

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

March 18, 2010

The Jackson County Courthouse located in downtown Kansas City, Missouri is the subject of a lawsuit filed by former employees of the Jackson County Circuit Court and others similarly situated, against Jackson County and an engineering firm. The lawsuit alleges that the release of asbestos fibers within the Courthouse has harmed employees and others working in the Courthouse. Because the lawsuit is pending before the Jackson County Circuit Court, the Court and Court personnel must abstain from public comment about the pending lawsuit and impending proceedings relating to the lawsuit in accordance with Court Operating Rule 7's Code of Ethics and the Code of Judicial Conduct, Missouri Rule 2.03, Cannon 3(B)(9).

To address concerns the public may have about the safety of the Jackson County Courthouse, the Court recently retained an independent indoor air quality consultant, Occu-Tech (OT), to conduct tests to determine whether the areas within the downtown Courthouse in which the Court conducts business are presently unsafe due to asbestos exposure. **OT reports that any asbestos levels within the tested areas are presently within safe limits under applicable state and federal guidelines.** OT's test results are available for review to the public upon request in the Court Administrator's office.

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