



Happy Valentine's Day

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Capitol Report

February 11, 2021

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[Email](#) | [Web Page](#) | [Bills Sponsored](#) | [District 27](#)

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*Dear Neighbor,*

Although we did not get the result we wanted from the big game on Sunday, all of us can agree on how much civic pride the Kansas City Chiefs have brought to our community.

As we brace for this frigid weekend, please take care of yourself as the wind chills are dangerously cold. Today, Gov. Parson signed HB 16 into law that provides \$324 million in funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. This program is designed to assist families and individuals that are in arrears of their rent. There is also assistance to pay for utilities. You will find information on this program in this

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newsletter.

Please continue to stay safe as we continue to be in the midst of the pandemic. Continue to follow CDC guidelines which include wearing a mask, proper hand washing and social distancing. Your health is priceless.

Stay safe and warm!

*Yours in Service,*

*Rich*

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**Missouri Governor — Michael L. Parson**

Office of Communications

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 11, 2021

## **Governor Parson Signs HB 16 Into Law**

(JEFFERSON CITY, MO) – Today, Governor Mike Parson signed HB 16 into law, which provides more than \$324 million in funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).

“HB 16 will provide much needed assistance to tenants and landlords across the state. COVID-19’s economic impacts have created hard times for many Missourians, and we are happy to provide this immediate relief,” **Governor Parson** said. “I applaud the work of the General Assembly, House Budget Chair Cody Smith, and Senate Appropriations Chair Dan Hegeman for their

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work in getting this legislation across the finish line for the people of Missouri.”

The ERAP was passed by Congress in December 2020. The program's passage made funding available to state and local governments to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program includes up to 12 months of assistance for rental arrears, forward rental assistance, utility arrears, and utility forward assistance. Utility assistance includes electricity, gas, water and sewer, trash removal, and certain energy costs.

Both landlords and tenants are eligible to apply for assistance through the program. More information regarding the [Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) can be found on the U.S. Department of the Treasury's website.

The Missouri Housing Development Commission will administer the ERAP in Missouri. Additional information and the application portal can be found at [www.mohousingresources.com](http://www.mohousingresources.com).

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*Strength, Dignity, Quality of Life*

**MISSOURI HOUSING**

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

[mohousingresources.com](http://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](#)

# KANSAS CITY'S NEW EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

*Application process announcement mid-February*

## IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

These agencies have city-provided funds available now for rent and/or utility help:

- **Journey to New Life** - (816) 960-4808
- **Metro Lutheran Ministries** - (816) 285-3137 (north)  
(816) 285-3139 (south)
- **Greater KC Housing Info Center** - (816) 931-0443
- **Guadalupe Center** - (816) 421-1015
- **Save, Inc.** - (816) 531-8340, ext. 260



CITY OF  
KANSAS CITY,  
MISSOURI

[KCMO.GOV/RentHelp](https://www.kcmo.gov/RentHelp)





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.**

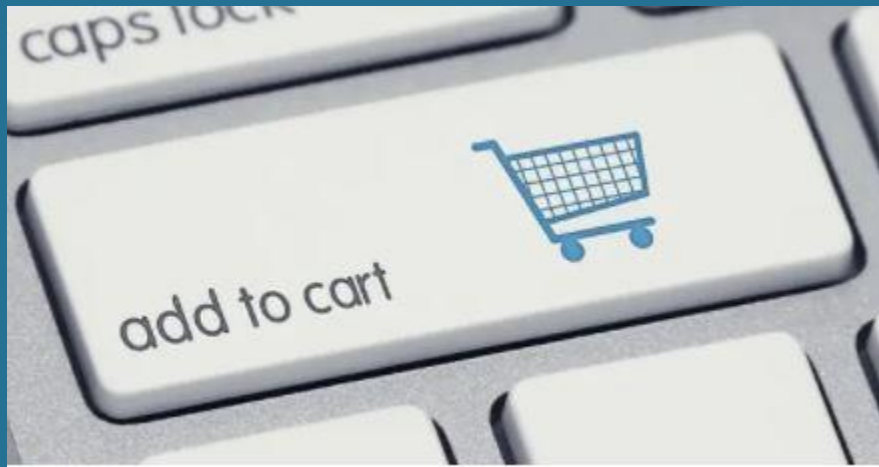
Click [HERE](#) for more information

**Harvesters Community Food Network**

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

**Spire - Natural Gas Assistance**

Click [HERE](#)



## COMMITTEE CONSIDERS BILLS ON INTERNET TAX COLLECTION

The House Ways and Means Committee on Feb. 10 heard legislation that would allow the state and local governments to better capture sales tax revenue from online purchases that

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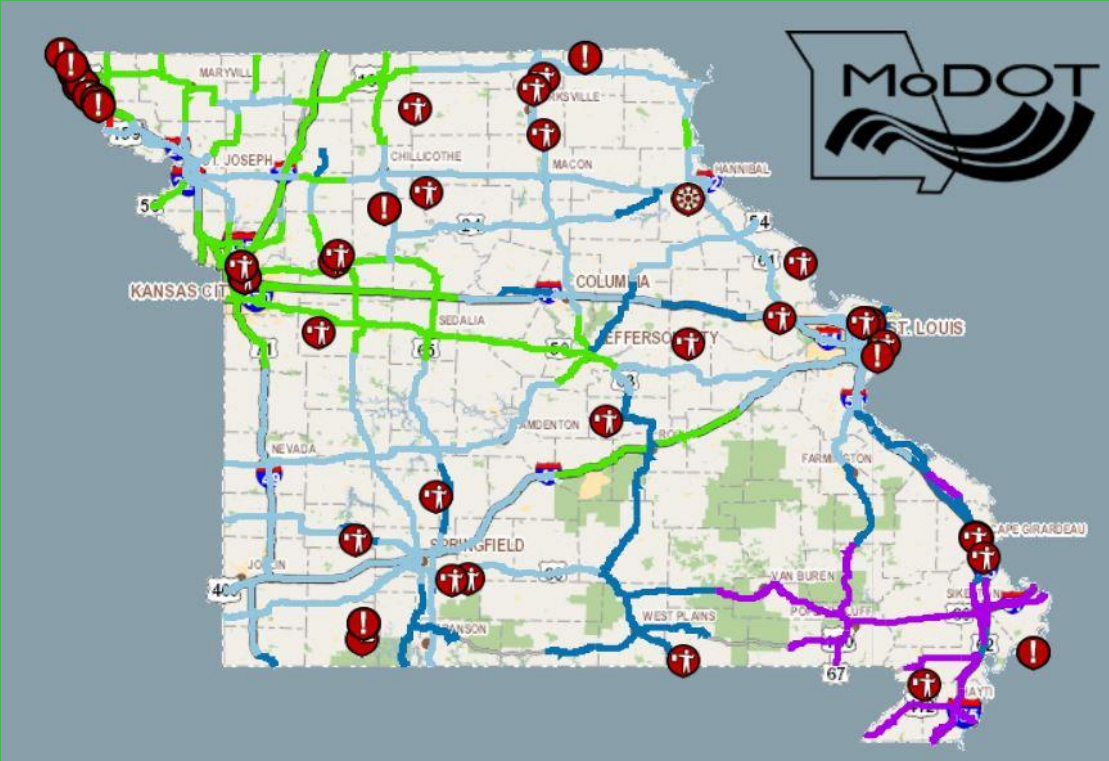
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already is due under state law but rarely collected.

A 2018 U.S. Supreme Court case, *South Dakota v. Wayfair Inc.*, clarified that state and local governments can levy taxes on purchases made by their residents from businesses located elsewhere. Small businesses owners have long maintained that resistance to collecting taxes on online sales puts their brick-and-mortar operations at a competitive disadvantage, while local officials lament the significant loss in tax revenue.

House Bill 644 could bring in as much as \$120 million a year in state general revenue plus another \$50 million earmarked for public education. In addition, it could generate up \$169 million a year in local tax revenue. Two other related measures heard by the committee – House Bill 554 and House Bill 555 – also would implement so-called *Wayfair* collection but seek to offset revenue gains with cuts to other taxes.





The image shows a map of Missouri with various highway routes highlighted in green, blue, and purple. Numerous red circular icons with a white exclamation mark and a white 'T' are placed across the map, indicating travel information points. The MoDOT logo is in the top right corner. Major cities labeled include Maryville, St. Joseph, Chillicothe, Macon, Hannibal, Columbia, St. Louis, Sedalia, Jefferson City, Farmington, Springfield, Nevada, Van Buren, West Plains, and Cape Girardeau. Highway numbers like 5, 4, 11, 21, 65, 3, 40, 67, and 69 are also visible.

[CHECK YOUR ROUTE BEFORE YOU GO  
USING THE TRAVELER INFO MAP.  
CLICK HERE](#)



## Missouri State Highway Fatalities

2021 YEAR TO DATE

**81**





FRIGID  
WITH A CHANCE OF FROSTBITE

*Be prepared! Stay warm and informed.*

[For Frigid Weather Flyer Click Here](#)

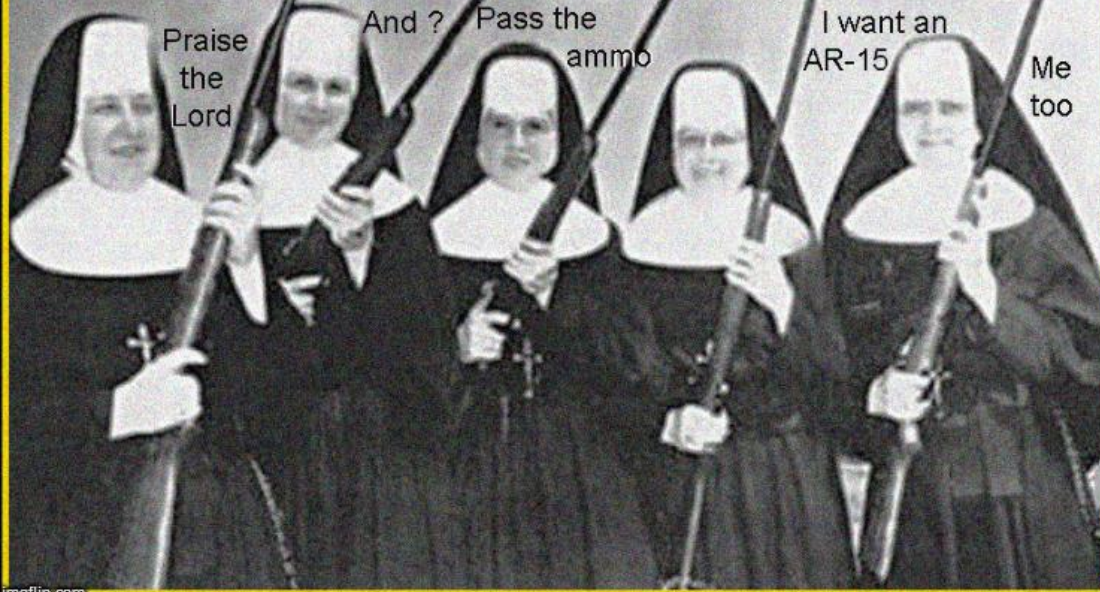




I admonished the House Republicans for passing a dangerous firearm nullification bill that poses a threat to victims of domestic abuse. [You can watch the video here.](#)

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## THE Holy Order of the Little Sisters of Mary and the Immaculate Conception of the 2nd Amendment



## BILLS SEEK TO ALLOW GUNS IN CHURCHES, ON PUBLIC TRANSIT

The House General Laws Committee on Feb. 9 heard four bills that variously would repeal existing prohibitions against carrying concealed weapons in churches or public transit and bar private property owners from preventing people from storing weapons in vehicles parked on their property.

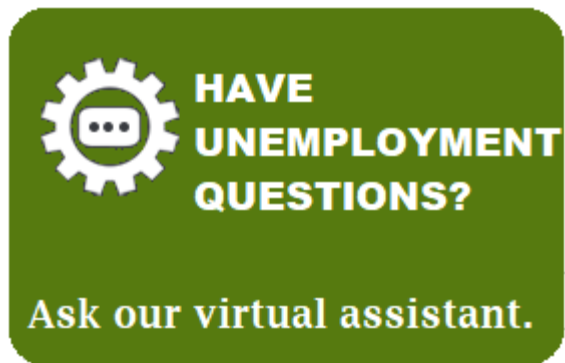
The bills continue the push among Republican lawmakers to steadily eliminate restrictions on the possession or use of firearms and follow House passage of a bill last week purporting nullify enforcement of state gun laws in Missouri and empower those convicted of federal gun crimes to sue local police departments for assisting in their arrests.

The committee took no immediate action on the latest bills. Another measure seeking to prohibit colleges and universities from banning

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firearms on their campuses was scheduled to be considered by the committee but was pulled without explanation before the hearing.

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#### House Legislative Dashboard

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I got my armor on. Thank you Lord for covering me.  
Today I was appointed as Vice-Chair of the House  
Committee on Ethics.







[Click Here if you Wanna Be My Valentine!](#)

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## PANEL CONSIDERS TIGHTER LIMITS ON BALLOT MEASURES

The House Elections and Elected Officials Committee on Feb. 10 considered 11 Republican-sponsored measures that would make it more difficult for Missourians to amend the state constitution or use the initiative petition process to enact laws independently of the legislature.

The initiative has been used in recent years to enact Medicaid expansion, increase the state minimum wage and impose legislative ethics reform – ideas popular among Missouri voters but opposed by Republican lawmakers who control the General Assembly. Three proposed constitutional amendments considered by the committee would increase the number of signatures required to put initiative measures on the ballot, while a statutory change would impose a

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minimum \$500 fee to submit an initiative petition.

Throughout Missouri history, only a simple majority has been required to amend the state constitution. Seven proposed constitutional amendments would raise the bar for ratification to a super-majority, with some calling for a three-fifths majority and others a two-thirds majority. Some of the proposals would allow constitutional amendments proposed by lawmakers to still be ratified with simple majorities but require a two-thirds majority for amendments put on the ballot via initiative petition.

The committee didn't take immediate action on any of the measures following the 4 ½ -hour hearing, but is expected to vote on at least some of them at its next meeting. Any constitutional changes ultimately would require voter approval.

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Navigator

### **State Launches Missouri COVID-19 Vaccine Navigator**

Powered by Qualtrics, the Missouri Vaccine Navigator allows individuals to register for a vaccine, indicating their desire to be vaccinated. They will then complete a questionnaire to determine their eligibility based on Missouri's priority phases.

Registrants will be notified upon activation of each phase and alerted when they become eligible. Individuals will then be able to seek vaccination from their health care provider if they have vaccines available or view mass vaccination events and other providers in their area.

In addition to helping individuals register for a vaccine, the Missouri Vaccine Navigator will remind registrants when it is time

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to schedule their second dose. Both vaccines currently authorized for use require two doses, and the second dose is critical to ensure individual and community protection.

When individuals visit [MOSTopsCovid.com/navigator](https://mostopscovid.com/navigator), they will answer questions regarding their personal health information so that the applicable priority group can be determined.

Later, the registrant will be notified when he or she becomes eligible and can then view and sign up for events in their area at that time. It will be important for individuals to receive their second dose from the same provider they received the first dose.

Those with online accessibility issues are encouraged to call the COVID-19 hotline at 877-435-8411 for registration assistance. Language translation and other services are available to callers.

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### **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](https://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.

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[Register to take the COVID-19 Vaccine Here.](#)

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Free COVID 19 Testing  
For Kansas City, MO Residents  
Appointments available  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
by calling 311 or 816-513-1313

**Friday, Feb. 12**

**Kansas City Zoo (Cheetah Parking Lot) 10 a.m. - 4p.m.**

6800 Zoo Dr., KCMO 64132

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**Monday, Feb. 15**

**Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center 9 a.m. - 3p.m.**

3700 Blue Parkway, KCMO 64130

**Wednesday, Feb. 17**

**World of Fun Main Entrance 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

4545 Worlds of Fun Ave., KCMO 64161

**Friday, Feb. 19**

**Kansas City Zoo (Cheetah Parking Lot) 12 p.m. - 4p.m.**

6800 Zoo Dr., KCMO 64132

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**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.





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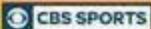
[Click Here to get on the Wait List for COVID 19 Vaccine at Truman Medical Center.](#)

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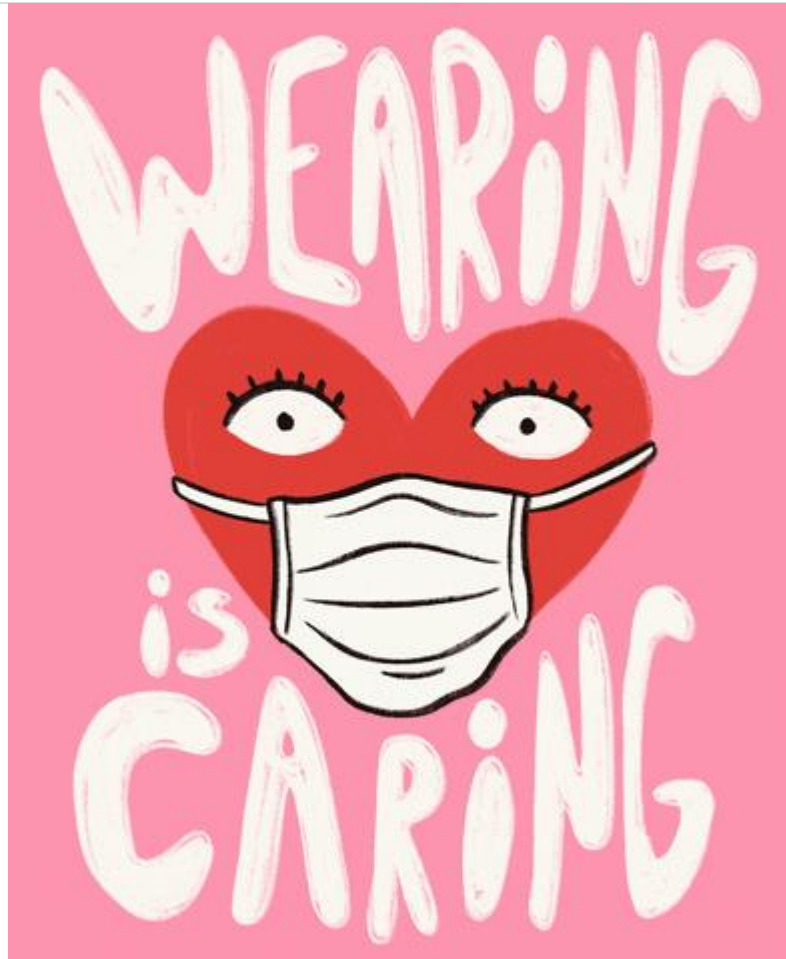
WIN, LOSE, OR TIE  
I AM A  
CHIEFS  
FAN  
'TIL I DIE











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

***In Kansas City, Missouri, 14 people have been killed.***

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

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**COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS**

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The Awards Committee for the Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism is looking for 2020's Community Hero's!

A "Community Hero" is described as an individual, group, or business who has gone above and beyond during the pandemic of 2020 to provide community service contributions in the Raytown Chamber's service area of the Raytown C-2 School District boundaries.

- Deadline to submit name and completed application is Friday, 02/12/2021 at 5:00 p.m. C.S.T. to Vicki Turnbow at [staff@raytownchamber.com](mailto:staff@raytownchamber.com).
- The impact of the community service must be within the Raytown C-2 School District boundaries.
- Awards Committee will review all completed applications and confirm details provided.

[Click Here for an Application](#)



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# In Memoriam

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Last week, Mrs. Garnett B. Wilson turned 102, however she passed away five days later. Donna and I offer our sincere condolences.

(Photo taken in 2019).

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

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**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**

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**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](http://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.**

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**Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards**

**Tips Hotline**

**816-474-8477**

**Web Tips**

**[www.KCcrimestoppers.com](http://www.KCcrimestoppers.com)**

**Free Mobile App**

**[www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com)**

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\* A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission

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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 Gentzsch 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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## **Rep. Richard Brown**

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

MO House of Representatives

201 West Capitol Avenue

Room 134

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone

573-751-7639

Email:

[richard.brown@house.mo.gov](mailto:richard.brown@house.mo.gov)

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback,

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questions or ideas!

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