



MICHAEL D. SANDERS
Jackson County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER #08-01

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

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

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2008

**RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE PENSION AND RETIREMENT REVIEW
TASK FORCE**

I hereby make the following appointments to the Pension and Retirement Review Task Force for the purpose of examining the current Jackson County employee pension plan and structure and to present to the County Legislature its findings and recommendations within 120 days of the Task Force's first meeting:

Sandra L. Schermerhorn, Chair
J. Robert Ashcroft
Forrest R. Bertsch
Michael L. Martin
Joseph William Moreland
Rochelle Neal
W. Patrick Sterner

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JAN 14 2008

**MARY JO SPINO
COUNTY CLERK**

Michael D. Sanders, County Executive

Dated: 1/14/2008



Sandra L. Schermerhorn is principal attorney for The Schermerhorn Law Firm, she specializes in employment law and mediation of employment disputes. She served as the Jackson County Counselor from 1995 to 1998 and was also a partner at the Spencer, Fane, Britt & Browne law firm for 22 years. In 1985, she became the first woman elected president of the Kansas City Metropolitan Association, which presented her the "Dean of the Trial Bar" award in 2003, for superb litigation skill and exemplary professional demeanor.

Financial Planner **J. Robert Ashcroft**, former three-term mayor of Gladstone, Missouri, has 26 years of expertise in local government retirement systems. He also serves on the Metropolitan Community Colleges Board of Trustees and the Spelman Medical Foundation.

As Director of Civil Process for Jackson County Circuit Court since 1987, **Forrest R. Bertsch** oversees the department responsible for performing the duties of the Sheriff's civil division. He manages 35 employees, including 25 field deputies and 10 clerical staff. He implemented new guidelines for the Department of Civil Process and oversaw development of an automated record keeping system.

Michael Martin, Registered Representative with ING Financial Partners Inc., is in his fourth decade as an income tax preparation professional. He spent 20 years as manager of district tax preparation operations for H & R Block, and in 1989 started his own tax and accounting firm, which now serves more than 3,500 clients per year and includes a tax seminar service that provides training regarding a wide array of tax issues.

Joseph William Moreland, an attorney with Blake & Uhlig, P.A. since 1978, has vast experience in the field of labor law. His background includes being a Field Attorney for the National Labor Relations Board and serving as an Adjunct Professor of Labor Law at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

Rochelle Neal has worked in the Jackson County Human Resources Department since March of 1997, earning a promotion to Deputy Director of the department in January of 2005. She supervises the Classifications/Training, Employment/Selection and Benefits Units.

W. Patrick Sterner has an extensive background in investment and money management. He recently retired after 15 years as a Senior Vice President with Waddell & Reed Investment Management Company, where he managed about \$1 billion in assets, including some client's pension plans. He has also served as Chief Investment Officer for The Merchants Bank -- 1985 to 1992, during which time he helped grow assets from \$100 million to \$2.5 billion.