

CITY OF FOUNTAINS
HEART OF THE NATION



KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI

Office of the Mayor

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Date: June 23, 2009
To: Wayne Cauthen, City Manager
From: Mayor Mark Funkhouser
Subject: Your June 9 memo

I was surprised to receive a copy of a June 9 memo that your office sent to your department directors which rolls back restrictions on hiring, travel and discretionary spending. I was also surprised to have received it, not from your office, but from the Chief of Police, Jim Corwin. And I was especially surprised to see that this dictum comes at a time when I am working diligently with the Police Department to support the department's finances and ensure that we are able to maintain the ranks of our officers on behalf of our citizens.

Your actions undermine the logic that "things are tough throughout the city." In light of this, I fail to understand our approach to our police force and our ongoing refusal to provide the additional \$3 million that you and your budget officer have said are needed by the department to function properly.

This fallacy is further highlighted by the approval last week of \$500,000 for yet another study of a downtown convention hotel. The money for that project came easily, yet our residents still don't know if their city government is going to maintain our police force at the current force level.

cc: City Council
Jim Corwin, Chief of Police
Board of Police Commissioners