

FREEDOM FORWARD



★ ★ ★ *Over 50 Years of Service* ★ ★ ★

VOLUME 6/ISSUE 2

FREEDOM'S STAND ON THE BALLOT ISSUES (P5/6):

- ★ **RENEW COMBAT! WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT DRUGS AND CRIME**
- ★ **SAY NO TO VOTER SUPPRESSION**
- ★ **DON'T LET BIG TOBACCO EXPLOIT OUR CHILDREN**



JASON KANDER
U.S. SENATOR



CHRIS KOSTER
MO GOVERNOR



FRANK WHITE, JR.
JACKSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE



HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
U.S. PRESIDENT



EMANUEL CLEAVER II
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE



TERESA HENSLEY
MO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Stronger Together!

ELECT FREEDOM'S TEAM TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Message from the Leadership Team.

FREEDOM, INC.



FORWARD™

Board of Directors

Leadership Team

Senator Shalonn "Kiki" Curls
Dr. Gayle Holliday

Ken Bacchus
Bruce Beatty, *Treasurer*
Gail McCann Beatty
Craig Bland
Rodney Bland
Keith Brown
Melba Curls
Randy Dunn
Melissa Patterson-Hazley
DaRon McGee
Keith Thomas

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VOTING IS NO LONGER AN OPTION!

Voting is certainly a privilege that was earned by those who came before us, fighting to protect and guarantee our civil rights. **It is not an option this year...YOU MUST VOTE!** The stakes are high and your vote will help us make sure that we elect people who will best represent us from the Statehouse to the Whitehouse.

Freedom, Incorporated has vetted the candidates, studied the issues, and we offer you our best opinion on both the candidates and the ballot issues. We have tried to spell out the issues and our position on each one. **It's important that you read and vote the entire ballot, it is a long one, but every issue affects you.**

We are faced with many difficult decisions on a number of ballot issues but frankly some are not so difficult. For example, **COMBAT**, an anti-drug and prevention program is up for renewal of their funding. **We must support the renewal of COMBAT, at no increase in taxes, because it works in our community.** There are many other issues, such as, **Constitutional Amendment 3**, which is a cigarette tax that purports to fund pre-school programs. **Well, we think it just big tobacco companies trying again, this time in the name of our children!**

Hopefully, this tabloid will help you better understand the issues and acquaint you with the candidates. **We look forward to seeing you at the polls on November 8, we'll certainly be there! If you need a ride to the polls, please don't hesitate to call us at 816-483-VOTE (8683).**



S. Kiki Curls
Senator Shalonn "Kiki" Curls



Gayle Holliday
Dr. Gayle Holliday



On the Trail for a Stronger Missouri

FREEDOM'S TOP FOUR CANDIDATES WILL LEAD THE FIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI

- ★ **HILLARY CLINTON AS PRESIDENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT TIM KAINE** (a Kansas City native) are committed to restoring basic fairness in our tax code and ensuring that the wealthiest Americans and large corporations pay their fair share, while providing tax relief to working families. That's not only fair, it's good for economic growth, because the proceeds will be used to create good-paying jobs here in America—and make bold investments that leave our economy more competitive over the long run.
- ★ **JASON KANDER AS U.S. SENATOR** is committed to making Missouri the easiest and best state in the country to start and maintain a business. He will work to enact legislation that will reduce business fees to the lowest in the nation and eliminate unnecessary paperwork.
- ★ **CHRIS KOSTER AS MISSOURI GOVERNOR** is committed to giving schools the resources they need to help our children succeed in global business. Sadly, many politicians in Jefferson City play partisan games with support for public schools. Chris knows making the right investments in education is essential to building a Missouri prepared to compete in the 21st Century economy.
- ★ **EMANUEL CLEAVER AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE** is committed to breaking down barriers and advocating for policies that increase access to opportunity and foster equality for predominately Black communities in Missouri and across the nation.



Freedom's Candidates Are Prepared to Go Forward and Serve All Missourians



FOR LT. GOVERNOR **RUSS CARNAHAN**
"It is my job to listen, lead and deliver
for the citizens of the Show-Me State."



FOR SECRETARY OF STATE **ROBIN SMITH**
"I will be the fair, impartial and
unbiased fighter Missouri needs."



FOR STATE TREASURER **JUDY BAKER**
"I will prepare and educate our young
people with financial life skills."



FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL **TERESA HENSLEY**
"I will seek justice with honesty and
integrity for Missouri's families."



STATE SENATOR—DISTRICT 9 **SHALONN "KIKI" CURLS**
"My priorities are to innovate,
expand, and create new jobs."



STATE SENATOR—DISTRICT 11 **JOHN RIZZO**
"I will address the important issues—
jobs, education and safety."

Jackson County Officials:



EXECUTIVE
FRANK WHITE, JR.



PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
JEAN PETERS BAKER



SHERIFF
MIKE SHARP

"Working together in the Legislature, we
will be a strong voice for the important
issues of Kansas City residents."

State Representatives:



DISTRICT 36
DARON MCGEE



DISTRICT 28
JEROME BARNES



DISTRICT 27
RICHARD BROWN



DISTRICT 26
GAIL MCCANN BEATTY



DISTRICT 23
RANDY D. DUNN

Freedom's Stand on the Ballot Issues

On November 8, 2016 voters will decide on 13 important proposals set forth by the state, county and city. Each issue has been discussed and debated by Freedom's members, and in public forums. We have taken a stand on each issue based on how it will negatively or positively impact the African-American community.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 1 NO

Shall Missouri continue for 10 years the one-tenth of one percent sales/use tax that is used for soil and water conservation and for state parks and historic sites, and resubmit this tax to the voters for approval in 10 years?

The measure continues and does not increase the existing sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent for 10 years. The measure would continue to generate approximately \$90 million annually for soil and water conservation and operation of the state park system.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 2 NO

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- establish limits on campaign contributions by individuals or entities to political parties, political committees, or committees to elect candidates for state or judicial office;
- prohibit individuals and entities from intentionally concealing the source of such contributions;
- require corporations or labor organizations to meet certain requirements in order to make such contributions; and
- provide a complaint process and penalties for any violations of this amendment?

It is estimated this proposal will increase state government costs by at least \$118,000 annually and have an unknown change in costs for local governmental entities. Any potential impact to revenues for state and local governmental entities is unknown.

“THIS LIMITS CANDIDATES FROM GETTING THEIR MESSAGE OUT, LARGELY FOR CAMPAIGNS IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES WHERE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NORMALLY LOW—VOTE NO!”

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 3 – CIGARETTE TAX NO

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- increase taxes on cigarettes each year through 2020, at which point this additional tax will total 60 cents per pack of 20;
- create a fee paid by cigarette wholesalers of 67 cents per pack of 20 on certain cigarettes, which fee shall increase annually; and
- deposit funds generated by these taxes and fees into a newly established Early Childhood Health and Education Trust Fund?

When cigarette tax increases are fully implemented, estimated additional revenue to state government is \$263 million to \$374 million annually, with limited estimated implementation costs. The revenue will fund only programs and services allowed by the proposal. The fiscal impact to local governmental entities is unknown.



“This tax is about big tobacco, not about early childhood education. Funds raised will provide just \$481 per child per year, without provisions on additional funds going elsewhere. OUR CHILDREN DESERVE A BETTER PLAN—VOTE NO!”

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 4 YES

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to prohibit a new state or local sales/use or other similar tax on any service or transaction that was not subject to a sales/use or similar tax as of January 1, 2015?

Potential costs to state and local governmental entities are unknown, but could be significant. The proposal's passage would impact governmental entity's ability to revise their tax structures. State and local governments expect no savings from this proposal.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 6 – VOTER SUPPRESSION NO

Shall the Constitution of Missouri be amended to state that voters may be required by law, which may be subject to exception, to verify one's identity, citizenship, and residence by presenting identification that may include valid government-issued photo identification?

The proposed amendment will result in no costs or savings because any potential costs would be due to the enactment of a general law allowed by this proposal. If such a general law is enacted, the potential costs to state and local governments is unknown, but could exceed \$2.1 million annually.



“There is an estimated 200,000 Missourians currently registered to vote who would not be able to vote if this measure passes. It disproportionately impacts poor people, minorities, and the disabled. STOP VOTER SUPPRESSION—VOTE NO!”

PROPOSITION A

NO

Shall Missouri law be amended to:

- increase taxes on cigarettes in 2017, 2019, and 2021, at which point this additional tax will total 23 cents per pack of 20;
- increase the tax paid by sellers on other tobacco products by 5 percent of manufacturer's invoice price;
- use funds generated by these taxes exclusively to fund transportation infrastructure projects; and
- repeal these taxes if a measure to increase any tax or fee on cigarettes or other tobacco products is certified to appear on any local or statewide ballot?

State government revenue will increase by approximately \$95 million to \$103 million annually when cigarette/tobacco tax increases are fully implemented. Local government revenues could decrease approximately \$3 million annually due to decreased cigarette/tobacco sales.

“THIS IS JUST ANOTHER CIGARETTE TAX—VOTE NO!”

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI QUESTION #1 – COMBAT!

YES

Shall Jackson County continue its anti-crime sales tax, commonly known as COMBAT, at the rate of one-quarter of one cent for a period of nine years for the purpose of promoting and providing public safety within Jackson County, including the prevention and treatment of drug abuse and addiction and the prevention, investigation, prosecution, and detention of violent criminals and drug dealers? The proceeds of this tax shall be deposited in a special Jackson County Anti-Crime Sales Tax Trust Fund, separate from the general fund or any other county funds.



“The COMBAT tax provides vital drug/ crime prevention and intervention programs to our community.

CONTINUE THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS AND VIOLENCE—VOTE YES!”

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

QUESTION #2

NO

Shall Jackson County, solely for the purpose of establishing a Community Children's Services Fund for the purpose of providing services to protect the well-being and safety of children and youth 19 years of age or less and to strengthen families, be authorized to levy a county wide sales tax of one-eighth of one cent for a period of seven years? This fund will be transparently administered in a manner independent of County government, by a diverse, geographically representative, nine-member citizen board appointed by the County Executive, with at least one member residing in each Jackson County legislative district. Revenues will be solely used to benefit the residents of Jackson County.

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

QUESTION #3

NO

Shall Jackson County discontinue applying and collecting the local sales tax on the titling of motor vehicles, trailers, boats, and outboard motors that were purchased from a source other than a licensed Missouri dealer? Approval of this measure will result in a reduction of local revenue to provide vital services for Jackson County and will place Missouri dealers at a competitive disadvantage with non-Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats, and trailers.

CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

QUESTION NO. 1

YES

Should the City of Kansas City remove from the park system vacant property of about 1.2 acres located generally between E. 23rd Street and E. 24th Street west of Flora Avenue, which has been determined by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners to be no longer necessary or appropriate for park, parkway, or boulevard use?

CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

QUESTION NO. 2

NO

Should the City of Kansas City remove from the park system vacant property of approximately 2.6016 acres located generally east of Lister Avenue and south of E. Linwood Boulevard, which has been determined by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners to be no longer necessary or appropriate for park, parkway, or boulevard use?

CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

QUESTION NO. 3

NO

Shall the City of Kansas City enact the following three sales taxes:

- (a) a new 1/8¢ sales tax for 25 years beginning April 1, 2017, pursuant to sections 94.600 through 94.655, Revised Statutes of Missouri, the transportation sales tax; and
- (b) a shifting of the current 3/8¢ sales tax currently devoted to the KCATA, for 25 years beginning April 1, 2024, pursuant to sections 94.600 through 94.655, Revised Statutes of Missouri, the transportation sales tax; and
- (c) a new 1/4¢ sales tax for 25 years beginning April 1, 2017, pursuant to sections 94.575 through 94.577, Revised Statutes of Missouri, the capital improvements sales tax,

with the proceeds of said taxes and any other additional funds, which may include federal matching funds, to be used for the purpose of funding, or funding as much of as is possible, the construction, operation and maintenance of a citywide light rail transit system (rapid electric trains operating in their own right-of-way separated from traffic) to include a north/south line operating from Kansas City International Airport to the Cerner Campus at Bannister with scheduled stops at Twin Creeks, Vivion Road, North Kansas City, Downtown, Union Station, the Plaza, Brookside, and Kansas City Zoo; and including an east/west line operating from Union Station to Jackson County Sports Complex (utilizing Linwood Boulevard and Rock Island Rail right-of-way) with scheduled stops at Troost Avenue and Prospect Avenue (to connect to the city's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system), and also including a fleet of electric mini-buses (to transport passengers to and from light rail stations) with all station stops at or near designated locations and with the light rail system utilizing, where possible, city parkland, medians of city boulevards, and existing rail right-of-ways, and including necessary bridges and other infrastructure?

CONSOLIDATED LIBRARY DISTRICT #3

PROPOSITION L

YES

For the purpose of renovating and replacing aging library facilities, enhancing spaces and programming for children and adults, expanding services and collections to serve public demand, and for the general operation of public libraries, shall there be an eight cent tax increase over the thirty-two cent tax per hundred dollars assessed valuation for the Consolidated Library District #3, known as the Mid-Continent Public Library?



FORWARD™

G E N E R A L E L E C T I O N

OFFICIAL BALLOT

FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TIMOTHY MICHAEL KAINE

FOR U.S. SENATOR
JASON KANDER

FOR GOVERNOR
CHRIS KOSTER

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
RUSS CARNAHAN

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE
ROBIN SMITH

FOR STATE TREASURER
JUDY BAKER

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL
TERESA HENSLEY

FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 5
EMANUEL CLEAVER II

FOR STATE SENATOR – DISTRICT 9
SHALONN (KIKI) CURLS

FOR STATE SENATOR – DISTRICT 11
JOHN RIZZO

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 23
RANDY D. DUNN

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 26
GAIL McCANN BEATTY

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 27
RICHARD BROWN

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 28
JEROME BARNES

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 36
DARON MCGEE

FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE – JACKSON COUNTY
FRANK WHITE, JR.

FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY – JACKSON COUNTY
JEAN PETERS BAKER

FOR SHERIFF – JACKSON COUNTY
MIKE SHARP

VOTE “YES” ON ALL JUDGES

NO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 1

NO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 2

NO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 3
OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER!

YES CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 4

NO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 6
STOP VOTER SUPPRESSION!

NO PROPOSITION A

YES JACKSON COUNTY QUESTION #1
RENEW COMBAT—FIGHT DRUGS & CRIME!

NO JACKSON COUNTY QUESTION #2

NO JACKSON COUNTY QUESTION #3

YES CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MO QUESTION NO. 1

NO CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MO QUESTION NO. 2

NO CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MO QUESTION NO. 3

YES CONSOLIDATED LIBRARY DISTRICT 3 PROPOSITION L

BRING THIS BALLOT WITH YOU TO THE POLLS!
NEED A RIDE TO THE POLLS? CALL 816-483-VOTE (8683)

ELECT FREEDOM'S TEAM TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

★ ★ ★ *Over 50 Years of Service* ★ ★ ★

- 1963** Bruce R. Watkins and Dr. Earl Thomas become the first African-American members of the Kansas City Council. They represent the 3rd District.
- 1964** Public accommodations ordinance passes, mandating desegregation in Kansas City's public spaces.
- 1964** Leon Jordan and Harold Holliday, Sr. are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives for the first time.
- 1966** Bruce R. Watkins becomes the first African American to win a county-wide election for Jackson County Circuit Court Clerk.
- 1968** Dr. William Bryan becomes the second African American to win a county-wide office, winning the post of Jackson County Coroner. Herman Johnson and William Carson are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives, bringing the number of African American representatives from Kansas City to four.
- 1970** After the assassination of Leon Jordan, his widow, Orchid, is the first African-American woman elected to the Missouri House of Representatives from Kansas City.
- 1971** Charles Hazley is elected to Kansas City Council for the first time.
- 1972** Harold "Doc" Holliday, Jr., Mamie Hughes and Lee Vertis Swinton are all elected to seats on the Jackson County Legislature.
- 1975** Bruce R. Watkins wins a seat on the Kansas City Council for the 5th District, bringing the number of African American members to three.
- 1976** Alan Wheat is elected to the Missouri House of Representatives.
- 1979** Bruce R. Watkins runs for mayor, winning the primary. Although Watkins lost the general election, African-American voter turnout reaches a record high. Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II wins a seat on the City Council for the first time.
- 1980** Lee Vertis Swinton wins election as the first African-American State Senator from Kansas City. A record number of African Americans are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives. Mary Groves Bland, Walter Peterson, Jr., Earl Pitts, Sr. and James Tindall, Sr. win election for the first time.



Freedom founders sign official incorporation papers, April 1962.

FREEDOM, INC.



FORWARD™

The mission of Freedom, Incorporated is to impact public policy decisions, foster economic development, and generate wealth to improve the quality of life for African Americans.

Freedom is at the forefront of registering and mobilizing African-American voters in the country.

Our community has achieved a lot, but we have much more to do.

- 1982** Alan Wheat becomes the first African American to represent the Kansas City area in U.S. Congress.
- 1983** With Mark Bryant's victory, the number of African-American members on the City Council climbs to four. Phil Curls is elected to the Missouri State Senate.
- 1986** Carol Coe wins election to the Jackson County Legislature.
- 1991** Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II wins election as Kansas City's first African-American mayor. Carol Coe, Ron Finley, D. Jeanne Robinson and Ken Bacchus are elected to the City Council.
- 1995** Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II is elected to a second term.
- 1998** Mary Groves Bland is elected to the Missouri State Senate—the first African-American female state senator from Kansas City.
- 2004** Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II is elected to the U.S. Congress, the second African American to represent the Kansas City area in Congress.
- 2008** Barack Obama is elected first African-American President of United States.
- 2011** Sylvester "Sly" James becomes the second African-American Mayor of Kansas City. Shalonn "Kiki" Curls is elected to the 9th Senatorial District.
- 2012** President Barack Obama is elected to a second term.
- 2013** Kansas City Health Levy is renewed.
- 2014** Translational Research Tax is defeated 86% to 14% in African-American wards. Dr. Amy Hartsfield and Melissa Robinson are elected to the Kansas City School Board. Frank White and Alfred Jordan elected to Jackson County Legislature.
- 2015** Two additional African Americans are elected to the Hickman Mills School Board, Darrell Curls and Carol Graves. Lee Barnes is elected Councilman at Large for the City of Kansas City, MO 5th District. He is the first African American in 16 years to hold this seat and joins three other African Americans on the council.

ELECT FREEDOM'S TEAM TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016