

2nd Quarter 2021 (Apr 1 – June 30)

Issues and Programs for WJTC

Issues addressed:

Public Health
Public Safety
Consumer Awareness
Education
Crime

Regularly Scheduled Programs:

NBC 15 News – Daily local news programs

WPMT's daily newscasts give considerable time to issues that concern the communities of the South Alabama and Western Florida areas.

7pm –7:30

WJTC News at 7:00

M-F

Public Health

For Apr 1 – June 30 – WJTC featured daily reports about where and when you can acquire Corona virus vaccines.

4/13/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: :51
Local J & J

THE ALABAMA HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS IT'S PAUSING EFFORTS TO GIVE Johnson AND Johnson VACCINES.. AND OFFICIALS ARE ENCOURAGING PROVIDERS TO DO THE SAME. IN ALABAMA... 71 THOUSAND 297 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED THE Johnson AND Johnson VACCINE. ZERO PEOPLE here HAVE HAD AN ADVERSE REACTION, LIKE A BLOOD CLOT.

STATE HEALTH OFFICER DR. SCOTT HARRIS SAY IF IT'S BEEN 3 WEEKS SINCE YOU GOT THE SHOT.. YOU SHOULD BE FINE.. DR. HARRIS SAYS THERE'S A POSITIVE SIDE TO THIS DISCOVERY.

I actually find this encouraging because it shows that there really are safety checks in place to pick up on these things. picking up 6 conditions out of 7 million shots or out of the 120 million Americans that have gotten the vaccine dose so far is actually a really sensitive and effective process.

THE STATE IS NOW PLACING MORE THAN 87 thousand DOSES OF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON ON HOLD. DOCTOR HARRIS SAYS BECAUSE IT DOESN'T REQUIRE SPECIAL STORAGE, THE VACCINE WILL BE GOOD UNTIL JUNE..

4/29/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:25
Cruise Return

Good news if you're looking to hit the water for some cruisin. CARNIVAL COULD RESUME ITS CRUISES FROM MOBILE AS EARLY AS JULY-- FOLLOWING THE RELEASE OF NEW CDC GUIDELINES. But the news not sitting too well with some local health officials. NBC 15's Justin moore takes the story from here.

NAT POP - CRUISE HORN

A FAMILIAR SOUND IN DOWNTOWN MOBILE COULD BE RETURNING SOONER THAN LATER.

David Clark//president & ceo, visit Mobile
"It's nice to have some hope now that that's going to come back relatively soon."

DAVID CLARK, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF VISIT MOBILE SAYS HE'S THRILLED TO HEAR THE CDC IS RELAXING ON THE STRICT GIUIDELINES FOR CRUISES.
WHICH MEANS CARNIVAL COULD soon start sailing from mobile again.
a city that benefits from the cruise

David Clark//president & CEO, visit mobile
It's probably in the neighborhood of 35,000 hotel room nights a year. Plus support to our restaurants and everything we do in mobile."

THE FANTASY WAS THE LAST SHIP TO LEAVE MOBILE last year following the pandemic.
Under the new cdc guidance -----Ships can start carrying passengers as early as this summer... 98% of crew and 95% of passengers have to be fully vaccinated.

mobile's mayor sandy Stimpson who has been pushing to get cruising sent nbc15 this statement. he says...

PERSONALLY I AM VERY EXCITED TO SEE THE CDC OFFERING A CLEARER PATH FORWARD FOR THE INDUSTRY THAT WILL ALLOW CRUISES TO SAFELY RESUME OPERATIONS THIS SUMMER.

WE ARE STILL AWAITING CARNIVAL'S EVALUATION OF TODAY'S GUIDANCE FROM THE CDC.

I WOULD ENCOURAGE ANY MOBILIANS PLANNING ON CRUISING THIS SUMMER TO GO AHEAD AND REGISTER TO RECIEVE THE COVID-19 VACCNE.

Dr. Scott Chavers//Mobile County Health Department

"What concerns me now are the lower vaccination rates particularly with the first dose"

DOCTOR SCOTT CHAVERS WITH MOBILE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS cruising in July could be a superspreader waiting to happen.

he says NOT EVEN a third OF MOBILE COUNTY'S POPULATION is FULLY Vaccinated.

with so many people hesitant and against the vaccine, doctor chavers isn't sure if we will even reach herd immunity by the end of the year.

Dr. Scott Chavers//Mobile County Health Department

00:09:25

"I'm not very optimistic that all of this will be pulled together by July. would love to see it. it's so important to the city of mobile to have a cruise ship here. but to do it safely with the economic benefits that cruise ship brings is very very important."

JM NBC 15 NEWS

6/04/20 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: :31

Child Vaccines

WHILE COVID-19 infection NUMBERS ARE FALLING, DOCTORS SAY ELIGIBLE KIDS SHOULD STILL BE VACCINATED.

STATE health leaders will SPEND THE SUMMER ENCOURAGING MORE PARENTS TO GET KIDS 12 AND OLDER VACCINATED BEFORE SCHOOL. DOCTOR KATRINA SKINNER IS A pediatrician IN FAIRHOPE SHE SAYS many PARENTS COME INTO her office WITH CONCERNS ABOUT THE vaccine's SIDE EFFECTS on kids AND HOW IT WILL DAMAGE THEIR reproductive cells.

Dr. Katrina Skinner//fairhope pediatrics

"which there is no scientific evidence that back that up. this vaccination does not affect reproductive cells in a child's body. but parents so worried about that because they've seen talk about that on social media."

HEALTH EXPERT SAY IT TAKES ABOUT 5 WEEKS TO BE FULLY VACCINATED AND THAT'S WHY THEY ARE URGING PARENTS TO GET KIDS VACCINATED right NOW.

6/28/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:19

COVID Masks

OUTBREAKS OF THE DELTA VARIANT POSING A THREAT TO REOPENING PLANS AROUND THE WORLD. THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION URGING EVERYONE, VACCINATED OR NOT, TO WEAR MASKS AND PHYSICALLY DISTANCE... CONTRADICTING THE LATEST CDC GUIDANCE.

NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT AHTRA ELNASHAR TAKES A LOOK AT HOW THIS COULD IMPACT AMERICANS WHO ARE ALREADY RETURNING TO NORMAL LIFE.

AROUND THE WORLD, HOPE FOR A NORMAL SUMMER FREE FROM MASKS AND QUARANTINES, NOW FADING. AN EMPTY AIRPORT IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA AS THE PARTS OF THE COUNTRY BRING BACK STAY-AT-HOME ORDERS FOR TWO WEEKS TO CONTAIN AN OUTBREAK OF THE DELTA VARIANT.

IN ISRAEL, PRIME MINISTER NAFTALI BENNETT APPOINTING A SPECIAL CZAR AND REINSTATING INDOOR MASK MANDATES.

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, PREDICTING DELTA WILL BE THE DOMINANT STRAIN WORLDWIDE....URGING EVERYONE TO WEAR MASKS AND AVOID CROWDS...

DR. MARIANGELA SIMAO/WHO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL "This still continues to be extremely important, even if you are vaccinated."

IT WAS ONLY LAST MONTH THE CDC ANNOUNCED MASKS IN MOST SETTINGS ARE NOT NEEDED FOR THOSE WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED. THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME GUIDANCE ON MASKS HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF CONFUSION- IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR, THE W-H-O RECOMMENDED MASKS AFTER SAYING THERE WASN'T ENOUGH EVIDENCE HEALTHY PEOPLE NEEDED THEM.

AMERICAN HEALTH OFFICIALS ALSO CHANGED RECOMMENDATIONS EARLY IN THE PANDEMIC:

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI/DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

"Right now in the United States, people should not be walking around with masks."

JEROME ADAMS, M.D./FORMER U.S. SURGEON GENERAL (MARCH 2020) "Masks do not work for the general public."

"We ask people even when you're vaccinated, wear a mask."

THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC, FRUSTRATION AS DIFFERENT CITIES AND STATES HAD A PATCHWORK OF RULES BASED ON LOCAL CASES AND VACCINATION RATES.

RIGHT NOW, VACCINATED PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON, DC ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS INDOORS... 40 MILES AWAY IN BALTIMORE, THAT WON'T BE THE CASE UNTIL 65% OF ADULTS THERE GET THEIR FIRST DOSE.

((AHTRA ON CAM)) HERE IN WASHINGTON A BIPARTISAN GROUP OF SENATORS WRITING TO THE CDC AND TSA, ASKING FOR UPDATED GUIDANCE ON MASKS FOR TRAVELERS WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED... THOSE LAWMAKERS SAY THEY WANT ANSWERS BY JULY 12. WHILE MASK GUIDANCE IN THE U.S. COULD CHANGE ONCE AGAIN AS A RESPONSE TO THE DELTA VARIANT, A MESSAGE FROM WORLD LEADERS THAT HASN'T CHANGED IS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO GET VACCINATED... STILL THE KEY STRATEGY TO DEFEATING THE VIRUS AND ITS VARIANTS.

IN WASHINGTON, I'M AHTRA ELNASHAR REPORTING.

Public Safety

4/26/20 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:54
Lower Level Crimes

MANY AMERICANS BELIEVE CONTROVERSIAL CRIMINAL REFORM IS MAKING THEIR COMMUNITIES MORE DANGEROUS. PROGRESSIVE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AROUND THE

COUNTRY ARE CHOOSING NOT TO PROSECUTE SOME CRIMES AND GETTING RID OF CASH BAIL. ANGELA BROWN BREAKS DOWN THE DEBATE.

THESE REFORMS ARE GETTING BOTH PRAISE AND CRITICISM
ACTIVISTS ARE APPLAUDING PROGRESSIVE PROSECUTORS IN DEMOCRATIC STRONGHOLDS
FOR NOT PROSECUTING LOW LEVEL CRIMES, LIKE TRESSPASSING THAT CAN KEEP PEOPLE IN
JAIL FOR MONTHS, IF THEY CAN'T AFFORD BAIL..
BUT CRITICS SAY BY NOT CHARGING OTHER OFFENSES LIKE PROSTITUTION.. CRIME WILL GO
UP.

((((ANGELA TRACK)))

A BOLD MOVE IN THE BIG APPLE.

MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY CY VANCE ANNOUNCING LAST WEEK IN THIS MEMO.. THAT
HIS OFFICE WILL NOT PROSECUTE PROSTITUTION AND UNLICENSED MASSAGE..

BUT WILL STILL GO AFTER CLIENTS

HIS ANNOUNCEMENT COMES JUST WEEKS AFTER... BALTIMORE CITY STATE'S ATTORNEY
MARILYN MOSBY MADE HER COVID CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICIES PERMANENT.
BALTIMORE WILL NO LONGER PROSECUTE PROSTITUTION, DRUG POSSESSION... MINOR
TRAFFIC OFFENSE AND OTHER LOW-LEVEL CRIMES..

MOSBY SAYS VIOLENT CRIME IS DOWN 20 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Marilyn Mosby/Baltimore

There is a culture of stigmatization and criminalization that is imposed upon black people in this country
that we have got to change that's one of the reasons why a month ago i came out and basically said we're
not prosecuting these low level offenses that have nothing to do with public safety, we have to stop relying
on the police to respond to every social ill of society that for black people in this country could lead to a
death sentence.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IS ON THE FASTTRACK BY PROGRESSIVE PROSECUTORS
IN PHILADELPHIA, LARRY KRASNER.. CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MOST PROGRESSIVE D-A'S IN
THE COUNTRY

IS NOT PROSECUTING MINOR MARIJUANA POSSESSION OR CHARGING SEX WORKERS NEWLY
ELECTED L.A COUNTY D.A GEORGE GASCÓN SENT OUT THIS MEMO LAST DECEMBER
LISTING A WIDE RANGE OF MISDEMEANORS HIS OFFICE WILL NO LONGER CHARGE
INCLUDING

DRINKING IN PUBLIC

LOITERING TO COMMIT PROSTITUTION

AND RESISTING ARREST

((((ANGELA TRACK)))

THESE POLICIES ARE GETTING PUSH BACK

09:42:50

These rouge prosecutors or prosecutor movement started before covid and the pro criminals and
anti victim

IN SOME CITIES WHERE THESE REFORMS HAVE HAPPENED, THERE HAS BEEN A SPIKE
IN VIOLENT CRIME LIKE PHILADELPHIA
THE QUESTION BECOMES, IS THE SPIKE IN CRIME RELATED TO THE POLICY CHANGES.
IN WASHINGTON, I'M ANGELA BROWN

6/23/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:26

Group Home Followup

WE'RE LEARNING NEW INFORMATION TONIGHT ABOUT AN INVESTIGATION INTO AN ALLEGED
BEATING INSIDE A PRICHARD GROUP HOME. WE FIRST BROUGHT YOU THIS STORY
YESTERDAY AT 5.. 3 AGENCIES ARE NOW INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT WHICH LEFT A
MENTALLY DISABLED RESIDENT WITH BRUISES ON HIS BACK. THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
RESOURCES IS NOW INVESTIGATING THIS CASE ALONGSIDE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE AND PRICHARD POLICE. NBC 15'S RACHAEL WILKERSON HAS THE STORY.

THIS PICTURE SHOCKED THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND PRICHARD DETECTIVES.

THE VICTIM -- WHO POLICE SAY HAS INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES -- HAD A BLACK EYE, MULTIPLE ABRASIONS ON HIS BODY, A CUT TO THE BACK OF HIS HEAD PUNCTURE WOUNDS AND BRUISES ON HIS NECK.

IT HAPPENED IN THIS J-L-W GROUP HOME ON MEYER'S ROAD.

LT. ROBERT MARTIN WITH PRICHARD POLICE TOLD US THE VICTIM GOT INTO A DISPUTE WITH HIS --- CARETAKER --- 43 YEAR OLD LATARIA GILDERSLEEVE FROM MOSS POINT MISSISSIPPI..

The investigation shows that ms gildersleeve was there attending to the victim when something encountered, he got upset about the fact his family couldn't come visit him and idk what ensued between the two but at some point, in time she reached out to her boyfriend, and he came to the premises and he in the victim were engaged in a physical altercation

DHR HAS CONFIRMED THIS CASE IS ON ITS RADAR AND IT HAS BEGUN AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FACILITY..
the department of mental health HAS OVERSIGHT OVER the five J-L-W GROUP HOMES ACROSS THE COUNTY...

THIS INCIDENT HAS OTHER PARENTS WORRIED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF THEIR CHILDREN.

YESTERDAY, I REACHED OUT THE GROUP HOME SEVERAL TIMES FOR COMMENT. WE WERE TURNED AWAY AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE HOME AND TOLD NO COMMENT. I ALSO CALLED THE FACILITY FOR COMMENT, SOMEONE HUNG UP ON ME SEVERAL TIMES.
TODAY, WE TRIED J-L-W'S MAIN OFFICE IN SARALAND AND WERE TOLD THE MANAGER WAS IN A MEETING.. WE HAVE YET TO HEAR BACK..

LT. MARTIN SAYS IT'S THE WORST CASE THE CITY HAS SEEN INVOLVING A GROUP HOME RESIDENT AND THE FACILITY HAS FIRED GILDERSLEEVE

She has been terminated from that facility so thats a plus on that side because you dont want to have people that are being abusive or calling other people to be abusive to the residents there despite what you may encounter.

RW NBC 15 NEWS

WE'RE TOLD CHARGES ARE FORTHCOMING. WE'LL BRING YOU ANY UPDATES AS SOON AS THEY HAPPEN.

Consumer Awareness

4/15/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:05

Baldwin Jurisdiction

A BILL WITH SWEEPING CHANGES TO HOW CITIES AND COUNTIES DO BUSINESS WITH EACH OTHER IS ABOUT TO BECOME LAW... THIS MEASURE WILL LIMIT A CITY GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO EXERCISE ITS AUTHORITY BEYOND ITS NORMAL BOUNDARIES.. SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? NBC 15'S JAMES GORDON BREAKS DOWN THE LAW ...

PASSAGE OF THIS BILL DETERMINES WHO IS IN CHARGE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS - WHEN IT COMES TO SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS AND POLICE PROTECTION...

Huey Mack jr. / Baldwin county sheriff

"this piece of legislation is not the legislation that was initially introduced three years ago or last year. this legislation has been totally rewritten,"

THIS LEGISLATION PROVIDES A GRADUAL METHOD FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO REDUCE THEIR POLICE JURISDICTION IF THEY CHOOSE TO DO SO.

IF THEY DO PULL BACK -- COVERAGE COULD BE LEFT UP TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE...
EVENTHOUGH THE LEGISLATION DOES NOT REQUIRE MUNICIPALITIES TO PULL BACK THEIR COVERAGE.

"And thats why it was important in this legislation, number one they would have to stair step it in increments and number two give adequate notice, that would allow me then to go to the county commission and seek additional funding for those deputies,"

EVERY NEW DEPUTY WOULD COST THE COUNTY APPROXIMATELY 85 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN SALARY, TRIANING AND EQUIPMENT.

THE SHERIFF SAYS AS THE COUNTY GROWS IN POPULATION HE WOULD HAVE TO HIRE MORE OFFICERS ANYWAY.

sherry Sullivan/ Fairhope mayor

" its really going to make us re-evaluate how we do our planning and our police jurisdictions,"

FAIRHOPE'S MAYOR SAYS SHE ALONG WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE MAYORS IN BALDWIN COUNTY WERE INITIALLY AGAINST THE BILL -- BUT WILL FIND A WAY TO MAKE IT WORK.

Sullivan

"some of those areas really to the east those unzoned areas will start to see more impact from the county versus the city,"

THE BILL'S SPONSOR SENATOR CHRIS ELLIOT SAYS THE MAJOR VICTORY WITH THE BILL --- STATEWIDE -- IS IT GIVES CITY AND COUNTIES THE ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER.

---- AND IT ENDS "TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION" OVER TIME -- FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN THE COUNTY OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND IT ELMINATES A LOT OF CONFUSION.

sen. chris elliot (r) baldwin county

"its confusing for businesses to try and figure out who am i supposed to go to for a building permit, who polices me and who doesnt and what ordinances apply and what dont. its confusing to people. this aims to clarify that,"

JG NBC 15 NEWS

6/29/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 1:51

ARP Money City Council

58 MILLION DOLLARS! THAT'S THE WINDFALL MOBILE IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE IN FEDERAL COVID RELIEF DOLLARS FROM THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "AMERICAN RELIEF PLAN". BUT HOW TO SPEND THOSE MILLIONS DOMINATED TODAY'S MOBILE CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

MAYOR STIMPSON HAS RELEASED HIS OWN VISION FOR THE MONEY, BUT THE DECISION WILL ULTIMATE HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

TODAY A REPRESENTATIVE OF A GROUP CALLED THE SOUTH ALABAMA ECONOMIC ROUNDTABLE WANTED OT MAKE SURE THEY WERE NOT LEFT OUT OF THE DISCUSSION.

THE GROUP REPRESENTS NEIGHBORHOODS THAT HAVE BEEN PERSISTANLY AFFECTED BY POVERTY AND INEQUALITY. TERESA BETTIS IS THEIR SPOKESPERSON.

"We may nver have the opportunity again. And there are several communities here in Mobile who have been historically disadvantaged. And it's an opportunity to change it and create a foundation to create a legacy that is true equity. And you cannot have equity without transparency. And we need more transparency and discussion. If this is truly the people's plan, let's hear from the people."

If you have a vision that is divergent of this one, let us know what it is. We're telling you as clearly and as simply as we can that we're interested and we want the engagement. Tis is not being done under the cloak of secrecy."

"Everybody knows the city's getting 58 million dollars. So if you have a plan, submit the plan and we'll go from there."

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LEVON MANZIE IS ENCOURAGING LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS AND NON-PROFITS TO REACH OUT TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH IDEAS ON HOW TO SPEND THE MONEY.

THEY'RE PLANNING TO POST INFORMATION ON THE CITY'S WEB PAGE, BUT DECISIONS HAVE TO BE MADE SOON... AND BE SUBMITTED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BEFORE AUGUST 15TH.

Education

5/26/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:11
Stadiums

NEW TONIGHT-- VIGOR, LEFLORE, WILLIAMSON, DAVIDSON AND B.C RAIN HIGH SCHOOLS WILL ALL BE GETTING NEW STADIUMS NEXT YEAR. IT'S ALL PART OF A DEAL APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD TODAY... THE COST... 2 TO 5 MILLION DOLLARS A PIECE. THE SCHOOL SYSTEM SAYS IT'S AN INVESTMENT THAT WILL PAY FOR ITSELF AND THEN SOME OVER THE YEARS. NBC 15'S RACHAEL WILKERSON BREAKS DOWN TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

DON STRINGFELLOW - mcpss school board district 2

We are fantastically happy this has happened. this something we have been wanting to do for a long time.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS ON HOME TURF... WILL SOON BE REALITY FOR 5 MOBILE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT HAVE HAD TO TRAVEL TO LADD OR TRIMMIER PARK EVERYTIME THEY PLAYED A FOOTBALL GAME OR SOCCER MATCH..

DISTRICT 2 SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DON STRINGFELLOW SAYS HAVING A HOME FIELD WILL GENERATE NEW REVENUE FOR THE SCHOOLS THROUGH TICKET SALES, CONCESSIONS AND PARKING FEES--

About half our schools or close to them have their own stadiums which is important because they are money makers and you also home field advantage and so forth

VIGOR HIGH SCHOOL PLAYED ITS HOME GAMES AT PRICHARD MEMORIAL STADIUM UP UNTIL THE 2020 SEASON, WHEN IT WITHDREW OVER SAFETY CONCERNS WITH THE AGING FACILITY.

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT REGINALD CRENSHAW SAYS THAT'S WHEN HE TOOK ACTION

reginald crenshaw - school board president

This all came about when vigor indicated they were having problems with prichard stadium in terms of renovations and i met with the superintendent to seek funds for the stadium not only for vigor but throughout the system.

A MONTGOMERY ARCHITECTURE FIRM WAS SELECTED TO DESIGN THE 5 NEW STADIUMS. WHILE THAT'S IN THE WORKS.. THE SCHOOL BOARD SAYS SCHOOLS.. USING LADD WILL REMAIN THERE FOR THE 2021 FOOTBALL SEASON. TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT BRINGING HOPE --

brad lowell - mcpss atheltic director

It's a great day its going bring a lot of pride to the schools and excitement and i am looking forward to it.

sherry dillihay-mcdade district 4

We are looking forward to the opportunity to have football in our community. RW NBC 15 NEWS

MURPHY HIGH WILL BE THE LAST MOBILE COUNTY SCHOOL WITHOUT ITS OWN STADIUM. THAT'S BECAUSE OF ITS "LANDLOCKED" LOCATION IN MIDTOWN. THE SCHOOL BOARD SAYS THE SUPERINTENDENT IS WORKING OUT DETAILS TO ACCOMMODATE THEM.

6/25/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:02

Conecuh Teacher Meeting

BREAKING TONIGHT-- A CONECUH COUNTY TEACHER has resigned AFTER a video of her WENT VIRAL USING RACIAL AND HOMOPHOBIC SLURS. NBC 15'S CORY PIPPIN WAS AT an EMERGENCY called SCHOOL BOARD MEETING TODAY. AS HE REPORTS: THIS IS SOMETHING MANY PARENTS WERE HOPING FOR.

KYM - PARENTS HAD A LOT TO SAY ABOUT OLIVIA SQUIRES RESIGNATION. PRIOR TO THIS INCIDENT - THEY TELL ME THEY CONSIDERED HER A GOOD TEACHER AND ROLE MODEL FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

CONECUH COUNTY'S SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT APPROVED SQUIRES RESIGNATION AFTER A SHORT MEETING HERE WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION... AND SAYS IT WAS A DECISION SQUIRES MADE ON HER OWN. A NUMBER OF PARENTS WERE IN ATTENDANCE - UPSET OVER THE NOW VIRAL VIDEO OF AN ARGUMENT INVOLVING SQUIRES AND THE FATHER OF HER CHILD WHILE OFF SCHOOL GROUNDS... DURING WHICH SHE WAS SEEN USING MULTIPLE RACIAL AND HOMOPHOBIC SLURS AS INSULTS. SHE EVEN CALLED ONE OF HER CHILD'S FATHER'S RELATIVES A SLUR AGAINST MENTALLY DISABLED PEOPLE.

THE RANT UPSET MANY PEOPLE - INCLUDING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY HERE...CAUSING MANY PARENTS TO CALL FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT AND SCHOOL BOARD TO ACT.

HERE'S WHAT ONE FATHER HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE SITUATION - AND SQUIRES APOLOGY.

JIMMY TAYLOR, PARENT, LOCAL PASTOR

"She's taught my children. She was a good teacher actually so we were very hurt by this. She issued an apology but the apology did not come to the African-American community north to the gay community north to the handicapped who were disparaged in that display of anger,"

SUPERINTENDENT DR. TONYA BOZEMAN SAYS SCHOOL OFFICIALS WANTED TO TAKE THEIR TIME TO GET THEIR DECISION RIGHT - BUT SHE HOPES SQUIRES RESIGNATION CAN BEGIN TO HEAL THE HURT FELT BY SO MANY PEOPLE RIGHT NOW.

WE'LL HAVE MORE FROM PARENTS AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS COMING UP TONIGHT AT 10.

Crime

4/22/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 3:30

Police Body Cams

WE BEGIN TONIGHT WITH AN NBC 15 NEWS REALITY CHECK. WE'RE SCRUTINIZING A TRAFFIC STOP CAPTURED ON MOBILE POLICE BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE. AN ATTORNEY REPRESENTING ONE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE CAR THAT WAS PULLED OVER -- SAYS IT WAS AN UNLAWFUL SEARCH OF THE CAR... AND ULTIMATELY THE CHARGE AGAINST HER CLIENT WAS DROPPED. NBC 15'S ANDREA RAMEY HAS THE STORY YOU'LL ONLY SEE ON NBC 15 NEWS.

Tapping Roll down the window. Both windows

Mobile Police body cam footage shows an officer pull over a Honda Accord on Garrity Street September 9th last year.

Man come on whatcha y'all doing.

That's the first thing the officer says.... Twenty seconds later the front passenger -- a juvenile -- is taken out of the car and put in handcuffs and the back passenger asks why they were pulled over.

Cause yall didn't signal when you pulled off Gayle Street.

That's the first time you here the reason for the stop.

Christine Hernandez/Defense Attorney

They should've written a ticket, asked for a driver's license asked for registration none of that was asked for. The normal procedure for stopping a vehicle in a traffic stop was not followed. What they saw was four black kids a vehicle.

Lt. Chris Levy/Mobile Police

(Andrea - Why are they so aggressive in what is just a traffic stop?) There's several parts. These subjects are well known to these officers and they're known to have committed violent crimes prior to this stop. There's also the smell of marijuana coming out of the car.

Police immediately begin searching the car and discover guns....

(Andrea - No one is under arrest at this point. No one is giving consent for the search. Is this a lawful search? Absolutely with the smell of marijuana you have the reason to believe a crime is being committed.

I got a permit to carry a gun. That's not how that works.

Two of the occupants do have pistol permits. The driver 22 year old Maryon Williams and 20 year old Jamar McKay, a back passenger.

That's Jamar he had both guns. 10-4.

Officers acknowledge Jamar McKay had two of the pistols. and an AR-Rifle in the floorboard by his feet.

He's getting charged with that one because he passed it over.

19-year-old Okoye Day, who was in the back seat and doesn't have a pistol permit, is charged because police suspect he handed off one of the guns to McKay.

Hey found another one.

Two other hand guns are discovered in Williams trunk and a pistol under his seat. Police later determine the two guns found in Williams truck are stolen and charge him with receiving stolen property... his case is set to go before a grand jury.

I got some weed in the door.

McKay, was charged with marijuana possession. That charge was dropped this week. The court order notes the officer didn't appear in court, twice.

He didn't just dismiss because the officer wasn't there. The lawyers with my firm said judge we'll stand on the video alone. We don't have to have the officer. Just play the video. 36:34 They say we see marijuana. They never pull it out. They never produce it. They never inventoried it. Really what they wanted was guns.

The charge against Day was also dropped... the order also notes the officer didn't appear for court.

We can still pursue these charges we just have to go through another procedure. (Andrea - the grand jury.) The grand jury.

AR NBC 15 NEWS

5/25/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WPML) trt: 2:25
Attempted Carjacking

WE BEGIN WITH A CRIME ALERT TONIGHT. AN *87 YEAR OLD WOMAN IS RECOVERING AFTER she was *STABBED IN A MCDONALDS DRIVE-THRU. MOBILE POLICE SAY *THIS MAN* DAVID KELLY ATTEMPTED TO CARJACK HER... and mobile police SAY SHE WASN'T HIS FIRST VICTIM. NBC 15'S RACHAEL WILKERSON GIVES US AN UPDATE ON HER CONDITION.

MARGERY-JEAN BAXTER (VO)
I just felt like he was going to kill me or my puppy dog

87 YEAR OLD MARGERY-JEAN BAXTER AND HER DOG COCO WERE IN THE MCDONALDS DRIVE THRU ON DAUPHIN STREET AND SPRINGDALE BLVD WAITING ON MARGERY'S DAILY AFTERNOON COFFEE..

MARGERY-JEAN BAXTER
All of a sudden from no where. i didn't see this happening. this man jumped in the front seat of my car with a knife and started shoving it in my face..

A BYSTANDER SHOT THIS VIDEO SHOWING MARGERY ON THE GROUND.
SHE SAYS THE MAN -- MPD IDENTIFIES AS DAVID KELLY -- SLICED HER HAND, FOOT AND ARM..
AND YANKED HER OUT OF HER CAR..
MARGERY -- SAYS SHE IS USUALLY IN A WHEELCHAIR AND CANT' WALK BECAUSE OF HER ARTHRITIS..
..

MARGERY-JEAN BAXTER
He grabbed hold of me for a few minutes and he threw me out on the ground. if i had hit the cement it would have broken my back or crippled my hip..

SHE SAYS KELLY HOPPED IN HER CAR, TRIED TO BACK OVER HER, BUT COULDN'T GET THE CAR TO MOVE..

It was horrible and i was scared for my life.

MOBILE POLICE SAY KELLY ALSO PULLED A KNIFE AT THE CIRCLE K ACROSS THE STREET AND ALSO POINTED THE KNIFE AT A MCDONALDS EMPLOYEE WHILE MAKING THREATS

PRINCE PATEL IS THE MANAGER AT RED ROOF INN -- IT'S NEAR THE MCDONALDS.
PATEL SAYS HE HAD A CONFRONTATION WITH A MAN HE IDENTIFIED AS KELLY
AS YOU CAN SEE ON THIS SURVEILLANCE VIDEO . KELLY IS HOLDING A A KNIFE

prince patel

he was knocking on each door i saw him from the camera i walk myself out i told him to leave and he was holding a knife and he was trying to hit me with the knife so i told him please leave and he push me too

MPD ARRESTED KELLY AND CHARGED WITH TWO COUNTS OF ROBBERY AND MENACING..
MARGERY -- IS KNOWN IN THE MOBILE COMMUNITY FOR RIDING AROUND WITH COCO IN THE PASSENGER SEAT..
SHE SAYS SHE'S THANKFUL FOR THE OURPOURING SUPPORT

MARGERY-JEAN BAXTER

I appreciate everybody asking about it and I hope it never happens to them and I hope they take care of him.

RW NBC 15 NEWS

6/28/21 NBC 15 News at 7PM (WJTC) trt: 2:00

Mayor's Guns

THE LAST TWO STORIES ARE GOOD EXAMPLES OF THE CONCERN OVER THE NUMBER OF GUNS EITHER USED *IN* CRIMES OR STOLEN *DURING* CRIMES. IT'S NOT ONLY A CONCERN HERE-- IT'S HAPPENING ALL OVER ALABAMA. THAT'S WHY MAYORS FROM THE 10 largest CITIES IN ALABAMA ARE IN TOWN. NBC15's Justin Moore SAYS: THEY'RE PART OF A TASK FORCE FOCUSING ON THE RISE IN GUN VIOLENCE.

THEY ARE THE MEN WHO RUN ALABAMA'S TEN LARGEST CITIES.
ALL IN ONE ROOM SHAKING HANDS AND SHARING IDEAS ON HOW TO REDUCE CRIME.

Mayor Sandy Stimpson//City of Mobile

"We are not really sure of all the things we need to do to stop it. but there are certain things that we know we have to do."

THE BIG ten mayors met in downtown mobile for the first time since the pandemic for this summit.
all say there has been an uptick in gun violence since then.
they spent a day and a half brainstorming ways to tackle this nationwide epidemic.

Mayor Sandy Stimpson//City of Mobile

"in the state of Alabama we 100% support all of our men and women in blue."

ONE OF THE THINGS DISCUSSED WAS INVESTING MORE INTO HIRING MORE POLICE OFFICE
AND KEEPING THE RENTENTION RATE HIGH.

DESPITE SOME calls FOR DEFUNDING POLICE DEPARTMENTS.

THE GROUP OF MAYORS ALSO DISCUSSED INVESTING MORE INTO TAXPAYERS AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS.

MONTGOMERY IS SETTING THE STANDARD -- HELPING UNDEREMPLOYED HARDWORKERS GET INTO COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND GAIN NEW SKILLS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING.

Mayor Steven Reed//City of Montgomery

"And when it gets to some of our young people, we want to make sure that we provide some hope. that we provide some inspiration for them in term of what they can be."

MANY OF THESE CITIES WILL Receive MILLION IN FUNDS FROM PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN.

SOME OF THAT MONEY CAN BE USED TO ADDRESS CRIME.

Mobile's mayor sandy Stimpson is proposed using \$5.1 million to fight it WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS. an idea many of the mayors ARE LOOKING INTO.

MAYOR Walt Maddox//CITY OF Tuscaloosa

"We are going to have to use \$15 million of the arp just to make up lost revenue from prior physical year. but after that right now everything else is on the table to support law enforcement."

THESE MAYORS MADE IT CLEAR THAT GETTING GUNS OFF THE STREETS ISN'T THE ANSWER TO THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM.

Mayor Sandy Stimpson//City of Mobile

"it's not the guns that are pulling the trigger. people pulling the triggers.

JUSTIN MOORE NBC 15 NEWS

WJTC reporters and anchors volunteered for the following:

- Special Charity Work/Community Projects
- WJTC gives coverage and free advertising to Operation Reconnect to military veterans which helps them and their families vacation together.

Appearances:

Alan Sealls visited the following to speak about weather and broadcasting:

Apr 6	U of W FL communications class guest, via Zoom	30 students
May 4	Baldwin Co. Virtual Elementary, via Google	20 kids
May 5	Meadowlake ES, 3 rd grade, via Google	75 kids
May 11	Daphne East, ES, 6 th grade, via Zoom	90 kids
May 20	Griggs ES, 3 rd grade ,via Google	100 kids
Jun 9	Optimist Club summer camp, via Zoom	10 kids