



FRANK WHITE, JR.
Jackson County Executive

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Veto Message from the County Executive

Ordinance 5061

TO THE JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATURE:

I am returning herewith without my approval Ordinance 5061, which, most notably, would amend Jackson County Code § 9306 to transfer administrative authority for the County's COMBAT tax from the County Executive to the Jackson County Prosecutor. Ordinance 5061 proposes unlawful changes to the Jackson County Code and if adopted, would be void.

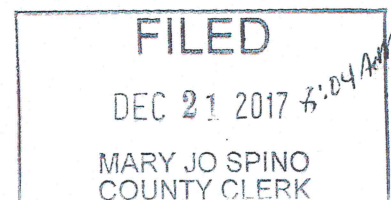
Since its inception, COMBAT has supported the County's efforts to prevent and respond to crime and help those dealing with addiction in our community. It has provided countless members of our community with hope as existing resources have been enhanced. In addition to supporting law enforcement across the County, COMBAT has helped fund our ground-breaking Drug Court, DARE and most recently KCNoVA. However, we cannot ignore the fact that our community is still plagued by unacceptable levels of drug addiction and violence. The effective administration of COMBAT is essential to responding, preventing and treating these serious issues.

It is my hope that we can work together with our Legislature, Prosecutor, Sheriff, COMBAT staff and Drug Commission to continue to build on our successes. Now more than ever, it is critical to support our community agencies fighting alongside us to achieve COMBAT'S mission of ensuring a strong, safe community, free from the dangers of illegal drugs and violent crime through research-based, targeted strategy and systematic distribution of resources.

As County Executive, the people of Jackson County have uniquely entrusted me with the responsibility to administer this program and enforce the provisions of the Jackson County Charter, ordinances, resolutions and applicable laws of our State. Attached to this message, and incorporated therein, is a legal memorandum, which further provides the legal justification for why I cannot support the transfer of administrative authority of the County's COMBAT tax to the Jackson County Prosecutor. Therefore, Ordinance 5061 has earned my veto.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Jr.
Jackson County Executive



Attachments

