



## **Andrew Bailey**

*Missouri Attorney General*

Governor Mike Parson recently announced that he is appointing Andrew Bailey as the next Attorney General of the State of Missouri. Mr. Bailey's appointment will fill the vacancy created by the election of Attorney General Eric Schmitt to the U.S. Senate. Mr. Bailey currently serves as General Counsel to the Office of Governor Mike Parson.

Mr. Bailey joined the Governor's Office as Deputy General Counsel in 2019 and has served as General Counsel since 2021. He has also served as a Missouri Assistant Attorney General, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Warren County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and as General Counsel for the Missouri Department of Corrections.

Mr. Bailey earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Upon graduation, he joined the United States Army as an officer. He was deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in response to the 9/11 Attacks. He was awarded two Army Achievement Medals, an Army Commendation Medal, a Combat Action Badge, and two Bronze Star Medals for his service.

In 2009, he returned from deployment and enrolled at the University of Missouri School of Law. He graduated and began his legal career. Mr. Bailey has handled countless cases in both state and federal courts throughout his career.

It was in the courtroom where he heard stories of countless Missouri children in need that motivated him and his wife to become foster parents. Mr. Bailey and his wife, Jessica, have four children ranging from 6 months to 10 years old.

**Sen. Doug Beck**

*Assistant Minority Floor Leader  
Missouri Senate – District 1*

Senator Doug Beck was elected in 2020 to represent the residents of the 1st Senatorial District in the Missouri Senate. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served two terms in the House of Representatives from 2016-2020. During his time in the House, he was the ranking minority member of the Economic Development and Workforce Development Committees and also served on the Veterans and Children and Families Committees.

Senator Beck defends workers and their rights, promotes public education, encourages job creation and champions affordable health care for all. He is an adamant supporter of public safety and first responders.

Aside from his legislative duties, Sen. Beck enjoys a 34-year career as a proud pipefitter and member of UA Local 562. He served on the Affton School Board for nine years, including two years as president. During his tenure, he expanded early childhood education and increased opportunities for students pursuing STEM careers.

Born and raised in St. Louis County, Sen. Beck graduated from Lindbergh High School in 1983 and attended St. Louis Community College. He has been married for 35 years to his wife, Marilyn, has two children and three grandchildren.



## **Jack Cardetti**

*President*



Jack Cardetti has helped pass Missouri ballot initiatives to expand Medicaid, legalize medical cannabis, overturn Right-to-Work, and legalize marijuana, while automatically expunging past, nonviolent marijuana offenses. For some this would represent a lifetime's worth of work shaping public policy. For Cardetti and his firm, Tightline Public Affairs, this merely represents a portion of what they've accomplished in Missouri over just the last four and a half years.

Cardetti has served as spokesman for two Missouri Governors, dozens of organizations, and now helps businesses, coalitions and campaigns develop and deliver their message.

Before becoming a consultant, Jack formerly served as Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon's Director of Communications, helping the Governor successfully advance a message of job creation and fiscal stewardship that resonated with the citizens of Missouri. Jack was also part of Gov. Nixon's double-digit reelection victory.

In 2022, Jack was the lead strategist of the campaign to make Missouri the reddest state in the union to legalize marijuana, despite legalization efforts in three other conservative states failing that year. In August 2020, Cardetti and Tightline led the messaging effort that saw a diverse coalition pass historic Medicaid expansion in the Show Me State.

In the 2018 election cycle, Tightline Public Affairs served as the communications consultant for the defeat of Right-to-Work with 67% of Missouri voters opposing Prop A. That same year Cardetti also ran the campaign to approve medical marijuana in Missouri, by garnering 66% of the vote, while defeating two other competing medical marijuana ballot initiatives.

In 2012 he helped two-term state representative Jason Kander become the youngest statewide elected official in America. He also led the effort that year to prevent changes to the Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan by defeating Amendment 3 24-76%, one of the largest defeats on a Constitutional Amendment in Missouri history.

Raised in St. James, Missouri, Jack Cardetti previously worked as the Director of Communications for the Missouri Democratic Party. As the party's primary spokesman, Jack could ordinarily be found in newspaper articles, on the radio and in television interviews opining on topics ranging from politics to policy.

In the 2008 election cycle Jack helped elect Jay Nixon to the Governor's Office by the widest margin of any open governor's race in Missouri since 1964.

In 2006 Jack helped Claire McCaskill knock off incumbent Sen. Jim Talent, which gave Democrats control of the U.S. Senate. Missouri Democrats also picked up seats in both the Missouri House and Senate for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Prior to joining the Missouri Democratic Party in August 2004, Jack served as Press Secretary for Missouri Gov. Bob Holden. In the Governor's Office, Cardetti also oversaw economic development and agriculture policy.

**Rep. Betsy Fogle**

*Missouri House of Representatives— District 135*

Representative Elizabeth “Betsy” Fogle, a Democrat, represents Greene County (District 135) in the Missouri House of Representatives. She was elected to her first two-year term in November 2020.

Prior to serving in the legislature, Fogle spent her career in public health while serving as the Director of Program Advancement for Jordan Valley Community Health Center.

Born in Springfield, Fogle graduated from Springfield Public Schools. She obtained a bachelor’s of science degree from Missouri State University and a master’s in sociology from the University of Arkansas.

**Sen. Lincoln Hough***Missouri Senate — District 30*

Senator Lincoln Hough was first elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 2010, where he served three terms. He served as Greene County Commissioner from 2016 to 2018. In November 2018, he was elected to represent the 30th District in the Missouri Senate.

Senator Hough is a graduate of Missouri State University with a B.S. in Political Science. He also owns and operates a family cattle ranch, which he started more than 20 years ago. Senator Hough is a former member of the State Board of Missouri Cattleman's Association and a current board member of the Greene County Farm Bureau.

For the past several years, Sen. Hough has also enjoyed serving as a volunteer for the Springfield chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Senator Hough also brings experience from his service as a member of the Missouri House of Representatives and his leadership on Transportation and Budget Committees.



**Sen. Cindy O'Laughlin***Majority Floor Leader**Missouri Senate – District 18*

Senator Cindy O'Laughlin was sworn into office on Jan. 9, 2019, to serve the residents of Northeast Missouri's 18th Senatorial District.

In addition to her public service, Sen. O'Laughlin has served as vice president of Leo O'Laughlin, Inc., for the past 26 years. The senator and her husband own and operate a trucking company and ready mix concrete business with locations in Shelbina, Macon, Marceline and LaBelle.

Prior to being elected to the Missouri Senate, Sen. O'Laughlin served as a school bus driver, an administrator at a local Christian school and as a member of her local school board. Now, Sen. O'Laughlin serves as the chair of the Senate Education Committee and works to improve education outcomes for all of Missouri's children, regardless of where they live.

Senator O'Laughlin has been a member of various civic organizations, such as the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Shelby County Economic Development Board. She has also served on numerous statewide boards, such as the Associated Builders and Contractors and the Missouri Club for Growth. Senator O'Laughlin is currently a member of the National Rifle Association, Missouri Cattlemen, the Missouri Farm Bureau and Macon First Baptist Church.

Senator O'Laughlin grew up on a farm and spent much of her childhood around horses, livestock auctions and corn fields. Today, she's the proud owner of several dogs, including Basset Hounds, as well as several rescue dogs.

A current resident of Shelbina, Sen. O'Laughlin has four sons, a foster daughter and six grandchildren. She is a 1978 graduate of the University of Missouri.



## **Rep. Dean Plocher**

*Speaker of the House*

*Missouri House of Representatives – District 089*

Representative Dean Plocher, a Republican, represents part of St. Louis County (District 89) in the Missouri House of Representatives. The district includes the municipalities of Chesterfield, Country Life Acres, Crystal Lake Park, Des Peres, Frontenac, Huntleigh, Kirkwood, Ladue and Town & Country. Rep. Plocher was elected in a Special Election in November, 2015.

In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Plocher is a practicing attorney, managing his own law firm in Clayton, Missouri. Prior to becoming a member of the House, Rep. Plocher served as a Municipal Judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit and served on the Board of Directors for the Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association.

Rep. Plocher is a graduate of Ladue Horton Watkins High School. He received his B.A. in Political Science and minor in Classical Civilizations from Middlebury College. Following Middlebury, Rep. Plocher worked in the financial management industry for Franklin Resources, Inc. He earned his J.D. from Saint Louis University School of Law where he also was awarded a Certificate in International and Comparative Law.

Born in St. Louis, Rep. Plocher is married with two children.



## **Rep. Crystal Quade**

*Minority Floor Leader*

*Missouri House of Representatives – District 132*

Rep. Crystal Quade, a Democrat, represents part of Greene County (District 132) in the Missouri House of Representatives. She was elected to her first term in office in November 2016. She was first elected by her caucus to serve as the House Minority Floor Leader for the 100th General Assembly and re-elected for the 101st General Assembly.

Quade earned her Bachelor of Social Work degree at Missouri State University and is the former director of chapter services at Care to Learn, a nonprofit organization that addresses the health, hunger and

hygiene needs of economically disadvantaged children in several school districts across Missouri. She previously worked for Community Blood Center of the Ozarks, Organizing for America, and as a U.S. Senate constituent services representative.

Quade currently serves as a Board Member for Better Life in Recovery and is a member of the League of Women Voters of Southwest Missouri. She also works with the Springfield, MO Community Focus Report, Civic Engagement Team. In 2017, Quade was named one of Springfield Business Journal's 12 People You Need to Know, in 2018 was awarded SBJ's 40 under 40, and was honored as one of Springfield's Most Influential Women.

Quade and her family live in Springfield, Missouri.





## **Jonathan Ratliff**

*Co-Founder and Managing Partner*



Jonathan Ratliff is a co-founder and managing partner of Palm Strategic Group, a strategic communication and political advocacy firm. Palm was founded in 2016, specializing in direct voter contact, public relations, and campaign and association management.

Ratliff has worked on more than 300+ campaigns in his young career, from city council to President of the United States, at every level from a local field staffer to the campaign manager, and general consultant to software developer. His diverse background brings unique experience to every campaign.

Before launching Palm in 2016, Ratliff spent six years as the Political Director of the Missouri House Republican Campaign Committee. During that time the Republican majorities grew from 89 to 118 members: creating the first ever Republican veto-proof majority and the largest Republican majority in state history. In 2020, Ratliff came back to serve as HRCC Executive Director, helping maintain that veto-proof majority despite a difficult political climate and record Democrat fundraising.

In 2016, Ratliff was Campaign Manager of the Missouri and National Association of REALTORS® led Amendment 4 campaign, the Taxpayer Protection Amendment, helping lead the team to a fourteen-point come-from behind-victory on election night.

In 2016 and again 2020, Ratliff ran the most competitive and most expensive State Senate campaigns in Missouri history; both times securing huge upset victories for Republican Caleb Rowden. His campaign outperformed Trump by two points in 2016 and eleven points in 2020; only the second Republican ever re-elected to the State Senate in a liberal college town in the heart of Missouri.

Ratliff has vast experience in the new and growing poli-tech and political data management industry. He is responsible for developing and managing a robust political campaign management platform and intelligent voter database that has been used by the Missouri House and Senate campaign committees, numerous statewide and local campaigns, and associations around Missouri and the Midwest.

Ratliff has received numerous awards and recognitions for his work, including The Missouri Times' "30 under 30," "Top 100," "2016 Game Changers," and "2018 Playmakers" lists. Ratliff was most recently named to the American Association of Political Consultants' 2021 class of "40 under 40" award winners.

Jonathan Ratliff grew up in the Ozark hills just outside Branson, Missouri on a small family farm overlooking Table Rock Lake. He currently resides in Jefferson City, Missouri with his wife Jennifer and their three dogs, Memphis, Ranger, and Lil' Girl and are expecting their first child in January.



## **Rep. Brenda Shields**

*Missouri House of Representatives — District 011*

Representative Brenda Kay Shields, a Republican, represents Buchanan County and parts of Platte County (District 11) in the Missouri House of Representatives. She was elected to her first two-year term in November 2018.

Prior to serving in the legislature, Shields worked for Quaker Oats Company in St. Joseph for more than 17 years, culminating in the role of logistics specialist. After closure of the St. Joseph Quaker Oats facility, she followed her passion for service and entered Missouri's Alternative Teacher Certification program teaching business education

in the St. Joseph School District. In 2006, she was selected by the community board to serve as the president and CEO of the United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

Shields' commitment to community and service shows through her service on several boards and commissions, including board chair for the United Cerebral Palsy, board member for the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, board member for the Allied Arts Council and board member of the YMCA of Greater Kansas City. She served as Mid-Buchanan PTA president, on the Commerce Bank CRA Advisory Board, Girl Scouts Leadership Circle and Boy Scouts Troop 216 committee. Her service to Missouri includes serving on the Governor's Complete Counts Census Committee and Missouri's Coordination Board for Early Childhood Education.

Shields is a graduate of the University of Missouri – Columbia and lives in rural Buchanan County with her husband, Charlie. They have two sons.



## **Sen. Brian Williams**

*Assistant Minority Floor Leader  
Missouri Senate — District 14*

Senator Brian Williams has proudly represented the 14th Senatorial District in St. Louis County since 2018, and currently serves as the Assistant Minority Floor Leader. Senator Williams is the first Black male to serve in the Missouri Senate in two decades.

He was drawn to public service after studying government and public health policy, a passion that eventually led him to the U.S. Congress. He worked as a congressional staffer for several years, oversaw Missouri's rollout of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace under President Obama's administration and helped land the \$1.75 billion new headquarters of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in North St. Louis City.

In his time as a senator, Sen. Williams has created legislation allowing those with sickle cell anemia to access needed pain medication prescriptions; protected individuals' MO ABLE funds for disability costs; and leads the Capitol's annual human trafficking awareness day.

During the 2021 legislative session, Sen. Williams passed comprehensive police reforms, Senate Bills 53 & 60, into law. These sweeping criminal justice reforms established the strongest use of force database in the country; prohibit law enforcement from using a respiratory chokehold without deadly force authorization; ensure women offenders have access to free, adequate feminine hygiene products while in a correctional facility or jail; and shortened the delay to request an expungement for those who have paid their debt to society. Senator Williams also added a provision that helps set innocent people free from wrongful imprisonment. This provision allows prosecutors and circuit attorneys to file a motion to vacate convictions if they believe the convicted person is innocent, a change that was instrumental in the 2021 release of Kevin Strickland, who was wrongfully convicted and served time for over 40 years.

During the 2022 legislative session, Sen. Williams proudly secured \$98 million for North St. Louis County projects, including \$40 million for the University of Missouri-St. Louis to construct the "Campus of the Future;" \$15 million to manufacture active pharmaceutical ingredients; \$23 million to build a public safety training facility; \$7 million for public transit assistance; \$6 million to abate, demolish and repurpose the Jamestown Mall; \$4 million to renovate the St. Louis Metro Employment and Training Center in Wellston; and \$400,000 for Youth Build Works.

In addition to legislative duties, Sen. Williams serves as a board director for People's Health Center, where he helped develop a behavioral health care center for underserved children. He is also a member of the advisory boards for St. Louis Crisis Nursery, Simmons Bank, iHeart Media, Nurses for Newborns and the University City Children's Center.

Senator Williams currently resides in University City, and is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.