

FRONT LINE

Voter's Guide

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."
- Hosea 4:6

FALL 2020

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IN THIS ISSUE

1 Socialism & the Soul of America ... cont'd page 3
7 Ballot Issues
8 Court Watch
16 Presidential Candidates
21 Missouri Candidates

SHORT LINES

The Constitutional Coalition:
Dedicated to inform,
engage and enable
Americans to restore
truth, morality and rule of
law locally and nationally.



SOCIALISM AND THE SOUL OF AMERICA

by William J. Federer
 as edited by Landreth Johnson

As we look at the number of Americans who are embracing the concept of socialism as a viable system of government for the United States of America, one must ask, how did we get here? In William Federer's new book, *Socialism: The Real History, From Plato to the Present*, he poses and answers the question: Socialism: The dream of an ideal society? Is it a wonderful utopia or a totalitarian nightmare? References and quotes from his book make up much of the following information as we look at the birth and demise of societies.

In the 4th century BC, the Greek philosopher Plato¹ referred to the legendary island of Atlantis, which was supposedly a highly structured civilization, renowned for being advanced and powerful, and the ideal structured society. However, let's not forget that it was submerged into the sea.

Plato lived in Athens, which had a democracy (which was unstructured): *demos* means *people* and *cracy* means *to rule*. Democracy's chief characteristic is tolerance. Describing democracy, Plato declared that it was "a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a sort of equality to equals and unequals alike; like a bazaar at which you can buy anything. There will be the greatest variety of human natures ... being an embroidered robe, which is spangled with every sort of flower. Freedom as they tell you in a democracy, is the glory of the state. The manner of life in such a state is that of democrats: **every man does what is right in his own eyes.**"

Subsequently, the tolerance of democracy allows citizens to tolerate people that are a little bit off. In due course, they tolerate people that are a lot off, and finally, they are tolerating crime, looting, lawlessness, with criminals wandering the streets. Freedom, unrestrained by private virtue, casts off moral restraints, results in licentiousness and sexual promiscuity. As Plato explained: "And so the young man passes into the freedom and libertinism of useless and unnecessary pleasures. In all of us there is a lawless wild-beast nature; in some persons they are controlled; while in others, they are stronger, and there is no conceivable folly or crime, when he has parted company with all shame and sense, a man may not be ready to commit."

Although a lawless wild-beast nature has pervaded our society without regard to age, Plato described the attitude of youth as "from his youth upwards to have been trained under a miserly parent, who encouraged the saving appetites in him and then he got into the company of a licentious sort of people, and taking to all their wanton ways rushed into the opposite extreme from an abhorrence of his father's meanness. Neither does he receive advice, if anyone says to him that some pleasures are evil desires, he shakes his head. He lives from day to day indulging the appetite of the hour. His life has neither law nor order. He is all liberty and equality." This attitude is prevalent in youth today who have taken on attitudes of selfish, thoughtless behavior as they burn cities to the ground in protests.

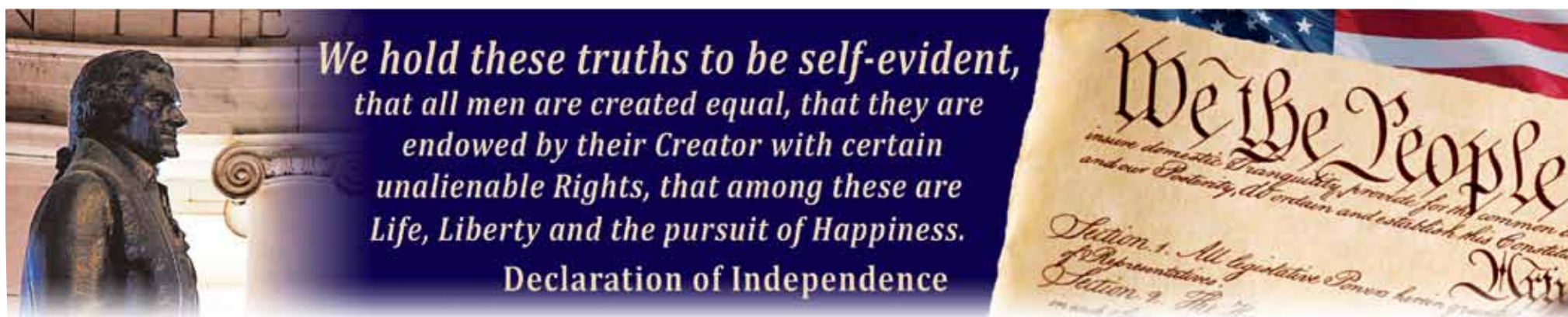
However, all age groups seem to be entering into rampant lawless behavior on the streets of America's cities. In *The Lessons of History*, historians Will and Ariel Durant quote Plato's Republic: "The teacher fears and flatters his

cont'd p 3

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wishes to acknowledge the ongoing, generous support contributions of its readers. To contribute to our support and continuation, please see the

RETURN COUPON ON BACK.

Letter from the Board

Fall 2020

Dear friend of *FRONT LINE*,

LELAND, MICHIGAN: "A picturesque little village located on a sliver of land between Lake Michigan and Lake Leelanau, on beautiful Leelanau Peninsula," and the favorite summer home of Donna Hearne. It was also the traditional gathering place of her children and grandchildren, a getaway for friends, and a respite from the pace of her work here in St. Louis with The Constitutional Coalition (even though many *FRONT LINE*s were written there, Educational Policy Conferences were planned, policy procedures were birthed, and her books written). Many of the stories she shared in her correspondence came from her summer experiences and childhood in Michigan.

Leland is also the place where Donna "left the shadowlands" on June 23, 2020, to enter eternity with her Heavenly Father. She spent the last weeks of her life in her cottage surrounded by her husband, children, grandchildren, and extended family. We are confident that she heard these words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: ... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." (Matthew 25:21)

As we remember and thank God for her and her work, the board and staff of The Constitutional Coalition would like to share a few of the tributes we have received.

I was blessed to receive materials from *FRONT LINE* for decades, and was saddened to learn of Mrs. Hearne's passing today, although I know she is in glory with Our Lord. Her voice was one of hope in the midst of some dismal developments in our society. Her faith and wisdom were great and palpable. – Jeff, Brooklyn, NY

I am so deeply sorry for the death of Donna. She lived her life for the glory of God. – Donna B.

Thank you for all the ways you have given us resources and information on freedom. – Darren and Tammy M.

A treasured friend and conservative warrior/leader ... To me and many, Donna lived a life of courage, principle and love of country. She was a natural teacher, respected throughout the entire liberty movement! Every day of her life was a day to lift up faith, family and country to her! – Ginni Thomas

She is one of the greatest American patriots and people that I have ever met ... She lived life to the full, with purpose and passion, loved the Lord Jesus, her family, her friends, her work, and our country. Her zeal for all was contagious and inspiring. She was the epitome of strength and dignity, always smiling at the future because of her deep and abiding faith in God and the hope He promises. – Julia W.

We've lost a great warrior for all that is good and right in America. May Donna rest in the joy and the peace of God's eternal kingdom. And may her legacy live on through us. – Stella Morabito

Donna has been a steadfast cultural warrior for decades. ... a happy warrior who was always optimistic ... a super patriot, always energetic, an encourager of others, determined in all her ways to serve her Lord and Savior. She was lovely, gracious, and intellectually stimulating. We will miss her visionary leadership as she equipped us for the culture wars. – Eagle Forum

And from Donna's dear friend, Michele Bachmann:

Amidst the backdrop and sorrow of a global pandemic and the distress of civil unrest in the streets of America, the many admirers of Donna Hearne view Donna's death as both a tremendous personal loss and perfect validation of her life's work and message.

She was profoundly happy as a person. She was well adjusted with *no axe to grind*. She was ever hopeful, always inspirational, never daunted by

the tasks that were placed in front of her and always sought to educate the people whom she came into contact with. Addressing the challenges with multiple solutions, she understood the challenges or found someone who did understand the challenges to explain to a wider audience. She wasn't jealous of other people. ... a woman of peace [who] sought to bring enlightenment to many when bureaucrats saw to disguise their many goals. She wasn't overcome by evil. Instead, she willingly overcame evil with good.

Donna attracted huge names to speak at her St. Louis national education conference. She discovered the latest information on education and she went with it as a clearinghouse and a distributor for knowledge to people across the country before the digital age, researching and sharing the latest information before there was an Internet.

The source of her energy and her direction was her time spent in her prayer closet ... on her knees. She faithfully, diligently and fervently sought the Lord for the direction and theme of each annual year's education conference and was so pleased with each speaker as they perfectly augmented or complemented the messages of the other speakers. She was amazed as she saw the hand of God as one speaker followed another ... and saw this again as a result of the prayer of listening to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit.

As American streets devolved into Marxist violence in copycat attacks in American city after American city, I was struck as I watched my TV, evening after evening, by the truths of what Donna and her team gave their lives for. She and we, the speakers at her conference, were all prophets warning America's parents and America's politicians that the Marxism that was being taught through the federally controlled classroom curriculum was going to change America forever. Donna was used by God to warn America of our fate if Marxism prevailed in our American classrooms. Does that mean that she failed or that her Constitutional Coalition failed, or her *FRONT LINE* magazine failed, or her radio show failed? Absolutely not! Donna succeeded beyond her wildest dreams. The role of a prophet like Donna is to speak the truth, and for over 30 years, Donna did exactly that. She and her talented speakers, year after year, accurately warned America and our government of the calamity that we're witnessing today. Donna ensured that the truth of the American classroom experience was told, and she continually threw parents a lifeline toward educational sanity.

God didn't call Donna or her team to win the battle for America. He called her to lead the rest of us to fight and educate, to take action in our respective states, and to pray. Donna did all that faithfully, from her battle station in St. Louis. Could any of us have had a better friend or a better example than Donna ... a faithful friend ... a fearless warrior... a terrific loving wife and mother and leader in her community?

Donna accomplished so much and was proved completely accurate and vindicated. The Bible says the highest words any of us can hear after we have finished our race in this life are, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." Thank you, Donna Hearne, for your shining ever-smiling example. Rest in peace. – Michele Bachmann

Donna always signed off with the phrase, *In His Service*.

It was the commitment of her life.



Socialism & America cont'd from p 1



People clean debris from the sidewalks in front of burned-out businesses along Snelling Ave. in St. Paul. 5-29-2020

students, and the students despise their masters and tutors. The old do not like to be thought morose and authoritative, and therefore they imitate the young.”² It is a condition that continually grows like a snowball rolling down a hill that cannot be stopped. As Samuel Johnson wrote, “Temptation succeeds temptation. We, in time, lose the happiness of innocence with sensual gratifications ... immerse ourselves in luxury. We then look back upon our lives with horror, with sorrow, and with repentance; and wish, but too often vainly wish, that we had not forsaken the paths of virtue.”³

ECONOMY

The current state of affairs in some of our major cities has created wastelands where there used to be vibrant business and commerce. Protest and violence have a tremendous effect on our economy. Rob Garver wrote in the *Voice of America News*, “As business owners and residents yet again clean up the debris, there is growing concern that the economic damage to many of the communities where violence is taking place will persist long after the last window pane is replaced and the last burned out car is towed away. Businesses and neighborhoods where protests have turned violent will have to contend not just with the aftermath of the protests, but with multiple aggravating factors that will make recovery even more difficult.”⁴ Plato warned: “Can liberty have any limit? Certainly not, by degrees the anarchy finds a way into private houses. The son is on a level with his father, he having no respect or reverence for either of his parents; and this is his freedom. They will have no one over them. Citizens then yield to selfishness and vote to spread the city’s wealth around, draining the treasury.”

We see this in the continuing demands for more money than the nation has, nor can possibly afford to spend, for relief from the effects of the coronavirus. These monies in the trillions of dollars were allocated on the state and individual level. And yet, the House of Representatives is demanding more and more money to be added going forward. Alarm bells should be going off.

When the city (or nation) runs out of money, Plato explained they vote to take money from the rich. “Their leaders deprive the rich of their estates and distribute them among the people; *at the same time taking care to reserve the larger part for themselves*. And the persons whose property is taken from them are compelled to defend themselves before the people as they best can.” That is certainly a clear definition of the political and economic theory of social organization, which advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.

FOUR STAGES OF CULTURE

After studying 86 different tribes and civilizations over 5,000 years, including Sumerians, Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, Teutons, and Anglo-Saxons, Oxford anthropologist, J. D. Unwin found that sexual promiscuity always preceded the decline of a civilization. Unwin concluded that cultures go through four stages:

- 1) People go through a painful time of struggle, famine, poverty, or war.
- 2) They then exhibit self-discipline and become productive, innovative,

protective, patriotic, pioneering and expansionistic.

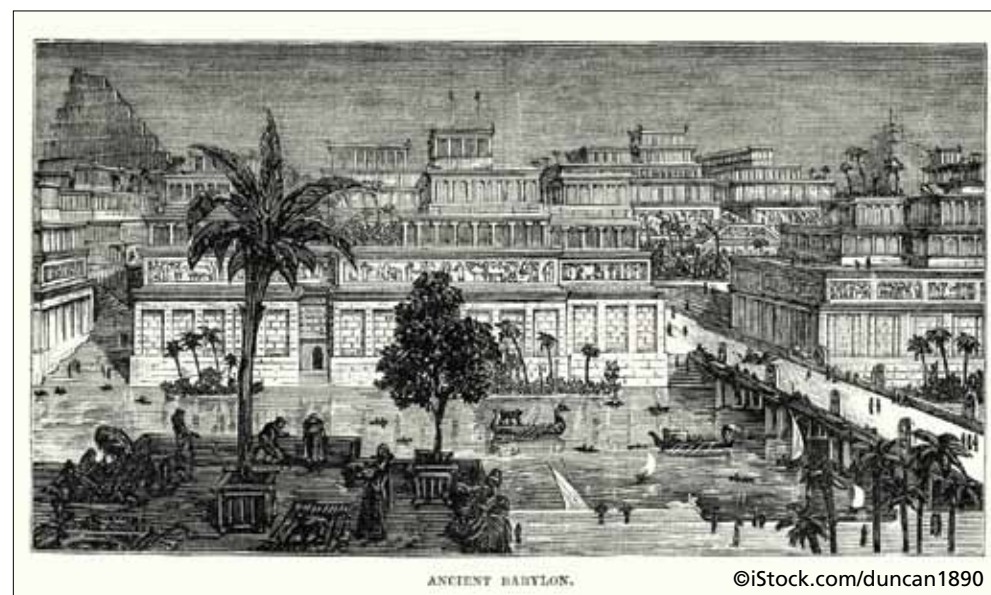
- 3) Eventually, they become prosperous and enjoy abundance.
- 4) Finally, they become lax, cast off discipline, abandon self-restraint, lose courage and become weak. They indulge in self-gratification, decadence, lawlessness, the pursuit of pleasure and sexual promiscuity.⁵

Even though many throughout history have warned or predicted a decline in our culture, America seems to have entered into the fourth stage of decline. Evidence of this deterioration in our society is the rampant lawlessness, the calls to defund the police, and the attitudes toward destruction as a way to effect change. But it is nothing new.

Examples of strong warnings include Solzhenitsyn comments to a graduating class at Harvard University: “Young people (seek) happiness; possession of material goods, money, and leisure, toward an almost unlimited freedom in the choice of pleasures. Voluntary self-restraint is almost unheard of; irresponsible freedom has turned out to have scarce defense against the abyss of human decadence.”⁶ This was not always the case. Long before Solzhenitsyn spoke, on the anniversary of the Boston Massacre, John Hancock wrote: “Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed, by the soft arts of luxury and effeminacy, into the pit dugged for your destruction.”⁷ John Adams queried Thomas Jefferson, “Have you ever found in history one single example of a nation thoroughly corrupted that was afterwards restored to virtue? And without virtue, there can be no political liberty. Will you tell me how to prevent luxury from producing effeminacy, intoxication, extravagance, vice and folly? No effort in favor of virtue is lost.”⁸ Encouraging America to reestablish its moral and spiritual principles, General Douglas MacArthur said, “History fails to record a single precedent in which nations subject to moral decay have not passed into political and economic decline. There has been either a spiritual awakening to overcome the moral lapse, or a progressive deterioration leading to ultimate national disaster.”⁹

In stark contrast, vice presidential nominee, Kamala Harris, proclaimed recently at the NAACP’s national convention that, “... ‘nothing that we have achieved that has been about progress, in particular around civil rights, has come without a fight, and so I always am going to interpret these protests as an essential component of evolution in our country – as an essential component or mark of a real democracy. ...’ Harris also praised the *brilliance* and *impact* of *Black Lives Matter*, which has received media praise but also come under fire for promoting left-wing stances like opposing the nuclear family. ‘I actually believe that *Black Lives Matter* has been the most significant agent for change within the criminal justice system,’ she said.”¹⁰

Explaining how the chaos causes citizens to look for *someone to come along and fix this mess*, Plato maintained, “Democrats contemptuously rejected temperance. Citizens chafe impatiently at the least touch of authority, and at length, they cease to care even for the laws, written or unwritten. And this is the fair and glorious beginning out of which springs dictatorship (tyrannis). The excessive increase of anything causes a reaction in the opposite direction. And so dictatorship naturally arises out of democracy, and the most aggravated form of tyranny and slavery out of the most extreme form of liberty.”¹¹ Are we witnessing this chaos on the streets of America today?



Socialism & America cont'd from p 3

BATTLE FOR VIRTUE

Further examples of those who have taken a stand for virtue are Rep. Fisher Ames, who proposed the wording of the First Amendment, explaining that without virtue, “democracy could not last. When the tyranny of the majority leads to chaos, society will submit to rule by the sword.” In 1792, British Statesman Edmund Burke said, “What is liberty without virtue? It is the greatest of all possible evils ... madness without restraint. Men are qualified for civil liberty in exact proportion to their disposition to put moral chains upon their own appetites. Society cannot exist, unless a controlling power upon will and appetite be placed somewhere; and the less of it there is within, the more there must be without.”

Once citizens abandon virtue, lawlessness causes them to look for someone to restore order. A governor comes along who promises to fix the situation but demands emergency powers, and in the end, rules as a despot. In James Monroe’s inaugural address, he said, “When the people become ignorant and corrupt, when they degenerate into a populace (mob), they are incapable of exercising the sovereignty. Usurpation is then an easy attainment, and a usurper soon found. The people themselves become the willing instruments of their own debasement and ruin.”¹²

WITHOUT VIRTUE, WHERE IS LIBERTY?

President Harry S Truman stated, “Without a firm moral foundation, freedom degenerates quickly into selfishness and license. Unless men exercise their freedom, within moral restraints, a free society can degenerate into anarchy. Then there will be freedom only for the rapacious, and more unscrupulous than the rank and file of the people.”¹³

In the confusion, a governor seizes power, as Plato wrote: “Last of all comes the tyrant. In the early days of his power, he is full of smiles, and he salutes everyone whom he meets, making promises in public and also in private, liberating debtors, and distributing land to the people and his followers, and wanting to be so kind and good to every one. This is the root from which a tyrant springs; when he first appears above ground, he is a protector. He begins to make a party against the rich (to make them) impoverished by payment of taxes, and thus compelled to devote themselves to their daily wants and therefore less likely to conspire against him.”

Plato explained that the tyrant governor incites mobs to target his political opponents: “Having a mob entirely at his disposal, he is not restrained from shedding the blood of kinsmen; by the favorite method of false accusation he brings [his opponents] into court and murders them, and if any of them are suspected by him of having notions of resistance to his authority, he will have a good pretext for destroying them.” Until finally: “Standing up in the chariot of state with the reins in his hand, no longer protector, but tyrant absolute.”

He also described Athens’ equivalent of Hollywood and fake news: “[The tyrant] will hire voices fair and loud and persuasive, and draw the cities over to tyrannies. Moreover, they are paid for this and receive honor. Poets are the eulogists of tyranny praising tyranny as godlike.”



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Washington warned in his Farewell Address, 1796: “Disorders and miseries gradually incline the minds of men to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual [who] turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation, on the ruins of public liberty.”

President William Henry Harrison warned: “The tendencies of all such governments in their decline is the spirit of faction. In times of great excitement imposes itself upon the people as the genuine spirit of freedom, and, like the false christs whose coming was foretold by the Savior, seeks to, and were it possible would, impose upon the true and most faithful disciples of liberty.”

CORONAVIRUS TYRANTS

In the beginning of the lockdowns in cities because of the spread of COVID-19 looming on the horizon, some in authority have overreached their dominance in their cities. John Daniel Davidson remarked in an article in *The Federalist*, “Some mayors and governors seem to think their authority is limitless in the face of the pandemic. They need a remedial lesson in the Constitution. They think they have unlimited and arbitrary power over their fellow citizens, that they can order them to do or not do just about anything under the guise of protecting public health. We’ve now witnessed local and state governments issue decrees about what people can and cannot buy in stores, arrest parents playing with their children in public parks, yank people off public buses at random, remove basketball rims, ... ticket churchgoers, and in one case try—and fail—to chase down a lone runner on an empty beach. **All of this, we’re told, is for our own good.**”¹⁴

As citizens, we are accountable for what responsibility we hold to those we love and to those with whom our lives touch. It is critical that we question the authoritative reach of elected officials. Bertrand Russell warns us that, “holders of power become increasingly tyrannical ... Power over human beings is shown in making them do what they would rather not do, the man who is actuated by love of power is more apt to inflict pain than to permit pleasure.”¹⁵ Commenting on what is now referred to as *cancel culture*, President Harry S Truman warns that we must not “... forget the examples of such men as Washington, Jefferson, and Andrew Jackson [so that] we will [not] start down the road to dictatorship and ruin.”¹⁶

Neither can we forget the past or right the wrongs of it by destroying statues or memorials even if they represent questionable events or notability. In an article on *ForeignPolicy.com*, Justin Jampol observed, “If the statues survive, they will become memorials instead of monuments, just in the way that sites of the Holocaust were first destroyed out of anger and then fastidiously preserved as evidence of historical crimes and injustices. The barracks at the infamous concentration camp at Dachau were first removed and then later reconstructed, with furnishings from three different periods, presenting a three-phase narrative of the Holocaust while showing visitors the unspeakable conditions that prisoners faced.”¹⁷

Jampol explains another instance of trying to erase history which happened after the Berlin Wall fell: “... graffiti-painted concrete segments of the Berlin Wall

cont'd next page

Socialism & America cont'd from p 4



were hastily removed, ground up by machines that rolled along the border while physically chewing it up, and, poetically, turned into asphalt to repave the crumbling streets of the former East Berlin. The people of Berlin, who had lived in the shadow of the wall for decades, celebrated the cement edifice's demise. They were so thorough, so confident in the righteousness of their cause, that nearly all of the original pieces were either removed from their original positions or destroyed. [Now the] German media is full of talk about historical amnesia. Young people do not remember the wall or what their parents had to endure. A key lesson has been lost, the older generation contends. Their solution? Segments of the Berlin Wall are being reproduced and replaced in strategic positions around the city, including at perhaps the most infamous, most public site of all: the former Checkpoint Charlie. But this time, there is an audio guide, ample signage, and the opportunity to talk about the wall as an oppressive structure that separated friends, colleagues, and family.”¹⁸

AMERICAN CONSTITUTION

Writing in his memoirs, President Truman encouraged us to continue to uphold our constitution, which was written by men who “were all well informed on the history of government from Babylon to Britain ... The most important thought expressed in our Constitution is that the power of government shall always remain limited, through the separation of powers.”¹⁹ Patrick Henry continued, “When the American spirit was in its youth, liberty was then the primary object. But now, assisted by the ropes and chains of consolidation there will be no checks, no real balances.” John Adams wrote, “The only foundation of a free Constitution is pure virtue, and if this cannot be inspired into our people in a greater measure, than they have it now, they may change their rulers and the forms of government, but they will not obtain a lasting liberty.”

Democracy was doomed to fail because people really do not have virtue, envisaged Plato. If you give them the choice of giving up their virtue or giving up their life, they will always give up their virtue to save their life. He asserted that “if a truly just man lived, let him die as he has lived. ... the just man will be scourged, racked, bound, and will at last be crucified.”

The ancient Hebrew republic lasted longer than the democracy of Athens, because it had a big *magnet in the sky*, so to speak, the awareness that each person was accountable to God in the next life. Athens did not have that. By Plato's time, the Greek gods were fickle deities that no one really believed in. Plato concluded the best one can hope for is a nice tyrant – a philosopher king. This tyrant would set up a structured society, consisting of a ruling class and the ruled class. **This is the origins of socialism.**

The tyrant-king is the head of gold, and his political party are the arms and chest of silver. Together they are the ruling class. They are a deep state, above the law. Everyone else is in the ruled class – the abdomen of bronze and iron, the worker class. These own no property, have no families, government decides who gets to have children, government takes children away from parents and *socializes* them in government schools, teaching them *noble lies* so they will obey the ruling class.

Initiated in the late 1970s and early '80s by the central government of China, the one-child policy seems to have reached its unthinkable conclusion. Originally, the purpose was to limit the great majority of family units in the country in order to reduce the growth rate of China's enormous population. It is evident now that the birth rate is so low that “by 2050, a third of the country's population will be made up of people over the age of 60, putting severe strain on state services and the [one-child policy] children who bear the brunt of caring for elderly relatives.”²⁰ China's one-child policy ended on January 1, 2016, but now the challenge is encourage families to have more than one child.

It seem like China's policies were written out of Plato's playbook which asserts that “... the true philosopher kings will set in order their own city; take possession of the children, who will be unaffected by the habits of their parents; these they will train in their own habits and laws.”

LOOKING FOR UTOPIA

Utopia means *nowhere*. It supposedly was a fictitious island discovered somewhere off coast of South America. After Columbus discovered the New World, there was a fascination among Europeans scholars of setting up structured societies. Inspired by Plato, Sir Thomas More wrote “Island of Utopia,” which was a story whose fictional traveler was Hythlodius, whose name means *peddler of nonsense*. Utopia consisted of an upper class rulers and lower-class commoners.

The society offered: free healthcare; free identical clothing; communistic welfare lifestyle; shared identical public housing; no locks on doors; common meals in monastic communal dining halls; no private property; all goods stored in communal warehouse; no taverns, no alehouses, no coffeehouses; no places for private gatherings; no privacy; everyone tracked everywhere they went; government decides everyone's careers; no families (“takes a village to raise a child”); marriage & childbearing regulated by government (i.e. China's one-child policy/Planned Parenthood's Margaret Sanger: “No woman shall have the legal right to bear a child without a permit”).

Sir Francis Bacon was influenced by Plato's “Island of Atlantis” and Sir Thomas More's “Island of Utopia,” when he wrote “The New Atlantis,” which was a fictitious island in the South Pacific off the coast of Peru. It was highly structured with a ruling class and a ruled class. The government controlled everyone's life, even dictating careers. It was more scientific, as the Scientific Revolution had taken place by this time.

Spring boarding from Bacon's “New Atlantis,” Jonathan Swift wrote a parody titled “Gulliver's Travels.” Gulliver was shipwrecked on the Island of Lilliput and observed the ridiculousness of their highly structured society of a governing class and a governed class. It is of note that neither Plato's, More's, nor Bacon's imagined socialist societies have ever been realized, nevertheless, naive youth are not dissuaded from continually trying.



Socialism & America cont'd from p 5

FOUNDATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE COLONIES

Of considerable interest is the fact that Plato, More, and Bacon influenced the Pilgrim colony in Massachusetts. Originally, the Pilgrims were a “company” colony with bylaws written by investors who made everything owned in common – “a communistic plan.” Pilgrims tried it, but almost starved to death!

The bylaws of the Pilgrims’ company colony stated, “all profits & benefits that are got by trade, traffic, trucking, working, fishing, or any other means... remain still in ye common stock. All are to have their meat, drink, apparel, and all provision out of ye common stock & goods. That at ye end of ye seven years, ye capital & profits, viz. the houses, lands, goods and chattels, be equally divided betwixt ye adventurers, and planters.”

According to Governor William Bradford, “The failure of that experiment of communal service, which was tried for several years by good and honest men proves the emptiness of the theory of Plato and other ancients applauded by some of later times that the taking away of private property, and the possession of it in community would make a state happy and flourishing; as if they were wiser than God. For in this instance, community of property was found to breed much confusion and discontent; and retard much employment, which would have been to the general benefit and comfort. ... It did greatly diminish the mutual respect that is so important should be preserved amongst them. Let none argue that this is due to human failing, rather than to this communistic plan of life in itself. ... Seeing that all men have this failing in them, that God in His wisdom saw that another plan of life was fitter for them. So they began to consider how to raise more corn, and obtain a better crop than they had done, so that they might not continue to endure the misery of want. At length after much debate, the Governor, with the advice of the chief among them, allowed each man to plant corn for his own household. So every family was assigned a parcel of land, according to the proportion of their number. This was very successful.”

The Pilgrims dispensed with the bylaws and set up a covenant form of government, based on ancient Israel during the 400 year period when they first came out of Egypt, before they got their first king, Saul. It was referred to as the *Hebrew Republic* and was taught at Harvard and Yale. In his address to the New Hampshire Ratifying Convention, Samuel Langdon, explained “Instead of the twelve tribes of Israel, we may substitute the thirteen States of the American union, and see this application plainly.”²¹

The Pilgrims’ covenant form of government introduced biblical concepts, such as:

- Government should be by the consent of the governed
- Government’s purpose is to secure to individuals their God-given rights
- All men and women were equal, made in the image of God
- There should be no respect of persons in judgment

A century after the Pilgrims, during the Age of Enlightenment, the word covenant transitioned into *social contract*. Instead of people being accountable to God to care for each other, it simply became people *in agreement* with or without God. If God existed, He was considered distant, removed, and impersonal – a concept birthed out of the scientific revolution. A century after that, the French Revolution transitioned social contract with *a distant god* into social contract with *absolutely no god*. The last phase has been Marxism, socialism, and communism wherein we have the social contract made into the *state god*.

After World War I, Henry Cabot Lodge warned, “Look at the United States today, we have had shortcomings. But nonetheless, is there any country today on the face of the earth, which can compare with this in ordered liberty, in peace, and in the largest freedom? If the United States fails, the best hopes of mankind fail with it. The United States is *the world’s best hope*. Beware how you trifle with your marvelous inheritance, this great land of ordered liberty. For if we stumble and fall, freedom and civilization everywhere will go down in ruin.”²²

Conclusion

WHAT AM I TO DO? “... if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Love God: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind Matthew 22:37

Love your neighbor: Honor your father and mother. Love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 19:19

Give thanks in every circumstance: Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

RESEARCH THE CANDIDATES AND VOTE YOUR VALUES

“In this country of ours took place the greatest revolution that has ever taken place in the world’s history. Here for the first time in all the thousands of years of man’s relation to man, the Founding Fathers established the idea that you and I had within ourselves the God-given right and ability to determine our own destiny.”

– President Ronald Reagan, 1961.

(Endnotes)

¹ Complete quotes of Plato may be found in “Socialism: The Real History, from Plato to the Present,” William J. Federer, or by contacting: Amerisearch, Inc., <https://amerisearch.net>, (888-USA-WORD), 603 12th Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23451, or www.americanMinute.com.

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⁸ Adams, John, “To Thomas Jefferson from John Adams,” <https://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/>, December 21, 1819.

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²¹ Langdon, Samuel, “The Republic of the Israelites an Example to the American States,” address to the New Hampshire Ratifying Convention, 1788.

²² Lodge, Henry Cabot, speech before the U.S. Senate, August 12, 1919.





Missouri Ballot Issues



Amendment 1: State Executive Term Limits

The legislation backing Amendment 1 was passed in 2019, but was slated by the governor to be placed on the November 2020 ballot. The Missouri Constitution currently places a limit of a maximum two terms on the offices of governor and treasurer. The other three statewide offices do not currently have term limits. All representatives and senators have term limits of four maximum terms and two maximum terms respectively. This amendment would bring all statewide offices into alignment with the limitations placed on both chambers of the legislature.

Ballot Language:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to extend the two term restriction that currently applies to the Governor and Treasurer to the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor and the Attorney General?

A “yes” vote supports this constitutional amendment to limit the lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, and attorney general, along with the governor and state treasurer, to two terms of office.

A “no” vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thereby keeping the two-term limit on the governor and state treasurer but not other state executive offices

Full Constitutional Language:

No person shall be elected governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, or attorney general more than twice, and no person who has held the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, or attorney general, or acted as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, or attorney general, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected to such office shall be elected to that same office more than once. This subsection shall supersede the provisions of Article IV, 17 Section that relate to term limitations, provided that service in the offices of governor or state treasurer resulting from an election or appointment, or in the case of the governor succession to office, prior to December 3, 2020, shall count towards the limitations provided in this subsection.

PROS: Political officeholders should view their terms as a temporary civic duty, not a career. The power of incumbency (relationships with donors, lobbyists, influencers, voters) is too great to overcome through the normal election process. Term limits allow those with new ideas or a fresh take on an old problem to have a shot at the office. Knowing that they only have two terms in which to accomplish their agenda means that, at least for the second term, they are not focused on fundraising and campaigning.

The timing of this legislation after the passage of *Clean Missouri* could also be a factor in its passage.

CONS: Typical arguments against term limits contend that such limits remove the power from voters in favor of an arbitrary law. A popular or effective officeholder would not be re-electable if their term had run out.

Another point made by those who support term limits is that they remove the outsized power that longer tenured office holders have. Their longevity and influence allows them to bring more “pork” back to the district they serve. Term limits would remove this incentive for their constituents to send them back. While that may be true in D.C., or even our state legislature, that is not the case for statewide office holders. They have no peer group to dominate or subset of the state to serve.

Amendment 3: Redistricting Process and Criteria, Lobbying, and Campaign Finance

In 2018, significant money from outside Missouri targeted our state to try to change its political make up with Amendment 1, known as *Clean Missouri*. The National Democrat Redistricting Committee targeted twelve states to change the district boundary drawing process in order to tip the polls in favor of Democrats, and *Clean Missouri* was the vehicle for doing that. The ballot measure included other fairly insignificant ethics changes which were the primary focus of campaigns in favor of the amendment.

Ballot Language:

“Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to: Ban gifts from paid lobbyists to legislators and their employees; Reduce legislative campaign contribution limits; Change the redistricting process voters approved in 2018 by: (i) transferring responsibility for drawing state legislative districts from the Nonpartisan State Demographer to Governor-appointed bipartisan commissions; (ii) modifying and reordering the redistricting criteria.

State governmental entities expect no cost or savings. Individual local governmental entities expect significant decreased revenues of a total unknown amount.”

“A ‘yes’ vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to reduce the limits on campaign contributions that candidates for state senator can accept from individuals or entities by \$100 per election. There is no change for candidates for state representative.

The amendment prohibits state legislators and their employees from accepting a gift of any value (which is currently \$5) from paid lobbyists or the lobbyists’ clients.

The amendment modifies the criteria for redrawing legislative districts and changes the process for redrawing state legislative district boundaries during redistricting by giving redistricting responsibility to a bipartisan commission, renames them, and increases membership to 20 by adding four commissioners appointed by the Governor from nominations by the two major political party’s state committees.

A ‘no’ vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding campaign contributions, lobbyist gifts, and the process and criteria for redistricting.

The new system put responsibility for redrawing district lines in the hands of one person, a demographer, appointed by the State Auditor’s Office (the only statewide office currently held by a Democrat) and not the Secretary of State’s office, which is in charge of all elections in the state. The demographer’s mission was to “balance” the districts between the major parties, leaving all Libertarian, Constitutional and Green party members completely out of the picture. Since we do not register for parties in this state, various assumptions would have to be made by the demographer to determine which party the voters of any district were most closely affiliated with. This would, without question, introduce the bias of the demographer, or those advising the demographer, into the redrawing process.

Amendment 1 (2018) passed even though many voters did not understand what they had voted for since the ballot language only said it would “Change process and criteria for redrawing state legislative districts during reapportionment.” The legislature wanted to remove the bias in the process and give the public the opportunity to vote for a redistricting process that would be clearly explained on the ballot. Their ballot language stated that redistricting would require the creation of “citizen-led independent bipartisan commissions to draw state legislative districts based on one person, one vote, minority voter protection, compactness, competitiveness, fairness and other criteria.”



COURT WATCH 2020

“The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.”

— James Madison, Federalist 47

Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan

“GOD SAVE THE UNITED STATES AND THIS HONORABLE COURT!”

Western Civilization generally, and America specifically, owes a tremendous debt to the Holy Bible for giving, among other things, form and substance to government, language, culture, and law. The Bible says, “Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.”¹ In 1215, the Magna Carta was signed limiting the power of the king for the first time. Less than fifty years later, renowned legal scholar Henry de Bracton noted that kings are not under man, but under God and under the law.² A shift had occurred in which law itself, not the authority of a king or individual, gives power and authority. This certainly included judges, commissioners, and other administrative officials who adjudicated matters between parties. Likewise in the 18th century, the Founding Fathers were aware of both biblical language and British history when they convened in Philadelphia and wrote both the Declaration of Independence, and later the United States Constitution. Article VI of the latter says plainly, “This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, and anything in the Constitution or Law of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.” (Italics added.) The judges that are appointed, elected, or retained in office are not the supreme law or the supreme lawgivers. That line must not be crossed. We have come too far to relinquish our freedoms to those in black robes.

God has placed leaders in authority. Whether these authorities are presidents, legislators, or judges, we should be respectful, because God is ultimately sovereign over all. Persons in these positions make a mistake thinking that they themselves are the objects of respect, rather than the position which they hold. A black robe, a raised dais, and a gavel are symbols of authority to be respected, but not feared. Judges hold a special place in our system, because they use discernment and wisdom to rule on issues of law. Nevertheless, the judges who are appointed by the executive, often for life, have tremendous authority to rule on cases that impact all of us every day. Who are these people? Who appointed them to literally sit in judgment? What recourse is there for removing those who abuse their discretion and authority?

The most esteemed and perhaps best-known judges in the nation are those we refer uniquely to as “Justices” and sit on the Supreme Court of the United States with a lifetime appointment from the president. Much less known are the judges of our own state here in Missouri. It is likely most people would be hard pressed to name even one of the judges on the Missouri Supreme Court. Yet these men and women, appointed by the governor of the state, make decisions, which affect all of us every day.

In Missouri alone, there are over 45 circuit courts with over 400 judges who preside over courtrooms throughout the state; including the Supreme Court (seven judges), the District Courts of Appeal that are divided into three geographic districts (Eastern, Southern and Western) (32 judges); and finally the circuit courts that sit in every county of the state. This does not take into consideration all of the various municipal judges, commissioners, and administrative law judges who are either elected or appointed to their constitutional positions. The men and women who make up the judiciary in the state are all fellow Missourians who are licensed by the State of Missouri to practice law and are required by oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Missouri. Why? Because the Constitution, not the judge, is the supreme law of the land.

As informed and concerned citizens of our state, we need to be aware of who is being placed in these important positions and hold them accountable to faithfully and honestly execute their roles as judgment makers without regard to personal whims/will from the law. Just like you and me, they are bound by state and national laws without regard to race, creed, status, or nationality.

The method of selecting judges in Missouri is known as the Nonpartisan Court Plan, or the “Missouri Plan,” which has been used in Missouri since 1940 and has become the model for dozens of other state judicial selection plans as a means to remove partisanship from the judiciary by using committees of lawyers and non-lawyers to select a slate of candidates from which the governor selects for appointment. This system (based on merit selection) uses the assisted appointment method by which the governor appoints state judges from a short list submitted by a review board. This process applies to the seven judges of the Missouri Supreme Court and the thirty-two judges of the Missouri Court of Appeals. Most circuit court judges are not chosen under the Missouri Plan, but are elected to office on a partisan basis. For more information on the Missouri Plan Judicial Performance Reviews on each judge, go to www.yourmissourijudges.org.

As citizens, we have a vested interest in all stages of judicial selection in order to maintain confidence in not just the process, but the outcome as well. Nonpartisan does not always translate into impartial and in the end, the decision is left to one person to select a candidate to become a judge. Transparency of process is always one key to ensuring integrity. That is the purpose of holding retention votes after each term. The Constitution does not give judges the option of going their own way or ruling subjectively from the bench as if free from any restraint or higher authority. Paragraph two of Article VI uses “shall” no less than four times in a single sentence. If the rule of law means anything, it means that no king, president,

judge, or other ruler is above the supreme law of the land: the Constitution. Thomas Jefferson said, “Whensoever the General Government assumes undelegated powers, its acts are unauthorized, void, and of no force.” Many are concerned that we are moving away from these principles, or worse, that we have long since moved on from them. In either case, we are morally obligated to either stop violating this principle or return to the standard so long observed and cherished in western civilization.

On November 3, 2020, Missourians will go to the polls to elect or retain a slate of judges in accordance with the law. Our purpose in this *FRONT LINE*, as always, is to provide basic facts regarding each of the judges appearing on the ballot. Where possible, if the judge has appeared in a news story that is significant to our readers, we include that information in order to give additional insight into the beliefs and actions of that judge. No recommendations for retention or removal are made, because that is the decision of the reader as an informed free American. We hope to simply provide relevant information for you to make an informed decision.

When researching the judges, a variety of sources are accessed to pull information together for *Court Watch*. Sources include, but are not limited to, the Missouri Secretary of State website, “Official Manual” of the State of Missouri, a.k.a. the “Blue Book,” showmecourts.org, ballotpedia.org, yourmissourijudges.org, and others. This information is meant to be a starting point for your own research depending on what part of the state you live. Knowing who your judges are is important, because today’s associate circuit court judge could someday be on the Missouri Supreme Court. Elections always have consequences.

MISSOURI SUPREME COURT

The highest court in Missouri has exclusive appellate jurisdiction in all cases involving: the validity of a treaty or statute of the United States or of a statute or provision of the Missouri Constitution; the construction of the state’s revenue laws; the title to any state office; and in all cases where the punishment imposed is death.

In addition to its decision-making powers, the court supervises all lower courts in the state. The Supreme Court also licenses all lawyers practicing in Missouri and disciplines those found guilty of violation of the legal Rules of Professional Conduct. Supreme Court judges must be at least 30 years of age, U.S. citizens for 15 years, and qualified Missouri voters for nine years. Supreme Court judges are retained for 12-year terms.

cont’d next page

Court Watch cont'd

COURT OF APPEALS

The Eastern District of the Court of Appeals sits in St. Louis and consists of fourteen judges. Eleven judges preside over the Western District in Kansas City, and seven judges sit on the Southern District bench meeting either in Springfield or Poplar Bluff. The Court of Appeals may issue and determine original remedial writs and has general appellate jurisdiction in all cases not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Cases may be transferred from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court when it is determined that a case involves an important issue that should be decided by the state's highest court. Judges must be at least 30 years of age; residents of their district; U.S. citizens for at least 15 years; and Missouri voters for nine years before their selection. Appellate judges serve 12-year terms.

CIRCUIT JUDGES

Circuit judges are selected either through popular vote or by appointment under the Nonpartisan Court Plan. These courts have original jurisdiction over civil and criminal causes of action. All trials start at this level. Circuit court judges must be at least 30 years old, residents of their circuit, and U.S. citizens for 10 years and Missouri voters for three years. Circuit judges serve six-year terms. The Constitution requires at least one circuit judge in each of Missouri's 45 judicial circuits. Circuit 6 is Platte County; Circuit 7 is Clay County; Circuit 16 is Jackson County; Circuit 21 is St. Louis County; and Circuit 22 is St. Louis City.

JUDGE EVALUATIONS

The Missouri Bar has been evaluating judges appointed under the Non-Partisan Court Plan and providing that information to voters since 1948. The Missouri Bar currently funds the review process, which was created in 2008 and revised in 2016 by order of the Supreme Court of Missouri. The Missouri judicial performance review process was developed after a committee studied model rules and best practices from the American Bar Association and more than 20 judicial performance evaluation systems in the nation. The current judicial performance review process in Missouri was adopted June 15, 2016, when the Supreme Court of Missouri issued an order making revisions to Rule 10 which expand the voices of non-lawyers in the review process, leaves judging the judges to the voters, and fosters consistency in the process with the implementation of one statewide review committee.

The Missouri Judicial Performance Review Committee reviewed the performance of 52 judges, which included one Supreme Court of Missouri judge, four Court of Appeals judges, 26 circuit court judges and 22 associate circuit court judges in circuits where the judges are appointed under the Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan. The committee found **all 52 judges substantially meet overall judicial performance standards**, and will up for retention in the November 3, 2020, general election.

The complete performance review information of each judge is available online at YourMissouriJudges.org.



SHORT LINES

U. S. SUPREME COURT

Historically, twenty-nine Supreme Court vacancies have occurred in an election year, and every time, the sitting president announced a nominee. President Trump announced his nominee from the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago -- Judge Amy Coney Barrett.

According to a recent article in *NPR*, Justice Barrett wrote in a 2013 law review article, "I tend to agree with those who say that a justice's duty is to the Constitution and that it is thus more legitimate for her to enforce her best understanding of the Constitution rather than a precedent she thinks clearly in conflict with it."

Missouri Supreme Court



Patricia Breckenridge

Born and raised in Nevada, MO. Married. Attended the Univ. of Arkansas-Fayetteville and the Univ. of Mo.-Columbia, where she earned a B.S. and J.D. Admitted to The Missouri Bar in 1978. Practiced law in the firm Russell, Brown, Bickel & Breckenridge. Served as an assistant municipal judge for the City of Nevada.

Appointed associate circuit judge of Vernon County (1982). Elected to that position until 1990, when appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, authored more than 900 opinions, and participated in more than 2,700 cases. Appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri (2007) by Gov. **Matt Blunt**.

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

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

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

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

Appointed by Gov. **Kit Bond** to assoc. circuit judge (1982); Gov. **John Ashcroft** (1990) to Court of Appeals Western District and by Gov. **Matt Blunt** (2007); retained by Missouri voters at the November 2008 general election. Served as chief justice from July 2015-June 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



In the News:

As Missouri Lawyers Weekly's Woman of the Year, at the annual state of the judiciary speech, Chief Justice **Breckenridge** said "It has been my privilege to serve with judges appointed by both Republican and Democratic governors and to work to decide cases according to the law." "Implicit biases has been a major theme of her term as chief justice. 'As a woman, I was worried about people being biased against me.' ... 'I was not worried that I might exhibit biased behavior against others. ... Then she learned that female attorneys often face subtle discrimination by being interrupted in court. 'I knew I had done that a week before with a woman attorney who was in my courtroom' ... Last year [2016], she announced that Missouri judges would receive implicit bias training, saying that it is 'critical for those of us who sit in judgment of others to be aware of any bias, implicit or otherwise, that might unknowingly affect our decisions'."³

In her final State of Judiciary Address [January 24, 2017], Judge **Breckenridge** "touted modernized court computer system, but urged the Legislature to review which court documents should be made public on the courts' online system. 'It is safe to say statutes making certain case documents public meant available at the clerk's office, and in paper form, not available instantly to anyone anywhere in the world'."⁴



Missouri Court of Appeals Eastern District

Kurt S. Odenwald



Born in St. Louis, MO. Educated at University of Missouri-St. Louis, magna cum laude, B.A. in Political Science, 1976; St. Louis University School of Law, cum laude, J.D., 1979. Recipient of fellowship to study German law through the German Academic Exchange Service and the Ministry of Justice for Nordrhein-Westfalen. Former member and chair of the St. Louis County Council. Married with four children. Previously employed as associate general counsel for Anheuser-Busch, Inc. Served as assistant public defender, City of St. Louis. Partner with Guilfoil, Petzall & Shoemaker prior to appointment to the bench. Member: St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church; Missouri Bar Association; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. Appointed to the Court of Appeals, by Gov. **Matt Blunt**, Oct. 30, 2007. Retained in 2008. Chief judge, 2011-2012. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

In the News:

"... has been practicing law for nearly 30 years. His wide ranging experience has carried him from the public defenders office, where he worked with juveniles and hardened criminals alike, to courtrooms in Germany, where he participated in the German Academic Exchange program for two years."⁵



Court Watch cont'd from p 9

Missouri Court of Appeals

Western District



Robin Ransom

Born in St. Louis. Educated at Douglass College-Rutgers University, B.A., 1988; University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, J.D., 1991. Prior employment: St. Louis County Public Defender's Office, 1992-1995; St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, 1995-1996; staff attorney, St. Louis County Family Court, 1996-2002.

Appointed Family Court commissioner, 22nd Circuit, in 2002. Appointed by Gov. **Matt Blunt**, in 2008 as circuit judge for the 22nd Judicial Circuit, retained in 2010 and 2016. In 2018, she was elected the first female African-American as the presiding judge for the 22nd Judicial Circuit. Member: The Missouri Bar; The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. Appointed to the Court of Appeals by Gov. **Mike Parson**, Jan. 9, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

In the News:

"... today the St. Louis native sits on the state's appellate court, and she's learned to love the law. ... **Ransom's** view of her job is a simple one. She follows the law wherever it might lead. 'I'm not here to try and bend it or pull it, twist it, recreate it,' said the University of Missouri School of Law graduate. 'We're here to read it and interpret it as it stands. I'm not an activist, so I don't try and add to it or pull it my way'."



Missouri Court of Appeals

Southern District

Gary W. Lynch

Born in St. Petersburg, Florida. Educated at Southwest Baptist University, B.A. in mathematics and elementary education, 1974; and the University of Missouri-Columbia, J.D., 1976. Married with two children. Practiced law in Bolivar, 1977-2002. Served as associate circuit judge of Polk County in the 30th judicial circuit, 2003-2006.

Member: Missouri Law Review; Polk County, Springfield Metropolitan and Missouri Bar Associations. Appointed to the Court of Appeals, on Jan. 6, 2006, Gov. **Matt Blunt**, for a term beginning on Feb. 1, 2006. Retained in 2008. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



SHORT LINES

"Oh, the Places You'll Go"

That's the book that a St. Louis County Councilwoman chose to use for her swearing-in ceremony this summer. There is actually no requirement for what text to use, and Kelli Dunaway chose this book so that she could try something new.

Tom Chapman

Born in Chillicothe, MO. Graduate of Westminster College, B.A. in Political Science, 1988; the Univ. of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 1991 and the Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, Masters of Law, Taxation, 1995. Married with three children. Engaged in private practice of law for 19 years. Member: Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association; Missouri Bar Association; Livingston County Bar Association; Missouri Circuit Judge Association, past member, 2011-18; and by appointment of the Chief Justice, serves as a member of the Missouri Criminal Justice Task Force. Serves as Chillicothe Area Arts Council, board member; Chillicothe Rotary Club, member and past president and Edgewood Cemetery, board member. Attends the First Baptist Church of Chillicothe. Has served as Chillicothe R-II School District, past member and board president; Greater Chillicothe Visitors Region, past member and chair; Boy Scouts of America, past member and district finance chair; Retired Senior Volunteer Program, past advisory council member; New Horizons Board for the Developmentally Disabled, past board member and the Chillicothe Development Corporation, past board member and president. Elected circuit judge in the 43rd Judicial Circuit in 2010. Retained in 2012. Served as presiding judge of the 43rd Judicial Circuit, August 2012-August 2018. Appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, Aug. 30, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

In the News:

From his alma mater, Westminster College, it was noted that **Chapman** was "described by Governor Parson as 'a distinguished jurist whose rural perspective will add additional balance to the court'..."



Associate Circuit Judge 6th Judicial Circuit Platte County

Abe (Quint) Shafer

Division 3

Born in Kansas City. Married with two children. Education: University of Colorado, B.A., 1991; Mississippi College School of Law, J.D., 1995; Graduate School of Banking, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2013. 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. **Jay Nixon**, April 1, 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



W. Ann Hansbrough

Division 4

Born in Poplar Bluff. Married with two children. University of MO-Columbia, bachelor's in journalism, 1982; University of MO-Columbia School of Law, J.D., 1985. Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers (Peer Review selected Top 5% of Women Lawyers: 2011-13); selected as "Super Lawyer" for Mo., 2008-11; selected as "Super Lawyer" for Kan., 2008-11; and board member for "Meritas Law Firms Worldwide," 2000-03. Practiced at Swanson, Midgley LLC, 1985-2004; selected as the firm's first woman partner in firm's 112 year history; management committee, 1999-2003; founder and director of firm's Volunteer Attorney Project; awarded Volunteer Service Award from Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Assoc. Member: Platte County Bar Assoc., Assoc. of Women Lawyers, MO Bar Assoc. and board of directors member of Mo. Assoc. of Probate and Assoc. Circuit Judges. Appointed by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, Jan. 21, 2014. Elected 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"**Hansbrough** ... 'My ... philosophy is to be respectful to every individual who appears before you,' she said. 'I don't care if they've been charged with the most heinous crime ever. They are somebody's child, and they could be somebody's parent. They deserve my respect'."



Dennis C. Eckold

Division 5

Married with four children. Graduate of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, B.A. Psychology, 1979, with distinction; University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, J.D., 1983. Engaged in private practice in Kansas City, 1983-2010 and as a mediator and arbitrator, 1999-2010. Served as a member of the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners (former board president), 1998-2003. Member: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; Platte County Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. Received Outstanding Public Official award from Tri-County Mental Health Services, 2013. Serves as a board member of the Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges and the Missouri Association of Treatment Court Professionals. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, May 2010. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



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cont'd next page

Court Watch cont'd



Circuit Judge 7th Judicial Circuit Clay County

Janet Lee Sutton

Division 2

Born in Kansas City. Lives in Liberty with husband and son. Graduate of University of Missouri–Kansas City, 1987, B.A., communication studies; J.D., 1990. Has worked as a member of the Community Response Team for Synergy Services. Assistant prosecutor for Clay County, 1990–2003; chief assistant prosecutor, 2000–2003; municipal prosecutor for Excelsior Springs, May 1994–Dec. 2000. Municipal judge for Excelsior Springs, Jan. 2001–Dec. 2002. Legal counsel to the Clay County Sheriff's Office, 1993–1999. Member: Clay County Bar Association; Association of Women Lawyers of Kansas City, Missouri Associate and Probate Judges Association, Missouri Municipal and Associate Judges Association and KCMBA. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, January 2003. Retained in 2004–2012. Appointed circuit judge by July 2013. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



Louis Angles

Division 7

Born in Havana, Cuba. Graduate of Shawnee Mission East High School, Prairie Village, Kan., 1976; University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Pharmacy, B.S., Pharmacy, 1983 and Washburn University School of Law, J.D., 1988. Engaged in private law practice, 1988 until appointment to the bench in 2013. Member: Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Clay County Bar Association, Missouri Bar, Missouri Probate and Associate Circuit Judges Association and Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association. Former member: Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, Oct. 18, 2013. Elected 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



In the News:

“**Louis Angles**, a solo practitioner in Excelsior Springs, was named an associate circuit judge for the Clay County Circuit Court. **Angles** fills the vacancy created by the recent appointment of Judge Janet **Sutton** to the circuit bench. **Angles** holds a law degree from Washburn University. Before his legal career, he was a pharmacist in the Kansas City area and also served in the U.S. Marine Corps. His family fled Cuba when he was a young child, and he has used his fluency in Spanish to serve clients and to act as a translator.”⁹



Circuit Judge 16 Judicial Circuit Jackson County

Kenneth R. Garrett, III

Division 2

From Kansas City. Graduate of University of Missouri–Kansas City, B.A., Political Science; Master's, Public Administration, and J.D. Served as an instructor in strategic business planning and policy at Baker University, Overland Park, Kansas. Served as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Jackson County, 2004–2010. Prior to joining the Jackson County prosecuting attorney's office, worked as an assistant attorney general for the state of Missouri, representing various state agencies in civil matters. Member of The Missouri Bar Association; Kansas Bar Association, American Bar Association, Jackson County Bar Association and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. Appointed associate circuit judge, Aug. 26, 2010. Retained in 2012. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2013. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



In the News:

In an attempt to mislead the court, an attorney appeared in court with her client's twin brother in order to get a robbery victim to identify him as the man who had grabbed her purse. When the true identity was revealed, Judge **Garrett** said to the attorney, “For the dignity of this court, your actions are disrespectful.”¹⁰

Patrick W. Campbell

Division 10

Born in Kansas City MO. Lifelong resident of Jackson County. Graduate of University of Missouri–Kansas City, B.A., Administration of Justice and Political Science, 1984; J.D., 1990. In private practice prior to appointment by the 16th Circuit Court as a Family Court Commissioner in December 2006. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, May 6, 2013. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



John M. Torrence

Division 14



Born in St. Louis. Married with three children. Educated at University of Missouri–Columbia and St. Louis University, B.A., 1979; University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law, J.D., 1982. Former assistant public defender, Jackson County, 1982–1988. Engaged in private practice and partner in law firm, 1988–2001. Member: St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Presiding judge, 2017–2018. Appointed circuit judge, July 12, 2001, by Gov. **Bob Holden**. Retained in 2002–2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Cory L. Atkins

Division 17

Born and raised in Jackson County, MO. 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 Greitens**. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



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 Greitens**. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

SHORT LINES

My mother taught me about weather: “Your room looks like a tornado went through it!”
My mother taught me about hypocrisy: “If I told you once, I’ve told you a million times, don’t exaggerate!”
My father taught me the circle of life: “I brought you into this world, and I can take you out!”
My father taught me humor: “When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don’t come running to me.”

Associate

Circuit Judge 7th Judicial Circuit Clay County

Alisha D. O'Hara

Division 5

Born in Shawnee Mission, Kansas. Lives in Kansas City with her husband and son. Graduate of the University of Missouri–Columbia, B.A. psychology; University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law, 2007. Assistant prosecuting attorney for Clay County, 2010–2019; supervising attorney Child Support Division, 2016–2019, assistant public defender, 2007–2009. Member: Missouri Bar, Clay County Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Association for Women Lawyers, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Appointed associate circuit judge, April 1, 2019, by Gov. **Mike Parson**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.





Court Watch cont'd from p 11



Kevin D. Harrell

Division 18

Born in Kansas City, MO. Graduate of University of Missouri–Kansas City, B.A., Administration of Justice, 1993; J.D., 1998. Appointed by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, July 24, 2012. At the time of his appointment, he was the chief deputy prosecuting attorney for the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. During his 15-year tenure, he was honored three times by his colleagues as Victim Champion of the Year in 2001 and 2003, and as Trial Attorney of the Year in 2005. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"Javier Alatorre, one of the suspects in a mass shooting at a Kansas City, Kansas, bar ... has a history of run-ins with the law in Missouri. Just last month, he was before a judge in Jackson County who — despite a prosecutor's warnings — granted the 23-year-old's bond reduction request and released him on his own recognizance. ... Circuit Court Judge Kevin D. **Harrell's** ... order ignored the prosecutor's warnings and allowed for Alatorre to be released on his own recognizance. He ordered Alatorre to submit to certain conditions, including random drug testing."¹¹



Associate Circuit Judge 16 Judicial Circuit Jackson County

Jeffrey C. Keal

Division 28

Born/raised in Independence, MO. Graduate Univ. of MO–Kansas City, B.A., bus. admin., 1982; Univ. of MO–Kansas City, J.D., 1986. Solo practitioner, 1986–88. Associate with Crews, Smart, Whitehead & Waits, 1988–91. Jackson County prosecutor's office, 1991–2013; chief warrant officer, trial team leader and handled cases including assaults, robberies, white collar and property crimes. Warrant officer of the year and received certificate of appreciation from U.S. Secret Service for collaborative work in white-collar crime prosecutions. Member: Missouri Bar, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar and Eastern Jackson County Bar associations; Association for Women Lawyers; Firefighters Local Number 42; Kansas City Curling Club and lifetime member of BCAS. Involved with the community and spent many years coaching youth sports. Appointed 2013 by Gov. **Jay Nixon**. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"Gov. **Nixon** ... named Jeffrey C. **Keal** as associate circuit judge for the 16th Judicial Circuit in Jackson County. **Keal** had been with the Jackson County prosecuting attorney's office in Independence since 1991, replaced Associate Circuit Judge Vernon **Scoville** III, who retired. As a Jackson County

prosecutor in Independence, **Keal** oversaw the criminal traffic unit, ... **Keal** has implemented a variety of programs, including the Youthful Traffic Offenders Program to deter speeding, drunken driving, and texting while driving by young drivers.

Keal also established an Education Court in eastern Jackson County, with Fort Osage High School as the first in the program. Because there is a strong connection between a lack of education and crime, the program is designed to help kids stay in school."¹²



Janette Kay Rodecap

Division 29

Born in Decorah, Iowa. Married with two children. Graduate of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., B.A.; University of Iowa College of Law, J.D., 2001. Served as a law clerk for the Hon. Nanette K. Laughrey, U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of Missouri, 2001–2003. Court counsel for the Palau Supreme Court in Koror, Palau, 2003–2004. Assistant state attorney in Fort Myers, Florida, 2005–2006. Assistant prosecuting attorney in Jackson County, 2006–2014. Member: Missouri Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association and Association of Women Lawyers. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, May 28, 2014. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"A woman accused of tricking two young girls into prostitution stood in front of a judge Tuesday looking to reduce her bond. ... In court records, FBI agents said [the woman] and her boyfriend, used Facebook to friend, then prostitute, two teenage girls. [They are] also charged with two counts of sexual trafficking of a child. Judge Janette Kay **Rodecap** denied their request for a bond reduction."¹³

Kyndra J. Stockdale

Division 32

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



Circuit Judge 21st Judicial Circuit St. Louis County

Richard M. Stewart

Division 2

Born in St. Louis County, MO. Married with four children. Graduate of University of Missouri–Columbia, B.S., business administration, 1989; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1994. Engaged in private practice, 1994–2016. Member: Holy Redeemer Catholic Church; Missouri Bar; Illinois Bar; American Bar Association, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. Appointed associate circuit judge, Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2016. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, May 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

A man "struggling to figure out the phones in the St. Louis County Jail following his arrest on charges of sodomy, incest and child porn ... was scheduled for a bond hearing ..., but he told Judge Richard **Stewart** that his trouble with the inmate phones has undermined his attempts to hire an attorney, despite assurances at an earlier appearance that he would have one ... Instead, he asked the judge to place him on house arrest for a week so that he could make calls from the familiarity of his home in Chesterfield. **Stewart** declined to put Hamm on house arrest. Instead, he told him to meet with his case manager at the jail to figure out his options. ... **Stewart** scheduled a new hearing ... to decide whether to appoint a lawyer for him."¹⁴

Renee Hardin-Tammons

Division 5

Born in St. Louis, MO. Graduate of University of Missouri–St. Louis, B.S. administration of justice, 1986; University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, J.D., 1989. Married in 1992 and has one child. Served as assistant public defender and assistant county counselor. Served as municipal judge for City of Berkeley and St. Louis County Municipal Court. Served as assistant adjunct professor, University of Missouri–St. Louis. Member: Supreme Court Committee on Practice and Procedure in Municipal Division Cases; Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association; St. Louis County Municipal Court Steering Committee; Gospel Symphonic Choir; Kansas City Barbeque Society; Grace Church. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, 2017. Retained in 2018. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"As coronavirus cases began to spike in the state, the Missouri Supreme Court ordered most courthouses — including municipal courts — to close. ... Many [municipal courts] are using a protocol developed by St. Louis County Circuit Judge Renee **Hardin-Tammons**."¹⁵



John N. Borbonus

Division 6

Graduate of George Mason University, B.A. government and politics, 1988; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1994. Married with three children and resides in St. Louis County. Principal with law firm of King, Krehbiel, Hellmich & Borbonus, L.L.C.; served for several years as assistant attorney general, State of Missouri. Appointed in 2003 by Gov. **Bob Holden** to serve as board member on the Missouri Humanities Council until 2010. In 2005, appointed as commissioner Board of Planning and Zoning for the City of Des Peres, until judicial appointment. Appointed commissioner on the Missouri Senate Apportionment Commission in 2011. Member: Leadership St. Louis, 2008–2009. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2011. Retained in 2012 and 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Quote from his June 11, 2010, application for the judgeship, in his own words: “My father was a career non-commissioned U.S. Army officer and my mother was a first-generation German immigrant. From my father I learned the importance of sacrifice, hard work and public service; from my mother, who was never afforded the chance at a college education, I learned the importance and value of higher education, along with the importance of common sense and an even temper.



National Assoc. of Women Judges, Bar Assoc. of Metropolitan St. Louis and Mound City Bar Assoc. Elected a Fellow in the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Center (ASTAR), Washington, DC, 2009. Appointed Family Court Commissioner (Juvenile Division), 2004. Retained in 2008. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2012. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

“... [Judge Kristine] **Kerr** ordered “all motions and rulings” in the first-degree murder case of Trenton Forster accessible only to lawyers involved in his case. He is charged with murdering Officer Blake Snyder on Oct. 6, 2016. ... **Kerr** unsealed her order granting Forster’s lawyers’ motion to block their release as well as the television station’s filing in opposition. ... A statement Wednesday by St. Louis County Circuit Court spokeswoman Christine Bertelson said in part, ‘Out of an abundance of caution, while the judge researched this issue, access to three motions in the Forster case was limited to the parties and their attorneys only, for approximately 48 hours. After researching the issue, full public access to those three motions was restored, as the court’s research led her to believe that the limited access order was premature.’”¹⁷

With regard to prisoners being released because of COVID-19: “... A St. Louis man who had been held for more than three years on charges of first-degree child molestation, ... in lieu of posting a \$50,000 bond, awaiting trial, was ordered to be freed without bail by St. Louis County Circuit Judge Kristine **Kerr**. He is to be monitored using a phone app called RePath to trace his location with a medium level of supervision. ...”¹⁸

Associate Circuit Judge 21st Judicial Circuit St. Louis County

Nicole S. Zellweger

Division 31

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

In the News:

“Smoking in casinos and over 90 St. Louis County bars will continue. Associate Circuit Judge Nicole **Zellweger** tossed the proposition from the November 6th ballot. ... [S]he ruled the ballot language violated the St. Louis County charter because it didn’t disclose what sections of existing law would be amended or repealed, just what it would look like if it passed.”¹⁹



Court Watch cont’d



Lorne J. Baker

Division 35

Received his bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of Michigan, 1990, and his J.D. from the University of MO–Columbia School of Law, 1993. Served as an assistant public defender in St. Louis City, 1994–1999. Appointed on Oct. 31, 2016, as an administrative law judge in St. Louis County. Member: Lawyers Association of St. Louis. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



John F. Newsham

Division 40

Graduate Rosary High School, 1977; St. Louis University, May 1981; St. Louis University, 1984. Resides in St. Louis County with his family. Was a partner with Dill, Bamvakais & Newsham, P.C. Legal practice focused on criminal defense and

administrative license issues, practiced in many other areas over his 33 years. Previously served with the State Public Defender and served as public defender, St. Louis County Municipal Court. Former municipal judge, City of Crestwood and member, Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanis Group. Published an article in the Missouri Bar Journal, 2010, contributing author to the MOBarCLE Deskbook on DWI. Previously recognized for Outstanding Leadership and Dedication to MoBarCLE for making substantial contributions to the continuing legal education of Missouri’s attorneys. Appointed associate circuit judge, March 2018, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Virginia W. Lay

Division 41

Graduate Columbia University, B.A., with honors in American Studies, 1990 and Washington University School of Law, 1993. Lives in St. Louis County with her family. Served as: assistant circuit attorney, St. Louis, 1993–1997; assistant prosecutor, Jackson County, 1998–1999; handled civil and criminal cases on behalf of the Attorney General, State of Missouri; adjunct professor, Washington University School of Law; special assistant circuit attorney, 2012–2019, Missouri Division of Employment Security. Private practice, 2002–2017. Serves on the board of Unleashing Potential. Member: Missouri Bar Association and its Criminal Practice and Procedure Committee, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the St. Louis County Bar Association. Appointed associate circuit judge, April 1, 2019, by Gov. **Mike Parson**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



Mary Elizabeth Ott

Division 7

Born in St. Louis, MO. Graduate of St. Mary’s College, B.A., 1982; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1985. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Roy Blunt**, May 30, 2008. Retained in 2010 and 2014. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, February 2018. Retained in 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2024. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

“... Judge Mary Elizabeth **Ott** affirmed the temporary restraining order against Dr. John’s Lingerie Boutique by imposing a permanent injunction on Dec. 3, incurring a \$157,500 fine. The Manchester city attorney, David Streubel, said that a \$1,500 daily fine will continue to accrue. The action occurred after the city of Manchester filed legal action against Doctor John’s Inc. seeking a court order requiring the Dr. John’s store ... to comply with the city’s zoning code and the store’s agreed-upon limited use as an apparel and accessories store. The fine is for violating the agreement.”¹⁶

Kristine Allen Kerr

Division 14

Born in Philadelphia, PA. Graduate, Brown Univ., B.A., economics, 1982; Boston Univ., J.D., 1985. Clerkship: Missouri Court of Appeals (ED), 1986–87. Engaged in private law practice, 1987–88. Asst. public defender, St. Louis City Trial Office, 1988–99; Capital Division, 1990–93; first asst. public defender, St. Louis City, 1993–2003 and asst. public defender, St. Louis Co., 2003–04. Member: St. Louis Co. Bar Assoc., Women Lawyer’s Assoc. (President’s Award, 2011), Lawyer’s Assoc.,





Court Watch cont'd from p13

Robert M. Heggie

Division 42

Born in St. Louis, MO. Graduate of University of Missouri–Columbia, B.S., accountancy, 1985; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1991. Married. Engaged in private practice, from 1991 until his appointment to the bench. General counsel, The Children's Home Society of Missouri, 1994–2015. Member: Mary Queen of Peace Parish. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2015. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"Prior to his work as an attorney, **Heggie** was a financial analyst for the Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis. 'Robert's nearly 25 years of legal experience, coupled with his strong ties to the greater St. Louis area will serve the people of the 21st Circuit well,' Gov. **Nixon** said."²⁰



In the News:

"A state court judge in St. Louis ... ordered Missouri to restore Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood's affiliates in that city. Judge David L. **Dowd** ruled that the legislature's fiscal 2019 appropriations bill for the Medicaid program violated the state constitution by barring payments to abortion providers and their affiliates. He found the bill ran afoul of the constitution's requirement that appropriations bills can't refer to other laws when fixing their amount. ... A spokesman for Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt said the state was considering an appeal."²¹

Elizabeth Byrne Hogan

Division 3

Born in St. Louis, MO. Graduate of the Academy of the Visitation, 1986; DePauw University, B.A., political science, 1990; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D. Employed as assistant prosecuting attorney in Jefferson County; assistant circuit attorney in City of St. Louis; in private practice; and as an attorney supervisor at St. Louis City CASA, 1996–2005. Member: Missouri Bar Association, Women Lawyers Association, St. Louis Lawyer's Association and St. Roch Catholic Church. Appointed associate circuit judge, April 2005, by Gov. **Matt Blunt**. Retained in 2006 and 2010. Appointed circuit judge, November 2012 by Gov. **Jay Nixon**. Retained in 2014. Term expires 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"Veteran NFL running back Laurence Maroney has been acquitted of a misdemeanor marijuana possession charge, a move his attorney says frees him up to try and join a new team. Maroney, who is from St. Louis County, was arrested in January in St. Louis. After two police officers testified against him ..., Defense Attorney Scott Rosenblum sought a directed verdict, saying prosecutors failed to show a burden of proof. St. Louis Circuit Judge Elizabeth **Byrne Hogan** agreed and ended the trial, finding Maroney not guilty."²²



Katherine M. Fowler

Division 4

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married with four children. Graduate of University of Dayton, BA; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. Was an officer with Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. until her appointment. 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, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, October 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Calea Stovall-Reid

Division 5

Born Springfield, MA. Married with two adult children. Graduate Howard University, B.A., 1982. Washington University School of Law, J.D., 1990. Corporate counsel to the St. Louis Housing Authority, 1997–2003; law firm of Peoples and Hale, 1995–1997; assistant circuit attorney, City of St. Louis Circuit Attorneys Office, 1993–1995; assistant public defender, Missouri Public Defender's Office (St. Louis City) 1991–1993. Served as a volunteer judge for Truancy Court for the St. Louis City Public Schools. Membership/associations: St. John AME Church; emeritus member. Appointed associate circuit judge, March 2003. Retained in 2004–2016. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, April 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"On June 12, 2018, the Los Angeles Rams were ordered by a St. Louis, Missouri, jury to pay former Rams running back Reggie Bush \$4.95 million in contemporary damages and \$7.5 million in punitive damages. The jury found that the Rams were liable for an injury suffered by Bush in 2015, at which time the Rams were located in St. Louis. **Stovall-Reid** presided over the case. In his original suit, Bush had also named the St. Louis Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority and the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission, which owns the facility in which the injury occurred, as defendants in the case. **Stovall-Reid** dismissed them from the suit."²³ (See Ballotpedia.org.)



Michael F. Stelzer

Division 6

Born in St. Louis MO. Graduate of Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, 1986; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., cum laude, 1992. Clerked for the Hon. Carl R. Gaertner, Missouri Court of Appeals Eastern District. Assistant and



associate city counselor, City of St. Louis, 1993–2004. General counsel to the Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis City. Appointed to the associate circuit bench, January 2004, by Gov. **Bob Holden**. Elected in 2006 and 2010. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2012. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

In the News:

"On May 31, 2019, St. Louis Circuit Court Judge Michael **Stelzer** granted Planned Parenthood a temporary restraining order that allowed it to keep providing abortion care without a license renewal, at least until hearings concluded. Then, on June 4, **Stelzer** handed Planned Parenthood another win by settling a major piece of the license renewal standoff: the issue of whether Planned Parenthood doctors, including non-employee medical residents and fellows, would have to be interviewed by state investigators. The state called its interview request routine, while Planned Parenthood argued that questioning non-staff medical trainees was inappropriate and unreasonable. **Stelzer** eventually sided with Planned Parenthood. While **Stelzer** did so again on Monday, the question of whether Missouri will become the first U.S. state in nearly 50 years to lack an abortion provider remains unanswered."²⁴



Matthew H. Hearne

Division 44

Born in St. Louis, MO. Lives in St. Louis County. Married with two children. Graduated from Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI, in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts in history and political science. Earned

law degree from The University of Toledo in 1992. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Hearne worked for the Missouri State Public Defender's office for several years and then went into private practice. Judge Hearne remained in private practice for 25 years, handling civil, criminal and domestic cases in both state and federal courts including the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit. Attends Covenant Presbyterian Church. Appointed Associate Circuit Judge in 2019 by Gov. **Mike Parson**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan



Circuit Judge 22nd Judicial Circuit St. Louis City

David L. Dowd

Division 2

Born in St. Louis, MO. Graduate of Quincy College, B.A.; St. Mary's University, J.D. Engaged in private law practice with Dowd and Dowd, P.C., 1983–1984; assistant county counselor, 1984–1988; administrative law judge, 1988–1993; and chief administrative law



SHORT LINES

My mother taught me to appreciate a job well-done: "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."

cont'd next page

Court Watch cont'd

Timothy J. Boyer

Division 8

Married. Graduate of St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 2003. Bradley University, B.S., 1999. Engaged in private practice, 2003–2007; assistant circuit attorney, City of St. Louis, 2007–2016, serving as the unit leader for the White Collar Crime/Fraud Unit, 2014–2016. Professional memberships include: The Missouri Bar Association; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; Lawyers Association of St. Louis. Appointed associate circuit judge, August 2016. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, November 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

A St. Louis woman accused of robbing a bank while on probation for fentanyl possession and stealing an investigator's gun has been sentenced to four years in prison. Latoca Lashai Davis, 29, received a four-year prison term Friday from Circuit Judge Timothy **Boyer**, who found her guilty in July of a felony stealing, reduced from first-degree robbery.²⁵

**Joseph P. Whyte**

Division 14

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married with four children. Graduate of St. Louis University High School, 1980; University of Missouri–Columbia, B.S., business administration, 1984; Saint Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1990. Attended Mizzou. Member: Moot Court Board, Missouri Bar Association (Lawyers' Assistance Committee and MOLAP Volunteer Roster), Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church and Patriot Guard Riders. Recipient of Thomas White Family Foundation Fellowship in Public Law and Government, in law school. Assistant attorney general, State of Missouri, 1990–1992. Private law practice, 1992–2018. Appointed circuit judge, May 2018 by Gov. **Eric Greitens**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

**Annette Llewellyn**

Division 15

Graduate of University of Iowa College of Law, J.D., May 16, 1997; City University of New York, Lehman College, B.S. St. Louis City public defender, 1998–2017. Assistant circuit attorney for St. Louis City, 2017–2018. Professional



memberships include: New York Bar; Mound City Bar Association; Women Lawyer's Association; Lawyers' Association of St. Louis. Appointed circuit judge, Jan. 12, 2018, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

"A St. Louis man has received a 10-year prison term for robbery convictions in a 2017 carjacking that led to a crash that killed a boy near St. Louis Lambert International Airport. A jury in September found Darian Cummings, 19, guilty of two counts of first-degree robbery for carjackings April 4 and 25 in St. Louis. Circuit Judge Annette **Llewellyn** sentenced Cummings on Monday, giving him about 2½ years credit for jail time served."²⁷

Clinton Robert Wright

Division 21

Has three adult children. University of Missouri, Columbia, B.S. in Biochemistry and Washington University School of Law JD. Began his career in the 22nd Circuit as a Special Public Defender from 1992–1996. Practiced in St. Louis County with Wion and Hollander, P.C. 1996–2000, Rosenblum Schwartz Rogers & Glass 2000–2004, Moran and Goldstein 2004–2006, Roberts Law Firm 2006–2012 and The Wright Firm, LLC 2012–2018. Practiced in numerous Missouri Counties and Federal Courts. Appointed circuit judge, Gov. **Eric Greitens**, February 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.

**Scott A. Millikan**

Division 9

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married with three children. Graduate of Webster University, B.S.; Saint Louis University School of Law, J.D. Assistant prosecuting attorney, St. Louis County; private practice; provisional municipal judge, City

of St. Louis; court administrator, City of St. Louis. Member: Missouri Bar Association, St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church, CYC coach, Community volunteer. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, July 2017 and circuit judge, March 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

With regard to prisoners being released because of COVID-19: "... a judge released [from jail] Mozzio Withers, 26, charged in March 2018 with robbing a woman of her purse at gunpoint in the Central West End. The robbery was captured on surveillance video. Circuit Judge Scott **Millikan** put Withers on house arrest and ordered him to stay out of the neighborhood."²⁶

Madeline Orling Connolly

Division 10

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married with one child. Graduate of St. Louis University School of Law, JD, 2009; Valparaiso University, BS in Business Administration, 2006. Engaged in private practice with Hepler Broom, LLC, 2010–2012 and Tucker Ellis, LLP, 2017–2018. Assistant Circuit Attorney (2012–2017). Professional Memberships include: The Missouri Bar, Illinois Bar, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Women Lawyers' Association, Bethel Lutheran Church. Appointed associate circuit judge, Feb. 9, 2018. Appointed circuit judge, June 7, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan. Appointed circuit judge by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2019.

**Steven R. Ohmer**

Division 30

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married with two children. Educated at St. Louis Univ. High, 1972; Florida State Univ., B.S., 1975; Creighton Univ., J.D., 1979. Assistant circuit attorney, City of St. Louis, 1979–83 and 1987–94; in private practice, 1983–87, with Ohmer & Ohmer, P.C.; chief warrant officer for the circuit attorney, 1992–94. Has author/co-authored several articles. Member: the Missouri Supreme Court Circuit Court Budget Committee, chair; Missouri Supreme Court Family Court Committee Bar Assoc. of Metro. St. Louis; Missouri and Illinois Bar. Former athletic dir. St. Pius V, chair/member of St. Pius V Parish Council; and Parents Council of Truman State Univ. Volunteer judge for Stand Down Project for homeless veterans and Washington Univ. School of Law Moot Court. Appointed associate circuit judge, 1994. Retained in 1996. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Roger Wilson**, 2000. Presiding judge, 2011–12 and asst. presiding judge, 2009–10. Retained in 2002–12. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

**In the News:**

"... Tyrone Henley spent six weeks in jail, unable to put up \$25,000 cash bail. ... Henley and dozens of others in St. Louis jails received new bail hearings after a federal judge ruled the city's bail-setting practices unconstitutional. At his hearing, a judge decided to release Henley after he signed a promise to return to court. ... and wear an electronic ankle monitor. ... even though the monitoring devices cost defendants ... St. Louis Circuit Court Judge Steven **Ohmer**, ... said the fees are a legitimate part of a defendant's responsibility before the court. "The court's not just imposing a cost just because we want to penalize this poor individual," **Ohmer** said, adding that judges need to ensure the public is protected and that defendants will appear for court. "And how do we do that? By these conditions," he said. "And if there are certain fees with that, then I think it does fall on the individual."²⁸



Associate
Circuit Judge
22nd Judicial Circuit
St. Louis City

David A. Roither

Division 16

Married with two children. Graduate of University of Missouri–St. Louis, 1996, B.A. in philosophy and political science; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1999. Engaged in private practice, Medler & Roither, LLC, 2005–2018. Various boards and committees affiliated with the University of Missouri–St. Louis, Pierre Laclède Honors College, Legal Advocates for Abused Women and St. Margaret of Scotland. Professional memberships include: The Missouri Bar; Bar Association of

**SHORT LINES**

My mother taught me religion: "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

My father taught me about time travel: "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week."

My father taught me logic: "Because I said so, that's why."



ELECTION 2020



Democratic Biden/Harris



Kamala Harris



Joe Biden



Donald Trump

Republican Trump/Pence



Mike Pence

The age-old question this time of the year is:

“Who should I vote for?”

It is not a question that anyone can answer for you, but being informed about the clear differences between the political parties as well as the candidates themselves is a good place to start. It is especially important this year to gather all the information that you can, as the positions of the two main parties have become as far apart as ever in history, and some of the newer candidates have interesting perspectives on what it means to hold office in America.

It is important to remember the role our Founding Fathers played in establishing the United States Constitution. Whether it's the how the candidates view the role of judges in making law, the raising of taxes, or national defense, the differences will make a significant impact on the nation depending on who is ultimately elected.

It is tragic that some Americans stand for a particular party or candidate, because their favorite song artist or their favorite actor/actress has endorsed them without regarding principles and our constitution. Disturbingly, the opposition

against America and the blatant contempt against her leaders has become pervasive in our everyday lives.

There remains, however, a group of citizens who see our country as the best place on earth to live and are committed to educate, encourage and get involved in the political process. It is you, dear readers, that will stand up for principle and our constitution, and use God-given discernment by exercising your voting privilege for the good of our nation.

Information is obtained from various reliable sources and presented through the lens of the nation's highest law: the United States Constitution. News sources are footnoted; otherwise sources used were ProCon.org, Ballotpedia.com, VoteSmart.org, or the candidate's websites. (See the “Ratings and Endorsements” **Page 29** for an explanation of the positions/viewpoints/policies of the groups who have made ratings/endorsements of the candidates. By no means is this list exhaustive.) None of the information provided is intended, nor should it be construed, to be an endorsement of any party or candidate. We have not included candidates in this review who have not been certified for all 50 state ballots.¹

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PRESIDENT/VICE-PRESIDENT CANDIDATES of the United States of America

DONALD J. TRUMP (Republican, Incumbent)



President Trump has kept his promise to uphold the RNC Platform by defending religious freedom, instituting policies to uphold the sanctity of life, taking decisive action to strengthen our military, securing our borders, eliminating burdensome federal regulations, simplifying the tax code, renegotiating unfair trade agreements, and moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.²

“Just weeks after helping to broker peace between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), President Trump [was] nominated for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize. ‘For his merit, I think he has done more trying to create peace between nations than most other Peace Prize nominees,’ Tybring-Gjedde ... [said].”³ (Christian Tybring-Gjedde is a member of the Norwegian Parliament and chairman of the Norwegian delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.)

ABORTION: On January 19, 2018, ... President Donald Trump said that his administration “will always defend the right to life. ... We are protecting the sanctity of life and the family as the foundation of our society.” “As most people know ... I am strongly pro-life, with the three exceptions: rape, incest and protecting the life of the mother – the same position taken by Ronald Reagan.” Donald Trump, twitter.com, May 18, 2019.

Trump’s major actions on abortion during his first two years in office were: signing into law a resolution that allowed states to withhold federal funding for health care providers that perform abortions; reinstating the Mexico City Policy, which prohibited foreign aid and federal funding for international NGOs that performed abortions or offered related services; and proposed modifying the Title X family planning program making family planning clinics that refer patients or resources with abortion providers ineligible to receive funding. Additionally, healthcare providers would not be required to provide abortion counseling if it violated their moral or religious beliefs.

ECONOMY: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act; the first major tax reform signed in 30 years; provided tax relief for 82% of middle-class families; doubled the Child Tax Credit to \$1,000 per child; nearly doubled the standard deduction, cut taxes for small business by 20%, providing \$415 billion in tax relief for small business owners, alleviated the tax burden on over 500 businesses, resulting in \$482 billion invested in new American projects, repealed Obamacare’s burdensome individual mandate; lowered the corporate tax rate from one of the highest in the industrialized world from 35% to 21%. Launched the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative, which advanced women’s full and free participation in the global economy and allocated \$50 million for the fund.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the U.S. labor market remained strong in 2019, as the unemployment rate fell to 3.5 percent, the lowest rate since 1969. Levels of long-term joblessness and involuntary part-time employment continued to trend down.

EDUCATION: The President’s FY2018 Budget Request included \$1 billion in funding grants for public school choice and \$250 million to promote private school choice. In his FY2019, budget President Trump proposed a \$5 billion federal tax credit for donations that fund scholarships to private and vocational schools, apprenticeship programs and other educational opportunities. His administration successfully implemented the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to empower states to better educate their students. To date, 35 states and the District of Columbia have had their ESSA plans approved. They also implemented year-round distribution of Pell grants. Low-income students now have access to funds over summer and winter breaks, so they can earn their degrees faster with fewer loans. The Trump Administration reformed the student loan servicing process to improve customer experience and lower costs. They have modernized the way FSA offers and services student loans. The Department of Education provided \$359.8 million in federal assistance to 20 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands to assist with the cost of educating students displaced by natural disasters.

HEALTHCARE: “... Donald Trump has proposed to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and replace it with a proposal titled ‘Healthcare Reform to Make America Great Again’. ... recommended reforms include full deduction of premiums for individual health plans on federal tax returns, providing block grants to finance state Medicaid programs, and allowing insurers to sell insurance across state lines. His goal: To assess how each of these reforms, when implemented individually, would affect insurance coverage, consumer out-of-pocket spending on health care, and the federal deficit. Since the Affordable Care Act was enacted in 2010, critics have advocated that the law be repealed and replaced with an alternative set of reforms.”⁴

COVID-19: The World Health Organization declared a public health emergency of international concern over the coronavirus outbreak on January 30, 2020. The following day,

President Trump introduced a temporary ban on the admission of people who were in China 14 days prior to their travel to the United States. “... Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, praised ‘the original decision that was made by the president’ to impose travel restrictions to and from China. ‘We prevented travel from China to the United States’, said Fauci, who has worked for multiple administrations. ‘If we had not done that, we would have had many, many more cases right here that we would have to be dealing with’.”⁵

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress with overwhelming, bipartisan support and signed into law by President Trump on March 27th, 2020. This over \$2 trillion economic relief package delivers on the Trump Administration’s commitment to protecting the American people from the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The CARES Act provides *fast and direct* economic assistance for American workers, families, and small businesses, and preserve jobs for our American industries.⁶

IMMIGRATION: Recommended anti-fraud and abuse measures, protecting the integrity of the H-2B visa program. Announced that last month border officials handled fewer than 40,000 illegal crossings, the lowest rate in two years. With over 100 miles of wall built, he has fulfilled his promise to secure the border. Provided funding to support the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

LAW AND ORDER: \$98 million in grant funding through the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services COPS Hiring Program to allow 802 additional full-time law enforcement officers. Signed Executive Order 13809 to restore state and local law enforcement’s access to surplus equipment from the Defense Department. Created the new National Public Safety Partnership to help cities reduce violent crimes. Expanded Project Safe Neighborhoods to encourage U.S. Attorneys to work with communities to develop customized crime reduction strategies, resulting in a 23 percent increase in arrests for unlawful possession of a firearm.

Stands firm that Black Lives Matter is a Marxist organization. [See description of Black Lives Matter parent organization under “Ratings/Endorsements,” page 29, this issue.] “What we can never have is mob rule, and the Republican Party condemns the violence in Democrat-run cities.” (RNC Acceptance Speech, 2020)

NATIONAL DEFENSE: “... helped broker a deal between the United Arab Emirates and Israel and then another with Israel and Bahrain, uniting the countries in peace and diplomatic relations. The agreements, collectively called the Abraham Accords, are the first of its kind since 1994 and commit the nations to an exchange of embassies and ambassadors and to work with each other in educational, healthcare, trade, and security initiatives, among other fields.”⁷

Put maximum pressure on North Korea to denuclearize. In June 2019, President Trump became the first sitting U.S. President to enter North Korea, holding a historic meeting with Kim Jong Un at the DMZ. The president confronted Iran’s aggression by withdrawing from Obama’s flawed Iranian nuclear deal and ordered missile strikes against a Syrian airbase after the Assad regime used it to launch chemical weapons attacks against civilians. Placed sanctions on North Korea for its use of chemical weapons in the assassination of Kim Jong UN’s stepbrother. He imposed numerous sanctions on the Maduro dictatorship in Venezuela. The Trump Administration has led the world in support of Juan Guaido, the Democratic elected leader of the Venezuelan General Assembly. Has approved more than \$250 million in regional aid to address the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.

Has directly confronted Russia for its threatening behavior, bolstering allies in the region. Has imposed diplomatic penalties on Russia including the expulsion of more than 50 Russian intelligence officials and the closing of two Russian consulates. Placed sanctions on Russia for its use of chemical weapons involving an attempted assassination of a former KGB spy in Britain. Led support for Ukraine’s Armed Forces to help Ukraine improve its defense. Has pressured NATO allies to meet their spending commitments and by the year 2019, NATO allies have increased their spending by nearly \$100 billion since 2016.

Under Trump, the National Defense Authorization Act established the United States Space Force (a new branch of the military), ensuring American dominance in space, and modernizing the U.S. military to meet the security needs of the 21st century. It granted \$738 billion for defense spending including the first ever paid family leave and much needed 3.1% pay raise for our troops. He revived the National Space Council to develop and implement a new national space policy and strategy.

Ratings and Endorsements: Citizens United Political Victory Fund; Fraternal Order of Police; Huck Pac; Missouri Right to Life PAC; National Right to Life; Right to Life from AR, CA, ILs, MI, MN, MO TX and WI; The International Union of Police Associations.

WEBSITE: Making America Great Again, www.promiseskept.com.



JOSEPH R. BIDEN (Democrat)



Born in Scranton, PA. Raised in Claymont, DE. Received BA, University of Delaware and JD, Syracuse University. Married with two sons (one son deceased) and one daughter (deceased); widowed; remarried with one daughter. U.S. Senate (1972-2008); ran unsuccessfully for president in 1988 and 2008; elected 47th Vice President of the United States (2008), serving two terms with Barack Obama.

ABORTION: “As president, Biden will be a champion for improving access to health care and the health of all by: Expanding access to contraception and protect the constitutional right to an abortion ... Reverse the Trump

Administration and states’ all-out assault on women’s right to choose. As president, will work to codify Roe v. Wade, and his Justice Department will do everything in its power to stop the rash of state laws that so blatantly violate the constitutional right to an abortion, such as so-called TRAP laws [Targeted Restrictions on Abortion Providers], parental notification requirements, mandatory waiting periods, and ultrasound requirements.” Source: “Healthcare,” www.joebiden.com.

“Despite supporting the Hyde Amendment for his entire public career, Biden reversed his position last summer and now supports federal funding for abortion. Biden has promised to ... make support for abortion a litmus test for nominees to the Supreme Court. He has also vowed to make passage of the Equality Act a top legislative priority during his first 100 days as president.”⁸

ECONOMY: Promises to “... end this epidemic [pandemic] and get our economy back on track through bold action; launch a task force reporting directly to me to make sure every dollar going out the door gets to the people who need it — fast; bring the leaders of Congress together to build the next deal.”

EDUCATION: “Outlining a plan that 1) provides educators the support and respect they need and deserve, and 2) invests in all children from birth, so that regardless of their zip code, parents’ income, race, or disability, they are prepared to succeed in tomorrow’s economy.” Competitive wage, help teachers pay off student loans, double counselors in schools, defeat NRA to make schools safer, eliminate funding gap, improve teacher diversity, and pursue desegregation strategies.

HEALTHCARE: On coronavirus pandemic, “ ‘I said, among others, that, you know, you should get into China, get our experts there, we have the best in the world, get them in so we know what’s actually happening,’ Biden said. [Claims] ‘there was no effort to do that’. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tried to get into China just one week after China reported the outbreak to the World Health Organization on Dec. 31, 2019.” “... Biden said he ‘will be prepared to do whatever it takes to save lives,’”¹⁰ even shutting down the country again.

Biden’s aggressive advocacy for LGBT issues extends into his approach to foreign policy. He has promised to install a “point person” for LGBTQ+ issues on the National Security Council and a special envoy at the State Department to combat “homophobia, transphobia, and stigma globally.”¹¹

IMMIGRATION: “ ‘We’re going to restore our moral standing in the world and our historic role as a safe haven for refugees and asylum-seekers.’”¹²

LAW AND ORDER: Biden ... aims to pass legislation abolishing the death penalty at the federal level and offer incentives to states to follow suit. Convicted criminals who would face execution under current law would instead be sentenced to life in prison without parole.

His plan also would decriminalize marijuana and expunge past cannabis-related convictions, end the disparity between sentences for powder and crack cocaine, and do away with all incarceration for drug use In addition, it would create a \$20 billion grant program to spur states to move from incarceration to crime prevention and would eliminate mandatory-minimum sentences.”¹³

NATIONAL DEFENSE: “Former Vice President Joe Biden said this week that, if elected president, he doesn’t foresee major reductions in the U.S. defense budget as the military refocuses its attention to potential threats from ‘near-peer’ powers such as China and Russia. But internal pressure from the progressive wing of the Democratic Party, combined with pandemic-related economic pressures, may ultimately add up to budget cuts at a Biden Pentagon. ... Biden avoided any sweeping pronouncements about how defense spending might change in his administration. ‘... we need priorities in the budget,’ Biden said, adding that the Pentagon must invest in emerging technologies. ‘We have to focus more on unmanned capacity, cyber and IT, in a very modern world that is changing rapidly,’ Biden said.”¹⁴

Ratings and Endorsements: AFL-CIO; End Citizens United; Florida LGBTQ+; MoveOn.org Political Action; National Education Association; Planned Parenthood; Sierra Club; The Coalition to Stop Gun Violence; United Auto Workers.

WEBSITE: <https://joebiden.com/>

JO JORGENSEN (Libertarian)



Lives in Greenville, SC. Holds a BS, Psychology, Baylor University (1979); MBA Southern Methodist University (1980); PhD, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Clemson University (2002). *Candidate*, U.S. House of Representatives, S.C. (1992); *candidate*, Vice-President (1996). Founder, Business Consultation Company (2002); Founder, Professional Software Incorporated; President/Owner, Hypertech, Inc.; Senior Lecturer, Clemson University (2006-present). National Marketing Director of Libertarian Party.

ABORTION: Keep the government out of it, no subsidies, no regulations.

EDUCATION: Will work to eliminate the Department of Education and return control of education to where it belongs – with parents, teachers, and students.”

ECONOMY: We need to make government smaller. The real cure for poverty is a vibrant economy that generates plentiful jobs and high wages, combined with an affordable cost of living.

HEALTHCARE: Can reduce the cost of health care 75% by allowing real price competition, and by substantially reducing government and insurance company paperwork. This will make health care affordable for most Americans, while also reducing the cost of legacy programs like Medicare, Medicaid, and the VA. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed a tale of two Americas: the one driven by career politicians in Washington, and the one created by the American people. She supports the legalization of marijuana.

IMMIGRATION: Our policies on immigration should be just as free and open. While the ethnicities and countries of origin have changed, the American legacy of what immigration *is supposed to be* remains the same: different cultures held together by the values of inclusion and acceptance; a shining city upon a hill welcoming the tired, poor, and huddled masses.

LAW AND ORDER: Communities should determine whether police officers are required to wear body cameras. She opposes the government hiring private companies to run prisons, solitary confinement for juveniles, mandatory minimums for people charged with drug possession, and the death penalty for drug traffickers. Her website says convicted . should have the right to vote.

NATIONAL DEFENSE: No U.S. involvement in foreign wars. Bring home over 200,000 military personnel stationed in foreign countries, and no U.S. military aid to foreign governments. No U.S. blockades or embargoes of non-military trade. Peace, at last. Plan is to make America armed and neutral, with the military force to defend America’s shore and soil against any foreign attackers or invaders, protected by an armed citizenry, and a military laser-focused on defending America. Big government mandates and programs created these problems.

Ratings and Endorsements: Grass Roots North Carolina (100%)

WEBSITE: <https://jo20.com/>

HOWIE HAWKINS (Green Party):

Lives in Syracuse, NY. Attended Dartmouth College (1975). *Candidate* for the following offices: Mayor, City of Syracuse (1997); United States Senate (2006); United States House of Representatives, District 25 (2000, 2004, 2008); New York State Governor (2010); New York State Governor (2014); Vice President of the United States (2016); Governor of New York (2018); President of the United States (2012, 2020).

Member, Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization, 1972-1975, 2006-present; Co-Founder/National Committee Representative, Green Alliance, 2001-present; National Committee Member, Green Party of the United States, 2001-present; Member, Teamsters for a Democratic Union, 2001-present; Member, Socialist Party United States of America, 1973-present.

Priority issues include: Progressive taxes, full employment, health care for all, clean energy, good schools for all communities, economic democracy for economic renewal, sustainable green economy, affordable housing, retirement security, workers rights, fair elections, end the “war on drugs,” reproductive freedom, gay marriage, peace, criminal justice reform, regional planning, local government, grassroots democracy.

Ratings and Endorsements: Green Party U.S.; Socialist Party U.S.A.; Socialist Alternative; Legal Marijuana Now Party of Minnesota; Independent Socialist Group; Colorado Springs DSA; Democratic Socialist of Salt Lake.

WEBSITE: <https://howiehawkins.us/>





VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



MICHAEL R. PENCE (Republican, Incumbent)

Born in Columbus, IN. Christian. BA in American History, Hanover College (1981); JD, School of Law, Indiana University (1986). Candidate for U.S. House of Representative in 1988 and 1990. Member U.S. House of Representative (2000-2012); Governor, Indiana (2012-2017); President, U.S. Senate (2017-present); Vice President, U.S.A. (2017-present). Formerly, Chair, House Republican Study Committee; Member, Tea Party Caucus; Chair, House Republican Conference; Member, Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism; Member, Congressional Internet Caucus.

Has also played a pivotal role as a tie-breaking vote in the Senate, which is a duty given to vice presidents, who are also presidents of the Senate. Cast the first tie-breaking vote to confirm both a Cabinet member and a judicial nominee in congressional history.”¹⁵

ABORTION: “... staunchly conservative on social issues including opposition to abortion rights and same-sex marriage. ... As governor of Indiana, Pence signed into law restrictive abortion measures that banned women from seeking an abortion based on an unborn child’s race, gender or disability. The measure also required fetal remains from abortions or miscarriages to be buried or cremated. Two years after it went into effect, the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that it was unconstitutional. But in 2019, the Supreme Court upheld the part of the law that required burial of fetal remains. ... As vice president, Pence cast the tie-breaking vote in the Senate to defund Planned Parenthood in 2017.”¹⁶

ECONOMY: Vice President “pressed on with a positive message about declining unemployment, the headline-making August jobs report and downtrends in coronavirus infection rates across states that faced major outbreaks earlier this summer. ‘On this Labor Day [Pence told workers], it’s important to remember that in the last three years wages were rising at their fastest pace in the last decade.’” He continued: ‘... keep pressing on. Keep showing the strength and the faith and the resilience that working people have always shown in the history of this nation. Keep standing with us and we’ll keep standing with you’.”¹⁷

EDUCATION: Supports publicly funded vouchers to pay private school tuition for low and middle-income families and for charter schools; adopted, but then rejected, Common Core state standards in Indiana; established scholarship program for teaching; fights for innovation and reform by funneling resources, not red tape, from the federal government to local schools.¹⁸

HEALTHCARE: Head of the White House coronavirus task force. “... federal government ... arranged for the distribution of hundreds of millions of medical supplies – PPE We worked to develop therapeutics – medicines that help people that are struggling. And even through today, Johnson & Johnson just announced another major step toward obtaining a vaccine. ... We really do believe that, through Operation Warp Speed, that we could well have a coronavirus vaccine for the American people – millions of doses of the vaccine – before the end of this year. ... We need to open up America’s churches and houses of worship because faith is the wellspring from which the American people have always drawn strength in challenging times.”¹⁹

On ObamaCare: “Republicans have been offering solutions from the beginning. Let people purchase health insurance across state lines, pass malpractice reform, cover preexisting conditions. All of that can be done without a massive, trillion-dollar expansion of the federal government and burdening future generations with more deficits and more debt.”²⁰

IMMIGRATION: “Every day we don’t secure our border, we’re allowing the crisis to worsen, more lives to be endangered, and more people to be exploited, and more drugs to flow into our country. That’s why President Trump used his authority under the law to declare a national emergency on our southern border. We call on every member of Congress: Stand up for border security, stop playing politics with the security of the American people, and stand with President Trump for a stronger and safer America.”²¹

LAW AND ORDER: “The president and I will always support the right of Americans to peaceful protest,” Pence said. “But rioting and looting is not peaceful protests. Burning businesses is not free speech. Bringing violence against innocent civilians or those in law enforcement must stop and it must stop now.”²²

NATIONAL DEFENSE: A strong supporter of Israel. “... we must be prepared to confront and expose the vile tide of anti-Semitism that is fueling hate and violence all across the world and we must stand together,” Pence told an audience of world leaders during a Holocaust memorial forum in Jerusalem.”²³

Ratings and Endorsements: ACT! For America (92%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Gun Owners of America (100%); NARAL Pro-Choice America (0%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (0%); National Organization for Women (7%); National Rifle Association (93%); National Right to Life Committee (100%); Planned Parenthood (0%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.whitehouse.gov/>



KAMALA D. HARRIS (Democrat)

Born in Oakland, CA, and lives in San Francisco, CA. Her mother is from India and her father is from British Jamaica. BA in Political Science/Economics, Howard University (1986); JD, University of California, Hastings College of the Law (1990). Attorney General, State of California (2011-2016); Senator, United States Senate, California (2017-present). Current Legislative Committees include: Member, Subcommittee on The Constitution; Subcommittee on Intellectual Property; Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management; Select Committee on Intelligence; Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations; Judiciary; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and Budget.

Harris ran for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination and attracted national attention before ending her campaign on December 3, 2019. On August 11, 2020, she was announced as former Vice President Joe Biden’s running mate in the 2020 election.

“Speaking during a virtual roundtable with small business owners in Arizona, Harris vowed that they will have an ally in the White House with the campaign’s ‘Build Back Better’ initiative. ... ‘A **Harris** administration, together with Joe Biden as the president of the United States’, she said. She quickly clarified, ‘The Biden-Harris administration will provide access to \$100 billion in low-interest loans and investments from minority business owners’.”²⁴

ABORTION: “It is incumbent upon Congress to pass the Women’s Health Protection Act, which would prohibit states from enacting laws that impose burdensome requirements on access to abortion.”²⁵

“In her brief run for president [nomination 2020], she campaigned on a series of extreme anti-life positions, including codifying Roe v. Wade into law, requiring preclearance for state abortion laws, repealing the Hyde Amendment, repealing the Mexico City Policy, preserving federal funding for Planned Parenthood and banning abstinence-only sex education. As attorney general, she confiscated hard drive videos, which exposed Planned Parenthood’s illegal sale of aborted fetal tissue.”²⁶

ECONOMY/TAXES: “Harris ... tweeted, ‘the average tax refund is down about \$170 compared to last year. Let’s call the President’s tax cut what it is: a middle-class tax hike to line the pockets of already wealthy corporations and the 1%’.”

EDUCATION: Harris sponsored a 2010 law to make it a misdemeanor for parents whose young children miss more than 10% of school days a year without a valid excuse. In an interview on *CNN*’s “State of the Union,” Harris said her initiative improved school attendance in San Francisco and ‘not one parent was sent to jail. ... When we define truancy, we defined it as three or four unexcused absences. I was seeing kids that were missing up to 80 days of a 180-day school year. So, my point was, why isn’t the education code recognizing that? ... by changing the education code, it also changed ... the penal code. And then that was an unintended consequence. And if I could do it over again, I would have made sure that it would not have increased penalties or the ability to prosecute anywhere in the state to prosecute parents, because that was never the intention. And it was never anything that I did’.”²⁷

IMMIGRATION: Through deferred action immigration programs and executive actions believes in removing “the threat of deportation of millions of undocumented people in the United States.” During her initial bid for president, she said, ‘... while I fight for Congress to pass 21st Century immigration reform, I won’t wait. I’ll take action to lift barriers Dreamers face to pursuing legal status and put them on a meaningful path to citizenship. These young people are just as American as I am, and they deserve a president who will fight for them from day one.’ This is not the first time Harris has proposed going around Congress and using executive action to tackle a core Democratic issue. Harris announced in April that she would use the power of the presidency to enact sweeping gun control measures if Congress fails to send comprehensive legislation to her desk in her first 100 days.”²⁸

LAW AND ORDER: Has a record as a tough prosecutor – but also stirred controversy during that period for allegedly going easy on criminal defendants in a number of cases, including by refusing to seek the death penalty for a cop killer. She often did not seek punishments to the full extent of the law as the San Francisco district attorney and California attorney general.”²⁹

NATIONAL DEFENSE: Calls for slashing the defense budget. She “pledge[s] to double the size of the civil rights division of the Justice Department: ‘Justice means recognizing domestic terrorism, including white nationalist extremism,’ which Harris said ‘should be considered a national security priority’.”³⁰

Ratings and Endorsements: ACLU (100%); Campaign for Working Families (0%); Emily’s List; Equality California (100%); Family Research Council (0%); Heritage Action for America (0%); NAACP (100%); NARAL Pro-Choice (100%); National Education Association (100%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (92%); National Right to Life (0%); Planned Parenthood (100%); Sierra Club. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.harris.senate.gov/>



JEREMY (SPIKE) COHEN (Libertarian)

Jewish. Founder, Web Design Company (1999); Co-Host, The Muddled Waters of Freedom; Host, My Fellow Americans; Co-Owner, Muddled Waters Media.

Ratings and Endorsements: None available.

WEBSITE: <https://www.lpallegheny.org/>




ANGELA NICOLE WALKER (Green Party)

Lives in South Carolina. Attended University of North Florida as an education major; a 2016 candidate for U.S. vice president. Former Legislative Director, Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 998; Community Campaigns Coordinator, Wisconsin Jobs Now (present). Fierce advocate for the rights of black, brown and indigenous people, the LGBTQIA community, labor and the earth itself.

Ratings and Endorsements: None available.

WEBSITE: <https://howiehawkins.us/>

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REPUBLIC PLATFORM

"The Constitution's guarantee that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. Declaration of Independence's 'unalienable Rights' 'endowed by their Creator' with 'certain inalienable Rights.' Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life that the unborn child has a fundamental right that cannot be infringed. We support the right to life to the Constitution and legislative enactments. Fourteenth Amendment's protection of 'any person' before birth." (p.13)

"We oppose the use of public funds for abortion or to fund organizations that perform or refer to fetal body parts rather than provide life support."

"We support the appointment of judges who uphold traditional family values and the sanctity of human life." (p.13)

"We support options for learning, career and technical education, charter schools, magnet schools, and early-college high schools. innovative financing mechanisms available to all children: education savings accounts (ESAs), vouchers, and tuition tax credits."

"We renew our call for replacing sex education for teens with sexual risk avoidance education, abstinence until marriage as the standard of behavior." (p.34)

"The integrity of our country's foreign policy has been compromised by the current administration's attempt to impose on foreign relations the radical ideologies of peoples of Africa, its own radicalism, and excluding faith-based groups — a track record in promoting development that will not conform to that agenda. course...." (p.52)

This flier a

Produced by Priests for Life

A Comparison of the Republican and Democratic Platforms

**A non-partisan guide on issues
of concern to the electorate
Quotes taken from platforms
in effect 2020-2024**

REPUBLICAN

PLATFORM

**KEY
ISSUE**

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

"The Constitution's guarantee that no one can "be deprived of life, liberty or property" deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence's proclamation that "all" are "endowed by their Creator" with the inalienable right to life. Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to children before birth." (p.13)

"We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare." (p.13)

"We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life." (p.13)

“We support options for learning, including home-schooling, career and technical education, private or parochial schools, magnet schools, charter schools, online learning, and early-college high schools. We especially support the innovative financing mechanisms that make options available to all children: education savings accounts (ESAs), vouchers, and tuition tax credits.” (p.34)

"We renew our call for replacing "family planning" programs for teens with sexual risk avoidance education that sets abstinence until marriage as the responsible and respected standard of behavior." (p.34)

“The integrity of our country’s foreign assistance program has been compromised by the current Administration’s attempt to impose on foreign recipients, especially the peoples of Africa, its own radical social agenda while excluding faith-based groups — the sector with the best track record in promoting development — because they will not conform to that agenda. We pledge to reverse this course...” (p.52)

Human Life

"Democrats believe every woman should be able to access ... abortion. We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women's reproductive health and rights, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment and protecting and codifying the right to reproductive freedom." (p.42)

Planned Parenthood

“We will repeal the Title X domestic gag rule and restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood” (p.32)

Judges

"We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who look like America ... and will respect and enforce foundational precedents, including ... *Roe v. Wade*."(p.39)

Education/ School Choice

“Democrats oppose private school vouchers and other policies that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from the public school system.” (p. 67)

Sex Education

"We recognize that quality, affordable comprehensive health care; medically accurate, LGBTQ+ inclusive, age-appropriate sex education; and the full range of family planning services are all essential to ensuring that people can decide if, when, and how to start a family." (p.32)

Foreign Assistance

"We will support the repeal of the global gag rule (also known as the Mexico City Policy) and measures like the Helms Amendment, which limit safe access to abortion. We will also restore and expand American contributions to the United Nations Population Fund" (pp. 82-83)

Page numbers refer to the actual pages number in each platform.

This flier and the full texts of the party platforms may be found at www.VotingInfo.net.

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MISSOURI CANDIDATE PROFILES

General Election 2020

HOW DO WE SELECT A CANDIDATE?

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union ... We are all familiar with the first sentence of the Constitution of the United States, Perhaps fewer are familiar with the first section of the first article immediately following that preamble. Order and priority were not overlooked by the men who drafted our governing documents and who vested the power of that new government where it belonged, in the hands of the people of the nation. ***WE the PEOPLE*** had thrown off the tyranny of man's rule through monarchy and reclaimed our sovereignty under the laws of Nature and of Nature's God. Therefore, it is right and reasonable that Article I, Section 1 of the Constitution states, ***All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.*** Section 2 goes on to describe the People's House which "shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States ..." It is only after the Legislative Branch is defined that the Executive and the Judicial branches are outlined, in that order. This is not an afterthought, but a logical progression of what stems from ***of the People, by the People, and for the People.***

Samuel Adams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, held a high standard for those who would serve in the government. "Nothing is more essential to the establishment of manners in a State than that all persons employed in places of power and trust be men of unexceptionable characters. The public cannot be too curious concerning the characters of public men."¹ Character is some indication of future behavior, "Neither the wisest constitution, nor the wisest laws will secure the liberty and happiness of a people whose manners are universally corrupt."² The admonition of

our founders to choose wise, moral, and religious persons is still sound advice. A good indicator of what our representatives will do in office is to look at what they have done in the past and who endorses that behavior. That is why we have provided information on endorsements and committees for each candidate (when available).³

We have also included a brief description of the groups that rate or endorse candidates. Again, the adage "deeds, not words" is important in evaluating each group's philosophy. Their support for legislation is their "deeds." Most of these groups have promoted legislation that causes them to be positioned either in the progressive/socialist/liberal camp or the conservative/pro-family/free-market camp. **FRONT LINE** encourages our readers to explore further the candidates that appeal to them and then get involved in their election. Where available, the candidates' websites are included for further research.

We have used (unless otherwise indicated) Votesmart.org and Ballotpedia.org, which provide non-partisan, impartial, and in-depth information on candidates for public office. For further explanation of interest groups, see <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/interest-groups>. For those that wish to see some of the votes cast by those candidates that are presently serving in Congress, go to <https://ballotpedia.org>, and check on the Key Votes of the 116th Congress 2019-2020 by member's name. This is just a snapshot of some of the more known issues and by no means is a complete picture of the member.

See the "Ratings and Endorsements" page 29 for an explanation of the positions/viewpoints/policies of the groups who have made ratings/endorsements of the candidates. By no means is this list exhaustive.

~~~ MISSOURI GOVERNOR ~~~

MIKE PARSON

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Missouri, and lives in Bolivar, MO. Attended both the University of Hawaii and University of Maryland after graduating high school in 1973. Married with two children. Served in the United States Army and as the Sheriff of Polk County. Has been a business owner and is a third generation farmer. Member of First Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO. Member of the Cattlemen's Association, Missouri Farm Bureau, Missouri Sheriff's Association, National Rifle Association, National Sheriff's Association, and the Optimist Club.



Opposes embryonic stem cell research. As a Missouri congressman, in 2011, he signed the "no new tax pledge" for Missouri; supports requiring ride-sharing companies to have comprehensive insurance plans; pro-life; pro Second Amendment; opposes Obamacare. During his first year in office, the state economy increased by over 35,000 new jobs. Bunge, Bayer, Briggs & Stratton, CVS, Nucor Steel, Google and others are investing in Missouri and creating new opportunities for Missourians. The legislature passed, and Governor Parson signed, the largest income tax cut in Missouri history.

Elected Missouri's Lieutenant Governor (2016); member

of Missouri State Senate (2011-2017), MO House of Representatives (2005-2011) and sheriff of Polk County (1993-2004). In a *Tweet* on September 10, 2019, Parson was endorsed by President Donald Trump.

In May and June of the pandemic in Missouri, Governor Parson successfully ensured that Missouri's healthcare system was not overwhelmed; implemented the "Show-Me Strong Recovery Plan" for Missouri on May 4; signed legislation to safeguard our elections and protect Missouri voters during the pandemic; fully re-opened the state for business, part of the second phase of Missouri's Recovery Plan; rapidly grew testing capacity, and implemented plan focusing on three main testing strategies – box-in outbreaks, sentinel testing and community sampling; distributed funds from the federal CARES Act to local governments, ensuring our local communities could continue providing critical services without delay; signed additional executive orders to assist with Missouri's Covid-19 response; mobilized the Missouri National Guard to protect Missouri lives and property during civil unrest.

As a sponsor of Missouri's Castle Doctrine, Parson is doing everything under the constitution that he can do to defend law-abiding Missourians from liberal prosecutors. He "told Hannity ... that 'without a doubt', he will pardon Mark and Patricia McCloskey, hours after St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kimberly Gardner filed felony charges against them. He said, "I will do everything within the Constitution of the State of Missouri to protect law-abiding citizens ... They are law-abiding citizens, and they're being attacked frankly by a political process that's

really unfortunate."¹

Ratings/Endorsements: American Conservative Union (100%); Fraternal Order of Police; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (85%); Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri NEA (8%); Missouri AFL-CIO (35%); Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (0%); Missouri Right to Life (100%); National Federation of Independent Business – Missouri (100%); National Rifle Association (100%); NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri (14%); National Rifle Association (93%); Planned Parenthood Advocates (0%); Sierra Club Missouri Chapter (0%); St. Louis County Police Association; St. Louis Police Officers Association; Susan B. Anthony List. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.mikeparson.com/>

NICOLE GALLOWAY

(Democrat) Born in Missouri, lives in Columbia; married with three children. Bachelor's, Applied Mathematics/Economics, Missouri University of Science and Technology (2004); MBA, Accounting, University of Missouri (2008), licensed CPA and Certified Fraud Examiner. Treasurer, Boone County (2011-2015); previous work includes actuarial analyst, auditor, corporate auditor, Secretary-Treasurer, Missouri Technology Corporation. Received controversial appointment as state auditor in 2015 by Democratic **Governor Jay Nixon**



cont'd p 22



Missouri Candidate Profiles 2020 cont'd

to fill the position of Republican Auditor Tom Schweich who tragically died shortly after being elected in 2014. Current term as auditor ends January 2023.

Galloway developed a debt issuance policy in 2012 that provided increased transparency. In 2011, Boone County became the first Missouri county to maintain an online search and claim system for unclaimed property.

According to the Washington Free Beacon, "... [as county treasurer serving on the Missouri Technology Corporation and Missouri County Employees' Retirement Fund] Galloway helped steer a \$375,000 taxpayer-funded investment to a sex-driven online forum that markets itself to 13-year olds. ... Galloway recommended that the board approve \$375,000 in public funding for the online forum GirlsAskGuys. ... campaign spokesman, Eric Clusher, noted that she resigned from the MTC on April 23, 2015, one day before the board granted final approval for the website investment."² She was also the leader for expanding benefits to members' same-sex spouses.

Galloway is or has been a member of Metro Rotary of Columbia, 2011-present; American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, 2009-present; former member, finance committee, Columbia Interfaith Resource Center; former youth mentor, Discovering Options; former board member, Missouri County Treasurers' Association board member, Heart of Missouri United Way, 2011-2015.

Ratings and Endorsements: 3.14 Action; Emily's List; End Citizens United; Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus; Let America Vote; Missouri AFL-CIO; Moms Demand Action; NARAL; National Women's Political Caucus; National Rifle Association (9%); National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund (F+); Pro-Choice Missouri; Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri; Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; Warren Democrats. **WEBSITE:** <https://nicolegalloway.com> and <http://www.auditor.mo.gov>.

RIK COMBS

(Libertarian) Grew up on a cattle farm and graduated from the University of Alabama before entering the Air Force. Spent parts of three decades in the USAF and retired as a field grade officer. Participated in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Desert Fox, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Mostly F-15 Eagles, but began with F-4 Phantoms. Completed MS and PhD while on active duty. CEO of Baron AG in Gainesville, Florida (2006-2009).

Relocated to Jefferson City, MO, in 2009 and settled in Cole County along with wife and daughter. Republican candidate for Missouri House of Representatives District 59. Active in the community and charities to give back as much as possible and contribute to a healthy community for residents. Member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Statements on website include: Believes that limited government works best and allows personal responsibility of Missouri's citizens. Limited government, free enterprise and liberty for all. Let Freedom Ring! A traditional American, pro-life, pro-gun, and a huge believer in personal responsibility and accountability. A person's ability to defend his family and neighbors is the highest calling and responsibility bestowed by God.

Proposes to reduce the taxation burden on Missourians; eliminate draconian and regressive taxes such as personal property tax and income or corporate taxes; allow Missouri to grow through business and population growth; exempt those 70 years of age and older from property taxes on their primary

residence; reduce government spending and size while reducing unnecessary and uncontrollable budget expectations.

Combs has been associated with the VFW, American Legion, the Air Force Association, the United Sportsmen's Club, Eagles, Rotary, United Way, Safety Net, Vitae Foundation, the Pregnancy Help Center, the NRA, Gun Owners of America, National Association for Gun Rights, Wreathes for Heroes, Americans for Tax Reform, Missouri Club for Growth, Campaign for Liberty, Toys for Tots, Young Americans for Liberty.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://combsformissouri.org>.



JEROME HOWARD BAUER

(Green) Lived in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood of St. Louis since 2005, serving the Washington University Cooperative Network, which he co-founded in 2003. Actively supported the Eco City USA non-profit initiative to rebuild social capital in St. Louis

by creating a cradle-to-cradle cooperative network, and CoFED, the Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive. Active with Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment, the Student-Worker Alliance (at Washington University and Webster University), the Peace Economy Project, the Gateway Green Alliance, and many other activist groups. He is on the Central and Platform Committees of both the St. Louis Green Party (www.gateway-greens.org) and serves on the Missouri Green Party's Platform Committee.

Holds a PhD in Sanskrit Religious Literature from the University of Pennsylvania, an MA in Religious Studies for UCSB, and two degrees from the University of Chicago: an AB in Anthropology, and an AM in Social Science (Ideology and Utopia). Served as President of the South Asia Graduate Student Association and the Graduate Student Associations Council. Taught at Washington University, Webster University, Saint Louis University, Fontbonne University, Columbia College, Lindenwood University, and Southwestern Illinois College.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ourcampaigns.com/CandidateDetail> or facebook.com/Jerome-Bauer-Green-for-Missouri-Governor

~~~LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR~~~

MIKE KEHOE

(Republican, Incumbent) Lives in mid-Missouri with his wife and four children. Champion cutting horse rider and successful cattle farmer on a 700-acre farm in Phelps and Pulaski Counties. Worked as an owner and operator of Ford and Lincoln Mercury franchises, manager at Osage Industries, and sales manager at Dave Sinclair Ford.

Currently serves as the Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, assuming office in 2018. Appointed by Gov. **Mike Parson**. Former Republican member of the Missouri State Senate, representing District 6 from (2011-2018). Served as assistant majority floor leader and Senate majority floor leader.

Kehoe has been involved in the Central Missouri Community, serving as chairman of the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce, two-time United Way Fund Drive Chairman,



and multiple other community organizations. Remains active in community business development and youth development activities including Boy Scouts. Served as chairman of the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce

Elected to the State Senate (2010) and later the Majority Floor leader working across party lines securing passage of balanced budgets that fully fund local public schools and laws protecting children and seniors from sexual predators. Helped Missouri create 35,000 new jobs by cutting burdensome regulations, reduced taxes, and reforms to end frivolous lawsuits.

As Lieutenant Governor, serves as the official advocate for Missouri seniors. Works closely with veterans' organizations and legislators ensuring that our state government keeps their promises to the men and women who have served our country. Member of the Tourism Commission.

Ratings/Endorsements: American Conservative Union (89%); Associated Industries of Missouri (100%); Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (100%); Missouri Farm Bureau Federation; Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (13%); Missouri Right to Life (100%); National Federation of Independent Business-Missouri (100%); National Rifle Association (92%); NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri (50%); Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri (0%); Sierra Club Missouri Chapter (13%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.mikekehoe.com>.

ALISSIA CANADY

(Democrat) Grew up on Kansas City's east side. Has a BS, Management/Finance from Park University (2000-2008). Certified, City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning, University of Missouri-Kansas City Field Of Study City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning (2008). Graduated from South Dakota School of Law (2008-2010) with a JD, Law. Assistant Prosecutor in Jackson County (2011-2015). Elected Councilwoman for Kansas City's 5th District in 2015, Chair of the Neighborhoods and Public Safety Committee and the Health Commission. Chair of the Kansas City TIF Commission.

Member, Association of Women Lawyers, Central Exchange, Communications Workers of America, Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus, Harvest Church International Outreach, International Association of Firefighters Local 42, Jackson County Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, and board member of the Madam President Camp and InnovateHer.

Ratings/Endorsements: Emily's List; Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus; National Women's Political Caucus of Metro St. Louis; Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri. **WEBSITE:** <https://canadyformissouri.com>.



BILL SLANTZ

(Libertarian) Lived in St. Charles County since 1997, when he re-located his company to Missouri from New York City. Owner and founder of the W.G. Slantz Company, a radio and television consulting firm specializing in music performance rights. Chair, Missouri Libertarian Party.

Believes in limited government and self-ownership. If elected, will propose legislation to abolish the office of Lieutenant Governor.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://billslantz.com>.



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KELLEY DRAGOO

(Green) Bachelor's, Psychology, University of Central Missouri, 2007-2012; Aquatic Nuisance Species Technician; Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 2013; Member/Treasurer/Co-Coordinator, Green Party of the United States, 2014-present.

Activist for ten years. Organized many educational programs and advocacy events on campus from promoting sustainability with 350.org to informational panels on LGBTQ+ rights and history. Involved in the Kansas City, Heart of America Chapter of the Green Party. Represented the party in coordination with other activist groups like Extinction Rebellion (XR) and Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ).

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.missourigreenparty.org>.

~~~ SECRETARY OF STATE ~~~

JOHN R. (JAY) ASHCROFT

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Jefferson City, MO. Resides with his wife and their four children in St. Louis County. Son of John Ashcroft, former U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Senator, and Governor of Missouri. Received a BS and MS in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri at Rolla and a JD from St. Louis University School of Law.

Currently, he is an associate with The Ashcroft Law Firm LLC. Supports Voter ID and small business and entrepreneurs for economic growth in Missouri. As Secretary of State works to streamline procedures, cut red tape, reduce fees and improve training for first-time businesses. Has increased the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretary of State's Office by improving technology, streamlining procedures, and eliminating waste. Pledges fair ballot language, secure elections, and making voter identification a priority.

In response to elections and the COVID-19 pandemic, Ashcroft "has taken extraordinary measures to make sure that our elections are secure, poll workers and voters are safe, and that every legal vote cast will be counted. ... He drove over 5,000 miles delivering [PPE, sanitizers, educational posters] to local election authorities in every single county." (Press Release, August 5, 2020.)³

Ratings/Endorsements: Eagle Forum, Missouri Right to Life; National Rifle Association (86%). **WEBSITE:** <http://ashcroftformissouri.com>.

YINKA FALETI

(Democrat) Born in Lagos, Nigeria, and immigrated to the United States at the age of seven. Lives in St. Louis; married with four children. Attended and graduated from the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science. Accepted an appointment to and graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Served in the active duty United States Army as a combat arms officer in tank units for over six years. Yinka attained the



rank of captain after two deployments overseas to Kuwait as part of Operation Desert Spring prior to 9/11 and Operation Enduring Freedom in response to 9/11.

Graduated from law school at Washington University and practiced as an attorney at the global law firm of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner and subsequently, as a state prosecutor. Senior vice president with United Way of Greater St. Louis, raising \$300M during his tenure to help people in the Greater St. Louis region. Served as Executive Director of the successor nonprofit to the Ferguson Commission, Forward Through Ferguson.

Ratings/Endorsements: NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri; Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri; The Collective Political Action Committee; United Auto Workers. **WEBSITE:** <https://yinkafaleti.com>.

CARL HERMAN FREESE

(Libertarian) Born in Columbia, MO, and lives in Foristell, MO. Candidate for MO House of Representatives, District 63 in 2018. Licensed Contract Senior Security Officer, Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., 1987-present. Grew up on family's century farm. Has library on the subject of armed and unarmed response to hazards: person, nature, and systemic failure-created hazards.

Board member of The Living History Company, 2009-present; Freese Farms Inc., 1990-present. Member, United Church of Christ Saint Johns Cappeln.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://lpedia.org> or <https://www.facebook.com>.

PAUL LEHMANN

(Green) No information available. See youtube.com.



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE.

PAUL VENABLE

(Constitution) Born in Columbus, OH; lives in Parma, MO, with wife and five children. Member of LDS. Attended Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati. Candidate for Idaho State Lieutenant Governor (2010) and Idaho State House of Representatives (2008). Member of Executive Committee, Constitution Party of Utah (2004). Delegate to the Continental Congress of 2009.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ourcampaigns.com> or <https://www.ballotready.org>.



~~~ STATE TREASURER ~~~

SCOTT FITZPATRICK

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Springfield, MO. Graduated from the University of Missouri. Married with two children. Represented Missouri's 158th District in the Missouri House of Representatives from January (2013-2019). Currently serves as the Missouri State Treasurer, appointed by Governor Parson (2018) following the appointment of the previous state treasurer Eric Schmitt as state attorney general effective in January 2019.

Record as Chairman of the House Budget Committee reflects his commitment to fiscally conservative values as well as his support for small businesses and Missouri families. Elected State Representative (2012) representing Barry and portions of Stone and Lawrence counties. The State's budget surplus nearly tripled to almost \$500 million, while Missouri schools were fully funded for the first time in nearly a decade.

Started his own company, MariCorp US., a Shell Knob-based marine manufacturing and construction company that does business coast-to-coast. Member of the Cassville, Shell Knob and Monett chambers of commerce and has been recognized in Springfield Business Journal's "40 under 40."

Ratings/Endorsements: American Conservative Union (87%); Associated Industries of Missouri (90%); Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (84%); Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (0%); Missouri Right to Life (100%); NARAL Pro-Choice (22%); National Federation of Independent Business-Missouri (100%); National Rifle Association (93%); Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri (0%); Sierra Club Missouri Chapter (0%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.scottfitzpatrick.com> or <https://justfacts.votesmart.org>.



VICKI LORENZ ENGLUND

(Democrat) Born in St. Louis County, MO. Graduate of Lindbergh High School; holds a BA and MA in political science from The American University. Lives in South St. Louis County with her husband and three children; member of Assumption Parish in St. Louis.

Small business owner and worked as a Commercial Real Estate Coordinator and served as South County Sector Specialist for the St. Louis County Economic Council (2001-2004). Previously held a position with the Small Business Administration. In 2002, the St. Louis Business Journal recognized her with a "30 under 30" Award. Founded giftpakexpress.com (an eBay assistant for the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan area).

Served in the Missouri House of Representative (2009-2011) and (2013-2015), representing South St. Louis County. Sponsored a bill that would help the State Treasurer of Missouri return military medals to their original owners.

Ratings/Endorsements: American Conservative Union (15%); Emily's List; Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (53%); Missouri Votes Conservation (100%); Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (90%); NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri (100%); National Rifle Association (0%); National Women's Political Caucus of Metro St. Louis; Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri (100%); Sierra Club Missouri Chapter (80%); United Auto Workers. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.vickienglund.com> or <https://www.ourcampaigns.com>.



SHORT LINES

Dictators ride to and fro on tigers from which they dare not dismount. And the tigers are getting hungry.

— Winston Churchill



Missouri Candidate Profiles 2020 cont'd

NICHOLAS (NICK) KASOFF

(Libertarian): Married with two children. Candidate for Missouri State House of Representatives, District 74 (2019); Candidate for St. Louis County Executive, 2018; Information Technology Consultant.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.facebook.com/nick.kasoff>



in revenue from nuisance violations,' Schmitt continued. 'Those practices broke down the trust between the people and government. Law enforcement officers would rather do community policing instead of speed traps.'⁴

Launched SAFER Streets Initiative which is designed to prosecute violent criminals and make communities safer; launched an initiative to address the problem of untested sexual assault kits; enabled Missouri to join a lawsuit against 20 of the largest drug manufacturers involved in inflating generic drug prices; partnered with FBI's Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force; joined a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general to investigate Google and Facebook.

Ratings/Endorsements: American Conservative Union (100%); Missouri Cattlemen's Association; Missouri Fraternal Order of Police; Missouri Right to Life; Missouri Soybean Association; NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri (14%); National Federation of Independent Business-Missouri (90%); National Rifle Association (100%); Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri (0%); Sierra Club Missouri (0%); St. Louis County Police Association. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.schmittformissouri.com>.

RICH FINNERAN

(Democrat) Grew up in St. Louis County, graduate of Lafayette High School; undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina, attended law school at Washington University and teaches law there; attorney in private practice. Assistant U.S. Attorney from 2010-2017, handling large financial fraud cases. Received the David J. Dixon Appellate Advocacy Award recognizing exceptional appellate practice.

Statements from his website include: "running to restore the integrity of the Attorney General's Office and make sure that politics never get in the way of enforcing the law and protecting the people of our state; affordable health care; protect Medicaid expansion; combat explicit and implicit bias in justice system; fight fraud and abuse; protect rights of working families to earn a prevailing wage; eliminate political influence over law enforcement decisions; equal pay for equal work; against eight-week abortion ban; vigorously defend Clean Missouri; promote diversity and inclusion in the hiring processes; and defend rights to be free from discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability."

In an article, published in the Fulton Sun, "His experience has focused on white collar criminal fraud. This included a record-setting \$435 million consumer fraud case to recover money for victims of economic crimes. 'That's what people expect from the attorney general — someone who is going to enforce laws and protect families,' Finneran said. 'I want to make sure the resources of that office are focused on the work that has to be done, not to make political headlines'. ..."⁵

Ratings/Endorsements: Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.richfinneran.com>.



KEVIN C. BABCOCK

(Libertarian) Born in Modesto, CA; lives in St. Louis, MO. Holds a BA, Management, Webster University, 2005; and JD, St. Louis University, 2008. Candidate for MO State House of Representatives (1994, 2002 and 2006) and candidate for United States House of Representatives (2008).

In an article, published in the Fulton Sun, "Libertarian Kevin Babcock said he is offering an alternative to the two major party candidates for those who 'aren't happy with the choices they have.' The self-employed attorney, who served as a public defender in Ava from 2009-14, said his focus would be on criminal justice reform. 'I've seen how the justice system unfairly treats poor people and minorities,' Babcock said. 'I want to restore confidence in the attorney general's office.' The focus of the attorney general should be justice, not just convictions. We need to get away from the practice of overcharging to get people to plead so they won't go to trial. There's an enormous imbalance between the two sides'."⁶

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ourcampaigns.com>.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 1

ANTHONY ROGERS

(Republican) Attended Saint Louis Community College, 2017-2020; director/producer, Amazon, 2019-present; CEO, Anthony Rogers Presents, Limited Liability Corporation, 2019-Present; founder, The Saint Louis Times, 2019-present; actor, Netflix, 2016-Present. Hosts The Anthony Rogers Show. Everday@www.theanthonyrogersshow.com.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.facebook.com/BetterThanTheBeatles/> or @BetterThanTheBeatles · Politician



CORI BUSH

(Democrat) Born and raised in St. Louis, MO. Nurse, pastor, single mom with two children and "Ferguson-made"⁷ activist; **Black Lives Matter** activist. Attended Harris-Stowe State University (1995-1996) and Lutheran School of Nursing (2005-2008). Professional experience includes working as an ordained



pastor, a registered nurse at Hopewell Health Center (2013-present), in childcare, and as the co-director of The Truth Telling Project. Formerly worked at SSM Health St. Louis University Hospital (2008-2011). Radio host, "Grounded" on BlogTalkRadio. Spoken internationally on nonviolent conflict as a Nonviolence 365 Ambassador with the King Center. An organizer of the St. Louis protest group known as **Expect US**.

Bush was a 2018 Democratic candidate for Missouri's 1st Congressional District and 2016 Democratic candidate for U.S. Senator from Missouri.

JOSEPH CIVETTINI

(Green) Resides in the City of St. Louis for over 30 years. Control systems engineer, specializing in food & beverage automation. Member of the Gateway Green Alliance/Green Party of St. Louis since 1999. Treasurer of the Missouri Green Party since 2009. Green Party Committeeman of the 8th ward of St. Louis city since 2012.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.missourigreenparty.org> or <https://www.facebook.com/Civ4MOTreasurer2020>



ATTORNEY GENERAL

ERIC SCHMITT

(Republican, Incumbent) Lives in Glendale, MO, married with three children. BA from Truman University, graduating cum laude, and a JD from St. Louis University School of Law (2000). Inspired to enter public service to be a voice for his son, who was born with a rare genetic condition (tuberous sclerosis) causing tumors on his organs. His son also has epilepsy, is on the autism spectrum and is non-verbal.

Believes that the Constitution is the bedrock of America's legal system and taught "21st Century American Civics" at St. Louis University. Professional experience includes working as an attorney and serving as a Glendale city alderman. Elected to the Missouri Senate (District 15) in 2008. Term limits prevented him from being re-elected. Sponsored legislation reducing small business tax burden and end the "corporate franchise tax" in Missouri.

Served as the Treasurer of Missouri (2017 to 2019). Appointed to the position of attorney general by Gov. Mike Parson on November 13, 2018, following former Attorney General Josh Hawley's election to the U.S. Senate. Schmitt took office in January 2019.

In an article, published in the Fulton Sun, "Schmitt said he's committed to supporting men and women in law enforcement and said calls to defund police in the wake of several recent confrontations across the country, including some in Missouri, are not the answer to protect public safety. 'Lawyers in our office have been cross deputized to be able to prosecute in federal court, which has helped us deal with some serious criminal offenses, such as hundreds of carjackings and illegal drug cases,' Schmitt said. 'I will continue to make sure the law treats everyone fairly. After the 2014 protests in Ferguson, I worked to sponsor legislation aimed at stopping St. Louis County police departments from aggressively issuing traffic tickets to raise revenue and to stop municipalities from raking



SHORT LINES

Correction

We apologize for inadvertently using an incorrect title in the Spring 2020 issue of **Front Line**. In the article titled, "Do No Harm," by Dr. Michelle Cretella's title should have been Executive Director for the American College of Pediatricians.



On April 9, 2020, Bush announced she had tested negative for coronavirus after coming down with symptoms and self-isolating.

Ratings/Endorsements: 350 Action; American Progressives in STEM; Blue America; Brand New Congress; Democratic Socialists of America; DUH!; Friends of the Earth Action; FTD; Future Generations; Justice Democrats; Madam for America PAC; Matriarch; Mom's Demand Action; MoveOn; National Women's Political Caucus; Next Generation Action Network (NGAN); Our Everyday; Our Revolution Missouri; St. Louis Young Democrats; Sunrise Movement STL; The Solidarity Movement; Township Democrats (24th Ward, Hadley, Clayton); Truth to Power; Women for the Win. **WEBSITE:** <https://coribush.org/>

ALEX FURMAN

(Libertarian) No information available. See @alex4MO.



District 2



ANN WAGNER

(Republican, Incumbent) Married with three children and lives in Ballwin, MO; member of St. Clare of Assisi Church, Ellisville; BSBA, University of Missouri at Columbia (1984); served on several legislative committees in the U.S. House including Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment Subcommittee, Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Task Force to Investigate Terrorism Financing, and other subcommittees; former U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg (2005-2010).

Official website lists eight main topics of interest: national security (strong military), jobs and the economy (eliminate bureaucracy and red tape), illegal immigration (vetting and strong borders), reigning in government spending, fighting sex trafficking, supporting conservative values, protecting survivors of assault, and financial services (availability of saving and investment tools for all Americans). Supports a robust and effective military that is empowered to protect the American people from radical Islamic terrorists in the Middle East. Consistently supported funding for locally manufactured fighter jets, the Growler and Super Hornet, so that our military men and women have sufficient tools to keep us safe.

Consistently worked to lower government spending, reduce our national debt and increase investment opportunities for all Americans. Believes that it is both immoral and reckless to leave the next generation with insurmountable debt and a stagnant economy. Believes we must enforce our existing laws, secure our borders and ensure the American people that their families are safe from dangerous criminals. Has led fight against sex trafficking in the U.S. In 2015, Congress passed and the president signed a bill (the SAVE Act), which places the strongest possible penalties on the advertising of trafficked children under the age of fourteen.

Will continue to fight for conservative family values. Believes that all life is sacred and begins at conception. Has consistently led the way on pro-life issues and sought to give voice to the voiceless and protect the rights of all Missourians.

Has stood for the most vulnerable members of society: our children, victims of sexual assault, the unborn and those who lack the means to defend themselves. Strongly supports and has consistently defended our Second Amendment rights and believes that defending the constitution is a crucial responsibility for all elected officials.

Ratings/Endorsements: 21 Wilberforce (80%); AFL-CIO (33%); American Civil Liberties Union (21%); American Conservative Union (81%); American Family Association (100%); Americans for Prosperity (87%); American Security Council Foundation (100%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Center for Security Policy (100%); Competitive Enterprise Institute (100%); Concerned Women for America (100%); Eagle Forum (83%); Family Research Council (100%); Federation for American Immigration Reform (100%); Heritage Action for America (100%); Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Right to Life; NARAL Pro-Choice America (0%); National Education Association (0%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (8%); National Rifle Association (93%); National Right to Life Committee (100%); Planned Parenthood Action Fund (0%); Susan B. Anthony List (100%); United States Chamber of Commerce (92%). **WEBSITE:** <https://annwagner.com> and <https://wagner.house.gov>.

JILL SCHUPP

(Democrat) Married with two children. Senior Vice President at Weintraub Advertising (1982-1999). BA from University of Missouri at Columbia, Certified, Teaching, University of Missouri at St. Louis. Missouri State Senator, District 24, (2014-present). Missouri State House Representative (2008-2014). Creve Coeur City Council member (2007-2008). In Missouri State Legislature: Legislative Committee member: Economic Development, Education, Health and Pensions, Public Assistance, Seniors, Families and Children, Tax Policy, Veterans and Military Affairs.

Leader of Policy and Member Engagement, House Democratic Caucus (2011-present); Founder, Missouri Veterans History Project Board (2011-present); member, Missouri House Minority Leadership Team (2009-present); board member, Congregation Shaare Emeth, present; board member, National Council of Jewish Women, present; member, Advisory Board, Saint Louis Crisis Nursery; Chair, House Freshmen Democratic Caucus (2009-2010); board member/president, Ladue School District Board of Education (2000-2006).

Awards include: Elected: Leader of Policy and Member; Named Distinguished Legislator by the MO Community College Association, 2011; Named Outstanding Legislator by University of Missouri Graduate Students, 2011; Elected Chair: House Freshmen Democratic Caucus (2009-2010); Serving on Missouri House Minority Leadership Team, 2009-present.

Ratings/Endorsements: American Association for Justice; American Conservative Union (22%); Associated Industries of Missouri (30%); Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; Emily's List; End Citizens United; Equality PAC; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry (55%); Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (100%); Missouri Right to Life (10%); NARAL Pro-Choice-Missouri (100%); National Education Association; National Federation of Independent Business-Missouri (10%); National Rifle Association (13%); National Women's Political Caucus; Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri (100%); Sierra Club (100%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.jillschupp.com>.



MARTIN SCHULTE

(Libertarian) Statements from website on issues include: "Checks and balances between the branches of government have become indistinguishable with the two-party system. Need to reopen business, schools, and services. In this era of COVID ... do not rely on someone else to prevent the spread of the virus: carry sanitizer and wear a facemask. Strong proponent of responsible use of your tax dollars and will oppose every deficit budget and proposed tax increase. Americans should never be punished for exercising their rights to opt out of PPACA or Medicare. There is no reason to prevent someone from seeking a better life and the opportunities afforded within our borders."

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.martinvschulte.com/on-the-issues>



District 3

BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

(Republican, Incumbent) Married with three children. Resides in St. Elizabeth, MO. Operates a 160-acre farm. BA, Political Science, Lincoln University (1974); Missouri State House Representative (1999-2005); current U.S. House of Representatives since 2008; served on financial services and small business legislative committees and other subcommittees; subcommittee on consumer protection and financial institutions. Prior to political service he worked as a bank examiner, director of the Missouri Division of Tourism, small business owner and bank vice president. Member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church, belongs to multiple religious and civic organizations including Knights of Columbus, Eldon Chamber of Commerce, Saint Elizabeth Care Center, Board of Trustees (Village of St. Elizabeth), Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association.

Awards include: Spirit of Enterprise Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Guardian of Small Business Award from the National Federation of Independent Business; Agricultural Retailers Association Legislator of the Year Award; Missouri Agribusiness Association Advocate for Agribusiness Award; Electric Cooperatives Leadership Award from the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives; Tax Fighter Award from the National Tax Limitation Committee; Defender of Economic Freedom Award from the Club for Growth.

Ratings/Endorsements: 21 Wilberforce (40%); ACLU (17%); ACT! For America (100%); American Family Association (100%); AFL-CIO (12%); American Farm Bureau Federation (100%); Associated General Contractors of America (100%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Christian Coalition of America (100%); Competitive Enterprise Institute (93%); Concerned Women for America (100%); Eagle Forum; FRC Action (100%); Missouri Farm Bureau Federation (100%); Missouri Right to Life; National Education Association (0%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (33%); National Rifle Association (92%); National Right to Life (100%); NARAL Pro-Choice (0%); National Right to Life Committee (100%); Planned Parenthood Action Fund (0%); Sierra Club (0%); Susan B. Anthony List (100%); United States Chamber of Commerce (92%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.blaineforcongress.com/>





Missouri Candidate Profiles 2020 cont'd



MEGAN REZABEK

(Democrat) Born and raised in Jefferson County, MO; mother of two. Political activist since attending the protest against the Chrysler plant closure in 2009. Participated in marches for woman's rights and climate action.

Believes that failing schools should not be defunded; there is a housing crisis; "overturning citizens united" is a core belief in candidacy; healthcare is a human right regardless of gender, race, age, sexual orientation or ability to pay and should not be for profit. Member of the Sunrise Movement and supports the New Green Deal.

Campaign slogan: "Peace, Love and Save the Planet."

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.meganrezabekforcongress.com> or <https://www.facebook.com>

LEONARD J. STEINMAN II

(Libertarian): Born in Jefferson City, MO. Married with one child. Attended, General Studies, Columbia College, 1984; completed, Welding Technologies, Nichols Career Center, 1984; attended, Welding Technologies, Columbia Basin College, 1974.

Candidate, U.S. House of Representatives, District 3 (2014 and 2020); Candidate, U.S. Senate (2018); Candidate, U.S. House of Representatives, MO (2010); Candidate, MO House of Representatives, District 114 (2008). Member, Cole County Democratic Committee.

Owner/Operator, Steinman Leasing Incorporated, 1996; Instructor, Superior Heavy Equipment School, 1994; Clean Up Owner, PWI, Hazardous Spill Recovery, 1992; United States Navy, 1971-1975.

Member: Patriot Guard; Disabled American Veterans; Vice-President, Jefferson City Veterans Council; member, Polar Bear Club, Saint Peter's Catholic Church; Owner/Operator, Teamsters, 1994; Owner/Operator, Laborers, 1977; Electrician, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, 1969.

Ratings/Endorsements: National Rifle Association (0%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ourcampaigns.com> or [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

District 4



VICKY HARTZLER

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Harrisonville, MO. Married with one daughter. Graduated from Archie High School; Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Missouri (1983). Master's Degree in Education from the University of Central Missouri (1992).

Taught family and consumer sciences for 11 years in Lebanon and Belton, Missouri; coaching track and serving as co-director of a program for at-risk teens. Co-Owner, Hartzler Equipment Company; owner, Heartland Tractor Company; former Family Consumer Science Teacher, Belton School District; former Family Consumer Science Teacher, Lebanon School District; spokesperson, Coalition to Protect Marriage in Missouri, 2004.

Elected to MO State House of Representatives, District 124 (1994-2001); elected to U.S. House of Representatives in 2010. Member of the following committees in the U.S. House: Agriculture, Armed Services, Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces. Also served on Budget Committee, former Chair, Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, member, Precinct Committee; former member, Readiness Subcommittee.

Working to expand rural broadband in order to create more opportunities for businesses and students by connecting them to high speed Internet. This legislation would save the electric cooperatives \$43 million per year and help families with common sense solutions.

Ratings/Endorsements: 21 Wilberforce (60%); American Civil Liberties Union (21%); American Farm Bureau (100%); American Forest & Paper Association (100%); Associated General Contractors (100%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Maggie's List; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Right to Life; NARAL Pro Choice America (0%); National Federation of Independent Business (100%); National Right to Life Committee (100%); National Tax Limitation Committee (85%); Planned Parenthood Action Fund (0%); Population Connection (9%); Sierra Club (0%); Susan B. Anthony List (100%); United States Chamber of Commerce (91%). **WEBSITE:** <https://www.vickyhartzler.com/>

LINDSEY SIMMONS

(Democrat) Married with one child. Graduated from Marshall High School. Bachelor's degree from Missouri Valley College in 2010; MA, English Language and Literature, University of South Dakota and Harvard Law School, graduating from Harvard with a J.D. (2015). Simmons' career experience includes working as an attorney Associate, Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton Limited Liability Partnership (2015-2019); Legal Fellow, United States Senate (2014-2015); Law Clerk, Missouri Attorney General's Office, 2013; Legislative Assistant, Missouri House of Representatives (2011-2012). Former member, Harvard Defenders. Member, Military Spouse J.D. Network.

Advocated on behalf of domestic violence survivors, conservation groups, veterans; helped flood and hurricane victims secure FEMA benefits. Earned PropPublica Award for Public Service after helping free a man who was wrongfully convicted (Shawn Williams).

Ratings/Endorsements: Indivisible; National Women's Political Caucus; Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; #VOTERPROCHOICE. **WEBSITE:** <https://lindseysimmons.com/>

STEVEN K. KOONSE

(Libertarian) Born in Boonville, MO; lives in Leeton, MO. Married with three children. Served in the U.S. Army (1967-2007). Earned a bachelor's degree from Central Missouri State University (1974). Works as a financial examiner for the Missouri Department of Insurance (1999-2017). Awarded a Bronze Star for work as an intelligence analyst during the Vietnam War. Attends St. Bartholomew Catholic Church. Member Mensa International and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Received Bronze Star Army Commendation Medal. Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives (2018).



Ratings/Endorsements: National Women's Political Caucus; Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; #VOTERPROCHOICE. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ourcampaigns.com> or [Facebook@steven.koonse.1](https://www.facebook.com/steven.koonse.1)

District 5

RYAN DERKS

(Republican) Born and raised in Lee's Summit, MO. Holds Bachelors from University of Missouri, Columbia. Employment: Lead, RHF Blockchain Investments (2017-2019); Wealth Management, Ravenna Capital-Berthel Fisher & Company (2010-2020). Organizer, Kansas City Crypto Talk (2107-2019).

Website statements include: "The character of people like George Washington inspired Ryan to champion preserving the blessings the founding fathers gave our country. You don't need a raise – you need a government with a balanced budget, low debt, low spending, and low federal taxes. Fully audit the Federal Reserve; advocate and educate the benefits of a Gold Standard; fight against corporate welfare; reinstate a modern version of Glass-Steagall Act of 1933; eliminate the capital gains tax; eliminate or lower all taxes possible; eliminate unnecessary regulations that burden business owners. Abolish Department of Education; return the business of student loans back to the private sector; repeal Obamacare; allow pre-existing conditions to be covered by Medicare/Medicaid; fund and finish President Trump's wall; punish business owners who are employing illegal immigrants; enforce VISA rules; end the welfare state for illegal immigrants; secure our national borders; bring home troops; 'the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed'; no abortion unless in case of rape, incest, or mortality; no taxpayer money for abortions; support Israel; embrace the 10th Amendment.

Ratings/Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <https://ryanderks.com> or <https://www.facebook.com/realryanderks>

EMMANUEL CLEAVER II

(Democrat, Incumbent) Born in Waxahachie, TX. Married with four children; BS, Sociology, Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical University (1972); MDV, Divinity, Saint Paul School of Theology (1974); member, Kansas City, City Council (1979-1991); former mayor, Kansas City, MO; U.S. House of Representatives (2004-present); member, Financial Services Legislative Committee; Homeland Security; Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance; Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security. Senior pastor, St. James United Methodist Church (1969-2005); founder, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (Kansas City).

Ratings and Endorsments: 21 Wilberforce (40%); ACT! For America (8%); American Farm Bureau (0%); Americans for Democratic Action (85%); Campaign for Working Families (0%); Concerned Women for America (0%); Heritage Action for America (0%); NARAL Pro-Choice (100%); NAACP (94%); National Education Association (100%); National Association of Police Organizations (100%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (67%); National Rifle Association (13%); National Right to Life Committee (0%); Planned Parenthood Action Fund (100%); Sierra Club (100%); Susan

cont'd next page



B. Anthony List (0%). **WEBSITE:** <http://cleaverforcongress.com>; <https://cleaver.house.gov> or <https://www.facebook.com/CleaverForCongress/>.



ROBIN DOMINICK

(Libertarian) Statements from website include: While some ideas and words may be offensive, once you allow the government to suppress speech you find to be hateful, when the other party is in power, they can decide that your words are now hate speech. The 2nd amendment was meant to keep us safe from those who would oppress us. There are checkpoints and roadblocks set up in border zones, locally during holiday weekends, and whenever the police want to. These are done with no probable cause, no warrants, and you'd better not try to challenge them. Citizens should not have to fight the government to keep their personal and private property without justification and due process. The Constitution can't possibly list all of our rights. We have natural, inherent, God given rights that are universal. While conservatives claim to be fiscally responsible, they still spend ... when in control of the federal purse. Ideally, we should bring all troops home and use diplomacy and allow other continents to protect themselves. Many things can be harmful, but is it the federal government's right to tell us what we can do to our own bodies? Legalize prostitution

Ratings and Endorsements: None available. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.robindominick.com>.

District 6

SAM GRAVES

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Tarkio, MO. Married with three children; member, First Baptist Church. BS, Agronomy, School of Agriculture, University of MO Columbia (1986); Representative, MO House of Representatives (1992-1994); Senator, Missouri State Senate (1994-2000); U.S. House of Representatives (2000-present); member, legislative committees on armed services and other subcommittees.



Graves is a lifelong resident of Missouri's Sixth Congressional District and a sixth-generation family farmer and an airline transport pilot, Graves Aviation. Member of the House Committee on Armed Services, which plays a critical role in ensuring our troops have the resources they need. Works for fiscal discipline in Washington and supports a balanced budget amendment. Voted for tax reform legislation, which President Trump signed into law. Believes in job creation by America's small businesses and a strong national defense. Believes in the Second Amendment; domestic energy production; healthcare policies that are portable, and defunding Planned Parenthood.

Ratings and Endorsements: 21Wilberforce (40%); American Civil Liberties Union (23%); ACT! For America (92%); AFL-CIO (21%); American Farm Bureau Federation (100%); Campaign for Working Families 100%; Concerned Women for America (100%); Heritage Action for America (94%); Missouri Right to Life; National Cannabis Industry Associations (0%); National Education Association (0%); NARAL Pro-Choice America 0%; National Rifle Association (92%); National Right to Life Committee 100%; Planned Parenthood Action Fund 0%; Susan B. Anthony List (100%). **WEBSITE:** <http://www.gravesforcongress.com> and <http://graves.house.gov>



GENA L. ROSS

(Democrat) Native of Minneapolis, MN; lives in Platte City, MO with three children; member of Pentecostal church. Has AA in Urban Ministries, North Central University (2004-2005); BBA from American Intercontinental University (2006-2008); MPA, Public Administration, Walden University (2008-2020); and a PhD, Public Policy & Administration, Walden University (2011-2018).

Professional experience includes: Assistant Professor of Business, Kansas City, Kansas Community College, 2016-present; adjunct instructor, Baker University, 2015-present; president/CEO, Above and Beyond Coalition for Youth, Inc. (2013-2019); administrator, Missouri Department of Corrections (2015-2016); Constituent Service Representative, Senator Claire McCaskill, U.S. Senate, 2015.

Beliefs on campaign website: Democracy. People first; protecting and expanding affordable healthcare; protect American families from evictions; infrastructure, flood relief, internet service, 5G cell service, education; job creation, federal minimum wage increase, decreased unemployment; save small business; and controlled nuclear fusion (climate change).

Member, NAACP; National Society of Success and Leadership and Pi Alpha Alpha.

Ratings and Endorsements: None available. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.rossforcongress.net>.

JIM HIGGINS

(Libertarian) Born in Cleveland, OH. Currently lives in Creve Coeur, MO. Holds BS, Civil Engineering, Ohio University (1971). Candidate for the following: U.S. House, District 2 (1992, 2000, 2016); U.S. House, District 1 (2002); MO State Governor (2012); MO State Senate (2014). Civil Engineer; computer programmer; systems analyst, Olin Corporation (1998-present).

Ratings and Endorsements: None available. **WEBSITE:** None available.



District 7

BILLY LONG

(Republican, Incumbent) Born and currently lives in Springfield, MO. Married with two children. Graduate, Certified Auctioneer Institute, University of Indiana-Bloomington (1983); Missouri Auction School (1979); legislative committee member, energy and commerce and other subcommittees; former talk radio host; former owner of Billy Long Auctions L L C; member, First and Calvary Presbyterian Church.

U.S. House of Representative, District 7 (2011-present); committee member: Energy and Commerce, subcommittee on Communications and Technology; subcommittee on Environment & Climate Change; and Subcommittee on Health (Energy and Commerce).

Website states: The principles of life, liberty, freedom and individual rights are values to be protected. Sponsored and co-sponsored many bills that focus government around the



principles of life, liberty, freedom and individual rights. Relies on common sense criteria when it comes to evaluating any legislation that is brought to the floor of the House. He vigorously defends the values held dear by Missourians and Americans.

Member Missouri Professional Auctioneers Hall of Fame; National Rifle Association; Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ratings and Endorsements: 21Wilberforce (40%); American Civil Liberties Union (21%); American Farm Bureau (100%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Concerned Women for America (100%); FRC Action (100%); Heritage Action for America (98%); Missouri Right to Life (2018); National Cannabis Industry Association (17%); National Education Association (0%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (25%); NARAL (0%); National Rifle Association; National Right to Life Committee 100%; Planned Parenthood Action Fund (0%); Susan B. Anthony List (100%); United States Chamber of Commerce 73%. **WEBSITE:** <https://billylongforcongress.com> and <http://long.house.gov>

TERESA MONTSENY

(Democrat) Lives in Springfield, MO. Holds an BA, History, Missouri State University (1987-1990); MA, History, Missouri State University (1990-1991); attended United States-Soviet/Russian Foreign Policy, University of Kansas (1993-1997) for Diplomatic History. Executive Director, Federal Trio Program (2003-2008).



Statements from website include: An amendment to the Constitution should be constructed to protect people who lack civil protections due to race, gender, sexual identity, ethnicity, religion, and immigration status. Supports criminal justice reform, easy voting that includes automatic registration, mail-in ballots (tie in to supporting the USPS), and national election holiday. Will stay focused on this issue [climate change] as our lives depend upon it. Supports common sense gun legislation that moves America away from a gun culture. The Poor People's Campaign and March for Moral Revival Economic equity that provides a living wage, protects labor unions and employee/employer negotiations. Services and care that meet the standard required for the respect earned by veterans and active duty military personnel. Family farming over corporate operations. End racism in our schools. Loan forgiveness. Voting must be promoted and made easier, not more difficult. Term limits for the U.S. Congress. Recognizes the significant role of organizations like the World Health Organization during a pandemic. Recognizes the dangerous power of dictatorial leadership in many countries and will work to return nuclear arms de-escalation. Supports Planned Parenthood. While falling in the personal category of feeling abortion would not be for her, she does not tell other women what to do with their bodies.

Ratings and Endorsements: Moms Demand Action. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.montsenyforcongress.com/>

cont'd p 28

SHORT LINES

My mother taught me foresight: "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

My father taught me irony: "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."

My mother taught me the science of osmosis: "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."



Missouri Candidate Profiles 2020 cont'd

KEVIN CRAIG

(Libertarian) Born in Los Angeles, CA; lives in Powersite, MO. BA, Political Science, University of Southern California (1979); MA, Law and Theology, Simon Greenleaf School of Law (1983) and JD, Simon Greenleaf School of Law (1983). Previous candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, District 7 (2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014).

Teacher, Dominion Christian School (1979-1981); co-director, Isaiah House/Catholic Worker (1988-1998); editor, Vine & Fig Tree (1979-present). President; Colette's Children's Home, 1998-2003; president, California Irish Festival, 1998-2004.

Craig's website proclaims that he is the: "Only candidate uncompromisingly committed to the ideal of Liberty Under God."

Ratings and Endorsements: None found. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.kevincraig.us/>



District 8

JASON SMITH

(Republican, Incumbent) Born in Salem, MO. Seventh-generation Missourian and a fourth-generation owner of the family farm. BS, Agriculture Economics, Business Administration, University of Missouri Columbia (2001); JD, Oklahoma City University (2004); Representative, Missouri House of Representatives (2005-2013); Majority Whip (2011-2013); current member, Missouri Farm Bureau; incumbent, U.S. House of Representatives, (2013-present); legislative committee member, Ways and Means, Budget; member of various other subcommittees; former attorney, real estate agent; member and Sunday school teacher, Grace Community Church.

As member of the Ways & Means Committee, has simplified over 70,000-page code and reduced the burden the federal tax system places on small businesses, farmers, and families. Advanced repeals of the individual and employer Obamacare tax mandates and has fought for rural poverty reform. Champion the rights and values of farmers and rural Missourians in Congress. Through his service as a member of the U.S. House Leadership, has opportunity to work closely with President Trump to deliver regulatory and tax relief to American workers while also reducing the size and scope of the federal government.

Member, Cuba Chamber of Commerce, Missouri Farm Bureau, Missouri State Bar Association, National Rifle Association, Salem Chamber of Commerce, Steelville Chamber of Commerce; board member, Salem Area Community Betterment Association; president, Salem Future Farmers of America Alumni Association; former board member, Court Appointed Special Advocate.

Ratings and Endorsements: 21Wilberforce (20%); American Civil Liberties Union (24%); American Farm Bureau (100%); Campaign for Working Families (100%); Concerned Women for America (100%); FRC (100%); Faith & Freedom Coalition (100%); Heritage Action for America (100%); Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Right to Life; National Federation of Independent Business (100%); National Retail Federation (100%); National Right to Life Committee (100%); National Education Association (0%); NARAL (0%); National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (0%); National Rifle Association (93%); National Right to Life (100%); Planned Parenthood Advocates (0%); United States Chamber of Commerce (70%). **WEBSITE:** <http://electjasonsmith.com> and <http://jasonsmith.house.gov>



KATHY ELLIS

(Democrat) Born in St. Louis, MO. Lives in Festus, MO, with her spouse, Ann. BS, Administration of Justice from University of Missouri St Louis; MSW, Washington University; licensed psychotherapist, Certified Reciprocal Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and Experiential Therapist III; member, board of health center (since 2011).

Website statements include: "Healthcare for All; Strong Public Education; A New Deal for Rural America; Strong Union Jobs; Protecting the Environment; Ending Government Corruption; Reproductive Justice; Justice for All; and Foreign Policy."

Ratings and Endorsements: Blue America; Communications Workers of America; Demand Universal Healthcare (DUH); Indivisible; Missouri AFL-CIO; Mom's Demand Action Gun Sense Candidate; National Association of Social Workers; National Rifle Association (13%); National Women's Political Caucus; Project100; Patriotic Millionaires; Sierra Club Missouri; United Auto Workers; #VOTEPROCHOICE; Women for the Win. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.ellisforcongress.com/>



TOM SCHMITZ

(Libertarian) Single and lives in Rolla, MO. Bachelor's degree in Psychological Science, University of Missouri, Columbia (2008); JD, Creighton University School of Law (2012). Intern with Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, U.S. Department of Defense; intern with Omaha City Prosecutor's Office; staff attorney for Hudson Legal/DTI Global (2012-2015); associate attorney for Albert Watkins (2015-2017); associate attorney for Charles Barberio (2017-2019); Missouri Public Defender's Office, Rolla (2019).

Statements on issues from website: "Stands for maximizing individual liberty, vigilantly protecting your rights, and minimizing government interference in your life. ... separation of healthcare and state ... foreign policy of peace, strength, and non-interventionism ... responsibly minimize taxation ... protect our environment ... balance the budget ... transition to a privatized education system ... protect 2nd amendment right to keep and bear arms ... achieve a liberated society, protect from federal coercion and restore freedoms."

Ratings and Endorsements: None Available. **WEBSITE:** <https://www.tomschmitzforliberty.com>



Endnotes:

¹ Samuel Adams, November 4, 1775, in a letter to James Warren, accessed online at <http://ringthebellsforfreedom.com>, September 17, 2016.

² Federer, William J., "America's God and Country, Encyclopedia of Quotations," Flame Publishing, Inc., 1996, p. 23.

³ Much of the information included, unless otherwise indicated, is gleaned from Votesmart.org and Ballotpedia.org, which provide non-partisan, impartial, and in depth information on candidates for public office.

⁴ Creitz, Charles, "Missouri Gov. Parson to pardon McCloskeys 'without a doubt,' saying prosecutor's actions 'defy common sense'," FoxNews, July 20, 2020, <https://www.foxnews.com>, accessed September 5, 2020.

⁵ Anderson, Collin, "MO Dem Approved Public Funding for Obscene, Sex-Driven Forum, Washington Free Beacon, October 31, 2019, <https://freebeacon.com>, accessed September 12, 2020.

⁷ Press Release, "Ashcroft Oversees Third Safe Election During Covid—19 Pandemic," #MoSos#MOleg, accessed September 8, 2020.

⁸ Haldiman, Jeff, "3 running for Missouri attorney general," Fulton Sun, September 8, 2020, <https://www.fultonsun.com>, accessed September 8, 2020.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ <https://coribush.org/about>.

SHORT LINES

WHO IS GEORGE SOROS?

He is the founder of the Open Society Foundation; an international grant-making network, which financially supports civil society groups around the world. According to *Judicial Watch*, they work to destabilize legitimate governments, erase national borders, target conservative politicians, finance civil unrest, subvert institutions of higher education and orchestrate refugee crises for political gain. Soros bolsters a radical leftwing agenda that in the U.S. has included: promoting an open border with Mexico and fighting immigration enforcement efforts; fomenting racial disharmony by funding anti-capitalist racist organizations; financing the Black Lives Matter movement; weakening the integrity of our electoral systems; promoting taxpayer funded abortion-on-demand; advocating a government-run health care system; opposing U.S. counterterrorism efforts; promoting dubious transnational climate change agreements that threaten American sovereignty and working to advance gun control and erode Second Amendment protections.

— Tom Fitton
Judicial Watch
March 28, 2019

SHORT LINES

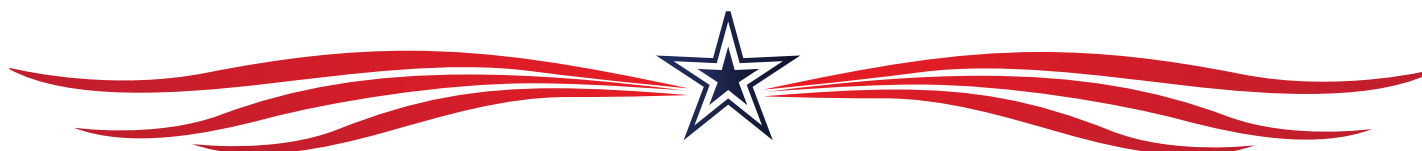
20th Century Slavery

According to Thomas Sowell, there are an estimated 27 million men, women and children in the world who are enslaved – physically confined or restrained and forced to work, or controlled through violence, or in some way treated as property.

Therefore, there are more slaves today than were seized from Africa in four centuries of the trans-Atlantic slave trade [11 million total, and about 450,000, or about 4% of the total, who were brought to the United States]. The modern commerce in humans rivals illegal drug trafficking in its global reach – and in the destruction of lives.

— Mark J. Perry
American Enterprise Institute
October 18, 2017.





RATING/ENDORSEMENT ORGANIZATIONS

21Wilberforce: Christian human rights organization dedicated to defending the universal rights of religion, belief, and conscience for all people. Vision is to empower people to collaboratively support persecuted communities, challenge repression, and expand freedom of religion and belief globally. <https://21wilberforce.org>.

350Action: Mobilizes progressive voters, gets climate champions elected, holds fossil-fueled politicians accountable, supports frontline partners, trains young movement leaders. See <https://350action.org>.

#BlackLivesMatter: Founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's murderer. The mission of Black Lives Matter Foundation, Inc. is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on black communities by the state and vigilantes. In an interview in 2015,¹ co-founder Patrisse Cullors warned, "We are trained Marxists [supporter of the political and economic theories of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels²]. We are super-versed on ideological theories." "If this country doesn't give us what we want," Greater New York Black Lives Matter President Hawk Newsome warned, "then we will burn down this system and replace it."³ See <https://blacklivesmatter.com>.

American Civil Liberties Union: Founded 90 years ago, the ACLU is the progressive left's most famous litigator. Some of their causes include LGBT Rights; due process regardless of immigration status; reproductive freedom; repeal of the death penalty; and women's rights. See "Demand Justice Now," www.aclu.org, or read "The ACLU vs. America" by Alan Sears and Craig Osten, published in 2005 by the Alliance Defense Fund.

American Conservative Union: ACUF is an educational foundation that illustrates why conservative policies work better than liberal alternatives to solve the myriad of problems facing America. Their congressional ratings have become the gold standard in determining how an elected official views the role of government in an individual's life. See <https://www.conservative.org>.

Concerned Women for America: Concerned Women for America protects and promotes biblical values and constitutional principles through prayer, education, and advocacy. CWA is leading a movement dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through education and public policy. See <https://concernedwomen.org>.

DUH!: The mission of Demand Universal Healthcare is to advance the cause of establishing a truly universal, single-payer, comprehensive, equitable, publically funded national healthcare for ALL. See <https://duh4all.org>.

Eagle Forum PAC: Eagle Forum PAC supports candidates who will uphold the Constitution and enact pro-family policies. Pro-life, pro-family political action committee of Eagle Forum that "supports American sovereignty. ... American identity. ... the U.S. Constitution. ... traditional education. ... [and] exposes the radical feminists." See www.eagleforum.org.

EMILY's List: "We elect pro-choice Democratic women to office. ... EMILY's List's vision is to be a driving force of change in America. By electing more pro-choice Democratic women to national, state and local office, EMILY's List will consistently infuse our government with leaders who will drive change. Change that truly matters today, tomorrow and forever. See <http://emilyslist.org>.

End Citizens United: A political action committee that aims to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*. The decision held that corporate funding of independent political broadcasts in candidate elections cannot be limited because doing so would violate the First Amendment. Founded by three former Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee fundraising strategists. Supported and made contributions to Democratic candidates. In 2017, the website stated, "Democrats are leading the fight against Citizens United, and we believe meaningful change can happen with their leadership."

Expect US: "[Rasheen] Aldridge says Expect US is prepared to protest racism and police brutality until change happens. ... organizers are still working on solidifying their message, they did release a list of five demands. Those include defunding the police by ending the increase in police budgets; disarming officers, removing policing authority from officers with past incidences of excessive force, and firing officers who kill; closing the Workhouse; freeing political prisoners; and making reparations to North St. Louis City and County and parts of South St. Louis City."⁴

Gun Owners of America: GOA has a network of attorneys to help fight court battles to protect gun owner rights and has worked with members of congress, state legislators and local citizens to protect gun ranges and local gun clubs from closure by overzealous government anti-gun bureaucrats. A pro-Second Amendment organization. See <https://gunowners.org>.

Heritage Action for America: An offshoot of the Heritage Foundation in D.C., with focus on limited government, freedom of religion, economics, national defense, marriage, local education, etc. Uses recorded votes on issues identified prior to votes to tally percentages. See <https://heritageaction.com>.

Maggie's List: A federal political action committee (PAC) dedicated to electing conservative women to federal office. Empowers conservative women candidates with political credibility and national notoriety. See <http://maggieslist.org>.

Missouri Farm Bureau: Advocating for farmers, the rural way of life and all Missourians. Endorses candidates that best support agriculture. See <https://mofb.org>.

Missouri Right to Life PAC: An arm of the Missouri Right to Life parent organization, existing for the purpose of identifying and supporting pro-life political candidates and opposing pro-abortion candidates in state level elections. Works to support pro-life ballot measures or oppose anti-life ballot measures. On rare instances, the MRL State PAC may get involved in municipal or county candidate elections or ballot measures. See <https://www.missourilifepac.org>.

Moms Demand Action: A grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence. Works to pass stronger gun laws and close the loopholes that

jeopardize the safety of families and in communities and with business leaders to encourage a culture of responsible gun ownership. Committed to doing what it takes to keep families safe. See <https://momsdemandaction.org>.

MoveOn: Millions mobilize for a better society—one where everyone can thrive. Whether it's supporting a candidate, passing legislation, or changing culture, MoveOn members are committed to an inclusive and progressive future. Envision a world marked by equality, sustainability, justice, and love. A force for social justice and political progress. See <https://front.moveon.org>.

National Cannabis Industry Association: Leading the charge to protect the legal cannabis industry, defend state laws, and advance federal policy reforms. Working to end prohibition and expand opportunities within the legal cannabis industry. See <https://thecannabisindustry.org>.

National Education Association: The teacher's union that supports a progressive agenda in the classrooms. Although the NEA describes itself as a "professional employee organization," it is incorporated as a professional association in a few states and as a labor union in most. Responding to Donald Trump's speech to the RNC, the NEA President, Lily García, said, "... it is clear that Donald Trump and Betsy DeVos have done nothing but fail students, parents, and educators. Unlike Trump and DeVos, who have ignored scientists and doctors while trying to bully students and educators back into unsafe classrooms, Joe Biden is focused on uniting the country and will always put the safety of students, parents and educators first," said NEA President Lily Eskelsen García. "NEA's three million members know what is at stake in November, and we will remind voters that Joe Biden is the only candidate we can trust to lead this country."⁵ See <https://www.nea.org>.

National Federation of Independent Business: Organization of small, independent businesses promoting free enterprise, entrepreneurship, capitalism, and the preservation of small business. Nonprofit, nonpartisan group. See <http://www.nfib.com>.

National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws: NORML's mission is to move public opinion sufficiently to legalize the responsible use of marijuana by adults, and to serve as an advocate for consumers to assure they have access to high quality marijuana that is safe, convenient and affordable. See <https://nornl.org>.

National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund: "... NRA relies on a very simple premise: when provided with the facts, the nation's elected officials will recognize that 'gun control' schemes are an infringement on the Second Amendment and a proven failure in fighting crime." See <http://www.nrapvf.org>.

National Taxpayers Union: Voice of America's taxpayers. America's oldest grassroots taxpayer organization working for lower taxes, smaller government, accountability from public officials, and economic freedom. See <https://www.ntu.org>.

National Women's Political Caucus: A national, pro-choice, multi-partisan, grassroots membership organization dedicated to identifying, recruiting, training and supporting women candidates for elected and appointed office. "We support the right of women to control their own reproduction [abortion, etc.] without government intrusion ... [and] equitable public and private health care insurance coverage for women, including family planning, birth control and prenatal care ... equal pay for equal work." See <http://www.nwpc.org>.

Planned Parenthood Missouri/Planned Parenthood Action: Operates abortion and family planning clinics across the nation; involved in many states teaching comprehensive sex education classes in public schools. "Fighting for access to safe, legal abortion services; full range of birth control methods; equal access to reproductive health care, access to sex education programs." See <https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org>.

Sierra Club: An environmental group dedicated to shutting down coal plants, lead mines, [Missouri was home to the world's largest lead mining operations.] drilling for oil and gas; anti-automobile – favors walking, bikes and public transit; promotes smart-growth, federal and state control of water and wilderness forests [no logging]. Goals include: "Transition to 100 percent clean energy; defend our wild heritage, onshore and offshore, from extractive energy development; lead in diversifying the environmental movement ..." See <http://sierraclub.org>.

Susan B. Anthony List: Mission of SBA List is to end abortion by electing national leaders and advocating for laws that save lives, with a special calling to promote pro-life women leaders. The SBA List is dedicated to electing candidates and pursuing policies that will reduce and ultimately, end abortion. To that end, the SBA List will emphasize the election, education, promotion, and mobilization of pro-life women. See <https://www.sba-list.org>.

Endnotes:

¹ Steinbuch, Yaron, "Black Lives Matter co-founder describes herself as 'trained Marxist'," New York Post, June 25, 2020, <https://nypost.com>, accessed September 12, 2020.

² Marxism is defined as a political and economic theory where a society has no classes. Every person within the society works for a common good, and class struggle is theoretically gone. Marxism posits that the struggle between social classes, specifically between the bourgeoisie, or capitalists, and the proletariat, or workers, defines economic relations in a capitalist economy and will inevitably lead to revolutionary communism.

³ García, Victor, "Black Lives Matter leader states if US 'doesn't give us what we want, then we will burn down this system'," Fox News, June 24, 2020, <https://www.foxnews.com>, accessed September 12, 2020.

⁴ Woytus, Amanda, "Rasheen Aldridge of Expect US: 'There are more people in the fight now'," St. Louis Magazine, <https://www.stlmag.com/>, June 8, 2020, accessed September 17, 2020.

⁵ Gonzales, Miguel, Press Release "NEA Launches New Ad Highlighting What Is At Stake In November," National Education Association, <https://www.nea.org/>, August 28, 2020, accessed September 11, 2020.



Court Watch cont'd from p 15

Metropolitan St. Louis; Lawyers Association of St. Louis. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, Jan. 8, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

“In a motion filed with the court on Monday, the defense team for Nathaniel Hendren, 29, argues Judge David **Roither** is biased against their client and has already ‘pre-determined the outcome of this case.’ The motion alleges that during a Jan. 31 hearing, **Roither** stated in open court that he is an avid hunter and has taken many gun safety courses. Specifically, Hendren’s attorneys take issue with **Roither** saying that ‘... you never point the muzzle of a firearm towards anything that you do not intend to shoot’. The motion also alleges that **Roither** said he ‘... does not agree with or like that defense counsel has referred to this as an accident.’”²⁹ Later “the judge ... recused himself in the case ... [which] would have been transferred to Division 16 with or without the recusal, which is normal procedure.”³⁰



Thomas Adrian McCarthy

Divisions 24 & 29

Graduate of St. Louis University School of Law, J.D., 2004. Truman State University, B.S., 2001. Engaged in private practice at Husch & Eppenger (now Husch Blackwell), 2004–2008. Assistant St. Louis County prosecutor, 2008–2014. Assistant St. Louis City counselor, 2014–2016. Law office of Christine Alsop/Tucker Allen, LLC, 2016–2018. Professional memberships include: The Missouri Bar; Illinois Bar; National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, May 18, 2018. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



Michael J. Colona

Division 25

Graduate of Fox High School in Arnold, MO, earned a Bachelor of Science from Truman State University-Kirksville and a J.D. from St. Louis University. Managing attorney of the law firm Colona & Gentle, LLC who specializes in personal injury, worker’s compensation and some first amendment cases. Colona has also served as an adjunct professor of criminal justice for the University of Missouri – St. Louis. Former Democratic member of the Missouri House of Representatives. Before redistricting, represented the 67th district and more recently represented the 80th district, which is centered on the Tower Grove South area within the city of St. Louis. Also served as the House Minority Whip for the 96th General Assembly. Both his 2008 and 2010 campaigns won the support of the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund. Will fill an Associate Circuit Judge position created by the appointment of Madeline Orling **Connolly**. Appointed associate circuit judge by Gov. **Mike Parson**, October 2019. Nonpartisan.

In the News:

In the 2016 Regular Session of the Missouri Legislature, Rep. Michael **Colona** sponsored a bill which urges the United States Congress to pass a bill that consents to the division of the City of St. Louis and the rest of Missouri into two separate states

and urges the President to sign such bill into law and proposed a constitutional amendment to repeal the provision requiring marriage to be between a man and woman in order to be valid.

In a case where a Lyft driver was accused of rape, “Judge Michael **Colona** authorized posting 10% of Ward’s \$100,000 cash bail, he must wear a GPS bracelet and be confined to his home in the 2200 block of Bay Tree Drive in St. Peters. The judge allowed him to work between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. He was ordered not to drive a car, contact the victim, or use any rideshare service apps.”³¹

Craig K. Higgins

Division 26

Holds a bachelor of journalism from the University of Missouri–Columbia, a Master’s in mass communication from Drake University and a J.D. from Drake University. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



Lynne R. Perkins

Division 27

Born in St. Louis, MO. Married. Graduate of Wesley College, B.S. & A.A.; Community College of the Air Force, A.A.; Washington University, St. Louis, J.D.; United States Air Force, August 1980–October 2000. Missouri assistant public defender in the St. Louis City Trial Office, 2003–2008. Founder of The Law Office of Lynne R. Perkins, December 2008–November 2017. Professional memberships include: Missouri Bar Association; Mound City Bar Association; Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church. Appointed by Gov. **Eric Greitens**, Oct. 11, 2017. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.

Nicole Colbert-Botchway

Division 28

Born in St. Louis City. Graduate of Rosati-Kain High School; St. Louis University, B.A.; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D.; University of Missouri–St. Louis, M.B.A. Served as an administrative hearing commissioner, 2014. Former assistant attorney general, unit leader, 2004–2014. Assistant circuit attorney for St. Louis City, 1998–2004. Elected to the Missouri Bar Board of Governors, 2012–2016 and has served in several bar and community leadership roles. Membership/associations: Saint Alphonsus Liguori; “Rock” Catholic Church; American Bar Association; Missouri Bar Association; National Bar Association–Judicial Council; Mound City Bar Association; Women Lawyer’s Association of Greater St. Louis; Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; and Lawyers Association of St. Louis. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, July 2, 2015. Elected 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



**Circuit Judge
31st Judicial Circuit
Greene County**

David C. Jones

Division 2

Born in Springfield, MO. Married with one child. Graduate of Albright College, 1975; Delaware Law School, J.D., magna cum laude, 1978. Served as an assistant United States attorney, United States Department of Justice, from 1979–2006. Engaged in private practice and professor at Drury University and Ozark Technical College, 2006–2008. Became circuit judge, November 2008. Retained in 2014. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



In the News:

“Judge David **Jones** sentenced [Joshua] Hagood to 100 years for armed criminal action, 15 years for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, and a life sentence in prison for assault in the shooting of a Springfield, Missouri police officer. Officer Aaron Pearson was shot in the face by Hagood in January of 2015, causing severe injuries. Pearson[’s] injuries ended his law enforcement career.”³²

Judge **Jones** said a man [was] fearing for his life and an uncle who had a history of violence were involved in a fatal shooting. “This is probably the most difficult sentencing I’ve ever had, **Jones** said. ... **Jones** asked the attorneys, “Why is Watts charged with involuntary manslaughter – not murder?” The prosecuting attorney defended the decision to cut a plea deal. **Jones** sentence Watts with seven years in prison for involuntary manslaughter, suspended the execution of the sentence, and put him on probation, ordering him to perform 300 hours of community service. **Jones** told Watts, ‘All I can say is this: You don’t ever want to see me again’.”³³

Becky J.W. Borthwick

Division 6

B.A. in Political Science from the University of Missouri–Columbia, 1991. J.D. from the University of Oklahoma, 1995. Private practice from, 1995–2003, 2005–2013. Assistant attorney general, State of Missouri, 2003–2005. Appointed full-time municipal court judge, City of Springfield, June 2013. Recognized by the Springfield Business Journal: Twenty Most Influential Women of 2014 and Missouri Lawyers Weekly in the Public Officials category for the Women’s Justice Awards of 2016. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, April 2016. Appointed circuit judge, by Gov. **Mike Parson**, October 2019. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020.



SHORT LINES

My mother taught me contortionism: “Just you look at that dirt on the back of your neck.”

My mother taught me about stamina: “You’ll sit there until all that spinach is gone.”

Court Watch cont'd



Associate Circuit Judge 31st Judicial Circuit Greene County

Andy Hosmer

Division 23

Born in Marshfield, MO. Educated at the University of Missouri–Columbia, B.A., Psychology, Phi Beta Kappa, 1986. Attended New York University School of Law, J.D., 1989. Worked in Greene County as assistant public defender, assistant prosecuting attorney and as assistant attorney general. Engaged in private practice in Tampa, Fla., 1989–1992, New York, N.Y., 1993–1995 and Springfield, 2000–2014. Appointed associate circuit judge, by Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2014. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



J. Ronald Carrier

Division 26

Graduate of Mt. Vernon High School, 1982; Drury University, B.A., political science, magna cum laude, 1986 and University of Missouri–Columbia School of Law, J.D., 1988. Private practice of law, 1989–1990; assistant prosecuting attorney and prosecuting attorney, Greene County, 1990–1998; assistant attorney general and southwest regional chief counsel, Missouri Attorney General's Office, 1999–2013. Member: Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association. Recipient of Dr. John P. Ferguson Award for Child Advocacy. Recognized by U.S. Department of Justice for legal training provided in Republic of Kosovo. Appointed associate circuit judge, Gov. **Jay Nixon**, 2013. Retained in 2016. Term expires Dec. 31, 2020. Nonpartisan.



Endnotes:

- ¹ Romans 13:1 (NAS)
- ² Moore, Roy, *So Help Me God*, Broadman & Holman Publishers (2005) p. 206
- ³ Lauck, Scott, "Woman of the Year: Patricia Breckenridge," Missouri Lawyers Media, <https://molawyersmedia.com/>, April 26, 2017, accessed September 11, 2020.
- ⁴ The Associated Press, "Judge says too many poor people kept in jail awaiting trial," Springfield News-Leader, <https://www.news-leader.com/>, January 25, 2017, accessed September 12, 2020.
- ⁵ Mannies, Jo, "Just call him Judge Odenwald," St. Louis Post Dispatch, <https://www.stltoday.com/>, accessed September 14, 2020.
- ⁶ Baugher, David, "Robin Ransom-Missouri Court of Appeals Eastern District," MissouriLawyersMedia, <https://molawyersmedia.com/>, April 25, 2019, accessed September 14, 2020.
- ⁷ Westminster College News, "Alumnus Named to Western District Court of Appeals," <https://news.westminster-mo.edu/>, September 14, 2018, accessed September 14, 2020.
- ⁸ Baugher, David, "W. Ann Hansbrough-Platte County Circuit Court," MissouriLawyersMedia, May 22, 2019, <https://molawyersmedia.com/>, accessed September 14, 2020.
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SHORT LINES

It Isn't Going Away

As new coronavirus cases continue to climb in America, health experts say it's becoming clear that the virus, known as SARS-CoV-2, is here to stay—but experts say that, between emerging treatments and a possible vaccine, we won't be stuck in a perpetual global pandemic, either.

No matter what we do to curb the novel coronavirus—whether through social distancing, wearing masks, or developing a vaccine—one thing is "almost certain: This virus is never going away." ... public health officials were optimistic when the virus first hit that countries could eradicate the pathogen, given its similarity to the coronavirus that causes SARS—which emerged in 2002 and was "snuffed out" among humans, ... by 2004. But unlike the coronavirus that causes SARS, the new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, spreads more easily and can spread asymptotically—meaning that a lot of the strategies used to curb SARS are ineffective against the novel coronavirus. ...

Health experts say it's likely that enough people will become infected with or vaccinated against the novel coronavirus to end the global pandemic, but that the virus will probably continue to infect people at lower rates. ...

A vaccine that provides short-term immunity could require booster shots over time, like the flu shot. ... But the most likely, best-case scenario, a vaccine would make the new coronavirus "a much less dangerous and less disruptive" threat, such as the flu or other seasonal respiratory viruses ... In this scenario, SARS-CoV-2 would become the fifth coronavirus—joining four other coronaviruses that cause a considerable proportion of common colds—that circulates among humans regularly and seasonally. ... "I think this virus is with us to the future," said Ruth Karron, a vaccine researcher at Johns Hopkins. "But so is influenza with us, and for the most part, flu doesn't shut down our societies. We manage it."

In fact, research suggests—although it doesn't prove—that at least one of the four coronaviruses linked to common colds, OC43, may have started as a pandemic before "settling in as a routine virus. ... And while that research is entirely speculative, it could potentially be good news, in that it suggests SARS-CoV-2 may become less deadly as it transitions from a pandemic to a "common cold"—especially given that the other four coronaviruses may be less harmful because human bodies have built up an immune response to the pathogens over time.

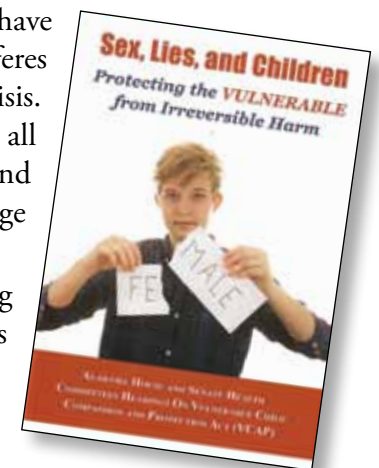
"All of this, along with immunity from vaccines, means that [the novel coronavirus] is likely to become far less disruptive down the line. ... "In this way, the long-term outlook for [the coronavirus] might offer some hope for a return to normal."

— Excerpts from, "Why the coronavirus may 'never go away'," Advisory Board, <https://www.advisory.com/>, August 6, 2020.



Americans are seeing an unprecedented assault on parental rights as transgender activists have succeeded in passing legislation that interferes with parents protecting their children in crisis. Eagle Forum will fight to pass legislation in all states to prohibit cross-sex hormones from being administered and sex-change surgeries from being performed on children under the age of 18.

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Candidates



- _____ Missouri Governor
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- _____ U.S. Representative

Missouri Ballot Issues

YES NO Amendment 1
YES NO Amendment 3

Judges

Supreme Court judge selection is on all Missouri ballots. Each county's ballot will have different judges on it for the Court of Appeals and Circuit Courts. Look in the introductory paragraphs of **Court Watch** on page 8 to determine which ones are in your county and will be on your individual ballot.

Missouri Supreme Court Judge

Circuit Judges

Associate Circuit Judges

Missouri Court of Appeals Judges

YES NO

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