





Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary In Support of SB204

March 11, 2025

Chair Humphries and Committee Members:

The Kansas Sheriffs Association supports SB204 as amended by the Senate Committee of the Whole. Juvenile records should be sealed. This is particularly true of the arrest warrant and associated affidavit. The sealing of arrest warrants and related affidavits is not only necessary due to the juvenile nature of the case, <u>but also critical for officer safety</u> that this information not be made public prior to service of the warrant. We also note KSA 21-5906 makes it a crime to disclose arrest or search warrant information prior to service of the warrant. Disclosure of the affidavit also discloses a warrant is being sought.

It is also important to retain the exception for law enforcement as included on page 1, lines 21-23 of the bill. This amendment was made at our request to the Senate committee. This access is necessary for investigative purposes as well as for the service of the warrant.

Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County Sheriff KSA Legislative Committee Chair