

Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Tony Mattivi

Director

Kris W. Kobach Attorney General

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 18, 2023

Contact: Melissa Underwood (785) 296-8283

melissa.underwood@kbi.ks.gov

UPDATE: Investigation of letters with suspicious white powder

TOPEKA – The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), with assistance from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and other partners, updated findings on the white powder found in letters sent to Kansas legislators and public officials.

As of Sunday evening June 18, approximately 100 letters containing suspicious white powder have been received across the state of Kansas.

A small sample of the letters containing powder was sent to a laboratory that specializes in testing biological samples. Preliminary tests have returned from this lab indicating the substance is presumptively negative for common biological agents of concern. Further and more complete testing will be conducted on this sample, as well as on additional letters that have been collected, in an effort to determine the components of the substance.

The investigation is ongoing. Nothing further will be released at this time.

###

EARLIER RELEASE June 16, 2023 Contact: Melissa Underwood (785) 296-8283

melissa.underwood@kbi.ks.gov

Letters containing suspicious white powder being investigated across Kansas

TOPEKA – The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP), and several local police departments, sheriff's offices, and fire departments have responded today after mail was received by legislators and other public officials containing a suspicious white powder.

As of 4 p.m. Friday afternoon, over 30 letters containing a suspicious white powder have been reported across the state. Law enforcement is working to safely collect the letters and investigate the incidents.

Currently, no injuries have been reported, but we ask everyone to remain vigilant in handling mail. Any similar incidents should be reported to the KBI at 1-800-KSCRIME.

The investigation is ongoing.

###