

**IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI**

**AN ORDINANCE** establishing a third-party monitoring program for Jackson County projects and authorizing access for qualified contracted third parties to conduct site visits.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6049**, December 8, 2025

**INTRODUCED BY** Manuel Abarca IV, County Legislator

WHEREAS, Jackson County is committed to transparency, accountability, and the responsible use of public funds; and,

WHEREAS, large-scale County projects—including public works, parks and recreation projects, infrastructure improvements, contracted construction services, and all construction-related entities operating under Jackson County—benefit from independent oversight to ensure compliance with contract requirements, safety standards, labor practices, and timely completion; and,

WHEREAS, independent third-party monitoring enhances public confidence, identifies issues early, reduces long-term costs, and supports the County's internal Compliance Review Office; and,

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to create a structured program allowing qualified contracted third-party monitors to conduct site visits, observe compliance, interview workers when necessary, and provide nonbinding reports to County officials; now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, as follows:

## Section 1. Establishment of the Third-Party Monitoring Program.

There is hereby established the Jackson County Third-Party Monitoring Program ("TPMP"), governed and overseen exclusively by the Compliance Review Office, with administrative coordination from the Office of the County Executive or their designee;

## Section 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this ordinance:

- A. "County Project" means any construction, public works, parks and recreation, infrastructure, renovation, capital improvement, or major service contract funded in whole or in part by Jackson County;
- B. "Third-Party Monitor" means a contracted entity approved under Section 3 to conduct site visits and compliance observations;
- C. "Site Visit" means an in-person inspection, walkthrough, or observation of a County Project area, including review of posted documents, safety practices, labor conditions, and contract compliance indicators;
- D. "Nonbinding Report" means a written summary of observations submitted to the County that carries no enforcement authority but may inform County decision-making;

## Section 3. Eligibility and Approval of Monitors.

- A. Jackson County may approve contracted third-party monitors that meet the following criteria:
  - 1. Organized as a contracted third-party entity in good standing;
  - 2. Demonstrated expertise in construction, labor practices, safety compliance, project management, or relevant technical fields;

- 3. No current financial interest in the County Project under review, and no contractual relationship with the primary contractor or subcontractors on that project;
- 4. No conflict of interest as determined by the Compliance Review Office;
- B. The Compliance Review Office shall maintain a public list of approved monitors;
- C. Approval shall be valid for three (3) years unless revoked for cause.

#### Section 4. Authority to Conduct Site Visits.

- A. Approved third-party monitors shall be permitted to conduct site visits to any active County Project;
- B. All monitors must possess a County-issued authorized user ID and present it upon request as a condition of site access;
- C. All monitors must maintain a valid OSHA-10 certification and foremen, supervisors, and any individual representing the monitor on-site must also possess OSHA-10 credentials;
- D. Third-party monitors may conduct brief, non-disruptive interviews with workers or supervisors, after which all parties shall promptly resume their duties;
- E. Monitors shall comply with all safety requirements, security protocols, and site-specific rules of the County Project;
- F. No person shall impede, restrict, or interfere with the responsibilities and access rights granted to the Compliance Review Office or its third-party monitors under this ordinance unless permitted by law.

#### Section 5. Scope of Observations.

Third-party monitors may observe and document:

1. Worksite safety conditions;
2. Labor practices and workforce compliance;
3. Adherence to project timelines;
4. Contract performance indicators;
5. Environmental compliance;
6. Public access and ADA considerations;
7. Transparency of posted permits and required notices;
8. Any other observable condition relevant to responsible project execution.

Monitors may conduct brief worker interviews as provided in Section 4(D).

#### Section 6. Reporting.

A. Within fifteen (15) days of a site visit, the monitor shall submit a nonbinding written report to:

1. The Compliance Review Office;
2. The Legislature;
3. The Department overseeing the project.

B. Reports shall be public unless otherwise prohibited by law.

C. The County shall review reports for issues requiring follow-up, remediation, or contractor communication.

#### Section 7. Prohibited Activity.

Third-party monitors shall not:

1. Issue directives to contractors or County staff;

2. Publicly release confidential or protected information;
3. Engage in advocacy, political activity, or public messaging regarding an active project under review;
4. Collect photographs or recordings where prohibited by contract, safety regulations, or the Compliance Review Office.

#### Section 8. Revocation of Access.

- A. The Compliance Review Office may suspend or revoke approval of a monitor for:
  1. Repeated violations of this ordinance;
  2. Conflicts of interest;
  3. Safety breaches;
  4. Misuse of information;
  5. Conduct undermining the integrity of the TPMP.
- B. Revocation decisions shall be appealable to the Legislature.

#### Section 9. Annual Review.

The Compliance Review Office shall submit an annual report to the Legislature summarizing monitoring activity, project trends, safety findings, and any recommended updates to the TPMP.

#### Section 10. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Effective Date: This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its signature by the County Executive.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Bryan Covinsky*

Bryan Covinsky (Dec 4, 2025 14:03:17 CST)

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Counselor

I hereby certify that the attached ordinance, Ordinance No. 6049 introduced on December 8, 2025, was duly passed on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:

Yeas \_\_\_\_\_

Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Abstaining \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

This Ordinance is hereby transmitted to the County Executive for his signature.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature

I hereby approve the attached Ordinance No. 6049.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil LeVota, County Executive