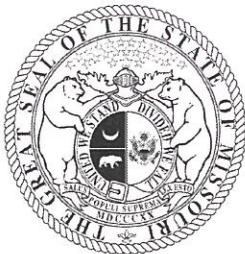


#1



2021 House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM
 January 3, 2022

WITNESS INFORMATION

Please complete **ONE** of the following sections.

Please Print

Individual: if testifying only on behalf of yourself, please complete this section.

Witness Name <i>Michael A. Smith</i>		Phone Number <i>816 509 4535</i>
Home Address <i>8436 Bellevue Ave</i>		
City <i>K.C.</i>	State <i>MO</i>	Zip Code <i>64114</i>

Business/Organization: if testifying on behalf of a business or organization, please complete this section.

Witness Name		Title
Business/Organization Name:		Phone Number
Home Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Registered Lobbyist: if registered with the Missouri Ethics Commission and testifying on behalf of a business, organization or government agency, please complete this section.

Witness Name	Phone Number
Business, organization or government agency name as registered with the Ethics Commission (Do not use acronyms).	

TESTIMONY

Please briefly summarize the testimony to be presented.

Present proposed map of Missouri House districts in Jackson County.

#1
Testimony to the House Independent Citizens Commission

Michael A. Smith

January 3, 2022

Msmith3@emporia.edu

Phone/text 816-509-4535

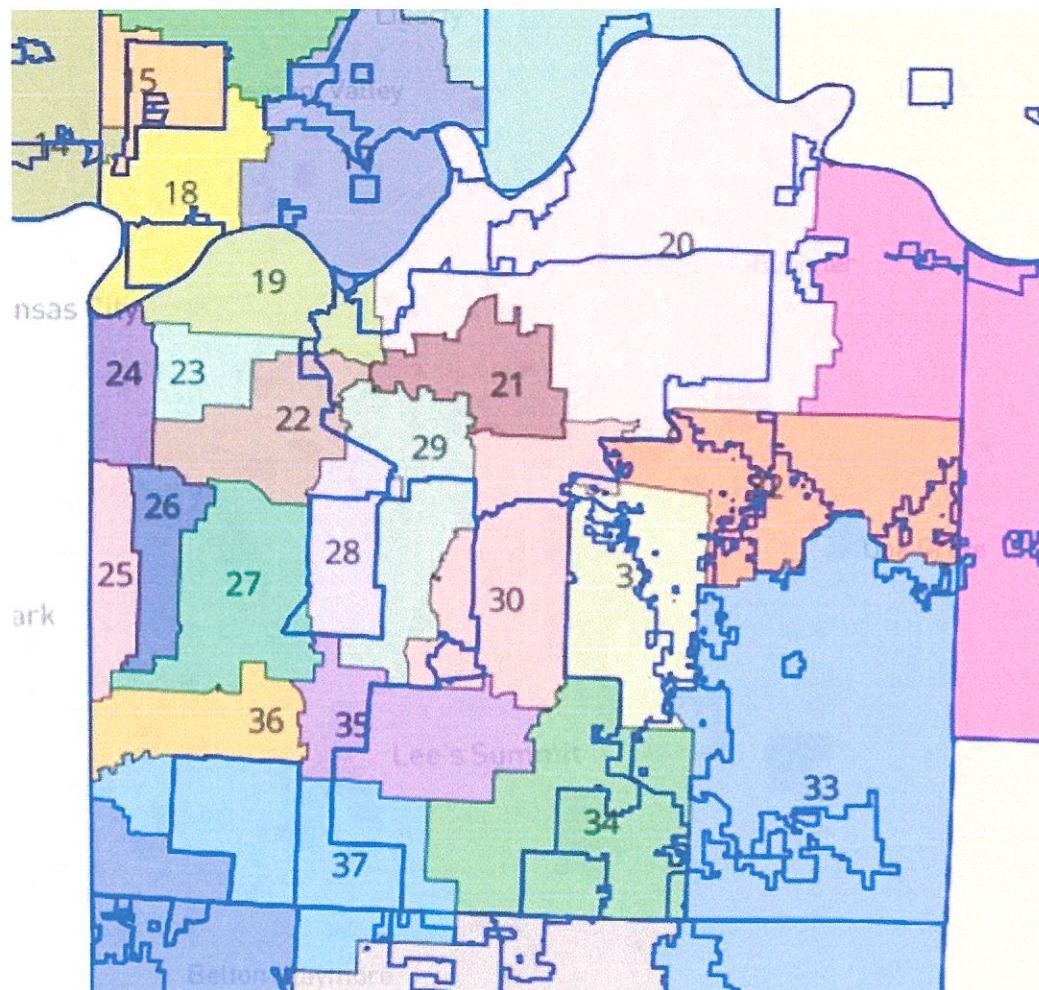
Narrative: I propose a redistricting map of Missouri House districts in Jackson County. This map is featured in Figure 4 and the relevant statistics accompanying it are in Table 1. The proposed map differs from the existing map (Figure 1) and the proposed Democratic and Republican new maps (Figures 2 and 3) in the following ways:

- The proposed map was drawn without using any partisan or election data. This is consistent with the approach used for redistricting by a bipartisan committee in Iowa, which is often considered a benchmark for redistricting. It is also consistent with the approach used by citizens' committees in California as a result of a ballot initiative championed by former Governor Schwarzenegger.
- The population variances are well below the targets.
- The proposed map does not divide Kansas City along Troost, traditionally seen as the "color line" in the city. Even the westernmost district in the proposal extends from the Plaza/UMKC area to the Paseo, incorporating the 49/63 neighborhood and Rockhurst University, which are both part of a community of interest with UMKC. The other Kansas City districts extend even further east. This allows for more compact districts.
- The proposed map features six majority-minority districts, including three which are predominantly African-American. A seventh district is nearly majority-minority, with a population more than 46% people of color.
- The proposed map keeps several cities "whole," including Grain Valley, Oak Grove, and Lake Lotawana. Raytown and Grandview are kept nearly whole except for a few precincts.
- All of Lee's Summit is within three districts—the minimum required to incorporate a community of over 100,000 people into districts of about 40,000 people each— except for two precincts in the far north of the city.
- Blue Springs is divided into only two districts, one of which is shared with Grain Valley.
- Independence is districted with one district contained entirely within the city, one district that combines parts of Independence with Sugar Creek, one district that combines eastern Independence with a large portion of northeastern Jackson County including Buckner (as is the case with the current districts), and a few precincts in the far northwest of the city districted with northeast Kansas City. The southernmost precincts of Independence are districted together with adjoining areas of Kansas City and Lee's Summit.

About the Author: I am a Jackson County native and a graduate of Ruskin High School (1988) and the University of Missouri-Columbia (2000). I also serve as Professor of Political Science at Emporia State University. In my latest, edited book, *Much Sound and Fury or the New Jim Crow?* (SUNY 2022) I included a chapter co-authored by a mathematician and a geographer

about redistricting. I served as an expert witness in the *Bednasek v Kobach* case (D Kan 2018). I am the co-author of an earlier book about election law, *State Voting Laws in America*. (Palgrave 2015). While a graduate student at Mizzou, I shadowed several Missouri and Kansas state representatives as they interacted with their constituents. That project became the book *Bringing Representation Home* (Missouri 2003).

Figure 1: Current Missouri House Districts, Jackson County



#1

Figure 2: 2022 Proposed Missouri House Districts, Democratic Map, Jackson County

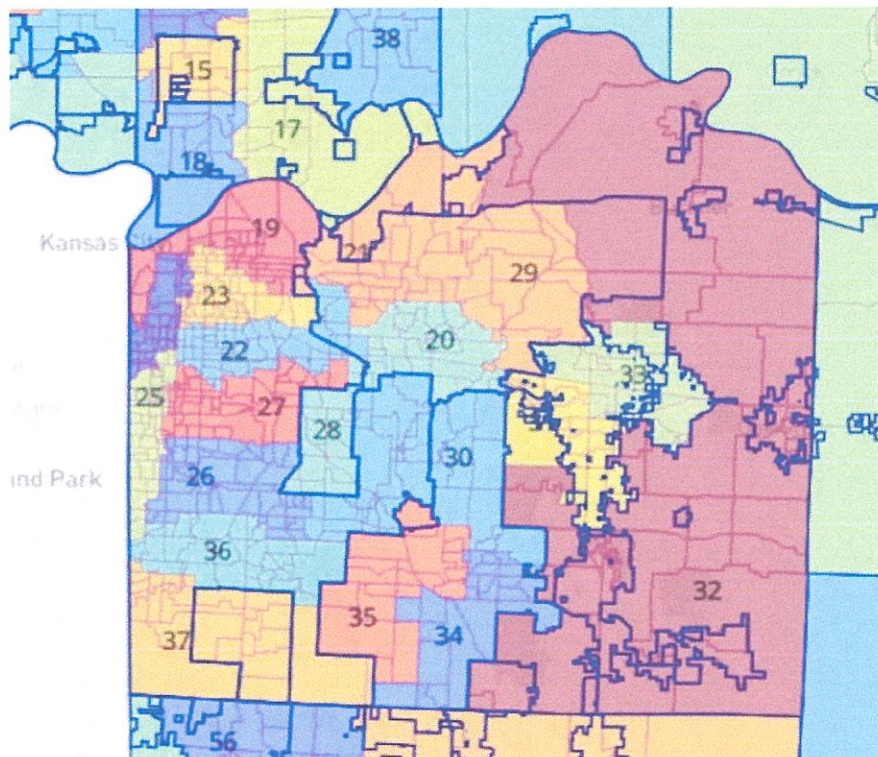
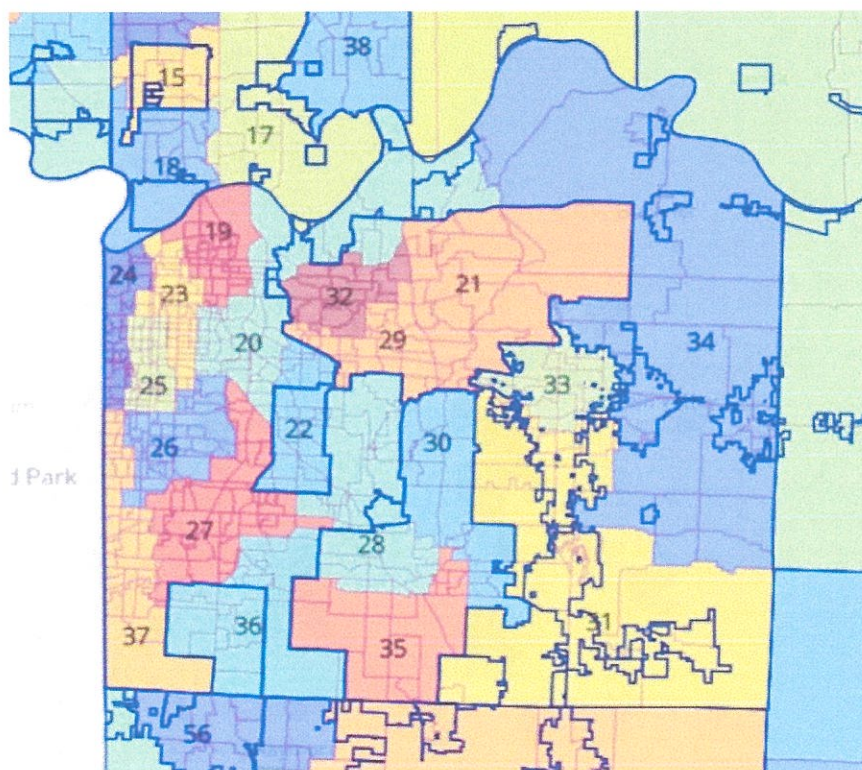


Figure 3: 2022 Proposed Missouri House Districts, Republican Map, Jackson County



/

Figure 4: 2022 Proposed Missouri House Districts, this Author's Proposed Alternative, Jackson County

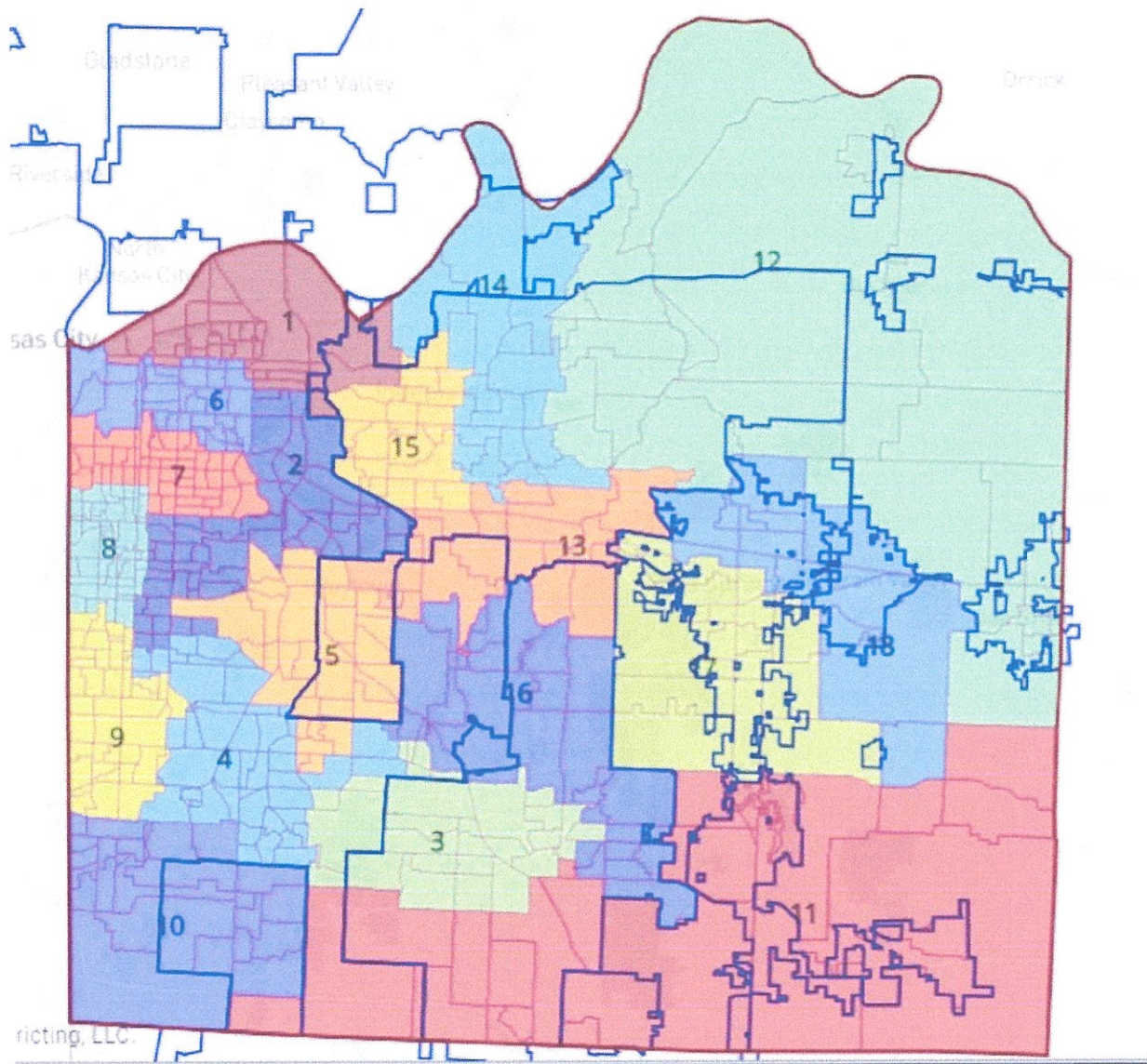
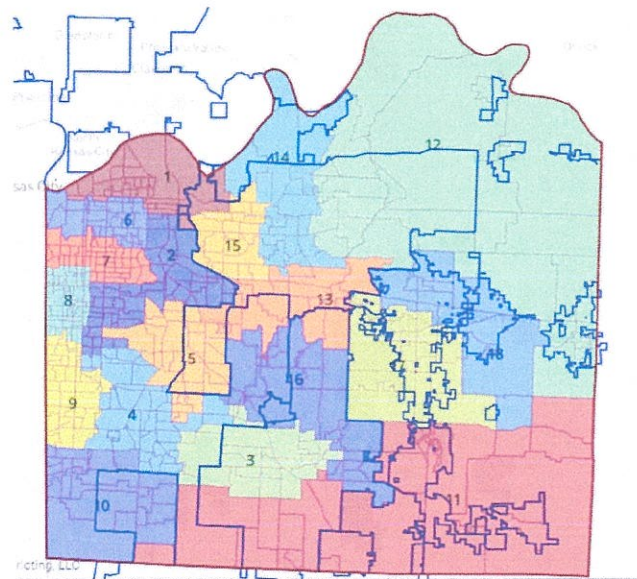
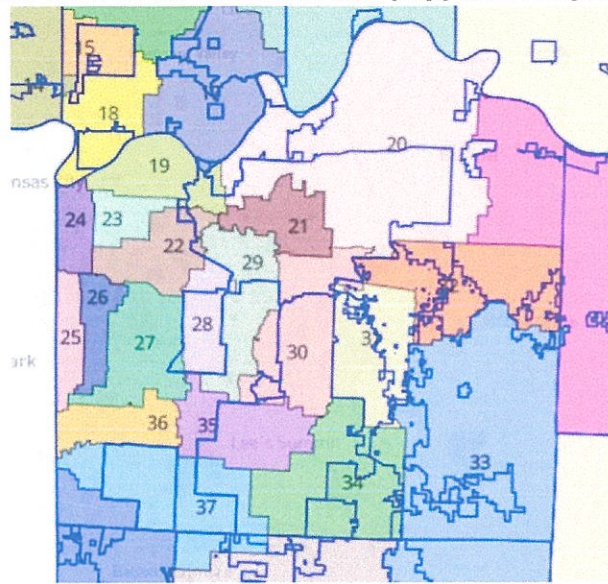


Table 1: Statistics on Proposed Map, Excluding Party and Elections Data

ID	Population		Shapes		Demographics (VAP)				
	Total	+/-			Total	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black
Un	0				0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1	40,124	0.70%	✓	✓	30,041	45.87%	54.13%	29.02%	14.19%
2	40,182	0.85%	✓	✓	30,173	24.35%	75.65%	9.93%	62.73%
3	39,391	-1.14%	✓	✓	30,517	79.24%	20.76%	4.82%	10.01%
4	40,051	0.52%	✓	✓	30,118	32.19%	67.81%	7.31%	56.55%
5	39,748	-0.24%	✓	✓	30,928	48.33%	51.67%	6.80%	40.36%
6	40,098	0.63%	✓	✓	31,454	35.28%	64.72%	24.62%	34.66%
7	40,028	0.46%	✓	✓	32,212	34.72%	65.28%	10.29%	50.27%
8	39,794	-0.13%	✓	✓	34,590	76.59%	23.41%	6.16%	10.44%
9	39,864	0.05%	✓	✓	32,656	67.08%	32.92%	5.55%	22.37%
10	39,544	-0.76%	✓	✓	31,009	53.66%	46.34%	8.81%	31.82%
11	39,874	0.07%	✓	✓	29,186	80.47%	19.53%	4.02%	10.04%
12	39,457	-0.97%	✓	✓	29,521	84.13%	15.87%	4.88%	3.78%
13	40,199	0.89%	✓	✓	32,163	70.39%	29.61%	7.09%	16.85%
14	39,890	0.11%	✓	✓	30,659	76.33%	23.67%	8.44%	8.39%
15	39,760	-0.21%	✓	✓	30,940	71.05%	28.95%	12.68%	9.71%
16	39,584	-0.66%	✓	✓	29,701	79.75%	20.25%	4.05%	10.07%
17	40,210	0.92%	✓	✓	29,493	80.45%	19.55%	5.28%	8.28%
18	39,406	-1.10%	✓	✓	28,806	83.06%	16.94%	4.97%	6.17%
	39,845	2.06%	✓	✓	30,787	62.25%	37.75%	9.17%	22.72%

#1

Figure 5: The Current Districts (top) and Proposed New Districts (bottom)



2



2021 House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission

WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

January 3, 2022

WITNESS INFORMATION

Please complete **ONE** of the following sections.

Please Print

Individual: if testifying only on behalf of yourself, please complete this section.

Witness Name		Phone Number
Home Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Business/Organization: if testifying on behalf of a business or organization, please complete this section.

Witness Name		Title
Business/Organization Name:		Phone Number
Home Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Registered Lobbyist: if registered with the Missouri Ethics Commission and testifying on behalf of a business, organization or government agency, please complete this section.

Witness Name		Phone Number
Business, organization or government agency name as registered with the Ethics Commission (Do not use acronyms).		

TESTIMONY

Please briefly summarize the testimony to be presented.

On Asian American communities of interest

#3



2021 House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM
 January 3, 2022

WITNESS INFORMATION

Please complete **ONE** of the following sections.

Please Print

Individual: if testifying only on behalf of yourself, please complete this section.

Witness Name		Phone Number
Home Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Business/Organization: if testifying on behalf of a business or organization, please complete this section.

Witness Name <i>Shane Schoeller</i>		Title <i>President / County Clerk</i>
Business/Organization Name: <i>Missouri Association of County Clerks & Election Authorities</i>		Phone Number <i>417-868-4055</i>
Home Address <i>940 N. Boonville, Mo</i>		
City <i>Springfield</i>	State <i>MO</i>	Zip Code <i>65802</i>

Registered Lobbyist: if registered with the Missouri Ethics Commission and testifying on behalf of a business, organization or government agency, please complete this section.

Witness Name	Phone Number
Business, organization or government agency name as registered with the Ethics Commission (Do not use acronyms).	

TESTIMONY

Please briefly summarize the testimony to be presented.

See Attached



January 03, 2022

Mr. Jerry Hunter, Chair
House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission
Jefferson State Office Building, Room 1110
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Chairman Hunter and Members of the House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission:

As president of the Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities and also serving as the County Clerk for Greene County, I am testifying today on behalf of our association and in my role as an election authority. It is my goal to help provide a better understanding of how your important redistricting work impacts election administration and voter registration for all Missouri voters.

Our association membership includes election authorities with previous service in the Secretary of State's Office and in the General Assembly so we fully respect and appreciate the challenges you face in balancing the political, legal, and social forces that come to bear in the redistricting process. We are also aware that it can be difficult to internalize the full scope of implications related to redistricting when it comes to the details of elections administration work.

Most importantly, there are deadlines in our work that are directly affected by the approval of new district lines, which will inevitably affect the success of our elections. Every election in 2022, by law, begins 10 weeks prior to Election Day when the races and issues are certified to our offices and concludes 2 weeks after Election Day once results are certified. This means that administratively the April 2022 local election begins on January 25th and ends April 19th followed shortly by the August 2022 primary election, which begins on May 24th. Every election is administered in the statewide voter registration database (MCVR), which houses the district boundaries and voter district assignments currently in effect. This process is how we ensure voters receive the right ballot on Election Day.

Redistricting complicates this process because MCVR "locks" current district boundaries during any active election so that new districts cannot be created, and voters subsequently cannot be assigned to new districts. Without maps in our possession now, the next opportunity to make boundary line changes and move voters to new districts in MCVR will be between April 19th and May 24th, which is also when our offices will be responsible for checking initiative petition signatures and completing a canvass of our voter registration rolls. The redistricting process in MCVR is also extremely time-intensive because it requires local election authorities to manually adjust districts on a street-by-street and house-by-house basis because GIS integration is not available currently. Late maps in many counties will severely strain staff capacity, leading to

#3
increased stress, burnout, and even resignations of staff who will not choose to be part of another extremely stressful election year similar to 2020.

In the worst-case scenario, if boundary lines are not decided by May 24th, our offices will face significant issues that cannot be avoided or easily fixed. By state and federal law, absentee voting begins on June 17, 2022 for the August 2022 primary election. Properly creating a voter's ballot requires local election authorities to know the specific political subdivisions, by name, that will be on the ballot. Once they have that information, election authorities create every unique ballot type necessary to represent the correct political subdivisions for every registered voter's address of residence. These ballots must be proofed, ordered, and printed in time for absentee voting and for voters on election day. The lack of decided boundary lines effectively prohibits election authorities from preparing ballot types that accurately represent the correct political subdivisions for each residential address, which means ballots will not be ready for voters.

Finally, these hypothetical outcomes have the real potential to directly and adversely impact the public's perception of election integrity if the administration of the election is compromised by late boundary lines. We live in a time in which there are external forces seeking to compromise our elections processes and internal forces that are amplifying concerns about the accuracy of elections outcomes. We know that you too are concerned about these issues. Finishing your work as expeditiously as possible will help Missouri remain a nationally recognized leader in election integrity and encourage voters to trust that Missouri's elections are free, fair, and secure.

On behalf of all Missouri's local election authorities, thank you for the work that you are doing to ensure that the people of our state are accurately and fairly represented in the General Assembly. Please feel free to contact us personally with any questions or concerns about elections administration or if there is any other way we can be of assistance.

Respectfully,

Shane Schoeller
Greene County Clerk
President MACCEA