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Online <http://mnks.us/ad>
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All real estate advertised is subject to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

CLASSIFICATIONS	
1 Personals	14 Real estate
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01 PERSONALS

FACED WITH a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) can help. Weekly meetings. Open to the public. Come see us 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays at St. Luke Medical Clinic basement, 537 S. Freeborn St., Marion.

MARION CHAPTER of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 9:30 a.m. Thursdays, Hilltop Manor, 1501 E. Lawrence St., Marion.

04 GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE - 417 N. Coble, Friday 1 to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m to 4 p.m. Clothes, kitchen items, bee keeping supplies and much more.

17 FOR RENT

STORAGE UNITS available - North Roosevelt or South 3rd Street, Marion. Many sizes, yearly rates. Call Jim, (316) 284-2231 or call (316) 284-1299.

18 HELP WANTED

MARION COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

is accepting applications for
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Must have experience in equipment operation and maintenance. CDL license is preferred. Drug testing will be required. EOE. Applications may be picked up at Road and Bridge Office, 1240 Commercial Dr., Marion.



MARION
COUNTY, KANSAS

MARION COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

is accepting applications for
SUMMER OR PART TIME HELP

Positions opened until filled. EOE. Drug testing will be required. Applications may be picked up at Road and Bridge Office, 1240 Commercial Dr., Marion.



MARION
COUNTY, KANSAS

24 KANSAS CLASSIFIED

PLACE YOUR 25-word classified in the Kansas Press Association and 135 more newspapers for only \$300 a week. Find employees; sell your home or your car. Call the Kansas Press Association at (785) 271-5304 today!

ATTENTION: VIAGRA and Cialis users! A cheaper alternative to high drug store prices! 50 pill special, only \$99! 100% guaranteed. Call now: (866) 481-0668

WE BUY vintage guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'angelico,

Stromberg. And Gibson mandolins / banjos. These brands only. Call for a quote. (877) 560-1992

CASH PAID for high-end men's sport watches. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner, and Speedmaster. Call (866) 481-0636

GOT AN unwanted car? Donate it to Patriotic Hearts. Fast, free pick up. All 50 states. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: (877) 560-5087

BATH AND shower updates in as little as one day! Affordable prices; no payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty and professional installs. Senior and military discounts available. Call: (866) 481-0747

STOP OVERPAYING for health insurance! A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call now for a no-obligation quote: (888) 519-3376. You will need to have your ZIP code to connect to the right provider.

INJURED in an accident? Don't accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to cash settlements in the \$10,000's. Get a free evaluation to see what your

case is really worth. 100% free evaluation. Call now: (888) 920-1883

AGING ROOF? New homeowner? Storm damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call (877) 589-0093. Have ZIP code of property ready when calling!

WATER DAMAGE cleanup and restoration: a small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: (877) 586-6688. Have ZIP code of service location ready when you call!

NEED NEW windows? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! Call for a consultation and free quote today. (866) 766-5558. You will need to have your ZIP code to connect to the right provider.

25 PUBLIC NOTICES

First published May 14, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas, (2t)

HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO 1, MARION COUNTY, KANSAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD ELECTIONS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING May 27, 2025 at 5:00 pm in the St. Luke Medical Clinic basement 535 S. Freeborn Street, Marion, Kansas. Expired terms of office will be seats held by Byron Lange and Jeff Soyez. Anyone interested in becoming a candidate can call Lindsay Hutchison at 620-382-2177 for more information.

M-35-36-2704

First published May 14, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

OWNER: City of Peabody
300 N. Walnut
Peabody, KS 66866

Sealed Bids for the construction of **CITY OF PEABODY - WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS 2024 WALNUT AVE PHASE** will be received either in person at the Office of the City Clerk or to the online plan room of EBH Engineering (<https://ebhengineering.com/planroom/>) until 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Bids received after this time will not be accepted. Bids will be opened and read aloud immediately after the specified closing time.

Work consists of: The major items of work include: 1,300 linear feet 8" C900 PVC Pipe, 2,300 linear feet 6"

C900 PVC Pipe, 620 linear feet of 4" C900 PVC Pipe, 3,400 linear feet of 1" Poly Service line, 7 each 8" Gate Valve w/Valve Box, 28 each 6" Gate Valve w/Valve Box, 9 each Fire Hydrant Assembly (3-way), 3 each 8" Waterline Connections, 7 each 6" Waterline Connections, 3 each 4" Waterline Connections, 47 Service Line Connections, 165 square yards 6" Concrete Patching, 480 linear feet of Rem/Replace Curb & Gutter, 7 each Sanitary Sewer Crossings, 17 Valve Abandonments, 11 Fire Hydrant Abandonments, 12 Waterline Abandonments, 2900 square yards Rem/Repl Sidewalk, 22 ADA Ramps, 50 linear feet of Railing, Seeding, Erosion Control, Traffic Control and other appurtenances.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the City of Peabody, City Hall OR Electronic copies of the bidding documents may be obtained through the Engineer's website: www.ebhengineering.com/plan-room, by entering your information in the required fields. Addenda, if any, and Plan Holders list will also be available through the EBH online Plan Room. Project Funding – This project is funded in part by the Kansas Public Water Supply Revolving Loan Fund through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and funded in part by the Kansas Department Of Commerce BASE Grant.

Equal Employment Opportunity – Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the presidents Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity) as amended. Requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

Anti-Discrimination – "Bidders on this work, including sub-contractors or vendors, will be required to comply with the Kansas Act Against Discrimination (K.S.A. 44-1001 et. seq.) and the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act (K.S.A. 44-1111 et. seq.)."

Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions – "Bidders must fully comply with Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part 1532, entitled Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions. Contractors, subcontractors, or suppliers that appear on the Excluded Parties List System at www.sam.gov are not eligible for award of any contracts funded by the KDHE State Revolving Fund programs."

Anti-Lobbying – All contracts and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a SRF Loan Agreement shall comply with the Anti-Lobbying Act, Section 319 of Public Law 101-

121, and file an Anti-Lobbying Certification form, and the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form, if required, to the next tier above.

Davis Bacon Wage Determination – Conditions of employment to be observed and minimum rates to be paid under the contract (Davis Bacon Act), Section 3 of 1968 Housing & Urban Development Act. Bidders attention is directed to the Davis-Bacon Labor Standards Contractor's Guide to Prevailing Wage Requirements for Federally-Assisted Construction Projects located at: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/4812-LRGUIDE.PDF>.

American Iron and Steel – All of the iron and steel products used in the project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel-lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials. A Certification form must be submitted with the bid documents.

Labor Standards – The prevailing wage rates of the State of Kansas apply to this contract as do any requirements of the State of Kansas associated with the use of these State Prevailing wages. The prevailing wage rates of the Department of Labor apply to this project.

Building a Stronger Economy (BASE) Funding – The project is partially funded with BASE grant funding from the Kansas Department of Commerce. BASE grant funding will only be utilized on line items pertaining to Add/Alternate 1 Bid. The funds and ONLY these funds are exempt from the following federal program requirements: Federal Rail Administration, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements.

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the bid shall accompany each bid in accordance with **Instructions to Bidders**.

Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60-days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

M-35-2705

POLICE: Background checks no holdup for police jobs

son also alleged Watts attempted to cheat on a certification exam by asking other deputies to take the test for him.

Watts was looking to be fully certified in Nevada after receiving full California certification in 2016.

After resigning from the Mineral County department, Watts joined nearby Walker River before Ferguson pressured him into another resignation.

"Walker River Tribal hired Watts and another subject," Ferguson said. "It was my belief they are both Brady officers, and I would not allow them to utilize our dispatch."

Ferguson said Watts filed a complaint with the Nevada Attorney General but that the AG sided with the sheriff.

"They stated I was within my rights to believe both officers were Brady issues and their complaint was closed," Ferguson said.

"Brady" is a reference to being on a list of officers whose credibility in criminal cases can be questioned because of allegations of misbehavior.

An open records request was made in order to see the complaint. The *Record* was told Tuesday that it would take until August to find the documents.

Despite this baggage, Watts was hired in Elk County, Kansas — where he became the subject of an ongoing brutality lawsuit — and then Peabody, where he worked for seven months before

the *Record* reported on the allegations against him.

Watts' nomadic nature begs a question of who is responsible for ensuring an officer who has committed serious misconduct cannot cover his or her tracks by moving between states.

In Mineral County, Watts was not prosecuted or reported to Nevada Peace Officers Standards and Training commission for his alleged offenses.

Ferguson said there was not enough evidence for his department to seek prosecution. Inmates came forward with testimony only after Watts left the department, he said.

Adam Fortier, who investigated Watts, said he hoped to find video of Watts having sex in the prison kitchen. But by the time he was made aware of the allegations, the prison's security video had recycled.

The report did uncover text messages in which Watts appeared to solicit sexual favors, but the woman texting with him deleted key messages in-between, Ferguson said.

Mineral County not filing charges meant state POST departments, responsible for flagging officers' misdemeanors, saw Watts' record as clean.

"If an agency does not report criminal activity to me, I am not able to bring it to the POST commission for a hearing," Nevada POST chief Kathy Floyd said.

Even if Watts had been charged, a loophole in the POST system worked in his favor.

Watts could not be decertified and placed on the National Decertification Index because he was not certified in Nevada to begin with.

The index is the primary tool used by POST commissions to track misbehaving cops.

It is unlikely an officer on the index will be hired in other states, though some are more diligent about using the database than others.

Watts was only provisionally certified in Nevada and Kansas. A spokesman for Kansas CPOST said that while a provisionally certified officer might have certification revoked for committing a "training act violation," such officers are not placed on the index.

California law gives three years without working in the state before certification expires.

Watts last worked there in 2017, meaning his only full law enforcement certification has expired.

But for someone looking to become an officer in Kansas, it doesn't matter.

"Anyone can get provisional certification based on employment, provided there's no evidence of a certification revocation," the spokesman said.

Provisional certification is granted regardless of training level.

"We have lots of people who, once they hit that minimum age requirement of 21, start brand-new law enforcement [careers]," the spokesman said. "Typically, what that would look like

is the officer doing some field training, riding along with other officers, doing training in the office."

But Watts was not doing field training in Peabody or Elk County.

He was a proper police officer in both locations, including a period of two weeks in which he served as Peabody's only officer.

In Kansas, provisional certification lasts one year, though CPOST can extend the deadline.

If provisional certification expires or is revoked, the officer must wait a year before applying again.

Watts waited a year and two weeks after resigning in Elk County before securing his job in Peabody.

Strangely enough, this is more leeway than a fully trained officer receives.

If a Kansas officer's certification is revoked after they go through basic training, they must wait five years before applying again.

Once again, the fact Watts was not fully certified worked to his favor.

CPOST systems for tracking unruly officers are part of the problem, but responsibility also falls on hiring agencies.

"[Watts] is not going to agencies that have a thorough process," Finnell said. "They would disqualify him."

Background checks are required under Kansas law. KSA 74-5605 states that all officers must be "of good moral character"

and that no officer who has committed "a misdemeanor or offense that... reflects on the honesty, trustworthiness, integrity or competence of the applicant" should be hired.

As such, police departments typically review the officer's employment history, speak with past employers, and determine whether the officer has been the subject of a Brady disclosure, as Watts was in Nevada.

Finnell said small police departments often look for any officer they can, and sometimes do not perform adequate background checks.

"The national dialogue now is that there's a shortage of qualified individuals interested in law enforcement," he said. "But a person like this, it appears, is not really qualified."

Neither Elk County nor Peabody contacted Ferguson before hiring Watts.

Sometimes, a hiring agency might do its best to perform a background check but struggle to receive information from former employers.

Ferguson said this often is the case when his department tries to hire.

"They're hesitant to share information with you," he said. "They don't want to give too much information if it's a bad cop."

Despite allegations surrounding Watts, he likely will find work again in a year when he can attain provisional certification.

He could even move out of

Kansas and find a new job right away.

Missouri requires one to pass basic training first if one's previous certification has expired, but Oklahoma is similar to Kansas; if Watts is hired there, he will have a six-month window to work as an officer before he is required to possess basic certification.

The situation highlights a frustrating system not just within Kansas but the United States.

CPOST systems rarely discipline an officer without a criminal charge. Local police departments are reluctant to share information. Others don't adequately perform background check. And state laws mean a man accused of sexual assault, brutality, and soliciting drugs and sex can continue, again and again, to become a powerful police officer in local communities.

"That dude is not qualified to be a cop anywhere," Fortier said.

Finnell agreed.

"I know people can change, but these are certain character flaws that, unless there's some real effort, real desire, and real consequences, it doesn't sound like this guy's going to change," he said. "He just quits and goes somewhere else, which is tragic."

Letters CONTINUED

FROM PAGE 2

ticle stating she was any of these things. So, Trump has continued to lie about that as well as everything else.

We need to resist, protest, and never give up. I write one senator nearly every week. The other one is an idiot, so I don't waste my time. I know it's Kansas, but miracles do happen.

Vici Murphy
Hillsboro

Editor's note — The newspaper has no policy against letters about politics. Because we are a local newspaper, however, we require that letters relate to local issues we cover, not purely national issues covered by national news organizations.

FROM PAGE 10

nected 911 call from the 600 block of Walnut St.

May 7 — Police talked to residents about a parking complaint in the 600 block of Hudson St. and about bicycle registration in the 1000 block of E. Main St.

Thursday — A driver was ticketed for going 33 mph in a 20-mph zone on Main St. near Elm St. Other drivers were warned for having overly tinted windows near Main and Roosevelt Sts. and for having a defective headlight near US-56 and Timber Rd.

Friday — Drivers were warned for speeding near US-56 and Cedar St.

and for having a defective headlight near Main and Locust Sts.

Saturday — A loose dog was returned to the 200 block of Tanglewood St. Police were unable to catch a dog loose in the 300 block of W. Santa Fe St. Suspicious activity reported in the 1500 block of E. Main St. was not found. Police checked on what turned out to be a false alarm in the 600 block of Walnut St. Police talked to a resident about a child custody issue, and the child involved was taken into protective custody.

Sunday — A 79-year-old woman required stitches at St. Luke Hospital after being bitten on the leg while

trying to break up a fight between her dog and another dog in the 300 block of S. Lincoln St. Police checked on a resident of the 300 block of Elm St. A driver was warned for having a defective license plate light near US-56 and Industrial St.

TRAFFIC DIVISION CASES

This information was filed last week in court. Court costs are included in any fines listed. If no hometown is listed, no address was available on court records.

cords.

Juan D. Chavez, 87 mph in a 65 zone April 22, \$231.

Misti R. Griffin, 83 mph in a 65 zone April 10, \$201.

Danielle Howell, 80 mph in a 65 zone April 10, \$183.

Mark G. King, 80 mph in a 65 zone April 1, \$183.

Jhon Macias, 75 mph in a 65 zone March 24, \$153.

Darcie K. Mashburn, 79 mph in a 65 zone April 16, \$177.

Stanislav Slipchenko, using wireless communication while driving to send or receive messages and 84 mph in a 65 zone April 21, \$267.