to do whatever I can, to urge the Board to implement reforms regarding the way that KCPD does its work, specifically regarding publicly banning neck restraints and tear gas. I am especially upset to see the recent KC Star article calling out the KCPD and the Board for being the only force out of 100 surveyed that had still not implemented ANY of the reforms that other major cities have - specifically in reference to Campaign Zero's recommendations. All of Campaign Zero's recommendations seem like, to some extent, common sense, research based reforms. But the two I have written about seem the most so, being that they are specifically problematic when it comes to unnecessary violence (potentially causing death) or internationally banned.

To reference my previous email, I do not see how a Board or a city's police force can faithfully enforce laws or earn the trust of the public when they cannot at least make the appearance of taking a moral high ground. It appears that at least 100 other police forces are doing a better job than we are. This is not even maintaining a status quo at this point. We are lagging, and it's embarrassing. Additionally embarrassing is that President Trump now is stepping in and politicizing LeGend Taliferro's death - using his name to promote his "law and order" campaign platform. It's embarrassing. We can do this here. We have the power and the wherewithal to make our city and our police force something special, connected, integral to our community, one that works with the people, not viewed as antagonistic. All we need is the will.

I am, and want to continue to be, proud of our city, our officers, and I greatly value and respect the work that they do everyday. This is a leadership issue. It's on you. There is no one else to make this happen. Please do something.

Best,

Ben Bullington
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 1:29 PM Ben Bullington <bbulling@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

As a resident of Kansas City, MO, I ask that you please officially and publicly ban the use of choke holds and tear gas by the KCPD.

I know the department has been trying hard to do all of the right things by increasing community engagement and employing more social workers. I also appreciate the stances and adjustments that the Board and Chief Smith have made recently, especially in recent response to protests and how officers are held accountable. I wholeheartedly stand by our officers and the difficult work that they do.

This is why I cannot see how continuing to condone the use of morally questionable, if not reprehensible, practices such as using tear gas and choke holds helps our officers or continues the mission of gaining the trust of our community or making this a safer city. It is hard to support a police department or its governing body if they do not take the moral high ground.

I ask that the Board and KCPD officially and publicly ban their use as they continue in their mission to become a more community focused and helpful organization to make this city safer for all its citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,
Ben Bullington
KCMO Resident

[REDACTED]

From: Kelsey Whetro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Mark Tolberts unfortunate response to hiring white females

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

My name is Kelsey Whetro. I am an 11 year FEMALE veteran with the Kansas City Fire Department. This letter is behalf of Mark Tolberts unfortunate view of white females being hired on KCPD. I am absolutely disgusted with the unfortunate commentary made during the last meeting. Regarding the minorities being hired, Mr. Tolbert references the small number of white females being hired and brushed them off as clearly an unimportant and insignificant portion of the group. Mr. Tolbert said "No offense, I like whites females, but I don't think they are the minorities." According to the FBI website, only 12.6% of police officers in the field are female. I'm sorry, but since when is 12 percent NOT a minority, regardless of race?

In the current climate, with the treatment the officers are getting, and given that politicians are publicly turning their backs on them....our city would be lucky to get ANY applications, no matter the race or GENDER. I'd like to think that the people who ARE applying truly have a vested interest in making a change in their community and making a difference in the lives of community members.

Finally, ANY female, regardless of race, has an uphill battle in a male dominated profession. We are aware of this before applying. WE are a minority. After all, "male dominated" means the female is a minority, regardless of their race. You should be so lucky to have them apply, because that means they WANT to do the job....Regardless of their race.

I'm ashamed that a man of God would clearly draw a line between people and discredit the hurdles that other minorities have to jump in an effort to lead a career in the first responder profession. And yes, I'm talking about females of ALL RACES.

Mr. Tolbert, you owe your sincerest apology to the female officers in your city, and the female first responders in YOUR city. To discredit us and brush us off given OUR race is shameful. Isn't that what we're trying to change in the first place.

Regards,

Kelsey Whetro

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 1:51 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Racist remarks by Commissioner Tolbert

Board of Police Commissioners;

At the last BOPC Meeting which was early this week. 800 viewers were online.

They asked who they were hiring in this next recruit class and how many were minorities. The department said a certain percentage was minorities (51 maybe). He asked what the minority breakdown is. They said all the minority races, and included 6 white females.

Mark Tolbert said "no offense, I like white females, but I don't think they are minorities" and then went on about how he wasn't concerned about hiring females as a minority on the department and only race.

What a racist statement from one of our Board of Police Commissioners and yes I'm very offended. The Police Department needs to hire qualified, but I guess Mr. Tolbert is not concerned with quality only race. Don't we want the best? We need to look at each person as a individual and what quality they have. If you are not qualified, should you be hired? I see everyone as an individual and what type of person they are. I see each person for who they are and not their skin color, for skin color does not make the person, it's the person. Bad and evil comes in all shapes, sizes and skin colors. We are all human beings and we need to treat each other with respect and as human beings.

As a retired female Police Officer, who did 35 years of service to my Community, I'm very offended by Mr. Tolbert's comments. I always saw myself as a Police Officer in uniform, but some saw me as weak because I was a female in uniform. I had to work 1000 times harder to prove myself as a great Police Officer, because I was a female, but my black male brothers in blue did not have these same struggles. They were accepted because they were males, I was not accepted because I was a female. As time progressed, females were more accepted in the ranks and times have changed. I helped blaze the trail and made changes for the females that are Officers today. How? I worked very hard and earned the respect of everyone as a great Officer, not a female Officer. I worked hard so females were accepted as Officers, not female Officers. We made a lot of progress to insure all were accepted as Officers, no matter the gender. The Blue uniform does not represent a skin color, it represents honor. Are females minorities on the Police Department, yes. The Police Department should be made up of all people from all walks of life.

Back in the day, if a female Officer screwed up, it was "damn females, they are a bunch of screw ups". If a male Officer screwed up it was, "did you hear what Smith did, he's a screw up". We worked very hard to change that type of attitude and yes it has changed, thru communication and hard work. We are all human.

Mr. Tolbert you owe me and so many female Officers an apology.

Respectfully;

Rita Olson-Stawicki
Tax payer
Voter
Retiree of 35 years

[REDACTED]

From: Jindalae Suh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:58 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: From a Citizen to KCMO to You:

Hello,

My name is Jindalae Suh and I respectfully ask the KC Board of Police for the removal of Chief of Police Rick Smith, due to the lack of confidence we (the people of KC) have in his ability to lead the department in a way that respects and values the humanity of all Kansas City citizens.

This is a matter of life and death, of right and wrong, not of careers, friends, or favors. Due your duty to the citizens of this state and this country. We need this.

Thank you,
Jindalae

[REDACTED]

From: Cheryl Baker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 1:52 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Remove Chief of Police Rick Smith

I am a member of Organizing Corps 2020; today is a Day of Action for us around issues of justice and policing. I am writing today to urge you to remove Rick Smith, due to the lack of confidence members of your community have in his ability to lead the department in a way that respects and values the humanity of all Kansas City citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cheryl Baker

[REDACTED]

From: Charlotte Atchley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 12:54 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

Hello,

After reading more about Chief Smith's tenure as police chief, I am increasingly appalled that he remains in his position as police chief. I was particularly angered by his refusal to work with the prosecutor's office to investigate Kansas City police officers. With so much light being shed on police brutality, how can the residents of Kansas City trust the police to protect them when the chief's actions tell us he's only interested in protecting his officers. And why would he abandon the KC NoVA strategy that showed so much promise in reducing homicide? This and other actions disqualify him from leading the KCPD in this time when homicides are rising to the point of gaining national attention and federal intervention. He has failed and needs to be removed.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Atchley

[REDACTED]

From: Bailey Barnett [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 9:38 PM
Subject: A Request

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Bailey Barnett, and I am a former resident of Kansas City, Missouri. I am reaching out today to demand the immediate firing of KCPD Chief Smith. I am also writing to you to demand that Chief Smith be charged with obstruction of justice.

Regards,

Bailey Barnett

July 9-2020

I decided to write to the KCPD
In support of Captain Smith
and the Police Department!

My heart hurts at the disrespect
that is given to the Police Department.

So I would like to tell you
my experience with the Police
Department.

My name is Patter Moore,
in May 2016 I was shot by
Curtis Ayers, who had killed
KCK Detective Brad Lancaster
in Kansas. I was shot through
my windshield and into my shoulder.

It was a horrible experience
in my life, and Lancaster lost
his life!

I was on 71 Hwy and Barnes
Road. One of the first officers to
come upon me was KCMO officer
Luis who was calm, caring,
and respectful. They stayed
with me in emergency, and
hospital room.

I had 24hr. officer protection
in the hospital because Ayers
was also in Research Hospital.

All of the officers were very
respectful and professional.
If I walked the hall they walked
the hall. Sometimes sat in
my room to see if I needed anything.

When I was released from
the hospital an officer followed
me home. I did not ask for this
special treatment!

I only have positive feed
back on the police Department.
I am so upset with the treatment
to those men and women who
put their lives on the line
for you and me every day!
And I will continue to pray
for Captain Smith and his
hard working and caring
police department.

Sincerely,
and God Bless you !!
Gatty Moore

City Hall
414 East 12th Street, 22nd Floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64106- 2786

Tele: 816-513-6505
Cell: 816-352-7980
Fax: 816-513-1612

E-Mail: heather.hall@kcmo.org



City Committees
Vice Chair: Finance, Governance & Public Safety
Vice Chair: Special Committee for Legal Review
State Committee
Missouri Municipal League Board Member & Economic
Development and Human Resources Policy
National Committee
National League of Cities Board Member & Board Liaison
to the Large Cities Council

Heather Hall
City Councilwoman
1st District In-District

July 15, 2020

Mr. David Kenner
Secretary / Attorney
Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners
1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106

Mr. Kenner:

Today I write to you to share my thoughts on KCPD Chief Rick Smith and his handling of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department.

I met Chief Smith when he was an officer. Sometimes officers who become a Chief change with the new position. He has stayed true to his character. He did not change into a bureaucrat, but did as he said he would and be "an officer's Chief."

Since becoming the Chief of Police, he has created a department-wide implementation of the Social Worker program to aid officers to calls where people may have mental health issues that a social worker can better handle with the help of an officer. He even went to the private sector to find start-up funding for this endeavor.

He also reinstated the Community Interaction Officer program, not only adding one CIO back to each division station, but increasing it to two officers. These people truly are our "neighborhood police officers" who meet with neighborhood groups, schools, community organizations and others to put faces to names of their officers. This does reduce crime!

Chief Smith is an engaged Chief. There is never a meeting too small for him to attend. He gets in there with officers and even on a busy Thanksgiving Plaza Lighting Ceremony night, you will find him directing traffic or helping a family.

I know times are tough, we want so much for our crime rate to decrease, domestic violence to stop, homicides to be solved and people to treat one another with kindness. We also know that these are not issues the police or the Chief can stop alone. It takes an entire community, families, corporate citizens, police and other first responders to all work together to change behaviors.

To those people who ask for the Chief to resign, I ask you, what do you think a different Chief would do better? What are your expectations? Also, I would say that the bad things that are happening are not because of our Chief or our police officers. Also, to those who want Local Control, I ask you what you think will be better if that happens? We could not be more locally-controlled than we already are with KCMO resident board members, KCMO tax-payer dollars paying for the department and the KCMO Mayor having a vote on the Board of Police Commissioners.

I completely support Chief Rick Smith and his leadership of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather".

Heather Hall
Councilwoman
1st District In-District

I have lived in Kansas City
all my adult life. I am so disgusted
the way the Chief of Police is
being treated

What more do you think he
can do. I'm sure other big cities
are having the same problems.

He called in extra personnel
so the protesters as well as the
citizens of Kansas City had the
protection that was needed.

I think some political groups
have been to crucify our
Chief - Can't you see the cross
he bears?

Shame on them

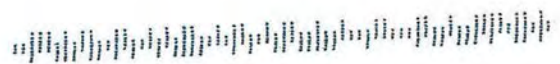
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JUL 21 2020

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OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Board of Police
1125 Locust
Kansas City, Mo
64105



KCPD Board of Police Commissioners

I am writing in support of the KCPD and Chief Rick Smith. Chief Smith has had more challenges in his tenure than any previous chief had to endure.

The continual misrepresentation of facts and incidents by the KC Star and other media is an injustice to the officers of KCPD and Chief Rick Smith.

The crime rate in KC is a result of community behavior not the actions of the police. If KC truly wants to change

the crime rate, the community has
to change its behavior.

Chief Rick Smith should
remain as the Chief of KCPD.

Respectfully,

Bill Massock

[REDACTED]

From: Georgia Brady [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:41 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

Hey Board,

It is ridiculous that anyone would even listen to a mob screaming for Chief Smith's job. The man has done a fabulous job keeping officers safe during an out of control time in our beautiful city. He loves Kansas City. He loves his officers. His job should not be decided by a bunch of crazed people who have nothing better to do than terrorize our parks, the Plaza, and the employees who work inside of Headquarters.

The majority of our city support him. We support our officers. The difference is, we are not disrupting the peace. Do NOT let this be a "the squeaky wheel gets the grease" moment. Just because his supporters aren't spray painting statues, or defacing monuments, doesn't mean we are not here.

Hear us. Do NOT bow down to these stupid demands for Chief Smith to retire.

Thank you,
Georgia Brady

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Reyne Reyes [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:22 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

To: All Board Members, Wagner, Tolbert, Dean, Garrett, Kenner and Lucas

I write this today with grave concern regarding the current climate surrounding the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department. I am a retired (33 years) KCPD female Hispanic sergeant, and I am writing in support of KCPD Chief of Police Rick Smith.

During my tenure, I served under seven chiefs and was able to interact personally with the majority of these individuals in my assignments. Each one displayed their strong traits in leading the Department during difficult times, but none as challenging as what is occurring now. I don't know how they would have weathered the events of 2020 with their mindsets and that includes Chief Forte'.

I watched as Rick rose through the ranks, working to do the best job and treat everyone fairly. I watched when he became a major and had to make difficult decisions to stand up for the department and it's employees when the consequences were great, but he did not hesitate. This I feel was due to his strong personal integrity and moral compass.

It is in that vein, that I now send this letter of support for Chief Smith to the Board because I feel like all of you need a reminder on why you chose him to lead this Department. Chief Smith has been working very hard to maintain peace in our City, even kneeling with the protestors in a display of support for their circumstances. Chief Smith has always maintained a professional manner, which is a model for the officers under his command, especially during this time. He has utilized his training, experience, law enforcement resources along with community resources to try to deal with the current issues. This has been difficult, due to the current bias towards law enforcement, which has caused some of the communities to hesitate to vocalize their support of Chief Smith. My understanding is they fear the reprisal they will receive from the public.

You made the right selection for Chief, so please support Chief Smith now during this stressful time because it will pass and we need him.

Sincerely,

Reyne Reyes

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

From: Lisa Parker [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:47 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith & KCPD are good people

Dear Board of Police Commissioners:

Thank you for your time.

I would like to talk about my support of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department.

Our Chief, Rick Smith, does a wonderful job with everything going on--COVID, protests, riots, etc., he is right there standing up with everyone. Before all that he did his job well, he is a good man, I do not wish for him to resign like some protesters are demanding.

Our police go above and beyond now and prior to the recent pandemic, protests and riots. Prior to the pandemic they had or attended many community events--movie nights, neighborhood gatherings, etc.--besides doing their regular jobs of fighting the enormous amount of crime in our city. Now they are working overtime because of all the protests/riots going on; meetings with protesters demands; marching with protesters, etc.

The elected Mayor of Kansas City and member of the Police Board has failed--failed to support OUR police, failed to protect the people in OUR city, failed to manage funds. He did not march in the parade/rally, March For Lives, to Martin L. King Jr. park but yet he can march with protesters. He joins them on the steps of OUR city hall and protests with them, I saw his speech where he spoke of the statue of Andrew Jackson. I see his facebook posts--I see his demands matching with the protesters demands to defund OUR police. Noone will forget the Governor declaring Civil Unrest in our city and sending in the National Guard because of the protesters throwing things at OUR police; marching in our streets; setting vehicles on fire; breaking in and looting stores, etc. The Mayor needs to resign from his current position as Mayor and member of the Board of Police.

This is also why Kansas City should not be under local control but remain under the Governor and Board of Police Commissioners.

Thank you for your time,

Lisa Parker
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Janet E Henderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:59 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

I am writing in support of Chief Rick Smith. I think he's doing a great job. I know he been one of the few Chiefs that have made an appearance or any command staff that has come into Watch I regularly just to say hello.

Thank you
Janet

[REDACTED]

From: Paula Kirkland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 6:26 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Our Chief

Dear Board of Police Commissioners-

I'd like to express my support for Chief Rick Smith. I believe he is an attribute to our city and has made great strides in race relations as well as address the overall police matters within the city. The City has been in recent turmoil however Chief Smith has stepped up to successfully address the issues. It's unfortunate that some community members want to place the burden on Chief Smith when the problems are prevalent with the criminals and those who refuse to report crime.

Please support Chief Smith and provide him with the resources he needs to assist him in doing his job.

Thank you for your time.

Paula Kirkland
KCMO Resident

[REDACTED]

From: Madelyn Kempf [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 4:32 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

My name is Madelyn Cordova and my husband is a police officer in Center Zone of the KCPD. Recently the leadership of Chief Smith has been called into question, and many have contacted you calling for his removal. This is not one of those messages. I believe with my whole heart that Chief Smith is doing the very best he can despite the current political and social environment. While police officers across the country are under attack, Chief Smith is standing by his men and women and is putting himself on the front line for them.

Recently we had an officer near fatally shot in the line of duty, and my husband was one of the first responders to the assist the officer call. Several days after the incident my husband received a call from Chief Smith personally asking how he was doing. He also offered himself to help my husband in any way he could for his mental and physical well being. The things they saw that day were very traumatic, and for a chief of police to personally call and check on you is something unique to Chief Smith. He humbled himself to work the front lines of the protest, and even answered calls for service when he could. He has never shied away from hard situations or hard conversations, and I do not believe he will start now.

Morale within the department is already low because of the very public disdain for officers who are just trying to do their jobs. I fear that if Chief Smith is removed morale will become nonexistent. Please support Chief Smith like he supports our officers, and our city.

Thank You,
Madelyn Cordova

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Marla Lovelady [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:20 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: I support Chief Smith

I support and stand behind Chief Smith. My husband has worked under the chief through-out his career with the KCPD and I have always been impressed with the Chief's strengths, his accountability, his compassion, and his visions. I fully believe he holds officers accountable through thorough processes and has high expectation for his commanders to do the same. I have been amazed and proud at the way Chief Smith is handling the pressures of the current events. He stands with his men and women who protect this city at the same time he supports his citizens. He wants the best for everyone. He wants our streets to be safe. He wants Kansas City to be a place that we are proud to live in. Please continue to support the Chief.

Marla Lovelady

[REDACTED]

From: Alexandra Donnici [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:32 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Chief Smith

I am writing in support for Chief Smith. As a LEO wife, I see first hand how this profession is hard on these men and women. I couldn't imagine being in his shoes with all that's going on the blue world right now. I support all officers and don't allow the bad eggs to jade the true meaning that many hold strong behind that badge.

Three rules my husband knows when he leaves for a shift: Stay safe, come home and don't end up on YouTube.

Forever blue,
Alix Smith and Sargent Gabe Smith

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Tamara Sanders [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:26 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep Chief Smith

Good morning,

Please do not feed in to the ignorance outside of headquarters today and KEEP Chief Smith. He has done an outstanding job protecting this police force and the only reason they want him gone is to continue terrorizing this city. We need him to continue having our officer's backs since clearly no one else is.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Heidi Decker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 3:46 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: KCPD

Good Afternoon Board of Police Commissioners,

I feel that there are so many loud people against Chief Smith and for keeping KCPD under state control that I have to keep stating my opinion. Yesterday afternoon was the Fallen Officers Memorial at police headquarters. I attended alongside many others. Names were read of the 119 KCPD who died on duty along with many of our surrounding cities fallen. I was touched by this and am truly thankful for them for giving the ultimate sacrifice in order to defend and protect this city. One thing that stood out however is that I only saw one council person at the memorial. Our police department cannot go to city control when the city doesn't even show up for them. Just as Mayor Lucas is doing what he thinks is best for the city, so is Chief Smith for the KCPD.

I stand with Chief Smith, I urge you to stand with him as well and keep KCPD under state control.

Thank you for your time,

Heidi Decker

Great Plains Analytical Laboratory



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[REDACTED]

From: Norma Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 6:04 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

As a law abiding citizen of many years living in KCMO on the east side, I want to express my appreciation for OUR Police Chief Rick Smith. He has my complete support and I think we are very fortunate to have him for our Police Chief. I believe he is doing an excellent job in these troubled times. Also, every Officer I have had any contact with have been wonderful Officers. I am very PROUD of OUR Police Department. They are being "bashed, disrespected, you name it" constantly for which I can't stand. It is unfair and so cruel. WHAT IN THE WORLD WOULD WE DO WITHOUT THESE GOOD OFFICERS?

I hope you all continue to stand up for these good men and women who protect us. I appreciate your support for them.

I knew our former Chief, Clarence Kelley, who was an excellent Chief, too. My opinion is Chief Smith is the best Chief we have had since Chief Kelley. Let us keep him as our Police Chief!

Thank you for supporting him and his staff.

Norma Dell Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Sean O'Byrne [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:56 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith Letter of Support
Attachments: Letter of Support Chief Smith.pdf

To whom it may concern,

Please share the attached letter with the Board of Police Commissioners. Please confirm receipt of this email. I have placed a hard copy in today's outgoing mail for each Commissioner as well.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best regards,

Sean O'Byrne
Vice President Downtown Council of Kansas City
Executive Director Downtown and River Market Community Improvement Districts

[REDACTED]
1000 Walnut, Suite 200, Kansas City Missouri 64106

[Linkedin](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Downtown Council](#)



July 12, 2020

Don Wagner
President Board of Police Commissioners
1111 Locust Street
Kansas City, Mo 64106

Officers

Chris Erdley, Chair
Jared Campbell, Vice Chair
Linda Laurence, Treasurer
Brian Wietharn, Secretary

Board of Directors

Elizabeth Amirahmadi
Leonard Graham
Pamela Hahn
Mike Klamm
Kathie McBride
Edward Merriman
Gary Panathiere
Randy Poletis
Dave Richardson
Tim Schaffer
Richard Usher
Dan Walsh

Dear President Wagner and Members of the Board of Police Commissioners,

The Downtown Community Improvement District of Kansas City, Missouri (DCID), would like to take this opportunity to voice our support for Chief of Police Rick Smith and the entire Kansas City Police Department. The DCID has a long and successful partnership with the Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) and that relationship has only grown stronger with Chief Smith's leadership and direction.

Downtown owes a debt of gratitude to Chief Smith and the KCPD for their handling of the recent protest Downtown. They created a safe environment for demonstrations, allowed for open speech and maintained peace and order Downtown. There were minimal incidents and that is a direct reflection of the department's leadership and direction. Other cities across the nation did not fare so well.

Our mission to create a clean and safe Downtown can only be accomplished with a successful partnership with KCPD. Together, we have addressed issues of homelessness. As a result, we created the \$1.3 million, Downtown Community Service Center at 8th and The Paseo. This state of the art Center has served over 1,000,000 meals to Kansas City's hunger and has made thousands of housing options available.

We've tackled and reduced aggressive panhandling by intervening with violators. Most notably, we worked together by convincing the State of Missouri to convert the Kansas City Community Release Center, into a prison. By not having 450 felons released into our community on a daily basis, our quality of life crimes have decreased and our Downtown residential population has skyrocketed. We now have over 30,000 residents proudly calling Downtown home.

Most recently, the DCID and the KCPD partnered together to create a safer Ilus Davis Park. We met on several occasions, assessed the situation and set forth a plan to create a park that could be enjoyed by all the citizens of Kansas City. Today, because of Chief Smith's leadership, the park is a wonderful example of public and private cooperation.

Thank you and The Board of Police Commissioners for everything you do for our City. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean O'Byrne".

Sean O'Byrne
Executive Director
Downtown Community Improvement District

[REDACTED]

From: Wendy Neal [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 8:47 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Rick Smith

This is to let the KCPD that I am in full support of Rick Smith as the Chief of Police. He has done a great job while under constant scrutiny and during a major crisis. Kansas City needs Rick Smith.

I do not live in Kansas City, but work in Kansas City and spend a great deal of my time here so this is important to me who is in charge of our men in blue.

Thank you,

Wendy Neal

[REDACTED]

From: Larry and Herna [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 11:25 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: We Support Chief Rick Smith and The Current Board of Police Commissioners

We support our Chief of Police, Rick Smith. The current environment is not a time to make a major decision. It is difficult for the average citizen to have input into any discussion about changes to the governing structure of the police department or to change the police chief. Most of us feel ,and are, very restricted in being able to voice our views concerning changes by the Board of Police Commissioners or by the Mayor and members of the City Council because of the coronavirus restrictions and concerns.

We support the current governing structure of the Board of Police Commissioners and we support Chief Rick Smith. The Kansas City Star and the television stations, do not speak for the average Kansas Citian. Also, the protesters over the last several weeks do not speak for the majority of Kansas Citians. If you give a generous estimate to their numbers, say 10,000 protesters, that would represent only 2% of the 491,918 residents of Kansas City, Missouri. The actual number of protesters is probably less than 5,000 and many of those would not be residents of Kansas City. Do not make changes based upon this small group.

The current structure of the Board of Police Commissioners has served Kansas City well. Keep it.

Reacting to the mob style of protesting as the Kansas City Star and media outlets are doing, is not the way to make a decision. There should be a long and serious and fair debate of the facts and information with all positions equally represented. We do not think that can or will happen in the current environment.

Do not remove Chief Rick Smith.

Larry and Herna Plaisted

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[REDACTED]

From: Patrick Randolph [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 5:35 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep your chin up Rick!

A lot of us out there like the KCPD....

<https://www.kansascity.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article244293507.html>

Pat Randolph
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Penny Thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 5:35 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Thank you!

Good evening,

A sincere thank you goes out to Mr. Wagner and Mr. Garrett for voicing their support of our Chief Smith and the KCPD. It is quite refreshing to see positivity in the news and someone willing to stand up for this man and his hard working department! I firmly believe there are many issues to address about problems in our community, but placing blame on our Chief is uncalled for and disappointing on so many levels. I hope that we can see more progress made to denounce the crimes that are occurring in Kansas City and hold those committing them accountable which has not been the case with the current prosecutor in Jackson County. I know criminals know that our prosecutor in Platte County doesn't mess around, so I truly feel safer knowing this fact. Please do not hesitate to speak up for police and show gratitude and appreciation in this time of unrest, because I know first hand that the silent majority supports this effort! Silent no longer....

Thank you for your service,
Penny Thomas

[REDACTED]

From: Sheila Rumney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:31 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: [SUSPICIOUS MESSAGE] Support for Chief Smith and our Police Officers

I am writing to let you know I fully support and appreciate the efforts of Chief Smith and the Kansas City Police Department. They have and continue to service with excellence and professionalism during a time when so many are against them, including those who should be supporting them.

Our officers have received the wrath of misdirected hatred from those who protested. Then when these peaceful protests turned into violent riots, looting and destroying property our own city officials decided not to hold those rioters accountable for their action. The actions of our city offices have emboldened many to turn to lethal force as evident in the recent multiple shootings of our KC Police Officers. One, who continues to fight for his life.

Chief Smith has served with dignity during this challenging time. His leadership has directed his officers to protect and serve this great community and those that actively seek to dismantle the fine line that stand between society and violent chaos.

We continue to see nightly that more officers are leaving the profession at alarming rates. The continued unrest, the call for defunding of our police departments and their own city officials who are not supporting the very people that put their lives on the line each and every day to serve and protect. Each officer knows full well that they may not come back home to their loved ones after their shift yet they still go out and fulfill their duty.

We do not want our beloved city to join the ranks for those most dangerous cities in the United States. Do not cut budgets or defund our police department. You as city officials should have the best interest of all the citizens of Kansas City, not just those that are angrily protesting but those law-abiding citizens that are working who don't always have the time to show up to meetings and/or voice their opinions.

Please make sure you do your job and do what is BEST for all the citizens of Kansas City – do NOT defund or cut the budget of our police department.

Sincerely,

Sheila

[REDACTED]

From: James Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 1:53 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith support

Chief Smith has shown to be a great leader During these tough times. Not only has he made great decisions, many of which not in favor of the rank and file, he had maintained the respect he's earned with the rank and file.

He's a true leader doing a great job and the Cities Police Department would suffer with his loss.

On a second note. City control would be disastrous for Kansas City. The BOPC's Needs to set an example for others to follow.

<https://www.facebook.com/101043269988443/posts/3324550470971024/?d=n>

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

[Redacted]

From: Denise DesCombes [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 3:48 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Thank you for your service

I just want to extend a huge thank you to your entire police department for your service. The Kansas City Police Department and Chief Smith have gone above and beyond to protect the City of Kansas City. We know a few of your police officers as well as your Chief personally and we pray for all of you; for your protection, strength and emotional well being. We also pray for your families.

Thank you again, each of you, for your service. We support you!



Denise DesCombes

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

From: Becky Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 3:09 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Police Chief Smith

From where I sit it is beyond comprehension that we allow good people, Chief Smith, to suffer as a result of a criminal and defense attorney underhanded accusations. The police are by and large GOOD people and deserve the respect that they go out and earn every day!

Chief Smith has been good for the force from all we can see from the outside looking in. Maybe we should spend more time on CRIMINALS!

Some people are so upside down in the category of right from wrong. Don't be those people!

Pro KCPD,

Robert Moore

[REDACTED]

From: Linda Hillen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 3:53 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support for Chief Smith and KCPD

Dear Board of Police Comissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the kcmo police department and Chief Smith. I love KCPD and wholeheartedly stand in favor of Chief Smith as current command staff. He is a man of high integrity and ability.

Thank you,
Linda Hillen
Kansas City area resident

[REDACTED]

From: Michele Worth (SMAMO) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:49 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Appreciation of KCPD and Police Chief Smith

I just want to voice my thanks and support for the Kansas City Police Dept and also for Police Chief Richard Smith. Chief Smith has been doing a superb job in leading and directing the department in keeping KC streets safe and protected. With so much adversity in forms of anger, hate, rioting, and violence happening in the world and right here in our hometown of KC , Chief Smith has not allowed it to break him or the department, rather he rises above stopping at nothing to fulfill the position and support the dept. that he swore to serve and protect for the betterment of our KC community. I appreciated seeing him pray with Mayor Lucas and other police personnel coming before the Greatest Authoritive Power....Almighty God asking for healing, restoration, love and kindness to prevail and reside within Kansas City. I believe Kansas City is a city set apart from the majority of the state and nation in that its residents and those that protect it is one of compassion, respect, kindness, love and giving to all humanity. Chief Smith is a honest and just man diligent in requiring the same of his police personnel. I am grateful for the work he and the whole department provide to this area and pray that God reveals lies and deceit set out to divide and that all truths prevail and this city will continue to come together in UNITY.

Thankful and grateful to those who lay down their lives to protect others,
Michele Worth

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From: Horton, Laretta J
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:52 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

The atmosphere in Kansas City, Missouri has been challenging, to say the least, and I have watched your reactions to this atmosphere. I am relieved that I do not wear your shoes.

That being said, may I please implore you, all, to kindly consider all the work, compassion and leadership provided by our Chief Rick Smith? This has been an unprecedented time in our City, and it has been an incredible learning experience. I have watched, and been impressed by, the reactions to our Community's involvement by our Chief and our Officers. During the time of unrest, in Kansas City, our Chief listened to our Mayor, and the suggestions made to work toward de-escalation in reaction to the crowds protesting on the Plaza. Chief Rick Smith continues to listen to the Mayor and to Community Clergy and Leaders to work toward better Community understanding and partnership. Chief Smith, and our Officers, have proven, to me, and several others, who are not involved with the Police Community, that this Police Department honestly cares about their Community members by their actions and eagerness to work toward better understanding and policing of our Community. While some shake their heads because of the rhetoric that has been stated in the past month, others are affirming that the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department is eager to learn and practice efforts to keep Kansas City, Missouri a city in which people want to live. And, that is because of the leadership of Rick Smith. The people in this Department believe in their Chief and support him, simply because, he supports his people, sworn and non-sworn. That has not happened in a very long time. Is he perfect? No, and I thank God for that, for if he were "perfect" what would there be to learn and would a "perfect" person be willing to learn. Chief Smith is willing to learn. Chief Smith is willing to listen. Chief Smith DOES make the effort to insure his people are well informed, well trained and feel that the efforts they are making are not in vain. Chief Smith is an impassioned leader who is involved.

I must also add that Chief Smith is an intelligent man. He doesn't just listen, he learns. He investigates, he reads, he asks questions; he works at being informed. He is a great problem solver, and when he finds that he needs help, he asks for it, and he accepts it. He has espoused that being successful means not doing everything alone. It is a shared journey and what a wonderful thing it is to be brought along on the journey.

I have worked for this Department for 19 years and I have seen Chiefs come and go. I must assert to you, all, that Chief Smith has been the one to impress me most. I am in contact with a great number of Police Officers, here, and they tell me that they feel good about the Chief. They feel they have a leader in whom they can place their trust, and that is saying a lot. Officers are proud of our Chief. That, in and of itself, is extremely important when speaking of an organization that needs/must work together to create confidence and trust, especially within our Community. That Community trust, belief and partnership means so much to our Chief and our Officers. They have all worked so very hard and continue to do so. It will always be a work in progress because Communities/Societies are always growing and changing.

To that end, shortly after receiving the position of Chief, Chief Smith reintroduced our Community Interaction Officers, something that should have always been in place; has brought in Social Workers to work with our Officers for our Community; has increased the training of Officers in Crisis Intervention Training, and the list continues. He has been steps ahead of the grade. If you will support and help him, he will continue to do so.

I encourage you to continue to work with Chief Rick Smith, to support him, to retain him as our Chief. He has shown, and continues to show, that his position within this organization is good for the organization, the people who work within it and for our Community. We need him.

Thank you for your time. God bless you, all.

Sincerely,

Lauretta (Laurie) Horton

Real Time Operator

Kansas City Missouri Police Department

[REDACTED]

From: Amanda O'Conner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:00 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support

To the Board of Police Commisioners,

I am writing in support of Chief Smith and the way he is handling his position as a leader for KCPD. He has been dealt a pandemic, an uprising of epic proportions with protests and riots against his department as well as Officers nationwide, the repercussions of said uprising including property damage/citizens hurt/officers hurt/officers leaving or retiring/continued protests/unrest, demands of defunding the department, major budget cuts from the city, continued violent gun crime and most recently the shootings of not one but two different Officers in the same day. All of this has been dealt to him in the first 6 months of this year. Most Chiefs don't deal with this type of stress in a full term serving their department, let alone less than a year.

With that being said, I think he is doing an incredible job leading his department, being transparent, having dialogue with citizens and leaders of our community, attempting to educate others about the department, and advocating for our city in wanting to lower the violent crime we have as much as possible. While there is always room for improvement in our city, Chief Smith is doing his absolute best job with what has been given to him in 2020. I would hope that as the BOPC you too would rally behind him and give him the support he truly deserves. Thank you.

Amanda O'Conner
District 1
64157

[REDACTED]

From: Tracy Keeney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 12:15 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Please keep Chief Smith!!!

Hello!

I just wanted to let you know that as a minority myself (Middle Eastern) I very much appreciate the leadership of Chief Smith. I have watched how he has handled the many issues and chaos that has been happening over the past several months (COVID, protests, rioting, etc) and I think he is THE most professional, most diplomatic and statesman-like Chiefs I've seen in the 25 years I've lived in Kansas City. His love and support for Kansas City and it's citizens is clear. His understanding and compassion for the concerns of ALL our citizens, black, white, the wealthy, the homeless, etc is evident. He LISTENS and responds. He admits where the PD falls short, but stands up for and backs his officers when they are in the right. His handling of the protests was PHENOMENAL. I was SO impressed with our officers. I was watching the LIVE broadcast, with cameras showing from every angle. The police held back, and even allowed protestors to stay longer than the permitted time. They had the self-control and patience of Job and didn't engage until they HAD too. I watched it LIVE, and their professionalism and restraint was SO impressive. Under the leadership of Chief Smith, KCPD handled and has continued to handle the stress and difficulty that our city has been facing with honor. I'm SO proud of our department!

I know that others are calling for his resignation, but I strongly encourage the BOPC to stand by Chief Smith and not be pressured by his detractors. They have NO VALID REASON or justification to call for his dismissal. They just want to feel the power of making a demand and seeing it answered in their favor. Please support our Police Chief and the formidable leadership and protection he has provided for our city! He is a great part of the reason we are KC Strong!

Sincerely,

Tracy Keeney



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: Amanda O'Conner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 1:06 PM
To: mayorQ@kcmo.org; Hall, Heather; O'Neill, Kevin; Loar, Teresa; Justis, Amy; Ellington, Brandon; Robinson, Melissa; Shields, Katheryn; Bunch, Eric; McCoy, Keema; Pearson, Angela; Foster, Katrina; Wickham, Fred; Sanders, Marilyn; bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support

I am writing in support of Chief Smith and the way he is handling his position as a leader for KCPD. He has been dealt a pandemic, an uprising of epic proportions with protests and riots against his department as well as Officers nationwide, the repercussions of said uprising including property damage/citizens hurt/officers hurt/officers leaving or retiring/continued protests/unrest, demands of defunding the department, major budget cuts from the city, continued violent gun crime and most recently the shootings of not one but two different Officers in the same day. All of this has been dealt to him in the first 6 months of this year. Most Chiefs don't deal with this type of stress in a full term serving their department, let alone less than a year.

With that being said, I think he is doing an incredible job leading his department, being transparent, having dialogue with citizens and leaders of our community, attempting to educate others about the department, and advocating for our city in wanting to lower the violent crime we have as much as possible. While there is always room for improvement in our city, Chief Smith is doing his absolute best job with what has been given to him in 2020. I would hope that as the City Council you too would rally behind him and give him the support he truly deserves. Thank you.

Amanda O'Conner
District 1
54167

On Wed, Jun 17, 2020, 12:50 PM Amanda O'Conner <aboconner87@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Lucas, City Council, and Board of Police Commissioners,

It was announced yesterday that due to a city budget emergency that you plan to cut KCPD's budget by 4.5% which is roughly \$10 million dollars. This on top of the discussion from protesters wanting to defund the Police department so that money could be reallocated to other social services for the community would be a huge hit to the safety of our citizens and our community.

There were a couple options that were discussed to make that \$10 million dollar cut. The first discussed was shutting down either Center, Metro, or East Patrols with the two stations that remain absorbing the call volume. Our Officers already deal with a high amount of calls on the regular with three stations open let alone if you close one of those stations and go down to two. I am assuming that shutting down a station means that the equipment, cars, Officers, and units that are located at that station are let go as well? Therefore the city is down Officers and the Officers are down equipment as well as much needed resources to do their job. The stress this would put on our Officers, not to mention the risk to their safety to not be properly staffed and well equipped for their jobs is unacceptable. I feel it is also flat out irresponsible of you as the leaders of Kansas City to force our Officers into this type of situation. To put them in the position of having to go to work to provide for their families in a department that does not have the adequate funds to provide them with what they need to do their job properly.

The second option that was discussed was cutting 212 sworn Officers as well as cancelling the next three years worth of academy classes which means getting rid of current Officers and then not allowing for any new additional Officers. This is something that as the department is already underfunded as it is, it is also already understaffed. So the idea of cutting additional positions then not hiring anyone else for three years sure puts a freeze on the movement to promote change within the department. Inviting the community to rise up and become a Police Officer themselves is impossible if there aren't any academy classes for the next three years. We can't get rid of the bad Officers to bring in the good Officers if there isn't the ability to put the new Officers into the academy for appropriate training.

What happens when our Officers decide to leave the department from the stress of this job and lack of resources? What if they are injured or worse killed in the line of duty because there aren't enough of them to

handle each call? Eventually over the next three years we will have less and less Officers and more and more crime.

Mayor Lucas himself posted that "Violent crime remains a significant challenge as well. Homicides in Kansas City up 36% this year. Non-fatal shootings in the month of May up 74%". So far this year in Kansas City there have been 115 deaths from homicides and yet only 28 deaths from Covid-19. Just in case anyone forgot we have been living the last four months in a pandemic!!! Don't you think that these numbers are telling of how much we need KCPD to be well staffed and equipped to handle the crime that is in our community? I would hate to see how high these numbers would get without KCPD around.

My point is that making these budget cuts especially at a time like this when protesters are already wanting to defund or even deband our Police Departments is incredibly dangerous for our Officers, our community, and our futures. Please find another way to make your city budget work. Taking money away from those who serve and protect you is not one of them.

Sincerely,
Amanda O'Conner
64157

[REDACTED]

From: Tracy <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:01 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Re: The state of OUR city.

Subject: Please KEEP Chief Smith, Fight for KCPD, and support OUR Officers!!!

Hello!

I just wanted to let you know that as a surviving family member of a KCPD Officer killed in the line of duty and a minority myself (female), minority can be of varying descriptions. I very much appreciate the leadership of Chief Smith. I have watched how he has handled the many issues and chaos that has been happening over the past several months (COVID, protests, rioting, etc) and I think he is THE most professional, most diplomatic and statesman-like Chief I've seen in the 20+ adult years I've been a part of Kansas City. His love and support for Kansas City and it's citizens is clear. His understanding and compassion for the concerns of ALL our citizens, black, white, the wealthy, the homeless, etc is evident. He LISTENS and responds. He admits where the PD falls short, but stands up for and backs his officers when they are in the right. His handling of the protests was PHENOMENAL. I was SO impressed with our officers. While watching the LIVE broadcasts, with cameras showing from every angle. Police held back, and even allowed protestors to stay longer than the permitted time, this was laid down as a guideline and law for everyone's safety by our Mayor. They had the self-control and patience of Job and didn't engage until they HAD to. They were berated, bullied, and abused physically and emotionally taking a toll on them and their families but still held strong to protect this city and its citizens. I watched it LIVE, and their professionalism and restraint was SO impressive. Under the leadership of Chief Smith, KCPD handled and has continued to handle the stress and difficulty that our city has been facing with honor. I'm SO proud of our department!

I know that others are calling for his resignation, but I strongly encourage the BOPC to stand by Chief Smith and not be pressured by his detractors. They have NO VALID REASON or justification to call for his dismissal. They just want to feel the power of making a demand and seeing it answered in their favor. Please support our Police Chief and the formidable leadership and protection he has provided for our city! He is a great part of the reason we are KC Strong!

Sincerely,

Tracy Meyers-Keeling
Daughter of LEO Thomas R Meyers EOW 1/14/98

[REDACTED]

From: Judy Grant [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:57 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

All:

This is notice of support from a citizen of Kansas City, MO for Chief Rick Smith. As we all know, we are living in very trying times in this country.

As I watched protesters march and loot local businesses live on TV here recently, I feared not only for everyone there (rioters and my police department) but for our entire community. The only solace I received was from listening to Mayor Lucas and Chief Smith. And I continue to feel that way today. So after a recent conversation with a friend and former KC police officer, I was taken aback that there are requests for the removal of Chief Smith. Chief Smith is one of the most intelligent, level headed leaders this city has had in a long time. One just has to watch (& rewatch) his pressers. He is passionate for Kansas City and his department.

In order for this city and Chief Smith to be successful in our, yes OUR, quest for more peaceful relationships with the city government, police department and citizens is for him to receive support from the Mayor, City Council and this Board. For him to be removed would be a travesty to this city.

As Chief Smith recently remarked in a press conference, his parents taught him to show respect to others, to speak to police officers and others of authority. I was taught the same thing by my parents. I am sure your parents did the same.

Thank you for your time and the work you do for this city. Please listen to those who support Chief Smith. It is in the best interest of Kansas City, Missouri.

Regards,

Judy Grant
Kansas City North

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

From: Kimberly B [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:28 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: KC Protest / Chief Smith

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner,

I am writing in absolute disgust at the shame that has been allowed to cloak Kansas City. As I write this, there is a so-called "KC Protest and Press Conference" scheduled to be occurring on the very steps of the Kansas City Police Department.

The organizers claim "Attorney General Barr announced that the Department of Justice is sending 100+ FBI agents to Kansas City. Kansas City got to this point because of the the [sic] KCPD's failure to keep our communities safe at the direction of Police Chief, Rick Smith."

Apparently, they are so ignorant that they do not even recognize their own so-called protests and vandalism is what has brought our city to this point. Our police chief and his officers have gone above and beyond in striving to maintain peace and order in our city.

The violence in our city lies much at the feet of the protestors themselves and with Jean Peters Baker, who lets criminals go free while persecuting (yes, as well as striving to prosecute) our officers. These two factors, deepened with the sheer, disgusting irony of the fact that our officers work so hard to protect these people, only to become the object of their derision, is why Kansas City has been brought to this point.

The guilt lies with those creating and perpetuating the violence - not with our police officers, and not with Chief Smith.

Please support Chief Smith as he strives to do a near impossible job. And condemn those who deserve it - those who seek to continue violence and support crime in our city by failing to follow laws and to pursue justice - the protestors and the Jackson County Prosecutor, Jean Peters Baker.

Kimberly R. Brownlee
Kansas City, Mo

[REDACTED]

From: Moie Gardner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:31 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support of the Chief

City officials have lost their minds if they listen to the people who have no idea what the police go through.
I fully support Chief Smith
Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Vicky Buckner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:33 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: I support Chief Smith and State Control

Hello,

As the wife of a KCPD Officer, a mother of two children, a professional at a local Kansas City company and a citizen of Kansas City, I am writing to you to show my support for Chief Smith and ask that you do the same.

Chief Smith has done incredible things considering the challenges that he has faced this year. Anyone can look back and say they would have done things differently, but until someone is in that situation and has to make the split second decisions, they do not have the right to judge him. He is truly doing the best he can with the hand he is dealt and I feel very few, if any, could do as well as he is right now.

Given the recent happenings in our city, I also fear local control puts us at risk of the corruption that moved the department to state control in the first place. I ask that you please push to remain under state control. I feel our unique policing model actually gives Kansas City an advantage as we see in Operation Legend now coming to Kansas City to help with our violence issues.

I ask that you truly examine what this city needs as a whole rather than rely on the screams from a small group of citizens.

Thank you,

Vicky Buckner

[REDACTED]

From: Michelle Freed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:39 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

To Whom it May Concern,

I am emailing to please continue to support Chief Smith as he navigates these unprecedented times in our community.

I sit in a unique position as I am a spouse of a KCPD Captain as well as have a career that is very community driven. I have directly seen him manage tough situations as my husband's former Captain at a time when another officer who reported to my husband was doing some very wrong things. The officer was ultimately relieved of his duties. The Chief and my husband didn't give up on trying to do the right thing for the community. Chief Smith is hard working, driven to do good and a caring leader.

As a member of many civic boards, Chief Smith has always been willing to speak to these groups, listen to the concerns and try to make effective change.

I admire him for staying strong during these times as it would be easier to resign.

Best Regards,

Michelle Freed
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Jami Bailey [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:37 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Our Chief

To the Board Of Police Commissioner's,

I am incredibly disappointed in the lack of support that YOU ALL have shown for our Police Chief! Chief Smith has done everything he possibly can, within his power, to try to reduce crime in our city! He has maintained an amazing level of moral within the police department as well, especially in the times we are facing right now!

YOU as board members are personally responsible for keeping the politics OUT of the police department! YOU are suppose to stand WITH KCPD not against!

The fact that you all have gone political and are listening to the loud minority says that you should no longer hold your position. If you don't feel like you can support the police department then you should resign. That is the main reason you gave your job! Support the officers, the chief, and make sure they're all doing their job!

If you want to place any blame on the crime in this city you all need to start talking to the city counsel and the Jackson County Prosecutor who refuses to press charges!

Jami Bailey
64157

[REDACTED]

From: Tara Graham [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:56 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Chief Rick Smith

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner,

I am writing in support of KCPD Chief of Police Rick Smith. Chief Smith has worked hard to maintain peace in our city during unprecedented times. He has directed our officers in a professional manner, using his training and experience to provide security in Kansas City. Please support Chief Rick Smith.
Put yourself in his shoes in these trying times. He is doing a wonderful job and we fully support Chief Rick Smith!!

Thank you
Tara Graham
Kansas City Mo. resident

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Niki Lenz [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 4:57 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Supporting Chief

To the Board Of Police Commisioner:

I am in full support of Chief Smith. He has done an outstanding job supporting our officers and community during this time.

I also heard about the extremely demeaning comments about white women officers and it made you sound like an idiotic asshat.

-Niki Lenz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Mike Heard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Letter to the BOPC

To Whom It May Concern:

As a tax paying Kansas City citizen I'd like to have my voice heard and considered by the board.

I support Police Chief Smith. It has been a long time since I have seen a Chief that does not seem to be more focused on a political office after this job.

I do not support local control over the police department. History forgotten is doomed to repeat it. While I have no direct concerns about political corruption within the current city administration, I also cannot remember a time when a political party willingly gave up power. Just because this administration doesn't show problems-- won't mean the next mayor wouldn't return to the Pendergast era of political policing.

The citizens of Kansas City are paying attention. We see the violent crime spiking. We are burying our citizens in what will be a record setting year for violent homicides.

We do not need more politics. We need to protect the citizens.

[REDACTED]

From: Jake Sapp [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:05 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support for Chief Smith

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to show my support for Chief Smith. He has worked hard and with extreme professionalism during these trying times. As well I believe he has shown empathy and dedication to the citizens of Kansas City. Chief Smith works hard to protect and serve this city and demands the same of his officers.

Thank you Members of the Board for your time,
Jake Sapp

[REDACTED]

From: Pat Hopkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 5:18 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

Please do not get rid of chief Smith. He is doing a good job considering everything that is going on. Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Jane [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:32 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

To whom it may concern:

As a concerned KC citizen, it is disheartening and quite frankly asinine to even consider firing Chief Smith. I truly don't understand why this is even being considered. Is it because he's white? What a great idea to help further the divide and keep racism alive. This is ridiculous. Yes black lives matter; however the movement only care about certain black lives. My black husband's life does not matter because he's a police officer. A four year, who was killed by being shot in the face, his life does not matter. Why? Because it was black on black crime. Read that again. Let it sink in. Imagine your child dying from being shot in face. Where was Mayor Lucas? Where were you with protesting for black lives. Why isn't it ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER. Open your eyes. See the violence that's been allowed by our Mayor and City Council. Do not be ignorant to the good Chief Smith provides for our community. While Mayor Lucas wants to appease whoever's pissed off, Chief Smith stands by the GOOD officers that continue protect our streets. Maybe the answer isn't to fire Chief Smith, but to get Mayor Lucas out of Office. Please do what's right for our city. Not on how to get votes to be re-elected. We need to come together as one race, the human race, and help our city we all claim to love.

Sincerely,

Sarah H
KC citizen

[REDACTED]

From: Sherrilynn074 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 7:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support of Chief Smith

Dear Honorable Board Members:

I'm asking for you to take a moment to read our support of our current Police Chief, Rick Smith. He has been a great supporter of all families in the KC community. He wants this senseless violence to stop & is understandably frustrated that the Jackson county prosecutor keeps releasing the same criminals to keep committing crimes over & over again.

Again, they (including those that work in the prosecutors office) are frustrated because in numerous probable cause statements for solved murders in KC, very little of them were actually taken to court. The others were dismissed, filing no charges, probation or a slap on the wrist. Those same criminals are still terrorizing neighborhoods! Still killing people, literally getting away with murder, because she refuses to do her job. Self admittedly because she's using her personal beliefs rather than following the laws to enforce consequences. Why isn't this prosecuting office being held accountable?!? I've been in the paralegal field for over 20 years & this is just terrible! Everyone knows in Jackson County you can get away with anything! But don't mess with Clay or Platte, cause you'll actually go to jail up there.

Ive read that some police don't mess with Jackson County charges anymore because that prosecuting office is only prosecuting headline stories. Police bust drug dealers that are supplying addicts with heroin & fentanyl, that are killing people struggling. They build federal cases, so that those families actually have justice in Kansas City. Those people are actually held accountable. As I've always been brought up to believe.

I absolutely do believe that Chief Rick Smith is the best leader for these times. He implemented numerous progressive programs & training within the department, long before Mayor Q was elected.

Long before the demands came rolling in for his job, years ago he had already implemented ties within the community, so much so that when protestors showed up to KCPD's East Patrol Station, the community members told them to leave their neighborhoods. He was placing a community officer and a social worker at each station to help police officers with community needs.

Kansas City already has an award winning Critical Response Team that professionally handles de-escalation practices successfully. They handle terrible situations when someone has barricaded themselves & most times their victims, within a structure or is suicidal. Those officers, from all parts of the department, on that team are trained & retrained all the time. Ive followed in the news that most of those situations end in a positive way & those with mental deficiencies are provided the help they need. That's on the Chief.

Watching him stand by his police officers the past few weeks really gives us hope that one day soon Kansas City can stop being so divided & get those bad elements out of this terrible situation. I'm sure some things could've gone differently in the protests, but that's on both ends, at least we saw that police department make adjustments to do better, in a terrible situation, each day. You're never going to make everyone happy, but please listen to the silent majority, that is sick of this division & toxic political game between the mayor, police, community leaders and prosecuting attorneys office.

I am a 25 year long resident & citizen of Kansas City, Missouri & I am in support of Chief Rick Smith. Thank you for taking the time to read these concerns, it's very much appreciated.

[REDACTED]

From: Darla Hennigh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 6:40 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: I support Chief Smith

In times where there seems like it's impossible to please everyone, I believe Chief Smith has walked the line of support for his forces and listening to the community beautifully. I'm proud of how he's represented KC in these unpredictable times.

Darla Hennigh, CPT
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Carol Flood [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 7:44 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

I do not live in Kansas City but used to. Just wanted to voice my support of Chief Rick Smith. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Emily McQuillen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:29 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep Chief Smith

The Chief is a great Chief. One of the best this city has seen. We need him. He is here for our families and works hard keeping us safe. The Chief needs to stay!!!!

Emily

[REDACTED]

From: Leroy Raab [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:48 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: KEEP POLICE CHIEF SMITH

I am asking you to please keep Police Chief Smith! I believe he has done a great job and his undying support for our police officers is greatly appreciated.

Thank you

Leroy Raab

[REDACTED]

From: Phyllis Bell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:06 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep Chief Smith

We urge you to not listen to the folks who want him fired.

He is the leader now and he deserves to stay. The officers support him, their families support him.

Because protestors want him fired is NO reason he should lose his job.

Thank you,

Phyllis Bell

[REDACTED]

From: Sharon Raab [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:50 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep Chief Smith

I am requesting that you please keep Police Chief Smith. He as been the only support our police officers have here in Kansas City. The City Council most certainly has not supported or given our officers what they need to do their jobs.

Sincerely,
Sharon Raab

[REDACTED]

From: Pam Atkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:31 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Smith

I am writing to let you know of my support for Chief Rick Smith. I believe he has the best interest of the officers under him AND the people of Kansas City in mind. He seems to be a very caring person and genuinely interested in the well being of everyone. I think it would be a great disservice to the people of Kansas City and the family of officers to ask him to step down. The police department should remain under local control.

Pamela Atkins

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Mullen, Scott P
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:01 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support Chief Smith

To the Board of Police Commissioners I would like to submit this email to show my support and the support of the 1010 Homicide Squad to Chief Smith. In the year 2020 if one thing has been made abundantly clear, it is policing is not easy. I would also argue I can't think of a less desirable job in America right now than the Chief of Police in a major metropolitan city. In the last few months we have seen Chief after Chief in major cities being fired or asked to resign for a lot of things simply not in their control. My career at the KCPD has spanned three Chiefs and without a doubt Rick Smith is the only one I believe has served this post for all the right reasons. Rick Smith is a cop. He believes in this job and the purpose it serves. Anyone who meets with him and talks with him can see this. The unfortunate thing about being the Chief of Police here or anywhere is the politics that come with the position. I would argue being the Chief at any major metropolitan PD especially in this current climate is a no win scenario. There will always be an issue of significance which arises and placed squarely at the feet of a Chief.

Despite the constant hit pieces coming from the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office and mainly JPB about our department, Chief Smith has taken the high road and not shied away from criticism. As a 7+ year member of the Homicide Unit and having seen how the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office administers justice, I would argue the glass house in which their stones are being thrown is a hypocrisy beyond words. I would challenge any of you to reach out to members of this unit who have regular dealings with their office to get a glimpse of the challenges we face in getting cases filed or even considered by their office.

There are great challenges facing our city when it comes to violent crime. I spend countless nights and days away from my family trying to help the families of whose loved ones are victims of the most violent crime there is. Rick Smith is the only Chief who has made his presence on our floor at all, let alone on a regular basis to encourage us and ask us what we need. The prior Chief NEVER made one appearance on this floor. A hand shake and a thanks for doing the job while stockpiling comp time at homicides scenes was not leadership, it was self-serving.

I know all of you have achieved a level of success in your lives which afforded you the opportunity to be considered for and ultimately appointed a Police Commissioner. Like you Rick Smith has achieved success throughout a honest, hardworking, dedicated career to a city and department he loves. There is a silent majority out there who support this Chief and law enforcement in general and that includes the members of this department. Please don't let the loud chants of a very few allow judgement to be passed on an entire career of dedication and service.

I appreciate your service as commissioners and thank you for your time,

Respectfully,

Det. Scott Mullen #5431
Kansas City Missouri Police Department
Homicide Unit, 1010 Squad
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Nancy Caber [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 4:57 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support of Chief Rick Smith

Dear Sir: I want to say Thank you for all you are doing fo Kansas City. I am totally in favor of and support your efforts. We are against local control of the city. The media slants viewpoints and we are not with them. Once again Thank you. We support you and the department 100 percent. Nancy Caber [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

From: Tom Christianson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 6:13 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Keep Chief Smith.

I am in support of Chief Smith. Please keep him.

Tom Christianson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 6:37 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief

Please keep Chief Rick Smith

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Larry Caber [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 6:42 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

Chief,

I just want you to know that I appreciate the great work you and KCPD are doing during these trying times. I can't imagine all the challenges you must face daily in protecting Kansas City.

Thank you for keeping Kansas City safe. I hope and pray things will rapidly return to normal.

All the Best to you and your outstanding officers.

Larry Caber
LTC, U.S. Army (Ret)

[REDACTED]

From: Emily McQuillen [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 9:58 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: WE SUPPORT CHIEF SMITH

My family supports Chief Smith, and all of our Kansas City police officers. We have family members and friends that are KC cops, and we beg you not to change policies that would put our loved ones at more risk than they are already at. The mayor needs to speak up in support of our good cops. I'm positive there will be a whole new protest should things proceed in favor of criminals. The silent majority will only be quiet for so long should you cater to criminals and those who want social workers doing the jobs of police. Please keep in mind Atlanta and Minneapolis, as they seem to be going down a lawless path. It will destroy our city. Please put much consideration into our city as a whole, and not just appeasing a small amount of disgruntled citizens.

Emily

[REDACTED]

From: Greg Mosier [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 10:58 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: I support Chief Smith

If it matters, I wholeheartedly support Chief Smith without reservation.

[REDACTED]

From: Kimberly B [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:41 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Retain Chief Smith

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner,

I am writing in full support of and appreciation for the Kansas City Police Department. They have served and continue to serve with excellence and professionalism in a time and place where it seems everything - including those who should be supporting them - are against them.

Our officers have, in sum, received the misdirected hatred and venom from those who protest against mistreatment occurring by individuals -not police departments as a whole- in other times and places than ours.

Chief Smith himself is serving with dignity in a seemingly impossible role. He has maintained careful insight and professionalism in directing his officers to protect and serve those *very people* who are fighting against him and those officers. Therein lies the irony in this entire situation.

If the officers simply had not shown up to these protests to be the object of the protestors' actions, what would have happened then? We have seen by the vandals' behavior that they would proceed to destroy businesses, endanger our community, and bring shame on Kansas City.

Do not defund or cut budgets in our Police Departments. We do not want Kansas City to join the ranks of the most dangerous cities in the United States. Allowing these dissenters to manipulate our city and defunding or reducing funds and resources in our police department will do just that. You will cause our city to lose the very officers that **give their lives, daily**, to the efforts that keep our city safe and livable.

While those angry, protesting voices may seem loud right now, consider it is because the patient, law-abiding citizens are *working*. They may not have as much time to dedicate to write to you or to show up at your meetings in support of the protection of our city as those complainers have to dedicate to protests and to the ruin of our city. *That is why you exist. To do what is BEST* for all of the citizens of Kansas City. Please fulfill your role accordingly.

--
Kimberly R. Brownlee
Kansas City, Mo

From: Williams, Paul B
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 9:07 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support for the Chief

I am a 25 year veteran of this department and would like to voice my support for Chief Smith. In my tenure here I have been through 5 previous chiefs. Chief Smith has FINALLY provided the support we as a whole have been crying out for. To lay the blame on this recent plaque of violence on this city at his feet is irresponsible. We as a police department know who the criminals are, we are VERY good at finding the criminals in our city and presenting the cases for prosecution. Prior to my current assignment I was a Property crimes Detective, there I watched criminal after criminal commit increasingly violent acts (carrying guns while burglarizing homes, the targeted theft of firearms ETC) not being prosecuted (the term is Yellow Sheeted) or receiving multiple chances with no consequences (IE probation or SIS sentence). More than a few graduated from burglary and auto theft to murder a path we predicted and begged prosecutors to do something about BEFORE this occurred. I have beg and argued with prosecutors to at the VERY least impose a sentence that makes it illegal to carry a firearm (term is SES conviction) only to have those pleas ignored. This SES conviction would make it possible to prosecute the true criminals of our city for Felon in Possession of a Firearm giving it some "teeth" to remove these people from society and put them in jail . These people should of never been on the street to begin with. I give the example of Donte Kershaw a burglar who was armed, with an assault rifle, at the time he committed a burglary with several other subjects. This gang of people went on and committed multiple burglaries where firearms were stolen , as well as burglary that involved a pregnant women who fled the residence as they forced their way in. We identified him and prosecuted him. The result, he served a 120 day sentence! He is NOT prohibited from carrying a firearm. Remember his name as he will be a future violent offender, who will either become a homicide static or a suspect in one. He has a history of carrying weapons as well as burglary and assaults. The failure is clearly at the feet of the Jackson County prosecutor's Office and the Judges. Please don't remove a Chief who is desperately trying to not only support his officers but fend of the false claims he is doing nothing to slow the crime rate as well as FINALLY addressing the failures of the Prosecutors office. We desperately need a strong leader in these times and hope you will continue your support for him.

Detective Paul Williams #4187

[REDACTED]

From: chelsie.dellaguardia [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 10:00 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

I am writing this email to you to ask that Rick Smith be allowed to keep his position as Chief with the Kansas Cjty Police Dept. During his time in office he has gone out of his way to attempt to help the community he serves, not to mention how supportive he has been during the tragic shootings of not one but two of his officers. He also has been very poised in his press conferences when faced with difficult questions of the political nature. All in all, I believe him to be a fantastic Chief of Police and I, as a Kansas City resident, feel very safe knowing he is the man running my local department.

Thank you for your time

Chelsie Dellaguardia

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S20+ 5G.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 11:18 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Attachments: text_0.txt

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner, I am writing in full support of and appreciation for the Kansas City Police Department. They have severed in a time and place where it seems everything - including those who should be supporting them - are against them. Chief Smith himself is serving with dignity in a seemingly impossible role. He has maintained careful insight in directing his officers to protect and serve those very people fighting against them. We do not want Kansas City to join the ranks of the most dangerous cities in the United States. Allowing these police haters to take over the city also lets the gang members think they can just shoot into houses. I am very disappointed in Mayor Lucas. I voted for him because it appeared he was for the police. Since the protests it appears he is giving in to the protest folks and not considering the other people in his city. Chief Rick Smith has done an excellent job and because some people don't like him they want him fired. This is wrong. Please reconsider the city's stance on these issues. Concerned citizen.



This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

[REDACTED]

From: Debbie Childress [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:03 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Chief Rick Smith

Good afternoon. I'm writing to voice my support of Chief Smith. The violence that has been directed towards our police department has been horrendous. Through all of it, Chief Smith has been fair and supportive. As the daughter of a former police chief, I've seen firsthand how difficult it is to sit in that position and face the decisions he's had to face.

The strain and pressure of the Chief position is insane and intense right now, and Chief Smith is doing an excellent job. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Regards,
Debbie Childress

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:28 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: I back Chief Smith

To the Board of Police Commissioners;

Due to the great leadership of Chief Smith, our city was not burned to the ground and looted. Chief Smith has fought hard to keep our city safe, even with the road blocks put in place by the criminal arsonist, looting terrorist, the city council, the Mayor and the non-working Jean Peters Baker. Chief Smith re-instated the Community Interaction Officers program, which Forte dismantled and even added Officers to this very important program. Chief Smith found a way, with a very limited budget, to place a social worker in each patrol station. Chief Smith has worked very hard to correct all of the failures of Forte, who walked away with over \$500,000.00. Forte was in it for the money and not the safety and well being of the citizens of Kansas City. Chief Smith is willing to sit down with anyone or any group, who has a problem. He is willing to listen and work with whatever group or person, to find a solution to the problem. Chief Smith is a great leader, his heart and soul is in the job. Chief Smith has reached out to so many groups to work with all of these groups to make Kansas City a great place to live. The Police can not do the job without Community involvement and Chief Smith has urged Police/ Community partnerships at every corner. Chief Smith and the Officers need our backing and they need to know we support them. **I BACK CHIEF SMITH AND THE KANSAS CITY POLICE OFFICERS.** I demand that you, as a member of our Police Board, stand up and support Chief Smith and our Officers. Do the right thing, our Chief, our city and our Officers need your backing. Google Chief Humphrey of Little Rock, this is the person that the city and the same loud mouths were pushing to be the Chief of Police for Kansas City. Thank God he was not hired and Chief Smith was. This is the type of person our current Mayor and some on the city council want to be Chief. Our city would have been destroyed.

Respectfully;

Rita Olson-Stawicki
tax payer
voter

[REDACTED]

From: Clifford Hill [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:10 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Suggestions from an ordinary citizen of the USA.

Clifford Hill
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Clifford Hill [REDACTED]
To: kctv5.com@aol.com <kctv5.com@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Jul 9, 2020 9:11 am
Subject: Fwd: Suggestions from an ordinary citizen of the USA.

Clifford Hill
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Clifford Hill [REDACTED]
To: www.kansascity.com/news@aol.com <www.kansascity.com/news@aol.com>; www.fox4kc.com@aol.com <www.fox4kc.com@aol.com>; www.kmbc.com@aol.com <www.kmbc.com@aol.com>; www.kshb.com@aol.com <www.kshb.com@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Jul 9, 2020 9:09 am
Subject: Fwd: Suggestions from an ordinary citizen of the USA.

Clifford Hill
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Clifford Hill [REDACTED]
To: joe Biden.com@aol.com <joe Biden.com@aol.com>; barackobama.com@aol.com <barackobama.com@aol.com>; pelosi.house.gov@aol.com <pelosi.house.gov@aol.com>; booker.senate.gov@aol.com <booker.senate.gov@aol.com>; harris.senate.gov@aol.com <harris.senate.gov@aol.com>; msnbc.com/11th-hour-with-brian-williams@aol.com <msnbc.com/11th-hour-with-brian-williams@aol.com>; msnbc.com/am-joy@aol.com <msnbc.com/am-joy@aol.com>; msnbc.com/the-last-word@aol.com <msnbc.com/the-last-word@aol.com>; governor.ny.gov@aol.com <governor.ny.gov@aol.com>; BlakeMnyassembly.org@aol.com <BlakeMnyassembly.org@aol.com>; info@dcblm.org <info@dcblm.org>; kccallnews.com@aol.com <kccallnews.com@aol.com>; kansascity.com/news@aol.com <kansascity.com/news@aol.com>; msnbc.com/politicsnation@aol.com <msnbc.com/politicsnation@aol.com>; donaldtrump.gov@aol.com <donaldtrump.gov@aol.com>; scott.senate.gov@aol.com <scott.senate.gov@aol.com>; mikepenca.gov@aol.com <mikepenca.gov@aol.com>; amyklobuchar.gov@aol.com <amyklobuchar.gov@aol.com>; Clifford Hill <cliff.hill2@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, Jul 7, 2020 2:33 pm
Subject: Suggestions from an ordinary citizen of the USA.

A short introduction of the author of this lengthy e-mail.

1. Senior Citizen from the State of Kansas. Not a democrat, not a republican, but independent as can be.
2. Military Veteran
3. Probably could be considered middle class
4. Take my right to vote and civic obligations linked thereto, seriously.

Note: I am purposely leaving out my race, ethnicity, and gender because my comments would seem to apply regardless of these characteristics.

I am moved to submit these thoughts to anyone who will consider them in our national debate about so many things, including the Black Lives Matter movement. I put some emphasis on this movement inasmuch as there are a number of issues imbedded therein e.g. poverty and police reform. Additionally, this movement includes all races, genders, and persons of all ethnic backgrounds in this country.

I happen to believe that all lives matter. That is my teaching and family upbringing. If all lives matter, then Black Lives Matter, White Lives Matter, Hispanic Lives Matter, Asian Lives Matter, Muslim Lives Matter, Jewish Lives Matter, Men Lives Matter, Female Lives Matter, Native American Lives Matter, the lives of those citizens who succumbed to covid-19, Matter, and the Multitude of Black Lives lost as a result of Black-on Black crime largely in inner city communities, matter.

The BLM movement is seen by some as synonymous with a political and social movement joined by people of all faiths and races. Firing the current president and his administration, and taking steps to address needed reforms to law enforcement are included in the debate and agenda. While everyone may have his/her thoughts on this, I detect a notable absence of voting registration booths and hand-out information describing one's rights and obligations associated with registering to vote and voting at the rallies and demonstrations. Likewise, there is no information that I can discern which carefully describes the various rights to absentee voting, advance voting, and mail-in ballots. At the same time, there is more than enough coverage of the demonstrations, marches, police-citizen interactions, and very minor looting incidents. If Black Lives Matter, Black Votes Matter. There is a time and place for everything. On the same day Nelson Mandela was freed from 27 years of imprisonment in South Africa, he told the massive crowd of demonstrators and supporters to stop protesting and demonstrating and immediately go back to school to educate themselves. The current circumstances in the U.S. demand public education on voting and many other topics at this time. It is only through education that people can make the appropriate and wise decisions.

The focus on reform of the institution whose perceived mandate includes policing the people and the communities is misguided. The whole notion of policing someone requires a 2-party relationship. One party (the police) necessarily holds a superior relationship to the other party (the citizens) from whom their authority and resources derive. This is problematic in a number of ways. Too much emphasis on funding, de-funding, and redirection of funds from the police departments. There should be clarification of the mandates for law enforcement entities. The mandate for civil law enforcement in general, including police departments, sheriff departments, prosecutors, prisons, and all other components should be to serve and protect the citizens. Serve and Protect requires a major shifting of mentality from policing the citizens to serve and protect the citizens. This shift is going to be extremely difficult for some. Unfortunately, some will be unwilling or unable to make this mental shift and will remain in an "us against them" frame of mind. Therefore, their continued participation in law enforcement will be detrimental to the institutions and the citizens they are mandated to serve.

Law enforcement officers are vital and essential to the safety and security of our communities. Without law enforcement mechanisms, we have anarchy where no one is safe and secure. Because law enforcement personnel are provided the means and authority to effect life and death actions impacting all of our citizens, extreme care should be taken to ensure only the most highly qualified and capable people are placed into these positions. Serious thought should be given to increasing funding to law enforcement entities i.e. police departments rather than reducing their funding. The increased funding should be directly linked to ensuring increased quality and professionalism of our law enforcement personnel and police departments. An essential component of meaningful reform would be to institute certification and licensing requirements for law enforcement personnel both at the state and federal level. This is similar to the requirements for Doctors, Nurses, CPA's, Private Investigators, all of whom can seriously impact the lives of our citizens. At a minimum, and entry level police officer or a sheriff's deputy should hold a 2-year community college degree based on relevant curricula. Administrators and Supervisory personnel should have at least a 4-year college degree based on relevant curricula. Military experience may be beneficial but should not be a primary qualifier since we are not sending these people to a combat mission. Care should be taken to ensure the military mentality is left behind in the military as opposed to being transferred in a Serve and Protect mission.

Finally, the brave persons who shot the videos of the killing of George Floyd and those who videotaped other seemingly inappropriate and perhaps illegal activities of police officers are among the real heroes here. But not for their

bravery and conscientiousness, we would not be having some of these conversations. This brings up the question of if people can video the inappropriate actions of the police officers, and our government officials, why can't we have more citizen participation in videotaping inappropriate and illegal activities of citizens? The only way we can continue to agonize over the shootings, murders, and assaults on our fellow citizens is to acquiesce to it. We need to become part of the solution. Why don't we institute a videolantes(vigilantes) mindset and program where citizens begin to use their videocams and cell phones to video criminal acts of citizens. A system of anonymity can be established to protect the videolantes.

Clifford Hill


[REDACTED]

From: Dan Claiborn [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2020 7:52 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: essays on police and reforms
Attachments: blackandbluelives20.pdf; Better law Enforcement for Everyone.pdf

Mr. Wagner and Commissioners

As a local police psychologist in the community for the past 40 years, I am very supportive of law enforcement and have loved my work with officers and their agencies. We have worked with over 60 department in Missouri and Kansas, from state agencies to small cities.

Recently I have been thinking and writing about the current movement for reforms, restructuring, etc. I offer my thoughts as food for thought, not as final recommendations or positions. I am attaching a couple of my writings. The longer one is a more comprehensive look at how we got to where we are, obstacles to change, and what we might need to do to make specific reforms effective.

This is offered just for your information. Let me know if any of you would like to discuss anything more or brainstorm about any of the topics.

Daniel C. Claiborn, Ph.D., P.A.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Daniel Claiborn, Ph.D.

A PERSPECTIVE ON TWO CULTURES: BLACK AND BLUE

As a therapist for 50 years, I have learned the value of listening and understanding and of seeing the benefit of looking past my own biases. As a police psychologist and trainer for the last 39 years, I have come to appreciate the special pressures within a unique culture – pressures that are not readily apparent to outsiders. It is a principle in psychology that people, without more specific, actual knowledge, naturally assume other individuals, families, and cultures operate like themselves and their own groups. We need to move beyond this – to listen without prejudice – in order to reasonably appreciate and resolve the tension between police and our black community.

It is crucial for police officers and law enforcement administrators to understand, as much as possible, the daily and lifelong experience in our country of living while black. We non-blacks expect black Americans to do as we do – to generally trust the system, conduct their business, and feel safe. Our African American fellow citizens are assumed to do things like these, without fear and danger ever possible in their awareness: passing someone on the sidewalk, raising children, entering a bank or QuickTrip, applying for a job, jogging, opening their front door, deciding what to wear, driving across town, going to school, reporting a crime, getting a traffic ticket, and sitting in a park. This assumption could not be farther from the truth, and it represents a profound blind spot for non-blacks.

It is important too for us non-police to try to understand the experience of living while blue – the effects on health and relationships of shifting duty schedules, the chronic heightened alertness on duty and off, the inability to completely unwind or sleep a full night, the distrust and negative perceptions of the public, the burden of an ever present weapon, the pressure to remain tough, the responsibility to be in control, and the constant possibility of sudden violence. Increasingly, police officers have been asked to perform the impossible. We expect officers to be more than human – to remain calm, to be fair, to take their time, to be brave, to protect all sides, to act immediately, and to shift quickly between important roles: enforcer, medic, counselor, protector, diplomat, mediator, investigator, educator, friend, and role model.

Though officers may be armed and in a position of authority, they may not feel confident, calm, powerful, and invulnerable. They can be oblivious to living while black, be under stress, feel threatened by the unpredictable, and feel fearful of things getting out of control – because of their own past encounters as officers and because of the stories they have heard about police getting killed even in routine or benign, random situations. Further, police officers are selected for their ability to act, to engage, and to take charge of problem situations. For officers to hold back in stressful encounters – to not act – this can go against their instincts and even against their conception of the role we have asked them to play.

We who select and prepare police need to do better in our training, in our wellness services for officers, in facilitating officers' engagement with the community, in increasing minority recruitment, and in proactively offering unsuitable officers an acceptable route out of law enforcement. We also need to do everything we can to help both citizens and police gain more respect for the humanness of each other - and a better understanding of the ways the world looks and feels from each person's position. We especially need officers to see themselves as humans first, as embracing and protecting of differentness and community, and as valuing membership in the human family over their sense of solidarity with their law enforcement family.

Better Law Enforcement for Everyone: Doing What We Can

Daniel C. Claiborn, Ph.D.

August 1, 2020

I write this in my 40th year as a police psychologist and having devoted a majority of my professional life selecting, training, and supporting police officers, supervisors, and their agencies. I have been honored and rewarded in my work with police and believe in the dedication of the men and women in law enforcement.

In any endeavor, such as golf for example, participants need to navigate and negotiate factors that are beyond their control – they must anticipate and compensate for these factors and cannot ignore or be stymied by them. In golf, these given challenges include the course design and condition, the placement of obstacles, the “lay of the land,” the wind, and the weather, and the golfer must see these realities as what they are and successfully deal with them.

The Lay of the Land in Law Enforcement

Law enforcement as an institution and policing as a profession today face certain realities to be understood and navigated. Broadly speaking, our current police operations function in a politically fragmented society with: overt and implicit racial discrimination, a deep history of disenfranchisement of blacks, a growing and dramatic income disparity, a steadily increasing proportion of minority residents and cultures, a vast proliferation of guns, a drum-beat of publicized police excessive use of force incidents, and naturally escalating frustration, exasperation, indignation, and desperation among our people, who are demanding change now.

In addition to these societal realities, which law enforcement cannot itself address, several other potentially changeable factors have directly or indirectly hamstrung police agencies’ attempts at evolving toward better practices.

- (1) As Paul Blumenthal in the Huffington Post writes (July 26, 2020), a number of Supreme Court decisions have cumulatively enabled law enforcement “to use force on citizens, stop them without a warrant, lock them up for minor crimes, and even raid their homes without a knock.” He points out that since 1968, the Court has reinterpreted the Fourth and Fifth Amendments, allowing police wide discretion and “creating a multi-step system protecting police from accountability when they are charged with abuse.”

Blumenthal reports these decisions “enable police to stop and frisk anyone they deem suspicious, to stop any vehicle driver for any infraction even if the stop was a pretext for a different concern, to arrest anyone for any legal infraction no matter how minor, and to use force, including deadly force, even to enforce a speeding violation.”

- (2) Police unions have often advocated so strongly for their members' sustained employment that in some cities it has been difficult if not impossible for Chiefs and Sheriffs to terminate unsuitable officers – “bad apples.”
- (3) Then there is the problem of entrenched police culture itself, at least in some cities, as explored by Zack Beauchamp in Vox (July 7, 2020). He describes an underlying police ideology, handed down from veteran officers, that enables brutality and systemic racism. He reports, “Something about the way police relate to the communities they’re tasked with protecting has gone wrong. Officers aren’t just regularly treating people badly; a deep dive into the motivations and beliefs of police reveals that too many believe they are justified in doing so.”

Beauchamp writes, based on his research, that this entrenched police ideology “holds that the world is a profoundly dangerous place: Officers are conditioned to see themselves as constantly in danger and that the only way to guarantee survival is to dominate the citizens they’re supposed to protect. The police believe they’re alone in this fight; police ideology holds that officers are under siege by criminals and are not understood or respected by the broader citizenry. These beliefs, combined with widely held racial stereotypes, push officers toward violent and racist behavior during intense and stressful street interactions.”

Beauchamp does note, however, that this ideology is certainly not universal or evenly distributed across all officers, agencies, or departments – but that where it exists, it can partially explain excessive use of force and apparent disregard for citizens’ rights and welfare.

Dan Zak and Ellen McCarthy, in their July 7, 2020 Washington Post article, “The Duty and Burden of the Black Police Officer,” describe the powerful pressure of police culture and ideology on even black officers. They note a conclusion of President Obama’s 21st century policing task force (2015): “Behavior is more likely to conform to culture than rules.” They also quote a St. Louis homicide sergeant: “Police culture will eat policy and procedures for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.”

- (4) We also must note the origins of policing and the reason policing grew and took its present form in the U.S. As Jill Lepore recounts (The New Yorker, July 20, 2020), policing in England and here was originally a civil force charged with deterring crime and “keeping the king’s peace.” She contends that policing in the U.S. grew so rapidly and into an anti-black institution because of enforcing and protecting slavery. Zack Beauchamp (above) agrees and notes that in the South, police departments grew out of 18th century slave patrols. In fact, Virginia’s slave codes for the control, policing, and punishment of slaves were adopted in 1680.

Another factor key to the development of modern U.S. law enforcement has been the carrying of guns. Lepore notes that, “Modern American policing began in 1909, when August Vollmer became the chief of the police department in Berkeley, California....(He) refashioned American police into an American military...(explaining): “After all, we’re conducting a war, a war against the enemies of society.””

Lepore argues that from these slavery control and armed force roots, law enforcement took its modern form of urban policing stimulated by population growth, the widening inequality from the Industrial Revolution, the rise in crimes such as prostitution and burglary, and hostility to increasing immigration. Use of police in enforcing integration and in responding to the anti-Vietnam protests enhanced law enforcement’s role in controlling social movements. President Johnson’s “war on crime” further defined law enforcement’s militaristic mission.

Finally, Lepore recounts that Johnson’s 1968 crime bill led to 15 years of spending federal funds on over 80,000 crime control projects in which “even funds intended for social projects—youth employment,along with other health, education, housing, and welfare programs—were distributed to police operations.” Then under Presidents Nixon and Reagan, prison-building was ramped up, and funding died for mental hospitals, health centers, jobs programs, and early childhood education.

Thus, our current institution of law enforcement exists in a polarized, heavily armed societal environment of many factors it cannot change. However, law enforcement, as it has come to be, has been shaped by several developments, ideas, policies, and institutions in ways that could be changed: Supreme Court decisions, police union obstructions, warrior and racist police mentalities, anti-blackness and social control orientations, militarization of image and equipment, and the assignment to law enforcement of important social and mental health functions beyond the scope and training of personnel who are armed and focused on enforcing laws and protecting safety.

The Challenge of Reforms

Something must be done, and it will not be easy – and not only because of funding issues. Reforms upon reforms have been tried already across the country, often meeting resistance and without demonstrating progress (see “Rage and Promises Followed Ferguson, But Little Changed,” New York Times, Dewan and Baker, June 13). However, many chiefs and sheriffs have been open to new approaches for years, and with the current public attention and pressure, maybe reforms can now be more creative, fundamental, comprehensive, and successful.

As Alex Vitale summarizes in The Washington Post (June 29, 2020), certain myths about police and reforms should be kept in mind. First, the myth that police spend most of their time fighting crime. Vitale notes that police mostly spend their time

on non-criminal matters: patrol officers spend about 17% of their time “responding to crime-related calls, the majority of which are misdemeanors.” According to Philip Bump, a Washington Post contributor, 70% of 2019 police calls in New Orleans focused on property checks and protection (“What Police Work Actually Looks Like,” June 12, 2020).

Second, the myth that a diverse police force leads to better policing. Vitale writes, “Numerous studies show that the race of officers has no effect on the quality of policing. Having more diverse police forces does not reduce racial disparities in police killings, citizen complaints, vehicle stops, or arrests to maintain order....the overall (research) trend remains negative, in part because institutional pressures on black officers require that they not show any deference to black citizens.”

Third, the myth that implicit bias training can eliminate racial bias in policing. Vitale cites law professor Jonathan Kahn’s conclusion that advocates of bias training “have not proved a connection between the scoring on bias tests and actions in the world. They also lack evidence to support the effectiveness of the training to influence (individual) officer behavior.” There is also concern about the contrary potential that implicit bias training “may actually normalize stereotyping by promoting the notion that implicit bias is common and expected (Duguid and Thomas-Hunt, Journal of Applied Psychology, 2015).

Fourth, the myth that community policing empowers communities. Vitale reports, “Research shows that police give up little power (in community-input processes).”

And fifth, the myth that police can effectively help with mental health crises. Despite millions of dollars invested in specialized Crisis Intervention Team training, Vitale reports that between 25% and 50% of all people killed by U. S. police are having a mental health crisis. According to Vitale, “A 2014 Criminal Justice Policy Review meta-analysis showed no improvement in safety for officers or the public from the use of crisis intervention teams. A 2019 study by (California researchers)....found....in most cases, deploying (CIT) teams didn’t affect arrest and use-of-force rates. The only time we see improvements in the outcomes of these calls is when such teams are combined with increases in community-based mental health services.”

Ways Forward

We realize there are powerful current societal realities in our country that law enforcement cannot address, such as political polarization, the proliferation of firearms, increasing income disparity, deeply embedded racism and discrimination, and an increasingly culturally diverse population, along with the challenge of immigration. Each of these affects our law enforcement agencies and officers since they affect the citizens police are charged with protecting, as well as affecting the agencies and officers themselves.

We also understand the present obstacles law enforcement needs to navigate and could possibly contribute to modifying over time. Some of these originated and evolved to empower and protect police, such as certain Supreme Court decisions and law enforcement union policies, but have actually failed to give police the appropriate protective boundaries, guidelines, and accountability necessary to operate honorably and respectfully. These “supports” have actually harmed, overburdened, and overextended police and contributed to a loss of community trust and respect.

Other obstacles to reasonable and effective policing can be addressed more directly by police agencies themselves and by their communities: the war-like mental orientation, the racial discrimination and operational prejudice, the militarization and weaponization in image and tools, the social control and conformity mission, and the acceptance into law enforcement of non-police, social work, and mental health functions.

My belief is that if broader things can change for law enforcement, such as restructuring and repurposing the institution itself, then specific reforms in selection, training, supervision, policies, tactics, culture, and leadership will be much more effective than they have so far.

Restructuring Law Enforcement

Voices have increasingly called for deconstructing and re-orienting law enforcement and its various functions. And even the overall purpose and societal impact of the law enforcement system itself have been criticized. Todd May and George Yancy (New York Times, June 22) argue that the important issue is not weeding out bad apples: “the question we should be asking of the police (is) not why they regularly fail to perform their duties correctly and thus need reform, but rather, what duties are they succeeding at?”

May and Yancy conclude police departments are succeeding at “keeping people in their place...They succeed in keeping middle-class and especially upper-class white people safe...(and) in keeping people of color in their place so that they don’t challenge the social order that privileges middle- and upper-class white people.” And, they say, “(police departments) succeed in suppressing those who would question the social order.” May and Yancy argue the whole policing institution is racist, whether or not individual officers themselves are racist, because of current law enforcement’s overall impact of defending the established inequities and discriminations in our society’s status quo.

These authors are not saying the individual men and women in law enforcement are necessarily racist or intending to restrict freedom or to keep people of color down. They argue not that racism problems come from a few bad apples, but that “the tree itself is rotten.” May and Yancy, rather than supporting police reform, suggest exploring “how to build healthy and safe communities of mutual respect and see which institutions we need to reach that goal.”

Key concepts here are “healthy,” “safe,” and “respect.” As we look at restructuring the various services law enforcement has come to provide in our country, a number of services can logically be retained under safety: crime intervention, investigation, and prevention; corrections supervision; 911 crime dispatch; traffic control; and special units related to crime or danger, such as SWAT, sex trafficking, child victims, sexual assault, narcotics, and terrorism.

Some current police functions might be better served conceptualized as health-related: mental health outreach, housing, and wellness checks; emergency medical assistance; crisis intervention and 911 non-crime dispatch; and accident response.

And some current police functions might benefit from being considered respect-related: property checks and protection; crowd control and event protection; dispute intervention; civil rights investigation and protection; and ordinance and licensing enforcement.

Law enforcement has come to mean much more than enforcement of laws for citizen safety. And it is questionable whether keeping the “order” in “law and order” really makes sense for only police to try to provide everyone in a diverse society. Expecting police officers (and departments) to provide for safety, to protect health, and to maintain order and respect seems an unrealistic and unnecessary burden on individual officers and agencies. Additionally, and very importantly, it may also overly militarize, weaponize, or “police” the image of those public employees charged with reaching out to the community to provide health and respect resources.

All of us, and our society itself, need each of these safety, health, and respect sets of services to maintain the general welfare in a diverse, multifaceted, and ever changing country – to protect life, to guard liberty, and to maximize opportunities for each person’s pursuit of happiness. The complex questions before us are how best to design, present, and administer these services to maximize accountability and transparency, to minimize negative perceptions, to increase trust and access, to lessen fear and divisiveness, and to realistically enable our public service employees to do their jobs as comfortably, effectively, and respectfully as possible.

Appropriate reassigning of various health and respect police functions to specialized or civilian personnel would have advantages in (1) more differentiated and appropriate personnel selection and matching with duties, (2) more suitable skills training for each function, (3) elimination of the threatening image and impact of the service providers’ carrying of weapons, and (4) greatly reducing the stress and burnout police officers currently experience when they are asked to cover situations and provide services for which they are not adequately prepared -- or for which armed police are not needed.

Also, (5) the providers of each set of services – safety, health, and respect – would then be much more apt to be perceived by the community (their customers) as helpful, supportive, and effective. This restructuring and repurposing should be of benefit to the service employees themselves, to their administrators and agencies, to community members in need, and to lawmakers and those responsible for funding and accountability.

Specific Policing Reforms

With a serious review and appropriate restructuring of our current law enforcement institution, then specific changes in policies and practices are likely to be much more lasting, accepted, and effective than they have been previously. A number of recommendations have been tried or are worth consideration and priority:

- Improved academy and continuing officer training on dealing peacefully with confrontation, resistance, and defiance – with individuals and with groups/crowds
- Improved initial psychological screening of applicants for prejudice, rigidity, authoritarianism, and bias
- Increased availability of wellness support programs for officers
- Prohibition of certain tactics, such as choke-holds and shooting at moving vehicles
- Prescribed limits on use of force options in specified situations
- Reserving the options of use of force and arrest as last resorts in de-escalating situations
- Getting away from quotas or merit awards for tickets written or arrests made
- Certifying and reinforcing each officer's duty to intervene with fellow officers when unprofessional behavior is occurring
- Proactive involvement of police unions in crafting and supporting changes to police department culture
- Insistent leadership from chiefs, and continuing education, regarding subtle bias, racism, symbols of separateness, and absolute intolerance for actions or attitudes of disrespect, discrimination, and brutality
- Early identification of unsuitable officers, along with remediation opportunities and exit avenues if necessary – with the involvement and support of unions
- Involvement of community boards in advising police administration and unions
- Converting police culture and purpose from a use of force perspective to a social resource, facilitative outlook (where force can sometimes be necessary)

- Movement of departments and police image away from militarization – in uniforms and equipment, as well as in battlefield or warrior mindset
- Referring certain police calls to other (non-armed) social or municipal services and resources, e.g., Eugene, Oregon’s CAHOOTS program (see below)

Eugene’s CAHOOTS program, in partnership with Eugene’s police department, began 30 years ago. Scottie Andrew of CNN (July 5, 2020) described this program, its evolution, and its success. 911 dispatchers refer violent and criminal calls to the police, and they refer medical, drug-related, mental illness, and similar calls to CAHOOTS. “CAHOOTS workers responded to 24,000 calls in 2019 – about 20% of total dispatches. About 150 of those required police backup. CAHOOTS says the program saves the city about \$8.5 million in public safety costs every year, plus another \$14 million in ambulance and ER costs.” CAHOOTS providers are not armed or uniformed, they cannot make arrests, and they cannot force anyone to accept their services.

Andrew’s report reminds us that, nationally, “of homeless people with mental health conditions, anywhere from 62% to 90% of them (in encounters with police) will be arrested.” And studies show that at least 25% of people killed by police are mentally ill. Most of CAHOOTS’s clients are homeless, and almost a third of them have severe mental illnesses. CAHOOTS staff have backgrounds in mental health, substance abuse, and medical issues. For example, they can be crisis counselors or EMTs. And CAHOOTS sees partnership with police as essential to their success.

The Impact of Police Weapons—On Officers

Lastly, I believe, from my perspective as a police psychologist, that the mere possession of guns and other weapons (and tactical, militaristic uniforms) by officers has significant emotional impact on their encounters with members of the community. I believe this impact negatively affects both the officer and the citizen individually, making the role of each, as well as problem-solving between them, much more difficult.

For the armed officer, having a lethal weapon itself can subtly reinforce a sense of defensiveness, wariness, and potential danger: “I wouldn’t have this gun with me if I didn’t need it.” The mere possession of a gun can elicit hypervigilance and a subconscious sense of danger, perhaps intensified by previous accounts of other officers having been ambushed and killed. Officers are increasingly aware, with experience, of the dangers in their profession, even sometimes in benign situations, and this elevated wariness can be felt more strongly (and the danger cues more ambiguous) when dealing with individuals from another ethnic group or culture. These elements, taken together, can cause officers to react more quickly and more aggressively to minimize perceived risk.

An officer’s possession of weapons can also reinforce or subtly magnify an attitude of command – and a sensitivity to being disobeyed or disrespected. The gun and other tools of force can lead the officer to expect cooperation and deference – and to

be more likely to escalate or pursue. Many severe or fatal encounters with civilians begin with individuals resisting or ignoring a low-level command, such as step out of the car, put out that cigarette, sit down on the sidewalk, show me your hands, empty your pockets, and so on. These situations can escalate into force being used. We often focus on the increased fear in the citizen being confronted by an armed officer, but when meeting with resistance, the officer himself or herself often feels their anxiety increasing as well, since most officers do not want to go down the path of using force.

Another potential effect on an officer of bearing arms in a citizen encounter is a tendency for this to prompt an authority figure stance over a helpful or facilitative one. The bearing of arms actually can be a burden, particularly in dealing with a frightened or mentally ill person who needs reassurance and a feeling of safety.

Likewise, bearing arms may sway an officer's sense of mission toward controlling and containing situations rather than toward mediating or problem-solving.

The Impact of Police Weapons – On Subjects

Encountering a police officer carrying weapons or dressed in combat gear (as opposed to an unarmed official) can create or intensify fear and stress in individuals approached, particularly in the cases of minorities, immigrants, the mentally ill, and children and adolescents. The presence of officers' weapons can influence the citizen to see the cop as more an authority figure than a person, thus impeding listening and communicating. This can also enhance the perception of an officer's mission as one of correction and control, rather than providing help or resources, thus stimulating more indignation, resistance, and pushback.

Being approached by an armed officer can imply criticism, an accusation of wrongdoing, or possible punishment or blame. It may imply someone is being considered an offender or a problem, rather than neutral or even a respected community member.

An officer's weapons, tactical gear, combat boots, and even sunglasses can evoke or reinforce a sense of inequality and unsettling power differential, particularly with poorer people, immigrants, and minorities. White people may have a sense of equal status and privilege which to some degree can counterbalance an officer's weapons and gear. Minorities, the homeless, and those who do not speak English or own property do not enjoy this same balance of power and status.

Weapons in Policing Situations

Police officers do certainly need a range of non-lethal and lethal weapons – and appropriate training and situational practice – to function effectively and safely in crime intervention and prevention activities. Guns have proliferated in the hands of criminals, and armed criminals are a threat to our communities and to police.

However, for the reasons outlined above, weapons and tactical gear may detract from the effectiveness of officers in providing many public health and safety services – services which comprise the great majority of officer calls. In providing these services, such as crime investigation, mental health and homeless outreach and wellness checks, emergency medical assistance, property checks, traffic control, accident response, ordinance enforcement, and dispute intervention – the presence of arms and tactical gear may increase resistance and lower cooperation from key individuals.

Importantly, this resistance and reduced cooperation make the job of the cop much more difficult and stressful, and they increase police officers' frustration, cynicism, and the formation of stereotypes of certain, typically disadvantaged and minority groups. This then, can add to the confrontation-oriented, harsh, discriminating, us-against-them culture that forms and is handed down in some departments.

Summary

This essay is written in the spirit of supporting the safety, effectiveness, and job satisfaction of public safety employees. It is also written in hopes that changes in law enforcement structure may benefit the public and reduce police-community confrontations, mutual defensiveness, and stereotyping. And particularly, it is offered in hopes that we can reduce excessive police use of force incidents.

I have reviewed several political, cultural, and historical realities in the US creating challenges for modern policing. I also noted several current realities that are obstacles to navigating toward reforms and improvements in providing the range of services covered by present law enforcement. These obstacles, though significant, are amenable to change and evolution in the longer term.

I then discussed the difficulties faced in making specific police reforms successful, noting that many reforms have been tried across the country and many police departments are open to policy and operational changes. I argue that these and other reforms could be more feasibly implemented and successful in outcome once institutional restructuring has been achieved.

I outlined one potential plan for possible law enforcement restructuring, noting the likely benefits to both the public and to the safety, health, and “respect” personnel who provide services currently organized under law enforcement. I described the advantages to officers/employees, to municipalities, and to the effectiveness of services by having personnel recruitment, selection and qualifications, training, policies, identities, missions, and equipment specifically dedicated to different purposes and “consumers.”

I then listed a number of specific policing reforms that appear to have merit, a number of which have been tried and most of which have been suggested by other observers over recent years.

Finally, I presented a consideration of the various subtle, but influential ways in which the mere presence of guns and tactical gear can shape, distort, trigger, or interfere in interactions between members of the public and police. This can occur particularly with regard to disadvantaged, mentally ill, youthful, or ethnic/racial minority individuals or groups who are objects of police efforts. I supported the usefulness and necessity of weapons and tactical gear for police in crime prevention and intervention; however, I offered the opinion that such a military-like presentation might actually hinder officers and increase resistance (and potential for violence) in non-crime situations.

There is now significant motivation, energy, insistence, and momentum toward creative reforms in policing. All the functions now covered by law enforcement are necessary for the community and the public welfare, and there can be no overall “defunding.” I look forward to the many initiatives to come and am sure every one of us will benefit and adapt to the new systems that evolve.

Dr. Claiborn has been a police psychologist for 39 years, serving over 60 departments and agencies in Missouri and Kansas. He is a forensic psychologist specializing in serial criminals, mass violence prevention, and individual violence risk assessment. His Ph.D. is from the University of Missouri (1975), and he has served as president of state psychological associations and as Ethics Chair for the Kansas Psychological Association for the past 25 years.



[REDACTED]

From: Emily Camille Boullear [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 3:46 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: August 25th Meeting
Attachments: Boullear Resume 2020.pdf

Hi BOPC,

I would like to present an idea to BOPC at a meeting in the near future. I have been exposed to violent crimes in KCPD through my work with the Missouri State Public Defender's office and attorney Dan Ross. Please see attached resume for more.

While analyzing the discovery in murder cases through Dan Ross' office, I came to the realization that there is an equation for murder. (Bear with me) In almost all cases it is as follows: unaddressed mental health issues + financial distress + substance abuse + weapon (usually gun) = murder.

I was excited to come across KCPD's Final Daily Homicide Analyses. I was surprised that there were so many "unknowns" in the Predominant Contributing Factor section. Perhaps this is because there is more than one predominant factor in many cases? From my experience, it is very easy to figure out why a murder occurred. As you well know, most murders are not complex, but a mixture of unfortunate circumstances.

KC will never reduce the violence with this high level of "unknowns." I am leaving my position at Dan Ross' office soon, and am looking to apply my talents elsewhere. I would like to perform a detailed, historical analysis of the "unknowns." I could do so as a contract employee at KCPD.

If I've learned anything as an investigator, it's that sometimes all you have to do is ask. How would I go about gaining funding for this project? I noticed KC NOVA has been defunded. May I present a proposal to BOPC? Please advise.

Thank you for your time
Emily Boullear
[REDACTED]

Emily Boullear



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

PROFILE

An innovative investigator with years of experience as a private investigator, criminal defense investigator, and litigation paralegal will create solutions to reduce Kansas City's murder rate

EDUCATION

MASTER OF
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Homeland Security Studies

Tulane School of Professional
Advancement
2012-2020

BACHELOR OF ARTS
Linguistics

University of Kansas
2009-2011

QUALITIES

Analytical

Intuitive

Empathetic

Altruistic

Dedicated

WORK EXPERIENCE

LITIGATION PARALEGAL

Daniel Ross LLC | Kansas City, MO | October 2019-Present

I work under one of Kansas City, Missouri's most experienced criminal defense attorneys. My primary objective is to study the evidence and help form trial strategies.

INVESTIGATOR

Missouri State Public Defender | Kansas City, MO | October 2018-October 2019

I assisted the public defenders in investigating criminal defense matters. This included but was not limited to: serving subpoenas, performing witness interviews, finding hard to reach persons, brainstorming possible defense strategies with attorneys, testifying to my work, and assisting clients through social work.

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

Hub Enterprises | Kansas and Missouri | May 2018-October 2018

I performed insurance fraud investigations as a licensed private investigator in Kansas and a licensed agency investigator employee in Missouri. Through this process, I became proficient in scene investigations, recorded statements, financial document and phone records analysis, neighborhood canvassing, and cold calling. I was also trained in surveillance.

[REDACTED]

From: Bill Norton [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 12:09 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Possible interim chief
Attachments: 00-09.pdf

To the Board of Police Commissioners,

As you ponder what to do with Chief Smith, I would encourage someone to contact a former KCPD commander named Louis Quijas.

A brief Google search will show what Mr. Quijas has accomplished since leaving Kansas City. His success has been, to me, amazing.

Perhaps his most notable achievement was the creation of the High Point Initiative. I'm attaching a report on the initiative. In brief, he introduced community-centered policing. Literally, the initiative changed how crime was confronted and how the police there interacted with the citizens. If nothing else, what was done in High Point could serve as a model for change within the KCPD and our community.

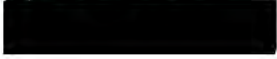
I first met Mr. Quijas when I reported on the KCPD for the KC Star in the mid-70s. We became reacquainted this year after I began having coffee with a retired KCPD chief to whom I turned to try to understand what is happening in KCPD. When I asked about how police departments are evaluated and where research on policing can be found, this chief mentioned Mr. Quijas. He has proved to be an amazing resource, as well.

I believe he is worth a call (571-408-0305). His enthusiasm is refreshing. He loves the KCPD. And he follows everything happening here. His ideas would help the KCPD change the current narrative as a troubled that's being kicked around -- fairly or not -- in the community and in the media.

Thank you for reading.

Respectfully,

Bill Norton



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"When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I don't, they don't." — **Sir William Temple, 98th Archbishop of Canterbury**

Herman Goldstein Award Nomination



HIGH POINT, NC

***One City's Success in
Reducing Gun Violence***

High Point Violent Crime Task Force

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The High Point Violent Crime Task Force

The Violent Crime Task Force (VCTF) has evolved into a nationally recognized model strategy for violent crime reduction. The Vice President's Reinventing Government Partnership selected it for the SafeCities network.

Scanning: High Point, NC is a city of 80,000 with a police force of 194 officers. The per capita criminal homicide rate had become the highest in the Piedmont Triad SMA, which includes neighboring cities Greensboro and Winston-Salem.

Analysis: At the same time that law enforcement agencies were seeking a solution to High Point's violence troubles; two citizen anti-violence coalitions were examining the same problem. The solution was a cooperative "carrot and stick" approach. The VCTF combined the efforts of ten law enforcement agencies, fifteen public assistance agencies and *[more importantly]* **forty-one community groups** as partners to prevent violence.

Response: The task force conducted "call-ins" for persons identified as violent offenders. Representatives from law enforcement [usually the head of the agency] instructed the candidates that they could expect to bear unusual scrutiny and tough action should they participate in further violence.

Prior to the enforcement message, candidates were given a similar "round-table" presentation of assistance offers made by the community partners without law enforcement presence. If they refrained from violence, they could choose from churches, education providers and self help programs for support in making lifestyle changes.

Assessment: The VCTF is responsible for producing the 1999 changes illustrated below.

Criminal Homicides -64%	Criminal Homicides (Firearm) -86%
Gang Related Homicides -100%	Drug Related Homicides -100%
Robbery with Firearm -24%	Assault with Firearm -29%
Shots Fired Calls -21 %	Firearms Recovered -42%
Homicide, Robbery, Assault (Gun): -30%	Citizen Complaints -19%

Although the statistical improvements are dramatic, the most important rewards cannot be quantified. They emphasize *community problem outcomes* more than *statistical outputs*.

- **Community Buy-In:** Acceptance of an *active* citizen role in the public safety process is evidenced by the growing number of community partners offering assistance.
- **Public Opinion:** Local minister Rev. William S. Fails entered the program with healthy skepticism. He now is a noted speaker on the benefits of a police-clergy bond for fostering neighborhood renewal.
- **Police - Community Relations:** During a program that has increased enforcement as one of its methods, *an attendant increase in complaints might be expected*. During VCTF operations *there was a complaint decrease of 19% during 1999 and an overall 49% drop over the past three years*.

The High Point Violent Crime Task Force

The High Point Violent Crime Task Force (VCTF) has evolved into a national model strategy for violent crime reduction. Vice President Al Gore's National partnership for Reinventing Government selected it as the single example showcased for violence reduction at the SafeCities Network startup conference in March.

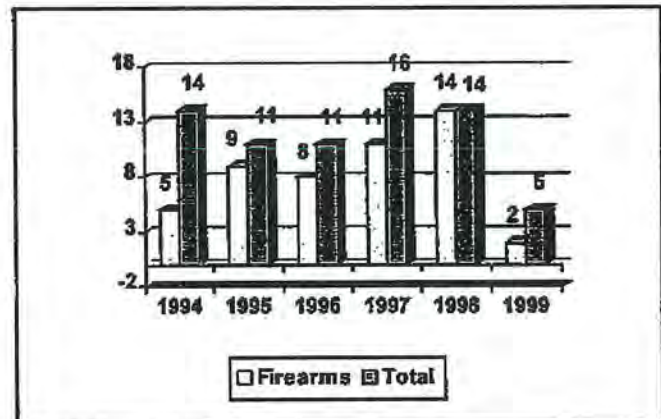
High Point Chief of Police Louis F. Quijas was invited to Washington, DC to deliver an address to the SafeCities participants describing how law enforcement and the High Point community worked *together* to reduce gun violence. In accentuating what he believes to be a critical element, Chief Quijas said, *"Reducing gun violence must be community-driven. It is not just an issue for the police. We must engage all of our community - law enforcement, faith and business leaders, educators, parents and other citizens. We are all in this together."*

The SafeCities Network is a national initiative focusing on ten cities designated to be laboratories for state-of-the-art strategies in crime control. Program participants were enthusiastic about the High Point VCTF approach and have said they plan to adopt it, in part or as a whole. Some have elected to make site-visits to High Point.

As a result of the presentation, High Point has been made an "honorary" SafeCity so that we can have a continuing role in the program. Chief Quijas has been asked to be a member of the SafeCities Steering Committee.

The High Point Violent Crime Task Force was spearheaded by the High Point Police Department and federal enforcement agencies directed through United States Attorney Walter Holton (Middle District, NC.) After receiving a special briefing about the project, Attorney General Janet Reno expressed her support for the VCTF and stated that she was extremely impressed by the level of cooperation that it engendered. Ms. Reno also credited the task force with developing positive ties to the community.

The Violence Problem: High Point, North Carolina is a city of 80,000 population with a police force of 194 officers. The per capita criminal homicide rate had become the highest in the Piedmont Triad SMA, which includes larger neighboring cities Greensboro and Winston-Salem. Criminal homicides peaked in 1997 with sixteen. 1998 was little better at fourteen. Firearms accounted for most of the problem. Other key factors identified by police were drug "turf" disputes and gang influences.



Criminal Homicide 1994 -1999

In the first full year of operations by the Violent Crime Task Force [1999] there were five criminal homicides, with only two by gunfire.

The Solution: At the same time that local and federal law enforcement agencies were seeking a solution to High Point's violence troubles; two citizen anti-violence coalitions were examining the same problem. The first was the Black-on-Black-Crime Task Force looking for remedies to crime problems within the African-American community. The other group was associated with High Point Regional Hospital and was concerned with the high cost of violent crime [in many different respects] to the community at large.

A plan was made to combine the community groups with the law enforcement effort and engage in a joint venture to find an answer to everyone's questions. This was the genesis of the High Point Violence Crime Task Force.

The solution was a "carrot and stick" approach with heavy emphasis on the carrots. The VCTF combined the efforts of ten law enforcement agencies, fifteen public assistance agencies and [more importantly] **forty-one community groups as** partners in this violence prevention initiative. All participants are listed on page 10 of this report.

Law enforcement officials knew they could not just *arrest* their way out of the problems. This had been tried before. An interventionist strategy was needed: one that would have long-term effects, and result in permanent change for the community.

Methodology: The task force adopted a six-step method:

1. Identification of violent offenders and those with a potential toward violence.
2. Intensive investigation, enforcement and prosecution of those who engage in violent acts.
3. Contact with identified offenders through call-in and home visits.
 - a. To deliver an anti-violence message from law enforcement
 - b. and to make offers of assistance from the community component as an alternative to violence.
4. Deliver community resources to participants who request it.
5. Make a prompt law enforcement response to acts of violence in the community.
6. Evaluate, adjust and repeat the strategy.

The task force conducted "call-ins" for all persons identified as violent offenders. In a somber atmosphere, representatives of the law enforcement agencies [usually the head of the agency] instructed the candidates that they could expect to bear unusual scrutiny and tough action should they participate in further violence. They were also instructed to carry the message to their associates. Each participant was given the form that appears on page 11 of this report. The message was serious, but non-confrontational. The communication was clear that we would prefer a transition away from violence that would benefit both the participants and society.

Prior to the enforcement message, candidates were given a similar "round-table" presentation of what help the community partner groups and government assistance agencies could provide. This session was conducted without law enforcement presence and in a cordial atmosphere. If they refrained from violence, they could choose from the many churches, education providers and self help programs for support in making lifestyle changes. Assistance was available for jobs, housing, education and fighting drug addiction.

Many were attracted to the aid options. **The most recent "call-in" of nineteen candidates contained only one person who reported they needed no help. A self-survey instrument is used to match the needs of the candidates with the available resources. The survey is represented on page 12 of this report.**

To date, nearly 200 people have experienced the "call-in" procedures. Probation and parole requirements were the leverage used to ensure that candidates would participate. As the program progressed, probation officers were hard-pressed to provide candidates because fewer people were on probation for violent acts.

in addition to examination of the probation and parole clients' records, other prime offenders were identified through crime analysis and the collective knowledge of the working police officers that knew them best. If these candidates were not on probation, home visits were made to provide the "get tough" message and information on the community-based alternative programs. Prior to enforcement, all candidates were fully informed of the choices they could make.

1 In the initial stages of vigorous enforcement, 40 offenders were placed in federal confinement, and more in state prisons. The High Point VCTF concentrated on the "worst of the worst" and the relatively few people prosecuted have swayed the majority to abstain from violence.

Police made an immediate, intense response to any act of violence. The response took place within the neighborhood area where the violence occurred. Enforcement activities included high visibility drug, public disorder and "quality of life" crime arrests. Officers went house-to-house soliciting information about the crime that initiated the response.

The geographic responses to violence also gave law enforcement an opportunity to make inroads within the neighborhoods for their message of violence prevention. During the house visits and personal contacts, officers handed out flyers with information about the task force and its "stop the violence" message. They engaged residents in discussion and had a very open dialogue.

One basic tenet of the in-neighborhood segment of the program was that officers should remember that it is only a small number of the residents who cause violence and that we are seeking the cooperative efforts of the majority to prevent it. In many instances the neighborhoods reciprocated by providing information and crime suspects that we did not know about prior to the talks.

A pleasant outgrowth of the neighborhood response element is that officers learned that a heightened personal interaction with the residents was beneficial to both groups and not something to be avoided. This has boosted our overall community-oriented policing strategy.

Rewards: The VCTF is directly responsible for producing the effects illustrated in the tables below. The aim of the project was to reduce criminal homicide, particularly those that were drug or gang induced. Robbery and Assault decreases were a hoped-for byproduct.

Comparison of 1998 to 1999

Criminal Homicides -64%	Criminal Homicides (Firearm) -86%
Gang Related Homicides -100%	Drug Related Homicides -100%
Robbery with Firearm -24%	Assault with Firearm -29%
Shots Fired Calls -21%	Firearms Recovered -42%
Homicide, Robbery, Assault (Gun): -30%	Citizen Complaints -19%

Comparison of 1997 to 1999

Criminal Homicides -69%	Criminal Homicides (Firearm) -82%
Gang Related Homicides -100%	Drug Related Homicides -100%
Robbery with Firearm -48%	Assault with Firearm -48%
Shots Fired Calls -37%	Firearms Recovered -32%
Homicide, Robbery, Assault (Gun): -49%	Citizen Complaints ~49%

A full collection of graphs for the data is contained in the supplemental documents for this report.

Although the statistical improvements are dramatic, the most important rewards of the program cannot be quantified. They emphasize community problem outcomes more than statistical outputs. They include:

- o Community Buy-In: Acceptance and support for an active citizen role in the public safety process is evidenced by the growing number of community partners who have offered services and assistance.

- a Changing Opinion: Local ministers entered the VCTF with a healthy skepticism, but have become enthusiastic leaders in the program. Rev. William S. Fails and Rev. Michael Ellerbe are now prominent speakers on the benefits of a police-clergy bond for fostering neighborhood renewal. Ellerbe serves as Chairman of the local Weed & Seed Steering Committee.

Rev. Fails told participants at a recent National Institute of Justice gathering in Washington, D.C. that the High Point community "trusts" their police department in large part because of the way this program was handled. He recently joined U.S. Attorney Walter Holton in testifying before the House Judiciary Committee as part of a Congressional review of gun violence in America.

- Police – Community Relations: During a program that has increased enforcement as one of its methods, an attendant *increase* in complaints might be expected. Not so, during the initial period of VCTF operations. There was a complaint *decrease of 19%* during 1999 and an overall 49% drop in citizen complaints over the past three years. This key factor was cited in a recent New York Times article that mentioned the High Point VCTF in comparison to some large city initiatives that affected crime, while expending community trust and good will.

Differences: What distinguishes the High Point Violent Crime Task Force from other violence reduction approaches?

- The community component of our strategy is the key to success. The community partners provided valuable advice on tailoring the approach to candidates during the "call-ins." They will continue to serve as a barometer of public opinion as the program moves into the future. Citizen involvement is on a very broad scale and at a high level of participation. The approach is to let the police step back into a support role for the rest of the community.
- The High Point VCTF program can be successfully replicated in more communities. High Point is closer in size to the *average* city with the *average* police department. Those cities and police departments would have assets, methods and needs similar to High Point. The task force has received inquiries from cities of differing sizes from across the nation.
- The program demonstrates that there is a diminishing need for strict enforcement, as the community component becomes more involved. The aggressive enforcement component is used infrequently as the project matures. There has been no need for federal indictments in the past ten months.
- The High Point model has a citywide target rather than a concentration on one neighborhood or gang. The program targeted adults of all ages rather than just a focus on youth violence.
- Project information has been published in a "how to" guidebook structure. The SafeCities program has distributed it to all participants.

Institutionalization:

- With the assistance of the University of North Carolina-Greensboro (Center for the Study of Social Issues) and the local school system, a program has been developed to use the same community agencies to assist the *parents* of students who might be susceptible to crime influences. The purpose is to develop a model program for other cities.

The proposed project is a practical approach to understanding and preventing youth violence. The program will inventory predictors of the youth's internal strengths and vulnerabilities, as well as the supportive and unfavorable elements of their social environment. This information will be compared to variables distilled from information learned about the lives of VCTF targets and "call-in" participants. In this manner, at-risk students can be identified and intervention assistance provided to them and their families.

Chief Quijas sums it up by saying, *"You can't come to school on time when your parents are fighting late at night... You can't do your homework if your older brother is using the kitchen table to cut up crack cocaine."* He hopes that in the future when we send High Point youth to the state capitol in Raleigh, *"it's to NC State University rather than the NC State Penitentiary."*

- o "Operation Reach" is a newly instituted phase of the program that ensures follow-up for "call-in" participants who have accepted community assistance and have not reverted to violent conduct. Police and probation officers schedule a home visit to renew the offer of help, check progress and commend the non-violent conduct. The officers are usually accompanied by a clergy member and another community volunteer.

This procedure also has the effect of reminding the participant that the program is still active and that they have not been forgotten. A survey instrument has been designed and used for this procedure.

- The experiences and lessons learned for the VCTF have become synchronized with the Department's other community-oriented policing efforts. Methods cross over and become habitual to the other processes. In the future, there may be a blurring of the lines between the various programs and VCTF procedural techniques will become systemic.
- A group within the Police Department is adapting the project's applicability to burglary and other property crimes.
- o Employment of VCTF methods for combating domestic violence in public housing is also in early stages of implementation.

Program Factors Applicable to Herman Goldstein Award Criteria:

- *Continual Improvement of services to the community.* By bringing the community solidly into the public safety process and making them integral partners, we have discovered resources that we didn't know existed. The Police Department has become a well-appreciated vehicle for distributing those services.
- *Strengthening of police relations and promotion of community participation:* The Violent Crime Task Force has broken down barriers in the community, especially with the clergy, and caused a realization from both sides that the preferred system is

one of police-community interaction. That connectivity has never been greater and continues to build. The community partners were used as a sounding board to improve procedures as the program progressed.

- *Effective use of resources:* The High Point VCTF has accomplished much to date without the use of any special state or federal grant to fund it. The normal resources of the participating agencies were used. Late in 1999, High Point received Weed and Seed funding. This was partly influenced by the VCTF and will allow an expansion of the program into other areas of concern.
- *Enhancement of communications within, and cooperation among, agencies:* Prior to the VCTF, law enforcement relationships had been in a state of stagnation or decline. This program has revitalized those relationships. Constant communication [some federal officers were assigned within the High Point Police Department] and interaction have had a positive "cross-pollination" effect on the thinking of all agencies. As an outgrowth of the program, a regional Chiefs and Sheriffs association was established with monthly meetings to facilitate cooperation.
- *Development of creative and innovative approaches that promote quality and excellence in law enforcement:* The national and local recognition given to the High Point Violent Crime Task Force are a testament to its creativity, innovation, quality and excellence.

Recognition:

- o The VCTF received extensive local news media coverage throughout 1999, which helped to increase public awareness and support. The program has also received mention in The New York Times and The Washington Post.
- The previously cited involvement with SafeCities Network and the Partnership for Reinventing Government is a national honor for the High Point VCTF program.

Pamela Johnson, Executive Director of the SafeCities program, had this to say about the High Point VCTF: *"A number of SafeCities federal partners identified High Point as a potential model from which other cities could learn. High Point has a comprehensive strategy for reducing gun violence, which includes prevention, intervention, enforcement and adjudication. This, combined with significant results in reducing gun violence and an impressive coalition of partners representing a range of government organizations. Educational institutions and citizen groups including the faith-based community, made Chief Quijas an ideal speaker as we launched the SafeCities Network"*

- Showcased at the 1999 U.S. Attorney's Conference. (One of three programs presented)
- On April 6 1999, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno received a briefing by members of the High Point VCTF at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Greensboro. Members described the various components of the strategy and provided illustrations of how it was working at the time.

Following the meeting, the Attorney General expressed her support for the strategy and stated to the U.S. Attorney that she was extremely impressed with the level of commitment and cooperation exhibited by the members of the task force. Ms. Reno characterized the task force as a model for law enforcement cooperation at the federal, state and local levels. Ms Reno also credited the task force for its excellent work in developing ties with the community.

- Award from the regional Weed and Seed Conference 2000.
- Department of Justice Award for OCDETF 1999 Case of the Year, Middle District of North Carolina.
- 1999 DEA Administrator's Award for Atlanta Field Office Region.
- Chief Quijas presented the program at a national Weed and Seed teleconference. (One of three programs featured.)
- Feature article in upcoming Weed & Seed Best Practices Magazine. A pre-publication copy is included in the supplemental documents for this report.
- The North Carolina Crime Commission has indicated that the High Point model is a preferred selection for grant proposals from other North Carolina cities.

Project Planning and Analysis: The following section is an overview of the crime analysis and planning techniques used to implement the VCTF strategy. David Kennedy, Senior Researcher at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, visited High Point and advised officers as they created their plans.

- Law enforcement participants identified the violence problem by analyzing violent incidents and through community surveys.
- Repeat, violent and group offenders were identified through:
 1. surveys of police and probation officers,
 2. criminal background investigations,
 3. data from incident reviews,
 4. lists of current probation/ parole clients.
- Officers planned and conducted investigations of:
 1. chronic violence offenders,
 2. and leaders of violent groups.
- State and federal prosecutions were planned for:
 1. weapons offenses,
 2. narcotics traffickers,
 3. state habitual offenders.

- Notifications to "call-in" participants and home visits.
 1. community intolerance for violence,
 2. partnership of police/ community,
 3. support of community and clergy,
 4. law enforcement deterrence message.
 5. reinforced through "call-ins", flyers, visitations and news media.
- Methods of the community partners:
 1. survey needs of the individual,
 2. develop an action plan,
 3. coordinate delivery of needed community resources.
- Multi-agency response to violent acts. (Geographically specific to the neighborhood where the violent act occurred.)
- Re-survey of the community.
- "Operation Reach" Checking that requested services have been delivered and reinforcing the anti-violence message.
- Compare *before to afterdata*.
- Refine the program based on results.

Agency and Officer Information

1. The entire police department was involved in this operation.
2. Department-wide training in problem oriented policing and problem solving had been ongoing for approximately five years. This project institutionalized the methods that we had learned.
3. There were no additional incentives for engaging in problem solving, except that this is expected and recognized in yearly performance evaluations that are tied to merit pay increases.
4. Guidelines were developed as the program matured. Other departments are now using these published manuals.
5. The violence, its nature, participants, and resources were factors identified through the problem oriented model.
6. No resources were used beyond those normally available to the agencies. Weed and Seed funding is now assisting to further the program.

7. Contact Person:

Captain Neil Kearns
 High Point Police Department
 1009 Leonard Avenue
 High Point, NC 27260

Telephone: 336-887-7973
 Fax: 336-887-7972

raymond.kearns@ci.high-point.nc.us

LAW ENFORCEMENT

*High Point Police Department
U.S. Attorney's Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Drug Enforcement Administration
State District Attorney's Office
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms
North Carolina Probation & Parole Division
NC State Bureau of Investigation
O.I.G. H.U.D.
U.S. Marshal Service*

<u>Totals For Each Component</u>	
Law Enforcement:	10
Public Assistance Agencies:	15
Community Partners:	41

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AGENCIES

*Office of Guilford County Courts
JobLink
Guilford County Dept. of Social Services
NC Employment Security Commission
Federal Public Defender's Office
Office of Juvenile Justice
Guilford County Schools

Guilford County Mental Health Dept.
Office of Juvenile Justice
Adult Protective Services
High Point Housing Authority
Guilford County Health Dept.
Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Day Reporting and Restitution Program
City Community Development Dept.*

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

*Greater First United Baptist Church
Piedmont Sickle Cell Disease Assoc.
Central Carolina Legal Services
The High Point Enterprise (newspaper-
Word of Reconciliation Ministries
Childwatch
B&C Associates
American Assoc. of University Women
High Point Regional Health System
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Family Services of the Piedmont
Guilford Technical Community College
University of North Carolina-
Greensboro
High Point College
The Community Outreach Partnership
New Beginnings Full Gospel Ministries
A.S.K.
Memorial United Methodist Church
Family Services of High Point
Crisis Women's Shelter
Y.W.C.A.
Open Door Ministries
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
American Friends Service Committee
Workplace Solutions
WGHP (television)
SAVE
Center for the Study of Social Issues
American Red Cross
Guilford's Promise
Sechrest Funeral Services
Junior League of High Point
High Point Human Relations
Commission
Washington Drive Resource Center
High Point Chamber of Commerce
Montlieu United Methodist Church
One Step Further
Behavioral Technologies
Caring Services
Williams Memorial C.M.E. Church
Batts Consultants*

HIGH POINT COMMUNITY AGAINST VIOLENCE

Violence, not now... not ever!

THE GOAL

To improve the quality of life for all residents of High Point by employing a comprehensive city wide strategy to reduce violent crime.

THE PLAN

To identify repeat, violent and group offenders.
To vigorously prosecute those who are involved in violent or serious criminal behavior in State and Federal court.
To notify those identified it is time to stop the violence.
To assist those who want to change their lifestyle.
To aggressively respond to further acts of violence.
(AND TO REPEAT THIS PROCESS UNTIL HIGH POINT IS THE SAFEST CITY IN AMERICA)

THE MESSAGE

The Community Against Violence is not a strategy to forgive offenders for serious criminal activity committed in the past.
It is a promise to vigorously prosecute repeat violent and group offenders who continue to engage in violent activity.
It is an offer by the community to assist those who want to change their life style by delivering resources available in High Point.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

G.E.D/School, Job Training, Employment, Parenting, Day Care, Alcohol or Drug Treatment, Counseling, Anger Management, Medical Checkups, Mentoring, Tutoring, Housing, Religion, Transportation, Help for Family, Tattoo Removal.

Contact your Probation Officer for help now!

Community Resource Needs

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>
<u>Probation:</u> <u>Intensive</u> <u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Date Interviewed</u>
<u>Regular</u> <u>Yes</u> <u>No</u>	<u>Time Interviewed</u>
<u>Current Address</u>	<u>Employed Yes</u> <u>No</u>
<u>Probation Officer</u>	<u>PO's Phone #</u>

I. Please rank any of the following needs, with "1" being most important:

<u>Education/GED</u>	<u>Alcohol/Drug Treatment</u>
<u>Job Training</u>	<u>Housing</u>
<u>Employment</u>	<u>Help for family (day care</u>
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>parenting classes, conflict resolution, etc.)</u>
<u>Help for self (counseling, etc.)</u>	<u>Mentoring/Role Model</u>

Please explain

Other (please list: - _____)

II. Current Offense (include case number)

Sentence

Prior Record: Felonies

<u>Assaults</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>Weapons</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>Misdemeanors</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>Drugs</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>Valid Drivers License</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>Other</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Please list</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>

III. Parents' Names:

Brothers' and Sisters' Names/Ages/Residence: _____

With whom do you live?

Children's Names/Ages/Residence: _____

Highest grade level completed

Consent of probationer to release Section 111 info_	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>PO's initials</u>
12-15-99			

Supplemental Documents

High Point Violent Crime Task Force

Data Charts and Graphs

SafeCities Information

Weed & Seed Best Practices Article

UNC-Greensboro In-School Proposal

Newspaper Clippings

Raw Data Crime Comparison Reduction Percentage Statistics

• Comparing 1997 to 1999 Statistics

- Criminal Homicides -69 %
- Criminal Homicides with Firearms -82 %
- Robbery with Firearms -48 %
- Assault with Firearms -48 %
- Total (above three with Firearms) -49 %
- Shots Fired Calls -37 %
- Firearms Recovered -32 %
- Citizens Complaints -49 %

• Comparing 1998 to 1999 Statistics

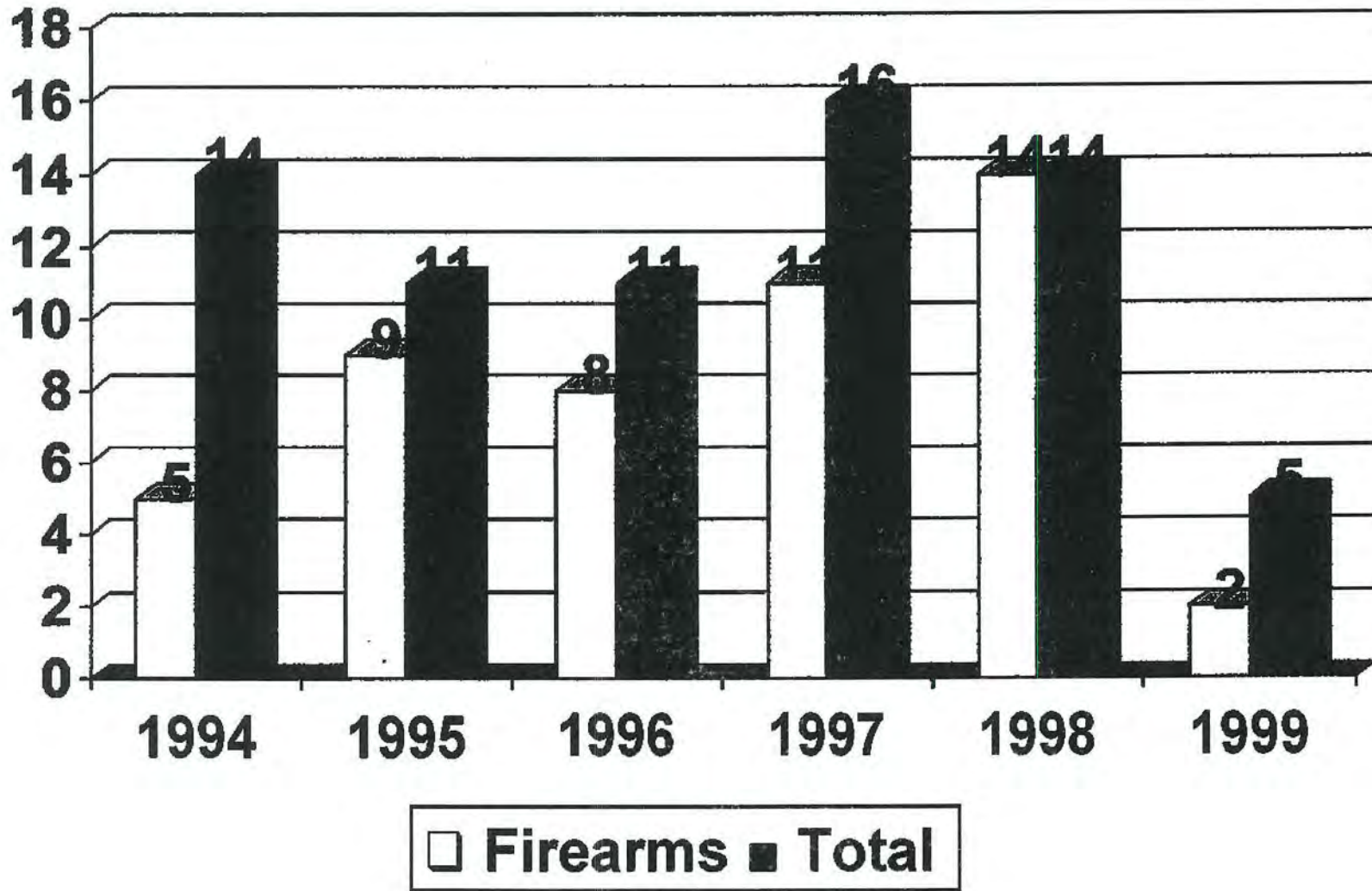
- Criminal Homicides -64 %
- Criminal Homicides with Firearms -86 %
- Robbery with Firearms -24 %
- Assault with Firearms -29 %
- Total (above three with Firearms) -30 %
- Shots Fired Calls -21 %
- Firearms Recovered -42 %
- Citizens Complaints -19 %





Criminal Homicides

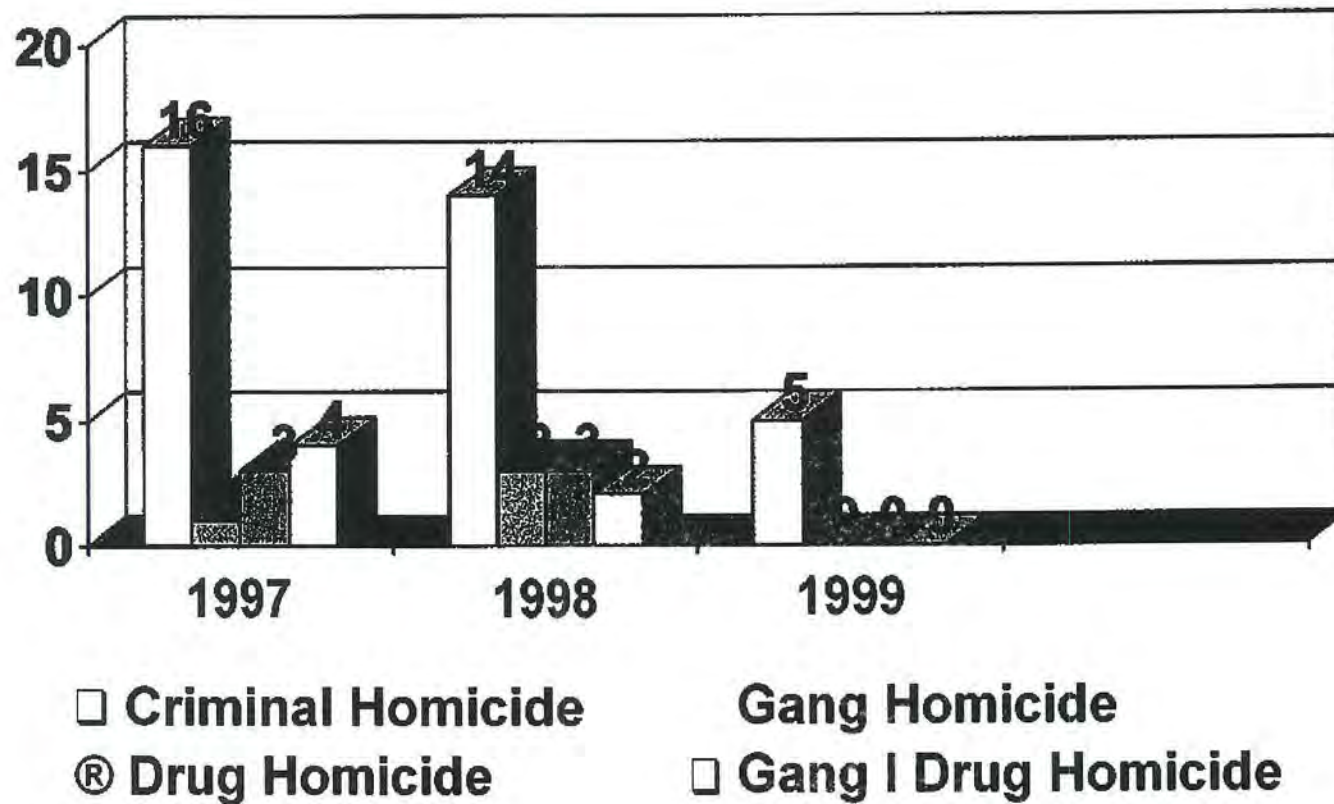
1994-1999





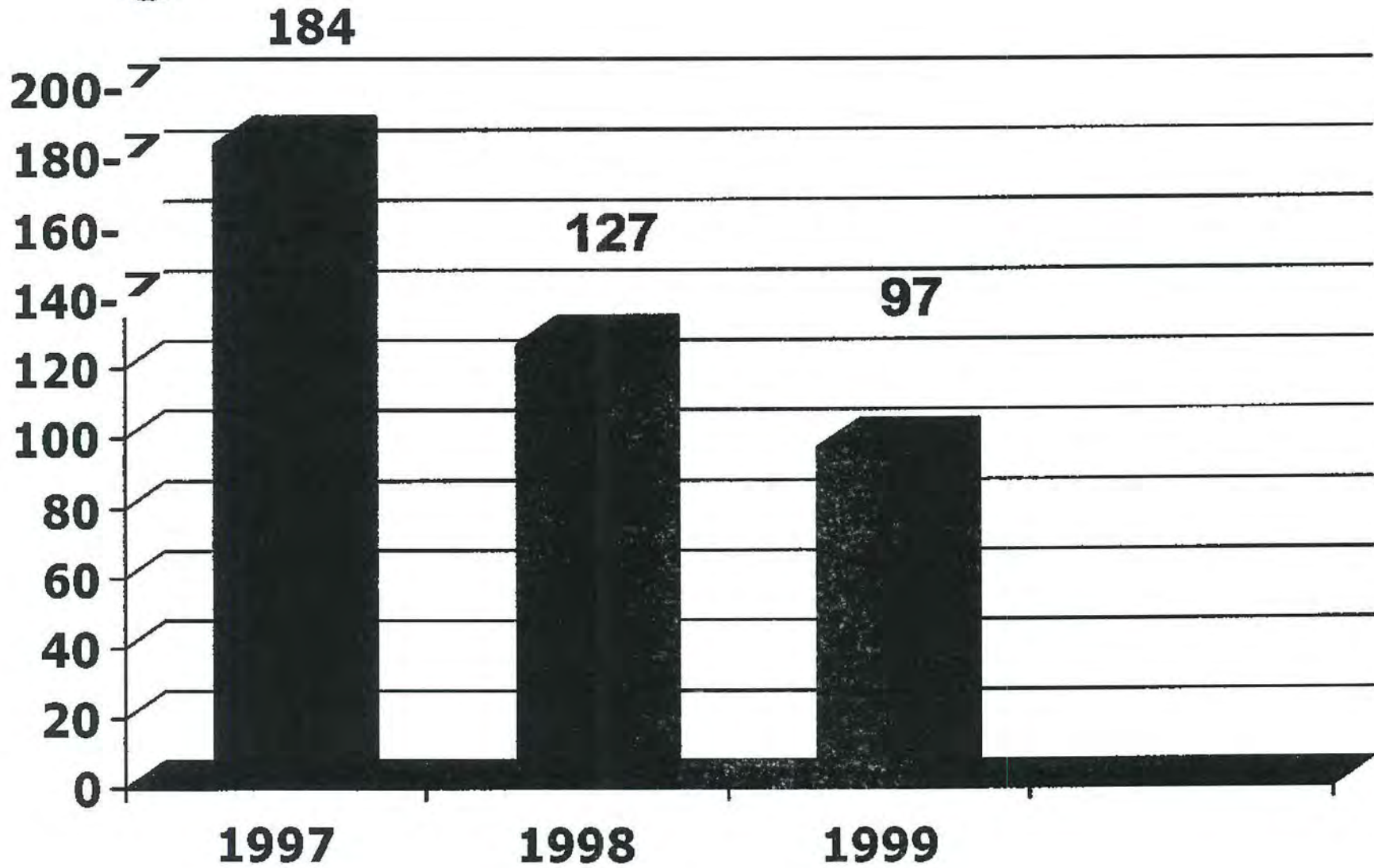
Homicide Comparison 1997 -1999

(Criminal Homicide | Gang Homicide | Drug Homicide | Gang - Drug Homicide)



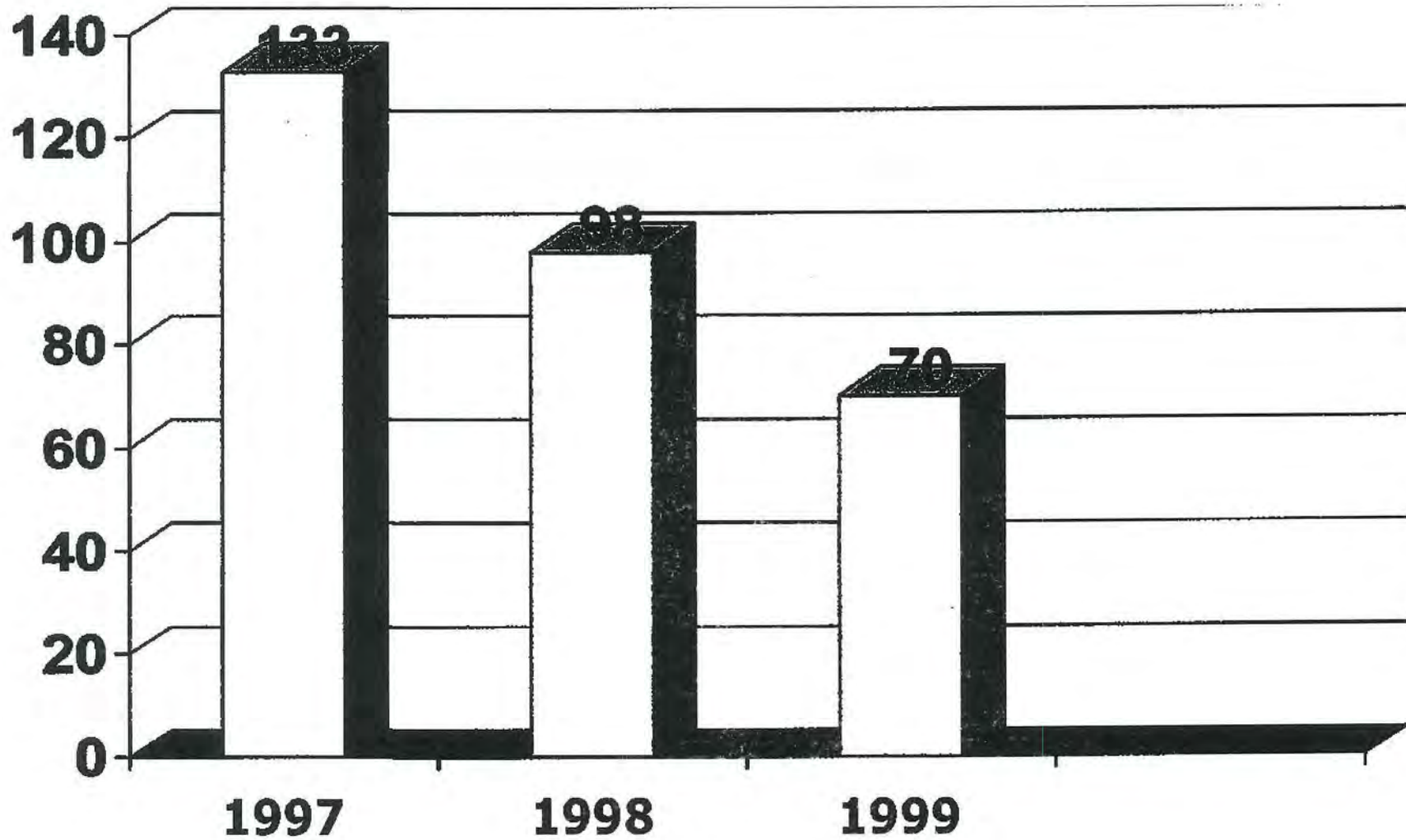


Robberies With Firearms 1997 - 1999



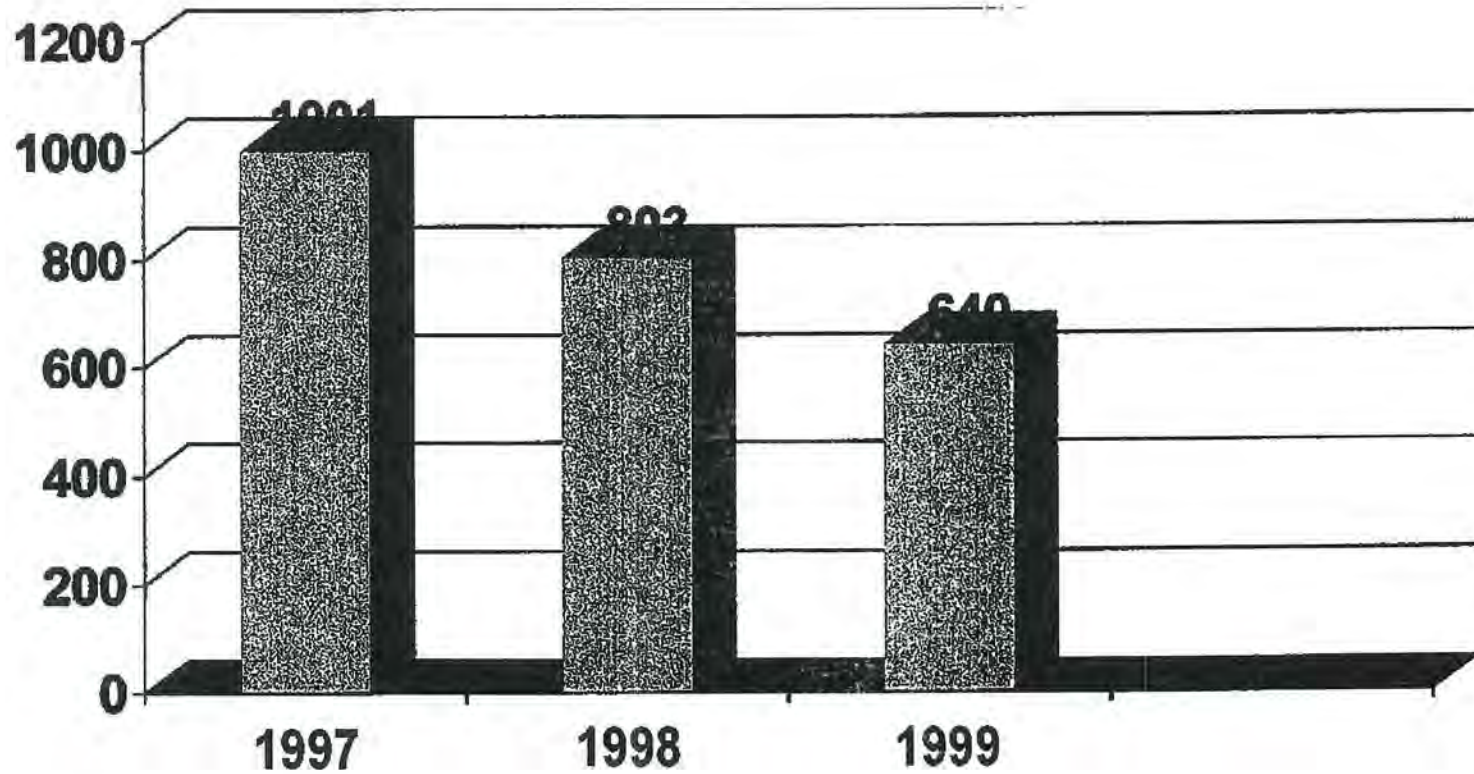


Assaults With Firearms 1997 - 1999



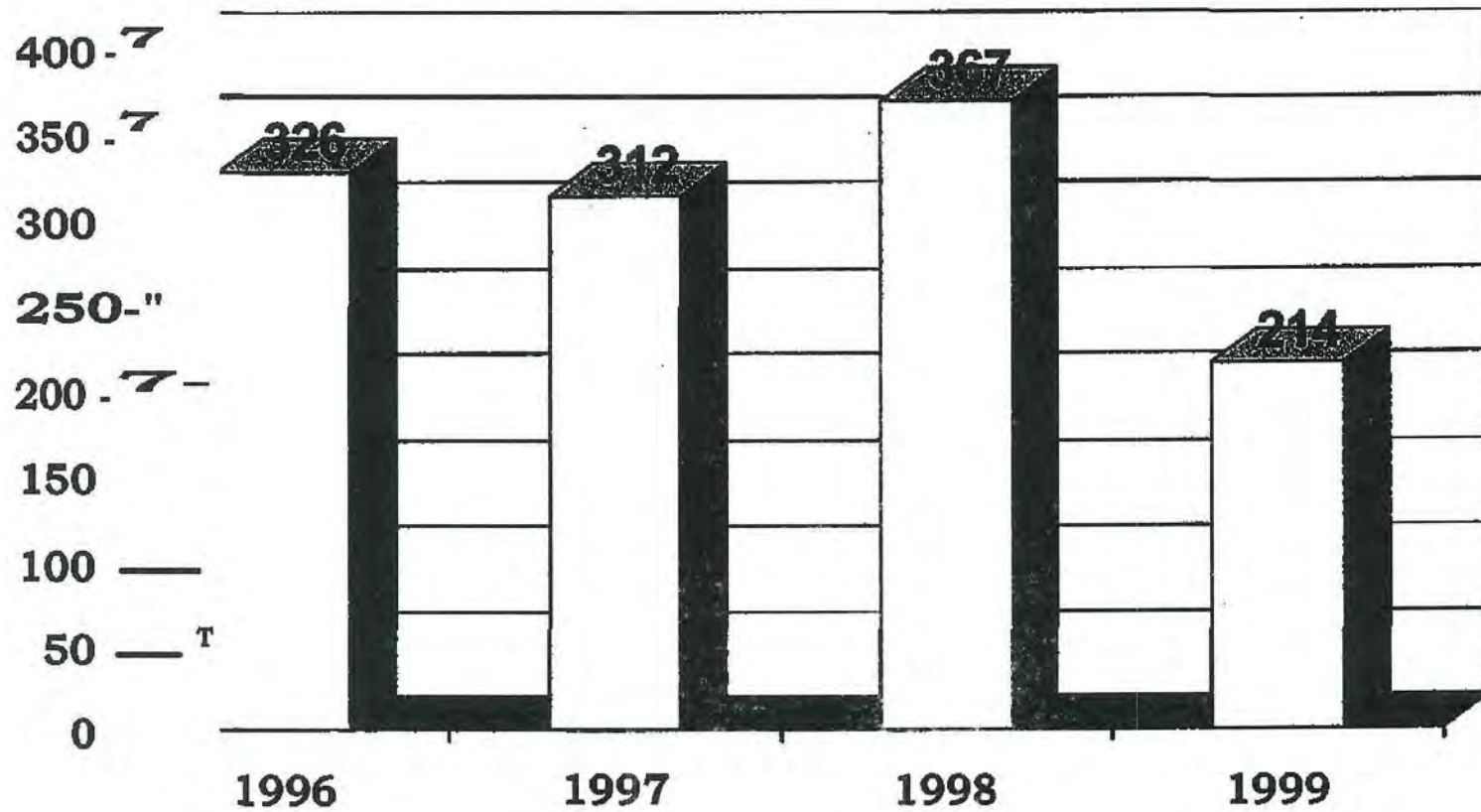


Shots Fired Calls 1997 - 1999



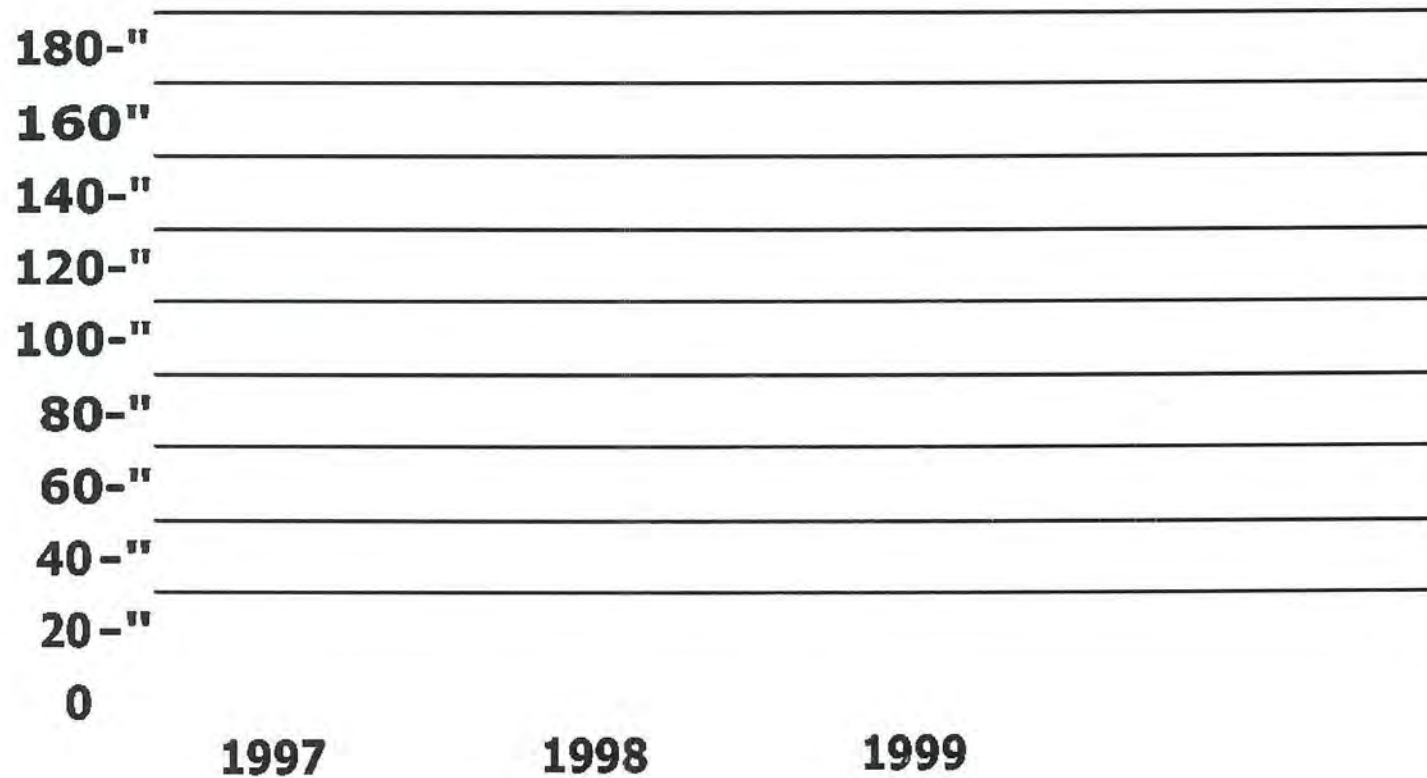


Firearms Recovered 1996 -1999





Citizens Complaints 1997-1999



[REDACTED]

From: Bryan Davenport [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:41 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: concerned community member

Dear BOPC,

I first want to thank you for your efforts to make Kansas City better in the mist of Covid-19 and the protest. I can not begin to imagine the time and effort you have had to put into dealing with both of those issues alone, on top of your day to day operations. I have questions about a few things that have been said and are in place in our city and want to get clarity.

As a member of the community, I want to know your thoughts and possible actions for the following:

1. Is there a plan to reform the KCPD ? If so, what is the plan and what do you see as the targeted result of this plan?
2. How will this reform, if there is one, affect the officers' mental ability to do their job and their relationship with the community?
3. What do you think of the lack of diversity within the KCPD? (lack of women and minorities and within leadership positions) Do you have a plan to encourage and promote this change?
4. Why is there no community appointed member allowed to sit on the police board outside of the Mayor? Is this something that needs to be considered moving forward to balance members elected by the governor?

I know that you are very busy, but I would really like to meet and discuss these items, as well as my personal plans that I have come up with as possible solutions to these items. I am open to coming in to meet or a possible zoom meeting with you about these things. I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bryan Davenport
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Debbie Skaggs [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 09, 2020 8:33 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Concerns

Dear Honorable Board of Police Commissioners - I am writing this morning as someone who pays taxes to Kansas City through my place of employment and as someone who visits many Kansas City businesses.

I am finding it harder and harder to watch the Mayor of Kansas City try and tie the hands of the police department. As I continue to watch the crime and murder rate soar in Kansas City, it is difficult to see a Mayor who wants to reduce the functions of our law enforcement officers. While I am 100% behind any training that would assist any officer from being racially discriminatory or displaying police brutality, I am not in support of them not being able to do their jobs effectively in keeping the community safe.

The suggestion of doing away with a state-run police department and putting the department under this Mayor and Council, who have proven they are inept in running the City, is ludicrous. Our law enforcement officers cannot continue to look the other way based on the color of someone's skin. A criminal is a criminal no matter what color of skin they may have. I need to know that if I'm at work late, I feel comfortable walking out to my car after dark knowing the police are out doing their job.

I feel as if we are at an impasse where our Mayor has made so many accusations against the police department, the police do not feel validated to perform their job. That leaves me feeling very vulnerable when I'm in Kansas City. In an effort to further reduce their effectiveness, the Mayor and Council are enacting laws/ordinances in support of criminals. People are brazenly smoking marijuana out in the open around where I work, knowing there are no consequences. I am being subjected to illegal behaviors because the Mayor wants to reduce police interactions between them and people of color. I watched on TV the destruction of the monument dedicated to fallen officers and NOTHING was done.

I wrote to the Mayor and Council this morning too in expressing my concerns over trying to govern racial bias. It can't be done! I wholeheartedly believe that deep down people genuinely like one another. What is being done now is tearing away at the decency and civility of our society. I would hope and pray you would not be a participant in the divisive measures that the Mayor or Council Members are trying to create. We need a functioning police force that protects and serves the community. It is time to stop the nonsense and look for ways to bring people together to support law enforcement instead of dividing us.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Debbie Skaggs

[REDACTED]

From: Anna Stelmach [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2020 10:13 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: PLEASE READ

Hello BOPC,

I have not yet heard back via several emails I have attempted to send these past few weeks, so I really hope someone on the board will see and/or read this one.

After getting some clarification around these federal agents coming (or have already come) into KCMO to help as "detectives" for unsolved homicides from an officer with whom I've been in contact, I have some pressing concerns that he has not answered.

He explained that while the federal agents will work in the office, this will allow for KCPD officers to spend more time on patrols. He said that the hopes would be that KCPD could achieve more community trust and thereby get more TIPS or information. How can we know this will be effective? I see many other members of varying communities around KCMO expressing concern for children, especially those who have been killed and/or trafficked. So how do we know that any TIPS will go answered?

I ask this because of personal experience.

Between the years around 2016-2018 (I believe), I had been calling in TIPS often, finding that the Missing & Exploited Children hotline (after attempts made to Children's Division who didn't have enough info to work off from) was my best bet, as I would get directly connected to various police departments (depending on location) and federal agents. However, my TIPS were never followed up on.

I'm a therapist. I worked with a young adult woman who had been sex trafficked since the age of 11 -- being followed around by trafficker (who was first her history teacher) for years across state lines, all while she was trying to escape him. She ended up in KCMO. She ended up getting "Mixx"ed (catch my drift - now deceased) with local pimps, drug dealers, (she gave me names, I checked Casenet and MOVANS -- I found them all -- think "12" for another example) through being terrorized by her main trafficker.

Police and Feds started hearing about her. But you know what? They never believed her. They thought her trafficker was a figment of her imagination. The same trafficker that used to stalk me in his car when he knew I was meeting with her (no, I never called this in--as you'll understand why I wouldn't as you keep reading).

She knew, every time she told me about child abuse or exploitation, that I was mandated to report it. So she'd only tell me about things she was really, really, really scared about. Like the line of houses obtained by traffickers around 55th and Wabash (I called this in) to abuse/sell children. What's worse - she told me some very specific information (that I no longer remember details, but I had names of children, ages) about a specific address in the Sugar Creek area in Independence, MO. I did, this time, get a call back by a detective with Independence PD. He kept digging for info on my source. I couldn't tell him who, as I am bound by HIPAA and confidentiality. However, he knew who it was. And he told me that he, and other local police precincts, did not believe her to be a credible witness. He never called me back. He never responded to my messages - my voicemails, emails.

He (and apparently officers in the KC area) didn't believe her to be a credible witness because Raytown PD came into her workplace (in marked cars, in uniform) with some photographs of men, and she ID'd the wrong guy. So they assumed she was lying altogether. She ID'd the wrong guy because, little did they know, her trafficker was watching from outside the building. He saw the police walk in, and he'd already spoofed her phone, so he'd know. She purposely misled them for her own safety. But that was that for the entire city's police who now deemed her "uncredible."

So where are all these children now? Who is going to protect them, to serve them, to save them from abuse and torture?

This client of mine is long gone. She moved to another state, knowing she wasn't safe here. No one protected or served her. Her rape log(s) probably have collected dust by now. I don't have contact with her anymore, but I've heard she's alive.

I doubt this message will get through to anyone, but I am so furious that the general public think that police are actually wanting to help these most vulnerable children - when I know, from personal experience, that they didn't even TRY when I asked.

Operation Legend won't work. We're going to end up like Portland. We are going to create greater distrust. There will likely be more graffiti going up, more citizens being gassed and arrested, and likely, more dead bodies by the hands of police. Violent racism will prevail, like the time when I witnessed an officer tell a Spanish-speaking man, "I can't understand a fucking word you're saying, Mister Burrito" (VERBATIM).

Thanks for your time.

Anna

[REDACTED]

From: Patrick Rudolph [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 10:45 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: make videos to show how to protect yourself the legal way with gun at home and business and in your car for Kansas city, mo. citizens.

make videos to show how to protect yourself the legal way with gun at home and business and in your car for Kansas city, mo. citizens. and have fire dept. show how to get out of house during fire and have a plan.

[REDACTED]

From: ApostleRon [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 4:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Thank you

I am an old disabled vet. I want to thank all you for operation Legend. Please stay strong stay the course. Real Americans are behind all you guy. God bless
Ron westbrook
Booneville Arkansas

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:04 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 4:30 PM
Subject: Public Comment
To: <bopc@kcpd.org>

Please read the following comment during your meeting:

The current KCPD complaint process needs to be revised to remove the section that only allows a person directly involved in the interaction with police to file a complaint. The revision should allow in addition to written complaints, complaints to be received online or by phone 24 hours a day and complaints to be received anonymously or by witnesses not directly involved in the police interaction. Potential wording could be taken from Los Angeles Police Department's Policy:

"A complaint can be filed in person at any police facility in Los Angeles, Internal Affairs Group, the Police Commission, or the Office of the Inspector General. Although it is not required, the Department encourages community members to make these reports in person so a supervisor has an opportunity to do a thorough initial assessment of your complaint. If you do not wish to report your complaint in person, you may obtain a "Complaint of Employee Misconduct" form from any police facility or City Council field office. Complaints may also be filed online by clicking [here](#) or on the button below. If you prefer to make your complaint by phone, you may call our 24-hour toll free hotline at (800) 339-6868. Anonymous and third-party complaints are also accepted and will be investigated to the extent that sufficient information is provided. However, if you choose to not provide your contact information, the investigators will be unable to ask you follow-up questions that might be needed for a thorough, complete investigation.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED]

From: Jim Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:13 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Furious.

I retired from the Department after 30 years 3 months and 28 days of service.

I am sickened by the actions of our Mayor and his condoning of and what appears to be support of the illegal activity perpetrated on our city by rioters.

For them to desiccate the Memorial of Our Fallen Officers with no regard for recourse is shameful.

All while calling for Chief Smith to be fired. What a joke. I will say that I maintain many ties to current Officers and if Chief Smith left, I know many would follow and moral would drop drastically.

I say rid this City of the Mayor and restore justice

What a sad day it would be if the PD ever falls into the hands of our corrupt politicians with City Control.

This Board needs to back the PD and Chief Smith and restore order.

Jim Morgan.

[REDACTED]

From: william schmidt [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:52 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Kcpd police be

As a resident of KC, I would like 2 things to happen: 1) adoption of police reform advised nation wide and 2) local control of the police.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

From: KC R [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:00 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: You need to think about this!

To the Board of Police Commissioners:

You have likely read a message just like this already - well, perhaps...not sure you are paying any attention to words of reason. Nonetheless, I will keep sending you mail until you choose to do something about the egregious acts being committed.

First, I want to wholeheartedly support Chief Smith. He has done an amazing job since he was appointed, and it was a much needed change. Chief Smith started his career with KCPD as a young, eager, excited officer. He is incredibly dedicated to this department, to the officers, and to the city they serve. This is HIS city, too, I might add. Since there IS a residency requirement, he also lives within the city and experiences the same issues the rest of us do. Chief Smith has incredible integrity, and he cares deeply about each officer and their family. This didn't happen overnight when he became chief. He has ALWAYS led by example in every assignment and promotion along the way. He has earned the respect and brotherly/sisterly love of his officers. He is not in this for the "money and perks". He is not out to fleece the department at the end of his tenure (like someone else I know). Chief Smith is very intelligent and understands the dynamics of this city and the residents. To push him to the side during this time of extreme stress and turmoil would be a huge mistake, both from the view of the city AND the view of the officers who look to him for strength guidance and the leadership that has been lacking for so many years prior to his appointment.

Secondly, I DO NOT SUPPORT in any way, shape or form, the local takeover of the PD. This would be - again - a huge mistake. The reasons the State of Missouri took control of KCPD during the Pendergast era are still around today. We have had too many corrupt council members over the years, and there is nothing to make me think that there aren't corrupt council members now. Corruption is sneaky. Corruption is insidious. And if local control is granted, we will begin to see corruption again in the manipulation of the department & their thinking they are above the law.

Thirdly, I am completely disgusted and angered by the comments of Mark Tolbert in this week's BOPC meeting regarding WHITE women within the ranks of LE. THIS IS ANOTHER REASON THAT LOCAL CONTROL SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. If Mr. Tolbert thinks this, who else within the Board or council feels the same?? We have never had blatant corruption within the PD like so many other cities. I don't want to start now. If we start hiring people who aren't 1) qualified (everyone must take & pass the same tests) or 2) want the job, then we cannot have them as members of the PD (or FD). The citizens look to us as their protectors, to be above the line, to be good people. Are there bad officers? yep. Are there bad firefighters? Yep. Are there bad doctors/lawyers/businessmen/priests?? Yep, yep, yep & yep. But we must do what we can to protect the integrity. And for Mr. Tolbert to disparage ME, a white female firefighter paramedic, is despicable. I don't make a decision to render care or not render care to someone based on their ethnicity, race, religion, color of their eyes, the shape of their nose, because they are pretty/not pretty. I render care to EV-ERY-ONE. PERIOD. We hire candidates because THEY WANT THE JOB. THEY ARE QUALIFIED FOR THE JOB. Let me repeat that THEY. ARE. QUALIFIED. FOR. THE. JOB. I don't care if I'm working alongside a rabbit. If the rabbit is qualified and sincerely wants to be there to do a good job, YAY.

Shame on you, Mr. Tolbert, for your comments. Shame.

[REDACTED]

From: anthony cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 2:47 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: FIGHTING CRIME REDUCING MURDERS IN THE CITY

TO THE KCMO PD : THE MURDER RATE AS YOU KNOW IS HIGHER THAN PREVEIOUS YEARS. THE OLY WAY TO CONTROL IT AND BRING THEM DOWN IN MY OPINION ARE THAT,LAW ENFORCEMENT IS GOING TO HAVE TO GET A COURT ORDER A SEARCH ORDER GO INTO THE MOST VIOLENT NEIGHBORHOODS

AND DO A SEARCH FOR GUNS ISSUE SOME CITATIONS AND INCARCERATE SOME OFFENDERS.

TOO THE PUBLIC NEEDS A CHEAP SHIELD TO DEFEND THEIR FAMILIES IN THEIR HOMES AND KEEP A SHIELD IN THEIR CARS TO PROTECT AGAINST DRIVE BY SHOOTINGS. PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT THESE SUGGESTIONS MAYOR LUCAS AND ALVEY HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THESE IDEAS. . BUT THEY NEVER RESPOND PLEASE RESPOND BY E-MAIL OR LEAVE A VOICE MESSAGE 9132957783.

[REDACTED]

From: Frank Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:07 PM
To: mayorq@kcmo.org; Hall, Heather; O'Neill, Kevin; Loar, Teresa; Justis, Amy; Ellington, Brandon; Robinson, Melissa; Shields, Katheryn; Bunch, Eric; McCoy, Keema; Pearson, Angela; Foster, Katrina; Wickham, Fred; Sanders, Marilyn; bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Lucas called out on national TV

All,
I'm glad Lucas was called out on national TV for his and yours desire that the federal LEOS help was not wanted. They are here to help solve these crimes and you don't want the help, really. I hope they have a recall petition on you. I'll sign it in a minute. You are worthless as a mayor. I'll bet you all still have your police protection details, why don't you dismiss them since it's so safe here?

Frank Smith

[REDACTED]

From: Larry Cohen [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 8:01 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Mr. McManus

Never got a response from Mayors office but this demand to fix how the PD responded to violence is absurd. Please read my statements in the letter. Thank you.

Larry Cohen

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Larry Cohen [REDACTED]
Date: June 25, 2020 at 1:52:46 PM CDT
To: "Wickham, Fred" <Fred.Wickham@kcmo.org>
Subject: Re: Letter to Mr. McManus

Thank you sir.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 25, 2020, at 1:36 PM, Wickham, Fred <Fred.Wickham@kcmo.org> wrote:

Hi Larry,

I have shared your message with Mayor Pro Tem McManus. Thank you for contacting our office.

Best,
Fred

From: Larry Cohen [REDACTED] >
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 7:35 PM
To: "Wickham, Fred" <Fred.Wickham@kcmo.org>
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Mr. McManus

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside the kcmo.org organization. Use caution and examine the sender address before replying or clicking links.

Sir did you receive this and forward to Mr. McManus? Thank you.

Larry Cohen

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Larry Cohen [REDACTED]
Date: June 19, 2020 at 8:49:36 PM CDT
To: fred.wickham@kcmo.org
Subject: Letter to Mr. McManus

Mayor Pro Tem McManus:

I'm 66 years old and was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. My family lived west of 91st Terr. and Wornall and I graduated from Center High School in 1972. My father operated a small grocery store on the southeast corner of 18th and Brooklyn. While in high school I developed a strong interest in law enforcement. Prior to graduating MU in 1976, I applied to KCPD because it and Overland Park were the two best during that time. There was a hiring freeze at the time and KCPD had me keep updating my application. I went to see Officer Kerfoot in personnel just to stay in contact. I remember him telling me he'd love to hire me but I was the wrong color. He'd likely get sued for that comment today but I was not offended.

I also applied at Overland Park and since I needed to work and not wanting to turn down an offer, I went to work there in late 1977. I spent 34 years there retiring in 2011.

The purpose of this letter is to denounce the decision the Council made to dismiss all misdemeanor charges against the protestors. Officers stood in heavy gear for long hours in the heat, were taunted, and subjected to physical abuse. One of the reasons I read charges were dismissed is because officers reported in riot gear and used pepper spray which caused the crowds to become aggressive.

After seeing protests in other cities, what did the city expect KCPD to do? Show up in KCPD polo shirts and their ball caps? The wrong message was sent here to both Police and protestors. I believe the officers were not supported for the job they did, this after the city spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in overtime. It also sends a message to protestors that next time they dislike a decision or ruling on an issue, breaking the law is tolerated. I work part time now in KCMO and loved to go to The Plaza to get out of Johnson County but no more. Actually prior to all this, just walking the sidewalks was dangerous as juveniles and young adults forced you to yield rather than just moving over so all could use the sidewalks when there was plenty of room.

Obviously I'm disappointed in my hometown. Throughout my career I interacted with many fine KCPD officers. Questionable decisions by officers occur in all agencies. It's unfortunate but they occur in all areas of life. As a former officer had this happened to me I'd be incensed and feel betrayed. Thanks for your ear.

Overland Park Police Sgt. Larry Cohen (Retired)

Leawood, Kansas



Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Sara Boehm Archer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Ruoff, Bethany N
Subject: Marina Bischoff

My longtime friend, Marina Bischoff, has not been seen since May 28th. Marina was a social worker who dedicated her life to helping others, most recently at Mercy Children's in Kansas City but also for many years at Cincinnati children's hospital.

After two months, it seems very little has been done in the search for her and very few questions have been answered. She was taken into police custody the evening of May 27th, 2020 at Shoal Creek Patrol Division after being charged with a DUI; she left the station alone, on foot at 7 a.m. the following morning with no cell phone, no wallet, no keys, and no glasses; the last time she was seen was walking around that area at 8:30 a.m.

The police told her brother she made 3 calls before leaving the station and assumed she was picked up, but they have not tried to locate these numbers to determine who she called from the station. This is simple technology that anyone with a phone knows is retrievable if done in a timely manner.

Partial human remains of a woman's body were found by a 10 year old boy on the banks of Shoal Creek on July 6th, not far from where she was last seen. The police have given a timeframe of 6 to 9 months in getting DNA testing and results on these remains to determine if they are, in fact, Marina's body. If this is not Marina, we need to know, so that we can make sure all other efforts in the search for her continue. If it is Marina, the family has the right to be able to put her to rest as she deserved and start to pursue peace with what has happened.

Our requests are:

1. That the police department request that the DNA testing on the remains be expedited.
2. That the FBI take over the investigation of Marina's disappearance. The fact that she was last seen in police custody indicates an inherent conflict for the police who are currently responsible for determining how and why she went missing and if something has happened to her.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Marina has many concerned friends, family and co-workers across the country and in Brazil (where she was born and where her parents currently reside).

Regards,
Sara Archer



[REDACTED]

From: Patrick Rudolph [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 10:22 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: homeland security, gunshot detection system and multiple drone system.

you need to combine gunshot detection system and multiple drone system. gunshot detection system locates and drones hunt down moving people or vehicles in area. persons operating drones navigate police on ground. same set up as military has. Infrared also. have drones nest on sound towers. all video is taped for court proceedings. use history of crimes to map area mostly needed coverage. saturation . have a Autumn like day.

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:03 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Labranche [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jun 16, 2020 at 6:40 PM
Subject: Public Comment
To: Bopc <bopc@kcpd.org>

The department is too top heavy. It does not need three captains per shift at each station. They only need one major and one captain. Previous consulting reports established this.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:03 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Re: Public Comment

Public comment

On Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 4:51 PM Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED] wrote:
KCPD Parking Control should be abolished. The city should create its own parking authority with civilian oversight. The money spent on parking control should be reallocated to put more officers on the street answering calls or civilians answering 911 calls. The downtown KCPD Footbeat Station can handle parking complaints and this would allow them more interaction with the public to solve parking issues and use community policing strategies versus just writing a ticket and towing the car away.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:03 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Labranche [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 8:25 PM
Subject: Public Comment
To: Bopc <bopc@kcpd.org>

The six school resource officers that are assigned to the Kansas City Public Schools should be reassigned and work neighborhoods answering calls for service. This would save the department \$500000 a year.

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:04 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Labranche [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 8:31 PM
Subject: Public Comment
To: Bopc <bopc@kcpd.org>

The department should revise its take home car policy as some officers are not subject to call out. Most Captains do not need take home cars as they are not subject to cal out.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:04 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd:

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 4:56 PM
Subject:
To: <bopc@kcpd.org>

Please read for public comment:

The KCPD Traffic Division should be abolished. The majority of these officers should be resigned to neighborhoods answering calls for service. They can still run radar in between calls for service. In fact every police officer should be able to enforce traffic laws in the community. We do not need a specialized unit generating revenue for the city. What remains is a small group of officers who are trained for commercial vehicle enforcement and major crash investigations and public education.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 9:04 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jun 15, 2020 at 4:38 PM
Subject: Public Comment
To: <bopc@kcpd.org>

Please read this comment during the meeting:

The current BOPC should have additional seats added to represent more local control. Adding another 2-3 seats which would be allocated to local citizens appointed by the City Council will help bring more voices to oversight of the department. The current process by which the Governor appoints attorneys and other politically connected individuals is basically given KCPD a rubber stamp to do whatever they want without much accountability to the public.

Kevin LaBranche

[REDACTED] N

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2020 5:29 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Volunteering

Dear Board,

I have a detailed background in LE now retired and offered to volunteer.

I have an AOJ and Management degree with field experience but I was denied because I did not live in the city limits. You need to change that so I can help you out for free.

Steven

[REDACTED]

From: Kevin LaBranche [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 12:52 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Public Comment for August Meeting

Dear BOPC

I'd like to provide a different perspective as to the information given to you by various individuals of the department at your recent meeting.

First, as Mr. Tolbert indicated "Defund the Police" means reallocating some money earmarked for police departments to community partnerships, programs and professionals that have proven to reduce crime allowing the police to do more with less and be more focused on emergency response. Mr. Garrett and others using the word "Defund" are simply trying to race bait and change the narrative away from true police reform.

Second, Deputy Chief Oakman provided the Board statistics on patrol operations that were deceiving and Board Members should ask for more information. For example, he said 180 weapons were seized in June, how many of these resulted in charges? how many were involved in crimes? How many were returned to owners? His attempt to use the word seize implies that they were truly taken out of the hands of criminals which I believe was not the case. Same thing with homicides. How many were cleared? How many arrests made? conviction rate?

Third, Deputy Chief Oakman said that often times Sergeants and Dispatchers handle calls for service over the phone and direct callers to outside resources without the need for an officer to be dispatched. Although this is the case sometimes, Chief Oakman is deceiving to the Board to say this is a matter of routine. Anyone who listed to the police scanner or goes on a ride along can see that a lot of calls for service being dispatched do not need a police response.

Fourth, Deputy Chief Weddell provided a demographic snapshot of new hires. This is also deceiving to the Board in making it appear that every effort is being made to hire minorities. What should be supplied to the board is the data on applicants and how those applicants move through the hiring process. If you had 100 applicants that were black, and 5 were selected to advance in the process and then only one or none get hired, what were the reasons?

Fifth, I have concerns about Mr, Garrett in just listening to his remarks during the meeting. It shows a lack of impartiality when he is referring to officers by first names, interjecting his past law enforcement days in discussions and so forth. The way he and the other Board members just tend to go along with whatever the officers say is another reason we want local control over the police.

Sixth, a cut to the police budget is not going to impact public safety and is just a scare tactic of Councilwomen Hall and others. The 10 million dollar cut can easily be absorbed in early retirements, cutting out take home cars for Captains, reducing the number of Captains per station from 9 to 3 and other cost cutting initiatives that would not call for the need to lay off officers.

In closing, I continue to believe that we must do the following to improve safety in our community:

1. Divert money away from KCPD and into community partnerships, resources and professionals that can directly impact public safety and lower crime.
2. Replace the Chief with a Director of Public Safety with less police background and bring the department under local control.
3. Greatly reduce police specialty units and cross train all officers to perform the function of these units making each officer in essence a community interaction officer.
4. Abolish the BOPC and replace with a true citizen oversight board.made up of elected citizens.

Sincerely,

Kevin LaBranche



[REDACTED]

From: Becchina, Jacob P
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Ruoff, Bethany N
Subject: FW: 8 Can't Wait Reforms

In case you didn't get looped in on this just FYI since its to a commissioner

Jake

From: Faron, Elizabeth M
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 9:09 AM
To: Becchina, Jacob P
Subject: FW: 8 Can't Wait Reforms

FYI

Liz Faron
Administrative Assistant to Police Chief Smith
1125 Locust
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Valerie Ellis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 7:54 PM
To: KCPD_Chiefs_Office
Subject: 8 Can't Wait Reforms

Board of Commissioners Don Wagner
Kansas City Police Department
1125 Locust Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Re: Citizen Demand for Implementation of **8 Can't Wait Reforms**

Dear President Wagner,

The recent death of George Floyd deeply distresses me. As a citizen originally from Wichita, KS, I share your concern for the safety and wellbeing of our citizens.

I thank you for the steps you and the officers under your command have already taken toward police reform and accountability. I appreciate your officers' de-escalation response to protests, in particular the police chief and mayor took a knee.

Still, more must be done.

In Kansas City alone, there have been 27 officer-involved deaths from 2013 - 2019. I believe this number is as troubling to you as it is to me.

Excessive force and racial bias in all police departments must stop NOW, before another person is injured or killed.

I respectfully request that you put in place the **8 Can't Wait** (www.8cantwait.org) reforms that have not yet been implemented in Kansas City. The data proves the **8 Can't Wait** policies have led to a reduction in officer involved deaths and an increase in public trust.

Currently, this is the **8 Can't Wait** scorecard for Kansas City:

1. Ban Chokeholds and Strangleholds **Not Implemented**
2. Require De-Escalation **Not Implemented**
3. Require Warning Before Shooting **Not Implemented**
4. Requires Exhausting All Alternatives Before Shooting **Not Implemented**
5. Duty to Intervene **Not Implemented**
6. Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles **Not Implemented**
7. Require Use of Force Continuum **Not Implemented**
8. Require Comprehensive Reporting **Not Implemented**

I call on you to produce a public, transparent, and comprehensive plan of action to implement the **8 Can't Wait** policies by August 31, 2020.

Please inform me of your progress on or before this date.

Sincerely,

Valerie R. Ellis

[REDACTED]

From: Sheryl Ferguson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 5:25 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org; gfarmer@kcstar.com
Subject: Public Comments

What's the point. This board is incapable of doing the right thing anyway so why should we have comments for you.

You're intentionally asking people to send comments via news media so that the volume of emails is high so that those of us that really have concerns can be overlooked and ignored.

I mean why would you do the right thing. You spent your last meeting being a cheerleader for someone who now has 4 officers facing charges. A competent board would have wanted to listen and HEAR what is really going on from the citizens that have to deal with officers instead of basking in the accolades of citizens that barely have interactions with the police.

The true population that our Mayor has placated promises to are wanting to ask questions and get feedback for our concerns. We're wanting to hear from you the timeline for these false promises he's given.

So I appreciate your cowardice of facing the people. I'll continue to send the message to protesters since we are banned from addressing those whose credo is to protect and serve that we'll just keep causing chaos in City Council (I had a blast doing that by the way).

FYI, if you feel this building is too small there are plenty of places that can be used. But please continue with your current manner of operations. Keep reducing the technology, funny how in April you could use Facebook but instead of making it easier as the months progress you're making it harder for people to listen and find the meeting.

So yes please continue, I'm enjoying the conversations I'm having with attorneys and the details they are giving about keeping records of requests and responses and I'm sharing that with those having these same issues. We're compiling our concerns so we can start communicating with the DOJ.

So enjoy your meeting, we know this board doesn't matter anyway since you have no knowledge of what to do anyway and you're not concerned enough to care about the citizens of Kansas City that are suffering.

This Board needs an advisory board, hell you really just need a mother. Mother's know problems ignored just become worse.

I have no fitting closing salutation because I have nothing but disgust for you.

Sheryl Ferguson

[REDACTED]

From: Shavon Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 1:12 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Why Rick Smith deserves to be Fired

1. We still don't know who MURDERED Donnie Sanders from the KKKCPD
2. He refused to comply with JPB about the investigation into Cameron Lamb's murder by KKKCPD.
3. He continues to protect corrupt cops
4. He is not doing his job to serve justice in Kansas City

The people are tired of the corrupt police departments. We know its not just here, but everywhere but since I live here and I know that Rick Smith is a major reason Cops know they can continue to get away with the murder of BLACK citizens, then he needs to go.

Sincerely,
Shavon Brown

[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Laub [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 12:51 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Terminate Rick Smith

VOTE TO TERMINATE RICK SMITH. Kansas City can do better.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 9:28 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Comments on Police Review board and other KCPD changes
Attachments: 200808 STM SJM change KCPD .docx

KC Board of Police Commissioners.

Attached is the statement of The Social Justice Ministry (SJM), St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, Missouri, regarding fundamental changes in the the KCMO PD. The SJM supports an independent review board to handle complaints against officers and local control of the KCMO PD. See comments in the statement. The SJM also asks the board to consider the other fundamental changes listed in the statement.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Social Justice Ministry, 1307 Holmes, KCMO 64106.
John M. Simpson, Chair, Social Justice Ministry. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Social Justice Ministry - KCMO PD fundamental changes, 08/25/20.

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department (KCPD) has failed to control violent crime and has unconscionably discriminated against Black's. The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City Missouri demands fundamental changes in the KCPD to eliminate its systemic racism and failed policies that are a major cause of excessive crime in Kansas City.

Black Americans understand best the problems and how they can be eliminated. They need to be the leaders in overhauling KCPD. To succeed, white people must support and join them.

First, Chief Rick Smith must resign or be fired because of his failure to provide leadership during the protests. He condones the use of excess force by officers. He seemingly does not understand the effects of years of violence against Blacks. He failed to show empathy for protesters. Smith has been too protective of officers who have killed or injured Blacks.

KCPD's institutional culture must be significantly recreated. It is not enough to make reforms around the edges.

The efforts at reform after Rodney King's beating and after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO, have failed to reduce police violence against Blacks. Kansas City is still confronted with too many killings and injuries by the police. Body cameras and diversity training are helpful but do not get to the root causes of police violence against Black's.

The Kansas City Star (06/02/20) made several good suggestions for fundamental changes for the KCPD. Among them were:

- Create a citizens' review board. The board will handle complaints against officers. The board must be independent and not controlled by the KCPD or other government officials. The board should have its own staff, legal assistance, open hearings, subpoena power, access to all needed records, and the power to dismiss or impose other penalties on officers who use excessive force or discriminate.
- Demilitarize the police. The KCPD has obtained and used too much military equipment and looks and acts like an occupying army and not protectors. This creates distrust in the police. There was absolutely no reason for KC police to be dressed in military riot gear when attacking peaceful persons protesting the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

- Institute local control. The present system of control of the KCPD by the Board of Police Commissioners and not the City Council deprives KC citizens of control of the police. Local control makes the KCPD more accountable to KC's citizens.

There are other policies for achieving fundamental transformation of the KCPD that should be adopted by those in control:

- Reduce police contact with the public. The present system gives the police the power and opportunity to harass and kill with impunity.
- Police officers should not respond to certain kinds of problems - domestic violence, drug use and related crimes, homelessness, mental and physical health emergencies, minor traffic offenses. Leave those problems to other qualified agencies.
- Funding of the KCPD must be substantially reduced. The KCPD has a budget of \$273 Million or \$554 for each citizen of KC. The KCPD spends four times as much per person as Omaha, a city comparable to KC, spends on its police department. It spends twice as much as Overland Park spends per capita for its department. (KC Star 06/14/20). KC is over-policed, and millions can be cut from the budget. Use those cuts for public housing, education, medical and mental health care, and job security to deal with the root causes of the huge inequalities and discrimination in KC.

John M. Simpson, Chair, St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, MO.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Bryan Boccard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 6:28 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Cc: MayorQ@kcmo.org
Subject: Comments for BOPC Meeting

August 24, 2020

To the Board of Police Commissioners:

I strongly protest that Tuesday's meeting is not open to the public. I call on this board to stop hiding from the public under the guise of the coronavirus pandemic and open up these meetings for in-person public comments. In lieu of being able to make a comment in person, I write to you to demand the firing of KCPD Chief Rick Smith. Chief Smith has shown that he does not believe himself or the KCPD to be accountable to anyone nor to the impartiality of the law.

Regarding KCPD's response to protesters exercising their first amendment rights, Chief Smith said "It is a fine balance in keeping a peaceful demonstration and one getting out of hand," Smith said. "On the face of it, it looks like all of our policies were followed, on face value," (<https://www.kansascity.com/article244839737.html>). Do you agree with Chief Smith that tear-gassing children and families in a public park is acceptable police policy? Do you agree with Chief Smith that dragging a peaceful protester off of the sidewalk and pepper spraying them in the face is acceptable police policy?

This week, we learned that the KCPD kept hidden for *months* that Sgt. Matthew Neal had assaulted a 15-year-old child by slamming his face into the pavement, breaking his teeth, and lacerating his head, before then choking the child with his knee. This was after the child had already complied with Sgt. Neal's orders. The child had to be hospitalized due to the injuries sustained he sustained (<https://www.kansascity.com/opinion/editorials/article245149290.html>). As reported, there was a second officer on the scene, the same officer who killed Terrance Bridges last year, Dylan Pifer. The Office of Community Complaints initially sustained a misconduct accusation against Pifer, however, only after pressure from Chief Smith that finding was reversed.

Chief Smith does not believe in either accountability or reform, and he needs to be removed from his role as KCPD Chief.

As police commissioners, I would hope that all five of you are familiar with Robert Peele's 9 principles of policing (<https://lawenforcementactionpartnership.org/peel-policing-principles/>). Let me quote one of those principles here:

"To recognize always that the power of the police to fulfill their functions and duties is dependent on public approval of their existence, actions and behavior, and on their ability to secure and maintain public respect."

Not only has Chief Smith lost the public's respect, so too has the entire Kansas City Police Department lost the public's approval of its existence under his leadership.

I and many others in our community are now calling for the defunding of KCPD because this is a police department that has shown itself beyond reform, led by a man who is not even interested in pretending like he wants to reform.

Chief Smith needs to be fired.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Boccard

--
Bryan Boccard
Horticulturist | Garden Designer



[REDACTED]

From: Earl L Carson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:47 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Support KCPD, Chief Smith, do not defund

I am asking you, as individuals and as the BOPC, to stand in support of our great police officers and Chief Smith.

Please do not even consider cutting budgets or defunding the police and please do not even consider changing to city control of the department. There is a reason this police department is no longer under control of city leaders. You surely must be aware of that.

This city is rapidly turning into another St. Louis or Chicago hell hole, and the recent action of the city council seems to have made it clear to many that they will not be held accountable for their lawless activities.

Those of us who are normally silent are getting tired of city officials bowing down to the noisy, angry protesters. It is time you do your job by doing what is best for ALL the citizens of KC, not just the loudest and most violent.

Thank you,
Shirley C

[REDACTED]

From: diana_ballou [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Do not defund the police and keep the chief of police.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

[REDACTED]

From: Frank Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 11:33 AM
To: mayorq@kcmo.org; Hall, Heather; O'Neill, Kevin; Loar, Teresa; Justis, Amy; Ellington, Brandon; Robinson, Melissa; Shields, Katheryn; Bunch, Eric; McCoy, Keema; Pearson, Angela; Foster, Katrina; Wickham, Fred; Sanders, Marilyn; bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Budget cuts to the police

To whom it may concern,

I am asking that you not cut the police department's budget by \$10 million. Crime is so high in KC that the feds are having to come in and help us. How will it look if we then take money away from the police department and their ability to keep us safe. Do you want to tell the parents of 4yo Legend that solving his murder isn't important, or keeping their neighborhood safe isn't a priority for our city?

Cutting the PD budget will do nothing but allow crime to be increased and make the city less safe for all of us. Their budget is stretched thin as it is and there is nowhere left to cut. Of all the departments at the City, emergency services is the one budget you should leave alone.

If you take money away and crime increases then the results of that will fall on you.

If you continue this we will file a class action suit against all of you for the lack of protection our taxes are paying for.

In the past two months I have seen a decrease in police in my neighborhood. Also people are driving like there is no police to enforce traffic laws, which is correct.

Frank Smith

[REDACTED]

From: KC R [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:00 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Don't defund

KC R [REDACTED]
to BOPC

Dear Mr. Wagner, Mr. Tolbert, Ms. Dean, Mr. Garrett, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Kenner-

Defunding the police department will only serve to destroy this city, the lives of everyone living within its boundaries, including yours.

Chief Smith is doing an excellent job of navigating this horrendous season. Don't consider firing him at the bidding of those who are violent, loud and forceful. Listen to the law-abiding citizens of this city. We deserve a voice too - even if we aren't screaming, looting and pillaging.

Our officers continue to serve and protect even when they are consistently attacked in word and action. What does that say about their character? What does it say about yours when you don't fight for them?

Giving the department over to the city control will do nothing but cause more havoc, create more tension and flush Kansas City down the toilet even further. It is a ruthless act with nothing but negative consequences. Think wisely. Don't succumb to the pressure.

[REDACTED]

From: Andrew Frizzell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 8:08 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Defend don't defund KCPD

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of our officers at KCPD and in support of Chief Rick Smith. I am a life long resident of the Kansas City area who has resided in and near KC since birth. I utilize businesses within Kansas City on a daily basis.

The recent attacks on our men and woman in law enforcement are disgusting and uncalled for. We have seen these attacks here at home as our very own men and woman at KCPD have been brutally attacked. Those attacks are claimed to be motivated by a "systemic" problem which isn't supported by documented articulated facts. Certain radical people have been given a platform to propagate their hate and lie about the law enforcement community. We must stand strong against this!

We have a violence problem. One that recently gained national attention. "Defunding" or reducing the budget of KCPD is the exact opposite of a solution. We need to support those who risk everything to defend the KC community. A few people in the media and politics have made attacking police popular. This is a time to stand up for KCPD. I personally stand with the men and woman of the Kansas City Police Department and as a voting citizen will not in any way support any politician who does not do the same!

Thank you,
-Andrew Frizzell

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: Pattie Belisle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:47 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Defunding KC Police

I am writing to support the Kansas City Police Department. I feel strongly that a strong and resourceful police department is essential for the safety and well-being of our homes, businesses, communities, and cities.

Just a few years ago a young family friend was murdered in the Kansas City area...the K.C. Police department played a crucial role in the solving of this murder...lawlessness has no place anywhere...

Please consider this as you debate the defunding of this necessary public institution...

Sincerely,
Pattie Belisle

Sent from my iPhone

KANSAS CITY 6410

20 AUG 2020 PM 4:11

address
THE MAN

1969
First Moon Landing
Forever/USA



Dear KC Police Board of Commissioners,

I DEMAND JUSTICE FOR RYAN STOKES, TERRANCE BRIDGES, DONNIE SANDERS AND CAMERON LAMB! KCPD CANNOT CONTINUE TO KILL RECKLESSLY! I DEMAND INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OF ALL OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE.

Hold your fellow officers accountable for their crimes. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice not to.

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST END!

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Sophie

from Shawnee, KS

KC Police Board of Commissioners

1125 Locust St.

Kansas City, MO 64106

64106-262925



KANSAS CITY 640

27 JUL 2020 PM 3 L



address
THE MAN

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

**I DEMAND JUSTICE FOR RYAN STOKES, TERRANCE BRIDGES, DONNIE SANDERS AND CAMERON LAMB!
KCPD CANNOT CONTINUE TO KILL RECKLESSLY!
I DEMAND INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS
OF ALL OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE.**

Hold your officers accountable

NOW! Black Lives Matter.

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST END!

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Mikala Petillo from KCMO 64110

Board of police
Commissioners

1125 Locust Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

64106-262325



Dear Chief Smith,

I DEMAND JUSTICE FOR RYAN STOKES, TERRANCE BRIDGES, DONNIE SANDERS AND CAMERON LAMB! KCPD CANNOT CONTINUE TO KILL RECKLESSLY! I DEMAND INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OF ALL OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE.

I implore you to properly carry out the law against the officers who brutally murdered these young men.

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST END!

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Sadie

from Shawnee, KS

KANSAS CITY 64106

address
THE MAN



Chief Smith,

1125 Locust St.

Kansas City, MO 64106

KANSAS CITY 6410

19 JUL 2020 PM 7:11

address
THE MAN

2018
1969
First Moon Landing
Forever/USA



Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST COME TO AN END!

**I DEMAND A BAN ON ALL STRANGLEHOLDS, CHOKEHOLDS,
AND KNEEHOLDS BY THE KCPD BECAUSE _____**

Breathing is a human right

**BOARD OF POLICE
COMMISSIONERS**

**1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106**

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

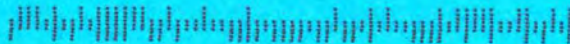
SINCERELY,

Emma

from

Belton

64106-262325



KANSAS CITY 64106

14 JUL 2020 PM 6 L

address
THE MAN



Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST COME TO AN END!

I DEMAND A BAN ON ALL STRANGLEHOLDS, CHOKEHOLDS, AND KNEEHOLDS BY THE KCPD BECAUSE Choke = Bad

Breathing = good

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Noah

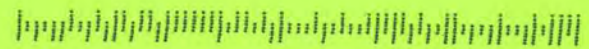
from

Belton

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

**1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106**

64106-268799



KANSAS CITY 640

27 JUL 2020 PM 3 L



address
THE MAN

Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST COME TO AN END!

I DEMAND A BAN ON ALL STRANGLEHOLDS, CHOKEHOLDS, KNEEHOLDS AND CAROTID CONTROL HOLDS (LVNR)

BY THE KCPD BECAUSE Our officers are sworn in
to serve & protect. These maneuvers are
being used to harm the people of your jurisdiction.

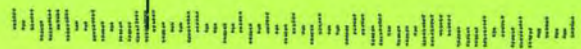
THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

 from KC MO

**BOARD OF POLICE
COMMISSIONERS**
1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106

64106-268793



KANSAS CITY 6410

27 JUL 2020 PM 3:1

address
THE MAN



Dear Board of Police Commissioners,

POLICE BRUTALITY MUST COME TO AN END!

I DEMAND A BAN ON ALL STRANGLEHOLDS, CHOKEHOLDS, KNEEHOLDS AND CAROTID CONTROL HOLDS (LVNR)

BY THE KCPD BECAUSE it is an over-use of power. Police should protect-not take lives. Everyone deserves a fair trial.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Mikala Petillo from KCMO 64110

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

**1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106**

64106-262325

