Chapter 5

JUDICIAL BRANCH

“It is an honor to serve in Missouri’s historic 100th General Assembly, one hundred years after the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote, where we work to protect the rights of all citizens today and the century to come.”

Representative Mary Elizabeth Coleman (R-97)

“The ratification of the 19th Amendment was a great step in giving women equality in the United States. Women’s rights have come a long way in the past 100 years, and I am proud to serve and vote and continue this legacy.”

Representative Sarah Unsicker (D-91)
Missouri’s Judicial System

From its inception in 1820, Missouri state government constitutionally has been divided into three separate branches—legislative, executive and judicial. The judicial branch’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 branch.

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 officially was 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 Jan. 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 by the other judges in the circuit, has general administrative authority over all judicial personnel in the circuit. He or she may assign other judges throughout the circuit to relieve caseload 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 state 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 1850 to provide for the popular election of judges, and this system remains in effect for most Missouri courts today. In most circuits, the judges are elected by the voters in partisan elections.

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 applies in the Supreme Court, the court of appeals and the circuit courts within the City of St. Louis and Jackson County. In addition, voters in Clay, Greene, Platte and St. Louis 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 elected in partisan elections, other judicial circuits may adopt the plan on approval by a majority of the voters in the circuit.

Under the Missouri Plan, as it often is called nationally, a vacancy on a court to which the plan applies is filled through a nonpartisan judicial commission of lay persons and lawyers. The commission selects three persons from those who apply, based on merit. The governor then 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 again is placed on the ballot for a retention vote at certain intervals if the judge wishes to serve subsequent terms. The Missouri 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.
Supreme Court of Missouri

Supreme Court Bldg.
207 W. High St., PO Box 150, Jefferson City 65102
Telephone: (573) 751-4144
www.courts.mo.gov

History and Organization

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 Boonville, Cape Girardeau, Fayette, Hannibal, Jackson, Lexington, St. Charles, St. Louis and other cities.

The size of the Supreme Court was increased from 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 heard cases along with the judges, and their written opinions, if approved by the court, were issued 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 five 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, 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 those in 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 from court to court. Maintaining and updating the rules is a continuous process requiring substantial time. Each year, the Supreme Court, through its Office of 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. Now 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 the death penalty.

Cases do not have to fall within this area of exclusive jurisdiction, however, to reach the Supreme Court. 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 believes the existing law should be re-examined 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 its 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, licensed to practice law in Missouri, U.S. citizens for 15 years and qualified Missouri voters for nine years. Supreme Court judges are retained for 12-year terms. They earn $173,742 annually. Compensation is determined by statute (section 476.405, RSMo).

Chief Justice

The seven judges of the Supreme Court select one of their members 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 chief justice earns $181,677 annually. Compensation is determined by statute (section 476.405, RSMo).

The court hears oral arguments each month from September through May. Court sessions are open to the public, and oral arguments are broadcast live and are archived through the court's website, www.courts.mo.gov.

**Supreme Court Building**

The Supreme Court Building, a three-story, red brick structure of French Renaissance architecture, was completed in 1907 and stands opposite the Capitol Building. By statute, 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 refurbished extensively and modernized with the use of monies 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 Judicial Conference of Missouri, the organization comprising all of the state judges.

**Supreme Court Function**

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

**Missouri Bar Responsibilities**

Telephone: (573) 635-4128
www.mobar.org

The clerk of the Supreme Court has a number of additional duties relating to The Missouri Bar and supervising 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 court's semiannual enrollment ceremonies and prepares all attorney licenses.

By Supreme Court rule, the clerk is ex officio treasurer of both 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 or she is responsible for maintaining the official records of The Missouri Bar; the bar fund and for preparing annual financial reports for publication in the Journal of The Missouri Bar. The clerk is also 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. The marshal is responsible for the security of the building and its judges and employees. 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
www.courts.mo.gov

The Supreme Court Library, which is on the second floor of the Supreme Court Building, contains more than 110,000 volumes. These include decisions of state and federal courts as well as state and federal administrative agencies, Missouri-approved jury instructions, state and federal statutes, legal periodicals and treatises. 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 is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, throughout the year, excluding state holidays.
George W. Draper III
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

GEORGE W. DRAPER III was born Aug. 5, 1953, in St. Louis. He attended Hamilton Elementary School in north St. Louis City until his family moved to Silver Spring, Maryland, in 1964. In 1977, he graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, with a bachelor’s degree in psychology. After earning his law degree in 1981 from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., he served as a law clerk to Judge Shellie Bowers in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Draper worked for the circuit attorney of the City of St. Louis as assistant prosecuting attorney from 1984–1994. There he served as assistant prosecutor, then team leader and, finally, as first assistant, for which he handled numerous felony prosecutions.

In 1994, Draper was appointed associate circuit judge in St. Louis County by Gov. Mel Carnahan. While serving on this court, Draper presided over 60 to 200 cases each week and was assigned specially to 12 jury trials. In 1998, he was appointed to circuit judge in St. Louis County by Gov. Carnahan. He presided over the civil, criminal, family court and juvenile division throughout his time as a trial judge.

In 2000, Gov. Carnahan appointed Judge Draper to the Court of Appeals, Eastern District. Draper served as that court’s first African-American chief judge from July 2005–June 2006. While on that court, he also served by special assignment on the Appellate Apportionment Commission, a constitutional commission created to resolve redistricting disputes, and on the court’s rules, security and facilities committees.

His October 2011 appointment to the Supreme Court of Missouri by Gov. Jeremiah Nixon makes Draper one of the few judges to have served at every level of Missouri’s current court system. Voters retained him in office in November 2012 and is serving as the state’s chief justice from July 2019–June 2021. He is the second African-American judge to serve on the state’s high court. He also is chair of the state’s treatment courts coordinating commission and serves as the Court’s liaison to the judiciary’s family court committee as well as its ad hoc committee on racial and ethnic fairness.

Draper is a member of the Mound City Bar Association, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, the Lawyer’s Association of St. Louis, the National Bar Association and the Missouri Asian Bar Association. He is an inaugural member of the Gallery of St. Louis Legal Pioneers within the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. He also is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and the Covenant Community Church in north St. Louis County.

As an advocate for continuing legal education, Draper has organized and presented numerous programs. He also has served as a panelist on the Mound City Bar Association’s program “Mistakes to Avoid” and at the judicial forum hosted by the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys.

In addition to his service to the court, Draper has taught trial advocacy as an adjunct professor at Saint Louis University School of Law from 1996–present.

Draper’s wife, Judy Preddy Draper, is a former associate circuit judge in St. Louis County and previously served as general counsel for the Missouri Department of Corrections. They have a daughter, Chelsea Westin Draper, JD/LLM, who serves as deputy chief of staff to the St. Louis County prosecuting attorney.
PATRICIA BRECKENRIDGE was born and raised in Nevada, Missouri and was educated in the Nevada public schools. She attended the Univ. of Arkansas–Fayetteville and the Univ. of Mo.–Columbia, where she earned a B.S. and J.D. She was admitted to The Missouri Bar in 1978. Following law school, she practiced law in the firm Russell, Brown, Bickel & Breckenridge. While practicing, she served as an assistant municipal judge for the City of Nevada.

In 1982, she was appointed associate circuit judge of Vernon County. Breckenridge was elected to that position until 1990, when she was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. There, she authored more than 900 opinions and participated in more than 2,700 cases. Judge Breckenridge was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri, 2007.

She served as chair to the Supreme Court’s Judicial Education Coordinating Commission for six years and served as a faculty member at the new judges’ orientation for 12 years. She established the Judicial Education’s Civic Education Committee in 2011, and served as chair for four years. She is a founding faculty member of Missouri’s Court Management Institute program, receiving her certification in Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts from the National Center of State Courts, Williamsburg, Virginia. Judge Breckenridge also served as liaison to the Family Court Committee and liaison to the Joint Committee on Gender and Justice for six years.

Judge Breckenridge is an Elwood L. Thomas American Inn of Court Master, and also serves as a member of the Missouri Crossover Youth Policy team, American Bar Assoc., The Missouri Bar, the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Assoc., the National Assoc. of Women Judges, the Assoc. for Women Lawyers of Kansas City, and the Missouri Assoc. of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges. She was a member of the Casey Family Programs’ National Impact Outcomes Committee, 2012–2013. She has served on the board of directors of Lawyers Encouraging Economic Performance and the Missouri Institute for Justice. Breckenridge was a member of the Missouri Task Force on Gender and Justice and co-chair of the Missouri Gender Fairness Implementation Joint Committee of the Supreme Court of Missouri and The Missouri Bar.

She has received The Missouri Bar President’s Award, the University of Missouri School of Law’s Citation of Merit, Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City’s Judicial Recognition Award, Judge of the Year and Special Achievement Award, Daily Record’s Legal Leader Award, the Nevada Rotary International Citizen of the Year, Nevada Business and Professional Women Woman of the Year, Soroptimist International of Nevada Women Helping Women and Woman of Distinction and the Ozark Area Girl Scout Council Woman of Distinction. She is a Women Lawyers’ Association of Greater St. Louis Honoree, Council of State Government Toll Fellow, an American Bar Foundation Fellow, and a Fellow of the George-town University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform.

Judge Breckenridge has served both the Kansas City and Nevada communities through numerous civic and charitable activities. In Kansas City, she was a mentor and tutor for children at St. Vincent’s Operation Breakthrough. She served on the board of directors and as president of the Mattie Rhodes Center, and on the board of directors of Cabot West Side Clinic and the University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine. In Nevada, she served as president of Soroptimist International of Nevada and the Business and Professional Women of Nevada, on the board of directors for the Home Health Advisory Board and was a member of Rotary International of Nevada. She is a member of PEO Sisterhood, Chapter DW and the United Methodist Church of Nevada.

She married Bryan C. Breckenridge on May 15, 1976. She and Bryan live in Nevada and maintain a home in Columbia. She was retained by Missouri voters at the November 2008 general election. She served as chief justice from July 2015–June 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.
ZEL M. FISCHER was born in Hamburg, Iowa, on April 28, 1963, and grew up in Watson, Missouri.

Judge Fischer was educated in Rock Port public schools. He attended William Jewell College, in Liberty and received his B.A. in philosophy and political science in 1985. He is the recipient of the Harry S Truman Most Outstanding Political Science Major for the class of 1985.

He graduated from the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law with distinction in 1988. He is the recipient of the Order of the Bench and Robe, the American Jurisprudence Award from the UMKC School of Law and was a member of UMKC Law Review. He is the original author of “Chapter 40, Strict Liability of Product Manufacturers and Sellers — Manufacturing Defect of the Products Liability Handbook,” published by the University of Missouri–Kansas City, Continuing Legal Education.


Judge Fischer was selected as an ASTAR Fellow by the board of directors of the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Center for his knowledge and ability to preside over complex cases involving science or technology issues. The National Courts and Science Institute (NCSI) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to training judges in science. Recently, the NCSI board of directors selected him to be the vice president and chair of the executive committee.

Judge Fischer is an active member of his church and community.

Judge Fischer was married July 13, 1985, to the former Julie Ann Moore. They have four children.

Judge Fischer was appointed to the Supreme Court by Gov. Matt Blunt on Oct. 15, 2008, and was retained at the 2010 general election for a 12-year term expiring Dec. 31, 2022. He served as chief justice from July 2017–June 2019.
W. Brent Powell
Judge of the Supreme Court

W. BRENT POWELL was born in July 1970 in Springfield. He attended Springfield and Rogersville public schools but graduated from Greenwood High School on the campus of Missouri State University. He completed his undergraduate degree at William Jewell College in Liberty, receiving his bachelor of arts in political science in 1992.

Judge Powell graduated from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law in 1996. During law school, he served as president of the Student Bar Association and member and case note editor for the Missouri Law Review. He also interned for Supreme Court of Missouri Judge Elwood Thomas.

Judge Powell was admitted to The Missouri Bar in 1996. Following law school, he began his legal career at Lathrop & Gage in Kansas City, Mo. In the fall of 1997, he took a position as an assistant prosecutor in the Platte County prosecutor's office in Platte City. In 2001, he began working as an assistant United States attorney for the United States attorney's office in Kansas City. During his tenure there, he served as the chief of the General Crimes Unit and executive assistant United States attorney.

In 2008, Judge Powell was appointed to the office of circuit judge in Jackson County by Gov. Matt Blunt and served this office with distinction until his appointment to the Supreme Court of Missouri in April 2017. As a trial judge, he presided over hundreds of civil, criminal and family law cases. He also served on the Supreme Court of Missouri Committee on Procedure in Criminal Cases, the Committee on Access to Family Courts, the Trial Judge Education Committee and the Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission. He was named “Judge of the Year” in 2009 by the Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City, and he received the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association President's Award in 2014 for outstanding service to the Bar.

Judge Powell and his wife Beth live in Kansas City and are both active members of their church community. Judge Powell is also an avid University of Missouri football fan, and you are likely to find him cheering on the Tigers at home games.

Judge Powell was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri by Gov. Eric Greitens on April 25, 2017. He took the oath of office on May 2, 2017. He was retained by voters in November 2018.
MARY R. RUSSELL, a seventh-generation Missourian, was raised on a dairy farm in Ralls County, near Hannibal. She graduated valedictorian from Hannibal High School and summa cum laude from Truman State University. She received her J.D. from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Russell clerked for the Honorable George Gunn of the Supreme Court of Missouri. She later practiced law in Hannibal with the law firm of Clayton and Rhodes until her appointment to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District in 1995. At the Court of Appeals, she served as chief judge from 1999–2000.

Judge Russell is active in many professional and legal organizations around the state and country. Always promoting the administration of justice, Judge Russell is currently on the Board of Directors of the National Courts and Science Institute, and a member of the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. She has served as second vice president of the Conference of Chief Justices; on the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline of Judges; Missouri Lawyers Trust Account Foundation; Young Lawyers Council of The Missouri Bar; numerous Missouri Bar committees; the Supreme Court Civil Rules Committee and the Appellate Practice Committee. She is a past co-chair of the Appellate Practice Committee of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and has served as chair on other committees in BAMSL.

She has been a member on a variety of state-wide boards and commissions, including the Board of Governors of Truman State Univ. (president, 1996), Missouri State Senate Reapportionment Commission in 1991, the Missouri Council on Women’s Economic Development, the Missouri Job Development and Training Council and, in 2009, she was the president of the board of directors of Missouri’s Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). Currently, she serves on the Missouri Press-Bar Commission and is a trustee of the State Historical Society of Missouri.

Judge Russell is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Women’s Justice Award, the Faculty/Alumni Award from the University of Missouri–Columbia, the Citation of Merit Award from the University of Missouri–Columbia Law School, the Distinguished Alumni Award-Truman State University, the Legal Services of Eastern Missouri Equal Justice Award, the Lasting Legacy award from Missouri CASA, the Soroptomist International Women Helping Women Award, the Jefferson City Rotarian of the Year, Zonta Woman of Achievement in Jefferson City, the Matthews-Dickey Boys & Girls Club Appreciation Award, a Henry Toll Fellow, the Kirkwood Citizen of the Year and she was named in 2015 to the Ingram’s 50 Missourians You Should Know. She is a member of the Missouri Academy of Squires and the Rollins Society of the University of Missouri.

Active in many community organizations, Judge Russell is a member of the BackStoppers, Inc., Missouri Women’s Forum, Jefferson City Rotary Club (past president), PEO, Grace Episcopal Church and The Tuesday Club. She also volunteers 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.

Judge Russell is easily approachable and devotes much time to mentoring young people. In addition to lecturing to many attorney organizations and continuing education programs, she spends many hours demystifying the court system by speaking to community groups and students.

Judge Russell lives in Jefferson City. She was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2004 and was retained by the voters in November 2006 for a 12-year term. She was elected chief justice by her colleagues for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2013–June 30, 2015.
LAURA DENVIR STITH was born in St. Louis on Oct. 30, 1953. She was raised in St. Louis and graduated with honors from the John Burroughs School, 1971. She received a National Merit Scholarship to attend Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. While there, she was an Iglauer Fellowship Intern in Washington, D.C., for Sen. Thomas Eagleton, 1973. She studied at the University 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 University Law Center, distinguishing herself as an editor of the 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 Honorable 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, Gov. Mel Carnahan appointed Judge Stith to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. She was retained in 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.

Gov. Bob Holden appointed Judge Stith to the Supreme Court of Missouri effective March 7, 2001, and she was retained in the November 2002 general election, and again at the 2014 general election. She is the second woman in Missouri history to serve on the state’s Supreme Court. She served as chief justice of the court from July 1, 2007–June 30, 2009.

Judge Stith has been involved in many organizations in the legal community. She has served as chair of the Gender and Justice Joint 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 Association 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 (KCMB) and is a member of the American Bar Association (ABA).

Judge Stith has served as a speaker on appellate practice at the annual conventions of the ABA, Missouri Bar, Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys (MATA) and Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers (MODEL). She has also served as a speaker or moderator on civil procedure and evidence at The Missouri Bar, KCMB, AWL, and University of Missouri–Kansas City Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs and as a speaker on gender bias at the Missouri New Judges School. She has authored many publications, including Stith, A Contrast of State and Federal Court Authority to Grant Habeas Relief, 38 Val. U . L. Rev. 421 (Spring 2004); Stith and Root, The Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan: The Least Political Method of Selecting High Quality Judges, 74 Mo. L. Rev. 711 (2009); and Stith, Just Because You Can Measure Something, Does it Really Count?, 58 Duke L.J. 1743 (2009).

Judge Stith has been actively involved in many community activities in Kansas City, serving as a mentor and tutor to young students at St. Vincent’s Operation Breakthrough and a 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. Mr. Scott served as a law clerk for Judge Warren D. Welliver of the Supreme Court of Missouri. He is a shareholder in McDowell, Rice, Smith and Buchanan, P.C., in Kansas City. They have three daughters.
JUDICIAL BRANCH—MISSOURI SUPREME COURT

Paul C. Wilson
Judge of the Supreme Court

PAUL C. WILSON was born in Jefferson City, and raised in a home dedicated to public service. His father, McCormick Wilson, served as a longtime municipal and associate circuit judge in Cole County. His mother, Lorna Wilson, served as director of the state health department’s Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health, as well as the first executive director of the Missouri Association of Local Public Health Agencies.

Judge Wilson earned his undergraduate degree from Drury College in Springfield and graduated cum laude from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, where he was named to both the Order of the Coif and the Order of the Barristers.

Judge Wilson interned for Judge Edward D. (Chip) Robertson on the Supreme Court of Missouri, and Judge Pasco Bowman on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, while in law school. Upon graduation, Judge Wilson served as a full-time law clerk for then-Chief Justice Robertson and Judge Richard F. Suhrheinrich on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Judge Wilson then moved to New York City to join the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell as an associate in the firm’s litigation practice.

In 1996, Judge Wilson returned to Missouri to work in the state attorney general’s office. During his tenure there, he represented the State of Missouri in numerous criminal and civil matters in trial and appellate courts around the state and across the country. He argued dozens of cases in Missouri’s Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, as well as in the United States Supreme Court. On Jan. 16, 2010, Judge Wilson was appointed circuit judge in the 19th Judicial Circuit (Cole County).

In 2012, while a member of the Columbia law firm of Van Matre, Harrison, Hollis, Taylor & Bacon, P.C., Judge Wilson was nominated by the Appellate Judicial Commission to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court of Missouri created by the retirement of his longtime friend and mentor Judge Ray Price. Pursuant to the Missouri Constitution’s nonpartisan court plan, he was appointed by Gov. Jeremiah (Jay) Nixon and subsequently retained for a full term by the voters in the 2014 general election.

Before becoming a member of the Supreme Court, Judge Wilson was a member of the board of directors for Legal Services of Mid-Missouri and counsel to the board of directors for a regional child advocacy center, and he remains an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church in Jefferson City.

Judge Wilson is married to Laura O’Kelley Wilson, and they are the proud parents of daughters Meredith and Alice.
The Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) is responsible for providing administrative, business and technology support services to the courts. The duties and responsibilities assigned to the state courts administrator’s office relate to all levels of the state court system. The first state courts administrator was appointed in 1970.

Some of the ways the office assists the courts include case processing; criminal history reporting; debt collection and judgment enforcement; crime victims’ rights; treatment court programming; the implementation of time standards for case disposition; and court improvement projects in the areas of child abuse and neglect, juvenile services and family preservation. The office also provides administrative and technology support, training of judicial personnel and statistical analysis.

Office of the Administrator

The administrator is responsible for the overall management of OSCA and the services and support provided. The state courts administrator reports to the Supreme Court about administrative policy developments and initiatives.

Administrative Services Division

The administrative services division provides support in the areas of legal services, human resources, budget and fiscal services, sponsored programs and contracts, project management, legislative services, judicial transfers, facilities operations and publications services. The division provides legal advice and prepares legal documents; supports the office and circuit court personnel systems; provides technical assistance related to court security, foreign language court interpreters and the Americans with Disabilities Act; compiles and organizes the judiciary’s annual state appropriation request; supports the circuit and appellate court budget committees; processes all monies appropriated to the office and to the circuit courts; manages fund balances; applies for and manages grant funds; prepares and administers contracts for goods and services; provides project management services to all interdivisional and interagency projects; prepares fiscal notes for proposed legislation that affects the judicial system; handles requests for information from the legislature, governor’s office, other public officials and the public in general; manages the facilities and fleet; and provides mail and printing services.

Court Business Services Division

The court business services division provides support to the courts in the areas of education, program development, research, statistical analysis and court procedures. The division provides program support to the family, juvenile and treatment court divisions; provides technical support to the courts in the areas of case processing, jury management, videoconferencing and financial management; designs statewide court forms; manages cost collection efforts; prepares transcripts from sound-recorded hearings submitted by the courts; compiles statistical caseload information; prepares workload estimates; provides technical assistance regarding research methods and program evaluations; compiles court performance measures; conducts evaluation and longitudinal studies of court programs and population behaviors; handles issues with criminal and traffic offenses and civil and probate cases and appeals; works with courts and state departments to electronically share juvenile justice information, criminal history, records of conviction and warrants; develops business specifications for, conducts testing of, and delivers training about automated programs and systems for use in the
courts; and develops and coordinates courses and certificate programs for judicial employees. The division also works closely with standing committees of the Supreme Court of Missouri and with statutory commissions.

**Information Technology Services Division**

The information technology services division supports court technology and communication services for the judicial branch. Services provided by the division include software applications development, maintenance of all existing applications, database administration, deployment and support of computer hardware to the courts, maintenance of the statewide judicial network and servers, system security and initial help desk support for judicial branch users and the general public. The division works with the committee that oversees the statewide court automation program and with metropolitan courts that have information technology staff on location.

**Judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri: 1821–2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Years Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathias McGirk</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>1821–1841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dillard Cook</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau</td>
<td>1821–1823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rice Jones</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>1821–1824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufus Pettibone</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1823–1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Tompkins</td>
<td>Howard</td>
<td>1824–1845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Wash</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1825–1837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cummins Edwards</td>
<td>Cole</td>
<td>1837–1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Barclay Napton</td>
<td>Saline</td>
<td>1839–1849; 1857–1861; 1873–1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Scott</td>
<td>Cole</td>
<td>1841–1849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priestly Haggin McBride</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1845–1849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ferguson Ryland</td>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>1849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Harvey Birch</td>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>1849</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** In 1849, an amendment to the 1820 Constitution vacated the office of judge of the Supreme Court. See 12 Mo. ii (1849).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Years Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Harvey Birch</td>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>1850–1851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ferguson Ryland</td>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>1850–1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Rowan Gamble</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1850–1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Scott</td>
<td>Cole</td>
<td>1851–1862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abiel Leonard</td>
<td>Howard</td>
<td>1855–1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Crowley Richardson</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1857–1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephraim Brevard Ewing</td>
<td>Ray</td>
<td>1859–1861; 1873</td>
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</table>

**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).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Years Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barton Bates</td>
<td>St. Charles</td>
<td>1862–1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Van Ness Bay</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1862–1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John D.S. Dryden</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>1862–1865</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** By “Order” of the State Convention, the office of judge of the Supreme Court became vacant on May 1, 1865. Judge Bates resigned from the Court Feb. 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).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Years Served</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Wagner</td>
<td>Lewis</td>
<td>1865–1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter L. Lovelace</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>1865–1866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Holmes</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1865–1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas James Clark Fagg</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1866–1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Years Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Baker</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philemon Bliss</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>1868–1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Currier</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1868–1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Adams</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>1871–1874</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry M. Vories</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>1873–1876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Adiel Sherwood</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1873–1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Augustus Lewis</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Hough</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1875–1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah Hise Norton</td>
<td>Platte</td>
<td>1877–1888</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Ward Henry</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>1876–1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert D. Ray</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>1881–1890</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francis Marion Black</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1885–1894</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodore Brace</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1887–1907</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shephard Barclay</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1889–1898</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Britton Gantt</td>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>1891–1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Lilburn Thomas</td>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>1890–1892</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Bennett MacFarlane</td>
<td>Audrain</td>
<td>1890–1898</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavon Drummond Burgess</td>
<td>Linn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waltour Moss Robinson</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>1895–1904</td>
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<td>William Muir Williams</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>1898</td>
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<td>William Champe Marshall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leroy B. Valliant</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1899–1912</td>
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<td>James David Fox</td>
<td>Madison</td>
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<td>Henry Lamm</td>
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<td>1905–1914</td>
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<td>Waller Washington Graves</td>
<td>Bates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archelaus Marius Woodson</td>
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<td>Franklin Ferris</td>
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<td>John Kennish</td>
<td>Holt</td>
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<td>Henry Whitelaw Bond</td>
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<td>Charles Breckenridge Faris</td>
<td>Pemiscot</td>
<td>1913–1919</td>
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<td>Robert Franklin Walker</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td>1913–1930</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Thomas Blair</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>1915–1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles G. Revele</td>
<td>St. Francois</td>
<td>1915–1916</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Lincoln Williams</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>1917–1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Isaac Williamson</td>
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<td>1919–1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Livingston Goode</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conway Elder</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1921–1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Higbee</td>
<td>Adair</td>
<td>1921–1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Elmore Blair</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>1921–1930</td>
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<tr>
<td>William T. Ragland</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1923–1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Turner White</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1923–1932</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Ely Atwood</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>1925–1934</td>
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<td>Robert William Otto</td>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>1925–1926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ernest S. Gantt</td>
<td>Audrain</td>
<td>1927–1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Todd Gentry</td>
<td>Boone</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<td>William Francis Frank</td>
<td>Adair</td>
<td>1929–1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berryman Henwood</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>1930–1932</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Robb Ellison</td>
<td>Nodaway</td>
<td>1931–1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Thomas Hays</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>1933–1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarence Alexander Burney</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Years Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernest Moss Tipton</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933–1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles A. Leedy Jr.</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933–1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter D. Coles</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1935</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Caskie Collet</td>
<td>Chariton</td>
<td>1935–1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Marsh Douglas</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1937–1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymond B. Lucas</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert M. Clark</td>
<td>Ray</td>
<td>1939–1950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roscoe P. Conkling</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>1947–1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sidna Poage Dalton</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau</td>
<td>1950–1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Hollingsworth</td>
<td>Audrain</td>
<td>1950–1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry J. Westhues</td>
<td>Howard</td>
<td>1954–1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clem F. Storckman</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1955–1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Holman</td>
<td>Randolph</td>
<td>1963–1977</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred L. Henley</td>
<td>Pemiscot</td>
<td>1964–1978</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert True Donnelly</td>
<td>Laclede</td>
<td>1965–1988</td>
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<tr>
<td>John E. Bardgett</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1970–1982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert L. Rendlen</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>1977–1992</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph J. Simeone</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1978–1979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren Dee Welliver</td>
<td>Boone</td>
<td>1979–1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Jackson Higgins</td>
<td>Platte</td>
<td>1979–1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Howard Billings</td>
<td>Dunklin</td>
<td>1982–1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Blakey Blackmar</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1982–1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John C. Holstein</td>
<td>Howell</td>
<td>1989–2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronnie L. White</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1995–2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael A. Wolff</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1998–2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard B. Teitelman</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>2002–2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Denvir Stith</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>2001–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary R Russell</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>2004–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Breckenridge</td>
<td>Vernon</td>
<td>2007–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zel M. Fischer</td>
<td>Atchison</td>
<td>2008–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W. Draper III</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>2011–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul C. Wilson</td>
<td>Cole</td>
<td>2012–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Brent Powell</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>2017–Present</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Missouri Court of Appeals

The Constitution of 1865 provided for Missouri's first general intermediate courts, known as district courts. There were district courts in Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, Macon, St. Charles, St. Joseph and Springfield. Each district was composed of three circuits. Appeals were taken from the circuit court to the district court and then to the Supreme Court. The district courts, however, 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. As a result, the convention created the St. Louis Court of Appeals, consisting of three judges who heard appeals from Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis and Warren counties. Its territorial jurisdiction was expanded in 1884 to include several more counties.

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 geographic 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, meeting either in Springfield or Poplar Bluff. Trained law clerks, who are licensed attorneys, assist each appellate judge with legal research.

The Missouri 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. Cases not within the Supreme Court's exclusive jurisdiction, however, may be transferred from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court when it is determined that a case involves a split among the districts of the Court of Appeals or an important issue that should be decided by the state's highest court.

A chief judge is elected for each district of the Missouri Court of Appeals by the judges in the districts and serves for such time as the districts determine. Traditionally, the chief judge in the Eastern District serves for one year, while the chief judges in the Southern and Western districts serve for two years.

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

Missouri Court of Appeals judges must be at least 30 years of age, licensed to practice law in Missouri, residents of their district, U.S. citizens for 15 years and qualified Missouri voters for nine years before their selection. Appeals judges serve 12-year terms. They earn $158,848 annually. Compensation is determined by statute (section 476.405, RSMo).
Missouri’s Court of Appeals Districts
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 $158,848. 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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JUDICIAL BRANCH—COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES

JAMES M. DOWD
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GARY M. GAERTNER JR.
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Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
MARY KATHRYN HOFF
Office phone: (314) 539-4356.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
Biography: Born Jan. 5, 1953, in St. Louis. Married with two children. Educated at University of Missouri–Columbia, B.S., education, and St. Louis University, J.D. Served as assistant public defender, St. Louis City, 1978–1982, and was engaged in private practice of law for 30 years, the last 15 as a partner in Larsen & Hess, P.C. Member: St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church; The Missouri Bar, past chair of its Workers’ Compensation Committee; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, past chair of its Workers’ Compensation Committee; Lawyers Association. Past president, Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys (MATA). Received Outstanding Service Award, MATA, 2012; President’s Award, MATA, 2003; elected Fellow, College of Workers’ Compensation Attorneys, 2009. Appointed to the Court of Appeals, November 2013. Chief judge, July 2016–June 2017. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2028.

PHILIP M. HESS
Office phone: (314) 539-4386.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
Biography: Born March 22, 1958. Served as United States Senate Page, summer 1975. Educated in Crystal City Public Schools; Rockhurst University, B.A., 1980 in economics and philosophy; and University of Missouri School of Law, J.D., 1983. Married to Teresa Mayhew Hess with three sons. Engaged in the private practice of law, 1982–1989. Member: Missouri Bar Association; Metropolitan St. Louis Bar Association; Women Lawyers’ Association of Greater St. Louis, past president; National Association of Women Judges; Dean’s Council, St. Louis University Law School; St. Margaret of Scotland Church. Former or present member: Judicial Resources Commission, chair; Supreme Court Judicial Records Committee; Missouri Court Automation Committee; Supreme Court Family Court Committee; and Appellate Judicial Education Committee. Appointed to the Court of Appeals, November 2013. Chief judge, July 2016–June 2017. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2028.

LAWRENCE E. MOONEY
Office phone: (314) 539-4361.
Office address: One Post Office Sq., 815 Olive St., Ste. 304; St. Louis 63101.
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Office phone: (314) 539-4341.
Office address: One Post Office Sq., 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.

LISA PAGE
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Office address: One Post Office Sq., 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.

ANGELA TURNER QUIGLESS
Office phone: (314) 539-4346.
Office address: One Post Office Sq., 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
ROBIN RANSOM
Office phone: (314) 539-4391.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.

ROY L. RICHTER
Office phone: (314) 539-4300.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.

SHERRI B. SULLIVAN
Office phone: (314) 539-4381.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
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 $161,038. 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 BATES**

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Office address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.

**DON E. BURRELL JR.**

Office phone: (417) 895-6826.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
WILLIAM W. FRANCIS JR.
Office phone: (417) 895-6820.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.

GARY W. LYNCH
Office phone: (417) 895-6825.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Ste. 300, Springfield 65806.

NANCY STEFFEN RAHMeyer
Office phone: (417) 895-6823.
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
MARY W. SHEFFIELD  
Office phone: (417) 895-6818  
Office address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806  

DANIEL E. SCOTT  
Office phone: (417) 895-6822.  
Office Address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.  
Appellate Judges, Western District

Territorial Jurisdiction:


KAREN KING MITCHELL
Office phone: (816) 889-3620.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

ALOK AHUJA
Office phone: (816) 889-3601.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.
EDWARD R. ARDINI JR.
Office phone: (816) 889-3623.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

THOMAS N. CHAPMAN
Office phone: (816) 889-3632
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106
Biography: Born March 23, 1966, in Chillicothe. Graduate of Westminster College, B.A. in Political Science, 1988; the Univ. of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 1991 and the Univ. of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law, Masters of Law, Taxation, 1995. Married to Lindy Hardin of Louisville, Kentucky, 1993. They have two daughters and one son. Engaged in private practice of law for 19 years. Member: Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association; Missouri Bar Association; Livingston County Bar Association; Missouri Circuit Judge Association, past member, 2011–18; and by appointment of the Chief Justice, serves as a member of the Missouri Criminal Justice Task Force. Serves as Chillicothe Area Arts Council, board member; Chillicothe Rotary Club, member and past president and Edgewood Cemetery, board member. Attends the First Baptist Church of Chillicothe. Has served as Chillicothe R-II School District, past member and board president; Greater Chillicothe Visitors Region, past member and chair; Boy Scouts of America, past member and district finance chair; Retired Senior Volunteer Program [R.S.V.P.], past advisory council member; New Horizons Board for the Developmentally Disabled, past board member and the Chillicothe Development Corporation, past board member and president. Elected circuit judge in the 43rd Judicial Circuit in 2010. Retained in 2012. Served as presiding judge of the 43rd Judicial Circuit, August 2012–August 2018. Appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Aug. 30, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

ANTHONY REX GABBERT
Office phone: (816) 889-3605.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.
LISA WHITE HARDWICK
Office phone: (816) 889-3611.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

VICTOR C. HOWARD
Office phone: (816) 889-3626.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

CYNNTHIA LYNETTE MARTIN
Office phone: (816) 889-3617.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.
JUDICIAL BRANCH—COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES

GARY D. WITT
Office phone: (816) 889-3629.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

MARK D. PFEIFFER
Office phone: (816) 889-3614.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.

THOMAS H. NEWTON
Office phone: (816) 889-3629.
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106.
Biography: Educated at Howard University in Washington, D.C., B.A. degree in the School of Communications, 1974, and a J.D. at the School of Law, 1977. Judge Thomas H. Newton is married to Renée P. Newton; they have one daughter, Monique, who is married with two sons. They are members of Swope Parkway United Christian Church, in Kansas City, Mo. Worked as a law clerk for the late Circuit Court Judge Lewis W. Clymer, as an assistant Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney, 1984–1987, and an assistant United States Attorney in the Western District, 1987–1993. He served on the board of the Legal Aid Society of Western Missouri and as a past president of the board of trustees of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Kansas City. Appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Nov. 1, 1999, and before that the Circuit Court bench in 1993 by the late Gov. Mel Carnahan. Retained in 2000 and 2012. Term expires 2022.
Missouri’s 46th Judicial Circuit
Missouri Circuit Courts

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, 46 circuits operate in Missouri.

The first circuit judges were appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. The life term of the judges and their method of appointment proved unpopular, however; in 1850, the constitution was amended to provide for popular election. Most circuit judges are elected today, though judges in six circuits—Clay, Greene, Jackson, Platte and St. Louis counties and the City of St. Louis—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 effective Jan. 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 46 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, there are 197 associate circuit judges.

Municipalities with 400,000 or more people must establish a municipal division over which a municipal judge presides. Communities of fewer than 400,000 people 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, licensed to practice law in Missouri, U.S. citizens for 10 years and Missouri voters for three years. Circuit judges serve six-year terms. Associate circuit judges must be at least 25 years old, Missouri voters and residents of the counties they serve and licensed to practice law in Missouri. Associate circuit judges serve four-year terms.

Circuit court judges each earn $149,723 annually; associate circuit court judges earn $137,745. Compensation is determined by statute (section 476.405, RSMo).

The Fine Collection Center

The Supreme Court of Missouri established the Fine Collection Center pursuant to section 476.385, RSMo. It is a central bureau authorized by statute to process certain traffic, conservation and watercraft violations for the courts. The center began operation July 1, 1999, and all courts now participate in the center’s program.

Offenders who receive citations eligible to be processed by the center have the option of pleading guilty by paying their fine and costs directly to the center or by pleading not guilty and having their citations sent to the county or circuit prosecutor. When the offender pleads guilty and pays the fine and costs, the center issues a record of conviction and sends it to the Missouri Department of Revenue and the Missouri State Highway Patrol. All fines and costs are distributed to the local jurisdiction and the appropriate state agencies.

Policy and oversight of the center is provided by a committee consisting of at least seven associate circuit judges appointed by the Supreme Court of Missouri. The committee establishes and maintains the uniform fine schedule in use by the center.
Circuit Court Judges

Circuit 1

GARY DIAL

Office address: Scotland County Courthouse, 117 S. Market, Rm. 205, Memphis 63555; phone (660) 465-7012.

Counties: Clark, Schuyler and Scotland.


Circuit 2

RUSSELL E. STEELE

Office address: Adair County Courthouse, Third Fl., 106 W. Washington, Kirksville 63501; phone (660) 665-3145.

Counties: Adair, Knox and Lewis.


Circuit 3

THOMAS R. ALLEY

Office address: Harrison County Courthouse, Bethany 64424; phone (660) 748-3430.

Counties: Grundy, Harrison, Mercer and Putnam.

Biography: Presiding judge. Born in Harrison County. Graduate of Missouri Western State University, B.S., Business Administration, Accounting, summa cum laude; University of Missouri–Kansas City, JD; Certified Public Accountant. Wife Carla and son Willoughby. Employment: Missouri State Auditor’s Office; Tax Division of Ernst & Whinney (now Ernst & Young); private practice in Clay County; Municipal Judge, Kearney, Mo.; adjunct professor, William Jewell College; city prosecutor, Bethany. Member: Methodist Church; Bethany Rotary Club, past president; Masonic Lodge; Missouri Bar; Third Circuit Bar. Served as Harrison County associate circuit judge, 1999–2018. Elected circuit judge, November 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Republican.
Circuit 4
ROGER M. PROKES
Office address: 305 N. Main, Ste. 204, Maryville 64468; phone (660) 582-4231.
Counties: Atchison, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway and Worth.

Circuit 5—Division 4
DANIEL F. KELLOGG
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1509.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

Circuit 5—Division 1
KATE SCHAEFER
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1447.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

Circuit 5—Division 2
DAVID L. BOLANDER
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1444.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.
Biography: Judge David L. Bolander received his B.A. in History from Eastern University in 1992. He received his law degree from the University of Missouri–Kansas City, 1997. He and his wife, Sue, have two children, Matthew and Sarah. Upon graduation from Law School, Bolander opened his own law office in St. Joseph serving clients in a variety of civil matters, but with a primary focus on legal issues affecting families and children. Judge Bolander served as a substitute municipal judge for the City of St. Joseph from 2011 until being elected circuit judge. Bolander presides over a variety of cases in Andrew and Buchanan counties including custody, paternity, divorce and probate matters, as well as other civil cases with claims of more than $25,000.00 and occasional felony criminal matters. Elected circuit judge, 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.
Circuit 5—Division 3

PATRICK K. ROBB
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1511.
 Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

Circuit 6—Division 2

JAMES W. VAN AMBURG
Office address: Platte County Courthouse, 415 Third St., Ste. 65, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-3436.
 County: Platte.

Circuit 6—Division 1

THOMAS C. FINCHAM
Office address: Platte County Courthouse, 415 Third St., Ste. 65, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-3431.
 County: Platte.

Circuit 7—Division 1

SHANE T. ALEXANDER
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3910.
 County: Clay.
Circuit 7—Division 2

JANET SUTTON

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3920.

County: Clay.


Circuit 7—Division 3

K. ELIZABETH DAVIS

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3930.

County: Clay.


Circuit 7—Division 4

DAVID CHAMBERLAIN

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3940.

County: Clay.


Circuit 8

KEVIN L. WALDEN

Office address: Carroll County: Courthouse, 8 S. Main, Ste. 3, Carrollton 64633; phone (660) 542-3486; Ray County: Courthouse, 100 W. Main, Ste. 38, Richmond 64085; phone (816) 776-3525.

Counties: Carroll and Ray.

Circuit 9
TERRY TSCHANNEHN
Office address: Linn County Courthouse, PO Box 84, 108 N. High St., Linneus 64653; phone (660) 895-5523.
Counties: Chariton, Linn and Sullivan.

Circuit 10
RACHEL BRINGER SHEPHERD
Office address: Marion County Courthouse, 906 Broadway, Hannibal 63401; phone (573) 221-0579; FAX (573) 221-0366.
Counties: Marion, Monroe and Ralls.

Circuit 11—Division 7
DANIEL PELIKAN
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 340, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3026.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 1
TED HOUSE
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 520, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3093.
County: St. Charles.
Circuit 11—Division 2

DEBORAH J. ALESSI

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 420, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 5512.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 3

JACK BANAS

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

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 4

MICHAEL J. FAGRAS

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 320, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 3094.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 5

JON A. CUNNINGHAM

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 350, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3095.

County: St. Charles.

Circuit 12

JASON H. LAMB

Office address: Audrain County Courthouse, 101 N. Jefferson St., Mexico 65265; phone (573) 473-5844.

Counties: Audrain, Montgomery and Warren.


Circuit 13—Division 3

KEVIN CRANE

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

Counties: Boone and Callaway.


Circuit 13—Division 1

J. HASBROUCK JACOBS

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

Counties: Boone and Callaway.


Circuit 13—Division 2

JEFF HARRIS

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

Counties: Boone and Callaway.

Circuit 13—Division 4
JODIE CAPSHAW ASEL
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.
Counties: Boone and Callaway.

Circuit 14
SCOTT HAYES
Office address: Randolph County Courthouse, 372 Hwy. JJ, Ste. 1C, Huntsville 65259; phone (844) 277-6555.
Counties: Howard and Randolph.

Circuit 15
DENNIS A. ROLF
Office address: PO Box 10, Lexington 64067; phone (660) 463-5834.
Counties: Lafayette and Saline.

Circuit 16—Division 3
DAVID M. BYRN
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3603.
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.

Circuit 16—Division 2
KENNETH R. GARRETT III
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas Ave., Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4402.
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
JAMES F. KANATZAR
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-4405.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 6

J. DALE YOUNGS
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-4711.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 7

S. MARGENE BURNETT
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3607.
County: Jackson.
Biography: Born Sept. 20, 1961, in Warrensburg. Graduate of Univ. of Mo.–Columbia; B.J. in journalism and B.A. in political science; Univ. of Mo.–Kansas City School of Law, J.D. Prior to her appointment as a circuit judge, served for ten years as deputy probate commissioner in Division 19 and was in private practice, 1987–2003. Past president of the following boards: The Missouri Assoc. of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges, The Alumni Assoc. for the Univ. of Mo.–Kansas City School of Law and Sheffield Place, a transitional residential facility for homeless women and children. Member: Joint Commission on Women in the Profession, Univ. of Mo.–Kansas City Alumni Assoc. Governing Board, Univ. of Mo.–Kansas City Law Foundation, Sheffield Place Counsel of Advisors, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Assoc. and the Assoc. of Women Lawyers. Appointed circuit judge, November 2013. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 16—Division 8

BRYAN E. ROUND
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3608.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 9

JOEL P. FAHNENSTOCK
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3609.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 10
PATRICK W. CAMPBELL
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3610.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 11
GEORGE EDGAR WOLF III
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3611.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 12
JENNIFER M. PHILLIPS
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3612.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 13
CHARLES H. MCKENZIE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Fifth Fl., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3613.
County: Jackson.
Circuit 16—Division 14
JOHN M. TORRENCE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone: (816) 881-3614.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 15
JALILAH OTTO
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone: (816) 881-3686.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 16
MARCO A. ROLDAN
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone: (816) 881-4416.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 17
CORY L. ATKINS
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone: (816) 881-3685.
County: Jackson.
Biography: Was born and raised in Jackson Co. Attended Independence Public Schools, earned his bachelor's degree from Rockhurst Univ. and his law degree from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. Judge Atkins began his career as an asst. atty. general for the State, and later served as a law clerk to the Hon. Zel M. Fischer at the Supreme Court of Missouri. After clerking, Atkins engaged in a nationwide trial practice that focused on cases involving negligence and products liability. In addition to his trial work, he handled over 100 appeals, including cases in all three districts of the Missouri Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court of Missouri, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, the Kansas Court of Appeals and the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Atkins is an Eagle Scout. Appointed as associate circuit judge, March 16, 2018, by Gov. Eric R. Greitens. Appointed Circuit Judge by Gov. Michael Parson, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.
Circuit 16—Division 18
KEVIN D. HARRELL
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City, 64106; phone (816) 881-3618.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 19
MARK A. STYLES JR.
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3759.
County: Jackson.
Biography: Received a J.D., the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern Univ., Houston, Texas, 2004. Obtained a B.S. in finance, the Univ. of Mo.–Columbia, 2001. First appointed to the bench as deputy probate commissioner, Oct. 3, 2014, by Circuit Judge Kathleen A. Forsyth of the Probate Division. At the time of his appointment, Styles was a senior assoc. atty. with the Hardwick Law Firm. His practice included handling decedents’ and guardianship and conservatorship estates. Was appointed by the court to serve as counsel for respondents and other parties to matters pending before the court. His background includes working for the Public Administrator's Office, Jackson Co. where he handled conservatorship and decedent estates dealing with complex real property, probate, Medicare/Medicaid compliance and constitutional and contractual issues. Appointed circuit judge, July 2016. Retained in 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024.

Circuit 17—Division 1
WILLIAM B. COLLINS
Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic St., Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-8181.
Counties: Cass and Johnson.

Circuit 17—Division 2
R. MICHAEL WAGNER
Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic St., Harrisonville 64701; phone (660) 380-8175.
Counties: Cass and Johnson.
Circuit 18

ROBERT L. KOFFMAN

Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 826-5000, ext. 465.

Counties: Cooper and Pettis.


Circuit 19—Division 4

PATRICIA JOYCE

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

County: Cole.


Circuit 19—Division 1

JON E. BEETEM

Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High St., Rm. 201, PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65101-1870; phone (573) 634-9192.

County: Cole.

Biography: Born May 1, 1959. Graduate of University of Kentucky, B.S., pharmacy; University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, J.D. He is married and has two children. Engaged in the private practice of law, 1992–2006. Member: First Presbyterian Church; Missouri and Pettis County Bar associations; Sedalia School Foundation; AF & AM Lodge No. 272; Legislative Steering Committee and Executive Council; Missouri Judicial Conference; Sedalia Jaycees, past vice president; Circuit Court Budget Committee member; Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges, past president; Sedalia Symphony Society; Central Missouri State University Alumni Band and Sedalia Rotary Club. Appointed circuit judge, 2005. Elected 2006. Retained in 2012 and 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Republican.

Circuit 19—Division 2

DANIEL R. GREEN

Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High St., Jefferson City 65101; phone (573) 634-9190.

County: Cole.

Circuit 21—Division 1

BRIAN H. MAY

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1501.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 2

RICHARD M. STEWART

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone: (314) 615-1502.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 3

SANDRA FARRAGUT-HEMPHILL

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone: (314) 615-1503.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 4

JOSEPH S. DUEKER

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone: (314) 615-1504.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 5

RENÉE HARDIN-TAMMONS

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone: (314) 615-1505.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 6
JOHN N. BORBONUS
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1506.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 7
MARY E. OTT
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1507.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 8
DEAN P. WALDEMER
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1508.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 9
DAVID L. VINCENT III
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1509.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 10

MICHAEL T. JAMISON

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1510.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 11

ELLEN SUE LEVY

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1511.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 12

STANLEY J. WALLACH

Office address: St. Louis County Courts Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1512.

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 13

BRUCE F. HILTON

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1513.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 14
KRISTINE ALLEN KERR
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1514.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 15
JOHN D. WARNER JR.
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1515.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 16
MICHAEL D. BURTON
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1516.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 17
JOSEPH L. WALSH III
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1517.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 18
ELLEN (Nellie) HANNIGAN RIBAUDO
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1518.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 20
MARGARET DONNELLY
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1520.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 21
NANCY WATKINS McLAUGHLIN
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1521.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 1
REX M. BURLISON
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; Phone: (314) 622-4819.
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 22—Division 2
DAVID L. DOWD
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4372.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 3
JOSEPH P. WHYTE
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4729.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 4
KATHERINE FOWLER
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4332.
City of St. Louis.
Biography: Born in St. Louis. Graduate of University of Dayton, BA; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. She is married with four children. Judge Fowler was an officer with Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. until her appointment. She also served as founder and director of the Sister Jackie Toben Legal Clinic for Let’s Start, a non-profit organization that aims to break the cycle of incarceration by working with formerly incarcerated women and their children. Appointed circuit judge, October 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 22—Division 5
CALEA STOVALL-REID
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4422.
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 22—Division 6

MICHAEL F. STELZER
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4476.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 7

THOMAS C. CLARK II
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3720.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 8

TIMOTHY J. BOYER
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4292.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 9

SCOTT A. MILLIKAN
Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3258.
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 22—Division 10

MADELINE O. CONNOLLY

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4442.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 11

BRYAN L. HETTENBACH

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4381.

City of St. Louis.

Biography: Born Feb. 10, 1955, in St. Louis. Graduate: Univ. of Mo.–Columbia, B.A.; Univ. of Michigan, M.A. and Univ. of Mo.–Columbia School of Law, J.D. Presided over hundreds of circuit court trials. Handles a docket of criminal and civil jury trials. Has handled dockets of equity non-jury trials and motions and of probate cases. During two-year stint as circuit felony docket controller the criminal case backlog was reduced to its lowest level in twenty years. Work history: staff attorney, Mo. Supreme Court; lawyer; news editor and adjunct professor. Certified as a civil law/family court mediator, was a contributor to continuing legal education programs. Did recurring service as a guardian ad litem representing children in family and juvenile court cases, including several years as a contract attorney for the juvenile court. Member: Missouri Bar, Bar Assoc. of Metropolitan St. Louis; Lawyers Assoc. of St. Louis. Asst. presiding judge, 2013–2014. Presiding judge, 2015–2016. Appointed circuit judge, April 2, 2008. Retained in 2010 and 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 22—Division 12

MICHAEL K. MULLEN

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3583.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 13

CLINTON R. WRIGHT

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4331.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 15

THERESA COUNTS BURKE

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-7187.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 16

ELIZABETH B. HOGAN

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-5604.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 17

DAVID C. MASON

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4841/4861.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 18

JASON M. SENGHEISER

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3706.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 19

CHRISTOPHER E. McGRAUGH
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, 63101; phone (314) 622-4462.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 20

JOAN L. MORIARTY
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, 63101; phone (314) 622-4927.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 21

ANNETTE LLEWELLYN
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4234.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 22

MICHAEL W. NOBLE
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4691.

City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 23

PAULA P. BRYANT

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, 63101; phone (314) 622-4341.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 30

STEVEN R. OHMER

Office address: 920 N. Vandeventer Ave., St. Louis 63108; phone (314) 552-2025.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 31

JAMES E. SULLIVAN

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4827.

City of St. Louis.

Biography: Born Aug. 11, 1952, in Watseka, Illinois. Graduate of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, B.A.; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. Married to Sherri Berkbigler Sullivan, they have two children. Since receiving his law degree, Sullivan has served as an assistant public defender, prosecuting attorney and circuit attorney; St. Louis municipal court judge and drug court commissioner for the 22nd Circuit Court. Prior to joining the bench, he was in private law practice for 20 years. Appointed circuit judge, February 2015. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022.

Circuit 23—Division 2

DARRELL E. MISSEY

Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5425.

County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 1

JOSEPH A. RATHERT
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5410.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 3

DIANNA L. BARTELS
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5430.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 4

BRENTA STACEY
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5420.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 5

VICTOR J. MELENBRINK
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6435.
County: Jefferson.
Circuit 23—Division 6
TROY CARDONA
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6461.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 24—Division 1
JEREL LEE POOR II
Office address: St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Third Fl., Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5144.

Circuit 24—Division 2
WENDY L. WEXLER HORN
Office address: St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Second Fl., Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5144.

Circuit 25—Division 1
WILLIAM E. HICKLE
Office address: 200 N. Main St., Ste. 201, Rolla 65401; phone (573) 458-6232.
Counties: Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Texas.
Circuit 25—Division 2
JOHN D. BEGER
Office address: 200 N. Main St., Ste. 201, Rolla 65401; phone (573) 458-6232.
Counties: Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Texas.

Circuit 26—Division 3
PEGGY D. RICHARDSON
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.
Counties: Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau and Morgan.

Circuit 26—Division 1
MATTHEW P. HAMNER
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.
Counties: Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau and Morgan.

Circuit 26—Division 2
KENNETH M. HAYDEN
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.
Counties: Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau and Morgan.
Circuit 27

M. BRANDON BAKER

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

Circuit 28

DAVID R. MUNTON

Office address: 100 W. Cherry, Ste. A, Nevada 64772; phone (417) 667-5016.
Counties: Barton, Cedar, Dade and Vernon.

Circuit 29—Division 1

GAYLE L. CRANE

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Rm. 316, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4318.
County: Jasper.

Circuit 29—Division 2

DEAN G. DANKELSON

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4320.
County: Jasper.
Circuit 29—Division 3

DAVID B. MOUTON

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Rm. 216, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4325.

County: Jasper.


Circuit 30

MICHAEL O. HENDRICKSON

Office address: 101 S. Crittenden, Box 4, Marshfield 65706; phone (417) 468-2105.

Counties: Benton, Hickory, Dallas, Polk and Webster.


Circuit 31—Division 1

MICHAEL J. CORDONNIER

Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4078.

County: Greene.


Circuit 31—Division 2

DAVID JONES

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

County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 3

JASON R. BROWN

Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4080.

County: Greene.


Circuit 31—Division 4

THOMAS E. MOUNTJOY

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

County: Greene.


Circuit 31—Division 5

CALVIN HOLDEN

Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4837.

County: Greene.


Circuit 31—Division 6

BECKY J.W. BORTHWICK

Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield, 65802; phone (417) 829-6613.

County: Greene.

Circuit 32—Division 2

BENJAMIN F. LEWIS

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

Counties: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau and Perry.


Circuit 32—Division 1

MICHAEL E. GARDNER

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

Counties: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau and Perry.


Circuit 33

DAVID DOLAN

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

Counties: Mississippi and Scott.


Circuit 34

WILLIAM EDWARD REEVES

Office address: Pemiscot County Courthouse, 610 Ward Ave., Caruthersville 63830; phone (573) 333-4156.

Counties: New Madrid and Pemiscot.

Circuit 35

ROBERT N. MAYER
Office address: Dunklin County Courthouse, PO Box 507, Kennett 63857; (573) 888-9133.
Counties: Dunklin and Stoddard.

Circuit 36

MICHAEL PRITCHETT
Office address: 100 N. Main, Poplar Bluff 63901; phone (573) 686-8080.
Counties: Butler and Ripley.

Circuit 37

STEVEN PRIVETTE
Office address: 225 Courthouse Sq., West Plains 65775; phone (417) 256-4383.
Counties: Carter, Howell, Oregon and Shannon.

Circuit 38—Division 1

LAURA J. JOHNSON
Office address: 110 W. Elm, Rm. 205, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-5162.
Counties: Christian.
JENNIFER R. GROWCOCK
Office address: 100 W. Church St., Rm. 203, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-4375.

Counties: Christian.


JACK A. L. GOODMAN
Office address: PO Box 364, Monett 65708; phone (417) 235-8500; FAX (417) 235-8502.

Counties: Barry, Lawrence and Stone.


GREGORY N. STREME
Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8234.

Counties: McDonald and Newton.


KEVIN SELBY
Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8231.

Counties: McDonald and Newton.

Circuit 41

FREDERICK (Rick) TUCKER
Office address: Macon County Courthouse, PO Box 368, Macon 63552; phone (660) 385-3713.

Counties: Macon and Shelby.


Circuit 42—Division 2

KELLY PARKER
Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., PO Box 551, Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-6816; FAX (573) 729-5146.

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


Circuit 42—Division 1

MEGAN K. SEAY
Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., PO Box 551, Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-6816; FAX (573) 729-5146.

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


Circuit 43—Division 2

R. BRENT ELLIOTT
Office address: Clinton County Courthouse, PO Box 275, Plattsburg 64477; phone (816) 539-3732; FAX (816) 539-3893.

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

Circuit 43—Division 1

RYAN W. HORSMAN

Office address: 700 Webster, Ste. 11, Chillicothe 64601; phone (660) 646-8000; FAX (660) 646-2734.

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


Circuit 44

R. CRAIG CARTER

Office address: 1402 Haden St., PO Box 489, Ava 65608; phone (417) 683-5556; FAX (417) 683-5557.

Counties: Douglas, Wright and Ozark.


Circuit 45

PATRICK S. FLYNN

Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy 63379; phone (636) 528-7147.

Counties: Lincoln and Pike.

Circuit courts by county

Adair          Circuit No.  2
Andrew         Circuit No.  5
Atchison       Circuit No.  4
Audrain        Circuit No. 12
Barry          Circuit No. 39
Barton         Circuit No. 28
Bates          Circuit No. 27
Benton         Circuit No. 30
Bollinger      Circuit No. 32
Boone          Circuit No. 13
Buchanan       Circuit No.  5
Butler         Circuit No. 36
Caldwell       Circuit No. 43
Callaway       Circuit No. 13
Cameron        Circuit No. 26
Cape Girardeau Circuit No. 32
Carroll        Circuit No.  8
Carter         Circuit No. 37
Cass           Circuit No. 17
Cedar          Circuit No. 28
Chariton       Circuit No.  9
Christian      Circuit No. 38
Clark          Circuit No.  1
Clay           Circuit No.  7
Clinton        Circuit No. 43
Cole           Circuit No. 19
Cooper         Circuit No. 18
Crawford       Circuit No. 42
Dade           Circuit No. 28
Dallas         Circuit No. 30
Daviess        Circuit No. 43
DeKalb         Circuit No. 43
Dent           Circuit No. 42
Douglas        Circuit No. 44
Dunklin        Circuit No. 35
Franklin       Circuit No. 20
Gasconade      Circuit No. 20
Gentry         Circuit No.  4
Greene         Circuit No. 31
Grundy         Circuit No.  3
Harrison       Circuit No.  3
Henry          Circuit No. 27
Hickory        Circuit No. 30
Holt           Circuit No.  4
Howard         Circuit No. 14
Howell         Circuit No. 37
Iron           Circuit No. 42
Jackson        Circuit No. 16
Jasper         Circuit No. 29
Jefferson      Circuit No. 23
Johnson        Circuit No. 17
Knox           Circuit No.  2
Laclede        Circuit No. 26
Lafayette      Circuit No. 15
Lawrence       Circuit No. 39
Lewis          Circuit No.  2
Lincoln        Circuit No. 45
Linn           Circuit No.  9
Livingston     Circuit No. 43
Macon          Circuit No. 41
Madison        Circuit No. 24
Maries         Circuit No. 25
Marion         Circuit No. 10
McDonald       Circuit No. 40
Mercer         Circuit No.  3
Miller         Circuit No. 26
Mississippi     Circuit No. 33
Moniteau       Circuit No. 26
Monroe         Circuit No. 10
Montgomery     Circuit No. 12
Morgan         Circuit No. 26
New Madrid     Circuit No. 34
Newton         Circuit No. 40
Nodaway        Circuit No.  4
Oregon         Circuit No. 37
Osage          Circuit No. 20
Ozark          Circuit No. 44
Pemiscot       Circuit No. 34
Perry          Circuit No. 32
Pettis         Circuit No. 18
Phelps         Circuit No. 25
Pike           Circuit No. 45
Platte         Circuit No.  6
Polk           Circuit No. 30
Pulaski        Circuit No. 25
Putnam         Circuit No.  3
Rails          Circuit No. 10
Randolph       Circuit No. 14
Ray            Circuit No.  8
Reynolds       Circuit No. 42
Ripley         Circuit No. 36
St. Charles     Circuit No. 11
St. Clair      Circuit No. 27
St. Francois    Circuit No. 24
St. Louis Co.   Circuit No. 21
St. Louis City  Circuit No. 22
Ste. Genevieve  Circuit No. 24
Saline         Circuit No. 15
Schuyler       Circuit No.  1
Scotland       Circuit No.  1
Scott          Circuit No. 33
Shannon        Circuit No. 37
Shelby         Circuit No. 41
Stoddard       Circuit No. 35
Stone          Circuit No. 39
Sullivan       Circuit No.  9
Taney          Circuit No. 46
Texas          Circuit No. 25
Vernon         Circuit No. 28
Warren         Circuit No. 12
Washington     Circuit No. 24
Wayne          Circuit No. 42
Webster        Circuit No. 30
Worth          Circuit No.  4
Wright         Circuit No. 44
Circuit 1

RICKEY R. ROBERTS
Office address: 111 E. Court St., Ste. 210, Kahoka 63445; phone (660) 727-1233.
County: Clark.

Circuit 1

KELLY L. LOVEKAMP
Office address: Schuyler County Courthouse, PO Box 417, Lancaster 63548; phone (660) 457-3755.
County: Schuyler.

Circuit 1

KIMBERLY J. NICOLI
Office address: Scotland County Courthouse, 117 S. Market, Rm. 200, Memphis 63555; phone (660) 465-2404.
County: Scotland.

Circuit 2

KRISTIE J. SWAIM
Office address: Adair County Courthouse, 106 W. Washington, Kirksville 63501; phone (660) 665-3877.
County: Adair.
Circuit 2

THOMAS P. REDINGTON
Office address: Knox County Courthouse, 107 N. Fourth St., Ste. I, Edina 63537; phone (660) 397-3146.

County: Knox.

Circuit 2

FRED WESTHOFF
Office address: Lewis County Courthouse, PO Box 36, Monticello 63457; phone (573) 767-5352.

County: Lewis.

Circuit 3

STEVEN D. HUDSON
Office address: Grundy County Courthouse, 700 Main St., Ste 6, Trenton 64683; phone (660) 359-4040.

County: Grundy.

Circuit 3

JAY HEMENWAY
Office address: Harrison County Courthouse, 1501 Central, PO Box 189, Bethany 64424; phone (660) 425-6432.

County: Harrison.
Circuit 3

MATTHEW M. KROHN
Office address: Mercer County Courthouse, 802 E. Main St., Princeton 64673; phone (660) 748-4335.
County: Mercer.

Circuit 3

SAMUEL D. FRANK
Office address: Putnam County Courthouse, 601 W. Main, Rm. 204, Unionville 63565; phone (660) 947-2117.
County: Putnam.

Circuit 4

COREY K. HERRON
Office address: Atchison County Courthouse, PO Box 280, Rock Port 64482; phone (660) 744-2700.
County: Atchison.

Circuit 4

REBECCA S. McGINLEY
Office address: Gentry County Courthouse, 200 W. Clay St., Ste. 101, Albany 64402; phone (660) 726-3411.
County: Gentry.
Circuit 4

WILLIAM S. RICHARDS
Office address: Holt County Courthouse, PO Box 173, Oregon 64473; phone (660) 446-3380.
County: Holt.

Circuit 4

W. DOUGLAS THOMSON
Office address: Nodaway County Courthouse, 305 N. Main St., Ste. 104, Maryville 64468; phone (660) 582-2047.
County: Nodaway.

Circuit 4

JOEL MILLER
Office address: Worth County Courthouse, PO Box 350, Grant City 64456; phone (660) 564-2152.
County: Worth.

Circuit 5

MICHAEL J. ORDNUNG
Office address: Andrew County Courthouse, PO Box 318, Savannah 64485; phone (816) 324-3921.
County: Andrew.
Circuit 5

KEITH MARQUART

Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1454.

County: Buchanan.


Circuit 5

ABE (QUINT) SHAFER

Office address: 415 Third St., Ste. 50, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-3434.

County: Platte.


Circuit 6—Division 3

REBECCA L. SPENCER

Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, Rm. 331, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1448.

County: Buchanan.

Biography: Graduate of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, B.A., English and political science, 1996; University of Missouri–Kansas City, J.D., 1999. She currently resides in St. Joseph, with her three children. Assistant prosecuting attorney in Buchanan County until May 2001. Prosecuting attorney for the City of St. Joseph until December 2014. Served as the municipal judge for the City of Easton for seven years. Served as the president of the St. Joseph Bar Association, 2012. Judge Spencer presides over a variety of civil cases, including cases where the amount of controversy is $25,000 or less, small claims actions and landlord tenant cases. In addition, she presides over felony and misdemeanor charges of non-support and misdemeanor criminal cases in Buchanan County. She also presides over preliminary hearings in Buchanan County on criminal felony complaints. Elected 2014. Retained in 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.

Circuit 6—Division 4

W. ANN HANSBROUGH

Office address: 415 Third St., Ste. 50, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-1977.

County: Platte.

Circuit 6—Division 5

DENNIS C. ECKOLD

Office address: Platte County Courthouse, 415 Third St., Ste. 50, Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-1925.

County: Platte.


Circuit 7—Division 5

ALISHA D. O’HARA

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3950.

County: Clay.


Circuit 7—Division 6

KAREN L. KRAUSER

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3960.

County: Clay.


Circuit 7—Division 7

LOUIS ANGLES

Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3970.

County: Clay.

Circuit 9

ANDREA RAVENS VANDELOECH

Office address: Chariton County Courthouse, 306 S. Cherry, Keytesville 65261; phone (660) 288-3602.

County: Chariton.

Circuit 9

SCOT T. OTHIC

Office address: Linn County Courthouse, PO Box 84, Linneus 64653; phone (660) 895-5212.

County: Linn.


Circuit 9

TRACEY A. MASON-WHITE

Office address: Sullivan County Courthouse, 109 N. Main, Ste. 20, Milan, 63556; phone (660) 265-3303.

County: Sullivan.


Circuit 10

JOHN J. JACKSON

Office address: Marion County Courthouse, 906 Broadway, Hannibal 63401; phone (573) 221-0288.

County: Marion.


Circuit 10

MICHAEL P. WILSON

Office address: Monroe County Courthouse, 300 N. Main, Paris 65275; phone (660) 327-5220.

County: Monroe.

Circuit 10
DAVID MOBLEY
Office address: Ralls County Courthouse, PO Box 466, New London 63459; phone (573) 985-5641.
County: Ralls.

Circuit 11—Division 6
TERRY R. CUNDIFF
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 436, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3096.
County: St. Charles County.

Circuit 11—Division 8
ERIN S. BURLISON
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 431, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7496.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 9
ELIZABETH SWANN
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., St. Charles 63367; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 7497.
County: St. Charles.
Circuit 11—Division 10
NORMAN C. STEIMEL III
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 335, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900, ext. 3064.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 11
PHILLIP OHLMS
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 429, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7462.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 12
MATTHEW E.P. THORNHILL
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7486.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 13
REBECA NAVARRO-McKELVEY
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 550, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7411.
County: St. Charles.
Circuit 12

LINDA R. HAMLETT

Office address: Audrain County Courthouse, 101 N. Jefferson, Rm. 205, Mexico 65265; phone (573) 473-5850.

County: Audrain.


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Circuit 12

KELLY C. BRONIEC

Office address: Montgomery County Courthouse, 211 E. Third St., Ste. 301, Montgomery City 63361; phone (573) 564-3348.

County: Montgomery.


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Circuit 12

RICHARD L. SCHEIBE

Office address: Warren County Courthouse, 104 W. Main St., Warrenton 63383; phone (636) 456-3375.

County: Warren.


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Circuit 12

MICHAEL S. WRIGHT

Office address: Warren County Courthouse, 104 W. Main St., Warrenton 63383; phone (636) 456-3375.

County: Warren.

Circuit 13—Division 5
KIMBERLY J. SHAW
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.
County: Boone.

Circuit 13—Division 9
TRACY Z. GONZALEZ
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone 573-886-4050.
County: Boone

Circuit 13—Division 10
LESLIE SCHNEIDER
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.
County: Boone

Circuit 13—Division 11
STEPHANIE M. MORRELL
Office address: Boone County Courthouse, 705 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65201; phone (573) 886-4050.
County: Boone.
Biography: Graduate of Beloit High School Beloit, Kansas, 1993; B.A. in Psychology University of Kansas, 1997; University of Kansas School of Law J.D., 2000. She lives in Columbia with her two sons. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Morrell was an assistant prosecutor for Boone County, 2007–2018; an assistant attorney general for the State of Missouri, 2000–2006 and the City of Sturgeon prosecutor, 2016–2018. She also serves adjunct faculty at Columbia College where she teaches a variety of law related courses. She is a member of the Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges. Elected 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Democrat.
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Circuit 14
JAMES M. COOKSEY
Office address: Randolph County Justice Center, 372 Hwy. JJ, Ste. D., Huntsville 65259; phone (660) 277-6555.
County: Randolph.

Circuit 13–Division 6
CAROL ENGLAND
Office address: Callaway County Courthouse, 10 E. Fifth St., Fulton 65251; phone (573) 642-0777.
County: Callaway.
Biography: Born in Kewanee, Illinois. Graduate of Columbia College, B.A.; Lincoln University, M.A.; and University of Missouri School of Law, J.D. Employed as a police officer before and while attending law school, then worked as an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Callaway County prosecutor's office immediately after law school. Member: Missouri Bar Association; Callaway County Bar Association, treasurer; Ebenezer Baptist Church in Fulton; Fulton Rotary Club; and Callaway County Chapter of the American Red Cross, board member. Elected associate circuit judge, 2006. Retained in 2010–2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Democrat.

Circuit 13–Division 7
SUE M. CRANE
Office address: Callaway County Courthouse, 10 E. Fifth St., Fulton 65251; phone (573) 642-0777.
County: Callaway.

Circuit 14
MASSON R. GEBHARDT
Office address: Howard County Courthouse, PO Box 370, Fayette 65248; phone (660) 248-3326.
County: Howard.
Circuit 15

**KELLY HALFORD ROSE**

Office address: Lafayette County Courthouse–Lafayette Hall, 116 S. 10th St., PO Box 10, Lexington 64067; phone (660) 259-6101.

County: Lafayette.


Circuit 15

**RUSSELL J. KRUSE**

Office address: Lafayette County Courthouse–Lafayette Hall, 116 S. 10th St., PO Box 10, Lexington 64067; phone (660) 259-6101.

County: Lafayette.


Circuit 15

**HUGH C. HARVEY**

Office address: Saline County Courthouse, 19 E. Arrow, Rm. 302, Marshall 65340; phone (660) 886-8808.

County: Saline.


Circuit 15

**WM. PAGE BELLAMY**

Office address: Saline County Courthouse, 19 E. Arrow, Rm. 303, Marshall 65340; phone (660) 886-6988.

County: Saline.

Circuit 16—Division 25

RICHARD T. STANDRIDGE

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3678.

County: Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 26

VACANCY

Circuit 16—Division 27

GREGORY B. GILLIS

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3691.

County: Jackson.

Biography: Born and raised in Kansas City. Graduate of Bishop Hogan High School; University of Missouri–Columbia, 1981 and University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, 1984. He is married with two children. He served as assistant prosecutor in Jackson County for 12 years. Thereafter, he served as drug court commissioner until appointment to Division 27. Member: St. Thomas More Parish; Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association; Jackson County Bar Association; and Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges, where he is currently serving as a board member and membership chair. Previously he served as historian for the association. Appointed by Gov. Bob Holden, April 2001. Retained in 2002–2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 16—Division 28

JEFFREY C. KEAL

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4606.

County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 29

**JANETTE K. RODECAP**

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3735.

**County:** Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 30

**TWILA K. RIGBY**

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4506.

**County:** Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 31

**MARY F. WEIR**

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3542.

**County:** Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 32

**KYNDRA J. STOCKDALE**

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4514.

**County:** Jackson.

**Biography:** Attended the University of Kansas and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, 2000 and a J.D., 2003. Judge Stockdale was a senior attorney with the law firm of Foland, Wickens, Roper, Hofer & Crawford. She practiced in the areas of civil litigation, commercial and business litigation and insurance coverage. Prior to that, she was with the firm of Horn, Aylward & Bandy and her practice included civil litigation and medical malpractice. Stockdale served as an assistant prosecutor with the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, 2005–2012. Appointed associate circuit judge, Feb. 1, 2019, by Gov. Michael Parson. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.
Circuit 16—Division 33

JEFFREY L. BUSHUR

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-1783.

County: Jackson.


Circuit 16—Division 34

SUSAN E. LONG

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4623.

County: Jackson.


Circuit 17

J. MICHAEL RUMLEY

Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-6217.

County: Cass.


Circuit 17

STACEY J. LETT

Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-6230.

County: Cass.

Circuit 17

JEFF COX

Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-8704.

County: Cass.


Circuit 17

JASON HOWELL

Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-8704.

County: Cass.


Circuit 17

BRENT F. TEICHMAN

Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-8704.

County: Cass.


Circuit 17

SUE DODSON

Office address: Johnson County Justice Center, 101 W. Market St., Warrensburg 64093; phone (660) 422-7410.

County: Johnson.

Circuit 18

KEITH M. BAIL
Office address: Cooper County Courthouse, 200 Main, Rm. 31, Boonville 65233; phone (660) 882-5604.
County: Cooper.

Circuit 18

JEFF A. MITTELHAUSER
Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 826-5000, ext. 924.
County: Pettis.

Circuit 18

R. PAUL BEARD
Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 826-5000, ext. 924.
County: Pettis.

Circuit 19

COTTON WALKER
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High St., PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65102; phone (573) 659-2300.
County: Cole.
Circuit 20

JOSEPH W. PURSCHKE

Office address: Franklin County Judicial Center, 401 E. Main St., Rm. 100C, Union 63084; phone (636) 583-7332.

County: Franklin.


Circuit 20

STANLEY D. WILLIAMS

Office address: Franklin County Judicial Center, 401 E. Main, Rm. 100C, Union 63084; phone (636) 583-6330.

County: Franklin.


Circuit 20

ADA BREHE-KRUEGER

Office address: Gasconade County Courthouse, 119 E. First St., Rm. 3, Hermann 65041; phone (573) 486-2321.

County: Gasconade.

Circuit 20

ROBERT D. SCHOLLMEYER

Office address: Osage County Courthouse, PO Box 825, Linn 65051; phone (573) 897-3114.

County: Osage.


Circuit 21—Division 31

NICOLE S. ZELLWEGER

Office address: St. Louis County Courts Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1531.

County: St. Louis.

Biography: Graduate University of Georgia, magna cum laude, December 1999; Yale University Divinity School, Master of Arts, 2001; Washington University, St. Louis, graduating Order of the Coif, 2004. Was a partner with Stinson Leonard Street LLP. Her practice focused on business litigation with concentration in the areas of franchise law, trust and estate litigation. She is chair, trial section, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and board member, Mound City Bar Foundation. Member: St. Louis County Bar Association, Women Lawyers' Association of St. Louis, Missouri, Kansas and Illinois Bar. Frequent author and speaker on legal topics, with numerous national publication credits. Was named an “Up & Coming” attorney by Missouri Lawyers Media and has been recognized numerous times as a “Rising Star” by Super Lawyers. Appointed associate circuit judge, April 2018, by Gov. Eric Greitens. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 21—Division 32

MARY BRUNTRAGER SCHROEDER

Office address: St. Louis County Courts Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1532.

County: St. Louis.

Biography: Graduate of St. Louis University, B.A.; St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, J.D. Resides in St. Louis County with her family. Circuit attorney for the City of St. Louis, 1980–1982. Engaged in private law practice, 1983–1999, until she was appointed to the bench. Involved with the St. Louis County Truancy Court Program in the Valley Park School District. Active in community and youth activities, including St. Louis County Community Chorus and church groups. Member: Missouri Bar; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; St. Louis County Bar Association; Lawyers Association; Women Lawyers Association; Missouri Association of Associate Circuit and Probate Judges, past president. Appointed associate circuit judge, May 11, 1999. Retained in 2000–2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 21—Division 33

JASON D. DODSON

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., St. Louis 63105; phone (314) 615-1533.

County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 34
AMANDA BUNDREN McNELLEY
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1534.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 35
LORNE J. BAKER
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1535.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 36
JOSEPH L. GREEN
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1536.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 37
JOHN R. ESSNER
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1537.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 38
JOHN R. LASATER
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1538.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 39
ELLEN W. DUNNE
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1539.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 40
JOHN F. NEWSHAM
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1540.
County: St. Louis.
Biography: Graduate Rosary High School, 1977; St. Louis University, May 1981; St. Louis University, 1984. Resides in St. Louis County with his family. Was a partner with Dill, Bamvakais & Newsham, P.C. Legal practice focused on criminal defense and administrative license issues, practiced in many other areas over his 33 years. Previously served with the State Public Defender and served as public defender, St. Louis County Municipal Court. Former municipal judge, City of Crestwood and member, Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanis Group. Published an article in the Missouri Bar Journal, 2010, contributing author to the MOBarCLE Deskbook on DWI. Previously recognized for Outstanding Leadership and Dedication to MoBarCLE for making substantial contributions to the continuing legal education of Missouri's attorneys. Appointed associate circuit judge, March 2018, by Gov. Eric Greitens. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 21—Division 41
VIRGINIA LAY
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 100 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1541.
County: St. Louis.
Circuit 21—Division 42

ROBERT M. HEGGIE

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1542.
City: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 43

MONDONNA L. GHASEDI

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1543.
City: St. Louis.

Circuit 21—Division 44

MATTHEW HEARNE

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1544.
City: St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 14

BARBARA PEEBLES

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-4277 / (314) 622-4786
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 22—Division 24
LYNNE R. PERKINS
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4786.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 25
MICHAEL J. COLONA
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4786.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 26
THOMAS A. McCARTHY
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4786.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 27
CRAIG K. HIGGINS
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101.
City of St. Louis.
Biography: Holds a bachelor of journalism from the University of Missouri–Columbia, a master’s in mass communication from Drake University and a J.D. from Drake University. Appointed associate circuit judge, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.
Circuit 22—Division 28

NICOLE COLBERT-BOTCHWAY

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-3185 / (314) 622-4786.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 29

DAVID A. ROITHER

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-4798 / (314) 622-4786.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 23—Division 10

JEFFREY T. COLEMAN

Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5365.

County: Jefferson.


Circuit 23—Division 11

EDWARD L. PAGE

Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5453.

County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 12

ANTONIO (T.) MANANSALA
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5375.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 13

KATHERINE M. HARDY SENKEL
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6133.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 14

TIMOTHY S. MILLER
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6045.
County: Jefferson.

Circuit 23—Division 15

SHANNON DOUGHERTY
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6442.
County: Jefferson.
Circuit 24

ROBIN EDWARD FULTON

**Office address:** Madison County Courthouse, PO Box 470, Fredericktown 63645; phone (573) 783-3105.

**County:** Madison.


Circuit 24—Division 3

JOSEPH L. GOFF JR.

**Office address:** St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Ste. 300, Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5755.

**County:** St. Francois.


Circuit 24—Division 4

PATRICK L. KING

**Office address:** St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Ste. 201, Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-6601.

**County:** St. Francois.


Circuit 24

TIMOTHY W. INMAN

**Office address:** Ste. Genevieve Courthouse, 55 S. Third St., Rm. 204, Ste. Genevieve 63670; phone (573) 883-2265.

**County:** Ste. Genevieve.

Circuit 24
TROY HYDE
Office address: Washington County Courthouse, 102 N. Missouri St., Potosi 63664; phone (573) 438-3691.
County: Washington.

Circuit 25
KENNETH G. ROWDEN
Office address: Maries County Courthouse, PO Box 490, Vienna 65582; phone (573) 422-3303.
County: Maries.

Circuit 25
MARK D. CALVERT
Office address: Phelps County Courthouse, 200 N. Main, Ste. 201, Rolla 65401; phone (573) 458-6246, FAX (573) 458-6224.
County: Phelps.
Circuit 25

COLIN LONG

Office address: Pulaski County Courthouse, 301 Historic Rt. 66, Ste. 316, Waynesville 65583; phone (573) 774-4784.

County: Pulaski.


Circuit 25

MICHAEL V. HEADRICK

Office address: Pulaski County Courthouse, 301 Historic Rt. 66, Ste. 316, Waynesville 65583; phone (573) 774-4784.

County: Pulaski.


Circuit 25

DOUGLAS D. GASTON

Office address: Texas County Courthouse, 519 N. Grand, Ste. 202, Houston 65483; phone (417) 967-3663.

County: Texas.


Circuit 26—Division 4

MICHAEL J. GILLEY

Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-4440.

County: Camden.

Circuit 26—Division 5
AARON G. KOEPPEN
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-4440.
County: Camden.

Circuit 26
STEVE JACKSON
Office address: Laclede County Courthouse, 200 N. Adams, Lebanon 65536; phone (417) 532-9196.
County: Laclede.

Circuit 26
LARRY WINFREY
Office address: Laclede County Courthouse, 200 N. Adams, Lebanon 65536; phone (417) 532-7451.
County: Laclede.

Circuit 26
JON A. KALTENBRONN
Office address: Miller County Courthouse, 2001 Hwy. 52, Tuscola 65082; phone (573) 369-1970.
County: Miller.
JUDICIAL BRANCH—ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES

Circuit 26

AARON J. MARTIN
Office address: Moniteau County Courthouse, 200 E. Main St., California 65018; phone (573) 796-4671.
County: Moniteau.

Circuit 26

J. STEPHEN GRANTHAM
Office address: Morgan County Courthouse, 211 E. Newton, Versailles 65084; phone (573) 378-4235.
County: Morgan.

Circuit 27

JULIE A. HIGHLEY
Office address: Bates County Courthouse, 1 N. Delaware, Ste. 6, Butler 64730; phone (660) 679-3311.
County: Bates.

Circuit 27

HAROLD L. DUMP II
Office address: Henry County Courthouse, 100 W. Franklin, Rm. 212, Clinton 64735; phone (660) 885-7231.
County: Henry.
Circuit 27

**JERRY J. RELLIHAN**

**Office address:** St. Clair County Courthouse, 655 Second St., PO Box 493, Osceola 64776; phone (417) 646-2421.

**County:** St. Clair.


Circuit 28

**JAMES V. NICHOLS**

**Office address:** Barton County Courthouse, 1004 Gulf, Ste. 204, Lamar 64759; phone (417) 682-5754.

**County:** Barton.


Circuit 28

**THOMAS PYLE II**

**Office address:** Cedar County Courthouse, 113 South St., Stockton, 65785; phone (417) 276-6700, ext. 234.

**County:** Cedar.


Circuit 28

**GARY A. TROXELL**

**Office address:** Dade County Courthouse, 300 W. Water St., Greenfield 65661; phone (417) 637-2741.

**County:** Dade.

Circuit 28
BRANDON B. FISHER
Office address: Vernon County Courthouse, 100 W. Cherry, Ste. A, Nevada 64772; phone (417) 667-5016.
County: Vernon.

Circuit 29—Division 4
JOHN A. NICHOLAS
Office address: Jasper County Courthouse, 302 S. Main, Rm. 211, Carthage 64836; phone (417) 358-0450.
County: Jasper.

Circuit 29—Division 5
JOSEPH L. HENSLEY
Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Rm. 211, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4316.
County: Jasper.

Circuit 29—Division 6
JERRY L. HOLCOMB
Office address: Jasper County Courthouse, 302 S. Main, Carthage 64836; phone (417) 237-1096.
County: Jasper.
Circuit 30
MARK B. PILLEY
Office address: Benton County Courthouse, PO Box 37, Warsaw 65355; phone (660) 438-6231.
County: Benton.

Circuit 30
LISA HENDERSON
Office address: Dallas County Courthouse, PO Box 1910, Buffalo 65622; phone (417) 345-2243.
County: Dallas.

Circuit 30
JAMES A. HACKETT
Office address: Hickory County Courthouse, PO Box 345, Hermitage, 65668; phone (417) 745-6421.
County: Hickory.

Circuit 30
JOHN PORTER
Office address: Polk County Courthouse, 102 E. Broadway, Rm. 14, Bolivar 65613; phone (417) 326-4912.
County: Polk.
Circuit 30
ELIZABETH V. ROHRS
Office address: Polk County Courthouse, 102 E. Broadway, Rm. 14, Bolivar 65613; phone (417) 326-4912.
County: Polk.

Circuit 30
DAVID T. TUNNELL
Office address: Webster County Courthouse, 101 S. Crittenden St., Rm. 22, Marshfield 65706; phone (417) 859-2041.
County: Webster.

Circuit 30
DAVID REPLOGLE
Office address: Webster County Courthouse, 101 S. Crittenden St., PO Box B, Marshfield 65706; phone (417) 859-2041.
County: Webster.

Circuit 31—Division 21
JERRY A. HARMISON JR.
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4097.
County: Greene.
Circuit 31—Division 22
MARGARET HOLDEN PALMIETTO
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4107.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 23
ANDY HOSMER
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4095.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 24
MARK POWELL
Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 829-6546.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 25
VACANCY
JUDICIAL BRANCH—ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES 315

Circuit 31—Division 26

J. RONALD CARRIER

Office address: Greene County Courthouse, 1010 Boonville, Springfield 65802; phone (417) 829-6005.

County: Greene.


Circuit 32

SCOTT E. THOMSEN

Office address: Bollinger County Courthouse, 204 High St., Ste. 4, Marble Hill 63764; phone (573) 238-2730.

County: Bollinger.


Circuit 32

FRANK E. MILLER

Office address: Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, 100 Court St., Jackson 63755; phone (573) 243-8446.

County: Cape Girardeau.


Circuit 32

SCOTT A. LIPKE

Office address: Common Pleas Courthouse, 44 N. Lorimier, Cape Girardeau 63701; phone (573) 334-6249.

County: Cape Girardeau.

Biography: Born March 28, 1969. Graduate of Murray State University, B.S. political science; Valparaiso University School of Law, J.D. Married to Ashley Hobbs; they have three children. Previously engaged in private practice and also served as assistant prosecuting attorney, Cape Girardeau County. Served as state representative, 2002–2010. President and board member of the Missouri Association of Treatment Court Professionals; board member and past chair of Legislative Committee for the Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges; Appointed by the Supreme Court to the Circuit Court Budget Committee; member of the Legislative Committee of the Judicial Conference. Elected associate circuit judge, 2010. Retained in 2014 and 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.
Circuit 32
CRAIG D. BREWER
Office address: Perry County Courthouse, 15 W. Sainte Marie St., Ste. 3, Perryville 63775; phone (573) 547-7861.
County: Perry.

Circuit 33
ROB BARKER
Office address: Mississippi County Courthouse, PO Box 369, Charleston 63834; phone (573) 683-2146.
County: Mississippi.

Circuit 33
ZAC HORACK
Office address: Scott County Courthouse, 131 S. Winchester St., PO Box 587, Benton 63736; phone (573) 545-3576.
County: Scott.
Biography: Graduate Univ. of Missouri, B.S. in Biological Sciences, 2010 and a Master of Public Health, 2012; St. Louis Univ. School of Law, 2015, with an emphasis in criminal litigation. Joined the Scott Co. prosecuting attorney’s office as an assistant prosecuting attorney, 2015. Began prosecuting large-scale narcotic and drug trafficking cases as Southeast Missouri’s High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) prosecutor, serving multiple counties, 2017. Serves as municipal judge throughout Scott Co. He enjoys volunteering and teaching, currently fulfills adjunct responsibilities at Southeast Missouri State Univ. as well as the SEMO Law Enforcement Academy teaching Criminal Law, Constitutional Law and Criminal Courts. The associate judge, division 5 dockets primarily include criminal matters, small claims, landlord-tenant disputes and various administrative settings. Elected 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.

Circuit 33
BLAKE PEARSON
Office address: Scott County Courthouse, 131 S. Winchester St., PO Box 587, Benton 63736; phone (573) 545-3511.
County: Scott.
Circuit 34

JOSHUA D. UNDERWOOD
Office address: New Madrid County Courthouse, 450 Main St., New Madrid 63869; phone (573) 748-5556.
County: New Madrid.

Circuit 34

W. KEITH CURRIE
Office address: Pemiscot County Courthouse, 610 Ward Ave., Ste. 2E, Caruthersville 63830; phone (573) 333-0152.
County: Pemiscot.

Circuit 34

WILLIAM CARTER
Office address: Pemiscot County Justice Center, PO Box 228, Caruthersville 63830; phone (573) 333-2784.
County: Pemiscot.

Circuit 35

BRADLEY D. JARRELL
Office address: Stoddard County Justice Center, PO Box 30, Bloomfield 63825; phone (573) 568-4640.
County: Stoddard.
Circuit 35

H. MARK PREYER

Office address: Dunklin County Courthouse, PO Box 567, Kennett 63857; phone (573) 888-3272.

County: Dunklin.


Circuit 35

JOE Z. SATTERFIELD

Office address: Stoddard County Courthouse, PO Box 30, Bloomfield 63825; phone (573) 568-4671.

County: Stoddard.


Circuit 35

JOHN SPIELENMAN

Office address: Dunklin County Courthouse, PO Box 567, Kennett 63857; phone (573) 888-3378.

County: Dunklin.


Circuit 36

C. WADE PIERCE

Office address: Butler County Courthouse, 100 S. Main, Poplar Bluff 63901; phone (573) 686-8087.

County: Butler.

Circuit 36

JOHN SHOCK
Office address: Butler County Courthouse, 100 N. Main, Poplar Bluff 63901; phone (573) 686-8073.
County: Butler.

Circuit 36

THOMAS SWINDLE
Office address: Ripley County Courthouse, 100 Court Sq., Doniphan 63935; phone (573) 996-2013.
County: Ripley.

Circuit 37

STEVEN F. LYNXWILER
Office address: PO Box 578, Van Buren 63965; phone (573) 323-4344.
County: Carter.

Circuit 37

DONNA ANTHONY
Office address: Howell County Courthouse, 222 Courthouse, West Plains 65755; phone (417) 256-4050.
County: Howell.
Circuit 37

**R. DAVID RAY**

**Office address:** Howell County Courthouse, 222 Courthouse, West Plains 65755; phone (417) 256-4050.

**County:** Howell.


Circuit 37

**HARVEY S. ALLEN**

**Office address:** Oregon County Courthouse, PO Box 406, Alton 65606; phone (417) 778-7461.

**County:** Oregon.


Circuit 37

**SANDRA WEST**

**Office address:** Shannon County Courthouse, PO Box 148, Eminence 65466; phone (573) 226-3315.

**County:** Shannon.


Circuit 38

**JESSICA KRUSE**

**Office address:** Christian County Judicial Center, 110 W. Elm, Rm. 203, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-5140.

**County:** Christian.

JUDICIAL BRANCH—ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES

Circuit 38

DOUGLAS P. BACON

Office address: Christian County Courthouse, 110 W. Elm, Rm. 105, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-5160.

County: Christian.


Circuit 39

JOHNNIE E. COX

Office address: Barry County Judicial Center, 102 W. St., Ste. 2, Cassville 65625; phone (417) 847-3133.

County: Barry.


ROBERT J. FOULKE

Office address: Barry County Judicial Center, 102 W. St., Ste. 2, Cassville 65625; phone (417) 847-3133.

County: Barry.


SCOTT S. SIFFERMAN

Office address: Lawrence County Courthouse, 240 N. Main St., Ste. 110, Mt. Vernon 65712; phone (417) 466-2471.

County: Lawrence.

Circuit 39

ROBERT E. GEORGE

Office address: Lawrence County Courthouse, 240 N. Main St., Ste. 110, Mt. Vernon 65712; phone (417) 466-2471.

County: Lawrence.


County: Lawrence.


Circuit 39

MARK A. STEPHENS

Office address: Stone County Courthouse, 110 S. Maple, Ste. F, Galena 65656; phone (417) 357-6511.

County: Stone.


Circuit 39

ALAN BLANKENSHIP

Office address: Stone County Courthouse, 110 S. Maple, Ste. F, Galena 65656; phone (417) 357-6511.

County: Stone.


Circuit 39

ROBERT E. GEORGE

Office address: Lawrence County Courthouse, 240 N. Main St., Ste. 110, Mt. Vernon 65712; phone (417) 466-2471.

County: Lawrence.


Circuit 39

MARK A. STEPHENS

Office address: Stone County Courthouse, PO Box 18, Galena 65656; phone (417) 357-6114.

County: Stone.


Circuit 40

JOHN LePAGE

Office address: McDonald County Courthouse, PO Box 157, Pineville 64856; phone (417) 223-7512.

County: McDonald.

Circuit 40

CHRISTINE RHOADES

Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8210.

County: Newton.


Circuit 41

KRISTEN BURKS

Office address: Macon County Courthouse, 100 E. Washington St., Macon 63552; phone (660) 395-9048.

County: Macon.


Circuit 41

MIKE GREENWELL

Office address: Shelby County Courthouse, PO Box 206, Shelbyville 63469; phone (573) 633-2251.

County: Shelby.

Circuit 42

PATRICK J. HORSEFIELD

Office address: Crawford County Courthouse, PO Box 1550, Steelville 65565; phone (573) 775-2149.

County: Crawford.


Circuit 42

NATHAN T. KELSAW

Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., 112 E. Fifth St., Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-3134.

County: Dent


Circuit 42

RANDALL HEAD

Office address: Iron County Courthouse, 250 S. Main St., Ste. 220, Ironton 63650; phone (573) 546-2511.

County: Iron.


Circuit 42

BENJAMIN E. THOMPSON

Office address: Reynolds County Courthouse, PO Box 39, 2319 Green St., Centerville 63633; phone (573) 648-2494.

County: Reynolds.

Circuit 42

CHRISTINA L. KIME

Office address: Wayne County Courthouse, PO Box 78, Greenville 63944; phone (573) 224-5660.

County: Wayne.


Circuit 43

JASON KANOY

Office address: Caldwell County Courthouse, PO Box 68, Kingston 64650; phone (816) 586-2771.

County: Caldwell.


Circuit 43

TERESA L. BINGHAM

Office address: Clinton County Courthouse, PO Box 275, Plattsburg 64477; phone (816) 539-3755.

County: Clinton.

Biography: Born in St. Louis. Graduate of Washburn University, B.A., cum laude; University of Kansas School of Law, J.D. She is married with two adult children. She began practicing law with the law firm of Morrison, Frost and Olsen in Manhattan, Kan. She then returned to Kansas City and practiced law with the Jackson County public administrator for 12 years. Before being elected as Clinton County associate judge, she practiced with UAW Legal Services plan, doing most of the estate planning and probate work. She has been involved with a Science Olympiad coach, Girl Scouts as a leader and is also a part time youth leader for two rural churches. Elected 2014. Retained in 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022.

Circuit 43

DAREN L. ADKINS

Office address: Daviess County Courthouse, PO Box 233, Gallatin 64640; phone (660) 663-2532.

County: Daviess.

Circuit 43

BART SPEAR
Office address: DeKalb County Courthouse, 109 W. Main St., PO Box 248, Maysville, 64469; phone (816) 449-2602
County: DeKalb.

Circuit 43

MICHAEL R. LEAMER
Office address: Livingston County Courthouse, 700 Webster St., Chillicothe 64601; phone (660) 646-8000.
County: Livingston.

Circuit 43

ELIZABETH BOCK
Office address: Douglas County Courthouse, 203 E. Lincoln Ave., PO Box 249, Ava 65608; phone (417) 683-4713.
County: Douglas.

Circuit 44

RAYMOND M. GROSS
Office address: Ozark County Courthouse, 2 Court Sq., PO Box 278, Gainesville 65655; phone (417) 679-4611.
County: Ozark.
Circuit 44
LYNETTE B. VEENSTRA

Office address: Wright County Courthouse, 125 Courthouse Sq., PO Box 58, Hartville 65667; phone (417) 741-6505.

County: Wright.


Circuit 45
JAMES D. BECK

Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy, 63379; phone (636) 528-6300.

County: Lincoln.


Circuit 45
GREGORY K. ALLSBERRY

Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy 63379; phone (636) 528-6300.

County: Lincoln.


Circuit 45
MILAN BERRY

Office address: Pike County Courthouse, 115 W. Main, Bowling Green 63334; phone (573) 324-3582.

County: Pike.

Biography: Born in the 1970s in Cortland, New York. Raised in North St. Louis County and graduated from Rosary High School. Graduate of the University of Missouri, 2000 and University of Missouri–Kansas City, School of Law, 2003. Admitted to the Missouri Bar, 2004 and the Kansas Bar, 2005. Public defender with the State of Missouri for almost 10 years before taking the bench in 2019. Spent four years as stay at home dad in Switzerland when wife, Kathleen was on a foreign assignment. They have four children; Layla, Carter, Nolan and Brigrant. Since returning to the U.S., has hosted four German Speaking exchange students. Family is active at St. Clement Catholic Church. Coaches youth basketball, soccer and baseball. Worked way through school by driving a tractor trailer and keeps his CDL and certifications current. Known to relax by taking a Peterbilt to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Elected 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.
Circuit 46

**R. TIFFANY YARNELL**

**Office address:** Taney County Courthouse, PO Box 129, Forsyth 65653; phone (417) 546-7230.

**County:** Taney.


---

Circuit 46

**ERIC D. EIGHMY**

**Office address:** Taney County Courthouse, PO Box 129, Forsyth 65653; phone (417) 546-7230.

**County:** Taney.

### Alphabetical list of Missouri Judges

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The Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline was created by a constitutional amendment in 1970. It began operating Jan. 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 are: Hon. Nancy Steffen Rhamey, chair, appellate judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District; Barry Aycock, lay member, Parma; Rev. Dr. Carlton R. Caldwell, lay member, St. Louis County; Hon. Sandra C. Midkiff, circuit judge, 16th Judicial Circuit (Jackson County-Kansas City); Cary J. Magerman, attorney, Clayton; and Patrick B. Starke, attorney, Blue Springs.

On receiving a complaint against a judge or member of a judicial commission, the commission conducts an 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 hearing 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. 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.

The Chief Disciplinary Counsel, The Advisory Committee and Legal Ethics Counsel
Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel
3327 American Ave., Jefferson City 65109
Telephone: (573) 635-7400 / FAX: (573) 635-2240

Advisory Committee and Legal Ethics Counsel
3327 American Ave., Jefferson City 65109
Telephone: (573) 638-2263/ FAX: (573) 635-8806
www.mo-legal-ethics.org

To protect the public from persons unqualified or unauthorized to practice law, the Supreme Court of Missouri has established an attorney discipline system. The Supreme Court appoints a chief disciplinary counsel to investigate allegations of professional misconduct, incompetence and incapacity of lawyers. The Court also has established an Advisory Committee, which oversees the disciplinary hearings process. Complaints filed against attorneys are reviewed by the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel. Regional disciplinary committees located in Kansas City, Springfield and St. Louis—composed of at least four lawyers and two nonlawyers—also may investigate complaints referred to them by the chief disciplinary counsel or the Advisory Committee.

If the chief disciplinary counsel or a majority of a regional disciplinary committee finds there is probable cause to believe a lawyer is guilty of professional misconduct, they may issue a written admonition to the attorney or file information making specific allegations of the lawyer's violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct. The lawyer may request a hearing to be held before a disciplinary hearing panel composed of two lawyers and one nonlawyer, all of whom are appointed as disciplinary hearing officers by the Supreme Court. If the disciplinary hearing panel finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the lawyer is guilty of misconduct, it makes findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations for discipline, which then are filed in the Supreme Court. It is the Supreme Court's responsibility to impose any warranted discipline. If a lawyer who has been suspended or disbarred later seeks reinstatement, the chief disciplinary counsel investigates the application. The chief disciplinary counsel also investigates the unauthorized practice of law and takes appropriate action to stop such practices. The chief disciplinary counsel is Alan Pratzel.

In addition to providing oversight of the disciplinary hearing process, the Advisory Committee reviews complaint files that have been closed after investigation, at the request of the complainant. It also may issue formal ethics opinions, interpreting Supreme Court Rules 4, 5 and 6. Members of the Advisory Committee, appointed by the
Supreme Court are: Dorothy L. White-Coleman, chair, St. Louis; David Ansley, Springfield; Susan Appelquist, Springfield; Richard E. Banks, St. Louis; Sheryl Butler, St. Louis; Edward C. Clausen, Jefferson City; Keith A. Cutler, Kansas City; Jill A. Kanatzar, Kansas City; Elizabeth McCarter, St. Louis; Dale Siebeneck, Jefferson City; Kirby Upjohn, Kansas City; and Branson L. Wood III, Hannibal.

The legal ethics counsel, who serves as counsel to the Advisory Committee, may give nonbinding informal advisory opinions, interpreting Supreme Court Rules 4, 5 and 6 to members of the Bar. The legal ethics counsel is Melinda Bentley.

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www.mble.org
E-mail: mble@courts.mo.gov

The Supreme Court of Missouri regulates admission to the Bar. The Missouri Board of Law Examiners is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 8 to conduct the bar examination and to determine the character and fitness and eligibility of applicants for admission to The Missouri Bar. Application forms and information about the bar examination, the character and fitness process and the requirements for admission are available online at www.mble.org. In addition, pass/fail statistics for the bar examination are published on the website.

The Missouri Board of Law Examiners is comprised of six members who are lawyers appointed by the Supreme Court of Missouri to serve a nine-year term. The current members of the board are: James G. Nowogrocki, chair, St. Louis; Gary B. Brewer, Springfield; Judge Michael E. Gardner, Cape Girardeau; Karen M. Jordan, St. Louis; Theresa L.F. Levings, Kansas City; and Sandra L. Schermerhorn, Kansas City.

The Missouri Bar
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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. Its executive director is Sebrina Barrett.

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 an approved law school leading to a juris doctor degree. Those seeking membership in The Missouri Bar also must pass a comprehensive bar examination and character and 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, webinars 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”), supplements and guidebooks 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 about 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; Precedent, a quarterly publication featuring practice-oriented articles and columns; 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 conducted a broad program of public information and education. Thousands of informative pamphlets and other educational materials about 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 of 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 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 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 program 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 most 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.

Officers, The Missouri Bar, 2019–2020

Thomas V. Bender, president, Kansas City;
John R. Gunn, president-elect, St. Louis;
(Vacancy), vice president

Judicial Conference of Missouri
Supreme Court Bldg.
PO Box 150, Jefferson City 65102
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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, RSMo) with studying the organization and administration of the state's judicial system, compiling data about 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 branch.

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 about 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 Article V of the Missouri Constitution, 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 through the “Nonpartisan Selection of Judges Court Plan,” adopted through initiative petition at the November 1940 general election, which provides for the governor to appoint one of three qualified persons nominated by a nonpartisan judicial commission. This method of selecting judges was adopted by the voters of the 21st Judicial Circuit (St. Louis County) in 1970; by the voters of the Sixth Judicial Circuit (Platte County) and the Seventh Judicial Circuit (Clay County) in 1973 and by the voters of the 31st Judicial Circuit (Greene County) in Nov. 2008.

Under the Missouri Plan, as it often is called nationally, 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 a judge 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 again is placed on the ballot for a retention vote at certain intervals if the judge wishes to serve subsequent terms. The Missouri Plan has served as a national model for the selection of judges and has been adopted by a number of other states.
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. The judge member serves a two-year term, while the other members serve staggered terms of six years each.

Members: George W. Draper III, chief justice, Supreme Court of Missouri, chair, June 30, 2021.


From the Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District: Michelle Beckler, lay member, Dec. 31, 2020; Donald E. Woody, lawyer member, Dec. 31, 2019.

From the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District: Scott S. Bethune, lawyer member, Dec. 31, 2121; Kathy Ritter, lay member, Dec. 31, 2022.

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 in which the circuit or the major portion of its population lies, two lawyers elected by other members of The Missouri Bar residing in the circuit and two non-lawyer residents of the circuit appointed by the governor.

Sixth Circuit (Platte County) Judicial Commission: Karen King Mitchell, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2020. Members: Mark Ferguson, Kansas City, lawyer member; Barbara A. Fulk, Platte City, lay member; John W. Pepper, Kansas City, lay member; and Robert Shaw, Platte City, lawyer member.

Seventh Circuit (Clay County) Judicial Commission: Chair: Karen King Mitchell, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2020. Members: Allison Kendrick, Kansas City, lay member; Kate E. Noland, Liberty, lawyer member; Ben T. Schmitt, Kansas City, lawyer member; and Jason Starr, Liberty, lay member.

Sixteenth Circuit (Jackson County) Judicial Commission: Karen King Mitchell, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2020. Members: Damon Daniel, Kansas City, lay member; William Gautreaux, Kansas City, lay member; Phyllis Norman, Kansas City, lawyer member; and Michael A. Williams, Kansas City, lawyer member.

Twenty-first Circuit (St. Louis County) Judicial Commission: Colleen Dolan, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, June 30, 2020. Members: Tiffany Franklin, Manchester, lay member; William P. Grant, St. Louis, lawyer member; Al Koller III, Fenton, lay member; and Jeffrey D. Sigmund, St. Louis, lawyer member.

Twenty-second Circuit (St. Louis) Judicial Commission: Colleen Dolan, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, June 30, 2020. Members: J. Brent Dulle, St. Louis, lawyer member; Chris Goodson, St. Louis, lay member; Andre Harris, St. Louis, lay member; and Bryan J. Sanger, St. Louis, lay member.

Thirty-first Circuit (Greene County) Judicial Commission: Jeffrey W. Bates, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District, June 30, 2021. Members: Steven B. Garner, Springfield, lawyer member; Joann Hosmer, Springfield, lay member; Steven Stepp, Springfield, lay member; and Laurel Stevenson, Springfield, lawyer member.

Office of State Public Defender

231 E. Capitol Ave., Jefferson City 65101
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www.publicdefender.mo.gov
Email: public.defender@mspd.mo.gov

The Office of State Public Defender is created by Section 600.019.1., RSMo as an independent department within the judicial branch of state government.

The Missouri State Public Defender System (MSPD) is the state department created to fulfill the state’s constitutional obligation to ensure that all persons facing criminal prosecution in its courts have the assistance of counsel in their defense. MSPD’s lawyers provide legal representation to persons who are charged with or challenging convictions for state criminal offenses but do not have the means available to hire defense counsel.

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.
Members, Public Defender Commission

Bock, H. Riley, chair; Jackson, Charles, vice chair; Chval, Craig, secretary; Ferrell, Larry H., commissioner; Fuhr, Gary B., commissioner; Hogan, Crista, commissioner; Barrett, Michael, ex officio member.

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.

Trial Division

The Trial Division employs close to 300 full-time attorneys as well as investigators, paralegals and legal assistants. Trial Division attorneys represent both adult and juvenile indigent clients charged with crimes at the state trial court level throughout Missouri.

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.

Capital Division

The Capital Division of MSPD was established in 1989 to handle the complex litigation involved 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 try cases in both the urban and rural areas of Missouri.

Division of Appellate/Post Conviction Relief

This division ensures 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.

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 provide representation in 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.
“The 19th Amendment redefined U.S. women’s rights as citizens and ensured future generations the opportunity to vote and engage in public service.”

Representative Patricia Pike (R-126)

“The arm of the 19th Amendment embraces women today by providing them the right to vote, run for political office, participate in leadership roles, and have a family if they choose. Doors have opened.”

Representative Donna Pfautsch (R-33)