

The Knoxville Police Academy and Review Committee celebrated 20 years of service as a mediator between the city police and citizens last week. The event, held in the City-County Building third afternoon, recognized the citizens committee for efforts.

One of a few such groups in the state, the city Hall committee has been recognized by three County Mayor Steve Cooper as a positive model for the county. Formed in 1998 under Mayor Victor Ashe and adopted in ordinance by the City Council in 2004, the committee usually meets each quarter in public sessions to hear comments from the public and meetings are taped around throughout the city to reach more of the public. HRC also takes comments from the public directly. The phone number is 606-525-3800.

Members of the committee review complaints and citizens can lodge complaints directly to Clarence Douglas, the executive director.

Over the past few years HRC has reviewed complaints involving racial profiling, failure of police officers to follow their own rules, excessive talking with

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The Knox County Sheriff's Office hosted a media conference last week where Sheriff Spangler's team recognized the partnership between the department and media. Sheriff Spangler said one of the department's goals is a continued transparency and offering transparency with the public. "We rely on the media to help keep the public informed. We appreciate what you do."

Earlier this week, communications director gathered to with Spangler announced the launch of the Group Me App which will alert the media organizations with breaking news.

the law department as the results given to the committee. The committee has changed a few rules about complaints: they must be received within 30 days before an investigation.

Other rules say that once heard, a unanimous vote must be made to find the complaint valid. Violations of the county ethics code are then passed to the appropriate department for action.

Knox County Commission chairman Hugh Spivey is calling for applications for the new position. The commission appoints. A recruiting office commission county commissioner serves as

and the email is comrec@knoxcounty.org.

Applications for the two seats accepted by Mayor Steve Cooper can be obtained at Suite 400 City-County Building, or call 606-525-3800 or fax 606-525-3700. You may also email comrec@knoxcounty.org.

The commission will hold a public hearing to consider ethics committee candidates on Monday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m. following the Knox County Commission Work Session in the main assembly room at 400 West Main Street. Applications will then be considered on Monday, October 22.

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