

Heartland Coalition AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

7TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY FORUM

Gun Violence: Going Beyond Thoughts and Prayers

Monday, October 12, 2020

Virtual

AGENDA

9:00 - 9:15

WELCOME

Judy Sherry, President of Grandparents Against Gun Violence

9:15 - 10:00

FAITH PANEL

Rabbi Doug Alpert, Congregation Kol Ami; Reverend Tom Are, Village Presbyterian Church; Reverend Modest Miles, Morningstar Missionary Baptist Church

10:00 - 10:15

Q & A

Moderator: Robyn Thomas,

Executive Director Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

10:15 - 10:30

BREAK

10:30 - 11:00

BUSINESS PANEL

Ken Novak, PhD UMKC professor discussing the role of gun violence on business; Chris Goode, owner & CEO Ruby Jean's Juicery

11:00 - 11:15

Q & A

Moderator: Ian Cummings, breaking news editor at The Kansas City Star, currently leading The Star's Missouri Gun Violence Project, in partnership with the nonprofit Report for America.

11:15 - 11:30

BREAK

11:30 - 12:00

Government Panel

Kevin McManus Mayor Pro Tem, KCMO; Jerry Stogsdill, KS House of Representatives

12 - 12:15

Q & A

Moderator: Ian Cummings

12:15 - 12:30

CLOSING REMARKS

Mayor Quinton Lucas, Kansas City, MO

SPEAKER BIOS

Rabbi Douglas Alpert **Congregation Kol Ami**

Rabbi Alpert is a life-long Kansas City resident, and completed his rabbinic studies at the Academy for Jewish Religion in Riverdale New York. He was ordained in May, 202 and was the rabbinic intern at Congregation Ohev Sholom in Kansas City for three years. He holds a Masters in Judaic Studies from the Siegal College of Jewish Studies in Cleveland, Ohio. He is also an attorney, and served as the executive director of the Kansas City Jazz Commission and legal counsel for the International Association of Jazz Educators.

Reverend Tom Are **Village Presbyterian Church**

Reverend Tom is a graduate of Presbyterian College in South Carolina, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Va. and Yale Divinity School. Previously, Tom has served Westminster Church in Charleston, S.C. Seven Oaks Church in Columbia, South Carolina and Riverside Church in Jacksonville, Fla. Rev. Tom is a sixth generation Presbyterian pastor.

Ian Cummings **Kansas City Star**

Ian Cummings is the breaking news editor at The Kansas City Star, where he started as a reporter in 2015. He is a Kansas City native and a graduate of the University of Kansas. He is currently leading The Star's Missouri Gun Violence Project, in partnership with the non-profit Report for America.

Chris Goode **Ruby Jean's Juicery**

Chris Goode is the founder and owner of Ruby Jean's Juicery in Kansas City. As a newly appointed member to Kansas City Missouri's Parks & Recreation Board, he plans to continue to increase access and expand awareness of healthier lifestyles for the community at large.

Quinton Lucas **Mayor, Kansas City, Missouri**

As mayor, Mr. Lucas has prioritized making Kansas City's neighborhoods safer, creating more accessible and affordable housing and public transportation, fostering a healthier community and improving basic services. Since 2012, he has been a member of the University of Kansas Law School faculty. He is active in the Kansas City community and volunteers extensively in area schools and organizations, including providing mentorship in local prisons.

Reverend John Modest Miles **Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church**

Reverend John Modest Miles was born in Magnolia, Arkansas. He received his B.S. from Arkansas Baptist College, his M. ED. degree from Quachita Baptist College, A D.D. degree from Central Mississippi College, attended the Midwest Theological Seminary, and received an Honorary D.D. degree from Western Baptist Bible College. He has been pastor at churches in Los Angeles, Detroit, Little Rock, prior to coming to Kansas City.

Kevin McManus **Mayor Pro Tem Kansas City Missouri**

Kevin McManus represents Kansas City's 6th District, which is the same district where he was born and raised. He was first elected to the City Council in 2015. After his re-election in 2019, Mayor Quinton Lucas appointed Kevin to serve as the Mayor Pro Tem. Kevin also to serves as a member of the Finance, Governance and Public Safety Committee.

Ken Novak PhD **Professor, UMKC**

Dr. Novak is currently a Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. His research and teaching focuses on issues related to policing in the United States and crime prevention strategies, and he has published scientific research articles on racial profiling, the exercise of police discretion, and citizens' attitudes toward the police. He served as co-PI for the KC No Violence Alliance (NoVA), and currently serves at the co-PI for Kansas City's Smart Policing Initiative focusing on crime prevention in violent hot spots.

Jerry Stogsdill **Kansas House of Representatives**

Jerry has represented the people of the 21st District in the Kansas House of Representatives since he was first elected in 2016. As a resident of Prairie Village for more than 30 years, Jerry knows the people of the 21st District and passionately represents their interests in Topeka. He has also earned an outstanding reputation for his comprehensive and year-round program of constituent services.

Robyn Thomas **Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence**

Robyn Thomas joined Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence as executive director in 2006. Robyn supervises the organization's work drafting and defending safer gun laws, as well as educating legislators about evidence-based gun policy. She has testified in Congress and before state and local lawmakers as an expert witness on gun laws and the American gun violence epidemic.

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*We regret any omissions
for contributions received
after October 7, 2020*

OUR GENEROUS 2020 ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

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Children's Mercy Kansas City
Grandparents Against Gun Violence
Stand Up Blue Valley

Guardian

Center for Practical Bioethics
Colonial Church in Prairie Village
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Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force
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Colonial Church in Prairie Village
John Baker
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