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Dear Neighbor,

Please scroll down and read today's Weekly Update about the legislative proposals aimed at reducing violent crime (including three proposals I have co-sponsored) that will be considered by House committees Monday.

I am hopeful that some of these proposals, particularly the bill I co-sponsored to establish a long-overdue witness protection program in Missouri, will put a damper on our skyrocketing number of homicides in KCMO.

As of yesterday, KCMO had recorded 124 homicides this year, including 16 in South Patrol. This is 8 more homicides in the city than reported in last week's Capitol Report and 14 more than reported in the August 1 Report. It also represents a 50% increase from the average number of homicides in the city by the same date for the last 4 years.

Providing protection to witnesses as the federal government and some

other states have done for years will encourage more people to testify about murders and other violent crimes which will help take violent repeat offenders off the streets so they can't harm move victims.

Also please scroll down for more information about important upcoming local events including a hearing at **6 p.m. Monday, August 17, at the First Baptist Church of Kansas City**, 100 W. Red Bridge Road (on the northwest corner of Red Bridge & Wornall Roads) by representatives of the city's **Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC)**.

The meeting will hear requests to fund neighborhood capital improvement projects such as park amenities, sidewalks, storm drainage improvements and street widening in the 6th Council District which includes almost all of the 36th House District.

Persons may present their requests in person or virtually via ZOOM. They may contact the PIAC staff at PIAC@kcmo.org or 816-513-8828 beforehand to get the ZOOM link or call 312-626-6799 when the meeting starts and enter the conference ID 99993086422 and passcode 327522.

The deadline to submit a PIAC request for the city's 20-21 fiscal year is August 31.

The **Jackson County Health Department** is conducting **free COVID-19 testing** for symptomatic and asymptomatic county residents from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 18, at Metro Christian Fellowship Church**, 2217 High Grove Road, Grandview. Persons should register at <https://form.jotform.com/202245483427151>.

Symptomatic county residents also may call 816-404-CARE to schedule a free test at either of Truman Medical Centers two locations.

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my assistant [Brian Farmer](#) is ready to help you.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and family who might want to know the latest news about what is happening in state government and about important local events. Be safe and God bless!

Yours in Service,

Mark A. Sharp

Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report **Friday, August 14th, 2020**

HOUSE STARTS OVER ON ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

Rather than taking up an omnibus anti-crime bill passed last Friday by the Senate that included all the topics that Governor Mike Parson originally put on the agenda for the current special session of the Missouri General Assembly, the House Republican leadership has scheduled hearings on six different bills (including three I co-sponsored) that individually address the topics on the governor's original agenda.

I favored this approach all along since I quickly learned after taking office in January that omnibus bills often contain measures that I think represent good public policy and other measures that I think represent bad policy, forcing legislators to judge whether the good outweighs the bad or vice versa in determining how to cast their vote.

The three bills I co-sponsored are:

House Bill 2 which provides that if a court finds in a hearing outside the presence of the jury that a defendant engaged in or consented to wrongdoing to prevent a witness from testifying and the witness fails to appear that a written statement from the witness may be admitted into evidence. This will eliminate the incentive for defendants in murder

cases or other extremely serious felonies from trying to have witnesses killed before their cases come to trial or trying to intimidate them into not testifying.

House Bill 16 adds a new provision to the law against unlawful transfer of weapons making it a Class E felony to **knowingly** deliver, give, lend or sell a firearm to someone under 18 without the consent of the recipient's custodial parent or guardian. It is already a Class A misdemeanor to **recklessly** do this, but this legislation stiffens the penalty for those who actually **know** the recipient is under 18 and the custodial parent or guardian has not consented.

House Bill 66 which I consider the most important of all the bills under consideration which would finally establish a long overdue pretrial witness protection program in Missouri which both Mayor Quinton Lucas and I asked the governor to put on the agenda for the special session. As I have said repeatedly, **persons should not have to risk their lives and the safety of their families to be a witness!**

House Bills 2 and 66 will be heard by the House Judiciary Committee at noon Monday, and House Bill 16 will be heard at the same time by the House General Laws Committee.

Other bills that will be heard Monday are:

House Bill 11 to add a provision to the law against endangering the welfare of a child to make it a Class D felony to aid or encourage a child under 17 to commit a weapons offense. This will be heard by the General Laws Committee.

House Bill 46 to repeal the city residency requirement for St. Louis City Metropolitan Police Department employees, but allow a requirement that they live within an hour's drive of the city limits. This will be heard by the Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 12 which raises the minimum age from 12 to 14 when a juvenile can be transferred for prosecution in the adult court system for

commission of an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult. Juvenile court judges now can schedule a hearing to consider such a transfer and approve the transfer to adult court if they rule the juvenile is beyond rehabilitation through the juvenile justice system. Transfer hearings are required for extremely serious offenses such as murder, forcible rape and armed robbery, and this bill adds unlawful use of a weapon and committing a felony through the use of a dangerous instrument or deadly weapon (armed criminal action) to the list of offenses that automatically trigger such a hearing. This will be heard at 2 p.m. Monday by the Special Committee on Criminal Justice.

After the Senate passed the omnibus measure, the House was expected to follow suit on Aug. 12, thus ending the session.

However, Parson's Aug. 10 decision to expand the session's scope to include legislation authorizing the attorney general to prosecute murder cases and any other crimes that were part of the same course of conduct in St. Louis City if requested by the city's chief law enforcement officer and if the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney has not filed charges within 90 days prompted House Republican leaders to hit the reset button.

Parson has been highly critical of St. Louis City Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner, the only elected African-American female prosecutor in Missouri, about increasing violent crime in the city, while ignoring the impact of changes to greatly relax state gun laws that Parson himself championed as a lawmaker.

When House Speaker Elijah Haahr, R-Springfield, referred the new special session House bills to committee on Aug. 12, he excluded the St. Louis prosecutor bill. As a result, it doesn't currently appear the proposal will advance in the House, although it might be amended on to another bill.

Later that day, the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, which represents the state's elected prosecutors, issued a statement opposing the governor's proposal.

“Over the decades, numerous attempts to grant additional original jurisdiction to the Attorney General have been proposed,” the statement said. “When those proposals were fully vetted through the deliberative legislative process of a regular session of the House and Senate, they have been consistently rejected. Our system, which for 145 years has provided for independent local prosecutors, should not be abrogated in the rush of a special session.”

The House is now scheduled to take final votes on the other bills on Aug. 25.

If the House approves the bills, they will still need to clear the Senate, which had to overcome a 12-hour filibuster to advance the omnibus legislation.

ST. LOUIS SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM LOSES CASE

The Missouri Court of Appeals Eastern District on Aug. 11 ruled the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis doesn't enjoy the protection of the state's Hancock Amendment and rejected the system's challenge to a 2017 state law that it contended imposed an unconstitutional unfunded mandate on it.

The retirement system challenged a provision of a bill enacted in 2017 authorizing St. Louis Public Schools educators to become eligible for benefits earlier than previously allowed. Since the legislature didn't provide an appropriation to implement the change, the system argued the bill imposed an unfunded mandate.

One provision of the Missouri Constitution's Hancock Amendment prohibits the General Assembly from imposing unfunded mandates on "counties or other political subdivisions." The amendment defines "other political subdivisions" to include municipalities, schools districts and various other entities "having the power to tax." The retirement system has no authority to levy taxes and instead receives its funding from the St. Louis School District.

“In sum, because the Retirement System does not have the power to tax, it is not an ‘other political subdivision’ within the meaning of Article X, Section 15, and as such, is not entitled to the protections of the Hancock Amendment,” Judge Michael Gardner wrote for the unanimous three-judge appellate panel.

The retirement system, which also lost at the circuit court level, can still appeal to the Missouri Supreme Court.



You're invited to shop our inventory of brand new clothes at this free community event.

AUGUST 15

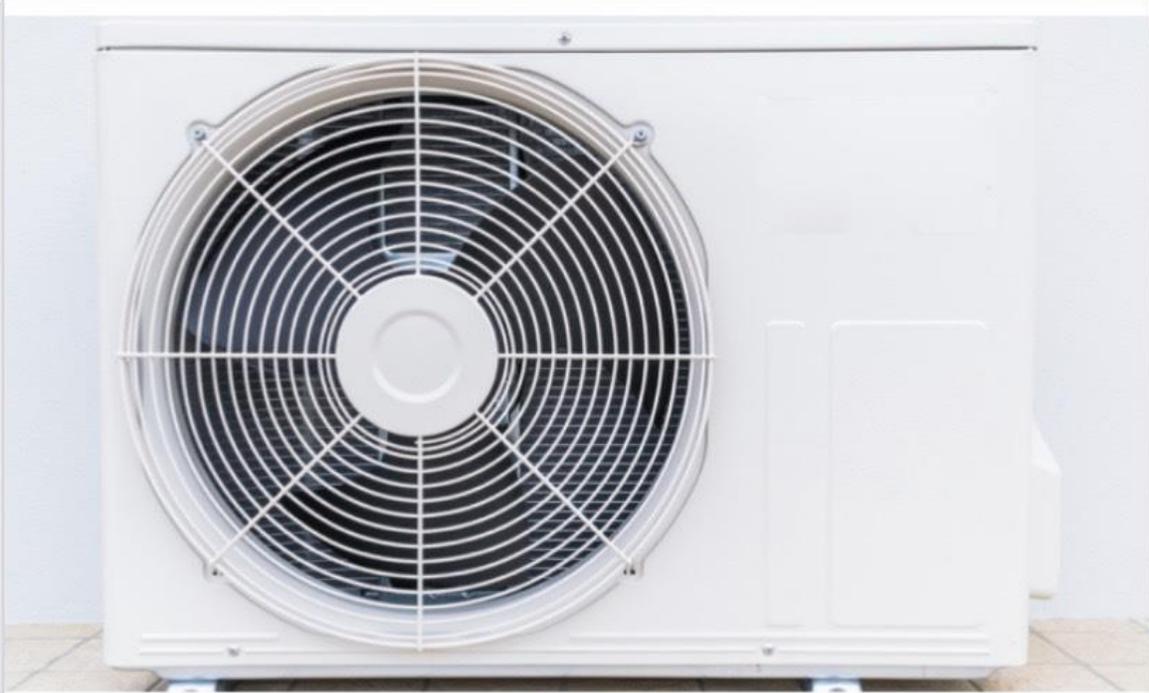
9:00AM - 1:00PM

5600 E 112 Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64134



HEALTHY HOMES

FREE AIR CONDITIONER DISTRIBUTION



**DISTRIBUTING EVERY MONDAY BEGINNING JULY 13TH
THROUGH AUGUST FROM 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Give us a call at 816-358-6868 to see if you meet our eligibility guidelines to receive an air conditioner at no cost to you.

DISTRIBUTION SITE:

6323 Manchester Ave.,
Kansas City, MO 64133

WWW.CAAGKC.ORG

**This program is funded 93% at \$2,520,241.00 with federal funds and 7% at \$174,011.00 with nongovernmental sources for a total amount of \$2,700,252.00. The federal funds



AUGUST 29, 2020 | 8 A.M. - 12 P.M.

LOCATIONS

Southeast High School, 3500 E Meyer Blvd: tires (with or without rims), trash, bulky items, leaf & brush, electronics (see price list)

Center Alternative School, 8434 The Paseo: tires (with or without rims), trash, bulky items,

leaf & brush

2801 E 80th St
Tires (with or without rims), trash, bulky items, leaf & brush

ELECTRONICS PRICE LIST

- CRT monitors \$5/ea
- CRT TVs 26" or less \$30/ea
- CRT TVs 27" or greater \$50/ea

- Wood console & true big screen/projection TVs \$50/ea
- LED/LCD/Plasma TVs \$20/ea
- Any freon containing unity \$10/ea

SPONSORS

Fifth District Council Neighborhood and Housing Services Department

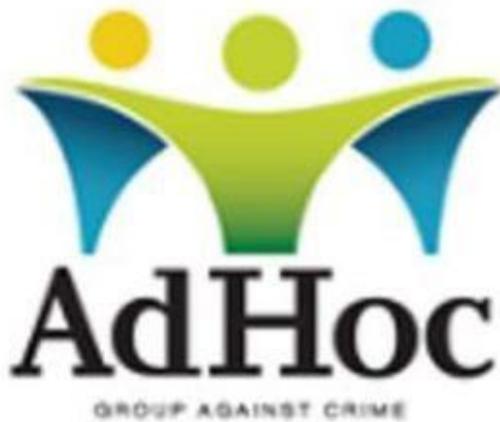


CITY OF
KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

Dumpsters are available upon request, first come first serve basis.
For more information, contact Robert Woods at 816-513-8442



**ALL STAFF WILL BE ABIDING BY
SOCIAL DISTANCING POLICY AND
MASKS SHOULD BE WORN**



[Free Ring Door Bells.](#)

AdHoc is proud to partner with Ring, a company whose mission is to make neighborhoods safer, to support community safety in Kansas City and provide home security devices to local residents in neighborhoods impacted by violence. Together, AdHoc and Ring have launched a program to donate 750 Ring Video Doorbells, including free installation and a Ring Protect Basic subscription for the life of the device, to families and individuals throughout Kansas City. As a result of this donation program, we hope to provide improved security to local residents living in neighborhoods impacted by violence. To learn more about this program and to apply for a donated device, visit the advice website below. <https://www.adhocgroupkc.com>

*Please note that this program is only available for those residents in the Ruskin Heights and Ruskin Hills area.



LEAKSTOPPERS PROGRAM

Bridging the Gap is offering a FREE program called Leakstoppers. In partnership with KC Water, Bridging The Gap is helping income-eligible KCMO households reduce their water consumption and water bills by finding and fixing toilet leaks and installing toilet tank banks, fill cycle diverters, high-efficiency showerheads, and faucet aerators.



News from the
City Communications Office

City of Kansas City, Missouri
kcmo.gov

Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

PIAC Public Hearings

The Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC), in cooperation with the Mayor and City Council, will be holding public hearings across the city. These hearings are being held so that the Committee and Council can hear from citizens about the city's public improvements needs. The PIAC will use information gathered through the hearings to recommend projects for funding to the Council for Year Thirty- Eight (Fiscal Year 2021-22) of the one-cent sales tax for public improvements .

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, PIAC is modifying the public hearing process to include a remote meeting in each district. Two hearings will be held for each district and will include one virtual meeting and one in-person meeting. The PIAC is making a full effort to ensure that all those who wish to participate in the PIAC district hearings are able to do so in a safe manner. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact PIAC@kcmo.org. Each district's PIAC representatives are also available for contact and further information. Additional information about City impacts, help, resources, and more on the City's response to COVID-19 can be found at kcmo.gov/coronavirus.

In addition to coming to the hearings, citizens can also tell PIAC about needed public improvements by completing a PIAC application request form. These forms will be available at the hearings or are available from the Capital Improvements Program by phone: (816) 513-8828 or by e-mail.

The 2020 deadline date to submit a request is August 31.

PIAC District Hearings Schedule

PIAC District Hearings will be held for each district. Meetings will accommodate a virtual option through Zoom and one meeting in each district will accommodate an in-person option. Meetings with an in-

person option are identified in the schedule below. Please note that applicants and community members wishing to participate virtually (speak or show content) should do so through the video conference platform.

District Five – Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

Virtual Meeting with In-Person Option

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Southeast Community Center (gymnasium); 4201 E 63rd St

<https://zoom.us/j/98964150726?pwd=OGxVT1Z1OFc5SzJNFBZUxIWkt1QT09>

Password: 327522

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID – 98964150726

*PIAC representatives for **District Five** are Ruth Turner and Eric Dickinson. City Council members for District Five are Lee Barnes and Ryana Parks-Shaw.*

District Six – Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

District Six– Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearing

Virtual Meeting with In-Person Option

Monday, August 17, 2020

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: First Baptist Church of KC Missouri – 100 W. Red Bridge Rd.

KCMO

64114

<https://zoom.us/j/99993086422?pwd=emVGc0tqZGJ2RGtabmdvNVRraXZXQT09>

Password: 327522

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID –99993086422

*PIAC representatives for **District Six** are Melanie K. Miller and John A. Sharp. City Council members for District Six are Andrea Bough and Kevin McManus.*

Citywide - Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearing

Virtual Meeting

Friday, August 28, 2020

11am- Noon

<https://zoom.us/j/92156907195?pwd=MmFudjEzMW9mUXR4Z0J3UTMrNkJVdz09>

Passcode: 609466

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID –92156907195



August 6, 2020

Families; Neighborhood, School, Community and Faith Leaders:

Please consider forwarding or sharing this information with your families, friends, neighbors, parishioners, members, etc.

Free Virtual Nutrition, Employment and Yoga Classes through CAC in August

Community Assistance Council is offering classes (virtual for

now) to help support individual, family and community wellness and stability. These online classes are open to all (unless noted otherwise); CAC clients are especially encouraged to sign up. Visit our website with all of the class info and registration links. <http://www.cackc.org>

Eating Smart * Being Active

This FREE program is offered through CAC by the University of Missouri Extension Family Nutrition Education Programs. The Interactive online lessons focus on food prep, nutrition and physical activity. Participants receive great information and a certificate at the end. It's not required to "attend" all class but it is helpful. EVERYONE is invited to sign up. Register at www.cackc.org or click [HERE](#) and you will receive a ZOOM link for video or to listen by phone for the class.

Lesson 6: Build Strong Bones - Friday, August 21, 1: to 1:45 pm

- How to get enough calcium from low-fat or nonfat dairy foods or other foods.

Lesson 7: Make a Change/Celebrate! - Friday, August 28, 1: to 1:45 pm

- Pick up tips for limiting fat, sugar and salt.
- Discuss feeding children; celebrate knowledge, skills for making healthy choices.
- Celebrate new learnings!

Virtual Beginner Yoga

- August 25, 1 - 1:30 pm

- For anyone who interested in trying yoga for mental and physical health.
- Online through ZOOM, presented by Megan Feighny, Megan Feighny Yoga + Pilates
- Register at www.cackc.org or click [HERE](#).

Led by a certified yoga instructor. The FREE class introduces the history of yoga, fundamental principles of alignment, and breath work. This class is for anyone seeking an introductory or gentle yoga class that goes slow and offers clear teachings of the mechanics of the primary poses, providing modifications, and teaches the how and why of yoga. No experience necessary.

For more information contact:

Community Assistance Council at **816-763-3277 x 110**, or email julie.reid@cackc.org with questions. CAC, 10901 Blue Ridge Blvd, KCMO 64134 (on Ruskin HS grounds)

Click [HERE](#) to visit CAC's website for more information.

Community Assistance Council is the social services agency that covers South Kansas City, including all of Hickman Mills and Center School Districts, with a food pantry, clothing closet, Happy Bottom diapers and pull-ups, Giving the Basics hygiene items, KC Medicine Cabinet medicines and equipment, emergency rent and utilities assistance and limited case management. We'd love to give you a tour or provide a program for your organization!

Check it out!



Who:

The KCMO Health Department has partnered with the Harvesters Community Food Network to help individuals and families in need of food assistance.

What:

Variety fruits and vegetables available at no cost to you

When:

2nd Tuesday of every month, starting at 1:30pm until supplies run out

Where:

KCMO Health Department in the UMKC Health Sciences District
2400 Troost Ave., Kansas City, MO 64108

South KC Mobile Food Pantries

With so many people out of work due to the coronavirus pandemic, a growing number of families in south Kansas City are being forced to rely on community food pantries such as Community Assistance Council's to have enough to eat.

Fortunately, Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that serves as its mobile food pantry to four sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food

will be brought to them.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 4 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and food will be loaded in the vehicles when they reach the school by staff and student volunteers. This event is sponsored by the school and Community Assistance Council.

Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for volunteers to put the food in.

Martin City K-8 School, 201 E. 133rd St., from 11 a.m. until food runs out on the third Saturday of the month. This event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church.

Truman Medical Centers has available services for Jackson County residents during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

If you are experiencing a fever, a new cough or new shortness of breath, you can call **404-CARE (2273)** and speak to a health care professional to be screened for COVID-19.





Testing symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals!

Tuesday, August 18

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Metro Christian Fellowship Church

2217 High Grove Rd.
Grandview, MO 64030



Register today at:

<https://form.jotform.com/202245483427151>

Thursday, August 20

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Old Fire Station #3

210 SW Pryor Rd.
Lee's Summit, MO 64081



Register today at:

<https://form.jotform.com/202245483962155>

Testing provided by:



Coronavirus Facts and Resources

Kansas City

If you would like to receive updates about what the City is doing in response to the coronavirus, **text COVIDKC to 888777** or go online to kcmo.gov/coronavirus

Missouri

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a [hotline](#) for residents and health care providers to call for information and guidance about COVID-19.

The statewide hotline number is **877-435-8411**. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Website for Essential Companies Hiring NOW!!

Missouri faces unprecedented times due to the impacts of COVID-19. Here at the Department of Economic Development, we recognize that many of the low-income, at-risk citizens your organizations work with will be hit the hardest and be the first to lose employment. With that in mind, we wanted to direct your attention to the Missouri Now Hiring website <https://missourionestart.com/now-hiring>. Missouri One Start is connecting unemployed workers to essential companies who are staffing up to meet the increased demand for their products and services. There you will find a list of companies that are hiring right now. This site takes workers directly to the hiring/application pages of the respective companies. The list is updated on an ongoing basis, so checking back daily is advised. Please link your clients in-need to this website so our workers can make it past this situation as painlessly as possible.

UNEMPLOYMENT

How to File?

If you're eligible, you'll need the following:

1. Your Social Security number;
2. Any amount you were paid in the past week, before taxes and deductions;
3. The name and mailing address of each job you worked in the past 18 months;
4. The dates you started and ended work at each of those jobs.

If this is your first time filing for unemployment please watch [this video](#) on unemployment basics. Visit uinteract.labor.mo.gov, create an account and file your claim. If your job loss is related to coronavirus issues, make sure to check a box that says “COVID-19” in your application to waive a requirement to search for a new job amid the crisis.

Missouri provides benefits for up to 20 weeks, which can be extended to 33 weeks under the federal provisions.

The state will pay you up to \$320 per week, and the federal government will provide \$600 on top of whatever you get from the state for each week you're on unemployment prior to July 31.

Benefits can be paid within 22 days unless there is an issue with your eligibility, which on average can take 4-6 weeks to resolve.

You should continue filing weekly requests for payment even if you have not yet received benefits.

Regional Claims Center representatives are available by phone Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM by calling:

Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or visit [Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

Please visit the Missouri Department of Labor's website for more information about COVID-19 FAQ's for Businesses and Workers: <https://labor.mo.gov/coronavirus>

US Department of Labor has a few sites dedicated to Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions>

**GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS
816-474-TIPS HOTLINE**

FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator

**SUBJECT: Reward Increase – 9 Year Old Dominic Young
Homicide**

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline continue to seek information in the January 20, 2018 homicide of 9 year old Dominic Young Jr. at 71 Highway and Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd.

Dominic Young Jr. was apparently hit by a stray gunshot while occupying a vehicle driven by his father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother were en route to Grandview at the time. The vehicle driven by Dominic's father was hit by gunshots from other vehicles apparently engaged in a gunfight according to statements.

KCPD found a possible crime scene near the intersection where the father said the shooting happened. When the father arrived home in Grandview, Dominic was not responsive. Grandview police initially responded to the father's home and found the boy in critical condition. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

A number of community leaders and organizations including State Representative Richard Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McManus, former City Councilmen Scott Taylor, Scott Wagner, John Sharp; the City of KCMO and Concord Fortress of Hope Church (Pastor Ron Lindsay) have come forward to increase the existing reward in the case up to \$30,000.00. Those leaders are available for comment in regard to the case.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477), TIPS may

also be submitted electronically at www.KCcrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$30,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards

Tips Hotline

816-474-8477

Web Tips

www.KCcrimestoppers.com

Free Mobile App

www.P3Tips.com



[State Representative Mark A. Sharp](#)

Missouri House of Representatives

Room 109G

201 W Capitol Ave

Jefferson City, Mo 65101

Phone

573-751-9469

Email

mark.sharp@house.mo.gov

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback, questions or ideas!