



OFFICE OF THE  
JACKSON COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**

SHERIFF  
MIKE SHARP  
COLONEL  
HUGH L. MILLS  
COLONEL  
BEN C. KENNEY

November 24, 2014

Sandy Horton  
Executive Director  
Kansas Sheriffs' Association  
P.O. Box 1122  
Pittsburg, KS 66762

Dear Sandy:

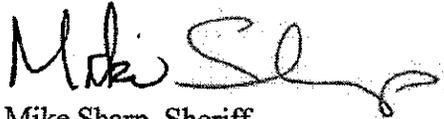
I endorsed the bi-state legislation for the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Region that was recently signed into law in the State of Missouri. As the sheriff of one of the five involved Missouri counties, I worked with members of the Kansas City Metro Tactical Officers Association (KCMTOA) to make our area legislators understand the importance of a truly collaborative measure such as this. The Kansas City metropolitan area, unlike any other area in Missouri or Kansas is uniquely defined by a state line and we in law enforcement have long enjoyed a spirit of cooperation unlike any other part of the country. Unfortunately, law enforcement jurisdiction in critical incidents does not extend across the state line, leaving city, county and state law enforcement officials unable to legally respond to a call for assistance across that line. As the State of Missouri realized and appreciated, in a critical incident such as an active shooting or act of terrorism where seconds count, those in command on the ground need to have the authority to request such assistance and the closest agency, that might happen to be on the other side of the state line, needs to have the authority to respond.

This initiative was brought forth by the KCMTOA and is the agency that represents our regional tactical officers, those that will be on the front lines of a large scale event, as they realize the importance of officers in the field having every available resource able to respond in a time of crisis. That is why my agency not only supported, but worked to pass this groundbreaking legislation. We in Missouri also realized that this is a regional issue specific to our metropolitan area and chose to lobby it amongst each other and our elected officials to keep it from being lost in the haze of other state issues. This proposal was testified to in Jefferson City by my Under Sheriff, Colonel Hugh Mills, who also commands our tactical units and would be in the front line of any such employment. It allows our region, which has put to use millions of dollars in homeland security funding toward protecting those citizens, the ability to best utilize our law enforcement officers in specific critical incidents in that same spirit of cooperation.



I hope that you will consider this endorsement from the Jackson County, Missouri Sheriff's Office as you make your decision.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Sharp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Sharp, Sheriff