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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Council Member Joins Safety and Crime Reduction Commission for Mini-Grant Announcement

Jacksonville, Florida – With the rates of violent crime being near 4 per thousand residents in [Jacksonville](#)¹, one group is doing the work to help decrease that statistic. The Safety and Crime Reduction Commission, chaired by Ronnie King, is a citizen-led group created by the Jacksonville City Council to help combat violent crime in the community.

“One of the aims of the commission is to create opportunities to help organizations that are already in the community doing the work”, said King, who is also the President of 100 Black Men Jacksonville.

On Friday, King and Jacksonville City Council Member Rahman Johnson will announce a pioneering initiative to improve safety and reduce crime in local neighborhoods. The Safety and Crime Reduction Commission will have \$300,000 in mini-grants available to community organizations dedicated to fostering a safer environment. Details about how organizations can apply for the funds will be announced during the Press Conference at City Hall.

Through the council, Johnson was able to allocate \$100,000 in additional funds specifically focused on increasing mental health resources.

“I am following in the footsteps of former Council Members Terrance Freeman and Sam Newby who were instrumental in ensuring that the commission has the necessary funds to create sustainable change in our community”.

Johnson, King, members of the City Council, and the Mayor’s Office will join for the announcement on **Friday, March 1, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lynnwood Roberts Room, City Hall at St. James (117 West Duval Street Jacksonville, FL 32202)**. The team will share program objectives, the application process, and ways to make the grant more impactful.

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About [Rahman](#) ([RAAK] + [MUHN] Johnson

Jacksonville City Council Member Rahman Johnson was elected to represent District 14 in May 2023. The district encompasses the southwestern portion of the city to the Clay County line, including Argyle Forest and Oak Leaf Plantation. Council Member Johnson is dedicated to improving Jacksonville through responsible governance and community-focused initiatives. He is committed to fostering economic development, enhancing public safety, and addressing critical infrastructure needs in his district and throughout the city. Johnson serves on the Land Use and Zoning and Rules Committees. He is also the liaison for the Joint Planning Committee, the Library Board of Trustees

1 - <https://crimegrade.org/violent-crime-jacksonville-1/#:~:text=Jacksonville%20is%20in%20the%2044th%20percentile%20for%20safety%2C%203.983%20per%201%20000%20residents%20during%20a%20standard%20year.>