



Board of Directors Meeting Report
April 23, 2026
600 Jefferson; conference room #2; 3:30 p.m.

Board of Directors chair Ben Adams called the board meeting to order.

BOARD AND OFFICER UPDATES

The January 22, 2026 Board Report was presented to the Board for approval and approved by vote.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENTED FOR VOTE AND APPROVAL:

- Qu'ran Folsom, Chief Administrative Officer for Juvenile Court
- Terence Reilly, FBI Special Agent in Charge, replacing former FBI SAC Joe Carrico

The motion to accept the new board members was presented, seconded, and approved by the Board.

FIRST QUARTER KEY PLAN OUTCOMES & SELECTIVE ACTION STEP OUTCOMES

Mr. Bill Gibbons presented the First Quarter Key Plan Outcomes and selected Action Step Outcomes. During his presentation, Mr. Gibbons reported that the major violent crime rate from January through March 2026 decreased by 30.5% in the city of Memphis compared to the same period in 2025. The major violent crime rate in Shelby County also decreased by 29.3% compared to 2025.

Mr. Gibbons further reported that the major property crime rate in Memphis decreased by 45% compared to 2025, while Shelby County experienced a 44.6% decrease in the major property crime rate during the same period. Additionally, violent incidents involving guns decreased by 37.4% in Memphis.

Regarding domestic violence, Mr. Gibbons noted that firearms continue to be the weapon most frequently involved in domestic violence cases. He reported that the domestic violence rate from January through March 2026 decreased by 9.2% in Memphis and 8.5% countywide compared to the same period in 2025. Mr. Gibbons

further stated that domestic violence remains one of the more commonly reported crimes within the Hispanic community and suggested that recent decreases may, in part, reflect hesitancy among some victims to report offenses.

Mr. Gibbons also referenced recent reporting indicating an increase in drug and narcotics violations and noted this increase may reflect proactive law enforcement efforts rather than an increase in underlying criminal activity. Additionally, crime reductions in Memphis have not resulted in crime being displaced to suburban communities such as Germantown and Collierville.

Chairman Ben Adams also commented that first-quarter violent crime levels are lower than previously recorded for 2011, which has been our lowest year for violent crime since we began tracking it. Despite the encouraging local trends, he noted that Memphis may still rank among the nation's top cities in certain crime categories in future FBI crime reports.

Chief C.J. Davis provided an update on the Memphis Police Department's recruitment and training efforts. She stated that MPD continues to focus on hiring and training new officers to strengthen the department's capacity and sustain recent crime reduction gains. Chief Davis noted that with the future departure of the Memphis Safe Task Force, it will be important to maintain momentum in both officer recruitment and crime reduction efforts.

Mr. Gibbons also discussed the development of the new Safe Community Action Plan and noted that addressing chronic absenteeism should be a key area of focus. He explained that chronic absenteeism is defined as missing more than 10% of scheduled school days. Mr. Gibbons reported that approximately 30% of students in Memphis-Shelby County Schools are chronically absent, with the rate exceeding 38% among students in grades 9 through 12.

Board member Qu'ran Folsom provided insight on recent changes within the Juvenile Court system designed to address this issue. She explained that chronic absenteeism cases are being moved from detention-related dockets to dependency and neglect dockets, allowing the court to provide more targeted support and intervention for families. Discussions are underway with Memphis-Shelby County Schools regarding earlier notifications to the court system when attendance problems arise.

UPDATE ON STATE TROOPER ACTIVITIES IN MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY

THP Lieutenant Colonel Johnson stated that the primary focus of the Tennessee Highway Patrol has been supporting public safety efforts in partnership with the Memphis Safe Task Force. He noted that the long-term goal is to have 100 Tennessee Highway Patrol troopers assigned permanently to Shelby County. Currently, 64 road

troopers are serving permanently Shelby County.

Lieutenant Colonel Johnson reported that the Tennessee Highway Patrol achieved a record reduction in traffic fatalities during the previous year. He explained that traffic enforcement efforts, including stops for minor traffic violations, have resulted in the seizure of illegal weapons, the arrest of individuals with outstanding felony warrants, and the confiscation of illegal narcotics.

As of April 16, 2026, there had been 23 fewer traffic fatalities compared to the same period in 2025. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson stated that the entire reduction occurred within the county's urban areas.

UPDATE ON STATUS OF DV STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Gibbons provided an update on the Domestic Violence Strategic Plan, which is focused on increasing accountability for perpetrators while enhancing services and support for victims. He reported that the Public Safety Institute (PSI) continues to convene monthly with stakeholders and is scheduled to present the completed strategic plan on July 17, 2026, at the FedEx Event Center. All Board members will be invited.

Key components under consideration include expanded housing resources for domestic violence victims, creation of a new Family Justice Center, development of an electronic Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) for use by the Memphis Police Department and others, and the establishment of a rapid response team for high-risk domestic violence cases.

UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. Gibbons also provided an update on the legislative agenda supported by the Crime Commission and recently passed by the Tennessee General Assembly. Highlights included \$50 million in state funding for downtown safety initiatives, legislation addressing gun-related felony offenses, and stronger penalties for cargo theft.

FINANCIALS

Mr. Gibbons presented the current financial status of the Crime Commission and reported that the organization's finances remain stable. Chairman Ben Adams emphasized that fundraising efforts would remain an ongoing priority.

Mr. Gibbons reported that Commissioner Brandon Morrison has expressed interest in providing a \$200,000 grant to support Crime Commission operations. The funding is contingent upon the submission and approval of a grant application.

Mr. Gibbons also reported that the annual audit identified one observation related to the recording of golf tournament revenue in an incorrect fiscal year. Corrective measures have been implemented to ensure revenues are recorded in the appropriate fiscal period going forward.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Ben Adams adjourned the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTENDANCE:

1. Ben Adams
2. Louis "Bo" Allen
3. Andrew Bland, III
4. Sheriff Floyd Bonner
5. Sgt. J. Matt Cunningham
6. Tom Cowens
7. Chief Jeff Cox
8. Chief C. J. Davis
9. Susan Deason
10. U. S. Atty. D. Michael Dunavant
11. Qu'ran Folsom
12. Joe Fracchia
13. Jeffrey Higgs
14. Henry Hooper
15. Lt. Col. Jimmie Johnson
16. Pastor James Kirkwood
17. Jeffrey McNamara
18. U. S. Marshal Tyreece Miller
19. Joseph Saab
20. Stacey Sherley-Muhammad
21. Leslie Taylor
22. Coleman Thompson
23. Com. Mick Wright
24. Andrew Kiepe
25. DC Andrew Brown
26. Mike Fisher
27. Will Walker
28. Ray Lemons
29. Dr. Bernard Williams
30. Martin Kula
31. Tamika Williams
32. Jeremy Baker
33. Bill Piper

- 34. David Clow
 - 35. Brad Wilburn
 - 36. A. C. Brown
 - 37. Valerie Matthews
 - 38. Terence Reilly
 - 39. Joe Gurley
 - 40. Alexandria Taylor
 - 41. Councilman Jeff Warren
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Presented by:

Sharon (Sam) Walker
Chief Administrative Officer