



MICHAEL D. SANDERS

Jackson County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER #11-08

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

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

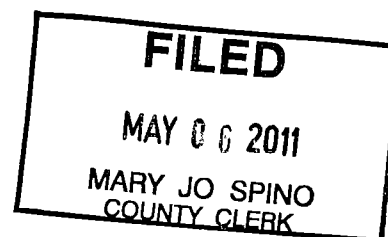
DATE: May 6, 2011

RE: APPOINTMENT OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Jackson County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Jean Peters-Baker to the office of Prosecuting Attorney, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of James F. Kanatzar, for a term to expire December 31, 2012. A copy of Ms. Peters-Baker's resume is attached.


Michael D. Sanders, County Executive

Date: May 6, 2011



JEAN PETERS-BAKER

P.O. Box 7031, Kansas City, Missouri 64113
jean@electjean.com

EDUCATION

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law

Juris Doctorate – May 1998

- *Law Review, Staff Member*
Published in UMKC Law Review,
Punishing the Passive Parent: Ending a Cycle of Violence, 65 UMKC L. REV. 1003 (1997).
Published in UMKC Law Review,
Challenging Traditional Notions of Managing Sex Offenders: Prognosis is Lifetime Management,
66 UMKC L. Rev. 629 (1998).
- *Ellison Moot Court, Staff Member*
Placed second overall in appellate advocacy competition
Invited to compete in Ellison Competition and Moot Court
- *Journal of Matrimonial Lawyers, Staff Member*
Researched and edited articles submitted for publication

University of Missouri-Columbia

Master of Science in Public Administration – May 1995

- Conducted and presented cost-benefit analysis to Boone County Circuit Court
for use of closed circuit television for arraignment of inmates
- Studied program evaluation, grant writing, financial analysis and performed research

Columbia College

Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design – May 1991

EXPERIENCE

Missouri House of Representatives

State Representative

Elected November 2010

Elected to serve in Leadership of the Minority Party as the Chair for Freshman Members

- Currently serve on the following committees:
 - Rules, Ranking Minority Member
 - Higher Education
 - Crime Prevention and Public Safety
 - Health Insurance
 - Downsizing Government
 - Joint Committee on Legislative Research
- Serve as Co-Chair of the Kansas City Caucus with Rep. T.J. Berry (R), focusing on economic development issues, including job retention and job creation for the Kansas City metropolitan area

Jackson County Prosecutors Office

Trial Team Leader/Chief Warrant Officer

November 2007 – December 2010

My last three years of service were spent as the Chief Warrant Officer and Trial Team Leader for the Kansas City Warrant Desk, a position I was promoted to by James Kanatzar. My duties included supervising a diverse team comprised of four attorneys, legal interns, an investigator, a victim advocate and support staff. I managed diversion programs and dockets for the Warrant Desk while directing a trial team. I was directly responsible for overseeing the day to day intake and review of nearly all general crimes from the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and other law enforcement agencies. This position allowed me daily interaction with the court, the police and members of the community. I also was responsible for serving on an operations committee with members of the judiciary, court personnel, members of the defense bar, law enforcement and jail personnel.

Throughout my fourteen years as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, I held the following positions within the Jackson County Prosecutor's office, holding nearly every assignment within the office under the leadership of multiple Prosecuting Attorneys:

- **Sex Crimes and Child Abuse Unit** – My work in this unit was the most rewarding and the most difficult position held during my tenure. I prosecuted complex cases in both Kansas City and Independence working to achieve justice for victims. My work in this unit included the evaluation and filing of charges against serial rapists, cold-hit DNA rape cases, child homicides and cases involving sexual abuse against children.
 - **Domestic Violence Unit** – This was a challenging but rewarding part of my service at the prosecutor's office. I successfully tried multiple cases and achieved the goal of raising public awareness of domestic violence and its terrible effects on its victims, including children.
 - **Grand Jury Prosecutor** – The position of Grand Jury Prosecutor gave me a broad view of crime and its impact on every corner of Jackson County. In this position, I developed relationships with nearly every local, state and federal law enforcement agency within the jurisdiction.
 - **Warrant Desk Attorney** – In this position, I handled approximately 80 preliminary hearings in cases ranging from Robbery in the First Degree to Tampering with a Motor Vehicle. This position allowed me to develop the ability to access evidence quickly, work with victims of crimes and negotiate appropriate outcomes.
 - **DART Unit** – As the coordinator, I lead the Drug Abatement Response Team (DART), supervising a team of professionals from multiple agencies and served as the community liaison for the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department to target drug houses and businesses for legal action. In this position, I was responsible for grant funding and all aspects of DART and cooperating agencies. Additionally, I spearheaded an effort to address rampant criminal activity in some area hotels. This effort included inspections of these hotels based on documented criminal activity on those properties and special training programs for hotel owners and managers
 - **Civil Forfeitures** – In this position, I developed a protocol, under supervision of then Prosecutor Robert Beaird, for filing and settlement disposition of civil cases involving seized personal property connected to illegal activity. I developed a working relationship with multiple law enforcement agencies at the federal and state level. I successfully tried civil forfeiture cases and conducted multiple default hearings.
 - **Drug Enforcement Unit/Drug Court** – During my service in the Drug Enforcement Unit, I tried multiple drug possession cases under the supervision of numerous great trial attorneys. In this position, I learned to how to effectively try a criminal case, but also to seek appropriate outcomes. I fully supported drug court programs in our community in an effort to prevent individuals from entering into our community with untreated drug addictions and felony convictions. I managed multiple dockets in drug court and found myself moved by those who conquered drug addiction through this program
 - **Family Support** – I began my service as an intern in the office of Child Support Enforcement. I tried my first case as an intern in this position in a first-chair capacity and my second case as an Assistant Prosecutor before transferring to the Drug Enforcement Unit.
- From 2007 to 2010, served on the Homicide Committee, and assisted in the review of all violent crimes from investigation to disposition of the case on a monthly basis.
 - Tried over 60 jury trials in a first-chair capacity, primarily violent crimes.

Special accomplishments as a trial attorney:

- Worked with experts in the areas of child forensics, psychological evaluations, medicine, and linguistics.
- Worked on death penalty cases, including *State of Missouri v. Terry Blair* in a second-chair capacity, and provided research and advice on other death penalty cases within the office.
- Managed special assignments in the office including post-conviction cases and probation violations.

- Taught at the Kansas City, Missouri Police Academy in the areas of search and seizure, civil forfeiture and fraud to police officers.
- Provided training on preventing identity theft to a League of Women Voters forum in Independence, Missouri.
- Presented personal safety concerns as it relates sex crimes to UMKC students, and training for social workers and psychologist on evidentiary issues in filing a sex crimes case.
- Provided training programs through the Sue Shear Institute aimed at fostering leadership skills in college students.

Special Awards & Leadership within the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office:

- 2000 Rookie of the Year, 2000 Annual Awards Ceremony.
- 2002 Excellence Award for Advancing Combat Objectives, nominated by the Jackson County Prosecutor, Police and Community Advocates for organizing and implementing the closing of three area problem hotels; conducted training for Hotel owners and operators; spearheaded special project areas, such as 45th and Forest in Kansas City, Missouri to curb criminal activity (awarded by Robert Beard).
- 2005 Victim Advocate of the Year, 2005 Annual Awards Ceremony, for championing the rights of crime victims and their families through the criminal justice process (awarded by Michael Sanders).
- 2007 Chief Warrant Officer and Trial Team Leader promotion (by James Kanatzar).

Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life

Board Member

Program Coordinator for the Kansas City Office

July 2004 – present

November 2003 – July 2004

As a member of the Sue Shear Institute, I have undertaken to assist women in developing the skills necessary to succeed as full participants within government, through elected and appointed office as well as employed policy makers. My specific goals and objectives included the following:

- Maintained a budget and daily operations for the Kansas City office.
- Tracked and collected data on the historical and current status of women in a variety of public policy making roles including elected office, service on public boards and commissions, and senior government positions.
- Increased the presence of women appointees on boards and commissions by maintaining a database of women interested in serving on such boards and providing training for effective board membership.
- Trained college women leaders for leadership skills in the public sector.
- Increased the number of women employed in policy making positions by providing skill building programs focusing on leadership ability, public policy analysis, communication and networking skill development, coalition building and mentoring to facilitate the success of women in state, county and local governments.
- Encouraged women to seek public office by providing campaign training and organizing for women, and advanced campaign training for women who filed for local or state office.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

2007 – present, Elder, *South Broadland Presbyterian Church*

2008 – 2010, Chair of Personnel Committee

- My family has been members of South Broadland Church for the past nine years. While many have coined Sunday as the most segregated day of the week, that is not so at South Broadland. Our church community represents our extended community in both racial and economic diversity. Within our church, we seek to serve our community in a variety of ways including a clothes closet that provides business attire to those seeking employment and providing sack lunches for the homeless.

2005 – present, Board Member, *Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life*

- Current goals are to aid the organization in Kansas City by encouraging women to run for public office or board service through campaign training and development.

1999 – 2001, Board Member, *Southtown Neighborhood Council*

1999, Vice President

- Our goals were to address the needs of our neighborhood community by bringing multiple neighborhood homes associations together to speak with a unified voice in City Hall on issues impacting each of us. We addressed issues such as recycling, trash collection, crime and assisted with organizing Clean Sweep.

1999 – 2011, Member, *Women's Political Caucus*

- Served on the Board for three terms, co-chair of Lilly Ledbetter Equal Pay Event in 2008 and committee member for 2009 Torch Dinner.

2010 – present, Member, *Committee for County Progress (CCP)*

1999, Reading Tutor, *North East Middle School*

1997 – 1998, Volunteer, *Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)*

- Advocating in the Jackson County family court system for the safety and well-being of children who had been removed from their homes due to parental abuse and neglect. It was an honor to represent the voices of these children as part of a larger team.

1995 – 1997, Volunteer, *Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault (MOCSA)*

- Performed public speaking engagements, crisis line calls and support for victims of assault through the medical and law enforcement process.

1995, Named the *Federal Woman of the Year*

- Awarded by then Senator Kit Bond and nominated by co-workers for advancement in education, volunteer activities and making a positive impact on my community.

1994, Volunteer, *Rainbow House*

- Shelter for abused and neglected children in Boone County, Missouri who were temporarily removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.

1991 – 1994, Public Relations Chair, *League of Women Voters of Boone County, Missouri*

- Served as moderator for political debates and worked on public service campaigns to encourage voter participation.