



Jerry Nolte
Clay County Presiding Commissioner
JNolte@claycountymo.gov
1 Courthouse Sq., Liberty, MO 64068

Scott Fricker
Platte County Presiding Commissioner
Scott.Fricker@co.platte.mo.us
415 Third Street, Platte City, MO 64079



Joint Statement - Clay and Platte County Presiding Commissioners

Kansas City Resolution 240412 – SANCTUARY CITIES
Released: April 20, 2024

Jerry Nolte and Scott Fricker, Presiding Commissioners of Clay and Platte Counties, call on Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas to withdraw his offer of jobs and taxpayer-funded services to illegal immigrants from New York and other sanctuary cities. The Mayor's actions appear to violate Missouri Law passed in 2008 by then Representative Nolte.

We further call on the Mayor to advance Councilman Nathan Willett's Resolution 240412 out of committee for a vote this month by the full Council. Resolution 240412, "Affirming to the Missouri State Legislature that Kansas City will not become a sanctuary city for undocumented immigrants", is an important resolution that we hope will be supported by the Mayor and by all Kansas City Councilmembers.

As Commissioners of counties that include significant portions of Kansas City, we are concerned that this misguided policy would violate Missouri Sanctuary City Law, possibly resulting in the loss of state funding currently contained in the proposed Missouri state budget. This budget includes millions of dollars in state funding for local law enforcement agencies, the loss of which would compromise the public safety of Kansas City residents living in our counties.

Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey issued a letter to Mayor Lucas dated April 18, 2024 stating that the Mayor is "encouraging businesses to become entangled in a fundamentally unlawful program, exposing them to legal liability in the process".

"We should not import the violence exemplified by undocumented migrants attacking police officers in Times Square and the brutal murder of Laken Hope Riley by an illegal immigrant who was issued a work permit and later released. We are not New York City", said Commissioner Nolte. "Forcing these reckless and likely illegal policies will only increase criminal activity and endanger Northland families."

The Mayor of New York City puts the cost of their migrant crisis at \$12 billion by the Summer of 2025. The cost of the Mayor's proposal will not be borne solely by Kansas City, but will be shared by citizens across the metropolitan area who have no say in this policy. A massive influx of migrants will inevitably impact surrounding areas like the Northland and increase the strain on an already serious housing crisis and on services for citizens like law enforcement, education, social services, and health care systems.

We urge the Mayor of Kansas City and the City Council to take up and pass Resolution 240412. We further urge our delegation to the Missouri Legislature, especially those who serve on budget committees, to be mindful of Missouri Law as it applies to state funding of Sanctuary Cities and the detrimental effect Mayor Lucas' policies would have on our communities and our families.

Honored to Serve,

A blue ink signature of Jerry Nolte, consisting of a stylized, cursive name.

Jerry Nolte
Clay County Presiding Commissioner

A blue ink signature of Scott Fricker, consisting of a stylized, cursive name.

Scott Fricker
Platte County Presiding Commissioner