



16th Circuit Court, Jackson County, Missouri

For Release:
March 20, 2017

Contact: Valerie Hartman
Public Information Officer
816 881-3552

Judge Robert Schieber to Retire from the Jackson County Circuit Court

Judge Robert Schieber will be retiring from the Jackson County Circuit Court at the end of May to work in the legal field as a mediator and arbitrator. Schieber, 56, was appointed as a circuit judge in 2006 by Governor Matt Blunt. At the time of his appointment, he was serving as a Family Court Commissioner, having been appointed by the Court in 2000. Schieber has served on the bench for 17 years.

“Serving as a judge was everything I had expected it to be and more,” he said. “I found the work fulfilling, rewarding, challenging and interesting. I am honored to have had the opportunity to play a role in resolving disputes involving members of this community. And, it was an honor and a privilege to be affiliated with what I firmly believe is the best trial bench in the nation.”

Presiding Judge John Torrence said, “Judge Schieber was a great asset to this court for 17 years and will be sorely missed.”

During his tenure on the bench, Schieber was known by his colleagues for his willingness to accept a case from another judge when they had a conflict in their schedule. He tried the most cases of any judge during his tenure. Recently, he tackled some difficult issues including the multiple cases with multiple defendants related to the JJ’s Restaurant explosion and fire, and a products liability case involving pelvic mesh that received national public attention.

“I am proud of working hard and trying a lot of cases,” he said.

Schieber will be joining the firm, Jay Daugherty Mediation and Arbitration, started by a former judge and colleague. In his new role, he will be working in all areas of civil litigation including medical negligence, property disputes, employment disputes, personal injury and business litigation.

“As a mediator, I will get the chance to help the parties resolve cases without the stress or the acrimony of a trial,” he said. “Mediation will allow them to reach a solution that they are satisfied with.”

Although Schieber has been on the bench since 2000, he actually came to the Court in 1988 as a law clerk for former Judge John Moran. He then had a criminal and civil litigation practice that included working on the plaintiff, as well as, the defense side. He has taught criminal justice and paralegal classes at the university and community college level for 15 years. He has also taught at the National Judicial College in the areas of decision making, trial practice, and general jurisdiction. He received his law degree from the University of Missouri – Kansas City in 1988.

“I think I will miss being in a courtroom. I have spent half of my life trying cases at this wonderful old courthouse as a lawyer or a judge. However, I am looking forward to a new challenge.”

Schieber steps down from Division 15 on May 31st.

###