Tuscumbia, Missouri is flooded by the overflowing Osage River. One man rides horseback through the water, which is up to the horse's belly. Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives, RG005 Secretary of State Publications Vanishing Missouri Photograph Collection.
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 the 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.
tution 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 $185,127 annually. Compensation is determined by state constitution (article XIII, section 3 of the Missouri Constitution).
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 $193,545 annually. Compensation is determined by state constitution (article XIII, section 3 of the Missouri Constitution).

The court hears oral arguments each month from September through May. Court sessions are open to the public, and audio of oral arguments are broadcast live and are archived through the Missouri Courts 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.

Clerk's Office

The clerk of the Supreme Court is responsible for a wide range of duties, including the supervision of the state courts administrator's office as well as the internal administrative function of the court itself.

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 member of all court committees, 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. 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.

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 and the public.

The library's main responsibility is to meet the research needs of the Supreme Court, it also provides resources to members of the bench, the bar and the general public. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, throughout the year, excluding state holidays.
Paul C.
Wilson
Chief Justice 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.

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. He is serving as the state’s chief justice from July 2021–June 2023.

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.
PATRICIA BRECKENRIDGE was born and raised in Nevada, Missouri and was educated in the Nevada public schools. She attended the University of Missouri–Columbia, receiving a B.S. in agricultural economics and J.D. She returned to Nevada to practice law with Russell, Brown, Bickel & Breckenridge. While practicing, she also served as an assistant municipal judge.

In 1982, she was appointed associate circuit judge of Vernon County. Judge Breckenridge was elected to that position until 1990, when she was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. She served as chief judge from 1998–2000. Judge Breckenridge was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri, 2007. She served as chief justice from 2015–2017.

As chief justice, she was committed to improving the administration of justice and instrumental in establishing the Supreme Court’s Committee on Practice and Procedures in Municipal Division Cases, Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness, Task Force on Criminal Justice, Commission on Civil Justice Reform, Partnership for Child Safety and Well-Being, and the adoption of Uniform Standards for Juvenile Officers.

She served as chair to the Supreme Court’s Judicial Education Coordinating Commission, helped establish and chaired the Civic Education Committee, and has served as a faculty member at the new judges’ orientation. She is also a founding faculty member of Missouri’s Court Management Institute, certified to teach its Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts program by the National Center of State Courts.

Judge Breckenridge has received the University of Missouri–Columbia’s Faculty-Alumni Award and School of Law’s Citation of Merit, the Missouri Bar’s Theodore McMillian Judicial Excellence Award and President’s Award, National Center for State Courts’ Distinguished Service Award–Appellate Judge, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association’s Hon. Joseph E. Stephens Jr. Aspire to Excellence Award, Missouri Coalition of Children’s Agencies Champion of Children Award, and honored as the Missouri Lawyers Media’s Woman of the Year. She has also been honored as the Missouri Lawyers Media’s Woman of the Year, Rotary International Citizen of the Year, Nevada Business and Professional Women’s Woman of the Year, Soroptimist International Women Helping Women and Woman of Distinction. She is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, Missouri Bar Foundation, Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform and a Council of State Government Toll Fellow.

Judge Breckenridge is an Elwood L. Thomas American Inn of Court master, a member of the Academy of Missouri Squires, American Bar Association, Missouri Bar, National Association of Women Judges, and the Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges. She was a member of the Casey Family Programs’ National Impact Outcomes Committee; National Center for State Courts Task Force on Fines, Fees and Bail Practices; Missouri Task Force on Gender and Justice; and co-chair of the Missouri Gender Fairness Implementation Joint Committee.

Judge Breckenridge has served the Kansas City community as a mentor and tutor for children at St. Vincent’s Operation Breakthrough and as a board member of Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance, Cabot West Side Clinic, University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Mattie Rhodes Center. In Nevada, she served as president of Soroptimist International of Nevada, Nevada’s Business and Professional Women and was a member of Rotary International. She is a member of the United Methodist Church of Nevada and the PEO Sisterhood.

Judge Breckenridge has served the Kansas City community as a mentor and tutor for children at St. Vincent’s Operation Breakthrough and as a board member of Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance, Cabot West Side Clinic, University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Mattie Rhodes Center. In Nevada, she served as president of Soroptimist International of Nevada, Nevada’s Business and Professional Women and was a member of Rotary International. She is a member of the United Methodist Church of Nevada and the PEO Sisterhood.

Judge Breckenridge is married to Bryan C. Breckenridge, a partner in the law firm of Russell, Brown & Breckenridge. She was retained by Missouri voters at the November 2008 and 2020 general elections.
George W. Draper III
Judge of the Supreme Court

GEORGE W. DRAPER III was born 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 served 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.
Zel M. Fischer
Judge of the Supreme Court

ZEL M. FISCHER was born in Hamburg, Iowa, 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.

Fischer was admitted to The Missouri Bar in 1988. Upon graduation, he served for one year as a law clerk for the Honorable Andrew Jackson Higgins of the Supreme Court of Missouri. From 1989–1992, he practiced law in the law offices of James D. Boggs in Kansas City. From 1992–2006, he engaged in a solo law practice in northwest Missouri. In November 2006, he was elected associate circuit judge for Atchison County, in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, and served in that capacity until his appointment to the Supreme Court of Missouri in October 2008.

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.

Fischer is the president of The National Courts and Science Institute (NCSI), which is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to training judges in science. He also serves as a member on the National Advisory Board for the University of North Carolina Bryson Center for Judicial Science Education.

Judge Fischer was the 2019 recipient of the Theodore McMillian Judicial Excellence Award from The Missouri Bar. The honor is awarded to a judge who sets an example of judicial excellence by leadership in the advancement of justice, provides outstanding public and community service to the people of Missouri, and who is a person of the highest character, integrity and honor who inspires other members of the judiciary to similar noble purposes.

Fischer is an active member of his church and community. He was married July 13, 1985, to the former Julie Ann Moore. They have four children and four grandchildren.

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 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.
ROBIN RANSOM was born in the City of St. Louis, State of Missouri. She graduated from Rosati-Kain High School. She completed her undergraduate degree at Douglass College–Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, receiving her bachelor of arts in political science and sociology. Judge Ransom attended and graduated from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law.

Following law school, she worked as an Assistant Public Defender in the St. Louis County Office from 1992–1995. She was assigned primarily cases in the Family Court – Juvenile Division. In the Fall of 1995, she took a position as an assistant prosecuting attorney in the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office. She remained in that position for a year. In October of 1996, she began working in the Family Court – Juvenile Division of the 21st Judicial Circuit, St. Louis County, as a Staff Attorney. In that role, she handled juvenile delinquency and care and protection cases which included termination of parental rights matters.

Her judicial career began in 2002, when she was appointed as a Family Court Commissioner for the 22nd Judicial Circuit on Dec. 27, 2002. In that role, she presided over juvenile delinquency and care and protection cases, termination of parental rights matters, guardianships and adoptions. She served in that capacity until Sept. 11, 2008, when she was appointed by Gov. Matt Blunt as Circuit Judge in the City of St. Louis, the 22nd Judicial Circuit.

Initially as a Circuit Judge, she was assigned to a general trial division from September–December of 2008. From January 2009–December 2010, she was assigned to the Family Court presiding over contested divorces and motions to modify. Judge Ransom returned to a general trial division from January 2011–December 2015. In January of 2016, she began serving as the Administrative Judge of the Family Court, overseeing all facets of the court’s operations both in the Juvenile and Domestic divisions.

In September of 2016, she was unanimously elected by her peers to serve in the capacity of Assistant Presiding Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit for the calendar years of 2017 and 2018. Then in September of 2018, she was again unanimously elected by her peers to serve as the Presiding Judge of the 22nd Judicial Circuit for the calendar years of 2019 and 2020. After just a few weeks in the role of presiding judge, Judge Ransom was appointed by Governor Mike Parson on Jan. 9, 2019, to the Court of Appeals – Eastern District. On May 24, 2021, Governor Parson appointed Judge Ransom to her current position as Judge of the Supreme Court for the State of Missouri.

Judge Ransom is a mentor with the Literacy Project, an early childhood reading program developed by The Gathering, a local church organization in the City of St. Louis. Judge Ransom is also a member of the Missouri Bar, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL), the Commission on Racial & Ethnic Fairness and the Missouri State Foster Care and Adoption Board. She is the recipient of the Theodore McMillian Service Award from the Black Law Students Association of St. Louis University School of Law. She also in 2019 received a Women’s Justice Award for Public Service presented by Missouri Lawyer’s Media. In 2008 she received the Clarence Darrow Award from the Public Interest Group at the St. Louis University School of Law. Judge Ransom is also a frequent presenter to school groups and organizations interested in juvenile laws and juvenile justice.

Judge Ransom was retained in the role of Circuit Judge in both 2010 and 2016. She was retained as a member of the Missouri Court of Appeals–Eastern District in 2020. Her current term as a member of the Supreme Court expires Dec. 31, 2022.
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 with bachelor of science and bachelor of arts degrees. She received her J.D. from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Russell was a law clerk 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 was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri in 2004 and was elected chief justice by her colleagues for a two-year term in 2013–2015.

Judge Russell is active in many professional and legal organizations, commissions and boards throughout the state and country. She currently serves as president of the Missouri Press-Bar Commission, is a trustee of the State Historical Society of Missouri and is a member of the Missouri Academy of Squires. Judge Russell is active in many community organizations, including: BackStoppers, Inc.; International Women’s Forum; Women Lawyers’ Association; Rotary Club (past president); PEO (past president) and the Episcopal Church. She served as second vice president of the Conference of Chief Justices and has been a member of the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, the board of directors of the National Courts and Science Institute, the Missouri Council on Women’s Economic Development, the Missouri Job Development and Training Council, the board of directors of Missouri’s Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) (president), the board of governors of Truman State University (past president), the Missouri State Senate Reapportionment Commission and the Tuesday Club (past president).

She volunteered as a truancy court judge for nearly 20 years at Lewis and Clark Middle School in Jefferson City and the Kirkwood North Middle School in Kirkwood. She was previously active in many community organizations in Hannibal and Kirkwood.

Russell is the recipient of numerous awards and was named in the Ingram's 50 Missourians You Should Know and as a Henry Toll Fellow. Some of her awards include: Women’s Justice Award from Missouri Lawyers Weekly; Honorable Theodore McMillian Judicial Excellence Award from the Missouri Bar; Distinguished Alumni Award-Truman State University; Kirkwood Citizen of the Year; Jefferson City Rotarian of the Year; Zonta Woman of Achievement in Jefferson City; Zonta Celebration Award in Cape Girardeau; Difference Maker Award from the Jefferson City Public Schools; Woman of Distinction Award by the Missouri Athletic Club; Citation of Merit Award from the University of Missouri–Columbia; Legal Services of Eastern Missouri Equal Justice Award; Lasting Legacy award from Missouri CASA; Soroptimist International Women Helping Women Award; and the Matthews-Dickey Boys & Girls Club Appreciation Award.

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 enjoys speaking to community groups and students helping demystify the court system, and promoting the administration of justice.

She was married to the late James Russell.
## Judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri: 1820–2021

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<td>Nathaniel Holmes</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1865–1868</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas James Clark Fagg</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1866–1868</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Baker</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1868</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philemon Bliss</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>1868–1872</td>
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<td>Warren Currier</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1868–1872</td>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Adiel Sherwood</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1873–1902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Augustus Lewis</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Hough</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1875–1884</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elijah Hise Norton</td>
<td>Platte</td>
<td>1876–1888</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Ward Henry</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>1877–1886</td>
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<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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<td>Theodore Brace</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1887–1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shephard Barclay</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1889–1898</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>James Britton Gantt</td>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>1891–1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavon Drummond Burgess</td>
<td>Linn</td>
<td>1893–1910</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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<tr>
<td>William Champe Marshall</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1898–1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leroy B. Valliant</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1899–1912</td>
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<tr>
<td>James David Fox</td>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>1903–1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Lamm</td>
<td>Pettis</td>
<td>1905–1914</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waller Washington Graves</td>
<td>Bates</td>
<td>1906–1928</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archelaus Marius Woodson</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>1907–1925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Ferriss</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1910–1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Years Served</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Kennish</td>
<td>Holt</td>
<td>1910–1913</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Chilton Brown</td>
<td>Carter</td>
<td>1911–1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Whitelaw Bond</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1913–1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Breckenridge Faris</td>
<td>Pemiscot</td>
<td>1913–1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Franklin Walker</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td>1913–1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Thomas Blair</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>1915–1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles G. Reveille</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>
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<tr>
<td>John Isaac Williamson</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1919–1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Livingston Goode</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1919–1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conway Elder</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1921–1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Higbee</td>
<td>Adair</td>
<td>1921–1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Ellmore Blair</td>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>1921–1930</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Ely Atwood</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>1925–1934</td>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>William Francis Frank</td>
<td>Adair</td>
<td>1929–1938</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence Alexander Burney</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernest Moss Tipton</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933–1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A. Leedy Jr.</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1933–1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter D. Coles</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Caskie Collet</td>
<td>Chariton</td>
<td>1935–1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Marsh Douglas</td>
<td>City of St. Louis</td>
<td>1937–1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond B. Lucas</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert M. Clark</td>
<td>Ray</td>
<td>1939–1950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laurence Mastick Hyde</td>
<td>Mercer</td>
<td>1943–1966</td>
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<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>Cole</td>
<td>1954–1963</td>
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<td>Henry L. Eager</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1955–1968</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred L. Henley</td>
<td>Pemiscot</td>
<td>1964–1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert True Donnelly</td>
<td>Laclede</td>
<td>1965–1988</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph J. Simeone</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1978–1979</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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, facilities operations and publications services. The division 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 affecting the judicial system; 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
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.
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 $169,214 annually. Compensation is determined by state constitution (article XIII, section 3 of the Missouri Constitution).
Missouri’s Court of Appeals Districts

Western

Southern

Eastern
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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GARY M. GAERTNER JR.
Office phone: (314) 539-4300.
Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
Biography: Born in St. Louis. Educated at St. Louis University School of Business, Honors Program, B.S., magna cum laude; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., cum laude. Married to Angeles Nieto. They have three children. Former associate of Bryan Cave; assistant state prosecutor, the Circuit Attorney's Office; assistant federal prosecutor, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri; and chair, U.S. Department of Justice Insurance Fraud Task Force for the Eastern District. Awarded: Adler-Rosecan, Childress and Thomas J. White Fellowships, Alpha Sigma Nu Honorary Scholastic Society and Law Review, St. Louis University School of Law. Received John C. Shepheard Professionalism Award, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. Member: Catholic Church; Crusade Against Crime of America (Medal of Valor), board of directors and secretary. Appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, June 3, 2015. Chief judge, July 2017–June 2018. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2028.

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PHILIP M. HESS
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Biography: 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 for 30 years, the last 15 as a partner in Larsen & Hess, P.C. Member: St. Ambrose Parish; 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.

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JOHN TORBITZKY
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Office address: One Post Office Sq.; 815 Olive St., St. Louis 63101.
Appellate Judges, Southern District

300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806
Telephone: (417) 895-6811 / FAX: (417) 895-6817
Clerk: Craig A. Street
www.courts.mo.gov

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 $167,535. 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.

GARY W. LYNCH
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JEFFREY BATES
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JACK A. L. GOODMAN
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MARY W. SHEFFIELD
Office phone: (417) 895-6818
Office address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806

VACANCY
Office phone: (417) 895-6823.
Office address: 300 Hammons Pkwy., Springfield 65806.
The Western District Court of Appeals is headquartered in Kansas City. The court primarily hears cases in Kansas City but also sits in locations throughout the district. Judges are named to 12-year terms under a nonpartisan selection plan set out in the Missouri Constitution. Each of the district’s 11 judges earns an annual salary of $167,535. The chief judge serves a two-year term by rotation, generally according to seniority.

### Cynthia Lynette Martin

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### Alok Ahuja

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### Territorial Jurisdiction:

EDWARD R. ARDINI JR.
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THOMAS N. CHAPMAN
Office phone: (816) 889-3632
Office address: 1300 Oak St., Kansas City 64106
Biography: Born in Chillicothe. Graduate of Westminster College, B.A. in political science, 1988; Univ. of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 1991 and the Univ. of Mo.–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 Assoc.; Missouri Bar Assoc.; Livingston County Bar Assoc.; Missouri Circuit Judge Assoc., past member, 2011–18; and by appointment of the Chief Justice, serves as a member of the Missouri Criminal Justice Task Force and on the Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission. Chillicothe Rotary Club, member and past pres., and Edgewood Cemetery, board member. Attends the First Baptist Church of Chillicothe. Has served as Chillicothe R-II School District, past member and board pres.; 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; Chillicothe Area Arts Council, past member; New Horizons Board for the Developmentally Disabled, past board member and the Chillicothe Development Corporation, past board member and president. Elected judge in the 43rd Judicial Circuit in 2010. Re-elected in 2012. Served as presiding judge of the 43rd Judicial Circuit, August 2012–August 2018. Appointed to the Court of Appeals, Aug. 30, 2018. Retained in 2020. Term expires Dec. 31, 2032.

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W. DOUGLAS THOMSON
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GARY D. WITT
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VACANCY
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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 $159,578 annually; associate circuit court judges earn $146,812. Compensation is determined by state constitution (article XIII, section 3 of the Missouri Constitution).

Circuit Realignment

In 2013, the Missouri legislature authorized the Judicial Conference of Missouri to alter the geographic boundaries of the current judicial circuits, if determined necessary. As required by statute, the Judicial Conference submitted a report with its realignment plan to the legislature. The statute constrained the plan by requiring that it neither increase nor decrease the number of circuits from the number in existence on Dec. 31, 2019.

Based on this analysis, the Judicial Conference made two recommendations for circuit realignment. The Missouri legislature did not modify those recommendations so they will take effect as follows:

Move Benton County from the 30th circuit to the 27th circuit, effective Jan. 1, 2022;

Move Carter County from the 37th circuit to the 36th circuit, effective Jan. 1, 2023.
Missouri’s 46 Judicial Circuits
Circuit Court Judges

Circuit 1
RICK R. ROBERTS
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) 271-1511.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

Circuit 5—Division 1

KATE SCHAFFER
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1447.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.
Biography: Graduate of Missouri Western State University, B.S., Criminal Justice with an Emphasis in Legal Studies, 2000; Chapman University School of Law, J.D., 2003. Married to Mike Schaefer, they have three children: Brittan, Brooklyn and Drexel. Served as assistant prosecuting attorney for Buchanan Co. 2003–2018. Presides over a variety of circuit court civil and criminal cases in Andrew and Buchanan counties, including domestic relations (divorce and paternity), personal injury and property damage jury trials involving claims of more than $25,000, actions for injunctive relief and felony criminal offenses. Elected circuit judge, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Republican.

Circuit 5—Division 2

DAVID L. BOLANDER
Office address: Buchanan County Courthouse, 411 Jules, St. Joseph 64501; phone (816) 271-1441.
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) 271-1444.
Counties: Andrew and Buchanan.

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 6—Division 2

W. ANN HANSBROUGH
Office address: 415 Third St., Platte City 64079; phone (816) 858-3436.
County: Platte.

Circuit 7—Division 4

DAVID CHAMBERLAIN
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water St., Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3910.
County: Clay.
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 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 TSCHANNEN

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 4

MICHAEL J. FAGRAS

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

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 1

REBECA NAVARRO-McKELVEY

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 520, St. Charles 63301; phone: (636) 949-3094.

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.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 3
JACK BANAS
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 530, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7900.
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 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 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 12—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 12—Division 2

JEFF HARRIS

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

Counties: Boone and Callaway.


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 4

JOSHUA C. DEVINE

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, ext. 262.

Counties: Howard and Randolph.


Circuit 15

DENNIS A. ROLF

Office address: PO Box 751, Concordia, 64020; phone (660) 463-5834.

Counties: Lafayette and Saline.


Circuit 16—Division 6

J. DALE YOUNGS

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

County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 1

**SARAH A. CASTLE**

**Office address:** Justice Complex, 1315 E. Locust 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 3

**JERRI J. ZHANG**

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3603.

**County:** Jackson.

**Biography:** Graduate of University of Missouri–Columbia, bachelor of journalism; University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, J.D.. Prior to appointment as circuit judge, was probate commissioner (since 2020) and deputy probate commissioner (2016–2020) in Division 19. Previously served as Assistant County Counselor for the Jackson County Counselor's Office, staff attorney for the Jackson County Public Administrator, attorney for the Administrative Hearing Commission in Jefferson City. Coordinator of Diversity Programs and Academic Success at the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law. Has served on The Missouri Bar Board of Governors, The Missouri Bar Young Lawyers’ Section Council, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association Diversity Committee, Asian American Bar Association of Kansas City and member of the Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City.

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 Annex, 308 W. Kansas Ave., Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4405.

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 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: 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

ADAM L. CAINE

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3611.
County: Jackson.
Biography: Graduate of the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law where he was a member of the National Moot Court Team and an articles and symposia editor of the Law Review. Received his undergraduate degree, Missouri State University, and a Master of Public Administration, the University of Missouri–Kansas City. At the time of his appointment, was an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri. Judge Caine is a native of Eldon, Missouri. Following law school, he began his career as a law clerk to the Honorable J. Dale Youngs. Served as an assistant prosecuting attorney, Jackson County Prosecutor’s Office. During his tenure there Caine served as a trial team leader and was recognized as the Patrick B. Hall Trial Attorney of the Year. He received the Lon O. Hocker Award from the Missouri Bar Foundation in 2015. Appointed by Gov. Michael L. Parson, April 20, 2020. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 16—Division 12

JENNIFER M. PHILLIPS

Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas Ave., Independence 64050; 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.


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Circuit 16—Division 15

JALILAH OTTO

**Office address:** Family Justice Center, 625 E. 26th St., Kansas City 64108; phone (816) 435-4711.

**County:** Jackson.


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Circuit 16—Division 16

MARCO A. ROLDAN

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas Ave., Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4416.

**County:** Jackson.


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Circuit 16—Division 17

CORY L. ATKINS

**Office address:** Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas Ave., Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4417.

**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, 2026. 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; B.S. in Finance, Univ. of Missouri–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, Commissioner Styles was a senior associate attorney with the Hardwick Law Firm. His practice included handling decedents' and guardianship and conservatorship estates. 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 of Jackson County 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 26, 2016, by Gov. Jay Nixon. Retained: 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 1

JON E. BEETEM
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65102-1870; phone (573) 634-9192.
County: Cole.

Circuit 19—Division 2

DANIEL R. GREEN
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65101; phone (573) 634-9190.
County: Cole.

Circuit 19—Division 3

COTTON WALKER
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65102; phone (573) 634-9178.
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
JASON D. DODSON
Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., St. Louis 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

WILLIAM M. CORRIGAN JR.

Office address: St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1513.
County: St. Louis.
Biography: Not available. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 21—Division 16

VACANCY

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 19  
**THOMAS C. ALBUS**  
**Office address:** St. Louis County Court Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 63105; phone (314) 615-1519.  
**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.  
**Biography:** Born in Alton, Illinois; Graduate: St. Louis University, B.S., M.S.W.; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1988. Married, with two children. Engaged in private practice, 1988–2009; Missouri State Representative, District 73, 2003–2009; director, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 2009–2012. Member: Missouri Bar; St. Louis County Bar Association; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; Women Lawyers’ Association and Mound City Bar Association. Awards: Missouri Judicial Conference; Legal Services of Eastern Missouri; Women’s Justice Citizenship Award; St. Louis Children’s Hospital Advocate of the Year; Paraquad Disability Rights Legislative Leadership Award; Women Lawyers Association President’s Award. Appointed Family Court Commissioner, December 2013. Appointed circuit judge, August 2016. Retained: 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Nonpartisan.

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  
**MICHAEL F. STELZER**  
**Office address:** Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4809.  
**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

ELIZABETH B. HOGAN

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-5604.

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, 2026. 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

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 7

JOHN T. BIRD

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-3120.

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

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 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 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: 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

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 14

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 15

ANNETTE LLEWELLYN

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4234.

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 or (314) 622-4861.

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
CLINTON R. WRIGHT
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, 63101; phone (314) 622-4331.
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 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 prosecuting attorney and circuit attorney 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: 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022.

Circuit 23—Division 4

BRENDA STACEY

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

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 2

DARRELL E. MISSEY

Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-5425.
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 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 2
WENDY L. WEXLER HORN
Office address: St. Francois County Courthouse, 1 N. Washington, Second Fl., Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-5144.

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 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 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 26—Division 3

AARON G. KOEPPEN
Office address: Camden County Courthouse, 1 Court Circle, Ste. 9, Camdenton 65020; phone (573) 346-5160.
County: Camden.
Circuit 27

M. BRANDON BAKER

Office address: 100 W. Cherry, Ste. A, Nevada 64772; phone (417) 667-5016.

Counties: Barton, Cedar, Dade and Vernon.


Circuit 28

DAVID R. MUNTON

Office address: PO Box 487, Clinton 64735; phone (660) 885-7242.

Counties: Bates, Benton, Henry and St. Clair.


Circuit 29—Division 1

GAYLE L. CRANE

Office address: PO Box 487, Clinton 64735; phone (660) 885-7242.

Counties: Bates, Benton, Henry and St. Clair.


Circuit 29—Division 2

DEAN G. DANKELSON

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

Counties: 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, Marshfield 65706; phone (417) 468-2105.
Counties: Hickory, Dallas, Polk and Webster.

Circuit 31—Division 1
MICHAEL J. CORDONNIER
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4078.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 2
DAVID JONES
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4086.
County: Greene.
Circuit 31—Division 3

JASON R. BROWN
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4080.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 4

THOMAS E. MOUNTJOY
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4089.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 5

CALVIN HOLDEN
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4837.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 6

BECKY J.W. BORTHWICK
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, 65802; phone (417) 868-4058.
County: Greene.
Circuit 32—Division 1
SCOTT A. LIPKE
Office address: Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, 203 N. High St., Jackson 63755; phone (573) 335-2802.
County: Cape Girardeau.

Circuit 32—Division 2
BENJAMIN F. LEWIS
Office address: Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, 203 N. High St., Jackson 63755; 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: New Madrid County Courthouse, 450 Main St., New Madrid 63869; 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: 102 W. Walnut, Rm. 204, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-5162.
County: Christian.
Circuit 38—Division 2

JENNIFER R. GROWCOCK

Office address: 100 W. Church St., Rm. 252, Ozark 65721; phone (417) 582-4375.

County: Christian.


Circuit 39

DAVID A. COLE

Office address: PO Box 583, Cassville 65625; phone: (417) 847-1016.

Counties: Barry, Lawrence and Stone.


Circuit 40

GREGORY N. STREME MEL

Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8235.

Counties: McDonald and Newton.


Circuit 40

KEVIN SELBY

Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8235.

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 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 42—Division 2

MICHAEL RANDAZZO
Office address: Dent County Judicial Bldg., PO Box 551, Salem 65560; phone (573) 729-6816.
Counties: Crawford, Dent, Iron, Reynolds and Wayne.

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 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 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 46

JEFFREY M. MERRELL

Office address: Taney County Courthouse, PO Box 129, Forsyth 65653; phone (417) 546-7230; FAX (417) 546-6133.

County: Taney.

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</table>

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, Benton County moved from the 30th circuit to the 27th circuit.
Circuit 1

HOLLY CONGER-KOENIG
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) 956-9187.
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. 1, Edina 63537; phone (660) 397-3146.

County: Knox.


Circuit 2

COREY R. MOON

Office address: Lewis County Courthouse, PO Box 36, Monticello 63457; phone (573) 767-3352.

County: Lewis.


Circuit 2

THOMAS P. REDINGTON

Office address: Knox County Courthouse, 107 N. Fourth St., Ste. 1, Edina 63537; phone (660) 397-3146.

County: Knox.


Circuit 2

COREY R. MOON

Office address: Lewis County Courthouse, PO Box 36, Monticello 63457; phone (573) 767-3352.

County: Lewis.


Circuit 3

STEVEN D. HUDDSON

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, PO Box 189, Bethany 64424; phone (660) 425-6432.

County: Harrison.

Circuit 4

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

County: Mercer.


Circuit 4

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

WILLIAM S. RICHARDS

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

County: Holt.


Circuit 4

ROBERT L. RICE

Office address: Nodaway County Courthouse, 305 N. Main St., Maryville 64468; phone (660) 582-2531.

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) 271-1448.

County: Buchanan.


Circuit 5

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 3

ABE (QUINT) SHAFER V

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

County: Platte.

Biography: Born in Kansas City. Education: West Platte R-II School District (Weston), 1987; University of Colorado, B.A., 1991; Mississippi College School of Law, J.D., 1995; Graduate School of Banking, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2013. Married to Christy Shafer (1995) with two children. Formerly: member/manager of Shafer Law Office, LC (later, Shafer & Welch, LC); city attorney–City of Weston; school board member–West Platte R-II; general counsel, Bank of Weston; special prosecutor, Platte County; adjunct professor, Benedictine College; attorney for numerous boards and political subdivisions; and served as director/officer/attorney for numerous philanthropic and charitable organizations. Member: Missouri Bar, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Assoc., Platte County Bar Assoc. and Weston Christian Church. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. Jeremiah (Jay) Nixon, April 1, 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Nonpartisan.

Circuit 6—Division 4

MEGAN B. BENTON

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

County: Platte.

Biography: Not available.
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 9
TIMOTHY J. FLOOK
Office address: Clay County Courthouse, 11 S. Water, Liberty 64068; phone (816) 407-3990.
County: Clay.

Circuit 8
JOE DON McGAUGH
Office address: Carroll County Courthouse, 8 S. Main St., Ste. 3, Carrollton 64633; phone (660) 542-1818.
County: Carroll.

Circuit 8
LORI J. BASKINS
Office address: Ray County Courthouse, 100 W. Main St., Second Fl., Richmond 64085; phone (816) 776-2335.
County: Ray.

Circuit 9
ANDREA RAVENS VANDELOECHT
Office address: Chariton County Courthouse, 306 S. Cherry, Keytesville 65261; phone (660) 288-3271.
County: Chariton.
Circuit 9

WILLIAM DEVoy

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

TALLY M. SMITH

Office address: Monroe County Courthouse, 300 N. Main, Paris 65275;

County: Monroe.

Circuit 11—Division 9

ELIZABETH SWANN

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 410, St. Charles 63367; phone (636) 949-7497.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 8

ERIN S. BURLISON

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 550, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7496.

County: St. Charles.


Circuit 11—Division 6

TERRY R. CUNDIFF

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 510, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3096.

County: St. Charles County.


Circuit 10

DAVID MOBLEY

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

County: Ralls.

Circuit 11—Division 10
NORMAN C. STEIMEL III
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 330, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3064.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 11
PHILLIP OHLMS
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 450, 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., Rm. 440, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7486.
County: St. Charles.

Circuit 11—Division 13
CHRIS McDONOUGH
Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 540, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-7411.
County: St. Charles.
Biography: Born in St. Louis County, Missouri. Graduate of Maryville University, B.S.; Fontbonne University, M.B.A.; St. Louis University, J.D.. Member: The Missouri Bar; St. Charles County Bar Association; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; The Federalist Society; Republican National Lawyers Association; American Judges Association; Boards: Eastern Missouri Police Academy; Missouri Youth Soccer Association. Engaged in private law practice prior to taking the bench, initially with Bryan Cave LLP in St. Louis and then as founding member of The McDonough Law Firm, LLC. Former prosecuting attorney and municipal judge for several municipalities in the 11th, 12th and 21st Circuits. Elected associate circuit judge, 2020. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Republican.
Circuit 12—Division 14

BRITTNEY R. SMITH

Office address: St. Charles County Courthouse, 300 N. Second St., Rm. 430, St. Charles 63301; phone (636) 949-3073.
County: St. Charles.
Biography: Not available.

Circuit 12

LINDA R. HAMLETT

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

Circuit 12

NATHAN A. CARROZ

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

Circuit 12

RICHARD L. SCHEIBE

Office address: Warren County Courthouse, 104 W. Main St., Warrenton 63383; phone (636) 456-3363.
County: Warren.
Circuit 12

MICHAEL S. WRIGHT

Office address: Warren County Courthouse, 104 W. Main St., Warrenton 63383; phone (636) 456-3363.

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 prosecuting attorney 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.

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

MASON R. GEBHARDT

Office address: Howard County Courthouse, #1 Courthouse Sq., Fayette 65248; phone (660) 248-3326.

County: Howard.

Circuit 14

JAMES M. COOKSEY
Offce address: Randolph County Justice Center, 372 Hwy. Jj, Ste. 1A., Huntsville 65259; phone (660) 277-6555.
County: Randolph.

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.
OFFICIAL MANUAL

Circuit 16—Division 25
JESSICA AGNELLY
Office address: Justice Complex, 1315 Locust St., Second Fl., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3679.
County: Jackson.

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 26
R. TRAVIS WILLINGHAM
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3686.
County: Jackson.

Circuit 16—Division 27
KEA S. BIRD-RILEY
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th St., Kansas City 64106; phone (816) 881-3691.
County: Jackson.
Biography: A 2007 graduate of the Univ. of Missouri–Kansas City Law School. Earned a B.S. in communications, with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in business, degree, 1998, Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., Served as family court commissioner, div. 41, appointed, March 16, 2018, by the Jackson County Circuit Court. She oversaw the Family Drug Court in addition to other dockets related to juvenile matters. Was an attorney with Krigel & Krigel, P.C., her legal practice covered dissolutions, custody modifications, adoptions, child abuse and neglect, paternity, protective orders and litigating insurance matters. Served as a mediator in family law matters, was a presenter for Guardian ad Litem training seminars, worked as a marketing and public relations executive prior to law school. Member: Jackson County Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association and the Missouri Bar Association. Appointed associate circuit judge, Dec. 23, 2020 by Gov. Michael Parson. 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) 881-4506.

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 32

KYNDRA J. STOCKDALE
Office address: Jackson County Courthouse Annex, 308 W. Kansas, Independence 64050; phone (816) 881-4518.
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 Horm, 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, 2024. 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) 380-8217.
County: Cass.
Circuit 17

STACEY J. LETT
Office address: Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Mechanic, Harrisonville 64701; phone (816) 380-8230.
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: Johnson County Justice Center, 101 W. Market St., Warrensburg 64093; phone (660) 422-7405.
County: Johnson.
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
R. PAUL BEARD II
Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 826-5000, ext. 926.
County: Pettis.

Circuit 18
JEFF A. MITTELHAUSER
Office address: Pettis County Courthouse, 415 S. Ohio, Sedalia 65301; phone (660) 826-5000, ext. 924.
County: Pettis.
Circuit 19—Division 4

CHRISTOPHER K. LIMBAUGH
Office address: Cole County Courthouse, 301 E. High St., PO Box 1870, Jefferson City 65102; phone (573) 659-3609.
County: Cole.
Biography: Received his law degree from the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, and his bachelor degrees from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Served as the elected prosecuting attorney in Cape Girardeau County for over five years and served on Governor Parson’s senior staff as his chief legal advisor and general counsel. Appointed associate circuit judge for the 19th Judicial Circuit in February of 2021, by Governor Michael L. Parson. Term expires Dec. 31, 2022. Republican.

Circuit 19—Division 5

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

Circuit 20

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

Circuit 20

JOSEPH W. PURSCHKE
Office address: Franklin County Judicial Center, 401 E. Main St., Rm. 100C, Union 63084; phone (636) 583-6316.
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

SONYA D. BRANDT

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, 2024. Nonpartisan.
Circuit 21—Division 32

JULIA P. LASATER

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

County: St. Louis.


Circuit 21—Division 33

HEATHER R. CUNNINGHAM

Office address: St. Louis County Courts Bldg., 105 S. Central Ave., Clayton 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
JEFFREY P. MEDLER
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, 2024. 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.

County: 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.

County: 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.
County: St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 16
THOMAS A. McCARTHY
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4536.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 24 & 29
NICOLE COLBERT-BOTCHWAY
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-3185.
City of St. Louis.

Circuit 22—Division 25
LYNNE R. PERKINS
Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4251.
City of St. Louis.
Circuit 22—Division 26

MICHAEL J. COLONA

Office address: Carnahan Courthouse, 1114 Market St., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 622-4096.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 27

DAVID A. ROITHER

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

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 28

CRAIG K. HIGGINS

Office address: Civil Courts Bldg., 10 N. Tucker Blvd., St. Louis 63101; phone (314) 613-4282.

City of St. Louis.


Circuit 22—Division 30

BARBARA PEEBLES

Office address: 920 N. Vandeventer Ave., St. Louis 63108; phone (314) 552-2030

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) 797-6020.
County: Jefferson.
Circuit 23—Division 14
TIMOTHY S. MILLER
Office address: Jefferson County Courthouse, PO Box 100, Hillsboro 63050; phone (636) 797-6442.
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
BRICE SECHREST
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, Farmington 63640; phone (573) 756-6601.

County: St. Francois.


Circuit 24

TIMOTHY W. INMAN

Office address: Ste. Genevieve County 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

KERRY 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) 458-6245, FAX (573) 458-6224.
County: Phelps.

Circuit 25

KENNETH G. CLAYTON
Office address: Phelps County Courthouse, 200 N. Main, Ste. 201, Rolla 65401; phone (573) 458-6245, FAX (573) 458-6224.
County: Phelps.

Circuit 25

COLIN LONG
Office address: Pulaski County Courthouse, 301 Historic Rt. 66, Ste. 314, Waynesville 65583; phone (573) 774-4786.
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

HEATHER L. MILLER

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

County: Camden.

Biography:

Circuit 26

STEVE JACKSON

Office address: Laclede County Courthouse, 200 N. Adams, Lebanon 65536; phone (417) 532-2471.

County: Laclede.

Circuit 26

LARRY WINFREY

Office address: Laclede County Courthouse, 200 N. Adams, Lebanon 65536; phone (417) 532-2471.

County: Laclede.


Circuit 26

JON A. KALTENBRONN

Office address: Miller County Courthouse, 2001 Hwy. 52, Tuscumbia 65082; phone (573) 369-1970.

County: Miller.


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

MARK B. PILLEY

Office address: Benton County Courthouse, PO Box 37, Warsaw 65355; phone (660) 438-6231.

County: Benton.


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.

JUDICIAL BRANCH — ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGES

Circuit 28

JAMES V. NICHOLS
Office address: Barton County Courthouse, 1004 Gulf, Ste. 204, Lamar 64759; phone (417) 682-2444.
County: Barton.

Circuit 28

THOMAS PYLE II
Office address: Cedar County Courthouse, PO Box 665, 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) 637-2271.
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

JOHN A. NICHOLAS

Office address: Jasper County Courthouse, 302 S. Main, Rm. 211, Carthage 64836; phone (417) 358-0450.

County: Jasper.


Circuit 29

JOSEPH L. HENSLEY

Office address: Jasper County Courts Bldg., 601 S. Pearl, Rm. 211, Joplin 64801; phone (417) 625-4316.

County: Jasper.


Circuit 29

JERRY L. HOLCOMB

Office address: Jasper County Courthouse., 302 S. Main, Carthage 64836; phone (417) 237-1096.

County: Jasper.


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., Marshfield 65706; phone (417) 859-2041.
County: Webster.

Circuit 31—Division 21
JERRY A. HARMISON JR.
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4099.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 22
MARGARET PALMIETTO
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4107.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 23
ANDY HOSMER
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 868-4095.
County: Greene.
Circuit 31—Division 24

MARK POWELL
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 829-6546.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 25

T. TODD MYERS
Office address: Judicial Courts Facility, 1010 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield 65802; phone (417) 829-6613.
County: Greene.

Circuit 31—Division 26

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

Circuit 32

ALAN J. BEUSSINK
Office address: Bollinger County Courthouse, 204 High St., Ste. 4, Marble Hill 63764; phone (573) 238-1900, ext. 6.
County: Bollinger.
Circuit 32

**JULIE M. KOESTER**

**Office address:** Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, 203 N. High St., Jackson 63755; phone (573) 335-8253.

**County:** Cape Girardeau.


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Circuit 32

**FRANK E. MILLER**

**Office address:** Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, 203 N. High St., Jackson 63755; phone (573) 243-8446.

**County:** Cape Girardeau.


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Circuit 32

**CRAIG D. BREWER**

**Office address:** Perry County Courthouse, 15 W. Sainte Marie St., Ste. 3, Perryville 63775; phone (573) 347-7861.

**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, 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, 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

H. MARK PREYER

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

Circuit 35

JOHN SPIELMAN

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

Circuit 35

BRADLEY D. JARRELL

Office address: Stoddard County Justice Center, PO Box 30, Bloomfield 63825; phone (573) 568-2181.
County: Stoddard.
Circuit 35

JOE Z. SATTERFIELD

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

County: Stoddard.


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, 106 Courthouse Sq., West Plains 65755; phone (417) 256-3741.
County: Howell.

Circuit 37

R. DAVID RAY
Office address: Howell County Courthouse, 106 Courthouse Sq., West Plains 65755; phone (417) 256-1422.
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 BREWER

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.


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.

Circuit 39

ROBERT J. FOULKE

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

County: Barry.


Circuit 39

MATTHEW R. KASPER

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

County: Lawrence.


Circuit 39

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

ALAN BLANKENSHIP

Office address: Stone County Courthouse, PO Box 18, Galena 65656; phone (417) 337-6511.

County: Stone.

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 40

JACOB R. SKOUBY JR.
Office address: 123 E. Main St., Neosho 64850; phone (417) 451-8210.
County: Newton.
Biography: Not available.
Circuit 41

KRISTEN BURKS
Office address: Macon County Courthouse, 101 E. Washington St., Bldg. 2, Ste. 1, 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

SCOTT J. SCHRUM

Office address: Iron County Courthouse, 250 S. Main St., Ste. 220, Ironton 63650; phone (573) 546-5700.
County: Iron.
Biography: Not available.

Circuit 42

BENJAMIN E. THOMPSON

Office address: Reynolds County Courthouse, PO Box 39, 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) 224-5600.
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 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, PO Box 248, Maysville, 64469; phone (816) 449-2602.

County: DeKalb.


Circuit 43

MICHAEL R. LEAMER

Office address: Livingston County Courthouse, 700 Webster St., Ste. 8, Chillicothe 64601; phone (660) 646-8000.

County: Livingston.

Circuit 44

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

Circuit 44

RAYMOND M. GROSS
Office address: Ozark County Courthouse, PO Box 278, Gainesville 65655; phone (417) 679-4611.
County: Ozark.

Circuit 44

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

Circuit 45

GREGORY K. ALLSBERRY
Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy 63379; phone (636) 528-0326.
County: Lincoln.
Circuit 45

JAMES D. BECK

Office address: Lincoln County Justice Center, 45 Business Park Dr., Troy, 63379; phone (636) 528-9168.

County: Lincoln.


Circuit 45

MILAN BERRY

Office address: Pike County Courthouse, 115 W. Main, Bowling Green 63334; phone (573) 324-5582.

County: Pike.

Biography: Born 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 Brigman. 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

ERIC D. EIGHMY

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

County: Taney.


Circuit 46

R. TIFFANY YARNELL

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

County: Taney.

### Alphabetic list of Missouri Judges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Circuit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adkins, Daren L.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>43rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agnewly, Jessica M.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>16th</td>
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<td>Ahuja, Alok</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Albus, Thomas C.</td>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>21st</td>
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<td>Alessi, Deborah J.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Alexander, Shane T.</td>
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<td>Allen, Harvey S.</td>
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<td>Alley, Thomas R.</td>
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<td>Allsberry, Gregory K.</td>
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<td>Angles, Louis</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Anthony, Donna K.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>37th</td>
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<td>Ardini</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward R (Ted) Jr.</td>
<td>Appellate Western</td>
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<td>Atkins, Cory L.</td>
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<td>Bacon, Douglas P.</td>
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<td>38th</td>
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<td>Bail, Keith M.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>18th</td>
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<td>Baker, Lorne J.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Baker, M. Brandon</td>
<td>Circuit</td>
<td>27th</td>
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<td>Banas, John P. (Jack)</td>
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<td>Barker, Samuel R. (Rob)</td>
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<td>Bartels, Dianna L.</td>
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<td>Baskins, Lori J.</td>
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<td>Benton, Megan B.</td>
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<td>Bellamy, W. Page</td>
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<td>Berry, Milan</td>
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<td>Beussink, Adam J.</td>
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<td>Bird, John T.</td>
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<td>Bird-Riley, Kea S.</td>
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<td>Blankenship, Alan</td>
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<td>Bock, Elizabeth A.</td>
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<td>Borbonus, John D.</td>
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<td>Borthwick, Becky J. W.</td>
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<td>Brey, Tammy</td>
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<td>Brandt, Sonya D.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Breckenridge, Patricia</td>
<td>Supreme Court</td>
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<td>Brehe-Krueger, Ada</td>
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<td>Brewer, Craig D.</td>
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<td>Brewer, Sandra M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broniec, Kelly C.</td>
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<td>Brown, Jason</td>
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<td>Bryant, Paula P.</td>
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<td>Burke, Theresa Counts</td>
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<td>Burks, Kristen D.</td>
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<td>Burlison, Erin S.</td>
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<td>Burlison, Rex M.</td>
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<td>Burnett, S Margene</td>
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<td>Burrell, Don E. Jr.</td>
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<td>Bushur, Jeffrey L.</td>
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<td>Caine, Adam L.</td>
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<td>Calvert, Mark D.</td>
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<td>Campbell, Patrick W.</td>
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<td>Cardona, Troy A.</td>
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<td>Carrier, James</td>
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<td>Ronald (Ron)</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Carroz, Nathan A.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Carter, Craig R.</td>
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<td>Castle, Sarah A.</td>
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<td>Chamberlain, David</td>
<td>Appellate Western</td>
<td>7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapman, Thomas N.</td>
<td>Appellate Western</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Circuit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clark, Thomas C. II</td>
<td>Appellate Eastern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton, Kenneth G.</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>25th</td>
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<td>Clayton, Robert M. III</td>
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<td>Colbert-Batchway, Nicole</td>
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<td>Cole, David A.</td>
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<td>Coleman, Jeffrey T.</td>
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<td>Collins, William B.</td>
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<td>Colona, Michael J.</td>
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<td>Conger-Koenig, Holly</td>
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<td>Connolly, Madeline O.</td>
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<td>Cooksey, James M.</td>
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<td>Cordonnier, Michael J.</td>
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<td>Corrigan, William M. Jr.</td>
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<td>Cox, Jeffrey L.</td>
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<td>Cox, Johnnie E.</td>
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<td>Crane, Gayle L.</td>
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<td>Crane, Sue M.</td>
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<td>Cunningham, Heather R.</td>
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<td>Currie, W. Keith</td>
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<td>Dankelson, Dean G.</td>
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<td>Davis, K. Elizabeth</td>
<td>Circuit</td>
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<td>Del Muro, Justine E.</td>
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<td>Devine, Joshua C.</td>
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<td>Devoy, William P.</td>
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<td>Dolan, Colleen</td>
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<td>Dolan, David A.</td>
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<td>Donnelly, Margaret T.</td>
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<td>Draper, George W. III</td>
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<td>Dump, Harold L. II</td>
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The Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline of Judges 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: Cary J. Mogerman, chair, attorney, Clayton; Michelle Aycock, lay member, Parma; Rev. Dr. Carlton R. Caldwell, lay member, St. Louis County; Hon. Gary M. Gaertner Jr., appellate judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District; Hon. Laura J. Johnson, circuit judge, 38th Judicial Circuit (Christian County, Ozark) 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 with recommendations for discipline (removal from office, suspension or reprimand). 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.

Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Advisory Committee and Legal Ethics Counsel
3327 American Ave., Jefferson City 65109
Telephone: (573) 635-7400 / FAX: (573) 635-2240
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 hearing 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 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 by 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 recommended 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 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, upon request of the complainant, 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; Da-
vid Ansley, Springfield; Edward C. Clausen, vice chair, Jefferson City; Sheryl Butler, St. Louis; Keith A. Cutler, Kansas City; Jill A. Kanatzar, Kansas City; Levell D. Littleton, St. Louis; Elizabeth McCarter, St. Louis; Dan R. Nelson, Springfield; Dale Siebeneck, Jefferson City; Kirby Upjohn, Kansas City; and Branson L. Wood III, Hannibal.

The legal ethics counsel, who serves as staff and 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.

Missouri Board of Law Examiners
Supreme Court Clerk's Office
PO Box 104236, Jefferson City 65110-4236
Telephone: (573) 751-9814
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: Sandra L. Schermerhorn, chair, Kansas City; Gary B. Brewer, Springfield; Judge Michael E. Gardner, St. Louis; Karen M. Jordan, St. Louis; Theresa L.F. Levings, Kansas City; and James G. Nowogrocki, St. Louis.

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

Established by rule of the Supreme Court of Missouri in 1944, The Missouri Bar is the official organization of all Missouri lawyers. Its executive director is Mischa Buford Epps.

Administrative

The Missouri Bar's Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) department administers Supreme Court Rule 15 regarding continuing legal education. Per the Supreme Court of Missouri rule, The Missouri Bar administers the accreditation of education programs, activities, and sponsors as well as the annual reporting of all licensed lawyers in the state concerning each lawyer's compliance with Rule 15 continuing legal education requirements.

Education

The Missouri Bar’s Continuing Legal Education Department (MoBarCLE) presents a number of programs—in person, virtually and pre-recorded—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. In addition, the department’s renowned deskbook series, supplements and guidebooks provide lawyers with valuable reference materials they can make use of in their own law libraries.

Publications/Public Information

Also available to members are the Legislative Digest, published during and after each year's session of the General Assembly; ESQ., a weekly email with information about law-related events and news; and The Courts Bulletin, a monthly update on recent 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 resource guides, legal forms and other educational materials about the law are distributed annually, including comprehensive lesson plans for teachers across Missouri. Legal guides, podcasts and other public-directed programming and materials are available at www.mobar.org. The growth of the bar's public information programs has been aided by cooperative ventures with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Missouri Press Association, the Missouri Broadcasters Association, various law schools and other groups and associations.

Other Activities

Other prominent programs and services offered by The Missouri Bar include: a client security fund that considers partial financial reimbursement to eligible clients who have been harmed by the unethical conduct of a lawyer; an online LawyerSearch tool to connect lawyers with Missourians in need of legal assistance; a lawyers' assistance program that offers help to lawyers facing substance use or mental health 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.

Missouri Bar Officers, 2021–2022
John W. Grimm, president, Cape Girardeau;
Lauren Elyse Tucker McCubbin, president-elect, Kansas City;
Megan Elizabeth Phillips, vice president, St. Louis.

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

In 1943, the General Assembly established the Judicial Conference of Missouri, which is composed of all state judges. The conference is charged by statute (section 476.350, 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 November 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: Paul C. Wilson, chief justice, Supreme Court of Missouri, chair, June 30, 2023.


From the Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District: Neil Chanter, lawyer member, Dec. 31, 2025; Sally Hargis, lay member, Dec. 31, 2026.


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 re-
siding in the circuit and two non-lawyer residents of the circuit appointed by the governor.

Sixth Circuit (Platte County) Judicial Commission: Cynthia L. Martin, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2022. Members: Mark M. Ferguson, Kansas City, lawyer member; Julie Elliot, Smithville, lay member; Carla Killen, Kansas City, lay member and Jared P. Welsh, Platte City, lawyer member.

Seventh Circuit (Clay County) Judicial Commission: Cynthia L. Martin, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2022. Members: Jason C. Starr, Liberty, lay member; Allison Kendrick, Kansas City, lay member; Kate E. Noland, Liberty, lawyer member and James H. Thompson Jr., North Kansas City, lawyer member.

Sixteenth Circuit (Jackson County) Judicial Commission: Cynthia L. Martin, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, June 30, 2022. Members: Kirk R. Presley, Kansas City, lawyer member; Damon Daniel, Grandview, lay member; Phyllis Norman, Kansas City, lawyer member and Connie Cierpiot, Lee's Summit, lay member.

Twenty-first Circuit (St. Louis County) Judicial Commission: Sherri B. Sullivan, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, June 30, 2022. 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: Sherri B. Sullivan, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, June 30, 2022. 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, lawyer member.

Thirty-first Circuit (Greene County) Judicial Commission: Gary W. Lynch, chair, chief judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District, June 30, 2022. Members: Kurt Larson, Springfield, lawyer member; Kim Hancock, Republic, lay member; Deborah K. Dodge, Springfield, lawyer member and Joann Hosmer, Springfield, lay member.

Office of State Public Defender
1000 W. Nifong, Bldg. 7, Ste. 100, Columbia 65203
Telephone: (573) 777-9977 / FAX: (573) 777-9974
www.publicdefender.mo.gov
Email: public.defender@mspd.mo.gov

The Office of State Public Defender is created by Section 600.019 RSMo as an independent department of the judicial branch of state government. The Missouri State Public Defender (MSPD) is the state department created to fulfill the state's constitutional obligation to ensure that all persons facing state criminal prosecution have the assistance of counsel in their defense. MSPD's attorneys 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. 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
Atwell, Charles E., chair; Ferrell, Larry H., vice chair; Fuhr, Gary B., member; Hogan, A. Crista, member; Schad, Rodney, member; Fox, Mary, ex officio member; Vacancies, 2.

Missouri State Public Defender

MSPD is a statewide department primarily comprised of six legal divisions: Trial Division, Capital Division, Commitment Defense Unit, Children's Defense Team, Appellate/Post-Conviction Division and Parole Revocation Defense Team. Attorneys in district offices within each division provide direct representation to indigent clients.

Trial Division

Trial Division attorneys represent clients charged with felonies, misdemeanors and probation revocations at the state trial court level throughout Missouri.

Capital Division

The Capital Division represents clients where the state seeks the death penalty in the State Trial Court, the State Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.

Commitment Defense Unit

The Commitment Defense Unit represents clients where the state of Missouri has initiated civil commitment proceedings based on the allegation that the citizen is a “sexually violent predator”.

Public Defender Commission

State law (Chapter 600, RSMo) provides for a seven-member Public Defender Commission to oversee the State Public Defender. 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
Atwell, Charles E., chair; Ferrell, Larry H., vice chair; Fuhr, Gary B., member; Hogan, A. Crista, member; Schad, Rodney, member; Fox, Mary, ex officio member; Vacancies, 2.

Missouri State Public Defender

MSPD is a statewide department primarily comprised of six legal divisions: Trial Division, Capital Division, Commitment Defense Unit, Children's Defense Team, Appellate/Post-Conviction Division and Parole Revocation Defense Team. Attorneys in district offices within each division provide direct representation to indigent clients.

Trial Division

Trial Division attorneys represent clients charged with felonies, misdemeanors and probation revocations at the state trial court level throughout Missouri.

Capital Division

The Capital Division represents clients where the state seeks the death penalty in the State Trial Court, the State Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.

Commitment Defense Unit

The Commitment Defense Unit represents clients where the state of Missouri has initiated civil commitment proceedings based on the allegation that the citizen is a “sexually violent predator”.

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Children's Defense Team

The Children's Defense Team represents children charged with delinquent acts in State and Appellate Courts.

Division of Appellate/Post-Conviction Relief

The Appellate/Post-Conviction Relief division attorneys represent clients 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.

Parole Revocation Defense Team

The Parole Revocation Defense Team represents parolees in the community facing revocation of their parole.
Image of the Pontoon Bridge across an unidentified body of water in Noel, Missouri. The postcard is partially colorized so that the sky looks blue. Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives, RG005 Secretary of State Publications Vanishing Missouri Photograph Collection.