

NOVEMBER 20, 2020

KJL WEEKLY UPDATE

Official newsletter of Khoury Johnson Leavitt



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Leavitt

KJL SPECIAL ALERT

The Khoury Johnson and Leavitt team remain informed and engaged during these times of uncertainty. We are in communication with leadership in the executive, legislative and judiciary branches of state government, in addition to locals on a regular basis. Updates will continue every Friday as a mechanism to recap relevant activity from the past week.

Mental health, law enforcement groups call on state for investment

A coalition of mental health and law enforcement groups announced this month a call to legislators to “invest in existing, proven state public health and safety programs.”

In their statement to all of Michigan’s elected officials and policy-makers, the organizations highlighted best-practices and longstanding partnerships that merit more attention and more funding.

The letter is signed by the Michigan Sheriffs’ Association, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan. “It outlines the vital and productive partnerships between mental health professionals and law enforcement – partnerships that have existed for years but without truly sufficient policy engagement and funding from lawmakers and other leaders.”

In the letter, the groups noted:

“Existing initiatives between mental health professionals, law enforcement professionals, prosecuting attorneys and community mental health systems throughout Michigan include:

- More than 50 mobile mental health crisis teams with skilled clinicians, or persons with lived mental health experiences, working in tandem with law enforcement agencies
- Co-responder initiatives—skilled clinicians from the community mental health system participating in local road patrols for immediate and community crisis response
- Advanced training for law enforcement and medical personnel on how to recognize and interact with persons facing mental health challenges (tactics covering verbal de-escalation, crisis intervention training for adults and youth, responding to mental health emergencies)—endorsed by the Michigan Mental Health Diversion Council
- Mental health and substance use disorder courts, sobriety courts, in-jail mental health and reentry programs”

MDHHS offers training sessions on handling mental health crises

Managing Mental Health Crisis is a series of webinars designed specifically for Michigan law enforcement, public safety and community mental health responders. It is funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, endorsed by the State of Michigan’s Diversion Council, MCOLES-approved and meets with MCOLES recommended annual officer trainings.

Live virtual classroom sessions are scheduled for 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 9-10, 16-17.

This course is the equivalent of the two-day classroom training. Participants must attend all four (4) sessions to receive a certificate. The sessions are free via support of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

To register and for more information, click [here](#). Deadline to register is Dec. 8 and seating is limited to 47 participants.

Legislative Update

House Speaker-elect Jason WENTWORTH (R-Farwell) has appointed two temporary committees to get the ball rolling for the coming legislative term.

The Committee on Committees will work to determine committee assignments beginning in January. It will be co-chaired by Rep. Mike MUELLER(R-Linden) and Rep. Mary WHITEFORD (R-Casco Twp.).

The Policy Action Plan Committee will meet with incoming House Republicans to discuss their top priorities and collect policy ideas. The committee will use that information to build the new House Republican Action Plan. The committee will be chaired by Rep. Graham FILLER (R-DeWitt) and Rep. Steven JOHNSON (R-Wayland).

Also on the Committee on Committees will be Rep. Thomas ALBERT (R-Lowell), Rep. Matt HALL (R-Emmett Twp.), Rep. Jim LILLY (R-Park Twp.), Rep. Sue ALLOR (R-Wolverine), Rep. Roger HAUCK (R-Union Twp.), Rep. Luke MEERMAN (R-Polkton Twp.), Rep. Ann BOLLIN (R-Brighton Twp.), Rep. Pamela HORNBERGER (R-Chesterfield Twp.), Rep. Greg VanWOERKOM (R-Norton Shores) and Rep. Ben FREDERICK(R-Owosso).

Also on the Policy Action Plan Committee will be Rep. Julie ALEXANDER (R-Hanover), Rep.-elect Andrew FINK (Hillsdale), Rep. ScottVanSINGEL (R-Grant), Rep.-elect Bob BEZOTTE (Marion Twp.), Rep. Phil GREEN (R-Millington), Rep. Jeff YAROCH (R-Richmond), Rep.-elect Steve CARRA (Three Rivers) and Rep.-elect John ROTH (Traverse City).



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KJL SOCIAL MEDIA



LINKEDIN: KHOURY JOHNSON LEAVITT

INSTAGRAM: @KJLFIRM

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.com

www.michigan.gov/ag

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.com

www.congress.gov.com

www.michiganbusiness.org

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