



MICHAEL D. SANDERS

Jackson County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 14-19

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

**FROM: MICHAEL D. SANDERS
JACKSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE VETERAN'S TASK FORCE

I hereby make the following appointments to the Veteran's Task Force:

Roger ("Jim") Davis
Bruce Eveland
John Hamilton
Paul Rojas
Jim Tobin
Kelly Wilkinson
Art Fillmore
Pat Contreras
Stacy Johnson-Cosby
Jerry Newberry

Copies of the resumes of all appointees are attached.



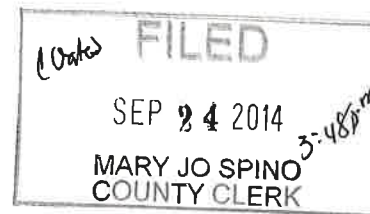
Members of the Legislature
Clerk of the Legislature
September 23, 2014
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The Veteran's Task Force shall examine strategies and actions to assist returning veterans as they reintegrate into our community. The Task Force will engage the community in a dialogue on the challenges facing veterans and their families and make recommendations that will be forwarded to the County Executive, Jackson County Legislature, the Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney, and the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.



Michael D. Sanders, County Executive

Dated: 9-23-14



Roger (Jim) Davis
306 NW Shagbark
Lee's Summit, MO 64064
816-373-1523
jdavis@comcast.net

Roger (Jim) Davis holds a B.S. from the University of Denver. While a resident of Denver Davis served as Chairman of the Mayors Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee. When he relocated to Charleston West Virginia, Davis continued to serve the community as member of the State Citizen Advisory Commission for Public Welfare.

A Captain in the United States Coast Guard (Retired) Davis currently serves on numerous boards and committees of charitable organizations in the metro area, which support youth programs.

COLONEL G. BRUCE EVELAND

U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)

12716 Searcy Road

Kearney, MO 64060

(h) 816-635-3577

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(f) 816-635-3788

G. Bruce Eveland was born in Southern New Jersey. After graduating high school, he entered active duty as a Private in the US Army. He received basic training with the 101st Airborne Division, Camp Breckinridge, KY. After basic training he was immediately assigned to Korea with an Infantry Squad, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. Upon being discharged he attended college at the University of Texas and received a degree in Business Administration. He holds two Master's Degrees in Accounting and Personnel Management.

He re-entered active duty after college and graduated from Officers Candidate School. He commanded a Hawk Missile Battery in Europe and a Battalion in Korea. Other earlier assignments include two combat tours in Vietnam, Executive Officer and Deputy G-3, 101st Airborne Division, Operations Officer XVIII Airborne Corps, a graduate and later a member of the faculty of the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, and a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, DC.

After his assignment in the Pentagon as a Branch Chief for NATO Plans and Operations for Europe. he departed for Europe and was assigned as the Deputy G-3 Seventh Corps. Immediately following this assignment, he was selected to Command an Air Defense Brigade. Upon completion of command, he was assigned as the Inspector General, US Army Europe. Upon his return to the US, he retired from the US Army in New Jersey.

After his retirement, he was nominated and selected as the first Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs for the State of NJ. He served in this position for two years. This position provided him a keen insight into the needs of all NJ Veterans and their families. After the state administration changed, he joined the US General Accounting Office as a Senior Forensic Accounting Auditor, Philadelphia, Pa.

He remained there for three years. In 1995, the office was closed based on government downsizing. He was then nominated and selected by the Governor of New Jersey to assume the position of Chief, Professional Responsibilities – Office of Government Integrity. He retired from this position in 2007.

Bruce's military awards include the Combat Infantry Badge w/star, two Legion of Merits, three Bronze Stars w/one for Valor, five Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Armed Forces and Army Commendation Medals, Air Medal, Campaign Medals from Korea and Vietnam, Senior Airborne Badge and Air Assault Badge.

He is married to the lovely Susan J Eveland. They have four children; Linda, Bruce, Aaron and Andrea, They have five grandchildren. He and his wife reside in beautiful Kearney, MO.

John E. Hamilton
Adjutant General
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



John E. Hamilton was appointed Adjutant General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in July 2013. Prior to this he served as Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars from 2012-2013.

Mr. Hamilton served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1968-1970, including a tour in Vietnam. His decorations include the Purple Heart and two Gold stars, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross Color, Republic of Vietnam Unit Citation Civil Actions Color (First Class) and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He joined the VFW in 1974 at Post 7909 in Jacksonville, Fla., where he maintains his Legacy Life (Gold Level) membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions, including the National Council of Administration from 1989-1991, and as State Commander from 1987-1988. He served on the board of the VFW National Home from 2002-2008 and as its president from 2004-2005. He also served as Supreme Commander of the Military Order of the Cootie from 1992-1993.

Mr. Hamilton graduated with honors from Georgia Military Academy in 1967. He worked as a professional wrestler throughout the United States and the world for 15 years as Johnny Montana, (also known as "Dr. Death") along with other names and identities.

Mr. Hamilton was named Florida's Young Veteran of the Year in 1981. He has been honored by Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush for his outstanding community service and leadership.

Mr. Hamilton is a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and the Semper Fidelis Society.

He was a longtime resident of Jacksonville, Fla., and currently resides in Kansas City, Mo.

-vfw-

Paul Rojas
2000 Jefferson
Kansas City, MO 64108
rojaspaulg@yahoo.com
816-221-8931 (h)
816-547-0574 (m)

Paul Rojas was educated in Kansas City and has lived here all his life. He is a member of the American Legion, Korean Veterans Association and Veterans of Underage Military Service.

Paul served in the Missouri House of Representatives for four terms approximately 40 years ago. He has been active in the community for all of his life.

He retired from the former Bendix Corporation (also known as Allied Signal and Honeywell) 40 years ago. He is a Board Member for Guadalupe Center and has served on several boards and commissions for both Jackson County and Kansas City.

He enlisted in the service in 1952 and completed his tour in 1955. He is married to Mary Rojas.

COLONEL JAMES M. TOBIN
USAR, Retired

James Tobin was born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1949. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Rockhurst University in 1971; after graduation he served as an enlisted Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Specialist until 1973. After release from active duty he attended law school at the University of Missouri at Columbia where he was awarded a Juris Doctor degree in 1976. He has been a partner in the firm of Murphy & Tobin in Kansas City, Missouri since 1984 and has served as a part-time Municipal Judge in Lee's Summit, Missouri since 1989. He is a life member and current commander of the Greater Kansas City Chapter, Military Order of the World Wars, a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, life member Disabled American Veterans, life member Reserve Officers Association, life member of the Heart of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America and former president of the Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judge Association. As judge he was one of the first two Mental Health Court judges in the Jackson County Mental Health Court pilot project. He began his active Army Reserve career in 1981 as an enlisted soldier with the 326th Area Support group where he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in 1983. From 1986 to 1998 he served in a number of positions in the 8th Legal Support Organization (LSO) in Independence. He is a 1993 graduate of the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. As Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the 3d Corps Support Command in Des Moines, Iowa, he deployed overseas to Germany in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, in January 2003; in July 2003 he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal in January 2004. He returned from Iraq in February 2004 and was released from active duty in March 2004. From 2004 through 2007 he served as Staff Judge Advocate for the 3rd Corps Support Command and the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command. His last military assignment before retirement was as Staff Judge Advocate, US Army Japan, headquartered at Camp Zama, Japan.

Jim and his wife Cindy were married in 1984; they are the parents of two children, Kerri and Patrick.

US DECORATIONS AND BADGES

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Army Commendation Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters)

Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters)

National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star)

Army Service Ribbon

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass, "M" and Number 2 Device)

Overseas Service Ribbon

Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon (with Number 5 Device)

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Qualification Badge
Combat Action Badge

Kelly Wilkinson
6113 Hardy Ave.
Raytown, MO 64133
Jwilkinson62@yahoo.com
816-308-5899

Kelly Wilkinson is a secondary education teacher in the Center School District. He has lifetime certification in social studies and speech and debate. He graduated from UMKC in 1989 with a degree in Political Science major and had minors in History and Military Science. He received his Secondary Education Degree in 1996, also from UMKC.

He was in the US Army from 1987 until 1994 when he received his Honorable Discharge. He was a Fire Support Officer and earned the rank of Lieutenant.

Art Fillmore
1301 Oak St.
Kansas City, MO 64106
afillmore@levycraig.com
816-460-1841

Mr. Fillmore has practiced corporate law since 1975 with several law firms. He has been associated with Levy Craig for the past 11 years, specializing in mergers and acquisitions, commercial law, and business transactions of many disciplines, locally, nationally and internationally.

Mr. Fillmore is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia Law School, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and the Lead Articles Editor and Managing Editor of the Missouri Law Review. He has been honored as a Super Lawyer of Missouri, 10 Legal Leaders of Kansas City, and One of 50 Missourians You Should Know.

Mr. Fillmore served in the United States Army, as a combat officer in Vietnam and Nuclear Missile Commander in Europe. He received many citations for his combat tour in Vietnam as a forward observer for the First Wolfhounds of the 25th Infantry Division. For his service to his country and later to his community, he was elected to the United States Army Artillery Hall of Fame.

Mr. Fillmore has practiced extensively in the area of health care. He represented Tenet Healthcare in its \$1 Billion bid to acquire Health Midwest. He has also served as an M&A attorney in hospital acquisitions, has represented numerous medical care provider groups, and has served as general counsel of a medical malpractice insurance company.

Mr. Fillmore has spent more than 25 years advocating the rights of military veterans, serving as Chairman of the Kansas City Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of War Veterans, the Founder and Chairman of the Heart of America Stand Down for homeless veterans, and as a founder and board member of St. Michael's Veterans Center, a newly developed 23-acre campus of permanent housing and supportive services for homeless veterans.

Mr. Fillmore is also a businessman and currently serves as the CEO and Chairman of the Board of NxGEN Electronics, Inc, in San Diego, CA.

Pat Contreras

Consultant

Washington, District Of Columbia
Public Policy

Current Council on Foreign Relations,
 Truman National Security Project,
 Hispanic Heritage Foundation

Previous U.S. Department of State,
 Coro Leadership Center - St. Louis,
 Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Education Columbia University - School of International and Public Affairs

Experience

**COUNCIL ON
FOREIGN
RELATIONS**

Term Member

Council on Foreign Relations

June 2014 – Present (4 months) Washington D.C. Metro Area



Partner

Truman National Security Project

December 2013 – Present (10 months) Washington D.C. Metro Area

**Hispanic Heritage
FOUNDATION**

Senior Advisor

Hispanic Heritage Foundation

January 2014 – Present (9 months) Washington D.C. Metro Area



Diplomat/Foreign Service Officer

U.S. Department of State

August 2008 – January 2014 (5 years 6 months) Various locations in the U.S. and overseas

Economic Officer - Bangkok, Thailand

Consular Officer - Islamabad, Pakistan

Political Officer - Lahore, Pakistan

Political Officer - Mexico City, Mexico

Public Diplomacy Officer - Washington, DC

Economic and Trade Officer - U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC



Coro Fellow

Coro Leadership Center - St. Louis

2005 - 2006 (1 year) Greater St. Louis Area



Research Associate

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

January 2005 - November 2005 (11 months) Kansas City, Missouri Area



Missouri Department of Economic Development

State of Missouri

2002 - 2003 (1 year)



Summer Business Analyst

U.S. Bank

May 2001 - August 2001 (4 months) Kansas City, Missouri Area



Summer Business Analyst

Sprint

May 2000 - August 2000 (4 months) Kansas City, Missouri Area



104 W. 104th St.
Kansas City, Missouri 64114
816-591-5921

Career-

Real Estate Agent/Broker - Reece & Nichols REALTORS – Country Club Plaza office
For 27 years I've held real estate licenses – in Kansas & a Missouri Brokers license

Education-

B.A. Psychology, Communications/minor (University of Missouri-Kansas City)
M.A. Marketing & Management (Webster University)

Awards-

- Awarded a 2013 Neighborhood Leader Legacy Award by the City of Kansas City. This award was given in recognition of exemplary community leadership as well as commitment and dedication to enhancing the livability of my community. I was nominated by my City Council Representative.
- Past Missouri Association of REALTORS Salesperson of the Year (20,000+ members across the state). Several years ago, I was recognized by my peers for my commitment to ethical real estate practices; involvement in local, state and national REALTOR® associations; professional accomplishments, including sales volume; and community service.
- Past Kansas City Regional Association of REALTORS Salesperson of the Year (9,000+ members). I was honored and recognized by my peers locally for ethics and cooperation, faithfulness to the principles of the Association of REALTORS® Bylaws and Code of Ethics, efforts to encourage good real estate practices, community service & contribution to local association several years ago.
- KC Magazine – Five Star Real Estate Agent in 2014 - Awarded 5 years in a row for exceptional service & overall client satisfaction (voted on by clients, peers & industry experts)

My Community Service Involvement & Credentials

What I do when I'm not selling houses and serving my real estate clients

I serve my community (neighborhood & real estate)...including these great opportunities

CIVIC VOLUNTEER EFFORTS:

- **South Kansas City Alliance** – (Since 2011) Elected the first President of this new alliance of neighborhood organizations, businesses, non profits, civic, faith based and educational institutions, business interests and individuals. We are building this organization from the ground up. We are dedicated to a unified vision for South Kansas City through sustainable economic development, building quality, safe and healthy communities as we highlight South Kansas City as a wonderful place to live, work, do business and play. We actively work to build relationships with our elected officials and stay connected as a liaison between developers and our community connect & provide resources to neighborhoods. My goal is to build this organization to speak with one voice for South Kansas City concerns and to be proactive in fully developing our community in ways that benefit our citizens and community.

- **Heart of American Standdown for Homeless Military Veterans** – (Since 2011) I volunteer with the semi-annual Standdowns – with many service organizations and individuals serving 500-700 homeless and at risk military Veterans to prepare them for the Summer & Winter.
- We provide them access to resources, services, clothes, toiletries, haircuts and other necessities for the upcoming season. I also chaired the committee to organize the women's area & gather, organize and disseminate the clothing, toiletries & other services. Currently, I serve on the committee doing what's needed including public relations support and identifying donation opportunities. I ran our very successful Boots For Vets Drive when we had a shortage of boots from previous resources.

University of Missouri - Kansas City (UMKC) - I love my school!

- Lifetime Alumni Association Member
- Co-Chaired the UMKC Alumni Association Awards (2011 & 2012) charged with raising scholarship funds used as immediate aid for students at financial risk of dropping out. We exceeded our goal and raised a total of over \$200,000 over both years for our UMKC students in need! This keeps our children in school getting their education and in our community.
- **Center Planning & Development Council** –Vice Chair. Umbrella group of 30+ South Kansas City neighborhood organizations and groups. We engage neighbors, developers, city and other elected officials to maintain & improve quality of life for our neighborhoods in the Southwest corner of our city. We communicate through regular monthly public informational meetings.
- **Swope Community Builders** –Board of Directors and Officer (Secretary). We are charged with revitalizing & developing the urban core and its neighborhoods through various housing renovation projects and support services.
- **Kansas City Symphony Alliance** – Volunteered for The Designer Showhouse (fundraising project that benefited the KC Symphony's youth awareness programs –raised over \$100,000). Design Committee Co-Chair 2012-13. We recruited & coordinated designers for the 40+ spaces in this home that members of the public paid to tour in the Spring.
- **St. Thomas More Catholic Church** – (Since 2001) I serve as a Lector (reader), Usher/Greeter & Eucharistic Minister in my church community in South Kansas City.

CITY & COUNTY APPOINTMENTS

Appointed by the **Center School District Board** to hear property tax appeals from citizens in the district for the **Jackson County Board of Equalization**

Appointed by my 6th District at-large councilman to these 2 City of Kansas City committees:

- **Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund (NTDF, 6th District Rep.)** – We hear & evaluate grant application presentations from organizations for events that generate tourism dollars for our city & promote neighborhood involvement - and make budget recommendations to the city council.
- **Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC, 6th District Rep.)** –Vice Chairman. We hear citizen & city department capital improvement (infrastructure) project application presentations, then make budget recommendations to city council.

REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT:

- **Missouri Association of REALTORS & Kansas City Regional Association of REALTORS** – Professional Standards Ethics Panel member/chair, Mediator, Arbitrator & Ombudsman

Jerry Newberry
Assistant Adjutant General - Operations
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



Jerry Newberry was appointed Assistant Adjutant General - Operations of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on September 19, 2012. He serves as the Chief of Staff for the Adjutant General and coordinates the implementation all VFW missions and programs within VFW National Headquarters. Prior to this he served as Director of Communications and Public Affairs, 2001-2012.

As Communications Director he oversaw a national public affairs program designed to promote, influence and improve understanding by the public, the membership and other interested parties of VFW principles, goals and achievements. As host and co-producer of VFW's weekly radio show, he has embedded with troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He earned his VFW eligibility for service with the U.S. Army in Vietnam. Newberry earned a degree in business and political science from Wayne State in Detroit, Mich. He earned many years of business experience managing all facets of a large, multi-state corporation. He went on to be employed by a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as an investigative reporter and newspaper columnist, and as a speech and Op-Ed writer for a former secretary of the VA.

Newberry stayed active in veterans' affairs during this time, working with a number of organizations on a wide range of priority veteran's issues including Agent Orange, homelessness, Cold Weather Injuries, PTSD and Gulf War Illness.

Jerry is currently a Life Member of VFW Post 2492 in Imlay City, Mich. He resides in the Kansas City area.

-vfw-