



THIS IS CHIEFS KINGDOM

RUN IT BACK

Capitol Report

January 28, 2021

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Dear Neighbor,

This was the first full week of session after a weeklong hiatus due to an outbreak of COVID-19 among members of the legislature. I am happy to report that I tested negative this week.

The first week was a tough week as the full house had to reprimand one of our own. Because I serve on the Ethics Committee, House rules prohibit me from discussing the situation publicly, but I want you to know that I believe the investigation and subsequent penalties handed to the member in question was appropriate.

As the global health crisis continues, I encourage you to take the necessary precautions to stay safe in the midst of the pandemic. In this newsletter you will find information to help those persons who need assistance with unemployment benefits, rent assistance and other essential goods for daily living.

I will keep you up to date with the most current vaccination information and other health related information to help you curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Yours in Service,

Rich





Thank you for your prayers and well wishes as it relates to my health and safety. All activities were suspended last week in the House of Representatives due to a COVID outbreak affecting several members and staff. I tested negative again this week for the virus. I have not taken the vaccine.



Parson emphasizes workforce development, infrastructure in annual speech

BY CAMERON GERBER ON JANUARY 27, 2021

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — In his address before the General Assembly Wednesday — [derailed at the eleventh hour due to COVID-19 concerns](#) — Gov. [Mike Parson](#) promised a continued focus on workforce development and infrastructure. Parson formally addressed the legislature for the first time in his full term as the 57th governor of Missouri, outlining his priorities going into 2021 from [the Senate](#) after the upper chamber adjourned for the day. He had been originally scheduled to present his State of

the State address from the [House chambers](#) to a joint session, but those plans were curtailed just hours before the event.

“Time and time again, our administration has addressed the challenges of our communities and our state head-on rather than leaving them for another day, another administration, or another generation,” Parson said. “It is important that we continue to follow through on key investments in workforce development and infrastructure. We must also continue finding ways to strengthen public safety, improve health care, and make state government more accountable.”

House members were not given official guidance on how or where to watch the speech but a handful did trickle into the Senate’s fourth-floor gallery in seats marked to maintain social distance.

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**Are You Ready For Some Chiefs Football?
This is our Kingdom!**

House Legislative Dashboard



Strength, Dignity, Quality of Life

MISSOURI HOUSING

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

mohousingresources.com

**MISSOURI EMERGENCY RENTAL ARREARS
PROGRAM (ERAP)
APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN**

The Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC), in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Social Services will make CARES Act COVID-19 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) funds available for emergency rental arrears assistance.

The Missouri Emergency Rental Arrears Program (ERAP) provides financial support for landlords and renters who are struggling due to the COVID-19 emergency in the State of Missouri. The program will reimburse landlords for past due rent payments (rental arrears) for the period beginning April 1, 2020. Applications must be completed and submitted by landlords in collaboration with their tenant. A one-time payment of up to six (6) months of rental arrears will be made to the landlord on the tenant's behalf. Requests are subject to the established rent maximums outlined below.

[Click here for more information](#)





Missouri unveils new COVID-19 vaccine website

Missouri has launched a new vaccine website, which answers common questions and clarifies what it calls misinformation.

The new website is mostopscovid.com, and provides Missourians with information about the safety of the vaccines, research and production processes and when they could be eligible for vaccination.

[Click here for the latest COVID-19 statistics for Missouri.](#)

Vaccine Distribution Timeline

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

COVID-19 Vaccine Availability

PHASE 1A

Long-Term care facility residents and staff

Healthcare workers (patient facing)

Emergency medical services (EMS)

PHASE 1B

High-risk individuals (18-64) and individuals >65

First responders (see below)

Essential workers (see below)

PHASE 2

Populations at increased risk (prisoners, homeless, etc.)

PHASE 3

All Missouri residents

Healthcare Workers

Healthcare personnel and staff who may have direct or indirect exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and are unable to work from home. This may include workers at:

- Skilled nursing facilities
- Residential care facilities
- Long-term care facilities
- Assisted living
- Inpatient and outpatient facilities

Essential Workers

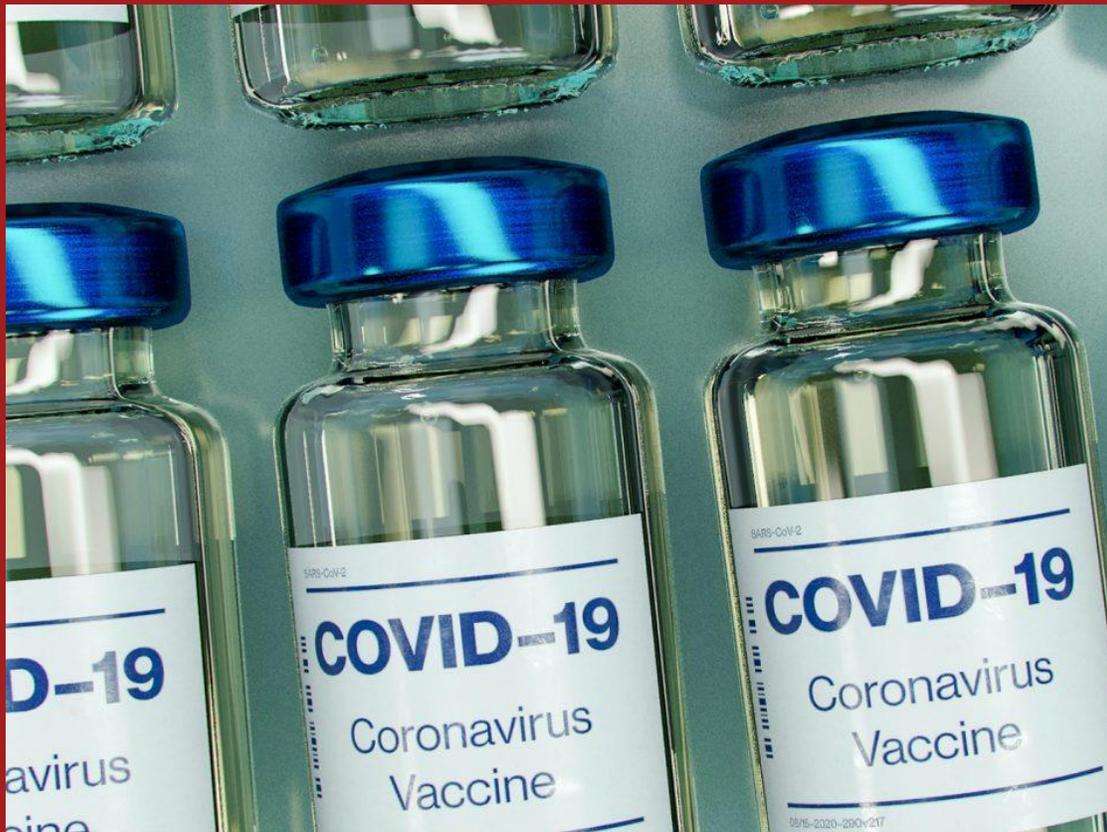
- Public-facing healthcare
- First responders
- Childcare workers
- Teachers & education staff
- Energy workers
- Critical manufacturing workers
- Food & agriculture workers

High Risk Populations

Those at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness, including those 65 years of age or older, may receive priority:

- BMI >30
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Hypertension
- Chronic heart disease





Vaccine Survey Tool from Jackson County, MO

The Jackson County Health Department is following the [state of Missouri's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan](#).

The time it takes to make a COVID-19 vaccine available to everyone who wants one is dependent on a few factors.

1. The supply of vaccine provided by the state of Missouri to administrators in our area.
 2. Where residents fall within the [phased distribution plan](#).
- The first phase focuses on (1A) long-term care facility residents and staff, patient-facing healthcare workers, and (1B) high-risk individuals, first responders, and essential workers.

- The state will not move to the next phase until the vaccine is made available to all individuals in the previous phase who want one.

The survey asks for contact information, occupation, and pre-existing medical conditions. Responses from the survey will help us determine which phase of the state's vaccination plan residents fall under. All individuals who live or work in Jackson County and are interested in receiving the vaccine are encouraged to fill out the survey [here](#).

You are eligible to take the survey if you live or work in Jackson County and can find the COVID19 Survey Tool at this website: <https://jacohd.org/covid-vaccines>

swopeHEALTH

COVID-19
TESTING



Swope Health provides multiple COVID-19 screening events across the KC Metro.

Swope Health will host testing events across the Kansas City area to help Missouri residents get screened for Coronavirus. While vaccines

are a positive development to help combat the spread of Coronavirus, testing for COVID-19 is still a critical strategy to keeping Missouri residents safe and curbing the spread of infection. Swope Health will offer free testing to any Missouri resident at the following events, regardless of whether they are presenting symptoms.

Where can residents get a free COVID-19 test?

- **Feb. 1, 9 am-3 pm, Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, 3700 Blue Parkway, Kansas City, MO 64130** Register: <https://mako.exchange/scheduler/registration/?location=2730> **Missouri residents only.**
 - **Feb. 3, 10 am-2 pm, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, 8144 Holmes Rd. Kansas City, MO 64131.** Appointments available 10am – 2pm by calling 311 (KC Health Department).
- **Feb. 4, 9 am-3 pm, KCI Expo Center, 11730 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153** Register: <https://mako.exchange/scheduler/registration/?location=2730> **Missouri residents only.**
 - **Feb. 6, 10 am -12 pm, El Buen Pastor, El Buen Pastor Baptist Church, 1900 Steel Road, Kansas City, KS 66106**

The Mid-America Regional Council provides [this list](#) of all COVID-19 testing in the metro area.

How can residents sign up?

Advanced registration is not required, but it is recommended.

Interested participants can register online to schedule their appointment

at <https://mako.exchange/scheduler/registration/?location=2730>

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.



Rick Brattin, Missouri Senator, Pushes State Bill To Allow Deadly Force Against Protesters

BY [KHALEDA RAHMAN](#) ON 1/26/21 AT 11:49 AM EST
Newsweek.com

A Missouri state senator has put forward a bill that would allow the use of deadly force against protesters on private property.

The proposal, sponsored by Republican Sen. Rick Brattin, would also make people who run over demonstrators blocking traffic not liable for any injuries sustained.

"To think that your right to protest enables you the right to stop traffic and literally stop people's ability to move about freely in this nation is a gross misunderstanding of our constitutional rights," Brattin said during a hearing on Monday.

Brattin explained that blocking traffic can be dangerous if it stops ambulances or police from responding to emergencies.

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I urged Speaker of the House Rob Vescovo, to send bills to committee to help our cities combat the problem of violence and to address the issues of police reform. This includes banning choke holds and improve training for officers.



I had discussions with Floor Leader Dean Plocher and Rep. Jerome Barnes concerning pending legislation on the floor.



Getting wise counsel from staff attorney Casey Millburg.



**HAVE
UNEMPLOYMENT
QUESTIONS?**

Ask our virtual assistant.



Need food and hygiene items, emergency rent or utilities assistance, diapers or pull-ups, help with medicines and medical devices?

CAC may be able to help.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

Harvesters Community Food Network

Click [HERE](#) to find service in your area

Spire - Natural Gas Assistance

Click [HERE](#)



Missouri officials to receive first salary increase in more than a decade

BY CAMERON GERBER

JANUARY 28, 2021

TheMissouriTimes.com

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Missouri officials are receiving their first pay raise in more than a decade over the next two years.

The raise was suggested [in a report](#) from the [Missouri Citizens' Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials](#) in November. The General Assembly was required to reject the recommendations before Feb. 1 to strike them down, but only

the [House](#) took action on the piece, failing to pass [a resolution](#) disapproving the raise Thursday morning.

Even if the House had rejected the increase, the raise would have taken effect: The upper chamber had already adjourned for the week when the results were officially declared, leaving it no time to consider the resolution before its deadline.

“We were waiting on the House to send that measure over to us, so we weren’t in control of what happened,” Senate President Pro Tem [Dave Schatz](#) told reporters following adjournment. “At this point, there’s nothing we could do about it.”

Senate Majority Floor Leader Caleb Rowden said the raise could help support increased diversity in the General Assembly.

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**As of the time I have sent this mailing, there have been
14 homicides in the Kansas City metro area in 2021.**

In Kansas City, Missouri, 9 people have been killed.

[Click here for the Homicide Tracker.](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



Are You Ready For Some Chiefs Football?
This is our Kingdom!





The reward has been raised to
\$30,000 for Dominic



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

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

* A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission

My office in Jefferson City is available to assist you with questions you may have about state government or legislative issues. Please call, email or write anytime. If you are unable to reach me, my assistant, Donna Gentsch is ready to help you. If you are in Jefferson City, come by my Capitol office in room 134, and introduce yourself. The door is always open and I encourage you to visit.

[Please forward this email to your friends and family who want to know how what is happening in Jefferson City will impact them here at home.](#)



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