

Incident reports and arrest reports are open.



State, county and city law enforcement agencies are required to maintain records of all incidents, investigations and arrests they make.

Missouri's Sunshine Law — the open records and open meetings statutes — requires that all incident reports and arrest reports shall be open records available to the public. Investigative records are closed until an investigation becomes inactive. — Chapter 610.100 (2).

Incident reports include the date, time, specific location, name of the victim and immediate facts and circumstances surrounding the initial report of a crime or incident.

The Sunshine Law is a law for everyone, not just the news media. The Missouri Press Association and this newspaper ask you to support openness in local and state government records and meetings.

Democracy, after all, cannot work well if reports are kept secret.



**Missouri Sunshine
LAW**