



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – December 4, 2018

EHLMANN APPOINTS WATSON AS COUNTY COUNSELOR FOR ST. CHARLES COUNTY

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann has appointed John R. Watson as County Counselor. Watson was confirmed by the St. Charles County Council at last night's meeting and starts his position Jan. 1, 2019. He replaces Keith Hazelwood who is retiring.



“John Watson’s extensive experience with the Missouri Attorney General’s Office, combined with his legal experience in the private sector, makes him an excellent choice for this position,” says Ehlmann. “I am pleased that he has accepted this role as he will be an asset to the department and the County as a whole.”

Watson has 25 years in the practice of law including as an attorney with the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Missouri. He represented the interests of state government in the Attorney General’s office for 15 years, including before administrative, state circuit and appellate tribunals. While in the Attorney General’s office, he worked with legislative matters, provided day-to-day legal advice, and also served as legislative director and chief of staff. He went on to serve as chief of staff in the governor’s office from January 2009 into 2015.

Watson currently is in private practice. He will be relocating with his wife to St. Charles County.

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About St. Charles County

Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state’s third largest county in both population and economic share. St. Charles County consistently ranks one of the healthiest places to live in Missouri in the County Health Rankings report published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. It is home to 12 scenic county parks encompassing more than 2,800 acres with additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.

With a population of 385,840, St Charles County is home to large employers including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit www.sccmo.org.