CHAPTER 5
Judicial Branch

“Trick Rider”
(Missouri State Archives, Putman Collection)
Missouri’s Judicial System

From its inception in 1820, Missouri state government has been constitutionally divided into three separate branches—the legislative, executive and judicial departments. The judicial department’s function is not to make the laws of the state or to administer them, but to adjudicate the controversies that arise between persons and parties, to determine fairly and justly the guilt or innocence of persons charged with criminal offenses, and to interpret the laws of the state as enacted by the legislature and carried out by the executive.

The roots of Missouri’s judicial branch reach back to the days when Missouri was a part of the Missouri Territory controlled by the French and Spanish. When Missouri was officially organized as a territory in 1812, the judicial power was vested in a superior court, inferior courts and justices of the peace. The Constitution of 1820, the state’s first constitution, placed the judicial power in a Supreme Court, chancery courts (later abolished by the General Assembly), and circuit and other courts to be established by the legislature.

Today, Missouri has a three-tier court system. Article V of the Constitution, as amended by Missouri voters in 1976, vests the judicial power in a Supreme Court, the state’s highest court, with statewide jurisdiction; in a court of appeals consisting of districts established by the General Assembly; and in a system of circuit courts that have original jurisdiction over all cases and matters, civil and criminal.

Effective January 2, 1979, the circuit court system absorbed all former courts of limited jurisdiction and became the state’s single trial court. Cases once heard in magistrate and probate courts, in the St. Louis Court of Criminal Corrections, in the Hannibal and Cape Girardeau Courts of Common Pleas, and in municipal and other local courts now are heard in appropriate divisions of the circuit courts.

All the judges of these former courts have become either circuit, associate circuit or municipal judges. They may hear and determine different classes of cases within their respective circuits. A presiding judge, elected for a two-year term, has general administrative authority over all judicial personnel in the circuit. He or she may assign other judges throughout the circuit to relieve case load and administrative backlogs. The Supreme Court and court of appeals have general superintending control over all courts and tribunals within their jurisdictions. Original remedial writs may be issued and determined at each level of the court system. Decisions of the Supreme Court are controlling in all other courts.

Selection of Judges

In the first 30 years of Missouri’s statehood, the judges of the supreme, circuit and chancery courts were appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. After much public discussion, the Constitution was amended in 1849 to provide for the popular election of judges, and this system remains in effect for most Missouri courts even today. In most circuits, the judges are elected by the voters in partisan elections.

However, in 1940 Missouri voters amended the Constitution by adopting the “Nonpartisan Selection of Judges Court Plan,” which was placed on the ballot by initiative petition and which provides for the nonpartisan (non-political) appointment of certain judges, rather than having them popularly elected.

The Constitution, as amended further in 1976, provides that the Nonpartisan Court Plan is to be in effect for the Supreme Court, the court of appeals, and the circuit courts within the City of St. Louis and Jackson County. In addition, voters in St. Louis, Clay and Platte counties have elected to institute the plan, and the Kansas City Charter extends a nonpartisan selection plan to Kansas City municipal court judges. While all other judges are popularly elected, other judicial circuits may adopt the plan upon approval by a majority of the voters in the circuit.

Under the Missouri Court Plan, as it is often called, a vacancy on a court to which the plan applies is filled in the following way. A nonpartisan judicial commission of lay persons, lawyers and judges selects three persons from those who apply based on merit. The governor appoints one of the three. A judge appointed in this way must stand for retention in office at the first general election occurring after the judge has been in office for 12 months; the judge’s name is placed on a separate judicial ballot, without political party designation, and the voters must vote either for or against retention in office. The judge’s name is again placed on the ballot for retention vote at certain intervals. The Missouri Court Plan has served as a national model for the selection of judges and has been adopted by a number of other states.

Every supreme, appellate, circuit and associate circuit court judge must be licensed to practice law in Missouri. By constitutional amendment and statute, all judges must retire by age 70.
The Supreme Court has been the state's highest court since 1820, when the first Missouri Constitution was adopted. The earliest court, consisting of only three members, was required to hold sessions in four different judicial circuits in the state. At various times, the court sat in St. Louis, Jackson, Cape Girardeau, St. Charles, Boonville, Fayette, Hannibal, Lexington and other cities.

The size of the Supreme Court was increased to five judges in 1872 and to its present size—seven judges—in 1890. Because of the court's increasing caseload, commissioners were appointed for a brief period in the 1880s. In 1911, the legislature authorized the court to appoint four commissioners, and in 1927, the number was changed to six. The commissioners were required to possess the same qualifications as judges of the Supreme Court. They received the same compensation and were appointed for four-year terms. The commissioners in the past have heard cases along with the judges and their written opinions, if approved by the court, were promulgated as opinions of the court.

Under terms of the 1970 constitutional amendment of Article V, the offices of the commissioners ceased to exist when the individuals holding the offices retired, resigned, died or were removed from office.

In 1890, the Supreme Court was divided into two divisions to permit it to handle and decide more cases in a shorter time. Under the present constitution, the court may sit en banc (all seven judges together) or in as many divisions as the court determines are needed. Today, all cases are assigned to and decided by the court en banc.

**Supreme Court Jurisdiction**

Originally, the Supreme Court had only the traditional powers to decide cases on appeal from the lower courts (either the circuit courts or the court of appeals) and to issue and determine original remedial writs, such as habeas corpus, mandamus and prohibition. The Constitution of 1945 also authorized the court to establish rules for practice and procedure in the courts and to make temporary transfers of judicial personnel. Maintaining and updating the rules is a continuous process requiring substantial time. Each year, the Supreme Court, through the state courts administrator, transfers several hundred court personnel on a temporary basis to assist other courts. This usually is done when a judge has been disqualified by the parties in a case or when a judge's docket has become overly crowded and the judge cannot handle all the cases expeditiously.

The constitutional amendments of 1976 and 1982 defined the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court more narrowly than in the past, resulting in its receiving fewer cases on appeal and directing more appeals to the Court of Appeals. Under the amendment, the Supreme Court has exclusive appellate jurisdiction in all cases involving: the validity of a treaty or statute of the United States or of a statute or provision of the Missouri Constitution; the construction of the state's revenue laws; the title to any state office; and in all cases where the punishment imposed is death.

Cases do not have to fall within this area of exclusive jurisdiction to reach the Supreme Court, however. The court may order cases transferred to it from the court of appeals if the cases involve questions of general interest or importance, if the court thinks the existing law should be reexamined, or for other reasons provided by rule of the court. The court of appeals also may order a case transferred to the Supreme Court either by order of the court of appeals itself or by the dissent of a court of appeals judge, if that judge certifies the court of appeals opinion is contrary to previous decisions of the Supreme Court or of other districts of the court of appeals.

In addition to its decision-making powers, the Supreme Court supervises all lower courts in the state. It is assisted in this task by the Office of State Courts Administrator, established in 1970. The Supreme Court also licenses all lawyers practicing in Missouri and disciplines those found guilty of violating the legal Rules of Professional Conduct.
Qualifications and Terms

Supreme Court judges must be at least 30 years of age, U.S. citizens for 15 years and qualified Missouri voters for nine years. Supreme Court judges are retained for 12-year terms.

Chief Justice

The seven judges of the Supreme Court select one of their number to be chief justice and preside over the court. The chief justice also handles many of the administrative details for the court. The present practice of the court is to rotate the position of chief justice every two years.

The court hears oral arguments each month from September through May. Court sessions are open to the public.

Supreme Court Building

The Supreme Court Building, a three-story, red brick structure of French Renaissance architecture, was built in 1907 and stands opposite the Capitol. It houses the attorney general’s offices as well as those of the Supreme Court. The building’s main features are a massive marble staircase in the lobby and the two-story high library. The building has been extensively refurbished and modernized with the use of moneys appropriated by the General Assembly.

Clerk’s Office

The clerk of the Supreme Court is responsible for a wide range of duties, including the supervision of the internal administrative function of the court itself as well as the planning and administrative direction of the Missouri Judicial Conference, the organization comprising all of the judges in the state.

Supreme Court Function

The day-to-day administrative duties, as they relate to the court, include handling all inquiries and procedural requests from attorneys throughout the state, arranging the docketing of cases, maintaining files in each case before the court, receiving and disposing of fees related to those cases, and printing and distributing opinions of the court. In all of these matters, the clerk reports directly to the chief justice.

Missouri Bar Responsibilities

The clerk of the Supreme Court has a number of additional duties relating to The Missouri Bar and the supervision of the admission of new attorneys.

Among the records required to be maintained by the clerk are the official and permanent roll of attorneys for the State of Missouri. The clerk’s office also prepares on request certificates evidencing admission to The Missouri Bar. By Supreme Court rule, the clerk is treasurer of the state board of law examiners, which conducts bar examinations twice yearly. The clerk also supervises the semi-annual enrollment ceremonies and prepares all attorney licenses.

By Supreme Court rule, the clerk is ex officio treasurer of The Missouri Bar and the advisory committee and is responsible for collecting the annual attorney enrollment fee and distributing Missouri Bar membership cards to all attorneys licensed to practice in Missouri. He is responsible for maintaining the official records of The Missouri Bar and the bar fund and for preparing annual financial reports for publication in the Journal of The Missouri Bar. The clerk also is responsible for conducting annual elections for The Missouri Bar Board of Governors.

Security Administration

The Supreme Court’s marshal is under the clerk’s supervision. He is responsible for building security and the transportation of prisoners. The marshal also acts as bailiff when the court is in session. In addition, the marshal is responsible for all homeland security matters as they affect the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court Library

Telephone: (573) 751-2636

The Supreme Court Library, which is on the second floor of the Supreme Court Building, contains more than 110,000 volumes. These include the decisions of state and federal courts and federal administrative agencies, statutes of all states, 150 legal periodicals, legal textbooks, and many English decisions and statutes. In addition, the library contains computer research services for the use of court personnel.

The library’s main responsibility is to meet the research needs of the Supreme Court, the attorney general’s office, the General Assembly and the state’s executive department agencies, but it also provides resources to members of the bench and bar and the general public. It maintains daily hours throughout the year.

Supreme Court Publications

Telephone: (573) 751-4696

There are three monthly publications available to the public on a subscription basis. Tomorrow’s Opinion Monitor (T.O.M.) allows electronic exploration of all cases in the appellate system with condensed legal arguments of pending cases, summaries of opinions and official citations. Infinite possibilities for searching include subject, statute, rule, keyword, attorney and judge name. The Opinion Summary provides subscribers with a brief digest of decisions from the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. The Pending Issues Digest provides a summary of the issues raised in legal briefs filed in the courts.

The Missouri Approved Instructions—Criminal and Missouri Approved Charges—Criminal also are published by the publications department.
MICHAEL A. WOLFF served on the faculty of St. Louis University School of Law for 23 years before being appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri in August, 1998. His term as chief justice is from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007.

During his time in St. Louis, Judge Wolff was active in trial practice and was co-author of *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions, (4th edition)*, which is used by lawyers and judges throughout the country. As a law school teacher, he taught Civil Procedure, Trial Advocacy, Health Law, Criminal Sentencing, Constitutional Law and Administrative Law, among other courses. He was a recipient of the law school’s Teaching Excellence Award. Judge Wolff was on the faculty of the University’s School of Medicine and School of Public Health. He is a member of the American Law Institute. Judge Wolff is a member of the Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission and served as its chair in 2004 and 2005.

In 1992, while on leave from the University, Judge Wolff was Transition Director for Governor-elect Mel Carnahan, served as Chief Counsel to the governor in 1993–1994, and was Special Counsel to the governor 1994–1998 after returning to the law school. As special counsel, Wolff was active in seeking solutions, including legislation that passed in 1998, for dealing with the problems of urban schools after the end of court-ordered desegregation.

Wolff also served from 1993–1998 as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan, the health insurance program for public employees. Wolff was a candidate for attorney general in 1988 and 1992.

In addition to The Missouri Bar, Judge Wolff is a member of the Lawyers Association of St. Louis and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. He also has served several charitable and educational organizations in various capacities.

In his early legal career, Wolff was a federal court law clerk in 1970–1971 and served in legal services programs in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Denver, Colorado, and was director of Black Hills Legal Services in Rapid City, South Dakota, from 1973 to 1975. He joined the St. Louis University faculty in 1975.

Judge Wolff was born April 1, 1945, in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and was educated in Catholic grade schools and Lourdes High School in Rochester, Minnesota. He graduated in 1967 from Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, where he was editor-in-chief and chairman of the board of *The Dartmouth*, the student daily newspaper. He received his law degree with honors from the University of Minnesota law school in 1970. During law school, he worked as a reporter and copy editor for *The Minneapolis Star*. He and his wife, Patricia B. Wolff, M.D., who is a pediatrician, have been married since 1968. They have two grown sons, Andrew Barrett Wolff, born in 1974, and Benjamin Barrett Wolff, born in 1977.
STEPHEN N. LIMBAUGH JR. was born January 25, 1952, in Cape Girardeau.

Judge Limbaugh was educated in the Cape Girardeau public schools and later graduated from Southern Methodist University (Bachelor of Arts, 1973; Juris Doctor, 1976) and the University of Virginia (Master of Laws in Judicial Process, 1998).

Judge Limbaugh was admitted to the State Bar of Texas and The Missouri Bar in 1977. He was engaged in private practice with the Cape Girardeau law firm of Limbaugh, Limbaugh and Russell from 1977–1978. In November 1978 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Cape Girardeau County and served from 1979–1982. He then returned to private practice with the Limbaugh firm from 1983 until September 1987 when he was appointed Circuit Judge, 32nd Judicial Circuit, for a portion of an unexpired term. He was elected in 1988 for the remainder of the unexpired term and re-elected in 1990 for a full six-year term. While circuit judge, he served as Presiding Judge of the 32nd Judicial Circuit and as judge of the Juvenile Court.

Judge Limbaugh has served on the Missouri Division of Youth Services Advisory Board and the governing boards of Southeast Missouri Hospital, Southeast Missouri Council and Great Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Southeast Missouri Symphony, Cape Girardeau United Way, Cape Girardeau Civic Center, Cape Girardeau and Jefferson City Community Concert Associations, Cape Girardeau Rotary Club, Cape Girardeau Jaycees, Greater Cape Girardeau Development Corporation, Centenary United Methodist Church, William Woods University, Southern Methodist University Law Alumni Association and Friends of the Missouri State Archives. He is a member, and past president, of the Cape Girardeau Rotary Club and is a Paul Harris Fellow. He is also a member of the American Bar Association and the American Judicature Society, and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He is a recipient of the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law Distinguished Non-Alumnus Award, the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award from the National Eagle Scout Association and the honorary degree of Legum Doctorem from William Woods University.

He was married on July 21, 1973, to the former Marsha D. Moore. They have two sons, Stephen III and Christopher. His father, Stephen N. Limbaugh, is a senior United States District Judge in St. Louis.

Judge Limbaugh was appointed by Governor John Ashcroft to the Supreme Court in August 1992. He was retained at the November 8, 1994 general election for a term expiring December 31, 2006. Judge Limbaugh served as Chief Justice, July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2003.
WILLIAM RAY PRICE JR. was born January 30, 1952, in Fairfield, Iowa. He was educated at Keokuk (Iowa) public schools; University of Iowa, B.A., with high distinction, religion, 1974; Yale University Divinity School, 1974–1975; Washington and Lee University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1978. He is the recipient of the Hancher-Finkbine Undergraduate Award from the University of Iowa, 1974; Burks Scholar Individual Winner at Washington and Lee University School of Law, 1976. Judge Price was married to Susan Marie Trainor on January 4, 1975. They have two children: Emily Margret Price and William Joseph Dodds Price.

Admitted to the bar in 1978, Judge Price practiced law with a Kansas City law firm from 1978–1992. He served as chair of the Business Litigation Section and was a member of the executive committee.

He was president of the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners; member of the G.L. v. Zumwalt monitoring committee in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri; member of the board of directors of the Truman Medical Center, the Together Center and the Family Development Center; and chair of the Merit Selection Commission for United States Marshal, Western District of Missouri, 1990.

He is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Eta Sigma and Kappa Sigma.

Judge Price served as Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court from July 1, 1999 through July 1, 2001, and as vice president of the Conference of Chief Justices of the United States from August 1, 2000 through August 1, 2001. He is presently chairman of the Missouri Drug Court Commission.

Judge Price was appointed to the Supreme Court by Governor John Ashcroft on April 7, 1992. He was retained in 1994 for a term expiring December 31, 2006.
MARY R. RUSSELL was born July 28, 1958, in Hannibal, a seventh-generation Missourian, one of five children. Educated in Hannibal public schools; Truman State Univ., graduating summa cum laude with a B.S. and B.A.; University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, 1983.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Russell clerked for the Honorable George Gunn, of the Supreme Court of Missouri. She practiced law in Hannibal until her appointment to the Court of Appeals, Eastern District, 1995, where she served as Chief Judge from 1999–2000.

Active in many professional organizations, she is currently a member of the Missouri Bar Association; the American Bar Association; the National Association of Women Judges; the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; the Lawyers’ Association; the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association; the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association; the Cole County Bar Association; the 10th Circuit Bar Association; the Women Lawyers Association of St. Louis; and the Mid-Missouri Women Lawyers Association.

Always promoting the administration of justice, Judge Russell has served on the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline of Judges; Missouri Lawyer’s Trust Account Foundation; Commission to Select a Federal Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, 1993; House of Delegates to the American Bar Association; Young Lawyers Council; numerous Missouri Bar committees; the Missouri Press-Bar Commission; and the Supreme Court Civil Rules Committee and Appellate Practice Committee. She is a past co-chair of the Appellate Practice Committee of BAMSL and has served as chair on other committees in BAMSL.

She has served on a variety of statewide boards and commissions including: the Board of Governors of Truman State Univ., president, 1996; Mo. State Senate Reapportionment Commission, 1991; the Mo. Council on Women’s Economic Development; and Mo. Job Training Council.

Judge Russell is the recipient of numerous awards including: Faculty/Alumni Award, Univ. of Mo.–Columbia; Citation of Merit Award, UMC Law School; Distinguished Alumni Award, Truman State Univ.; Legal Services of Eastern Mo. Equal Justice Award; Soroptomist International Women Helping Women Award; Matthews-Dickey Boys’ & Girls’ Club Appreciation Award; and Kirkwood Citizen of the Year in 2003. She was named a Henry Toll Fellow in 1997 and a member of the Missouri Academy of Squires in 2002.

Active in many community organizations, Judge Russell is a member of the Jefferson City Rotary Club, PEO, the St. Louis Forum, and Grace Episcopal Church. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Matthews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs and the Missouri CASA Bd. She also volunteers at the Samaritan Center and as a Truancy Court Judge at Lewis and Clark Middle School, in Jefferson City. She was active in many organizations in Hannibal and Kirkwood prior to her move to Jefferson City. An easily approachable judge, she devotes much time to mentoring young women.

Judge Russell and her husband, Jim, a governmental consultant, live in Jefferson City. She was sworn in as a Supreme Court Judge, October 8, 2004, her term expires Dec. 31, 2006.
Laura Denvir Stith
Judge of the Supreme Court

LAURA DENVIR STITH was born in St. Louis, on October 30, 1953. She was raised in St. Louis and graduated with honors from the John Burroughs School, in 1971. She received a National Merit Scholarship to attend Tufts University in Boston, Mass. While there, she was an Iglauer Fellowship Intern in Washington, D.C. for Sen. Thomas Eagleton, in 1973. She studied at the Univ. of Madrid through a program administered by the Institute of European Studies. In 1975, she graduated magna cum laude from Tufts, receiving her B.A. in political science and social psychology. She then attended the Georgetown Univ. Law Center, distinguishing herself as an editor of Law and Policy in International Business Journal. Judge Stith graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown in 1978.

Following her graduation from law school, Judge Stith served for one year as a law clerk to the Hon. Robert E. Seiler of the Missouri Supreme Court. In 1979, she moved to Kansas City and practiced law with the firm of Shook Hardy & Bacon, becoming a partner of the firm in 1984 and later co-founding the firm’s appellate practice group.

In the fall of 1994, Governor Mel Carnahan appointed Judge Stith to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. She was retained at the Nov. 1996 general election. During her time on the court of appeals, Judge Stith authored over 400 opinions in cases involving nearly every area of state law.

Governor Bob Holden appointed Judge Stith to the Supreme Court of Missouri effective March 7, 2001. She is the second woman in Missouri history to serve on the Supreme Court.

Judge Stith has been involved in many organizations in the legal community. She has served as chair of the Gender and Justice Jt. Committee of the Missouri Bar and the Missouri Supreme Court. She was a founding director of Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance (LEAP), an inter-bar lawyers’ public service organization. She has served as president and member of the board of directors of the Assn. for Women Lawyers (AWL) of Greater Kansas City; chair and vice chair of the Missouri Bar Civil Practice and Procedure Committee; chair of the Appellate Practice Committee and vice chair of the Tort Law Committee of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA); and a member of the American Bar Association (ABA).

Judge Stith has served as a speaker on appellate practice at the annual conventions of ABA, Missouri Bar, Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys (MATA), and Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers (MODL). She has also served as a speaker or moderator on civil procedure and evidence at Missouri Bar, KCMBA, AWL, and Univ. of Missouri–Kansas City (UMKC) Continuing Legal Education programs; and as a speaker on gender bias at the Missouri New Judges School. She has authored many CLE publications, including a law review article, Stith, A Contrast of State and Federal Court Authority to Grant Habeas Relief, 38 Valparaiso Law Rev. 421 (Spring 2004).

Judge Stith has been involved in many community activities in Kansas City; serving as a mentor and tutor to young students at St. Vincent’s Operation Breakthrough; and as guest speaker at many local civic organizations, talking about the law, the role of the courts and public service.

Judge Stith is married to fellow attorney Donald G. Scott. He served as a law clerk for Judge Warren D. Welliver of the Missouri Supreme Court. He is a shareholder in McDowell, Rice, Smith and Buchanan, P.C. in Kansas City. They have three daughters.
Richard B. Teitelman
Judge of the Supreme Court

RICHARD TEITELMAN was born in Philadelphia, Pa. He received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics, 1969 from the University of Pennsylvania.

After graduating from Washington University School of Law, St. Louis in 1973 he opened a solo law practice. In 1975 he joined Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, serving for 23 years, 18 of those as executive director and general counsel. His dedication to the Legal Services program, which provides a wide range of programs for Missourians unable to pay for civil legal services, earned him many honors, including the prestigious Missouri Bar President’s Award, the American Council for the Blind’s Durward K. McDaniel Ambassador Award, the Women’s Legal Caucus Good Guy Award, the Mound City Bar Association’s Legal Service Award, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Young Lawyers Section Award of Merit, the St. Louis Bar Foundation Award, and the American Bar Association’s Make a Difference Award.

Judge Teitelman served as president of the Young Lawyers Section of the St. Louis Bar Association and as the St. Louis Bar Association’s president. He served as president of the St. Louis Bar Foundation. He serves as a board member, executive committee member, and past-president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. He served as a member of the Board of Governors, vice president and president-elect of The Missouri Bar. He served as trustee of the National Council of Bar Foundations of the ABA and is a lifetime member of the Fellows of the ABA. He was chair of the ABA’s Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law. He is a member of the executive committee of the American Judicature Society.

Judge Teitelman serves in a variety of roles in his pursuit of equality and access to justice for all. He is a member of the African-American/Jewish Task Force. He served on the midwest board of the American Federation for the Blind, the board of Paraquad, and the United Way Government Relations Committee. He is a board member of the St. Louis Public Library and a lifetime member of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.

He has received several honors, including the Missouri Bar’s Purcell Award for Professionalism; the American Jewish Congress’ Democracy in Action Award; the Lawyer’s Association of St. Louis Award of Honor; and the St. Louis Society for the Blind’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

He is an honorary dean of St. Louis University School of Law’s DuBourg Society. He is an honorary member of the Order of the Coif of Washington University School of Law and its Eliot Society. He was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus at Washington University’s 2002 Founders Day celebration and has been selected by The Council of State Governments to participate in the 2003 Toll Fellowship Program.

Judge Teitelman served on the Missouri Court of Appeals from 1998 to 2002. Richard Teitelman was appointed to the Missouri Supreme Court in 2002, becoming the first legally blind and first Jewish judge to serve on Missouri’s highest court. He was retained at the 2004 general election.
RONNIE L. WHITE was born May 31, 1953, in St. Louis.

He attended elementary school in St. Louis and graduated from Beaumont High School in 1971. Judge White received an Associate of Arts degree from St. Louis Community College in 1977. Two years later he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from St. Louis University.

Judge White graduated from the University of Missouri–Kansas City Law School in 1983. During law school he served as a legal intern for the Jackson County prosecutor. He later worked as a legal assistant for the Department of Defense Mapping Agency. White served as a trial attorney for the public defender’s office in both the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County. In 1987 Judge White entered private practice as a principal for the law firm of Cahill, White and Hemphill. While in private practice he was elected to serve three terms in the Missouri House of Representatives.

In 1993 Mayor Freeman Bosley Jr. appointed Judge White city counselor for the City of St. Louis. While serving as city counselor, Judge White argued his first case before the Missouri Supreme Court in April 1994. One month later, Governor Mel Carnahan appointed Judge White to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District. In September 1995 he served as a special judge for the Missouri Supreme Court. During that same year he served as an adjunct faculty member for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy.

Governor Carnahan appointed Judge White to the Missouri Supreme Court in October 1995. He was retained in the November 5, 1996 election. His term expires December 31, 2008. Judge White served as Chief Justice from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2005.
Acting under the direction of the Missouri Supreme Court, the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) is responsible for providing administrative and technical support to the courts of Missouri as they vigorously pursue a judicial system that is accessible, equitable, and swift. The duties and responsibilities assigned to the state courts administrator are broad in scope and relate to all levels of the state court system.

Since the appointment of the first state courts administrator in 1970, the office has been responsible for providing technical assistance, management services, education and training programs, information services, systems analysis, administrative procedure evaluation, compilation of statistics, and case processing support to the courts. The office also assists courts in developing and implementing court improvement projects in such areas as child abuse and neglect, juvenile services, family preservation, criminal history reporting, debt collection and judgment enforcement, mediation services, alcohol and drug abuse treatment and prevention, and the implementation of time standards for case disposition. With the passage of SB 420 in 1994, the office has worked with the Missouri Court Automation Committee on a project with enormous potential for the people of Missouri. The Statewide Court Automation program has and will continue to automate all the courts in the state and, through the use of advanced technologies, provide Missouri citizens with the most timely and responsive judicial system possible. The office is organized into five divisions and one office: Administration and Budget, Court Services, Information Technology, Juvenile and Adult Court Programs, Judicial Department Education, and the office for project management.

**Administration and Budget**

Administration and Budget staff provide administrative services essential to office management and maintain programs developed to assist the judiciary in a variety of areas. The budget section compiles and organizes the judicial branch's annual state appropriation request. It prepares fiscal notes for proposed legislation that affects the judicial system, and provides support to the Supreme Court's Circuit and Appellate Court Budget committees.

The personnel section maintains the statewide Circuit Court Personnel System as well as the Circuit Court Personnel Handbook. This section also processes the payroll for all court employees and maintains the Payroll Handbook for the payroll designees in each county. It also has primary responsibility for recruitment and personnel management for OSCA.

The fiscal section processes and accounts for all funds appropriated to the Supreme Court for judicial branch operations paid by the state. The section also handles payments for reimbursement to court personnel for incurred expenses and provides fiscal training as needed.

The contract section is responsible for administering contracts for the judiciary; the section also monitors and authorizes bill payment for all Missouri drug courts.

The sponsored programs section develops internal and external partnerships with national, state, and local funding sources. The section has managed grant funds for areas such as improving child abuse/neglect case management in juvenile courts, statewide juvenile court automation, automation of criminal history dispositions, electronic filing of adult protection orders, and improvement of mediation and other alternative dispute resolutions programs.

Finally, Administration and Budget staff also provides legislative support to the judiciary, performs office management functions for OSCA, and handles a wide array of requests for information from the legislature, governor's office, other public officials and the public in general.

**Court Services**

The Court Services Division acts as a service bureau for all court personnel statewide by providing direct assistance to trial courts in a number of areas including: developing procedures related to case processing and financial management; preparing transcripts from sound recorded tapes submitted by the courts; developing and updating procedural handbooks on case processing for court clerks; providing onsite case processing reviews, examining administrative and financial procedures to make rec-
ommendations for improved efficiency; managing statewide debt collection efforts, and collecting criminal history dispositions data for the criminal records repository maintained by the Missouri Highway Patrol.

The advent of the Statewide Court Automation Program has created a major new responsibility within the division. Court Services staff worked closely with the software provider and court staff from around the state to “customize” the software and continually monitor changing practices and legal requirements over time so that the software is revised as necessary.

Court Services staff work with the courts prior to implementing automation by assisting the courts with preparation for computerized case management and financial accounting. OSCA staff provide on-site assistance several weeks after the court implements the automated system. After the court is automated, both financial specialists and court specialists provide help desk support and follow-up site visits.

In 2000, a statewide jury management automated system was purchased for implementation in the courts. Court Services coordinates the court training, assists the courts with forms design and procedural changes, and provides telephone and on-site support to the courts. As of July 2005, the software has been installed in 113 counties and the jury staff in these counties have received training.

The Statistics Section is responsible for compiling caseload information from the trial courts, municipal divisions, and appellate courts. The information is used to project the impact of legislative changes, to improve docket management and administration of the courts, and to identify courts that need additional judicial resources and additional court clerk staff.

Information Technology

The Information Technology (OSCA-IT) division provides information technology management support for all Missouri courts and OSCA. The division is responsible for technical analysis, design, development, implementation, maintenance, quality assurance, systems security and automation support for the systems that Missouri courts require as a business need. OSCA-IT provides this support exclusively to most courts, but also works in conjunction with the few metropolitan courts that have information technology staff on-location.

In 1994, Missouri Revised Statutes section 476.055 established a statewide court automation program and some offset funding with a $7 per-case court fee. The program oversight was given to the Missouri Court Automation Committee under the Supreme Court. OSCA-IT has been actively involved with the Court Automation Committee in this enormous and exciting project, which was recognized nationally in 2002 by the Center for Digital Government and internationally in 2003 with a Gold Medal of Achievement from the Computerworld Honors Program.

The Missouri Court Automation Program is working to build an integrated justice system by using a family of standard automated systems that allow courts to increase their efficiency and provide increased service, fair and equitable justice and increased public access to public information. The standardization of the courts will provide a modern justice system with reduced costs to the litigant and taxpayer due to the economies of scale, greater accountability, timely justice, and improved public safety due to the ability of OSCA-IT to work with other state, federal and local systems to electronically exchange pertinent court information.

One of the most relevant examples of this electronic exchange has been the ability of courts using the statewide case management system to electronically transfer ex parte orders of protection to the law enforcement system, providing knowledge for officers and rapid protection for victims of domestic violence.

OSCA-IT also provides additional support for
the office in the areas of judicial transfer, fiscal notes and inventory control. The staff develops special reports to assist in workload analysis, judicial research and special legislative requests.

**Juvenile and Adult Court Programs**

In 1997, the 89th General Assembly approved the creation of the Division of Juvenile and Adult Court Programs within OSCA. It is within this division that administrative efforts are launched to comply with statutory mandates that apply to juvenile and adult court services.

Early division efforts centered on providing continued education and training standards for juvenile court personnel, developing a standardized assessment and classification system that recommends graduated sanctions and services aimed at reducing juvenile offender recidivism, and evaluating the effects of tighter protective custody timelines in child abuse and neglect cases.

Division projects now include expanding communication networks, better assessment of juvenile offenders, and better evaluation of offender data through automated systems. Communication is being enhanced with better hardware, software, specialized juvenile offender databases, and establishment of cooperative information-sharing agreements with other youth service agencies. Conversion of the hand-scored standardized offender assessment and classification system to a software program allows for easier collection, storage, and evaluation of juvenile offender data. A single source for juvenile related information has been incorporated into the larger court automation system that is being implemented in various circuits throughout the state.

In addition, the division is also working to establish alternative treatment programs, and work on child abuse and neglect cases, foster care and adoption, divorce education programs for parent and children and alternative dispute resolution such as mediation in child custody and visitation disputes, child abuse and neglect cases, and in juvenile victim/offender situations to improve court services to the public. The success of adult drug courts as an alternative treatment to substance abuse problems has led to the development of juvenile and family drug courts. Development is ongoing for other specialized courts such as mental health and Unified Family Courts. Federally funded pilot projects to establish permanency planning for abused and neglected children placed in foster care are in progress as well.

The division provides technical assistance in courthouse design related to security and Americans with Disabilities Act Access, personnel safety, assisting in emergency and disaster preparedness, certifying Spanish speaking interpreters for the courts, and locating and providing services for non-English speaking parties and those parties and customers covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The division also assists with programs that address issues of domestic violence.

The Juvenile and Adult Court Programs Division, in conjunction with the juvenile and family courts, is committed to building the foundation for a new standard of justice in Missouri. The impact of strong court programs and advanced technology will be far-reaching for the citizens of Missouri.

**Judicial Department Education**

The Division of Judicial Department Education is responsible for coordinating education services for almost four thousand state court employees and judges. These services are designed to ensure the courts have access to a highly skilled, professional workforce that is technologically literate, conversant with practices that aid in the internal management of the courts, oriented towards a high level of customer service, and forward thinking in improving that level of service in a rapidly changing environment.

The Coordinating Commission for Judicial Department Education provides strategic direction for a comprehensive statewide education program. Commission members are appointed by the Supreme Court and represent various levels of courts and regions of the state to ensure that the educational needs of all court personnel are fairly represented. The commission has built a comprehensive education program that affords opportunities to acquire and enhance technical knowledge and skills, and supervisory and leadership skills and abilities.

The commission relies on six education committees (Appellate Court Education Committee, Trial Judge Education Committee, Juvenile Division Education Committee, Municipal Division Education Committee, Court Clerk Education Committee, and the Court Reporter Education Committee) for program development. Each committee develops and implements a skills-based core curriculum within its assigned subject area designed to improve the knowledge base and skills of Judicial Department personnel.

The division is responsible for implementing the policies and programs established by the Coordinating Commission and its six education committees. The Education Division consists of three service delivery areas: Continuing Educa-
tion, Automation Training, and Education Technology. The Continuing Education Section offers a broad range of education courses and certificate programs for court personnel. Education specialists, working in cooperation with committee members and court personnel design and coordinate the delivery of courses tailored to meet the unique needs of appellate, trial and municipal court personnel, including judges, clerks, juvenile officers and court reporters. All courses are designed to provide court personnel with the knowledge and skills essential to discharging their judicial and administrative responsibilities.

The Automation Training Section, working in conjunction with the Missouri Court Automation program, designs, coordinates and delivers a comprehensive court automation training program. This program provides court personnel the skills necessary to effectively use the computer infrastructure and electronic case management systems that are the cornerstone of Missouri court automation.

The Education Technology Section is responsible for developing, implementing and evaluating alternative delivery methods of educational programming through the use of technology. Education Technology supports the work of the Automation Training Section and the Continuing Education Section through education services including web-based learning, computer-based learning, videoconferencing and satellite broadcasts.
# Judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri: 1821 to 2005*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathias McGirk</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Dillard Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Harvey Birch</td>
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<td>Note: In 1849, an amendment to the 1820 Constitution vacated the office of Judge of the Supreme Court. See 12 Mo. ii (1849).</td>
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<td>Note: In March 1862, the Pre-Civil War Judges were purged from the bench for refusing to take the loyalty oath. See “Preface” to 31 Mo. (1862).</td>
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<td>Barton Bates</td>
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<td>John D.S. Dryden</td>
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<td>Note: By “Order” of the State Convention the office of Judge of the Supreme Court became vacant on the first day of May 1865. Judge Bates resigned from the Court on February 1, 1865; and Judges Bay and Dryden were forcibly removed from the bench for failure to take the new loyalty oath, called the “Ironclad Oath.” See 35 Mo. iii, at iv-vi (1865).</td>
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<td>Michael A. Wolff</td>
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<td>Laura Denvir Stith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard B. Teitelman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary R. Russell</td>
<td>Marion</td>
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*Prepared by, Joseph Fred Benson, Archivist, Supreme Court of Missouri*
Missouri Court of Appeals

The first general intermediate courts in Missouri were provided for in the 1865 Constitution and were known as district courts. There were district courts in Jefferson City, Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Macon, St. Joseph and St. Charles. Each district was composed of three circuits. Appeals were taken from the circuit court to the district court, and then to the Supreme Court. However, the district courts were abolished in 1870 by a constitutional amendment.

Alarmed at the congested docket of the Supreme Court, the St. Louis Bar Association urged the 1875 Constitutional Convention to provide for another appellate court. Thus was created the St. Louis Court of Appeals consisting of three judges who heard appeals from St. Louis, St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren counties. Its territorial jurisdiction was expanded to include several more counties in 1884.

Another constitutional amendment in 1884 established the Kansas City Court of Appeals and authorized creation of another appellate court, when necessary, by the General Assembly.

The Springfield Court of Appeals was organized in 1909. Missouri’s current appellate structure—a single Court of Appeals consisting of three districts—was established by a 1970 constitutional amendment.

The Eastern District of the Court of Appeals sits in St. Louis and consists of 14 judges. Eleven judges preside over the Western District in Kansas City, and seven judges sit on the Southern District bench meeting either in Springfield or Poplar Bluff. Trained law clerks, who are licensed attorneys, assist each appellate judge with legal research.

The Court of Appeals may issue and determine original remedial writs and has general appellate jurisdiction in all cases not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. However, as previously mentioned, cases not within the Supreme Court’s exclusive jurisdiction may be transferred from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court when it is determined that a case involves an important issue that should be decided by the state’s highest court.

A chief judge is elected for the Eastern and Southern districts of the Court of Appeals by the judges in the districts, and serves for such time as the districts determine. In the Western District, the chief judge serves a two-year term by rotation according to seniority.

The courts are authorized to sit in divisions if they choose, which all three districts have elected to do.

Courts of Appeals judges must be at least 30 years old, residents of their district, U.S. citizens for at least 15 years and Missouri voters for nine years before their selection. Appeals judges serve 12-year terms.
“Attention Please”
(Missouri State Archives, Putman Collection)
Appellate Judges, Eastern District

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GLENN A. NORTON
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JUDICIAL BRANCH — COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES

The Eastern District Court of Appeals sits in St. Louis. Judges serve 12-year terms under a nonpartisan selection plan set out in the Missouri Constitution. Each of the 14 judges earns an annual salary of $115,000. Members of the court elect one from their number to act as chief judge.

Territorial Jurisdiction:
The City of St. Louis and counties of Audrain, Cape Girardeau, Clark, Franklin, Gasconade, Jefferson, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Osage, Perry, Pike, Ralls, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Scotland, Shelby, Warren and Washington.
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KENNETH M. ROMINES
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Office address: 121 S. Meramec, Ste. 500, Clayton 63105.
Home address: 248 Rosemont, Webster Groves 63119.

BOOKER T. SHAW
Office phone: (314) 539-4375.
Office address: Wainwright State Office Bldg., St. Louis 63101.

SHERRI B. SULLIVAN
Office phone: (314) 539-4380.
Office address: Wainwright State Office Bldg., St. Louis 63101.
Home address: St. Louis 63109.
The Southern District Court of Appeals meets in Springfield and in Poplar Bluff. Judges are named to 12-year terms under a nonpartisan selection plan set out in the Missouri Constitution. Each of the district’s seven judges earns an annual salary of $127,998. Members of the court elect one from their number to act as chief judge.

Territorial jurisdiction:

Except by different stipulation of the parties, all cases from the counties of Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Crawford, Dent, Dunklin, Iron, Mississippi, New Madrid, Oregon, Pemiscot, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Shannon, Stoddard and Wayne, will be heard at Poplar Bluff.

JEFFREY W. BATES
Office phone: (417) 895-6824.
Office address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.

ROBERT S. BARNEY
Office phone: (417) 895-6818.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
PHILLIP R. GARRISON
Office phone: (417) 895-6826.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.

JOHN EDWARD PARRISH
Office phone: (417) 895-6820.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.

JAMES K. PREWITT
Office phone: (417) 895-6825.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
NANCY STEFFEN RAHMeyer
Office phone: (417) 895-6823.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806-2597.

KENNETH W. SHRUM
Office phone: (417) 895-6822.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
Home address: 401 Walnut St., Marble Hill 63764.
The Western District Court of Appeals sits in Kansas City. Judges are named to 12-year terms under a nonpartisan selection plan set out in the Missouri Constitution. Each of the district’s 11 judges earns an annual salary of $115,000. The chief judge serves a two-year term by rotation according to seniority.
JOSEPH M. ELLIS  
Office Phone: (816) 889-3622.  
Office Addresses: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106; PO Box 583, Macon 63552.  

LISA WHITE HARDWICK 
Office phone: (816) 889-3611.  
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106-2970.  

RONALD HOLLIGER  
Office phone: (816) 889-3608.  
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.  
Home Address: Blue Springs.  
VICTOR C. HOWARD
Office phone: (816) 889-3626.
Office Address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.
Home Address: Kansas City.

HAROLD (Hal) LOWENSTEIN
Office phone: (816) 889-3617.
Office Address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

THOMAS H. NEWTON
Office Phone: (816) 889-3629.
Office Address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106-2970.
Home address: Kansas City.
PAUL M. SPINDEN
Office phone: (816) 889-3620.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.


ROBERT G. ULRICH
Office phone: (816) 889-3602.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

“Untitled”  
(Missouri State Archives, Putman Collection)
Missouri's 45 Judicial Circuits
Missouri’s first two circuit courts were established in 1815. The 1820 Constitution provided for the creation of four circuits, each containing from four to eight counties. The number of circuits has increased over the years; today 45 circuits operate in Missouri.

The first circuit judges were appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. However, the life term of the judges and their method of appointment proved unpopular; in 1849, the Constitution was amended to provide for popular election. Most circuit judges are elected today, although judges in some circuits are selected under provisions of the Nonpartisan Court Plan.

Constitutional amendments approved by Missouri voters in 1976 provide that the circuit courts shall be courts of original civil and criminal jurisdiction. All trials start at this level. Former courts of limited jurisdiction became divisions of the circuit court on January 2, 1979.

Within the divisions of the Circuit Court there are three levels of jurisdiction: circuit, associate and municipal. Circuit judges may act within all circuit jurisdictions.

The number of circuit judges is determined by the General Assembly. The Constitution requires at least one circuit judge in each of Missouri’s 45 judicial circuits.

Associate circuit judges may hear matters pending in the Circuit Court or assigned by the Supreme Court. Associate circuit judges hear all cases pursuant to Chapter 517, RSMo, and have concurrent jurisdiction over all cases pending in the Circuit Court.

The Constitution requires at least one resident associate circuit judge in each county. The statutes authorize additional associate circuit judges depending on county populations. Presently, 187 associate circuit judges are required by statute.

Municipalities with 400,000 or more people must establish a municipal division over which a municipal judge presides. Communities of less than 400,000 may establish municipal divisions to hear ordinance violations, or the municipality may request that these matters be heard in the associate division of the Circuit Court. Municipal judges are paid locally.

By statute each circuit judge appoints a court reporter and the court in each circuit appoints a juvenile officer. A circuit clerk in each county is selected according to law and salaries are set by statute.

Circuit court judges must be at least 30 years old, residents of their circuit, U.S. citizens for 10 years and Missouri voters for three years. Circuit judges serve six-year terms. Associate judges must be at least 25 years old, Missouri voters and residents of the counties they serve. Associate judges serve four-year terms.

Circuit court judges each earn $108,000 annually; associate circuit court judges earn $96,000. Compensation is determined by statute (RSMo 476.405).

The Fine Collection Center

The Missouri Supreme Court established the Fine Collection Center (FCC) pursuant to Section 476.385, RSMo. The Fine Collection Center is a central bureau authorized by statute to process certain traffic, conservation and watercraft violations for the courts of counties that voluntarily join the center’s program. The center began operation on July 1, 1999 and 79 Missouri counties were members of the program as of August 1, 2005. Offenders who receive citations in participating counties have the option of pleading guilty by paying their fine and costs directly to the FCC or pleading not guilty and having their citations sent to the county prosecutor for processing in the court system.

The Supreme Court appoints the Director of the Fine Collection Center. Since April of 2004, the ACS Corporation has performed most fine collection citation processing services under a contract with the state courts. The director of the center oversees the operation of the center by ACS. The Supreme Court also appoints a Fine Collection Center Committee of at least seven associate circuit court judges. This committee provides oversight and policy guidance for the FCC program and establishes and maintains a uniform fine schedule to be used by the FCC. Counties that voluntarily join the program must agree to use the uniform fine schedule. This fine schedule contains all traffic, conservation and watercraft offenses that the FCC is authorized to process.

The FCC fine schedule sets uniform fines for the same offenses in all counties participating in the FCC, resulting in a more equitable system for offenders. Benefits of participating in the FCC include better accountability, improved collection rates and a reduction in clerical workload associated with processing citations that allows court staff to redirect their efforts to other areas. The FCC also provides user-friendly customer service at a toll free number (1-877-866-3926) that offenders can call from anywhere within the United States. The FCC accepts payment by
check, money order or credit cards, making pay-
ment more convenient for offenders. The FCC
also has an automated system that allows pay-
ment 24 hours a day by phone at a toll free num-
ber or over the internet.

When an offender pays a citation to the FCC,
the center is legally authorized to issue a record
of conviction. Records of conviction for traffic
offenses are prepared the same business day that
the FCC receives the offender’s guilty plea and
payment of the fine and costs. The FCC electron-
ically transmits these records of conviction each
day to the Missouri Department of Revenue for
entry on the offender’s driving records and to the
Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The FCC sends payments of fines and court
costs to member county treasurers at the first of
each month. The FCC keeps no part of the fine or
costs. The county where the offenses occurred
receives all the fine money and the entire coun-
ty’s share of court costs on each case. The FCC
sends courts costs and fees designated for state
agencies directly to those agencies.
Circuit 3

ANDREW A. KROHN
Office address: 802 E. Main, Princeton 64673; phone (660) 748-3430.
Home address: RR 2, Princeton 64673, phone (660) 748-3456.
Counties: Grundy, Harrison, Mercer and Putnam.

Circuit 4

ROGER M. PROKES
Office address: 305 N. Main, Ste. 204, Maryville 64468; phone (660) 582-4231.
Home address: 6 Golf Tee Ln., Maryville, 64468.
Counties: Atchison, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway and Worth.

Circuit 5—Division 3

PATRICK K. ROBB
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1444.
Home address: 4800 State Rt. H, S.E., Agency 64401.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.
Circuit 5—Division 1

RANDALL R. JACKSON

Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1447.

Home address: 2227 N. 22nd St., St. Joseph 64505.

Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.


Circuit 5—Division 2

WELDON C. JUDAH

Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1441.

Home address: 2222 Edgewater Dr., St. Joseph 64506.

Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.


Circuit 5—Division 4

DANIEL F. KELLOGG

Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1477.

Home address: 2807 Whitman Dr., St. Joseph 64506.

Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

Circuit 6—Division 2

OWENS LEE HULL JR.
Office address: Platte County Courthouse, 415 Third St., Ste. 65, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-3436.
Home address: PO Box 248, Weston 64098.
County: Platte.

Circuit 6—Division 1

ABE SHAFER
Office address: Platte County Courthouse, 415 Third St., Ste. 65, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-2232.
Home address: 21730 Hwy. M, Weston 64098.
County: Platte.

Circuit 7—Division 4

LARRY D. HARMAN
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 792-7714.
Home address: 1006 Wildbriar, Liberty 64068.
County: Clay.
Circuit 7—Division 1

MICHAEL J. MALONEY
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 792-7711.
Home address: 9011 Catherine, Liberty 64068.
County: Clay.

Circuit 7—Division 2

ANTHONY REX GABBERT
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 792-7712.
Home address: Kansas City 64155.
County: Clay.

Circuit 7—Division 3

JAMES EDWARD WELSH
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 792-7713.
Home address: 803 N. Morse, Liberty 64068.
County: Clay.
Circuit 8

**WERNER A. MOENTMANN**

**Office address:** Ray County Courthouse, PO Box 346, Richmond 64085; phone (816) 776-3525.

**Home address:** 1404 S. Golf Club Dr., Richmond 64085.

**Counties:** Carroll and Ray.


Circuit 9

**GARY E. RAVENS**

**Office address:** PO Box 84, 108 N. High, Linneus 64653; phone (660) 895-5523.

**Home address:** PO Box 315, Marceline 64658.

**Counties:** Chariton, Linn and Sullivan.


Circuit 10

**ROBERT M. CLAYTON II**

**Office address:** Marion County Courthouse, 906 Broadway, Hannibal 63401; phone (573) 221-0579.

**Counties:** Marion, Monroe and Ralls.

Circuit 11—Division 4

JOSEPH R. BRISCOE JR.

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 512, St. Charles 63301-5415; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 5514.

Home address: 16 Belle Plaine Dr., St. Charles 63301-1666.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 1

TED HOUSE

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 539, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-5538.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 2

NANCY L. SCHNEIDER

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 439, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 5512.

Home address: 1600 Watson St., St. Charles 63301.

County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 3

LUCY RAUCH
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 341, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 5541.
Home address: 1022 Jefferson St., St. Charles 63301.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 12

KEITH M. SUTHERLAND
Office address: Warren County Courthouse, 104 W. Main St., Warrenton 63383; phone (636) 456-9705.
Counties: Audrain, Montgomery and Warren.

Circuit 13—Division 1

GENE HAMILTON
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.
Home address: 209 E. Ninth St., Fulton 65251.
Counties: Boone and Callaway.
Circuit 13—Division 2

**GARY OXENHANDLER**

**Office address:** Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.

**Counties:** Boone and Callaway.


Circuit 13—Division 3

**ELLEN S. ROPER**

**Office address:** Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.

**Home address:** Columbia 65201.

**Counties:** Boone and Callaway.


Circuit 14

**RALPH H. JAYNES**

**Office address:** 372 Hwy. JJ, Ste. C, Huntsville 65259; phone (660) 277-4240.

**Home address:** 122 1/2 E. Morrison, Fayette 65248.

**Counties:** Howard and Randolph.

Circuit 15
DENNIS A. ROLF
Office address: 548 Main, PO Box 751, Concordia 64020; phone (660) 463-5834.
Home address: RR 1, Box 1-J, Alma 64001.
Counties: Lafayette and Saline.

Circuit 16—Division 11
J.D. WILLIAMSON JR.
Office address: 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3611.
Home address: 10821 Milton Thompson Rd., Lee’s Summit 64086.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 1
SANDRA C. MIDKIFF
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3601.
County: Jackson.
Biography: Judge Midkiff received a bachelor’s degree from Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, 1972 and graduated with honors from University of Missouri–Kansas City Law School, 1975. She owned and operated a private law practice from 1975 until her appointment to the bench. During her 26 years of private practice, she litigated various types of cases, including employment discrimination, civil rights, sexual harassment and business and commercial torts. An original member of the Association of Women Lawyers and member of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. Appointed circuit judge, March 8, 2002. Retained in 2004. Term expires December 31, 2010. Nonpartisan.
Circuit 16—Division 2

MICHAEL W. MANNERS
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4402.
Home address: Independence 64057.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 3

THOMAS C. CLARK
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3603.
Home address: 412 W. 62nd St., Kansas City 64113.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 4

JUSTINE E. DEL MURO
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3604.
Home address: Kansas City.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 5

W. STEPHEN NIXON
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4405.
Home address: M-28 Lake Shore Dr., Lake Lotawana 64086.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 6

JOHN R. O’MALLEY
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3606.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 7

CATHARINE ANN MESLE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3607.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 8
PEGGY STEVENS McGRAW
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3608.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 9
KELLY MOORHOUSE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3609.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 10
CHARLES E. ATWELL
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3610.
Home address: 638 W. 69th Terr., Kansas City 64113.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 12  

**EDITH L. MESSINA**  
**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3612.

**County:** Jackson.


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Circuit 16—Division 13  

**JAY A. DAUGHERTY**  
**Office address:** 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3613.

**Home address:** Kansas City.

**County:** Jackson.


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Circuit 16—Division 14  

**JOHN M. TORRENCE**  
**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone: (816) 881-3614.

**Home address:** Kansas City.

**County:** Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 15

K. PRESTON DEAN II
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3615.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 16

MARCO ROLDAN
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4416.
Home address: Jackson County.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 17

JACK R. GRATE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050-3715; phone (816) 881-4417.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 18

JON R. GRAY

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3618.

County: Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 19

KATHLEEN A. FORSYTH

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3759.

County: Jackson.


Circuit 17—Division 2

JOSEPH P. DANDURAND

Office address: Johnson County Justice Center, 101 W. Market, Warrensburg 64093; phone (660) 422-7407.

Counties: Cass and Johnson.

Circuit 17—Division 1

JACQUELINE A. COOK
Office address: Cass County Courthouse, 102 E. Wall, Harrisonville 64701; phone (660) 380-8175.
Home address: 400 Airway Ct., Belton 64012.
Counties: Cass and Johnson.

Circuit 18—Division 4

ROBERT L. KOFFMAN
Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 827-0164.
Home address: Sedalia 65301.
Counties: Cooper and Pettis.

Circuit 19—Division 1

THOMAS J. BROWN III
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, PO Box 1156, Jefferson City 65102; phone (573) 634-9192.
Home address: 3430 Flanders Rd., Jefferson City 65109.
County: Cole.
Circuit 19—Division 2

RICHARD G. CALLAHAN
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High, PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65102; phone (573) 634-9190.
Home address: Jefferson City 65109.
County: Cole.

Circuit 19—Division 4

PATRICIA JOYCE
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High, Jefferson City 65101; phone (573) 634-9178.
Home address: Jefferson City.
County: Cole.

Circuit 20—Division 1

GAEL D. WOOD
Office address: Franklin County Courthouse, 300 E. Main St., Rm. 302, Union 63084; phone (636) 583-6308.
Home address: Washington 63090.
Counties: Franklin, Gasconade and Osage.
Circuit 20—Division 2
CYNTHIA M. (Cindy) ECKELKAMP
Office address: 300 E. Main, Union 63084; phone (636) 583-6309.
County: Franklin.

Circuit 21—Division 7
CAROLYN C. WHITTINGTON
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1507.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 1
ROBERT S. COHEN
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1501.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 2

MAURA B. McSHANE
Office address: 501 S. Brentwood, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1502.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 3

MARK D. SEIGEL
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1503.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 4

BERNHARDT C. DRUMM JR.
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1504.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 5

JOHN F. KINTZ
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1505.
Home address: Brentwood 63144.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 6

GARY M. GAERTNER JR.
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1506.
County: St. Louis.
Biography: Born in St. Louis. Educated at St. Louis University School of Business, B.S., magna cum laude; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., cum laude. Married to Julie H. Sauer; two children. Former associate of Bryan Cave; assistant circuit attorney for St. Louis; assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri; United States Department of Justice Insurance Fraud Task Force for the E.D. of Missouri, chair. Member: Catholic Church; Bar Associations: Metropolitan St. Louis, and Women Lawyers’. Awarded: Adler-Rosecan; Childress; and Thomas J. White Fellowship; Alpha Sigma Nu Honorary Scholastic Society and Law Review, St. Louis University School of Law. Received: John C. Shepherd Professionalism Award; BAMSL. Board of directors, Boys’ and Girls’ Town of Missouri and former council member, Young Lawyers’ Section of Missouri Bar. Sworn in as circuit judge: July 14, 2000. Retained in 2002. Term expires December 31, 2008. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 21—Division 8 (Juvenile)

TOMMY W. DePRIEST JR.
Office address: 501 S. Brentwood, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1508.
Home address: Oakville 63129.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 9
DAVID LEE VINCENT III
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1509.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 10
(VACANCY)

Circuit 21—Division 11
EMMETT M. O’BRIEN
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1511.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 12

STEVEN H. GOLDMAN

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1512.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 13

BARBARA W. WALLACE

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1513.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 14

JAMES R. HARTENBACH

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1514.

Home address: 444 Iris Ln., Kirkwood 63122.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 15

JOHN A. ROSS

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1515.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 16

MICHAEL D. BURTON

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1516.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 17

LARRY L. KENDRICK

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1517.

Home address: Florissant 63031.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 18

RICHARD C. BRESNAHAN

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1518.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 19

MELVYN WADE WIESMAN

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1519.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 20

COLLEEN DOLAN

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 7900 Carondelet, Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1520.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 1

JOHN J. RILEY
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4311.
Home address: 3820 Flora, St. Louis 63110.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 2

STEVEN R. OHMER
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-5606.
Home address: 3635 Hartford, St. Louis 63116.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 3

THOMAS C. GRADY
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3706.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 4

JULIAN L. BUSH

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3668.

Home address: St. Louis.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 5

DAVID L. DOWD

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4233.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 6

MICHAEL P. DAVID

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4827.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 7

LISA S. VAN AMBURG
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4401.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 8

EDWARD SWEENEY
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis, 63101; phone (314) 622-4382.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 9

MARGARET M. NEILL
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4682.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 10

PHILIP D. HEAGNEY

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4491.

Home address: 4541 Gibson Ave., St. Louis 63110.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 11

MARK H. NEILL

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4802.

Home address: St. Louis.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 12

DENNIS M. SCHAUMANN

Office address: Civil Courts Building, 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4420.

Home address: St. Louis 63109.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 13

JOAN M. BURGER
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4381.
Home address: 3512 Crittenden, St. Louis 63118.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 15 (Family)

THOMAS J. FRAWLEY
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4323.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 16

DONALD L. McCULLIN
Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103, St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4461.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 17

DAVID CHARLES MASON

Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1113 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4421.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 18

ROBERT H. DIERKER JR.

Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4331.

Home address: St. Louis.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 19

JIMMIE M. EDWARDS

Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4376.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 20

ANGELA TURNER QUIGLESS
Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103, Phone (314) 622-4503.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 21

EVELYN M. BAKER
Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4363.
Home address: 4603 Westminster Pl., St. Louis 63108.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 22

MICHAEL B. CALVIN
Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4929.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 23

TIMOTHY JOSEPH WILSON
Office address: Carnahan Bldg., 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63103; phone (314) 622-4926.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 30 (Juvenile)

JOHN F. GARVEY JR.
Office address: 920 North Vandeventer, St. Louis 63108; (314) 622-4841.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 31

JOAN L. MORIARTY
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4927.
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 23—Division 2

GARY P. KRAMER
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5443.
Home address: 14 Evergreen Ln., Festus 63028.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 1

TIMOTHY J. PATTERSON
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5410.
Home address: 114 N. Lake Dr., Hillsboro 63050.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 3

M. EDWARD WILLIAMS
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5430.
County: Jefferson.
Circuit 23—Division 4

DENNIS J. KEHM

Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5443.

Home address: 1328 Melvin, Festus 63028.

County: Jefferson.


Circuit 24—Division 2

KENNETH W. PRATTE

Office address: St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Third Fl., Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5144.

Home address: 809 Janey Dr., Farmington 63640.


Biography: Presiding Judge. Born May 2, 1945, in Bonne Terre. Educated at Mineral Area College; University of Missouri–Columbia, A.B., political science; J.D. Served in United States Marine Corps in Vietnam. Employed as management trainee with an electric company; loan officer with a savings and loan association; parole officer for state of Missouri; assistant prosecuting attorney, St. Francois and Madison counties; practiced law in Farmington and Park Hills; first elected city attorney for City of Farmington. Member: Catholic Church; American, Missouri and Judicial Circuit Bar Associations; Knights of Columbus; VFW; American Legion; Elks. Elected circuit judge: 1982–2000. Term expires December 31, 2006. Democrat.

Circuit 24—Division 1

SANDY MARTINEZ

Office address: St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Third Fl., Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5144.


Circuit 25—Division 1

**TRACY L. STORIE**

**Office address:** 301 Historic Hwy. 66 E., Ste. 318, Waynesville 65583; phone (573) 774-4789.

**Home address:** 24970 Republic Rd., Waynesville 65583.

**Counties:** Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Texas.


Circuit 25—Division 2

**MARY SHEFFIELD**

**Office address:** Phelps County Courthouse, 200 N. Main St., Ste. 211, Rolla 65401.

**Counties:** Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Texas.

**Biography:** Born July 26, 1955, in Durham, North Carolina. Educated at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, B.A.; University of Miami Law School, Coral Gables, J.D. Married to John Sheffield. They have three children. Engaged in private practice in Rolla and Salem. Served as associate circuit judge for 23 years. Member: First United Methodist Church; National College of Probate Judges; Blue Ridge Institute for Juvenile and Family Law Judges; National Association of Women Judges; National Guardianship Association; American Judicare Society; Supreme Court Judicial Education Committee, Family Court Committee and Judge Transfer Committee; American, Missouri and Phelps County Bar Associations; Rotary Club; PEO; and Phelps County Caring Communities. Elected circuit judge: November 2, 2004. Term expires December 31, 2010. Democrat.

Circuit 26—Division 1

**JAMES A. FRANKLIN JR.**

**Office address:** Camden County Courthouse, One Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.

**Home address:** PO Box 54, Camdenton 65020.

**Counties:** Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau and Morgan.

Circuit 26—Division 2

GREG KAYS
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, One Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.
Home address: Lebanon.
Counties: Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau and Morgan.

Circuit 27

WILLIAM J. (Bill) ROBERTS
Office address: PO Box 487, Clinton 64735; phone (660) 885-7242.
Home address: Clinton 64735.
Counties: Bates, Henry and St. Clair.

Circuit 28

JAMES R. BICKEL
Office address: Office of the Circuit Judge, 100 W. Cherry, Ste. A, Nevada 64772; phone (417) 667-5016; Fax (417) 448-2535.
Home address: 303 E. Vernon, Nevada 64772.
Counties: Barton, Cedar, Dade and Vernon.
Circuit 29—Division 2

DAVID C. DALLY

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4320.

Home address: Carthage 64836.

County: Jasper.


Circuit 29—Division 1

WILLIAM CARL CRAWFORD

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Rm. 320, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4318.

Home address: Carthage 64836.

County: Jasper.


Circuit 29—Division 3

JON DERMOTT

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4325.

Home address: 1340 Crest Dr., Joplin 64801.

County: Jasper.

Biography: Born January 19, 1938, in Lamar. Graduated from the University of Arkansas, LL.B., 1963. He and his wife, Courtney, have three children: Lyter, Sharrock and Seth. Member: St. Philip’s Episcopal Church; United States Marine Corps Reserve, 1956–1963; Missouri, Arkansas and Texas Bar Associations; past president and member, Freeman Hospital board of directors; past member, Joplin Family Y board of directors; Kiwanis Club of Joplin; University of Arkansas Alumni Association; Sigma Nu Fraternity; Blue Key Honor Society, University of Arkansas; Spiva Center for the Arts, past director; United Way of Joplin, past director. Outstanding Alumnus, University of Arkansas School of Law, 1990. Elected circuit judge: November 8, 1994 and 2000. Term expires December 31, 2006. Republican.
Circuit 30

JOHN W. (Bill) SIMS
Office address: PO Box 679, Buffalo 65622; phone (417) 345-6822.
Home address: PO Box 163, Marshfield 65706.
Counties: Benton, Dallas, Hickory, Polk and Webster.

Circuit 31—Division 2

J. MILES SWEENEY
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4086.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 1

DON E. BURRELL JR.
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4078.
Home address: 1562 N. East Ridge Dr., Strafford 65757.
County: Greene.
Circuit 31—Division 3

J. DAN CONKLIN
Office address: Greene County Circuit Court, 1010 Boonville, Springfield, MO 65002; phone: 417-868-4080

Biography: Education: Metropolitan State College, Denver, Colo., B. S. in marketing, summa cum laude; University of Arkansas, J.D., 1978. Prior to law school, he was with Litton Industries in Management and Marketing. He was engaged in private practice with the firm of Conklin, Holden and Wagner. Served as city attorney for the City of Republic. Former instructor of marketing and business law at Southwest Missouri State University. Was an associate circuit judge, then circuit judge of Circuit 31 since being elected in 1986. Elected circuit judge: November, 2004. Term expires December 31, 2010. Republican.

Circuit 31—Division 4

THOMAS E. MOUNTJOY
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4089.

Home address: Springfield.

County: Greene.


Circuit 31—Division 5

CALVIN R. HOLDEN
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1111 N. Robberson, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4837.

County: Greene.

Circuit 32—Division 1

WILLIAM L. SYLER

Office address: Common Pleas Courthouse, 44 N. Lorimier, Cape Girardeau 63701; phone (573) 335-2802.

Home address: 1261 Dover Ln., Cape Girardeau 63701.

Counties: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau and Perry.


Circuit 32—Division 2

BEN LEWIS

Office address: Common Pleas Courthouse, 44 N. Lorimier, Cape Girardeau 63701; phone (573) 335-2802.

Counties: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau and Perry.


Circuit 33

DAVID A. DOLAN

Office address: Scott County Courthouse, PO Box 256, Benton 63736; phone (573) 545-3141.

Home address: 103 Goldbrier, Sikeston 63801.

Counties: Mississippi and Scott.

Circuit 34

FRED W. COPELAND

Office address: New Madrid County Courthouse, 450 Main, New Madrid 63869; phone (573) 748-2669.
Home address: 390 St. Paul, New Madrid 63869.
Counties: New Madrid and Pemiscot.


Circuit 35

STEPHEN R. SHARP

Office address: Dunklin County Courthouse, PO Box 507, Kennett 63857; phone (573) 888-9133.
Home address: 807 College, Kennett 63857.
Counties: Dunklin and Stoddard.


Circuit 36

MARK L. RICHARDSON

Office address: Butler County Courthouse, 100 N. Main, Poplar Bluff 63901; phone (573) 686-8080.
Home address: 3411 Normandy Rd., Poplar Bluff 63901.
Counties: Butler and Ripley.

Circuit 37

R. JACK GARRETT
Office address: 225 Courthouse, West Plains 65775; phone (417) 256-4383.
Home address: 10302 County Rd. 9030, West Plains 65775.
Counties: Carter, Howell, Oregon and Shannon.

Circuit 38

JAMES L. EIFFERT
Office address: 110 W. Elm, Rm. 205, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 581-2727.
Home address: Nixa 65714.
Counties: Christian and Taney.

Circuit 39

J. EDWARD SWEENEY
Office address: PO Box 400, Monett 65708; phone (417) 235-6245.
Home address: 268 Farm Rd. 1090, Monett 65708.
Counties: Barry, Lawrence and Stone.
Circuit 40
TIMOTHY W. PERIGO
Office address: Newton County Courthouse, 101 S. Wood, Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8234.
Home address: PO Box 218, Neosho 64850.
Counties: McDonald and Newton.

Circuit 41
HADLEY E. GRIMM
Office address: Macon County Courthouse, PO Box 368, Macon 63552; phone (660) 385-3713.
Home address: 508 Cardinal, Macon 63552.
Counties: Macon and Shelby.

Circuit 42—Division 1
WILLIAM CAMM SEAY
Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., PO Box 551, Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-6816.
Home address: Rt. 6, PO Box 736, Salem 65560.
Counties: Crawford, Dent, Iron, Reynolds and Wayne.
Circuit 42—Division 2

J. MAX PRICE

Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., PO Box 551, Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-6816.

Home address: 1205 S. Mildred Blvd., Salem 65560.

Counties: Crawford, Dent, Iron, Reynolds and Wayne.


Circuit 43—Division 2

STEPHEN K. GRIFFIN

Office address: Clinton County Courthouse, Box 275, Plattsburg 64477; phone (816) 539-3732.

Home address: 1314 E. Grand, Cameron 64429.

Counties: Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb and Livingston.


Circuit 43—Division 1

WARREN L. MCELWAIN

Office address: PO Box 512, Maysville 64469; phone (816) 449-2602; FAX: (816) 449-2440.

Home address: PO Box 512, Maysville 64469.

Counties: Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb and Livingston.

Circuit 44

JOHN GARNER MOODY
Office address: PO Box 439, Mansfield 65704; phone (417) 924-3246.
Home address: PO Box 11, Mansfield 65704.
Counties: Douglas, Ozark and Wright.

Circuit 45

DAN DILDINE
Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy 63379; phone (636) 528-6300.
Home address: 533 Bridgeway Dr., Troy 63379.
Counties: Lincoln and Pike.
## Circuit courts by county

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</table>
Circuit 12
LINDA R. HAMLETT (D)
Audrain County Courthouse
101 N. Jefferson, Rm. 205
Mexico 65265
Phone: (573) 473-5850
FAX: (573) 581-3364

Circuit 12
ROY L. RICHTER (R)
Montgomery County Courthouse
211 E. Third St.
Montgomery City 63361
Phone: (573) 564-3348
FAX: (573) 564-8081

Circuit 12
WESLEY C. DALTON (D)
Warren County Courthouse
104 W. Main St.
Warrenton 63383
Phone: (636) 456-3375
FAX: (636) 456-2422

Circuit 12
CHRISTOPHER S. KELLY (D)
Boone County Courthouse
705 E. Walnut St.
Columbia 65201
Phone: (573) 886-4050
FAX: (573) 886-4070

Circuit 13
JOE D. HOLT (D)
Callaway County Courthouse
10 E. Fifth St.
Fulton 65251
Phone: (573) 648-0777
FAX: (573) 648-0700
E-mail: joe.holt@courts.mo.gov

Circuit 13
CHRISTINE CARPENTER (D)
Boone County Courthouse
705 E. Walnut St.
Columbia 65201
Phone: (573) 886-4050
FAX: (573) 886-4070

Circuit 13
CHRISTOPHER S. KELLY (D)
Boone County Courthouse
705 E. Walnut St.
Columbia 65201
Phone: (573) 886-4050
FAX: (573) 886-4070

Circuit 13
JODY CAPSHAW ASEL (R)
Boone County Courthouse
705 E. Walnut St.
Columbia 65201
Phone: (573) 886-4050
FAX: (573) 886-4070

Circuit 13
LARRY BRYSON (D)
Boone County Courthouse
705 E. Walnut St.
Columbia 65201
Phone: (573) 886-4050
FAX: (573) 886-4070

Circuit 13
JOE D. HOLT (D)
Callaway County Courthouse
10 E. Fifth St.
Fulton 65251
Phone: (573) 648-0777
FAX: (573) 648-0700
E-mail: joe.holt@courts.mo.gov

Circuit 14
GARY G. SPRICK (D)
Howard County Courthouse
PO Box 370
Fayette 65248
Phone: (660) 248-3326
FAX: (660) 248-1075

Circuit 14
SCOTT A. HAYES (D)
Randolph County Justice Center
372 Highway Jj
Huntsville 65259
Phone: (660) 277-4604
FAX: (660) 277-4616

Circuit 15
JOHN E. FREDRING (R)
Lafayette County Courthouse-Lafayette Hall
PO Box 10
Lexington 64067
Phone: (660) 259-2324
FAX: (660) 259-4997
Circuit 17
THOMAS CAMPBELL (D)
Cass County Justice Center
2501 W. Wall St.
Harrisonville 64701
Phone: (816) 380-8217
FAX: (816) 380-8215

Circuit 17
WILLIAM B. COLLINS (D)
Cass County Justice Center
2501 W. Wall St.
Harrisonville 64701
Phone: (816) 380-8200
FAX: (816) 380-8195

Circuit 17
STEPHEN ANGLE (D)
Johnson County Justice Center
101 Market
Warrensburg 64093
Phone: (660) 422-7410
FAX: (660) 422-7412

Circuit 17
GARRETT R. CROUCH II (R)
Johnson County Justice Center
101 Market
Warrensburg 64093
Phone: (660) 422-7405
FAX: (660) 422-7417

Circuit 18
KENTON G. ASKREN (D)
Cooper County Courthouse
200 Main, Rm. 31
Boonville 65233
Phone: (660) 826-4699
FAX: (660) 826-0368

Circuit 18
RICHARD PAUL BEARD II (R)
Pettis County Courthouse
415 S. Ohio
Sedalia 65301
Phone: (660) 826-0368

Circuit 18
ROBERT LISTON (R)
Pettis County Courthouse
415 S. Ohio
Sedalia 65301
Phone: (660) 826-0368
FAX: (660) 827-8613

Circuit 19
THOMAS SODERGREN (R)
Cole County Courthouse
PO Box 503
Jefferson City 65102
Phone: (573) 634-9170
FAX: (573) 635-5376

Circuit 20
DAVID L. HOVEN (D)
Franklin County Courthouse
120 S. Church St., Ste. A
Union 63041
Phone: (636) 583-6318

Circuit 20
WALTER A. MURRAY JR. (R)
Franklin County Courthouse
401 E. Springfield
Union 63084
Phone: (636) 583-6312

Circuit 20
STANLEY D. WILLIAMS (D)
Franklin County Courthouse
120 S. Church St.
Union 63084
Phone: (636) 583-6326

Circuit 20
JOHN B. BERKEMEYER (R)
Gasconade County Courthouse
119 E. First St., Rm. 3
Hermann 65041
Phone: (573) 486-2321
Circuit 22–Div. 25
IRIS G. FERGUSON (NP)
Civil Courts Bldg.
10 N. Tucker St.
St. Louis 63101
Phone: (314) 622-4687
FAX: (314) 615-2689

Circuit 22–Div. 26
PAULA PERKINS BRYANT
Civil Courts Bldg.
10 N. Tucker St.
St. Louis 63101
Phone: (314) 622-4536

Circuit 22–Div. 27
MICHAEL F. STELZER
Civil Courts Bldg.
10 N. Tucker St.
St. Louis 63101
Phone: (314) 622-3573

Circuit 22–Div. 28
ELIZABETH B. HOGAN (NP)
Civil Courts Bldg.
10 N. Tucker St.
St. Louis 63101
Phone: (314) 622-4282

Circuit 22–Div. 29
BARRIE ET PIERLES (NP)
Civil Courts Bldg.
10 N. Tucker St.
St. Louis 63101
Phone: (314) 622-4412

Circuit 23
WILLIAM J. WEGGE JR. (D)
Jefferson County Courthouse
PO Box 100
Hillsboro 63050
Phone: (636) 797-5362
FAX: (636) 797-5073

Circuit 23
NATHAN STEWART (D)
Jefferson County Courthouse
PO Box 100
Hillsboro 63050
Phone: (636) 797-5424
JUDICIAL BRANCH — ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES

Circuit 23
MARK T. STOLL (D)
Jefferson County Courthouse
PO Box 100
Hillsboro 63050
Phone: (636) 797-5375

Circuit 24
ROBERT STILLWELL (R)
Madison County Courthouse
PO Box 521
Fredericktown 63645
Phone: (573) 783-3105
FAX: (573) 783-5920

Circuit 24
JAMES HARRISON KELLY (D)
St. Francois County Courthouse
1 N. Washington
Farmington 63640
Phone: (573) 756-6601
FAX: (573) 756-6602

Circuit 24
THOMAS L. RAY (D)
St. Francois County Courthouse
1 N. Washington
Farmington 63640
Phone: (573) 756-5755
FAX: (573) 756-8173

Circuit 24
RAYMOND M. WEBER (D)
Ste. Genevieve County Courthouse
55 S. Third St., Rm. 24
Ste. Genevieve 63670
Phone: (573) 883-2265
FAX: (573) 883-9351

Circuit 24
TROY HYDE (D)
Washington County Courthouse
102 N. Missouri St.
Potosi 63664
Phone: (573) 438-3691
FAX: (573) 438-7900

Circuit 25
JOHN CLAYTON (D)
Maries County Courthouse
PO Box 490
Vienna 65582
Phone: (573) 422-3303
FAX: (573) 422-9917

Circuit 25
RALPH J. HASLAG (R)
Phelps County Courthouse
200 N. Main, Suite 201
Rolla 65401
Phone: (573) 458-6230

Circuit 25
RONALD D. WHITE (D)
Phelps County Courthouse
200 N. Main, Suite 259
Rolla 65401
Phone: (573) 458-6233
FAX: (573) 458-6235

Circuit 25
COLIN LONG (D)
Pulaski County Courthouse
301 Historic Rt. 66 E., Suite 314
Waynesville 65583
Phone: (573) 774-4786
FAX: (573) 774-6673

Circuit 25
D. GREGORY WARREN (D)
Pulaski County Courthouse
301 Historic Rt. 66 E., Suite 316
Waynesville 65583
Phone: (573) 774-4784

Circuit 25
BRADFORD E. ELLSWORTH (R)
Texas County Courthouse
210 N. Grand
Houston 65483
Phone: (417) 967-3663
FAX: (417) 967-4128

Photo not Available
Circuit 34
BYRON D. LUBER (D)
Pemiscot County Courthouse
PO Box 228
Caruthersville 63830
Phone: (573) 333-2784
FAX: (573) 333-4722

Circuit 35
JOHN M. BEATON (D)
Dunklin County Courthouse
PO Box 466
Kennett 63857
Phone: (573) 888-3272
FAX: (573) 888-4124

Circuit 35
DAN J. CRAWFORD (D)
Dunklin County Courthouse
Rm. 103
Kennett 63857
Phone: (573) 888-3378
FAX: (573) 888-0754

Circuit 35
JOE Z. SATTERFIELD (D)
Stoddard County Courthouse
PO Box 218
Bloomfield 63825
Phone: (573) 568-4671
FAX: (573) 568-2299

Circuit 36
STEPHEN R. MITCHELL (D)
Stoddard County Courthouse
PO Box 518
Bloomfield 63825
Phone: (573) 568-4640, ext. 3
FAX: (573) 566-3229

Circuit 36
JOHN BLOODWORTH (D)
Butler County Courthouse
100 N. Main
Poplar Bluff 63901
Phone: (573) 686-8087
FAX: (573) 686-8093

Circuit 36
WILLIAM J. CLARKSON (D)
Butler County Courthouse
100 N. Main
Poplar Bluff 63901
Phone: (573) 686-8073
FAX: (573) 686-0056

Circuit 36
JAMES R. HALL (D)
Ripley County Courthouse
100 Court Sq.
Doniphan 63935
Phone: (573) 996-2013
FAX: (573) 996-5014

Circuit 37
DAVID JOE HEDSPETH (D)
Hedspeth Bldg.
PO Box 328
Van Buren 63965
Phone: (573) 323-4344

Circuit 37
DAVID P. EVANS (R)
Howell County Courthouse
222 Courthouse
West Plains 65775
Phone: (417) 256-4050
FAX: (417) 256-5826

Circuit 37
DONALD M. HENRY (D)
Howell County Courthouse
222 Courthouse
West Plains 65775
Phone: (417) 256-4050
FAX: (417) 256-5826

Circuit 37
JO BETH PREWITT (D)
Oregon County Courthouse
PO Box 211
Alton 65606
Phone: (417) 778-7461
Alphabetical list of Missouri judges

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The Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline of Judges was created by a constitutional amendment in 1970. It began operating on January 1, 1972, and is governed by Supreme Court Rule 12.

The commission is responsible for receiving and investigating all requests and suggestions for the retirement of judges because of disability and all complaints concerning the alleged misconduct of judges and members of judicial commissions. It is composed of six members who serve six-year terms. Two non-lawyers are appointed by the governor, two lawyers are appointed by the Missouri Bar’s governing body, one Court of Appeals judge is selected by Court of Appeals judges and one circuit judge is selected by the state’s circuit judges.

The members as of July 1, 2005, were: Gary M. Gaertner, appellate judge, Eastern District, Court of Appeals, chair; Thomas J. Plunkert, attorney, St. Louis, secretary; Barbara Bennett, St. Louis; Richard P. Bruening, attorney, Kansas City; Robert M. Clayton II, circuit judge, Hannibal; Adrienne B. Morgan, St. Louis.

Upon receiving a proper complaint against a judge or other judicial officer, the commission conducts an informal investigation. If at least four members of the commission find there is probable cause to believe the person may be guilty of misconduct, incompetency or other action constituting grounds for discipline as listed in Rule 12.08, a formal investigation is conducted. If at least four members find the person investigated should be disciplined, a report containing findings of fact and conclusions of law is made to the Supreme Court, with recommendations for discipline (removal from office, suspension or other discipline). The court then makes a final ruling based on the commission’s record and transcript.

A similar procedure is followed in cases involving retirements because of disability.
members of the Bar. The Advisory Committee also oversees the hearing process and reviews complaint files that have been closed after investigation, at the request of the complainant. The Legal Ethics Counsel serves as counsel and staff for the Advisory Committee. Members of the Advisory Committee, appointed by the Supreme Court are: John C. Dods, chair, Kansas City; Jennifer Gille Bacon, Kansas City; Al Brooks, Kansas City; Doreen D. Dodson, St. Louis; Hon. John C. Holstein, Springfield; David P. Macoubbie, Chillicothe; Christina R. Neff, Jefferson City; Luther J. Rollins, Jr., St. Louis; Sherry A. Rozell, Springfield; James E. Spain, Poplar Bluff. The Legal Ethics Counsel is Sara Rittman.

State Board of Law Examiners
Supreme Court Clerk’s Office
PO Box 150
Jefferson City 65102
Telephone: (573) 751-9814
Email: mble@courts.mo.gov / Web site: www.mble.org

Standards for admission to the bar, set out in Supreme Court Rule 8, are administered by the State Board of Law Examiners. Its six lawyer members are appointed by the Supreme Court for one six-year term. It conducts bar examinations for new lawyers each year on subject matters of the law of general application. The two-day exam is given in February and July in Jefferson City. One day of the examination consists of essay questions and the second day is devoted to the multistate bar examination, a multiple choice test that is administered in 48 other states.

Admission information and application forms are available on the web at www.mble.org.

Members, State Board of Law Examiners
Robertson, Susan Ford, president, Columbia;
Weaver, Thomas B., vice president, St. Louis;
Brown, Clifford S., Springfield;
Hollie, Thad Jr., St. Louis;
Martin, Cindy Reams, Lee’s Summit;
Reeves, W. Edward, member, Caruthersville.

Summary of examinations
February 1998: number taking, 297; number passing, 220.
July 1998: number taking, 758; number passing, 612.
February 1999: number taking, 313; number passing, 234.
July 1999: number taking, 770; number passing, 581.
February 2000: number taking, 335; number passing, 205.
July 2000: number taking, 814; number passing, 634.
February 2001: number taking, 360; number passing, 238.
July 2001: number taking, 780; number passing, 609.
February 2002: number taking, 370; number passing, 239.
July 2002: number taking, 792; number passing, 607.
February 2003: number taking, 388; number passing, 251.
July 2003: number taking, 821; number passing, 631.
February 2004: number taking, 391; number passing, 289.
July 2004: number taking, 832; number passing, 706.
February 2005: number taking, 302; number passing, 226.

The Missouri Bar
326 Monroe St., P.O. Box 119
Jefferson City 65102
Telephone: (573) 635-4128 / FAX: (573) 635-2811
E-mail: mobar@mobar.org

The Missouri Bar is the official organization of all Missouri lawyers and judges. Established by rule of the Supreme Court of Missouri in 1944, it is the successor of the original Missouri Bar Association, a voluntary organization of lawyers founded in 1880.

Membership in The Missouri Bar is required of every lawyer who practices in Missouri and of every judge of a state court. To qualify for membership, a person must have completed at least six years of study in college and an approved law school leading to a bachelor of law or a Juris Doctor degree. Those seeking membership in The Missouri Bar must also pass a comprehensive bar examination and character fitness investigation and make application for admission to the bar with the Supreme Court of Missouri.

Committees

There are numerous standing committees of The Missouri Bar plus a number of special project committees. Committees of The Missouri Bar meet at least twice each year to discuss particular areas of the law and, in some cases, draft potential legislation in those areas. Committee members, as well as officers and other members of The Missouri Bar, are available to testify before the General Assembly in support of those bills. In addition, the bar’s board of governors often votes to support or oppose other bills pending before the legislature and the bar’s legislative services are directed accordingly. Because of its status as a mandatory organization for those practicing law in Missouri, the bar’s legislative efforts are confined to bills affecting the administration of justice.

Education

The Missouri Bar’s Continuing Legal Education Department (MoBarCLE) has taken the lead in keeping bar members informed of the latest developments in the law. Each year, the CLE Department organizes and presents a number of programs - live, videotaped, and by telephone - to keep lawyers abreast of changes in state and federal laws. These sessions are regularly accompanied by detailed course materials designed to supplement the programs themselves. In addition, the department’s renowned deskbook series (the “black books”) and supplements provide attorneys with valuable reference materials they can make use of in their own law libraries.

Publications/Public Information

The Journal of The Missouri Bar, offering valuable perspectives on the law from its lawyer-authors, is published six times per year as the official publication of the legal profession in Missouri. Also available to members are the Legislative Digest, published during and after each year’s session of the General Assembly; the Missouri Bar Bulletin, a newsletter for bar members; and The Courts Bulletin, a monthly update on recent court decisions in pertinent areas of the law.

For more than 50 years The Missouri Bar has carried on a broad program of public information and education. Thousands of informative pamphlets and other educational materials on the law are distributed annually, including materials from an extensive law-related education audio-visual lending library. Copies of the bar’s brochures are also available on the Internet at www.mobar.org. The growth of the bar’s public information programs has been aided by cooperative ventures with the Extension Division of the University of Missouri, the Missouri Department and Elementary and Secondary Education, the Missouri Press Association, the Missouri Broadcasters Association, various state colleges, and other groups and associations.

Other Activities

Other prominent programs and services offered by The Missouri Bar include: a Client Security Fund that considers partial financial reimbursement to eligible clients who have been harmed by the unethical conduct of a lawyer; a Lawyer Referral Service that links attorneys with Missourians in need of legal assistance; a Lawyers Assistance Program that offers help to lawyers hindered by impairment issues; a mentoring program that matches older, more experienced attorneys with younger colleagues; a complaint resolution program that offers an alternative to the formal lawyer disciplinary system for matters considered to be less serious in nature; a fee dispute resolution that works to resolve disputes between a lawyer and a client over fees charged for services; and many more.

Through the years, The Missouri Bar has gained recognition on the national and international level. It has been cited many times by the American Bar Association as the outstanding bar organization in the nation. Its programs have
won Freedom Foundation awards, the American Bar Association Award of Merit, and the American Judicature Society’s Justice Award. Similarly, staff members and officers serve on many important national committees and work with various national groups on problems of national scope.


Judicial Conference of Missouri
Supreme Court Bldg.
PO Box 150
Jefferson City 65102
Telephone: (573) 751-4144

In 1943, the General Assembly established the Judicial Conference of Missouri, which is composed of all state judges. The conference is charged by statute (Section 476.350) with studying the organization and administration of the state’s judicial system, compiling data on the work of various courts and making biennial reports to the General Assembly, including any recommendations the conference may have for improving the laws. Since 1974, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who is the conference’s presiding officer, has presented an annual State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the General Assembly, reviewing the problems, needs and goals of the judicial department.

The statute also requires the conference to hold an annual meeting to be attended by all judges. At this meeting, the judges discuss the problems of court administration and invite experts in various fields to speak on matters of particular concern.

The clerk of the Supreme Court provides administrative and staff assistance and also serves as secretary to the executive council and the conference.

Nonpartisan Judicial Nominating Commissions

Under provisions of the Missouri Constitution, Article V, any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the Supreme Court, the court of appeals or the circuit courts within St. Louis City or Jackson County is filled by the governor, who appoints one of three qualified persons nominated by a nonpartisan judicial commission. This method of selecting judges was extended to associate circuit judges in these jurisdictions in 1979.

Appellate Judicial Commission

Nominations for judges of the Supreme Court and the court of appeals are made by a seven-member Appellate Judicial Commission. It consists of a judge of the Supreme Court selected by the members of the Court and two resident citizens from each of the three court of appeals districts. One lawyer is elected from each district by members of The Missouri Bar residing in that district, and one non-lawyer is appointed from each district by the governor.

Members: Michael A. Wolff, Chief Justice, Supreme Court, chair.

From Eastern District, Missouri Court of Appeals: Gerald T. Carmody, lawyer member, term expires December 31, 2005; Mildred Cohn, lay member, term expires December 31, 2006.

From Western District, Missouri Court of Appeals: Richard E. McLeod, lawyer member, term expires December 31, 2009; Jill Shurin, lay member, term expires December 31, 2010.

From Southern District, Missouri Court of Appeals: Steve Garner, lawyer member, term expires December 31, 2007; Bill Burch, lay member, term expires December 31, 2008.

Circuit Judicial Commissions

Nominations for judges of circuit courts are made by a five-member Circuit Judicial Commission consisting of the chief judge of the district of the Court of Appeals within which the circuit or the major portion of its population lies, two lawyers elected from their number by the members of The Missouri Bar residing in the judicial circuit and two non-lawyer residents of the circuit appointed by the governor.

Sixth Circuit (Platte County) Judicial Commission: Chair: Edwin H. Smith, chief judge, Missouri Court of appeals, Western District. Members: Gary W. Collins, Kansas City, lawyer member; Victor B. Peters, Kansas City, lawyer member; Diane Pepper, Kansas City, lay member; Pauli A. Kendrick, Weatherby Lake, lay member.

Seventh Circuit (Clay County) Judicial Commission: Chair: Edwin H. Smith, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. Members: F.A. (Al) White Jr., Kansas City, lawyer member; Jon Michael Krebbs, Liberty, lawyer member; Susan Rose, lay member; Mary B. Jacob, Kansas City, lay member.

Sixteenth Circuit (Jackson County) Judicial Commission: Chair: Edwin H. Smith, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. Members: Cindy Reams Martin, Lee’s Summit, lawyer member; John Kurtz, Kansas City, lawyer
member; Jill Shurin, Kansas City, lay member; Anita L. Russell, Kansas City, lay member.

Twenty-first Circuit (St. Louis County) Judicial Commission: Chair: Glenn Norton, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District. Members: Thomas Lang, Clayton, lawyer member; Gerard T. Noce, St. Louis, lawyer member; Matthew McCormick, St. Louis, lay member; Lori L. Westfall, Des Peres, lay member.

Twenty-second Circuit (St. Louis) Judicial Commission: Chair: Glen Norton, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District. Members: Christopher McGraugh, St. Louis, lawyer member; Thomas Schwartz, St. Louis, lawyer member; June Bosley Dabney-Gray, St. Louis, lay member; Laura T. Cohen, St. Louis, lay member.

Office of State Public Defender

231 E. Capitol Ave,
Jefferson City 65101
Telephone: (573) 526-5210 / FAX: (573) 526-5213

RSMo 600.019.1. creates the “Office of State Public Defender” as an independent department within the judicial branch of state government.

The Missouri Public Defender System (MSPD) is the organization responsible for providing legal representation to all indigent citizens accused of or convicted of state crimes in Missouri.

Public Defender Commission

State law (Chapter 600, RSMo) provides for a seven-member Public Defender Commission to oversee the State Public Defender System. The members of the commission are appointed by the governor with consent of the Senate and serve without compensation for six-year terms. Four members must be lawyers, and no more than four members may be of the same political party.
MSPD is a statewide department primarily comprised of three legal service divisions: the Trial Division, the Capital Division, and the Appellate/Post-Conviction Division. Attorneys in district offices within each division provide direct representation to indigent clients.

Attorneys are directly responsible for the representation of their clients. Their practice includes: meeting with clients, investigating cases, drafting motions, briefs, and memoranda, trying cases before both judges and juries in jurisdictions throughout Missouri, litigating cases before Missouri Appellate Courts, the Missouri Supreme Court, and the United States Supreme Court.

**Trial Division**

The Trial Division employs 300 full-time attorneys who represent indigent clients charged with crimes at the State Trial Court level throughout Missouri. The Trial Division has 36 district offices throughout the state.

The **Youth Advocacy Unit** within the Trial Division has attorneys in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas to ensure effective representation of juveniles. Attorneys in the unit litigate certification proceedings and jury trials in the adult court system, if the child is certified to stand trial as an adult. This specialized unit provides assistance to the other Trial Offices in juvenile matters.

The unit also employs investigators to examine the circumstances surrounding the criminal charge. Staff disposition specialists conduct social investigations and locate available resources to help the client with treatment needs. They act as experts for court, testifying about treatment needs and alternatives on behalf of our clients.

The **Commitment Defense Unit** represents indigent people throughout the State of Missouri against whom the government has initiated civil commitment proceedings based on the allegation that the citizen is a “sexually violent predator” (SVP). The unit was created in 1999 in response to Missouri’s sexually violent predator legislation. This legislation enables the state to incarcerate individuals after they have completed their sentences for eligible sex offenses, and allows for indefinite civil commitment upon a jury finding that an individual meets the legislative criteria of a SVP.

The **Alternative Sentencing Unit**, also within the Trial Division, utilizes social workers as Alternative Sentencing Specialists. Staff in the Alternative Sentencing Program investigate and recommend resourceful, restorative alternatives to incarceration. These alternatives are specifically designed to meet the unique needs of the individual client in order to reduce recidivism. They also address the sentencing goals of punishment, deterrence, public safety, restitution, and rehabilitation.
Capital Division

The Capital Division of MSPD was established in 1989 to address the unique challenges that arise when the state seeks the death penalty. The purpose of this division is to provide the highest-quality representation to individuals against whom the State of Missouri is seeking the death penalty in the State Trial Court, the State Supreme Court, and the United States Supreme Court.

The division employs experienced attorneys who excel as litigators to handle the initial trial of the case. The division also employs experienced attorneys with exceptional appellate advocacy skills to handle the direct appeal of cases following a trial and sentence of death.

There are three Capital Division district offices within the state, located in St. Louis, Kansas City and Columbia. Trial attorneys in the division have the opportunity to try cases in both the urban and rural areas of Missouri.

Division of Appellate/Post-Conviction Relief

This division is to ensure that the constitutional rights of citizens are preserved and protected, and that the trial or guilty-plea process was fair and legal. In essence, the division monitors and provides quality control for the criminal judicial process.

There are six district offices in this division. The offices are located in St. Louis, Kansas City and Columbia in close proximity to most of Missouri’s appellate courts.

Attorneys in this division provide representation to indigent citizens who have been convicted of felony offenses, after either a trial or a guilty plea. These attorneys handle direct appeals from non-capital felony convictions, post-conviction trial court challenges and appeals from post-conviction proceedings. The post-conviction practice includes providing aggressive representation to death-row clients at the trial-court level, and in the Supreme Courts of Missouri and the United States.

Members, Public Defender Commission

Blades, Joyce, chair;
Brison, Muriel, commissioner;
Ellis, Willie J. Jr., commissioner;
Hensley, Kenneth, commissioner;
Shurtleff, Loramel P., commissioner;
Smith, Gary L., commissioner;
Stith, Rebecca, commissioner.