



16th Judicial Circuit of Jackson County, Missouri

NEWS RELEASE

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Jerri Zhang Appointed as Deputy Probate Commissioner

Attorney Jerri Zhang was appointed today by Judge Mark A. Styles, Jr., Division 19, to serve as the Deputy Probate Commissioner of Division 19.

“I am pleased to appoint her as the deputy commissioner from a panel of very well qualified applicants,” said Judge Styles. “Ms. Zhang will be a superb addition to the Probate Division and the Jackson County Circuit Court. She has a solid track record of exemplifying a strong work ethic and a heart for service.”

At the time of her appointment, Zhang was an attorney in the Jackson County Counselor’s Office where she prosecuted petitions for involuntary detention, as well as represented the County in civil litigation. Prior to that, she served as legal counsel for the Jackson County Public Administrator. In that position, she administered and managed between 500 to 600 decedent estates, minor conservatorships, and the estates of disabled and incapacitated individuals.

“I am extremely honored and grateful for this wonderful opportunity,” Zhang said. “I look forward to continuing to serve the public.”

Zhang, who became a naturalized citizen in 1999, was born in China. She earned a J.D. degree and a B.A. in Journalism from University of Missouri-Columbia.

She is currently a member of the Probate Procedures Manual Committee which is comprised of a group of judicial officers, attorneys and Probate Division staff members who are reviewing and revising the probate manual.

She is the current President-Elect of the Diversity Section of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. She currently serves The Missouri Bar as chair of the Lawyers in the Community Division, and serves as a point person to the committees of Access to Justice, Diversity, Lawyers’ Assistance and Women in the Profession. She is a board member of the Asian American Bar Association of Kansas City, and a district representative of the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association. She’s also active in the Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City and the Junior League.

Zhang was appointed to a four year term as deputy commissioner and will fill the vacancy created when Governor Jay Nixon appointed Styles to be a circuit judge in July 2016.

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