



## Summer of Sound

*Celebrating the music and the musicians*  
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## Historic Journey Begins

*Ketanji Brown Jackson seated on Supreme Court*  
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Committed to Cultural Diversity



Clark County is asking voters in Vancouver and the surrounding area to increase the sales tax to pay for police body cameras in an attempt to bring greater transparency to law enforcement actions. The proposal has drawn cautious support from the Vancouver NAACP. (AP archive photo)

## Cautious Support for Body Cams

### Clark County sends measure to voters

BY BEVERLY CORBELL  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Voters in Vancouver and Clark County will decide this summer if it backs a very small increase in the sales tax to provide police body and dashboard cameras for its sheriff's deputies. The proposal, Proposition 11 has drawn cautious support from the Vancouver NAACP and will appear on the ballot Aug. 2 during Washington's Primary Election.

Karen Bowerman, chair of the Clark County Council, led a recent discussion of the proposition where different members of the justice system outlined the effects of using the cameras.

Primarily, the cameras would make the sheriff's office more accountable to the public, Clark County Sheriff Chuck Atkins said.

"It would allow us to be more transparent. Our community clearly wants that," Atkins said. "We've been working on this for a couple of years so it won't be hard for us to implement."

If passed, the tax will increase county sales taxes by 0.1 percent, an increase

of one penny for every \$10 spent. County finance director Mark Gassaway said the tax would yield about \$12,000 per year in added revenue.

Other areas of law enforcement could benefit from the funding over the long run, such as providing new revenue to improve jail conditions, add diversion programs to lesson incarceration needs, or hire more sheriff's deputies, officials said.

Jasmine Tolbert, president of NAACP Vancouver, told the Portland Observer she believes that using police body and

## Columbia River Tragedy



Kevin McDowell

### Man feared drowned after hero rescue

On Sunday June 26, Kevin McDowell was boating in Portland on the Columbia River near Lemon Island when a woman was struggling to swim. In his heroic final act, McDowell, 35, jumped in to help her swim to safety while he tragically lost his life in the life-saving action.

McDowell was well known in the community and the owner of the Capitol Bar. Back in February, the establishment was in the news when it was struck by an SUV which forced the bar to temporarily close. Although this was a big loss to McDowell and his partner Dessiree Guy, they were determined to get the establishment back up and running and support staff members.

McDowell's mother Rhonda Jackson shared a description of her son after the swimming tragedy with KPTV news, describing him as "eloquent, loving, giving and patient." He would often tell her, 'Mom it's everything, it's all love.'

A gofundme has been created by one of McDowell's sisters, Trayanna Enriquez, to help with her brother's funeral expenses. You can visit [gofundme.com/f/tq2w-pz-kevin-mcdowell](https://www.gofundme.com/f/tq2w-pz-kevin-mcdowell) to make a contribution.

A body was recovered in the Columbia River, and on Tuesday, it was confirmed to be Kevin McDowell.

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