University of Missouri Curators extend Wolfe's contract to 2018

By ASHLEY JOST

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 9:26 am

The University of Missouri announced Wednesday morning that the UM Board of Curators approved an extension of UM System President Tim Wolfe’s contract through June 30, 2018.

The contract extension was effective July 1. Wolfe’s existing contract was slated to end Feb. 15.

“President Wolfe has thoughtfully transformed our strategic planning process in a way that focuses our limited resources on priorities while reducing or eliminating waste and redundancies,” board Chairman Don Downing said in a news release.

Downing calls Wolfe a “tireless ambassador” for the university and for higher education, citing his Show-Me Value Tour, in which Wolfe travels across the state to discuss the importance of higher education, as proof.

“It is not surprising that enrollment and donations have substantially increased under President Wolfe’s watch,” Downing said in the release. “We are grateful for his leadership, and look forward to working with him for many years to come.”

John Fougere, chief communication officer for the UM System, said in an email that Wolfe’s base salary has not changed from $459,000 during the 2013-14 school year.
Wolfe’s incentive pay is still $100,000, Fougere said, but instead of that pay being 100 percent based on his annual performance, Fougere said it’s now 50 percent based on performance and 50 percent based on longevity. Wolfe started as UM System president in February 2012.

Fougere also said Wolfe is eligible for an additional 10 days of annual leave through his new contract.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU students recount their arrests in Ferguson

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 | 8:43 p.m. CDT; updated 7:13 a.m. CDT, Thursday, August 21, 2014

BY KOUICHI SHIRAYANAGI

COLUMBIA — When MU students Katlyne Ryan and James Pollard decided to go to Ferguson together Sunday night, the plan was to join in a peaceful protest against the Michael Brown shooting and then safely return home.

They were not expecting to be arrested and spend the night in the St. Louis County Jail.

"We were just interested in current events and thought it was an injustice that Michael Brown was killed, so after talking about it for a week we decided to go to Ferguson and peacefully protest, mostly just out of interest," said Pollard, a junior studying biological sciences. Pollard and Ryan have been friends for most of their lives, having grown up together in Kansas City.

On Tuesday morning, St. Louis County police released a list of 78 people who were arrested Sunday and Monday nights. Pollard and Ryan were on that list.

Capt. Ron Johnson of the Missouri State Highway Patrol on Tuesday warned individuals against coming to Ferguson to protest at night. Hundreds of protesters have been crowding West Florissant Avenue each night since Aug. 9, resulting in some clashes with police, The Associated Press reports.

"Make your voices heard when you can be seen and you are not the cover for violent agitators. That is my suggestion," Johnson said at an emotional news conference Tuesday morning.
Pollard and Ryan said they left Columbia at 8 p.m. Sunday and arrived at the site of daily protests, West Florissant Avenue, around 11 p.m. While walking around Ferguson, Ryan said residents treated her well and most protests were ending when she arrived.

"A few people were standing around chanting 'hands up don't shoot' when we got there, but most of the organized protests had died down," Pollard said.

Their troubles began, they said, when they joined two African-American men they met while searching for their car. Their search was made more difficult, they said, because police had blocked off an area of West Florissant Avenue before police imposed a midnight curfew.

"An officer stopped us when we were looking for our car and when we told him where we had parked, he just said 'good luck,'" Pollard said. "Later, when we were saying goodbye to the men we met, the police came and arrested one of them."

Pollard said the person arrested was maced by police, and police surrounded that person to block photographs. Pollard said they called him over and arrested him — along with Ryan and one other person for refusal to disperse after the curfew had gone into effect.

"The police asked us if we were press and said that since we were not press, we were under arrest for failing to disperse," Ryan, a junior studying international studies, said. "We were handcuffed and taken to a van. At no time were we read our rights or told where we were being taken."

Ryan said they were taken from a van to a bus with 15 other people. "Three of us in the bus were white; the rest of us were black," she said. "They held us inside the bus for almost two hours, and then they booked us at the county jail."

It was about 2:30 a.m. when they got to the county jail, Ryan said. "No one bothered to respond to the needs of anyone who was arrested," she said.

Ryan, as the only woman in the group, said she was handcuffed to a chair while the others were held in holding cells.

"Because I had mace on my possession, which I always carry on me, an officer accused me of wanting to use it on other officers. When I told the officer I carry it to avoid getting raped, he laughed at me," Ryan said.
"Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment picked us up from the prison at 5:30 a.m. after the curfew ended," Ryan said. The organization said it is providing pro bono legal council for those arrested in Ferguson.

Both Ryan and Pollard said they were released without being given any paperwork or court date. Nor did they have to post bond, they said.

"I would honestly go back (to Ferguson) after all this," Ryan said. "I was surprised by how well the people of Ferguson treated me and how peaceful most of them were. I felt safe with the people, not with the law enforcement."

Pollard said that the situation in Ferguson has been made tense by the police, not the citizens.

"The police were intimidating on purpose," Pollard said. "I saw a lot of nonviolent protests from the people. The only results of violence I saw were people wounded from rubber bullets, tear gas canisters in the street and people who had been maced by the police."

Although police officials have blamed individuals from outside of Ferguson for some of the violence, Missouri NAACP President Mary Ratliff of Columbia encouraged individuals to come to Ferguson and participate in peaceful protests.

"The shooting of Michael Brown is a national issue, not just a Ferguson issue," she said. "There is an attempt to divide us racially and geographically, and we can't let them do that."

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Renew Mizzou project means new locations for offices, museums
Thursday, August 21, 2014 | 6:00 a.m. CDT; updated 6:50 a.m. CDT, Thursday, August 21, 2014

BY RYAN COLLINS
COLUMBIA — Construction began on Jesse and Swallow halls at the beginning of the summer as part of the $22.85 million project called Renew Mizzou. The project also includes the decommissioning of Pickard Hall.
Here's a look at construction projects around campus:

**Jesse Hall**

Construction started in July on the iconic Jesse Hall, which was built in 1892, and work is expected to take 10 months. Jesse Hall typically houses about 600 staff members, according to the [MU News Bureau](https://www.mulesports.com/). Most construction involves updating safety features, such as a new fire alarm and sprinkler systems. The heating and cooling systems will also be updated, along with the installation of a second elevator. The total cost of the renovation is expected to be $9.85 million, according to the MU News Bureau.

The following offices are in these temporary locations:

- The Chancellor and Provost offices, University Affairs and Visitor Relations have moved to the Reynolds Alumni Center;
- Admissions, Student Financial Aid, Cashiers and Accounting have moved to the West Reading Rooms of Ellis Library;
- The Graduate School and International Programs have moved to McReynolds Hall;
- The Registrar, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management and Student Information Systems have moved to the Heinkel Building;
- The MU News Bureau, Constituent Relations and University Events have moved to the Hillel Center;
- The Office of Research, Budget, Business Services, Accounting Services, Office of Admissions and Student Financial Aid have moved to Mizzou North;
- The Concert Series staff has moved to the Missouri Theatre;
- Marketing has moved to the Rock Quarry Center.

**Swallow Hall**
Construction began in June on Swallow Hall, which was built on the Francis Quadrangle in 1892, according to MU. The entire Anthropology Department, along with the Anthropology Museum, has moved to Mizzou North — former Ellis Fischel Cancer Center building — until construction ends in summer 2015.

After the renovation is complete, an additional 5,000 gross square feet will become useable for classrooms and other purposes. Total construction cost is estimated at $11.5 million. After Swallow Hall reopens next year, the Anthropology Museum will stay at Mizzou North for "the foreseeable future," according to the MU News Bureau.

**Pickard Hall**
Due to experiments conducted in the 20th century, Pickard Hall contains enough radiation that it would be dangerous for people to inhabit it, according to MU News Bureau. In December 2013, faculty and staff, along with the Museum of Art and Archaeology, were moved from the building and are temporarily housed in Mizzou North, according to the MU News Bureau.

The cost of the move and the preparation of the museum was $1.5 million. It is unclear whether Pickard will reopen. That decision depends on radiation testing results that are ongoing, according to the MU News Bureau.

Interim Vice Chancellor and Chief Operations Officer Gary Ward said in a Faculty Council briefing that MU should receive the test results, along with estimated costs, this fall. Following that there will be a campus-wide discussion on how to proceed with Pickard Hall, Alex Barker, Director of the Museum of Art and Archaeology, said in an email.

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**Meningitis vaccine not yet required, but recommended by doctors**

By Blythe Bernhard bbernhard@post-dispatch.com 314-340-8129

College students are at higher risk for meningitis, but not all universities require the vaccine that can prevent the highly contagious bacterial disease. A law that mandates the vaccine for public university students in
Missouri will go into effect before the next school year, but doctors say all entering freshmen should get it now.

Meningitis starts out with flu-like symptoms of fever, fatigue and body aches but escalates quickly and can cause swelling of the brain and spinal cord. It can cause damage to the nervous system, limb amputations and is fatal in 10 percent to 15 percent of patients.

Children should get a meningitis vaccine at age 11 and a booster after age 16, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Getting the vaccine before college is recommended by the American College Health Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

At least 37 states have laws mandating meningitis vaccines for college students. Illinois has required meningitis vaccines for public university students since 2002. Missouri’s bill was sponsored by Sen. Gina Walsh, D-Bellefontaine Neighbors, passed in May and Gov. Jay Nixon signed it. It goes into effect before the 2015-2016 school year. All public university students living on campus will be required to receive the meningococcal vaccine, with medical and religious exemptions.

University of Missouri campuses already require the vaccine for incoming students living in residence halls. Colleges that don’t have such policies might be “counting on the fact that private doctors, pediatricians and family doctors will recommend and administer the vaccine to middle school and high school students because that’s what the recommendations are. College is sort of a last chance for students to catch up if they didn’t get it when they were younger,” said Dr. Susan Even, executive director of the university’s student health center.

While private universities are not covered under the new law, Lindenwood and Fontbonne universities already require the vaccine. St. Louis University requires the vaccine of freshmen in dorms, or a signed waiver acknowledging the risks. The vaccine is not required for incoming students at Washington University, where freshman Emily Benatar died of bacterial meningitis in 2012.

Alan Glass, director of student health services at Washington University, declined an interview request. The university released a statement that said “our policy is intended to let students, along with their parents, make their own medical decisions.”

The university’s lack of meningitis vaccine policy is surprising because it has an affiliated medical school and children’s hospital, said Dr. Sandra McKay of Mercy Children’s Hospital. McKay is president of the Missouri chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and worked to educate legislators on the law.

“It’s a parent’s worst fear, sending their kid off to college and they get sick, and you can’t take care of them,” said McKay. “Meningitis kills people. It’s contagious. It can cause long-term disability. And we have a vaccine that can protect you against that.”
Andy Marso caught bacterial meningitis as a senior at the University of Kansas in 2004. Within 24 hours he was hospitalized in intensive care and lost nearly all his fingers and parts of his feet. Marso testified in support of the new law before a Missouri legislative committee in February.

While rare, affecting 1,000 to 2,600 Americans each year, the bacteria are more common in students and members of the military living in close quarters. It is typically spread via saliva through kissing or sharing of drinks, eating utensils or cigarettes.

Last year, Princeton University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, had meningitis outbreaks with 12 total cases that prompted the CDC to hold vaccination clinics on the campuses.

**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

**Missouri football scrimmage No. 3: What to watch**

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 | 9:26 p.m. CDT; updated 7:
BY MICHAEL SHAW

COLUMBIA — The Missouri football team closed its fall camp with a cool-down.

MU chancellor R. Bowen Loftin accepted coach Gary Pinkel's Ice Bucket Challenge on Wednesday after the team's practice. Captains Bud Sasser and Mitch Morse doused Loftin with a bucket of ice water.

"I picked a really good day, didn't I?" Loftin said on the 93-degree afternoon.

The chancellor said he's used to getting doused with cool liquid. He allowed teams to dump buckets of Gatorade on him during his time at Texas A&M. He hopes this victory tradition, which is normally reserved for head coaches, happens a lot this year.

"I want to watch Pinkel get doused every game," Loftin said.

Before the Gatorade baths can begin, Pinkel has to get his team through its last preseason scrimmage Thursday.

Story continues....

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Columbia front and center for total solar eclipse in 2017

Thursday, August 21, 2014 | 6:00 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Dan McGlaun has followed total eclipses for more than 20 years. The chase has taken him to Kenya, Mexico, Tahiti and India, traveling thousands of miles to witness an astral event that lasts at most just a few minutes. He's seen 11 of them in his life and is eager for more.

"It's hard to overstate the awesomeness of the experience," McGlaun said. "People travel to Siberia in the winter, to deserts in the summer, to the middle of oceans for this experience."
McGlaun, an amateur astronomer who lives in Indianapolis, will be participating in a planning workshop with about 50 other astronomers and eclipse enthusiasts at MU Thursday and Friday in advance of a total solar eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017.

The August 2017 eclipse will be the first total solar eclipse visible from the continental United States since 1979, and the first to cross from the West to the East coast since 1918.

Columbia will be an especially good observation point, weather permitting, because of its position in the center of the path that will afford about 2 minutes and 37 seconds of totality.

The workshop, sponsored by the American Astronomical Society, will bring together astronomers, scientists and locals to organize observation and public outreach activities for Columbia and other communities that lie along the path of totality. The workshop is open to the public; registration and a $150 fee are required.

"The aim of this workshop is to get everything moving so that in three years we can all enjoy and take advantage of such a rare event," workshop organizer and MU astronomer Angela Speck said. The workshop group will plan observation points in downtown Columbia with protective viewing glasses and telescopes with solar filters.

Professional and amateur astronomers have been anticipating this 2017 eclipse for years and are expecting such significant public interest that planning has already begun.

The first planning workshop was held in Washington, D.C., in 2012, but all future workshops will be in cities and towns in the path of totality, Shadia Habbal, a University of Hawaii astronomer and organizer of the workshop, said. Habbal would like to hold workshops every six months until the eclipse.

Because the duration of the 2017 eclipse over Columbia is among the longest on the path of totality, Speck and others expect a wave of tourists for the event.

"One goal for this weekend is to have the genesis of a community preparedness packet," McGlaun said.
The American Astronomical Society wants communities and local governments to be aware of all the necessary safety precautions associated with viewing eclipses, from eye protection to handling increased traffic.

"It's only about every 300 years that a particular place is in the path of a total eclipse," Mark Jones, a member of the St. Louis Astronomical Society who plans to attend the workshop, said.

In May 2012, Jones traveled to Kanarraville, Utah, to view an annular eclipse — one in which the moon is not big enough to block the entire sun, leaving a ring of sunlight around its shadow. The little desert town of 300 people attracted thousands of eclipse enthusiasts seeking the best view. He's expecting many more people will travel for the 2017 eclipse.

McGlaun is evangelical about his passion for eclipses and eclipse preparedness. He has spent seven years developing the encyclopedic website www.eclipse2017.org to educate people about the 2017 eclipse. He is also planning videos and smartphone applications for spreading eclipse information.
"I want people to know that they really have to be within the path of totality," McGlaun said. "Otherwise they will not experience it. Close isn't close enough."

Columbia officials are also in the early stages of planning to accommodate eclipse tourists coming for the experience.

"It's on our radar," Megan McConachie, communications director for the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, said. "Nothing is set yet, but we are anticipating an influx of outside people coming to view the eclipse."

McConachie will be attending the workshop this week. The Convention and Visitors Bureau will be working with the astronomers to promote Columbia as a destination for people wanting to view the eclipse.

"People who are in the know are already booking hotels, but some hotels aren't set up to be booking three years in advance," Speck said. "So part of it is informing local businesses to be prepared."
Hardcore eclipse-chasers such as Jones and McGlaun will be checking weather conditions for days leading up to the Aug. 21, 2017, eclipse before they actually decide from where they will watch it.

Meteorologist Jay Anderson has averaged cloud coverage data from 22 years of satellite images to provide a weather preview for Aug. 21, 2017. His maps and data indicate potentially favorable conditions for Columbia. "I'll be ready to drive anywhere from Oregon to South Carolina," McGlaun said.

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**Tragedy on Twitter: James Foley Case Raises Hard Social Media Questions**

**BY KEITH WAGSTAFF**

Shortly after news of journalist James Foley’s death, Twitter announced that it would suspend accounts that shared graphic imagery from a video showing his beheading by Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) militants.

As Twitter becomes an increasingly popular news source, the social network now faces the tough questions that have plagued traditional news organizations for decades: to ban or not to ban graphic images.

For Twitter and other social media companies, "it’s a balancing act that repeats itself day to day, issue by issue, country by country," PJ Crowley, former U.S. assistant secretary of state, told NBC News.
Ban too many images and Twitter could be accused of censoring information. On the other hand, many Twitter users would prefer not to see explicitly violent images in their feeds.

"I have been monitoring NBC News, CNN — they won't show those graphic pictures," Sandy Davidson, a professor of media law at the University of Missouri, told NBC News. "I think the argument could be made that Twitter is acting responsibly and that these instances have to be looked at case by case."

Disturbing images

The ban started early Wednesday morning, when Twitter CEO Dick Costolo sent out this message:

This came after a number of Twitter users expressed their outrage over the graphic images, rallying around the hashtag #ISISMediaBlackout.

Twitter doesn't actively monitor user content. Instead, it has a short list of rules that, among other things, bans "direct, specific threats of violence against others." It's a statement that Twitter uses to ban some violent images, but not others.

Like any newspaper, Twitter has to make a moral judgment with the sensibilities of its users in mind. (It does not, however, have to worry about getting sued for libel, since it's not legally considered the publisher of what shows up in people's feeds).

"The mainstream media deals with this all of the time, but there is an established filtering process," Crowley told NBC News. "The nature of social media is that people post things, and the question is not how you cover something in advance, but how you deal with it once it has been posted."
Growing pains

In 2006, when Twitter launched, the joke was that tweens used it to share every inane detail of their lives. Last year, according to a Pew Research Center report, more than half of the people on Twitter used it to get news.

It currently has 271 million active users tweeting in more than 35 languages. Compare that to the combined digital and print audience of the most popular newspaper in the country, USA Today, which has a daily circulation of 3.3 million.

Its wide reach and millions of users means Twitter must constantly navigate the social norms of radically different cultures around the world. What is considered obscene by the government of Saudi Arabia might not be taboo in Sweden. That makes it hard to create more specific guidelines, especially as new and unexpected situations arise.

"Twitter has become much more sophisticated over time in dealing with this, but over a number of years, there have been some growing pains," Crowley said. Ultimately, however, the social network did the right thing, he said.

"For the millions of tweets that are posted every day, we're talking about a relatively few that create great angst."
Why Police Will Continue to Arrest Journalists in Ferguson

By Lindsay Toler  Wed., Aug. 20 2014 at 11:30 AM

At the end of another dangerous night in Ferguson, Missouri State Highway Patrol Captain Ron Johnson offered an emotional plea to the media on Monday: Please stop putting officers in danger and glamorizing violent agitators in your quest for Internet virality.

Johnson seemed near tears as he illustrated the danger the press face in Ferguson -- earlier that night, reporters disobeyed police orders and fled the media corral to take pictures of a car parked across the street before officers could secure two guns. Johnson said police suspect the occupants of the car opened fire at the Canfield Green Apartments that night.

Journalists defied Johnson's plea, and it's easy to understand why they're even more distrusting than usual. Any journalist covering Ferguson at night has likely been tear gassed, if not hit by debris, rubber bullets, pepper pellets or bean bags. Police have threatened to shoot, mace and arrest reporters, sometimes on live TV or feeds. Officers have detained reporters from the Washington Post, Huffington Post, Getty Images and more, releasing them later without answers. See also: Watch Police in Ferguson Arrest, Tear Gas Journalists [VIDEO]

"Yes, we may take some of you into custody," Johnson told press on Monday. "But when we do take you into custody and we have found out you're a journalist, we've taken the proper action. But in the midst of it, we cannot...in the midst of it, in the midst of chaos and trying to move people on, we have to be safe. We have to be safe."

With the eyes of the world upon them, members the international press corps covering Ferguson have become their own story, sometimes because they're treated roughly and sometimes because it seems they're heightening, not just recording, the tension. From a Los Angeles Times reporter quoting an MSNBC reporter:
Media voices amplify across Twitter as reporters point to their fear, bulletproof jackets and wounds as proof: If this happens to us, imagine how Ferguson police treat regular ol' folks.

Seasoned reporters, bloggers, podcasters, activists with popular Twitter feeds, students, hobbyist photographers -- all are converging on this St. Louis suburb, often outnumbering protesters to tell what's become the most important domestic news story of the year at a time when peace feels impossible for this St. Louis suburb.

And police can't keep up, Johnson said.

"I'm going to tell you, in the midst of chaos, when officers are running around, we're not sure who is a journalist and who's not," he said. "Some journalists are walking around, and all you have is a cell phone because you're from a small media outlet. Some of you may just have a camera around your neck."

In a life-and-death situation, like when armed rioters are firing at police from the apartments behind the emblematic, burned-out QuikTrip in Ferguson, how can police tell once and for all who is a journalist and who isn't? Who is protected by the First Amendment's freedom of the press, and who is not?

**That question is almost impossible to answer, and with good reason, says Sandra Davidson, a professor of journalism law at the University of Missouri School of Journalism.**

"If anybody says they have easy answer, don't believe them," she tells Daily RFT. "We don't license journalists in this country, and that is very deliberate."

The U.S. has struggled with the issue of distinguishing journalists from non-journalists since 1972, when the U.S. Supreme Court declined to give reporters a pass from testifying about illegal activities they witness while reporting.

"If you grant any privilege [to a journalist], then you have to follow up with a definition of who is a journalist," Davidson says. "The Supreme Court was not willing to do so."

Now fast-forward to 2014, when anyone with an Internet connection and a smartphone can grow an audience by sharing instant updates or live feeds from Ferguson.

"So who gives out the credentials? Who decides?" says Davidson. "That's a rather uncomfortable concept.... Now you get into a real sticky situation."

The answer, she says, is that there is no official answer.

"I don't think there are any absolutes when you start asking questions of safety and questions of the precise demarcation between a person's rights and the government's rights. There is little precision when you have situations that are potentially explosive," she says. "This is a situation where it's case by case, or situation by situation. I think [Johnson] is saying, under these special circumstances, this is the way it is. You remove people from the scene, and then you check later."
That's a hard answer for journalists to swallow, especially after they've been zip-tied and detained. Even President Barack Obama has come out against the arrests, saying reporters should not be detained for doing their jobs.

"It's alarming for journalists," Davidson admits.

Once press obtain acceptable credentials, police have a special duty to inform and protect them -- something Johnson said his officers can't do if media don't follow orders to clear dangerous areas.

"It's a war there, and some of the journalists are saying they felt safer in Afghanistan than here," Davidson says. "Journalists do want to perform the watchdog function, but you can't perform the watchdog function if you're dead."

With police facing more touch-and-go, volatile nights of violence, looting and riots in Ferguson, Davidson has no advice, but plenty of sympathy, for reporters and officers alike.

"Police, journalists -- nobody knows exactly what is going to happen from moment to moment, and without knowing what precisely is going to happen, it's hard to say precisely what anybody should do," she says. "A lot of these people, police and journalists, are in what for them is uncharted territory."

That's a scary thing, especially for those in Ferguson facing the violence without the shield of a badge or press pass. That's something that's kept Washington Post reporter Wesley Lowery up at night.

Are outside instigators to blame for Ferguson violence? It's complicated

FERGUSON • The perpetrators of violence who have instigated a response that has filled the air with tear gas the past 10 days are generally not a presence among the demonstrators protesting the death of Michael Brown. Rather, police and peaceful demonstrators say, the rocks, Molotov cocktails and gunfire directed at police are the product of a small group of young men who gather furtively as darkness falls near Red's Barbeque and the adjoining warren of avenues off Canfield Drive — the street where Brown was killed Aug. 9.

St. Louis County Jail records say at least 85 people have been booked for “refusal to disperse” since Aug. 13, the day before the Missouri Highway Patrol took command of the situation.

At least 52 protesters were arrested Monday night into Tuesday morning for refusing to disperse, unlawful use of a weapon and interfering with a police officer, St. Louis County records say.
All had been released, according to jail officials.

Highway Patrol Capt. Ronald S. Johnson calls some of the protesters a “dangerous dynamic in the night.” Some of those, he has said, have come to Ferguson from outside the St. Louis area, but most are local.

“There are some outsiders,” Johnson told CNN Tuesday. “There’s a lot of people who live here ... we can’t just blame it on outside instigators.”

Jail records available for those arrested Monday night show that 38 of those arrested were from the St. Louis region, including 15 from St. Louis city.

Fourteen have addresses outside the region including Chicago; Des Moines, Iowa; New York City; Huntsville, Ala.; Washington, D.C.; and San Diego.

“We continue to worry about folks who are coming in from outside who are using this,” Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon told the Post-Dispatch on Tuesday.

The governor said the state is working with intelligence experts on the matter and is in contact with the FBI.

“What started as a peaceful protest has been attracting bad guys across the country,” he said.

**Brian Houston, co-director of the Terrorism and Disaster Center at the University of Missouri-Columbia, predicted Ferguson has not seen the last of what officials characterize as “outside agitators.”**

“The longer trouble goes on in Ferguson the more time people have to come to St. Louis to cause the trouble,” Houston said.

Among those arrested were New York City residents Carl Dix, a member of the Revolutionary Communist Party, and Travis Morales, who identifies himself as a party supporter.

Reached by phone Tuesday, Morales confirmed the arrests.

The special section dedicated to the events in north St. Louis County on the organization’s website carries the subheadline: “People are standing up in Ferguson! It’s Right to Rebel!”

“It may be about Communism,” Ferguson Township Democratic Committeewoman Patricia Bynes said of a group she has encountered tangentially in her nightly effort to quell the Ferguson unrest. “But that doesn’t mean it should be about anarchy.”

St. Louis Alderman Antonio French has been another constant presence in Ferguson since Brown’s death.

French says the numbers may show that the majority of those provoking the situation are local, but out-of-town antagonists are exacerbating the tension.
“We had two guys last night from Chicago, one of them who calls himself Joey, who was set on getting people worked up,” said French, who has worked incessantly as a mediator between police and demonstrators.

French at the same time concedes that some of the agitation is coming from “those Canfield boys,” referring to the apartment complex where Brown lived.

But he maintains that the violence over the past several days attracts nonresidents.

“Some people think that the revolution is starting now, and they want to be here,” the alderman said.

Police are additionally coming face-to-face with another enemy: hopelessness.

“There are two kinds of demonstrators out here,” Lyfe Yusen, 40, of Jennings, said as he stood on the sidewalk watching the West Florissant protest Monday night. “There are the ones that are here to make a stand over injustice. And the ones who don’t give a (expletive) and think they have nothing to live for.”

Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Washington-based Police Executive Research Forum said differentiating between the two groups is the greatest challenge facing officers on Ferguson streets.

“Most people are there to protest,” Wexler said. “But you can’t make the mistake of treating everyone the same way. The police need to appeal to community leaders. They are critical to establishing calm.”

Houston said the role social media has played in bringing outsiders to Ferguson cannot be discounted.

Twitter in particular, he said is “intimately” connecting people around the world to the situation in the no longer obscure St. Louis suburb.

From advocates joining the peaceful protest over Brown’s death, to provocateurs intent on wreaking havoc, to those drawn by the presence of international news crews, “social media is sustaining the events in Ferguson in lots of different ways,” said Houston. “And when it goes on day after day without seeming to abate, it draws in more people who say, ‘I want to be a part of it.’”

As the unrest moved toward its 11th night, French credited police for adapting to the environment along West Florissant Avenue by dispatching small units to remove agitators from the larger groups of peaceful protesters.

“They come in and get those guys out of there,” he said.

He further noted that not everyone who has arrived in Ferguson is bent on disruption and confrontation.

“There’s a group of Tibetan monks here. I’d hardly call them agitators,” the alderman said.

Greg Jonsson and Matthew Franck of the Post-Dispatch contributed to this report.
Ferguson: a blue collar town made desperate by years on the edge

The community, already struggling as America’s rustbelt decays, risks falling into abject poverty in the wake of clashes with police.

When Wall Street investors take a financial hit they call it getting a haircut. For Thomas Bradley, a barber in Ferguson, the mayhem in this Missouri town has given the expression a literal meaning. The 24-year-old sat in one of his own leather chairs, a bib around his neck, to receive a haircut from a colleague, Toriano Johnson. Why not? There were no customers.

Eleven days of protests triggered by the police shooting of an unarmed African American teenager have reduced business by 80%, leaving the barbershop’s 10 employees idle – and increasingly anxious. “It’s bad. People don’t want to come to this area right now, everyone’s on edge,” said Bradley.

It one sense that is a familiar feeling: this blue collar outpost of St Louis has long lived on an economic edge, balanced between getting by and tumbling into poverty.

The clashes between riot police and protestors, furious over the 9 August death of Michael Brown, 18, have focused worldwide attention on militarised US policing but they have also damaged local businesses and pushed some of their workers and families closer to destitution.

One store is burnt and gutted, other businesses are smashed and looted, others are physically unscathed but bereft of customers.

“I’m down 99%,” said Kaye Mershon, owner of the Clip Appeal beauty salon. “The police shut down the street, people can’t get in. And by the time they open it people are afraid to come.” Consequences for her six staff were grave, said Mershon.

Sonny Dayan’s electrical goods store, which abuts the spot where police assemble armoured vehicles each night, has lost half its normal revenue, he said. “It’s not on purpose but police are hurting the local businesses more than the looters.” An assistant, Steve Beale, 27, fretted about losing shifts. “I can’t afford to lose a dollar.”

Some store owners have boarded up their windows and doors and said they haemorrhaged so much they may not reopen.

Mershon doubted that. “I have faith in recovery. It may take some time but we’ll be OK.”

But reverting to normal, turning back the clock to how things were a fortnight ago, may not be enough.

Economic marginalisation, as well as heavy-handed policing, have driven the protests, said activists and analysts.

“People are stuck. It’s a grinding existence, you’re trying to make it, doing your best, but you’re falling down, and your kids are not making it,” said Clarence Lo, a sociologist at the University of Missouri who studies protest movements. “There are so many frustrations. And on top of that a cop harasses you for walking down the street.”

Ferguson is no Gothamesque slum of crumbling tenements and crack dens. It is a working class suburb of single-family homes and low-rise apartment blocks which used to be a gateway to the middle class. Manufacturing jobs offered decent wages and there was a decent public school system.
Something went wrong. You see it in the physical landscape of potholes and pawn brokers. And in the desperation. Some of it quiet: a mother counting out pennies, dimes and quarters to buy ice cream for her two children in McDonald’s. Some of it more dramatic: the owner of a burger bar bolting out onto the street after a skinny, grubby young man with shattered teeth. “You took from the tip jar! I saw you! Give it back.”

A major culprit is de-industrialisation. Missouri is part of the rustbelt of shuttered factories which arcs across the midwest.

The father of Bradley, the barber, used to work at a nearby Chrysler plant until it shut down. Then he worked at Boeing until it downsized and laid him off. It left his son little chance to go to college. “He earned $24 an hour in 1990,” marvelled Bradley. He did not know anyone in Ferguson who earned anything close to that now, 24 years later.

Toriano Johnson, 39, the colleague clipping Bradley’s hair, sighed. “Back in the day when people drove American cars you could get a good job and go to college. Times change.”

The closure of Chrysler, Ford and McDonnell Douglas plants cost thousands of unionised jobs in the area and triggered a vicious cycle, said Mark Esters, 50, a former Chrysler worker-turned-vice-president of the St Louis chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

Suppliers to the factories also went bust, costing more jobs. This devastated not just family incomes but the local tax base, degrading police salaries, the quality of schools and student test scores, among other things. “A downward spiral. It’s all linked,” said Esters.

When Ferguson and nearby suburbs were largely white and relatively prosperous they incorporated themselves into cities to gain independence from St Louis, a move which backfired when factories shut, said Lo. “Now those little enclaves are impoverished.”

Another blow was the closure of a bakery which made Twinkies after Hostess Brands tried to slash wages, prompting a dispute with unions.

Some 47% of African American men aged 16-24 in St Louis county are unemployed. Even that understates the economic crisis since many of those who do have jobs, men and women, earn a pittance in service jobs. “It used to be McDonnell Douglas was considered a good job. Now it’s McDonald’s,” said Teresa Mithen Danielely, rector of an episcopal church.

The scenes of looting, tear-gas and boarded up stores looked bleak, said Lara Granich, director of the Missouri branch of Jobs with Justice, an advocacy group, but they could herald positive change. “I hope we make this a turning point.”

The energy unleashed by the protests could galvanise efforts to unionise McDonald’s workers and give home care workers the right to collective bargaining, among other causes, said Granich. “Getting rid of the idea that there has to be poverty jobs is a very important step. Economic inequality and racism are mutually reinforcing forces.”

Grand jury works in secret but its methods are no mystery
CLAYTON • A criminal trial is public, but whether there will be one is often the decision of a grand jury in a secret process that may seem mysterious.

St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Robert McCulloch has chosen to have a grand jury consider whether Ferguson police Officer Darren Wilson should face charges in the fatal shooting of Michael Brown.

If McCulloch thinks charges are appropriate, he could file a complaint himself. That would trigger a preliminary hearing, in which a judge would hear evidence and decide if it were sufficient to merit a trial. Officials say a little more than half the county’s prosecutions travel this route.

But a grand jury has some advantages. A prosecutor presents evidence in secret, and the decision of whether to file a charge — called an indictment — is made by a panel of citizens, potentially shielding an elected official from political consequences.

“In high-profile cases, the prosecutors use the grand jury to seek some cover for their failure to act on their own,” said James Cohen, an associate professor at Fordham University School of Law in New York.

Still, a prosecutor exercises substantial control by deciding what evidence to present and what specific charges to consider. A New York judge, Solomon Wachtler, famously said a prosecutor could get a grand jury to indict a ham sandwich.

“It’s no joke,” Cohen said. “That vividly places the power of the prosecutor in context.”

Grand jurors are pulled from the same pool of ordinary people as petit jurors, the ones who decide trials, and are paid the same, in St. Louis County about $18 a day plus mileage.

A judge tries to balance members’ gender, race and geography. Here, a grand jury meets on Wednesdays for four months. The current one is set to expire Sept 10 but will be extended to hear all the evidence in the Brown case, McCulloch said. He said the grand jury had three black members, out of 12 total.

The process provides no opportunity for a defense. Subjects of the investigation are invited to testify, but few accept, and must leave their attorneys outside.

Nine votes are required for a “true bill,” another name for indictment. Otherwise, the result is the awkwardly named “no true bill.” Grand jurors elect a foreperson, and even the prosecutor must leave during deliberations.

Cohen said the prosecutor held great sway. “The prosecutor is responsible for presenting the evidence, calling the witnesses and instructing the jurors on the applicable law. The prosecutor can decide who to call based on what he expects the witnesses to say.”

Frank Bowman, a law professor at the University of Missouri, said prosecutors may use grand juries for their power to issue subpoenas. “That’s what is going on here,” he suggested.
McCulloch has told reporters he plans to have his staff present every scrap of evidence about the Brown case to the grand jury. He also pledged to seek a court order to open the evidence if Wilson is not indicted.

Cohen said such a promise may have a chilling effect on witnesses he fears would be “less likely” to testify if they think the information would ultimately go public.