

Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Sheryl Ferguson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 8:56 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org; Sheryl Ferguson; Farmer, Greg; Cummings, Ian
Subject: Do you even care?

To whom it may concern:

Why would I start a letter this way when we, this Board and myself, are well acquainted with each other? I am addressing you this way because I believe this Board CHOOSES to not be involved or care about anything I have said to you, nor do you care what the citizens impacted by your absence of compassion for human rights has said all year.

In this year of global change I, along with most of Kansas City, have witnessed a bunch of aged people show their privilege and be reminiscent of many entities that have people that hold positions of power over any organization but merely are gatekeepers that refuse to adapt to what is needed in society today.

This year has been a horrible reenactment of Danny Rubin's 1993 film starring Bill Murray, Groundhog Day. Every month I have seen this board have the heart to question some of the actions or agendas of the police, but then lose all conviction and monkey stamp to pass everything they present before you.

This same board was complicit for months as the force you are supposed to be giving direction to violated our constitutional rights. On multiple occasions in my interactions with officers that know who I am, and those that do not, only 1/3 of the time have your officers acted with respect. They have a god-like complex. They believe it is acceptable to talk any kind of way to any citizen is only possible to continue because of the free reign that you give them. Statistic after statistic has been given to you, showing Kansas City high on the grid of abusive and murderous officers. We are too widely known to be a bad apple for this board to just ignore issues.

I previously wrote to you about needing a mother. You have ignored that the officers are acting like spoiled children, And any GOOD parent realizes to make your child a better person you cannot give in to everyone of your children's bad behavior, but you are still allowing this Chief to pay the worst of your officers their regular paychecks when policy says not to.

Way to waste the taxpayers money.

I will close this months comment to you with your own mission, pulled from your website:

The Board of Police Commissioners is responsible for providing police service to the residents of Kansas City, MO, as mandated by Missouri statute. The governor, with the consent of the state Senate, appoints four Kansas City residents to serve on the board. These commissioners serve four-year terms, with one member's term expiring each year. The fifth member of the board is the mayor of Kansas City. The secretary/attorney of the board is appointed by the commissioners and acts as legal consultant.

You are to provide in every thought and in every action is this best for the RESIDENTS of this city..... The PEOPLE that you have ignored.

Angrily,

Sheryl Ferguson

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:25 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: St. Mary's Episcopal Church demands KCPD be fundamentally changed.
Attachments: 201129 SJM Final2 KCMO PD article.pdf; 201129 SJM Final2 civ dis article.pdf

From: Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church.
Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair. Phone: [REDACTED]; Email:
[REDACTED]

To: Board of Police Commissioners of Kansas City, Missouri

The Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, Missouri(SJM), believes that the Police Department of Kansas City, Missouri, is a failed institution that needs to be fundamentally transformed and recreated but not defunded.

Attached to this email are two statements by the SJM that set forth details of the racial discrimination against KC's Black citizens and protesters engaged in constitutional non-violent civil disobedience.

The first statement lists fundamental changes the SJM believes must be made to the KCPD if systemic racism, killings, and violent actions by its officers are to be eliminated.

The second statement lists changes that must be made to insure non-violent civil disobedience rights guaranteed by the First Amendment are protected. In order to begin ending systemic racism and violence by the KCPD, the Board of Police Commissioner must take all possible actions to put into law and policy the changes listed in the statements.

The Baptismal Covenant of our church requires that we "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being". Your duty and that of the KCPD is to join with all of KC to achieve that justice, peace, and respect.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair, Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Phone: [REDACTED]; Email: [REDACTED]

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11/29/20.

Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City.

Title: Change in Policing Required for Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department.

Statement:

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department (KCPD) has failed to control violent crime in the city, and the KCPD has unconscionably discriminated against Black American citizens of Kansas City. The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City Missouri demands changes in the KCPD to eliminate the systemic racism and failed policing policies in the KCPD that are major causes of excessive crime and racial discrimination in Kansas City. Those changes mean that the KCPD will be fundamentally transformed and recreated but not defunded.

Because of the violence and discrimination against them, Black Americans best understand the problems and how they can be eliminated. They need to be leaders of the efforts to overhaul the KCPD. White people must support and join them but not act like they know best.

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

The policies and procedures of the KCPD, and indeed its institutional culture, must be significantly reformed and recreated. It is not a question of making some reforms around the edges.

In fact, the efforts at reform made after Rodney King's beating, the efforts after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO, and efforts in other cities have failed to reduce police violence against Black Americans. Kansas City is still confronted with too many killings, injuries, and too much discrimination by the police.

Body cameras and diversity training are helpful but do not get to the root causes of police violence against Black Americans. Fundamental change is the only answer.

The Kansas City Star (06/02/20) made several good suggestions for fundamental changes for the KCPD. These included three the SJM believes KC Blacks and other citizens support and will produce visible, beneficial results:

- Create a citizens' review board. The board will handle complaints against officers. The board must be independent and not controlled by the Board of Police Commissioners, the City Council, the KCPD, or prosecutors. The review 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

St. Mary's Social Justice Ministry, Statement 11/29/20:

penalties on officers who use excessive force or discriminate against Black Americans or any others.

- Demilitarize the police. The KCPD has obtained and used too much military equipment that makes it look and act like an occupying army and not a protective police force. This creates distrust in the police. There was absolutely no reason for KC police to be dressed in full military riot gear when they confronted and attacked peaceful and helpless persons protesting about the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. The KCPD must be demilitarized
- 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. The City Council, the existing Board of Police Commissioners, and all of KC must get the legislature to give control to the City Council.

More generally, there are other principles and policies for achieving fundamental transformation of the KCPD that should be adopted by the KC City Council or the Board of Police Commissioners:

- 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 emergencies and problems - domestic violence, drug use and related crimes, homelessness, mental and physical health emergencies, minor traffic offenses. Leave those problems to social workers, health care professionals, and other agencies. Police are not adequately trained or needed to deal with these problems.
- 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). Obviously, KC is over-policed, and millions can be cut from the budget. Use those huge savings for public housing, education, medical and mental health care, and job security to begin to deal with the root causes of the huge inequalities and violent crime in KC.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Social Justice Ministry,
Email: [REDACTED]; Phone: [REDACTED].

11/29/20

Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City.

Title: Kansas City Police Violence Against Constitutional Non-Violent Civil Disobedience.

Statement:

The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, Missouri, supports the non-violent protesters in Kansas City, Portland, Kenosha, Minneapolis, and elsewhere who are protesting about the unconscionable murders and shootings by police of Black persons.

Those murders and shootings are another horrendous example of decades of police brutality and discrimination against Black Americans. Too many Black Americans in Kansas City have been innocent victims of such brutality and unconstitutional acts of violence by the police.

Based on their past acts of violence against Black Americans, it is no surprise that KC police failed miserably in how they handled the protests about the murder of George Floyd.

There was a failure of leadership when Chief Rick Smith had no comment on the officer who killed George Floyd. For two days, he said nothing about protests in Kansas City. Instead the Chief sent a public relations officer out to speak. (Melinda Henneberger, KC Star 6/2/20). Police fired tear gas, rubber bullets, and pepper spray at non-violent protesters exercising their constitutional right to protest and declared unnecessary assemblies as a pretext to use force. At one point, they incorrectly tried to blame the violence on non-resident agitators. (KC Star 6/3/20).

Non-violent acts of civil disobedience are a necessary response to the systemic racism in the KCPD and our city. Such protests will be disruptive, but must be allowed in order for Black Americans to obtain their basic rights that have been cruelly denied for far too long. If there are persons destroying property or attacking others, the police can deal with them, but at the same time police must not disrupt or attack the non-violent protesters exercising their First Amendment rights. Unfortunately, the police have not been trained how to protect the good and arrest the bad.

White people will bear most of the costs and inconveniences of non-violent civil disobedience; however, it was white people who created the system that caused Black Americans to be murdered, injured, and discriminated against.

Under these conditions, the basic rights lost by Black Americans are of far greater value than the costs for white people caused by the acts of non-violent civil disobedience; therefore, the greatest good-for-all causes costs of the non-violent acts of civil disobedience to be borne by the creators of the system.

St. Mary's Social Justice Ministry, Statement 11/29/20:

Confronting the police, ignoring a curfew time, blocking and marching in a street or sidewalk, blocking a police car, or blocking a business or a governmental facility entrance are examples of non-violent acts of civil disobedience that must be considered non-criminal and constitutionally protected when done to obtain Black Americans' basic human rights. Police must not have the power to arrest, remove or intimidate protesters engaging in those non-violent actions.

Whites created a system designed to control and exclude Blacks. Then, with all the power, whites created a police force that protected whites' property interests. The result was a cruel and flawed policing system that is a major cause of our sad state of affairs. As stated above, whites must bear the cost of ridding our county of that blight.

Strikes, pickets, and refusals to work are other forms of non-violent civil disobedience that are very effective. A wise person said it best: the one thing they cannot do is make us work. To be successful, such non-violent civil disobedience by Black Americans and others to end police violence and discrimination against Blacks must be supported by and participated in by those with power and privilege (white people).

Non-violent civil disobedience does cause significant disruption; but with any great change, the pain and disruption will be rewarded with great gains.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair Social Justice Ministry, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Email: [REDACTED]; Phone: [REDACTED].

Ruoff, Bethany N

From: D P [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 1:01 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: December 8th, 2020 Meeting

The intentional closure of the public's access to the BOPC meeting during the month of December is nothing more than the silencing of the public's right to confront members of the commission that have continued to fail to listen to the public in the out of control police department. The BOPC is the headmaster of the Blue Gang called KCPD, that violates its own policies on a daily basis.

The repeated calls for the termination of Chief Rick Smith has fallen on deaf ears and has only set the department up for Federal Investigation for RICO and Constitutional Rights Violations. KCPD is the most corrupt department second to the Chicago Police Department and citizens of this city will prevail in its fight to hold those Blue Gang Criminals accountable for thousands of dollars in lost wages, and false arrest and imprisonment of innocent citizens in the exercise of their constitutional rights.

I have been intentionally harassed by KCPD officers for the past 7 years because officers are totally ignorant to the city codes they are sworn to enforce, followed by a weak BOPC that bows to the KCFOP. Every member of the BOPC is an accessory to the continued violation of my constitutional rights. People have the right to be left alone and not unduly harassed by KCPD Officers, something the BOPC has ignored for years.

I have lived in KC my entire life and have seen the KCPD turn into nothing more than an organized crime syndicate, employing felons as officers and officers with more mental health issues than most citizens.

I have a major story that needs to be told and it will be told to the Department of Justice and my desire to see this entire department be sent to prison.

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Can'teven Withyou [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2020 5:50 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: back the blue

FUCK YOU GUYS. THE ONLY GOOD COP IS A DEAD COP. you're domestic terrorists, tax thieves, criminals and rats. Your day of judgement will come and your filthy badge won't save you

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Maira Orrego [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2020 12:19 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: pigs and traitors

I've seen so many of my family and friends being terrorized for no reason at the hands of 12, I've seen my female friends antagonized and humiliated after reporting a tape case by the police officer in question. Of all the criminal activities that have occurred to me, the pigs have been completely unhelpful. Defund you guys for sure, cuz it's not like you're doing anything useful with that money besides spending it on weapons of war to use against citizens. What is the point of you? Just let the KC Star do the investigating because all of you are pointless tax money sucks. why don't you back THAT?

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: AX KC [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2020 12:15 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: comments and concerns

I'll be watching that live stream on the 8th, don't you doubt it. You'll probably talk about nothing important at all, and will refuse to ACTUALLY address the systemic racism at the root of your institution. Reforming police won't be enough. Defunding won't be enough. Y'all need real fucking training. It took me 3 years to get my certification to work in hair, skin, and nails. what kind of podunk education are you getting at the academy? Because from what i've been seeing, and the terrible performance and complete inability to ACTUALLY do your job, the police d Academy shouldn't be accredited. Look inside yourselves and realize you're part of a fascist organization. See y'all in hell.

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: December Mori [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2020 12:09 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: maybe you'll have the guts

I hope you read these messages and see that the people are not happy. you've murdered innocent black people, and because i had the "audacity" to try to defend a girl being terrorized by a PIG, he beat me and nearly killed me. I have permanent damage, but there's no justice for the poor, never will be. Every single one of you is a class traitor pig. there are NO "good cops"

You are all complicit in white supremacy. And for self-serving black and brown folk and women, don't forget that you'll NEVER be seen as an equal part of their despicable "club." They'll throw you under the bus faster than you can say "fits the description".

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Gabriela Orrego [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 28, 2020 1:16 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: war criminals

I find it funny how scared you little piggies get when you hear the phrase “defund the police.” I imagine it’s because you realize how programs like WIC, SNAP, social security and TANF function when they’re not properly funded. You fear that you’ll no longer receive tanks and other military-grade weapons to terrorize the communities you swore and oath to PROTECT and SERVE. You work for the people, NOT the other way around. And right now, we the people, the ones who pay your salary, are not happy with your job performance.

I can see why it’s not open to the public; you punks are cowards who are supposed to be out there facing “bad guys” (code for unarmed black/brown man), but are too scared to face your true bosses and be held to account. You’re all murderers, and accomplices to murder. I hope the people in y’all’s life distance themselves before it’s too late for them. CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If an email is suspicious, Please contact the helpdesk.

Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Forest Tyson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 27, 2020 9:13 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

I demand that you use the governing power of your respective bodies to immediately open these contract negotiations to the public. I further demand that you allow the people of Kansas City--not the FOP, which is a separate entity and does not represent us--to be the ones at the negotiating table for these contracts, beginning with the next contract cycle in January 2021.

KCPD policy should be defined by the people they are sworn to protect, not a third party with no public accountability. I expect you to take immediate action to limit the power of the FOP and open public safety contract negotiations to the public.

Sincerely,

Forest Tyson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Lensa Feyissa -Rozelle [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:29 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: For public comment

One of the many reasons why Chief Rick Smith needs to be fired is having a Chief that keeps killer cops on the payroll and protects them is wrong.

You work for us. We employ and our money shouldn't support those who kill innocent black men.

Tax paying citizen

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Rakisha Cravens [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 22, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Smith, Greg R; Byrd, Patrick W; bopc@kcpd.org; Jones, Richard D; info@kcpdff.org; Smith, Brenae
Subject: Sorry for your loss-Fire Captain Robert Rocha, inviting you all to church, thank you for being my rescue service and allowing me to leave an abusive marriage, happily divorced!

Sorry for your loss, sending our condolences to the family of Captain Robert Rocha and expressing our deepest sympathy.

Pastor James H. Cravens and Co-Pastor Cynthia M. Cravens & Minister Moses W. Brown

Our Deepest Sympathy

The Word Ministry's Church

Inviting you all to church; thank you for your service-

Remote Service

1-475-441-8743

PIN 394-221-403#

Minister Moses W. Brown

Pastor James H. Cravens

Co Pastor Cynthia M. Cravens aka Bunchy

Thank you,

Survivor of Domestic Violence (Rakisha J. Cravens)church secretary

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Rakisha Cravens [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 22, 2020 9:57 AM
To: KCPD Chiefs Blog; bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Inviting you all to church; Minister Moses W. Brown (The late Rev W.D. Brown of Spruce St. Mathews-Children) thank you for your service-Focusing on Theory, the sure and steady doctrine of scriptures 1Timothy 1:3

**Inviting you all to church; thank you for your service-
Remote Service
1-475-441-8743
PIN 394-221-403#**

Minister Moses W. Brown
Pastor James H. Cravens
Co Pastor Cynthia M. Cravens aka Bunchy

Thank you,
Survivor of Domestic Violence (Rakisha J. Cravens)

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Rakisha Cravens [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 6:35 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Fwd: THANK AN OFFICER!!!! OFFICER MARCUS NELSON

BOPC@kcpd.org

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

From: Rakisha Cravens <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2020 at 6:29 AM
Subject: THANK AN OFFICER!!!! OFFICER MARCUS NELSON
To: <thankanofficer@kcpd.org>

Good morning, I would like to thank Officer Marcus Nelson. I was doing my walk/run one evening and I wasn't properly hydrated. I was catching muscle cramps in both my legs and Officer Marcus Nelson saw from a distance that I was injured and immediately when I tried making it back to my apartment. He was able to assess my injuries and assisted by safely saying that I wasn't hydrated and that I needed potassium. He was correct. Embarrassed and all. He was like, Yeah, you might want to head back home and take care of that. I can't thank him enough because if I would have tried to continue that I'd be out for months and I refuse to give up on becoming 100% whole. I am a survivor of Domestic Violence and North Oak Crossings is my safe place. I was in an abusive marriage for 7 1/2 years. I am Native American and because of colorism, it is the perception that I'm "mental." I don't dwell there. I want to thank the entire staff, the legal team, everyone that works for the KCPD. Thank you! Because of you and because of my will to live, I never gave up. I was able to sneak out of my home after being beat and kept as a slave, an indentured servant. I am able to continue to do what I love which is walk and run. My ex husband moving me to District 1 and me keeping the abuse secret from my family because of pride and humiliation all at the same time still aren't aware and I don't care at this point how and what their opinion is of me. In sickness and in health, my ex husband was cruel and abusive in all manners. I am attending Harvard University, their extended learning classes to become a judge, this is my 3rd year. I am a computer aided drafter and I've completed the Building Information Modeling Class for Autodesk University.

Moving forward.

My goal is to shed a light on things like Police Brutality and I want the Police to understand that they do have rights! This last 2 instances, there is a singer on youtube, the songstress that has inmates from KCMO that raps a song that states to cause injury and to be really extra to gain money from the state/police. There are a lot of laws that protect in regards to releasing media, which legally isn't allowed. All in all, it is about the Tier 1, 2, 3 and 4, the money that is allocated for the Police Department which isn't monopolized and that is why there are so many lawsuits against the police. That money when it isn't allocated, on the I-9 form, which goes to the retirement/pension plans just rolls over to the DOJ. The Union laws protects the police, individuals like Stacy Shaw, has misinterpreted the laws. I'm hoping that the police and the commissioner and their legal team fights back and holds court in judges chambers because they do not have to step down when they are the victims, (the Police Officers) all that is legally required is additional training. The mother that claims police brutality is an alleged follower and just taking it for the empty promise, now the police lawyers could say that that mother put her unborn child in harms way because of what is considered a human/fetus because the laws changed in regards to womens rights and legally she isn't allowed to raise money either from her gofund me page as well. I'm hoping that the lawyers that work with the Police understand that Missouri laws protect them also california vs and new york vs as well. They are my heros and they need to bring there A game. Also, in regards

to individuals voicing their opinion, yes they have freedom of speech, hate rhetoric there is a law for that. It is time for the police department to be really petty and back these disrespectful citizens down legally. The loophole of the workmans compensation form has been the first steps to receive a settlement from the police departments. There are laws that shut that down. Misinterpretation of the law is unacceptable. I value the police and the entire staff. Because of the pandemic, legally, the police does not have to lay anyone off either. It is called a hiring freeze. Also there are funds available for every police officer because of the pandemic, covid-19 on [SEC.GOV](https://www.sec.gov), they just need to select anything in the search within the archives section or the new funds and they have to select the maximum and the funds will be deposited within 3 calendars that way the officers can receive pay and it just has to be written off as a charitable contribution and they have to file the taxes quarterly as an emergency fund. Keep up the great work. BTW..i didnt care what i had to say to escape domestic violence and dont care what my family thinks of me. I will never look back.....move forward.
LOVE ALWAYS.
Rakisha J. Cravens

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Dobson, Catherine [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 5:53 PM
To: Ruoff, Bethany N
Subject: Police Board Oversight?

This message is not actually addressed to the Police Board, but the Board is being copied as an "honorable mention" toward the end--the "usual" activity the Board is known and noted for.

I know that you're not on the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator Blunt, but Josh Hawley is my Senator, and even though I did finally manage to obtain an email address for Senator Hawley, it is obvious that no one in his office reads communications from his constituents because he spits back a response almost before an email can move between the Drafts folder and the Sent items box. I'm writing to express my dismay about the waste of taxpayer dollars and the Senate time being spent by the Judiciary Committee this week I guess regarding both Freedom of the Press and Freedom of Speech. Sure, Trumpty Dumpty and his merry band of Trump-la-dytes is free to express any fool thing they wish--such as the prevalence of election fraud, insignificance of the coronavirus, etc., much as you Republican Senatos do all the time, again, with the tax meter running. And the Press is perfectly free to call this what it is--the deepest and most putrid pile of cow dung in the barnyard. You got a problem with that? Reminds me of a certain Missouri Governor--goes by the name of Parsons--who continues to hoard and will not release CARES Act Covid Relief funding because I guess he hasn't yet figured out which of his many friends to funnel those millions of dollars to. Should it go to "Liquor at the Lake", "Death in a Duck Boat", "Incarceration 'R Us", or the "Let Them Eat Jim Crow Festival and Cakewalk?" And then, on the local level, we have the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners--they've got a Parsons's connections themselves--and they think the way to remedy, I guess, all problems that may exist on the KCPD in these violent and socially challenging times is to get rid of Black Female detectives on the force, or demote them and to refuse to offer to them or extend the same umbrella of FOP protection afforded to their white male counterparts. My, it's been a busy news day. What in the world is up with you people? Shorts in a wad?

Sincerely,
Catherine M Dobson
Lexington, Mo

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Hazel Downey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 12:37 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org; MayorQ@kcmo.org
Subject: Justice for Donnie Sanders & Defund KCPD

Mayor Quinton Lucas & Board of Police Commissioners,

I am Hazel Downey, I am a 7th grader at Citizens of the World Kansas City, a resident of Kansas City, MO, and I am scared if things stay like this, that my friends will die. So I'm writing for two reasons:

1. To demand justice for Donnie Sanders, who was killed by KCPD on March 13, 2020. Release the names of his killer(s) and bring them to justice.
2. To demand cutting the budget for KCPD and begin immediately working for an ethical reallocation of funding towards social services in underserved communities.

Years of law enforcement officials escalating violence, the recent response to the protests for the death of George Floyd, and the deaths of Donnie Sanders, Ryan Stokes, Cameron Lamb (and many others) have shown that police are ill-equipped to handle the needs of this city. We must, instead, invest in underserved communities of color. Some options may be increasing funding for community-based initiatives like affordable housing, healthcare, employment, education, after school programs, and counseling. Most importantly, ask the members of our most underserved communities to find out their greatest needs.

We must move our attention and fund away from policing and toward sustainable, long-term solutions that work for all of our citizens. We must get justice for the innocent lives lost at the hands of the KCPD.

Sincerely,
Hazel Downey

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: john martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 11:35 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: God bless ya! No malarkey!

Hi folks, how do you feel about community policing? It seems to make sense, and avoid conflicts. Be our friends and neighbors. Help each other together?

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: E.L. Darling [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 11:04 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: St. Mary's Episcopal Church Demands KCPD Be Fundamentally Changed
Attachments: CivilDisobedience.pdf; KCPD.pdf

From: Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church.
Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair
Phone: [REDACTED]; Email: [REDACTED].

To: Board of Police Commissioners of Kansas City, Missouri

Fundamentally Change Kansas City Police Department.

The Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, Missouri (SJM), believes that the Police Department of Kansas City, Missouri, is a failed institution that needs to be fundamentally transformed and recreated but not defunded.

Attached to this email are two statements by the SJM that set forth details of the racial discrimination against KC's Black citizens and protesters engaged in constitutional non-violent civil disobedience.

The first statement lists fundamental changes the SJM believes must be made to the KCPD if systemic racism, killings, and violent actions by its officers are to be eliminated.

The second statement lists changes that must be made to insure non-violent civil disobedience rights guaranteed by the First Amendment are protected.

In order to begin ending systemic racism and violence by the KCPD, the Board of Police Commissioner must take all possible actions to put into law and policy the changes listed in the statements.

The Baptismal Covenant of our church requires that we "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being". Your duty and that of the KCPD is to join with all of KC to achieve that justice, peace, and respect.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair, Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Phone: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

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10/28/20

Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City.

Title: Kansas City Police Violence Against Constitutional Non-Violent Civil Disobedience.

Statement:

The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City, Missouri, supports the non-violent protesters in Kansas City, Portland, Kenosha, Minneapolis, and elsewhere who are protesting about the unconscionable murders and shootings by police of Black persons.

Those murders and shootings are another horrendous example of decades of police brutality and discrimination against Black Americans. Too many Black Americans in Kansas City have been innocent victims of such brutality and unconstitutional acts of violence by the police.

Based on their past acts of violence against Black Americans, it is no surprise that KC police failed miserably in how they handled the protests about the murder of George Floyd.

There was a failure of leadership when Chief Rick Smith had no comment on the officer who killed George Floyd. For two days, he said nothing about protests in Kansas City. Instead the Chief sent a public relations officer out to speak. (Melinda Henneberger, KC Star 6/2/20). Police fired tear gas, rubber bullets, and pepper spray at non-violent protesters exercising their constitutional right to protest and declared unnecessary assemblies as a pretext to use force. At one point, they incorrectly tried to blame the violence on non-resident agitators. (KC Star 6/3/20).

Non-violent acts of civil disobedience are a necessary response to the systemic racism in the KCPD and our city. Such protests will be disruptive, but must be allowed in order for Black Americans to obtain their basic rights that have been cruelly denied for far too long. If there are persons destroying property or attacking others, the police can deal with them, but at the same time police must not disrupt or attack the non-violent protesters exercising their First Amendment rights. Unfortunately, the police have not been trained how to protect the good and arrest the bad.

White people will bear most of the costs and inconveniences of non-violent civil disobedience; however, it was white people who created the system that caused Black Americans to be murdered, injured, and discriminated against.

Under these conditions, the basic rights lost by Black Americans are of far greater value than the costs for white people caused by the acts of non-violent civil disobedience; therefore, the greatest good-for-all causes costs of the non-violent acts of civil disobedience to be borne by the creators of the system.

St. Mary's Social Justice Ministry, Statement 10/28/20:

Confronting the police, ignoring a curfew time, blocking and marching in a street or sidewalk, blocking a police car, or blocking a business or a governmental facility entrance are examples of non-violent acts of civil disobedience that must be considered non-criminal and constitutionally protected when done to obtain Black Americans' basic human rights. Police must not have the power to arrest, remove or intimidate protesters engaging in those non-violent actions.

Whites created a system designed to control and exclude Blacks. Then, with all the power, whites created a police force that protected whites' property interests. The result was a cruel and flawed policing system that is a major cause of our sad state of affairs. As stated above, whites must bear the cost of ridding our county of that blight.

Strikes, pickets, and refusals to work are other forms of non-violent civil disobedience that are very effective. A wise person said it best: the one thing they cannot do is make us work. To be successful, such non-violent civil disobedience by Black Americans and others to end police violence and discrimination against Blacks must be supported by and participated in by those with power and privilege (white people).

Non-violent civil disobedience does cause significant disruption; but with any great change, the pain and disruption will be rewarded with great gains.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair Social Justice Ministry, St. Mary's Episcopal Church,
Email: [REDACTED]; Phone: [REDACTED]

10/28/20.

Social Justice Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City.

Title: Change in Policing Required for Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department._

Statement:

The Kansas City Missouri Police Department (KCPD) has failed to control violent crime in the city, and the KCPD has unconscionably discriminated against Black American citizens of Kansas City. The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Kansas City Missouri demands changes in the KCPD to eliminate the systemic racism and failed policing policies in the KCPD that are major causes of excessive crime and racial discrimination in Kansas City. Those changes mean that the KCPD will be fundamentally transformed and recreated but not defunded.

Because of the violence and discrimination against them, Black Americans best understand the problems and how they can be eliminated. They need to be leaders of the efforts to overhaul the KCPD. White people must support and join them but not act like they know best.

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

The policies and procedures of the KCPD, and indeed its institutional culture, must be significantly reformed and recreated. It is not a question of making some reforms around the edges.

In fact, the efforts at reform made after Rodney King's beating, the efforts after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO, and efforts in other cities have failed to reduce police violence against Black Americans. Kansas City is still confronted with too many killings, injuries, and too much discrimination by the police.

Body cameras and diversity training are helpful but do not get to the root causes of police violence against Black Americans. Fundamental change is the only answer.

The Kansas City Star (06/02/20) made several good suggestions for fundamental changes for the KCPD. These included three the SJM believes KC Blacks and other citizens support and will produce visible, beneficial results:

- Create a citizens' review board. The board will handle complaints against officers. The board must be independent and not controlled by the Board of Police Commissioners, the City Council, the KCPD, or prosecutors. The review 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

St. Mary's Social Justice Ministry, Statement 10/28/20:

penalties on officers who use excessive force or discriminate against Black Americans or any others.

- Demilitarize the police. The KCPD has obtained and used too much military equipment that makes it look and act like an occupying army and not a protective police force. This creates distrust in the police. There was absolutely no reason for KC police to be dressed in full military riot gear when they confronted and attacked peaceful and helpless persons protesting about the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. The KCPD must be demilitarized
- 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. The City Council, the existing Board of Police Commissioners, and all of KC must get the legislature to give control to the City Council.

More generally, there are other principles and policies for achieving fundamental transformation of the KCPD that should be adopted by the KC City Council or the Board of Police Commissioners:

- 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 emergencies and problems - domestic violence, drug use and related crimes, homelessness, mental and physical health emergencies, minor traffic offenses. Leave those problems to social workers, health care professionals, and other agencies. Police are not adequately trained or needed to deal with these problems.
- 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). Obviously, KC is over-policed, and millions can be cut from the budget. Use those huge savings for public housing, education, medical and mental health care, and job security to begin to deal with the root causes of the huge inequalities and violent crime in KC.

Contact: John M. Simpson, Chair St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Social Justice Ministry,
Email: [REDACTED]; Phone: [REDACTED]

Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Lensa Feyissa-Rozelle [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 1:08 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

I demand that you use the governing power of your respective bodies to immediately open these contract negotiations to the public. I further demand that you allow the people of Kansas City--not the FOP, which is a separate entity and does not represent us--to be the ones at the negotiating table for these contracts, beginning with the next contract cycle in January 2021.

KCPD policy should be defined by the people they are sworn to protect, not a third party with no public accountability. I expect you to take immediate action to limit the power of the FOP and open public safety contract negotiations to the public.

Sincerely,

Lensa Feyissa-Rozelle
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Anna Stelmach [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 12:31 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

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Sincerely,

Anna Stelmach
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Barbara Gillard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:53 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Kansas Citians pay for this! But we are kept completely in the dark

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

Did you know that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

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Sincerely,

Barbara Gillard

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Barbara Gillard

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Ruth Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:16 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

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KCPD policy should be defined by the people they are sworn to protect, not a third party with no public accountability. I expect you to take immediate action to limit the power of the FOP and open public safety contract negotiations to the public.

Sincerely,

Ruth Wilson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Michelle Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:02 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

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KCPD policy should be defined by the people they are sworn to protect, not a third party with no public accountability. I expect you to take immediate action to limit the power of the FOP and open public safety contract negotiations to the public.

Sincerely,

Michelle Smith

Michelle Smith
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: rachel h [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:31 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Make FOP Contract Negotiations Public

Don wagner,

To the City Council and Board of Police Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the police contracts for the Kansas City Police Department are negotiated by the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, without public input, and that these contracts contain a number of policies that decrease transparency and accountability in our police department. Given the demands and outcry all summer regarding corruption, lack of transparency, and lack of professionalism from KCPD toward the people of Kansas City, this type of closed system for contract negotiations is absolutely unacceptable.

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KCPD policy should be defined by the people they are sworn to protect, not a third party with no public accountability. I expect you to take immediate action to limit the power of the FOP and open public safety contract negotiations to the public.

Sincerely,

rachel h

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Lensa Feyissa -Rozelle [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 6:03 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: For public comment

Fire Chief Rick Smith for lack of accountability in the police department he is running. Corruption and cover up runs rampant in this police department and it is unacceptable. Tax payers are paying for the police to brutalize them. In which Universe is this even right. Stop your racism and hate. Black people in particular need to have respect and their life matter. We will not relent. We will not go away.

Concerned citizen

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Jami Bailey [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 12:28 PM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: Terrorists Threats

WHY are we constantly allowing these groups to threaten our BOPC, Police Chief, Police officers, and their families!?!?
This needs to stop!!

These people need to pay for their threats!! The Black Panthers are terrorists! What they are doing is ILLEGAL! Get the feds involved or something and put a stop to these idiots!!

Jami Bailey

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Ruoff, Bethany N

From: Jalisa Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 10:15 AM
To: bopc@kcpd.org
Subject: For public comment: Fire Richard Smith

Rick Smith joined kcpd in 1988. Now you would think that someone who began the force the year I was born would know and follow the rules set forth for such job. Not only does Richard Smith allow his officers to violate the mask mandate put in place for Kansas City daily; he continues to act in reckless regard for the public. This is a direct violation of Missouri statute 84.490 section 2. He employs officers like sergeant Matthew Neal who was indicted on felony assault of a minor for knocking a 15year old's teeth out last November. Officer Dylan Pifer helped him; yup the same Dylan Pifer who murdered the innocent, unarmed Terrence Bridges in May 2019. Then we have Officer William Thompson who this department failed to hold accountable for the murder of Ryan Stokes in July 2013. Then they retaliated against officer Daniel Straub for his honesty in reporting that Ryan was unarmed. For the fourth instance of reckless regard, Blayne Newton killed Donnie Sanders in March 2020, who was yet again unarmed. Newton remains on the force due to their obvious failure to investigate because again in August the same officer recklessly threw a 9 month pregnant mother on her belly and put a knee in her back. Newton has beaten Troy Robertson numerous times. and somehow in this department, 1/3 of complaints are investigated and only 3%

are sustained. This is the same department that allowed one of its officers to compromise the 10years long cold case of Kara Kopetsky by sleeping with a witness. Jean Peters Baker is even disgusted by this demonic culture of bias and brutality that has persisted over the years and peaked in the last 3 years since Smith was appointed. Lucas keeps crying about this reform project that in no way focuses on prevention. You can't eat lunch with kids and then later go arrest them at the mall; especially when nothing is being done about the fact that only 22% of students meet the college readiness benchmarks. Somehow FOP leader Brad Lemon thinks violating the law in reckless regard is acceptable behavior for officers who are supposed to protect the public. This Kansas City is exactly why people can't trust this system. Shut it down!

Jalisa Davis

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KANSAS CITY 640

16 NOV 2020 PM 6 L

address
THE MAN

2019
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,
KNEEHOLDS AND CAROTID CONTROL HOLDS (LVNR)**

BY THE KCPD BECAUSE risking lives is not your job.

*In solidarity w/ protesters, terminate Rick Smith
& divert 50% KCPD budget in life affirming
institutions. Kneeling on a pregnant woman is not justice.*

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

EMMA

KC
16 NOV 2020 PM 6 L

**BOARD OF POLICE
COMMISSIONERS**

**1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106**

**I CAN'T
BREATHE**

KANSAS CITY 640

16 NOV 2020 PM 2 L

address
THE MAN

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,
KNEEHOLDS AND CAROTID CONTROL HOLDS (LVNR)**

BY THE KCPD BECAUSE KCPD officers are using

them - even on pregnant women!

The whole country is looking at us!

We can do better.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION.

SINCERELY,

Heather

from *HC*

**BOARD OF POLICE
COMMISSIONERS**

**1125 LOCUST STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106**

84106-286759

**ICAN'T
BREATHE**