

NEWS RELEASE

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## Circuit Court congratulates Judge Wimes on his confirmation as a federal judge

The judges of the 16<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court join together in congratulating their colleague, Judge Brian C. Wimes, on his confirmation as a federal judge. The United States Senate voted earlier this evening to confirm the appointment of Wimes to the United States District Court bench for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

Wimes was excited to hear that his nomination has been confirmed. President Barack Obama nominated him last fall on September 22, 2011.

"I'm honored to have been confirmed as a District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri," Wimes said. "I want to thank President Barack Obama for nominating me. I would also like to thank Senator Claire McCaskill and Senator Roy Blunt for their support throughout the nomination and confirmation process. I look forward to serving the citizens of the United States."

Wimes has served as a circuit court judge since his appointment in 2007 by Governor Matt Blunt. Prior to that, Wimes was appointed in 2001 by the judges of the 16<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court to hear cases as a Drug Court Commissioner.

Wimes earned his J.D. degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in 1994. He obtained a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Kansas in 1990. Prior to his appointment to the Court, he worked as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, and an Attorney Advisor in the Litigation Branch of the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington, D.C.

"Brian Wimes has been a steady fixture in this courthouse for close to two decades," said Presiding Judge Charles E. Atwell. "He is a valued colleague and friend to all of us on the Jackson County Court, and he will be missed. I am confident his compassion and skill will continue to serve the citizens well in his new role as United States district judge."

Wimes grew up in Grandview, Missouri and graduated from Grandview High School. He is expected to take office in May.