



Jackson County Missouri

Jackson County Courthouse
415 E. 12th Street, 2nd floor
Kansas City, Missouri
64106
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Request for Legislative Action

File #: 25-553, Version: 0

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: 12/1/2025

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To be confirmed by County Counselor's Office:

Resolution No.: 22116

Sponsor: Manuel Abarca IV

Date: December 1, 2025

STAFF CONTACT: Sophia Herrera **PHONE:** Enter Phone Number

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DEPARTMENT: Click or tap here to enter text.

TITLE: A COURTESY RESOLUTION honoring the Retirement of the Honorable Judge J. Dale Youngs

SUMMARY: WHEREAS, the Jackson County Legislature is pleased to join the legal community and residents of Jackson County in recognizing and honoring the distinguished career and retirement of the Honorable Judge J. Dale Youngs, who has faithfully served the 16th Judicial Circuit since his appointment in May 2009; and WHEREAS, Judge Youngs is a proud graduate of the University of Missouri, where he earned his Bachelor of Journalism, and of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, where he received his Juris Doctor; and WHEREAS, throughout his tenure on the bench, Judge Youngs earned the respect of attorneys, jurors, colleagues, and the broader community for his integrity, preparedness, and unwavering commitment to justice; and WHEREAS, in the 2010 Judicial Performance Evaluation, attorneys rated Judge Youngs exceptionally high in key areas, including *preparedness for hearings and trials* (4.56), *appropriate demeanor on the bench* (4.56), and *maintaining order and decorum in the courtroom* (4.52), demonstrating his professionalism and

command of the courtroom; and WHEREAS, although his lowest scores-such as *basing decisions on evidence and arguments* (4.31) and *clearly reasoned rulings on substantive law* (4.33)-were noted, they remained far above statewide averages and reflected a consistently strong judicial performance that exceeded expectations; and WHEREAS, juror surveys reflected a remarkable **98.05 percent favorable** rating, with comments praising Judge Youngs as “extremely excellent and professional,” “excellent,” and “very professional,” further showcasing the respect with which he was regarded by those who observed him firsthand; and WHEREAS, the Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee also reviewed a written order submitted by Judge Youngs and found it to be well-reasoned, clearly written, and exemplary of his deep understanding of substantive law and procedural matters frequently encountered by trial judges; and WHEREAS, beyond his courtroom service, Judge Youngs contributed meaningfully to the legal profession and the Kansas City community as a member of the Missouri Institute of Justice Board of Directors, the Strategic Vision Committee of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, the Circuit Court Communications and Employee Retention/Recognition Committees, and The Missouri Bar; and WHEREAS, Judge Youngs also dedicated service to Visitation Catholic Church and served on the board of directors of the Sherwood Center, exemplifying a commitment to community engagement and public service; and WHEREAS, Judge Youngs’ retirement marks the conclusion of a judicial career defined by fairness, professionalism, thoughtful decision-making, and service to the residents of Jackson County. His contributions to the judiciary and the community will continue to inspire those who follow. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature hereby honors and congratulates the Honorable Judge J. Dale Youngs on the occasion of his retirement and expresses its deep gratitude for his many years of exemplary service to the 16th Judicial Circuit, the legal profession, and the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:**NO** ☒

Amount	Fund	Department	Line-Item Detail

YES ☐**ACTION NEEDED:** COURTESY (NO LEGAL IMPACT)**ATTACHMENTS:**

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