

RESOLUTION NO. 100865

Recognizing the efforts of the Kansas City, Missouri Municipal Court (“Court”) in solving the underlying causes of criminal behavior in the City and addressing issues that erode public safety and quality of life in Kansas City.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Kansas City, Missouri recognizes that the quality of life for our citizens in the neighborhoods and business districts of our City is negatively impacted by City ordinance violations; and

WHEREAS, the Court recognizes that many of the citizens charged with violations of City ordinances have substance dependency and/or mental health issues which lead to their offenses, that these citizens are better served outside the traditional legal process, and that the failure to address the core source of these citizens’ conditions contributes to more complex social issues such as recidivism and increased criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS the Court has established designated specialty courts, namely Mental Health Court, Drug Court, and Veterans Court, that use processes grounded in therapeutic jurisprudence, including integration of treatment services with judicial case processing, ongoing judicial intervention, close monitoring of and immediate response to behavior, multidisciplinary involvement, and collaboration with community-based and government organizations to reduce substance abuse and provide essential treatment to those suffering from mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the Court has been awarded a substantial number of grants totaling \$4 million for its specialty courts, and has generated public support through major collaboration with and contribution from governmental and charitable agencies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Kansas City supports the efforts of the Court and its judges’ problem solving court model and recognizes the benefit of same to the citizens of Kansas City NOW, THEREFORE;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council here recognize the efforts of the Kansas City, Missouri Municipal Court in solving the underlying causes of criminal behavior in the City and addressing issues that erode public safety and quality of life in Kansas City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to Judge Williams, Judge Bland, and Judge Locascio with the appreciation of the Mayor, Council and citizens of Kansas City for their efforts in making Kansas City a great place to live.
