



Police Department

**HEARING ON HB 2446
Committee on Judiciary
3:30 p.m. on January 22, 2020**

Chairman Patton and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

The Wichita Police Department supports amendments proposed to K.S.A. 22-2512, which clarify when property receipts must be turned into courts for seized property. It opposes other amendments that require the return of firearms, especially those that require the release of firearms to juveniles, without the parent's knowledge.

The Wichita Police Department welcomes the clarification that a receipt need only be given to the court when the court issued a search warrant. This is a much needed change. The amendment also allows for the electronic filing of property receipts, which modernizes the search warrant system.

The amendment requires that in juvenile offender cases, that the juvenile's parents be contacted for the return of the firearm. If they cannot be contacted, the detective is to contact the juvenile/suspect directly to return the firearm. Imagine law enforcement contacting a fifteen year old who used a rifle against another person, but the case was dismissed because the witness could not be found. This amendment would require the officer to contact the juvenile and return the firearm, regardless of the juvenile's threat level to the community and without the consent of the parent. The juvenile could be possessing the firearm without the knowledge or permission of the parent. Forcing law enforcement to return firearms to known gang members when the parents are not even aware of the offender's gang affiliation endangers the family and the community.

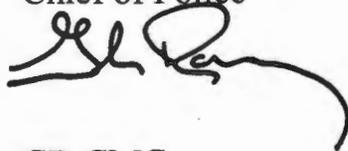
Finally, requiring law enforcement to transfer the firearm to a properly licensed federal firearms dealer designated by the owner means that a felon who knowingly possessed a firearm will get the opportunity to sell the firearm through a dealer and profit from the sale. A domestic violence offender who threatens the victim with

death will get to sell the firearm for a profit. These amendments benefit the offenders to the detriment of the community, allowing them to arguably profit from their crimes.

The Wichita Police Department supports the clarification of receipts on property, but urges denial of this legislation as it endangers the community.

Respectfully,

Gordon Ramsay
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Ramsay', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

GR:CMG