



FRANK WHITE, JR.
Jackson County Executive

RECEIVED

FEB 24 2025

MARY JO SPINO
COUNTY CLERK

1:20pm dch

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-03

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE**

**FROM: FRANK WHITE, JR.
JACKSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2025

RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMBAT COMMISSION.

I hereby make the following appointment to the COMBAT Commission:


Theresa Grado is appointed to fill a vacant **District 1** seat occasioned by the term expiration of Mark Bryant, for a new term set to expire December 31, 2028. A copy of Ms. Grado's resume is attached.

John Sharp is appointed to fill a vacant **District 4** seat occasioned by the term expiration of Elizabeth Williams, for a new term set to expire December 31, 2028. A copy of Mr. Sharp's resume is attached.

Katherine Baker is appointed to fill a vacant **At-Large Legal Professional** seat occasioned by the term expiration of Alfred Jordan, with a new term set to expire December 31, 2027. A copy of Ms. Baker's resume is attached.

Dr. Susan M. Wilson is appointed to a vacant **At-Large** seat occasioned by the term expiration of Dr. Joseph Spalitto, with a new term set to expire Dec 31, 2028. A copy of Dr. Wilson's resume is attached.

2/24/2025
Date


Frank White, Jr., County Executive



Teresa Laynette Grado
816-521-1555
Gradoinc.kc@gmail.com

Results-Driven Entrepreneur with over a decade of experience in Management, Nonprofit administration, and team development. Passionate about community welfare and engagement, and operational excellence. Sharp skills in managing diverse teams, fundraising, refining strategic planning, and exceptional service.

EXPERIENCE

Lilly's Cantina, Kansas City, MO **2021 – Present**
Family owned and operated; casual dining authentic Mexican Restaurant located on the historic Southwest Boulevard - in the heart of Downtown KCMO/Westside neighborhood.
Owner/ Lead Manager, November 2021- Present

Delivering exceptional, high-quality meals to guests from all walks of life, ensuring that every patron receives the same warmth and care instilled in our restaurant by Lilly, creating a welcoming and memorable dining experience for all.

- Successfully led the restaurant through its 3-year milestone, demonstrating strong leadership, operational efficiency, and consistent business growth and retention.
- Spearheaded a 60% increase in customer traffic by overseeing a seamless transition to a new location, resulting in improved brand visibility and customer loyalty.
- Managed the recruitment and hiring of three skilled employees, building a strong team to enhance service quality and support the restaurant's expansion.
- Implemented initiatives that contributed to community engagement, including local partnerships and charitable efforts, strengthening the restaurant's presence and reputation within the community.

The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters, Kansas City, MO **2010-2021**
Managing Administrator – KS & MO, July 2010 - April 2021

Responsible for the administration and allocation of over \$1.2 million in funds across 102 counties, ensuring financial resources are effectively distributed support to individuals in need, providing both practical aid and compassionate care to those facing hardship.

- Successfully raised \$750,000 - \$1 million in just three months, leveraging strategic planning, relationship-building, and resource management.
- Coordinated the transportation and logistics of 100-165 children from rural Kansas and Northwest Missouri, providing them with a week-long, impactful experience at TSA Camp, fostering growth and community engagement.
- Managed a seasonal workforce of 24-150 employees, ensuring smooth operations and maintaining high productivity during peak and off-peak periods, while fostering a positive, efficient work environment.
- Achieved growth in the revenue of four thrift stores within my first year of employment, increasing funds and securing employment within the organization.

Costco, Kansas City, MO

2000 - 2005

Front End Manager, December 2000- March 2005

Ensured seamless operations at the front of the house, supporting a positive atmosphere while meeting the needs of both customers and staff with exceptional service and efficiency.

- Streamlined front-end workflow, implementing process improvements that enhanced efficiency and reduced wait times.
- Consistently met company standards by mentoring and developing team members, helping them advance to higher positions within the organization.
- Held all team members accountable for performance, ensuring adherence to company policies and fostering a culture of responsibility and excellence.

EDUCATION

J.C. Harmon High School, Kansas City, Kansas

High School Diploma, General Studies

John A. Sharp
8401 E. 103rd Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64134
816-876-1687
jsharp122@hotmail.com

John A. Sharp is a graduate of the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science degree and a double major in journalism and political science. He also is a graduate of the University of Missouri – Kansas City with a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in urban administration.

He is a current columnist for the Martin City & South KC Telegraph newspaper and a past reporter and editor for the former Kansas City Kansan newspaper.

Sharp has been a resident of Kansas City, Mo., and the C-1 Hickman Mills School District since 1967. He has served five two-year terms from that area as a Missouri State Representative, four four-year terms on the Kansas City, Mo., City Council and two three-year terms on the Hickman Mills Board of Education.

He also has served as a member of the Kansas City, Mo., Public Improvements Advisory Committee, Board President of the Community Assistance Council, Executive Committee member of the Kansas City, Mo., Chapter of the NAACP and Board member of Cultivate Kansas City.

He currently serves as President of the South Kansas City Alliance (a nonprofit Missouri corporation that seeks to represent the interests of south Kansas City, Mo., and Grandview neighborhoods and residents) and of Southland Progress, a political action committee.

He also is a longtime member of the Hickman Mills Educational Foundation that provides scholarships for Ruskin High School seniors and grants for district teachers for special projects. He personally funds two scholarships in his name annually for Ruskin seniors who have been involved in student government or providing service to the community and one scholarship annually in the name of his late step-daughter, a Hickman Mills High School graduate, who was a murder victim 25 years ago in Columbia during her senior year at the University of Missouri – Columbia.

Katherine Baker

(816) 500.1369 (m)

Katherine.j.baker@gmail.com

Kan. Bar No. 29494

Mo. Bar No. 62733

EXPERIENCE

WYANDOTTE COUNTY, KANSAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

August 2024 to present

Practice in complex criminal litigation including a caseload that consists of predominantly sex crimes and some homicide and other fatality matters. Carry a caseload of roughly 160 open cases. Draft and prepare motions and responsive pleadings, handle preliminary evidentiary hearings, bond hearings, probation violation hearings, immunity hearings, juvenile prosecution, child in need of care matters (CINC), and trial work. Work closely with law enforcement and other community stakeholders such as DCF and the Sunflower House.

THE WATT LAW FIRM

June 2024-August 2024

(Temporary Criminal Defense Work While Associate was on Maternity Leave)

Defended State and Federal criminal cases. Worked on a wide variety of criminal defense work from basic traffic matters to complex criminal litigation such as homicide cases.

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH, LLP

Jan 2023- June 2024

Labor & Employment Practice, with additional specialization in catastrophic injury, trucking and transportation, worker's compensation, premises liability, and other general liability claims and cases. Defend and take depositions. Draft pleadings, mediation statements, and case evaluation for clients/insurers. Routinely meet and confer with investigating agencies, law enforcement and experts. Identify, locate and interview witnesses. Attend motion hearings, pre-trial conferences, settlement conferences, and many other court appearances. Prepared civil trials in full prior to late settlement agreements. Attend and handle mediations and administrative hearings for clients.

MATTEUZZI & BROOKER, PC, Overland Park, KS

March 2022-Dec 2022

General practitioner. Handle both plaintiff, defense, and insurance defense civil litigation, including, but not limited to defending security companies in premises liability matters, represent first responders in worker's compensation claims for on duty injuries, trucking litigation, taking and defending depositions, preparing case evaluations and working closely with clients and witnesses.

LOCKTON COMPANIES, LITIGATION COUNSEL, Kansas City, MO

2020-2022

Managed Employment (Restrictive Covenant, Discrimination, and other), and E&O litigation, participated in onboarding/offboarding of company personnel, reviewed and responded to subpoenas from government and private parties, conducted internal investigations, handled trademark registration and disputes, reviewed contracts, collaborated closely with outside counsel on all types of matters.

ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, JACKSON CO., MO

2015-2020

Violent Crimes Unit. NoVA (Gang) Unit. Six (6) cases to verdict, including two murders, robbery, assault first degree (drive by shooting), and forcible rape. Handled post-conviction relief actions under Missouri Supreme Court Rules 24.035 and 29.15. Handled bond, sentencing, suppression, probation violation hearings, defended and took depositions, handled proffers, coordinated with law enforcement, on-call homicide prosecutor duties from 2015-2020, worked with crime laboratory experts, trained new prosecutors on various topics, handled caseload of 70-80 cases in NoVA Unit and caseload of 30 homicides/violent crime trial cases in Violent Crimes Unit, handled Special Victim's Unit cases as needed.

- Community Prosecutor of the Year award 2016

- Handled all stages of *State of Missouri v. Dominique Marchbanks, 1616-CR00608-01*, Defendant was convicted by a jury and sentenced to 165 years plus life in the shooting death of 3-year-old Amorian Hale.

ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, CLAY CO., MO 2012-2015
 General Crimes Unit. Carried caseload of over 100 cases from DUI to violent crime, eleven (11) cases to jury verdict, robbery, assault, burglary, dui, forcible rape (adult and child), stolen vehicles and one bench trial for violation of order of protection (misd). Handled bond, sentencing, preliminary hearings, probation violation hearings, on call prosecutor for county responsibilities from 2012-2015, worked with Clay County Drug Task Force as County Drug Prosecutor, handled drug court and veteran's court dockets.

LAW CLERK TO THE HON. JEFFREY L. BUSHUR, 16TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, DIV. 33, INDEPENDENCE, MO 2010-2012
 Criminal, Domestic, and Traffic Dockets, Coordinated Bench Trials, Performed Legal Writing

EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY, J.D. 2010

- John Speca Family Law Award Recipient 2010
- Level I Honors, Pro Bono – Public Interest Program
- Dean's List
- "Addressing the Pre-Admission and Extrajudicial use of Child Custody Reports," 23 J. AM. MATRIM. LAW 155 (2010) Comment Author, The Journal of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers
- 2009-10, Child and Family Services Clinic, Rule 13 Attorney

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, Villanova, PA, Bachelor of Arts 2007
 Major in Philosophy, dual concentrations in Cultural and Political Philosophy and Ethics

ADMITTED Missouri Bar
 Kansas Bar
 United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri
 United States District Court for the District of Kansas

COMMUNITY

- President Elect (2026 calendar year) Wyandotte County Bar Association
- Former Board Member and Executive Committee, Child Protection Center (CPC), Kansas City's Premiere child advocacy center. Providing forensic interviews and therapy to children who have suffered or witnessed sexual abuse, physical abuse or witnessed violent crime. (2020-2023)
- Committee Member, Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA 2020)
- POST Training for KCPD: Search and Seizure (2014)
- Training, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office "Direct and Cross Exams for Experts" (2018)
- Guest Lecturer on the criminal law and Domestic Violence, UMKC Law School (2016)
- Jackson County Prosecutor's Office Annual Training, Best Practices (2019)
- Legal Intern, Hope House, Rule 13 Attorney 2009-10

SUSAN B. WILSON PH.D. MBA

1433 SW Logos Drive
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

(816) 686-0807
drsusankc@gmail.com

RESUME

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ADMINISTRATION

WILSON AND ASSOCIATES

2003-present

Diversity consulting, coaching and organizational development services.

Senior Consultant

Provider of diversity and management consulting services including diversity assessment and action planning, group facilitation, training, project/program management and evaluation, leadership development/mentoring/coaching, grants management and fund development.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-Kansas City

2014-2021

Division of Diversity and Inclusion

Vice Chancellor (Retired 2021)

Served as chief diversity officer for the university. Worked with key stakeholders to craft a comprehensive inclusive excellence plan for UMKC. Provide leadership for numerous strategic diversity initiatives, including diversity training and leadership development, organizational development, institutional climate, deployment of academic unit-level diversity strategies and community engagement.

Adjunct Associate Professor; UMKC School of Education; Division of Counseling Psychology

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI- Kansas City (UMKC)

2008-2014

School of Medicine

Associate Dean, Diversity and Community Engagement

Lead diversity, access and inclusion efforts for medical school, including policy, recruitment, retention, cultural competency and health career pipeline programs. Increased the number of medical students from underrepresented groups by 14% over a four-year period. Led community engagement activities, including advisory boards from diverse communities. Developed the first-ever health sciences diversity "dashboard" by gathering data and developing metrics related to diversity progress.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL)and KANSAS CITY CHIEFS 1996-2014

Consulting psychologist and treating clinician

Provided assessment, psychotherapy and psychoeducational groups for the football players, rookies, and coaches within the NFL Substances of Abuse Program. Provided consultation for the director of Player Development.

SPOFFORD

2006-2008

Provider of therapeutic and prevention services for children, families, and schools.

Vice President

Hired to do organizational “turn-around work in clinical operations, including budget and grants, program development, accreditation, school-based initiatives, therapeutic and nursing services, quality management, admissions, and cultural competency.

SWOPE HEALTH SERVICES, Kansas City, MO

1997-2005

Hybrid organization specializing in innovative community-based healthcare solutions.

Vice President, Behavioral Health

Managed a staff of 210 and directed a \$16 million urban community mental health and substance center. Provided clinical, administrative, grants and fiscal oversight of a complex budget involving multiple funding streams. Acted as a legislative and government liaison.

SAINT LUKES HEALTH SYSTEM, Kansas City, MO

1992-1997

Comprehensive, multi-site health system

Director, Behavioral Health Services

Managed a behavioral health delivery system for adolescents, adults and families. Led managed care contracting, program budget, government relations and program development activities. Provided leadership in key organizational initiatives including accreditation, board and staff education, and organizational efficiency during a period of downsizing.

CRITTENTON, Kansas City, MO

1989-1992

Behavioral health organization serving youth and families.

Clinic Director, Director of Outpatient Services

Established and marketed a new clinic designed to provide behavioral health services to culturally diverse populations. Directed practice management for five outpatient mental health clinics and school-based day treatment programs. Develop substance abuse treatment and prevention programs for adolescents.

C.F. MENNINGER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, Topeka KS

1986-1989

Psychiatric hospital and outpatient facility, now at Baylor University

Staff Psychologist

Provided diagnostic evaluation, psychotherapy, substance abuse treatment and supervision and consultation in inpatient, outpatient and prevention settings. Provided organizational development and leadership consultation services for the Center for Applied Behavioral Sciences.

EDUCATION

MBA, Bloch School of Business, University of Missouri, Kansas City (UMKC)

Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

M.S., Clinical Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

B.S. (Cum Laude), Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Postdoctoral Fellow, Clinical Psychology, Menninger Hospital; Topeka, KS. (Currently Baylor University). Included a two-year training program in group and individual psychotherapy.

Trainee; two-year individual and group psychotherapy program. Menninger Hospital, Topeka, KS.

CONSULTING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

Consultant for “Improving the Mental Health Adjustment and Marketability of the Unemployed” in partnership with the Kansas City Urban League.

Project LIVE (Learning to Interrupt Violence through Education): Developed grant funding and implemented a non-traditional mental health intervention program aimed at trauma screening and intervention in high-risk middle school populations.

Jackson County Mental Health Court: Led the implementation of the first-ever mental health and municipal court collaborative aimed at developing a specialty diversion court emphasizing treatment instead of incarceration for non-violent infractions.

The Spirit Project: Authored a grant and implemented a substance abuse prevention collaborative program with the Hickman Mills School District and the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

Improving Primary Care-Mental Health Integration: Authored a HRSA grant leading to the implementation of a three-year pilot project. The focus was improving chronic disease outcomes by utilizing depression, substance abuse screening and being a behavioral consultant in a primary care setting.

The Sankofa Project: Authored a grant to develop a culturally specific outpatient substance abuse treatment and prevention program for urban African American youth whose drugs of choice are alcohol and marijuana.

Developed and implemented school-based mental health prevention programs for high risk (ADHD, behavior problems, parents incarcerated, parents with mental illness) students in eight urban schools.

Mental Health Access Program: Developed and implemented a comprehensive community-based mental health program aimed at reducing unnecessary hospitalization in SED and SPMI populations.

SPECIAL AWARDS

2018 Kansas City Chamber of Commerce ACE Award for Diversity and Inclusion

2015 Kansas City Influential Woman in Business Award; Kansas City Business Magazine

2015 Kansas City Globe Society of the Influential Award

Media Award, Kansas City Black Journalists, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Heart of America

Kansas City Press Club Award, Best Radio Magazine Show

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Vice Chair, Lee’s Summit Commission on Diversity and Inclusion 2021-present

Trustee, Midcontinent Library Board 2021-present

Chair, Prime Health Board 2016-present

Board Member, Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City 2010-2015

Former Commissioner, Jackson County Community Backed Anti-Drug Tax (COMBAT)
Former Member, University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC) Board of Visitors, 2004-2006
Grant Reviewer, Jackson County COMBAT, Missouri Department of Mental Health
Chair, Community Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG), a Fighting Back/Robert Woods Johnson
Neighborhood Initiative, 2000-2002
Member, Delta Sigma Theta Inc. and Jackson County Chapter of Links Inc.

MEDIA EXPERIENCE

- **Host** and contributor, KC Currents, KCUR 89.3 (Kansas City Affiliate of NPR) Research stories, conduct interviews, write scripts and on-air host.
- **Guest columnist**, Kansas City Star
- **KPRS Radio**, Consulting psychologist and on-air segments for Generation Rap Radio Program and morning drive-time health commentary
- **Local media** Interviews for television segments (KCTV-5, KMBC-9, KSHB-41, WDAF-4)