



THIS IS CHIEFS KINGDOM

RUN IT BACK

Capitol Report

February 4, 2021

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

Dear Neighbor,

Today I was emotionally charged on the House Floor when HB 85 and HB 310 came up for third read and the final vote. Typically I am more reserved when I address this body, but not today!

HB 85 and HB 310 in my opinion, is a dangerous nullification bill that would attempt to invalidate federal firearms laws within Missouri. State nullification of federal law is unconstitutional under the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution, which makes federal law supreme over state or local laws. The U.S. Supreme Court has struck

down state laws that attempted to nullify federal laws in the past and courts would likely reject any state law that follows that model today.

One of my major concerns is how federal law prohibits domestic abusers from possessing guns and Missouri law does not. Because Missouri is one of a minority of states that does not have its own similar public safety law, Missouri survivors of domestic abuse rely on partnerships between state and federal law enforcement to help keep them safe.

Example, if the Missouri State Highway Patrol stops a car for speeding and learns that the driver is a convicted abuser and is carrying a firearm (illegal under federal law but not Missouri law) that officer can only prevent further violence and protect the community only by referring the matter to a federal law enforcement officer, like the U.S. Attorney, who has the authority to enforce the federal laws and make sure the abuser is properly held accountable for illegally possessing a gun.

If this bill becomes law, it would expressly prohibit that kind of law enforcement cooperation and put Missouri survivors of domestic abuse in danger of even more violence. **ONLY WIFE BEATERS SHOULD BE IN SUPPORT OF THIS LAW. I VOTED NO!**

HB 85 and 310 could also have a chilling effect on enforcement of any gun laws in the state. I sponsored legislation and fought bump stocks banned in Missouri in the past two years. Missouri refused to ban them but I found help from an unlikely source, President Donald J. Trump who had them banned on the federal level. This bill could essentially give protection to those persons in possession of these illegal devices in our state.

I believe in protecting those who are unable to do so for themselves and to find sensible ways of dealing with the issue of guns and how they affect our citizens by creating responsible firearm legislation.

I appreciate your support and thank you for believing in me as I continue to work for what is in the best interest of the citizens I serve.

Yours in Service,

Rich

In the fight to keep our citizens safe, I released the following statement after the floor debate on Wednesday which sought to nullify federal gun laws in our state.



State Rep. Richard Brown

Democrat
27th District

Asst. Minority Floor Leader

Ex-officio member of all House committees



For Immediate Release:

Feb. 3, 2021

For additional information, contact:

Rep. Brown at 573.751.7639

richard.brown@house.mo.gov

Democrats offer solutions to rampant Missouri gun violence

As Republicans debate dangerous bill, Democrats author responsible bills

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — As the Missouri House of Representatives today debated Republican legislation to unconstitutionally nullify federal gun laws, defund local law enforcement agencies and increase violent crime, House Democrats emphasized legislation they have filed to actually address firearm violence and make Missouri safer.

“While Republicans debate nullifying federal gun laws, they actively ignored the scourge of gun violence that has plagued this state caused by their repeated repeals of restrictions on guns,” Assistant Minority Floor Leader Richard Brown, D-Kansas City, said. “Our caucus has solutions to the gun violence epidemic, and those bills ought to be heard on the floor of the Missouri House.”

Brown has filed two key pieces of legislation to combat gun violence. House Bill 40 would specify that anyone subject to certain court orders or guilty of domestic assault, illegally or unlawfully in the United States or anyone who has renounced American citizenship cannot possess a firearm, conforming Missouri law to federal law. House Bill 41 would repeal parts of statute that prohibit political subdivisions from adopting orders, ordinances, or regulations relating to firearms.

Reps. Emily Weber, D-Kansas City, and Ian Mackey, D-St. Louis, have also presented legislative solutions to gun violence. Weber's House Bill 1021 would require a firearm owner to report lost or stolen firearms, and Mackey's House Bill 128 specifies the seller of a firearm or ammunition must verify the age of the purchaser.

"If we truly value the safety of our citizens, we would ensure that firearms stay out of the hands of those who do not own them," Weber said. "This bill would prevent violent crime by giving law enforcement tools to keep guns out of potentially dangerous or untrained hands."

The Kansas City Star reported in January that 2020 marked Missouri's most dangerous year for gun violence ever as 689 people were shot and killed. That figure gave Missouri the dark distinction as the third-highest state per capita for gun deaths behind only Louisiana and Mississippi.

Weber pointed to a study from the Center for American Progress that noted nearly 52,000 firearms were stolen in Missouri from 2012 to 2017. An Everytown for Gun Safety found "The majority of the 23,000 stolen firearms recovered by police in the United States between 2010 and 2016 were recovered in connection with crimes, including more than 1,500 violent acts."

"Weakening state gun laws hurts our police officers and ties the hands of those trying to keep the innocent safe, Mackey said. "The General Assembly should take steps that actually confront gun violence in our state. We shouldn't have to worry about vendors selling guns to minors. We shouldn't have to worry about missing guns turning up at crime scenes. And we shouldn't have to worry about Republicans making it easier for bad actors to obtain and keep deadly weapons."

The bill Republicans introduced Wednesday was House Bill 85 and 310.

Reps. Weber and Mackey can be contacted as well for this story at Emily.Weber@house.mo.gov / 573-751-4485 and Ian.Mackey@house.mo.gov / 573-751-0100, respectively.



Missouri lawmakers in both parties critical of Labor Department's reimbursement request for unemployment overpayments

FEBRUARY 3, 2021 BY [BRIAN HAUSWIRTH](#)

Missouri's labor director was grilled by state lawmakers in both parties, during a Tuesday hearing in Jefferson City involving unemployment overpayments and the department's subsequent request for reimbursement.

The \$150 million number frustrates committee chairman [Rep. Jered Taylor, R-Nixa, who notes the number was about \\$100 million three days ago.](#) Director Hui says the number changes each day.

Director Hui testifies that about 46,000 Missourians have been impacted by the unemployment overpayments, and emphasizes that her department will work with them on a payment plan. She also says it's critical for Missourians who have received unemployment overpayments to communicate with her department, for a repayment plan.

"And they can cover a number of different things whether it's offset against future benefits, offset against tax returns, refunds or again, we establish a payment plan," Director Hui testifies.

Lawmakers in both parties are critical of that. State Rep. Doug Clemens, D-St. Ann, has filed a bill to change current law that mandates that the Labor Department collect on overpayments. [State Rep. Richard Brown, D-Kansas City, tells Director Hui that a woman he knows has received a letter, asking her to repay \\$23,000. Brown says the woman doesn't have the money.](#)

[Continue Reading](#)



**HAVE
UNEMPLOYMENT
QUESTIONS?**

Ask our virtual assistant.



Top Missouri labor official offers no wiggle room on unemployment overpayments

- [Kurt Erickson](#)
- [STLToday.com](#)

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri lawmakers expressed frustration Monday over Gov. Mike Parson’s plan to require people to repay unemployment benefits they may have received in error.

In a meeting of the House Budget Committee, Missouri Department of Labor Director Anna Hui said the state will not waive the overpayments, despite a federal law that says it is allowed.

It is the state’s “obligation” to go after the money, Hui said.

“If they are not eligible, it is not their money,” she said.

Letters have gone out to an unknown number of people that the [state says it has paid in error and is seeking repayment.](#)

Among them is Ben Wheeler, a jazz bassist from University City who is facing an \$8,000 bill. He blamed the confusion on having a job as an adjunct professor at Webster University, while mostly relying on gigs for his livelihood.

Another recipient of a letter from Hui's office is Marissa Crozier, who was laid off as a costume designer for St. Louis Community College's theater program. The state says she needs to repay almost \$8,000 in overpayments.

Hui, who worked in former Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration, said some people can set up installment plans to repay the money. An estimated \$5 million could be collected by withholding people's income tax refunds.

Hui said overpayments are typically determined after unemployment claims were paid because the department's goal is to quickly connect the jobless with aid.

"The program favors getting benefits out as soon as possible," Hui said.



Missouri governor accuses House leaders of 'disgusting scheme' to embarrass him before speech

[Austin Huguélet](#)

Springfield News-Leader

Missouri Gov. Mike Parson says House leadership engaged in a "purposeful and disgusting scheme" to embarrass him last week when they told him he couldn't deliver his State of the State address from their chamber.

House leaders, who like Parson are Republicans, [said last week that their decision to break with tradition was about keeping people safe.](#)

COVID-19 had infected a slew of lawmakers in both the House and Senate in recent weeks, and leaders said having Parson speak in the Senate, where lawmakers sit farther apart than they do in the House, would be safer.

Parson ended up accepting the idea and speaking to the smaller chamber.

But in a three-page letter to GOP lawmakers Friday, Parson said the reasons for the switch were basically hogwash.

He pointed out that the night before the speech, House members were conducting committee hearings in rooms packed with people, many of whom were not wearing masks.

[Continue Reading](#)



The Tradition Continues... Go Chiefs!



How 'bout those

House Legislative Dashboard



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)



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
- Inpatient and outpatient facilities
- Assisted living

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





READY FOR THE
COVID VACCINE

Missouri health officials announce vaccine distribution plan

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Select hospitals across Missouri will receive just over half of the state's weekly allocation of COVID-19 vaccinations in February in an effort to achieve consistent and effective distribution, state health officials said Monday.

The hospitals have the capacity to each administer 5,000 vaccine doses per week but the number of vaccines the hospitals receive will be determined by population in the region. Weekly vaccine delivery will rotate between the hospitals and their partners, according to a news release from the Missouri Hospital

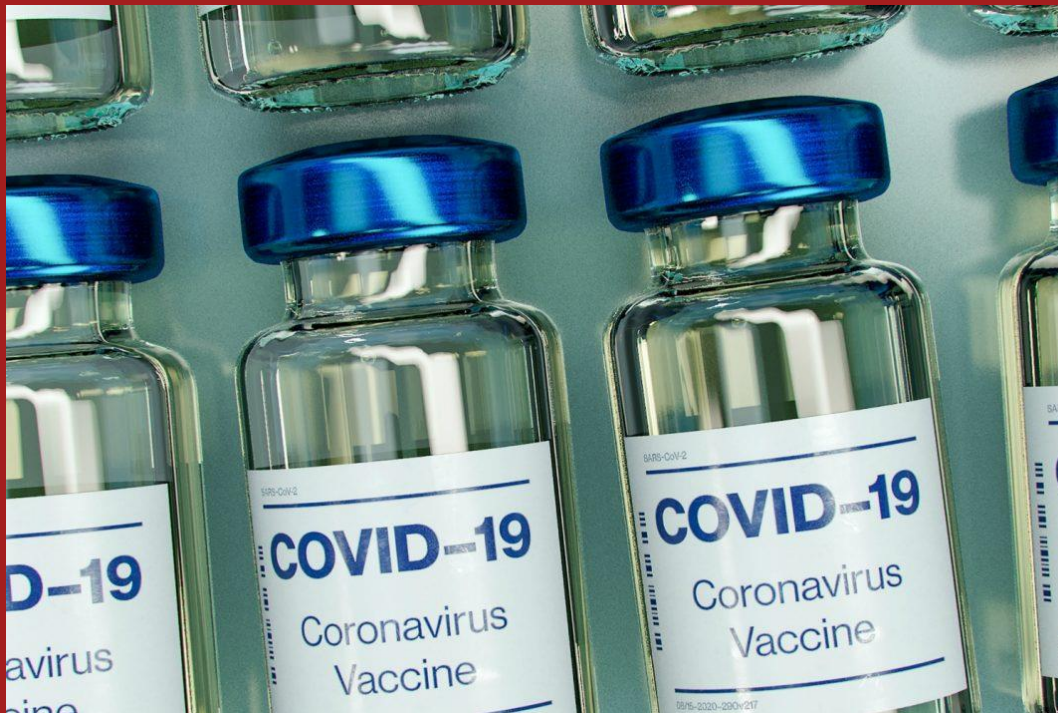
Association and the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services.

“The hospitals included in the first phase of this plan were selected for their ability to rapidly begin community vaccination efforts on a large scale,” said Herb Kuhn, president and CEO of the hospital association. “Beginning (Monday) — and continuing as vaccines arrive in the days and weeks ahead — hospitals will be sharing how community members can sign up for their vaccine.”

The state will send 53% of its nearly 76,000 weekly vaccine doses to the hospitals. Another 23% will go to regional mass vaccination events in partnership with local groups and the Missouri National Guard. Another 8% will be allocated to local public health agencies, and another 8% will go to federally qualified health centers.

The remaining 8% will go to any other enrolled providers, or “community providers,” asking for the vaccine. Hospitals not included on the list released Monday are considered community providers. The list of providers will expand as the state receives more vaccine.

[Continue Reading](#)



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://jaco hd.org/covid-vaccines>



COVID-19 TESTING SITES

Friday, February 5 (This is not a drive-thru)

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Independence Register Here](#)

[211 W. Truman Rd.](#)

[Independence, MO 64056](#)

Monday, February 8 (This is a drive-thru)

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Lee's Summit Register Here](#)

[505 NW Blue Parkway](#)
[Lee's Summit, MO 64063](#)

***Tuesday, February 9 (This is not a drive-thru)**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[The View Community Center Register Here](#)

[13500 Byars Road](#)

[Grandview, MO 64030](#)

***Wednesday, February 10 (This is not a drive-thru)**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Vesper Hall Register Here](#)

[400 NW Vesper St.](#)

[Blue Springs, MO 64014](#)

Thursday, February 11 (This is a drive-thru)

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Lee's Summit Register Here](#)

[505 NW Blue Parkway](#)

[Lee's Summit, MO 64063](#)

Friday, February 12 (This is not a drive-thru)

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Independence Register Here](#)

[211 W. Truman Rd.](#)

[Independence, MO 64056](#)

*These are walk-in clinics. Limited individuals will be allowed in the facility at one time due to social distancing protocol. Clients may be required to wait outdoors under covering. Please dress appropriately.

Pre-registration is not required but HIGHLY encouraged. Due to increased demand, we can not guarantee openings for walk-ins. Testing Clinics are filling up quickly. Please pre-register to guarantee a testing appointment. We will not guarantee open spots for walk-ins.

For a list of the Kansas City Health Department's testing sites [click here.](#)



SENATE APPROVES COVID-19 PROTECTIONS FOR BUSINESSES

After about 15 hours of discussion, the Missouri Senate on Feb. 3 gave first-round approval to legislation granting businesses, religious organizations and medical providers with immunity from most lawsuits relating to alleged wrongful exposure to COVID-19. A second vote is necessary to advance it to the House of Representatives.

As originally filed, Senate Bill 51 would have provided near blanket immunity from COVID-related claims. During the course of debate, however, the bill was amended to continue to allow lawsuits against businesses and medical providers in cases where an exposure resulted from “recklessness or willful misconduct” and the plaintiff was injured as a result. Religious organizations still would be exempt from lawsuits unless the plaintiff proves an intent to harm.

Gov. Mike Parson and many of his fellow Republicans have been

pushing for such legal protections ever since the pandemic began last spring. Despite no lawsuits on the subject having been filed in Missouri, Parson during his recent State of the State address urged lawmakers to make a COVID liability protections the first bill they send him this year.





Kizzmekia "Kizzy" Shanta Corbett (born January 26, 1986) is an American viral immunologist at the Vaccine Research Center (VRC) at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health (NIAID NIH) based in Bethesda, Maryland.

Appointed to the VRC in 2014, she is currently the scientific lead of the VRC's Coronavirus Team,^[4] with research efforts aimed at propelling novel coronavirus vaccines, including a COVID-19 vaccine.^{[5][6]} In December 2020, the Institute's Director Anthony Fauci, said: "Kizzy is an African American scientist who is right at the forefront of the development of the vaccine.

Fauci was explicit: "the first thing you might want to say to my African American brothers and sisters is that the vaccine that

you're going to be taking was developed by an African American woman.





Happy 102nd Birthday
Mrs. Garnett B. Wilson!

(Photo taken in 2019).



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.



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](#)





You are invited to stop by and visit with me in my office when you come to Jefferson City. I am located on the first floor of the capitol building in Room 134. Say "hello" to Donna too!

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

In Kansas City, Missouri, 10 people have been killed.

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





COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



Dedicated to a Unified Vision for South Kansas City, Missouri



Bob Kendrick, president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, will speak about recent exciting events that will greatly benefit the Museum at our SKCA virtual monthly ZOOM meeting from **6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, February 8.**

Kendrick will explain last month's momentous licensing agreement between the Museum and the new owners of the minor league Kansas City T-Bones to rename the team the Kansas City Monarchs after our city's team that was generally regarded as one of the best in the Negro Leagues.

The proposal to continue Kansas City's 1% earnings tax that will be on the ballot April 6 will be discussed by **Maurice Watson**, a member of the E Tax Task Force of the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City. The SKCA Board endorsed continuation of the tax, which is the city's largest single source of revenue, without dissent at its January meeting.

Changes in the law regarding absentee and mail-in voting since last November's election also will be explained.



You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Monday Feb 8, 2021 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: South Kansas City Alliance Monthly Membership Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81209025259?pwd=bkZZbjgydHRTNlJ1T1p5Yzg4dTlyQT09>

Passcode: 326396

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +19292056099,,81209025259#,,, *326396# or
+13017158592,,81209025259#,,, *326396#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669
900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 812 0902 5259

Passcode: 326396

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcQUb0Pvjn>



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.
- 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](#)



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.



Rep. Richard Brown

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

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