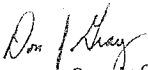


FILED

SEP 06 2024


Sangamon County Clerk

RESOLUTION 116-1

WHEREAS, The Sangamon County Board expresses their profound and heartfelt sorrow for the loss of our fellow resident Sonya Massey whose life tragically ended on July 6th, 2024 because of the abhorrent actions of Sean Grayson: and,

WHEREAS, we reach out to the Massey family with a heavy heart, but in focused determination to see this senseless tragedy lead to an important and needed opportunity to energize our community and to open a meaningful, actionable dialog on community and equity and the delivery of vital services to citizens throughout Sangamon County; and,

WHEREAS, this resolution shall establish the “Massey Commission” which will be charged with establishing a path forward to best bring our community together and to address systemic issues in law enforcement practices, mental health responses, and community relations, with the goal of creating tangible, practical, and equitable solutions for the betterment of all who call Sangamon County home; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize that the search for answers to this question will involve a larger inquiry into the equitable delivery of services to all members of our community and we welcome this inquiry; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize the search for answers to this question will involve changes to our selection, training, support and review of personnel engaged in public safety, mental health, public health, education, training and we are receptive to these changes; and,

WHEREAS, we cast no aspersions on other units of local government, but ask that the commission recognize Sangamon County Government’s desire to improve and willingness to provide any information at its disposal to the commission; and,

WHEREAS, Vector Communications has operated as a trusted vendor to Sangamon County government and, indeed, the general community, specifically coordinating community relations and outreach for the successful Tenth Street Rail Project, and through this and other engagements knows our community well; and

WHEREAS, Vector Communications, who also played a key role in the construction, launch and implementation of the Ferguson Commission following the killing of Michael Brown Jr. and the subsequent tragic events that occurred, has advised that a successful citizens commission and its inquiry should be anchored in building trust and making room for community input, and such a commission shall be comprised of well-respected community leaders, important voices, members of various civic, religious and charitable organizations and most notably, no elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Vector is available to support Sangamon County in the process of standing up a citizens commission that best reflects Sangamon County's needs at this critical moment; and

WHEREAS, Vector has advised us that a successful commission of inquiry should consist of Co-Chairs to be selected by the Chairman of the County Board with all other commission members or members of subcommittees as may be needed to be selected by the Co-Chairs; and,

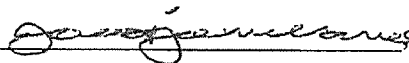
WHEREAS, we charter the Citizens Commission with the earnest expectation that the commission will provide some actionable recommendations within six months of its organization and complete its work with a final report including actionable recommendations within one year.

WHEREAS, to further the purposes of this resolution and to support all of the work of the Massey Commission, including staff support, research, Commission meetings, events and engagement, the Board appropriates the sum of \$100,000 as an initial amount for the commission to begin its work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sangamon County Board on this _____ day of September 2024 that the Massey Commission be established following the aforementioned purpose, process and structure.

Sponsored by: Joel Tjelmeland-District 14, Jail Committee Chair 

Approved by the _____ Jail Committee _____ August 20, 2024 _____

 Chairman

Approved by the _____ Finance Committee September 10 2024 _____

_____, Chairman

Chairman, Sangamon County Board

ATTEST:

County Clerk