

Law Enforcement Advisory Board Meeting JULY 14, 2021

x denotes presence

X Paul Soptick
X Scott Mackey
X Reed Partridge
X Lt Col Bob Gunja
Dixie Kaster
Don Jolley
Tony Carter
X Irene Caudillo
Don Ash
Mary Hopkins
Joan DeMoss
Dan Soptic
Michael York
Terry Brockman
X Kevin Steele
X Lynn Melton
Pam Waldeck
Casey Meyer
Kent Anderson
Kimberly Weaver
Kelly Herron
X LaRon Thompson
X [Abbie Dillard](#)
X [Karl Oakman](#)

Paul Soptick opened the meeting at 4:07pm .

Reed Partridge

Reed Partridge presented a power point presentation on the formation of the Law Enforcement Advisory Board (LEAB) and the reason for its formation. He also made available the original Memorandum of Understanding and the Authorizing ordinance as of July 14, 2021. (Copies included in these minutes.

BACKGROUND

KansasCity.com Back to web version
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Printed on Thu, Nov 15, 2007

Black residents sue KCK police over incident at birthday party

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007 **B5**

Police actions at KCK party draw lawsuit

The federal action accuses officers of violating the civil rights of a family and guests.

By **SENITA V. WILLIAMS**
The Kansas City Star

Gerene Hamilton said her granddaughter's 18th birthday party was disrupted with racial slurs and drugs.

but saw police shine flashlights on the Hamilton home. About 12:30 p.m., police poked their way inside through a basement door when it was opened for party guests.

The commotion started after partygoers were told to leave and a woman tried to stop police from entering her basement bedroom, which was blocked off by a sheet.

The officers knocked her down and roughed up everyone who intervened or questioned them, the lawsuit says.

They also used pepper spray on Hamilton's husband, Bobby Joe Hamilton, when he asked for their names and badge numbers.

Among the plaintiffs are the Hamiltons, daughters Gwynn Hamilton and Vickay Poveridge and three granddaughters, including Tyisha Jennings, the birthday honoree. Others are

"This issue is taken very seriously by the Unified Government," the statement said.

Initial complaints about the incident also spurred Unified Government officials to work with the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to improve how it handles complaints against city and county law enforcement agencies and how it

A group of black residents has filed a lawsuit against Kansas City police officers involved in their party.

The complaint stems from a 2005 party the officers ordered the couple to leave their home.

The officers are accused of racial slurs and allegations that the officers used force.

The officers are white, and the plaintiffs are black.

Legal representatives for the plaintiffs are

The Associated Press

© 2007 Kansas City Star

2

MOU — MAR 9, 2006

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU hereinafter) is held consistent with the United States Department of Justice, Community Relations Service (CRS hereinafter) congressional mandate as detailed in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000g). According to structure, CRS has provided assistance to communities and/or persons therein in the resolution of disputes, disagreements, and/or difficulties related to conflicts and tensions based on race, national origin, and color.

This MOU comes as the result of several meetings between representatives of the Unified

3

1

MOU - RECOMMENDATIONS

- Joint Internal Investigation Process
- Law Enforcement Advisory Board
- Diversity & Sensitivity Training Programs
- Minority Recruitment Programs
- SRO Program & Other Outreach
- Human Relations Commission
- Law Enforcement Legislative Auditor

4

LEAB - RESPONSIBILITIES

Memorandum of Understanding

- Advisory to Law Enforcement
- Work with community to review and strengthen diversity & sensitivity training programs

5

LEAB - RESPONSIBILITIES

Ordinance, *revised 4/16/2020*

- Advisory to law enforcement
- Informational liaison
- 15 members
- Meet monthly (except December)
- Report semi-annually

6

LEAB & CAB

LEAB also serves as Community Advisory Board (CAB) as described in KSA 22-4610

Authorized by resolution June 7, 2012.

7

CAB - RESPONSIBILITIES

- Members reflect the racial and ethnic community
- Advise/assist on policy development, community outreach and education on related biased-based policing.
- Receive training on fair and impartial policing

8

LEAB/CAB - MEMBERS

District	Appointee	District	Appointee
District 1	Gregory Collins	District 8	Maria Ysaac
District 2	Joan DeMoss	At-Large 1	LaRon Thompson
District 3	Jonas Cruz	At-Large 2	Kevin Steele
District 4	Paul Soptick, Jr.	Mayor	Rev. Tony Carter, Jr.
District 5	Scott Mackey	Sheriff	Kimberly Weaver
District 6	Don Jolley	Sheriff	Irene Caudillo
District 7	Vacant	Sheriff	Mary Hopkins
Chairperson of the Human Relations Commission			

9

LAO & LELA

- Legislative Auditor's Office (LAO) authorized by UG Charter
- Law Enforcement Legislative Auditor (LELA) recommended by MOU and authorized by resolution

10

LAO & LELA

Consolidation Study Recommendation:

The Legislative Auditor will retain all performance and financial auditing functions required to oversee, examine or inquire into any aspect of the UG in order to prevent or discover irregularities

11

LAO & LELA

Performance Audit

- Fraud, waste and abuse
- Compliance with legal or other criteria
- Effectively, efficiently, economically, and ethically
- Equity

12

LAO & LELA

Chief Judge

Robert Burns



Legislative Auditor

Tom Wiss



Law Enforcement
Legislative Auditor

Reed Partridge

13

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU hereinafter) is held consistent with the United States Department of Justice, Community Relations Service (CRS hereinafter) congressional mandate as detailed in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000g). According to stricture, CRS has provided assistance to communities and/or persons therein in the resolution of disputes, disagreements, and/or difficulties related to conflicts and tensions based on race, national origin, and color.

This MOU comes as the result of several meetings between representatives of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas including the Mayor/CEO, the Assistant to the Mayor, the County Administrator, the Assistant County Administrator, the Wyandotte County Sheriff, the Kansas City Kansas Police Chief, and the Director of Constituent and Organization Development for the Unified Government (UG hereinafter). Also participating in these meetings were representatives of various local, regional, and national community organizations both secular and religious in nature. The following groups helped represent the interests of the Kansas City Kansas community at large, the Human Relations Commission, Kansas City Kansas Branch of NAACP, Baptist Ministers Union, Trinity United Methodist Church on behalf of Wyandotte Interfaith Sponsoring Council (WISC), El Centro, Inc., and the Mt. Carmel Church of God In Christ. These participants will sign an appendix attached to the MOU as a show of support for the document and its goals.

The express intent of the parties to this agreement is to offer a tangible means for improving the relationship between entities within the UG and also between the law enforcement entities of the UG and community which those entities serve. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as an admission of guilt or wrongdoing by the signatories. The signing of this MOU was in no way related to duress or coercion. All signatories have voluntarily agreed to participate in the MOU in the spirit of community reconciliation, requesting the services of CRS. For the sake of inclusion and cooperation, participants have agreed to apply signatures to a separate appendix as a representation of concurrence with this MOU.

Issues Addressed by this Memorandum of Understanding

1. The Unified Government will assist in the creation of a Joint Internal Investigations Process where Kansas City Kansas Police and Wyandotte County Sheriff simultaneously respond to a given call and a complaint is registered in the course of the response. The Unified Government pledges to formalize an operating procedure for future incidents.
2. The Unified Government will oversee the creation of a Joint Law Enforcement Advisory Board which will act as an advisory board to the Kansas City Kansas Police, Wyandotte County Sheriff, and Wyandotte County Park Rangers. This board will have a continual interaction with the Legislative Auditor's Office.
3. The Unified Government will create a position within the Legislative Auditor's Office known as the Law Enforcement Legislative Auditor. The position will be

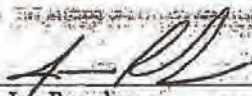
responsible for auditing and monitoring the various UG law enforcement agencies

The position will also function as independent reviewer of law enforcement activities, policies and procedures. The position will serve as a resource for best practices and suggested policy changes for local law enforcement

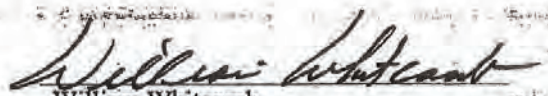
4. With the assistance of these new entities, the Unified Government will strengthen and review Diversity and Sensitivity training programs for its law enforcement agencies. Members of the community and the UG will work with the Advisory Board and Legislative Auditor to conduct these reviews and suggest new programs where necessary.
5. The Unified government will review and work to strengthen its law enforcement agencies' minority recruitment programs.
6. The Kansas City Kansas Police Department and the Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office will renew their efforts to develop an active and cooperative School Resource Officer Program as a component of a larger effort to reach out to the youth of the communities in Kansas City, Kansas.
7. The UG additionally pledges to review the current ordinances and functions of the Human Relations Commission to strengthen its role in the community.
8. All signatories agree to a general moratorium regarding the media until this MOU is formalized and presented to the public.

The UG and representatives of the community understand and agree that the process of improving law enforcement and community relations shall continue and that this process' success will largely be determined by continued cooperation. The undersigned attest that all participants in the discussion of the issues and remedies outlined thereof, have agreed to collaboratively work toward the execution of this Memorandum of Understanding and its provisions. In conjunction with this goal, the Mayor will introduce this MOU to the Unified Government Commission in the month of March 2006 following its signing.

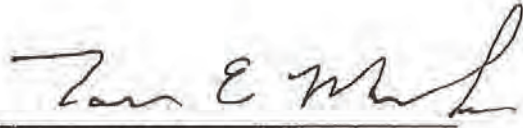
Signatories



Joe Reardon
Mayor/CEO
Unified Government of
Wyandotte County/Kansas
City, Kansas

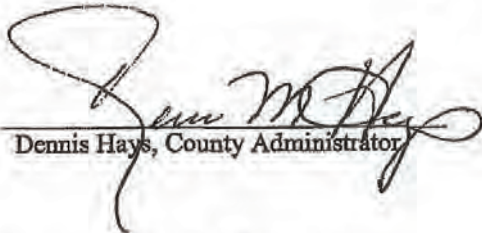


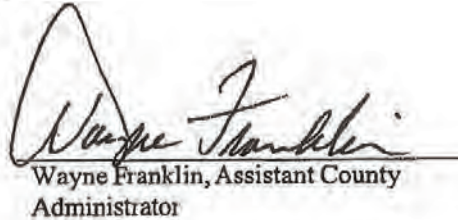
William Whitcomb
Mediator
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Community Relations Service



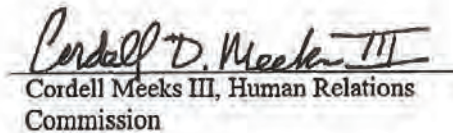
Thomas E. Meade
Mediator
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Community Relations Service

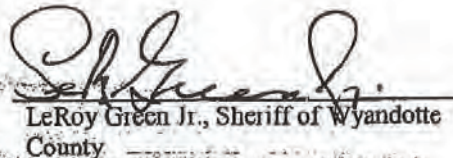
Appendix A
Signatories of Involved Committee Participants

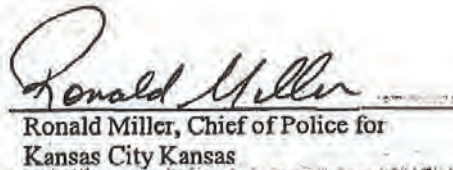

Dennis Hays, County Administrator

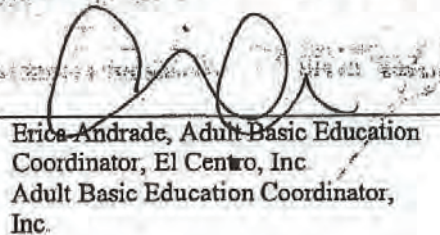

Wayne Franklin, Assistant County
Administrator

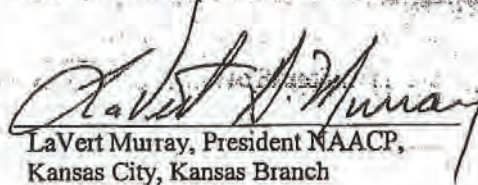

Marian Augustus, Director Constituent
& Organization Development

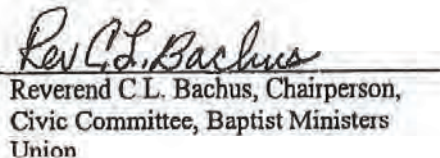

Cordell Meeks III, Human Relations
Commission

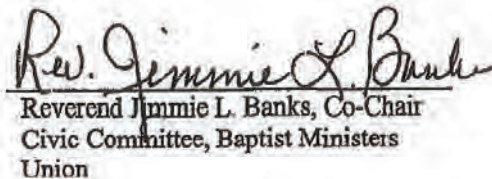

LeRoy Green Jr., Sheriff of Wyandotte
County

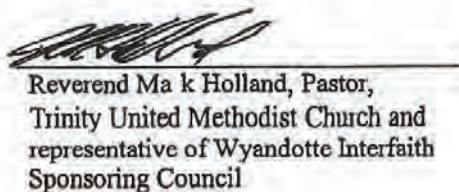

Ronald Miller, Chief of Police for
Kansas City Kansas

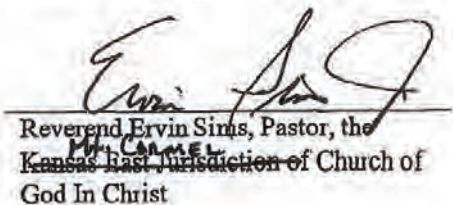

Erica Andrade, Adult Basic Education
Coordinator, El Centro, Inc.
Adult Basic Education Coordinator,
Inc.


LaVert Murray, President NAACP,
Kansas City, Kansas Branch


Reverend C.L. Bachus, Chairperson,
Civic Committee, Baptist Ministers
Union


Reverend Jimmie L. Banks, Co-Chair
Civic Committee, Baptist Ministers
Union


Reverend Mark Holland, Pastor,
Trinity United Methodist Church and
representative of Wyandotte Interfaith
Sponsoring Council


Reverend Ervin Sims, Pastor, the
Kansas Pastoral Jurisdiction of Church of
God In Christ

Authorizing ordinance as of July 14, 2021

DIVISION 11. - LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY BOARD¹³¹

Footnotes:

--- (13) ---

Cross reference— Boards, commissions, etc., § 2-381 et seq. Sec. 2-571. - Established.

There is hereby established a law enforcement advisory board.

(Ord. No. O-62-06, § 1, 7-13-2006)

Sec. 2-572. - Duties.

The law enforcement advisory board shall advise the unified commission, county administrator, the sheriff and the chief of police on existing and potential law enforcement problems in the county and the city and shall serve as an informational liaison between the sheriff's department, the police department, the community and the citizenry at large on law enforcement activities, programs and initiatives. The sheriff, the chief of police and/or a command staff designee shall regularly attend meetings of the law enforcement advisory board.

(Ord. No. O-62-06, § 2, 7-13-2006)

Sec. 2-573. - Membership.

The law enforcement advisory board shall consist of 15 members occupying positions to be numbered one through 15. The chairman of the commission on human relations and disabilities issues shall be a permanent member of the commission and shall change only when a new chairman of the commission on human relations and disabilities issues is appointed. Positions one through 11 shall be appointed by each member of the unified board of commissioners according to sections 2-381 and 2-382. The county sheriff shall have three appointments, numbered positions 12, 13 and 14.

(Ord. No. O-62-06, § 3, 7-13-2006; Ord. No. O-18-20, § 2, 4-16-2020)

Sec. 2-574. - Chairman.

The chairman of the law enforcement advisory board shall be the person appointed by the mayor. The board shall meet at least monthly and report no less than semi-annually to the unified commission, the community, the sheriff and the chief of police on matters germane to its purpose.

(Ord. No. O-62-06, § 4, 7-13-2006)

Sec. 2-575. - Executive director.

The county administrator shall appoint an executive director from existing staff or the public to provide such additional administrative services as the law enforcement advisory board shall require.

(Ord. No. O-62-06, § 5, 7-13-2006)

Secs. 2-576—2-590. - Reserved.

The Unified Government Commission appointed the LEAB as the Community Advisory Board described in the Kansas statutes below.

22-4610. Same; law enforcement policies preempting profiling, requirements; annual training required; community advisory boards; annual reports of complaints. (a) All law enforcement agencies in this state shall adopt a detailed, written policy to preempt racial or other biased-based policing. Each agency's policy shall include the definition of racial or other biased-based policing found in K.S.A. 22-4606, and amendments thereto.

(b) Policies adopted pursuant to this section shall be implemented by all Kansas law enforcement agencies within one year after the effective date of this act. The policies and data collection procedures shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours.

(c) The policies adopted pursuant to this section shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A detailed written policy that prohibits racial or other biased-based policing and that clearly defines acts constituting racial or other biased-based policing using language that has been recommended by the attorney general.

(2) (A) The agency policies shall require annual racial or other biased-based policing training which shall include, but not be limited to, training relevant to racial or other biased-based policing. Distance learning training technology shall be allowed for racial or other biased-based policing training.

(B) Law enforcement agencies may appoint an advisory body of not less than five persons composed of representatives of law enforcement, community leaders and educational leaders to recommend and review appropriate training curricula.

(3) (A) For law enforcement agencies of cities or counties that have exercised the option to establish community advisory boards pursuant to K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 22-4611b, and amendments thereto, use of such community advisory boards which include participants who reflect the racial and ethnic community, to advise and assist in policy development, education and community outreach and communications related to racial or other biased-based policing by law enforcement officers and agencies.

(B) Community advisory boards shall receive training on fair and impartial policing and comprehensive plans for law enforcement agencies.

(4) Policies for discipline of law enforcement officers who engage in racial or other biased-based policing.

(5) A provision that, if the investigation of a complaint of racial or other biased-based policing reveals the officer was in direct violation of the law enforcement agency's written policies regarding racial or other biased-based policing, the employing law enforcement agency shall take appropriate action consistent with applicable laws, rules and regulations, resolutions, ordinances or policies, including demerits, suspension or removal of the officer from the agency.

(6) Provisions for community outreach and communications efforts to inform the public of the individual's right to file with the law enforcement agency or the office of the attorney general complaints regarding racial or other biased-based policing, which outreach and communications to the community shall include ongoing efforts to notify the public of the law enforcement agency's complaint process.

Undersheriff Bob Gunja for Sheriff Don Ash

He reported that they are 21 deputies short. This has an impact on the number of inmates they need to farm out. Currently they have 460 inmates with 40 of these farmed out to other facilities.

He reported that they have 13 adult inmates that tested positive for COVID and 2 staff members testing for COVID. They have 1 juvenile in custody that has tested positive and 8 in quarantine because of contact with the one tested positive. they have 2 staff caretakers that tested positive. He said that approximately 50% of both staff and inmates have been vaccinated.

The Sheriff's department has 4 applications in house for the next class which is due to start in the fall.

Chief Oakman.

Chief Oakman stated that our authorized positions are 369 that have been adjusted to 345. He is in negotiations to bring that back to 369. We are working at 326 with 313 on the streets. This includes 9 that graduated the last academy class.

The academy is starting a new class tomorrow, July 15th with 10 applicants.

They are planning another class in late fall.

Chief Oakman talked about the formation of a cold case unit consisting of 3 detectives and including one Captain as a Hispanic Community Liaison, to start sometime in 2022. The KBI has agreed to be a part of this unit.

There was a general discussion with Chief Oakman for a few minutes and we stood adjourned at 5:15