CARES Act Funds

The State Finance Council has approved the Recovery Office’s plan for the distribution of federal CARES Act funding. Counties will be required to submit a resolution to the office by July 13, with distribution of funds scheduled for July 15. The resolution explicitly states that funds have to be shared with cities and school districts. Reimbursement for COVID-19 related expenses is expected first, with local governments having until August 15 to develop plans for using additional funds. Funds unspent or unencumbered by September 15 will be returned to the Recovery Office, and all expenditures must be completed by December 30, 2020. Guidance on allowable expenses can be found on-line.

The League staff will continue to update cities on the CARES Act funding and are actively monitoring the discussions on this topic.

Local Government Leaders Selected for Governor’s Racial Equity/Justice Commission

This week, Governor Kelly announced a 14-member Governor’s Commission on Racial Equity and Justice which will focus on law enforcement/community relations. The commission will study racial equity and justice in Kansas, and hold listening sessions with Kansans across the state and make recommendations to the governor, the Legislature, and local governments on steps that can be taken to increase racial equity and justice in Kansas.

Kelly’s Executive Order establishing the panel states: “racial inequity and injustice that impacts any Kansan is a threat to all Kansans. Citizens expect law enforcement officers to serve the public and conduct themselves with the highest standards of civility, fairness and honor toward citizens, while maintaining respect for the rule of law.”

Two local government officials were named to the Commission: Ernestor De La Rosa, Dodge City, Assistant City Manager of Dodge City and Gordon Ramsay, Wichita, Chief of Police. The commission will hold hearings and discussions with interest groups and make an initial report to Governor Kelly by Dec. 1.

Governing Body Institute moving to Virtual

Save the date for the afternoon of July 30 and morning of July 31 for a virtual Governing Body Institute. Mick Cornett, former Mayor of Oklahoma City, will join us virtually on Thursday afternoon, followed by additional content led by League staff Friday morning.

All registered attendees will receive a copy of the Governing Body Handbook (a $40 value) and access to the recordings if you cannot attend a portion of the training. If your city has four or more officials wanting to register, we are offering a group discount. Additional details can be found at our website.
STO & UPOC Publication & Timeline


The UPOC will have the following changes from the 2019 edition to the 2020 edition:

- Definition of Explosives will be added
- Section 5.7 - Selling, Giving or Furnishing Cigarettes or Tobacco Products to a Minor
- Section 6.24 - Typo Corrected
- Section 10.1 - Changes to the Weapons Code

Published by the League of Kansas Municipalities since 1980, the Uniform Public Offense Code (UPOC) contains approximately 100 public offenses that can be adjudicated in municipal court. While many of the provisions parallel state law, the UPOC also contains offenses that are frequently enforced only within cities. **Whether or not your city has incorporated previous editions of the UPOC, the new edition may be adopted by the publication of a single ordinance.** A manual explaining the procedures for incorporating the UPOC by reference is included with each order.

Due to the shortened legislative session, there were no changes to the Standard Traffic Ordinance 2020 edition. We are offering the book for sale if you are in need of fresh copies. The cover has been updated to be uniform with the UPOC for 2020.

Published by the League of Kansas Municipalities since 1960, the Standard Traffic Ordinance (STO) is an efficient, economical way to regulate traffic in Kansas cities. **Whether or not your city has incorporated previous editions of the STO, the new edition may be adopted by the publication of a single ordinance.** A manual explaining the procedures for incorporating the STO by reference is included with each order.

If your order is received prior to July 3, member cities will receive a $1.00 per book discount, from the stated prices. Books will be mailed by the end of July.

Please specify the number of hard copy editions. 1-4 copies are $9.00 each, 5-10 copies are $8.50 each, 11-30 copies are $8.00 each, over 30 are $7.50 each. Non member copies are $12.75 each. Quantity pricing will be adjusted upon invoicing. Please DO NOT pay from your order confirmation.

If you have questions about the STO or UPOC ordering, contact Rynae Redd. Order manuals on-line.

KOMA & KORA for Municipal Officials | VIRTUAL CLASS

Maintaining openness in government is a key responsibility for elected and appointed city officials. It is critical that city and county attorneys, along with elected and appointed officials, have a working knowledge of both the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and Kansas Open Records Act (KORA). This workshop provides an in-depth legal analysis of both KOMA and KORA. During the KOMA portion of the training, attendees will learn about: Types of governmental bodies and meetings covered by KOMA; requirements of the Act; serial meetings; executive sessions, including proper procedure to recess; authorized subject matter, and who may attend; enforcement and penalties. The KORA section of the training will focus on the: policies and procedures all cities should establish; effects of social media; and KORA exemptions.

Register for our VIRTUAL CLASS on August 13, 8:30 a.m. to Noon, on our website.