# OFFICE OF MISSOURI LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DAVID WASINGER











# 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW



#### Fellow Missourians,

Serving as your Lieutenant Governor this past year has been the honor of a lifetime. From the day I took the oath of office, my mission has been simple: to stand up for Missouri families, defend our values, and ensure government works for the people it serves.

Over the past year, I've traveled across our great state meeting veterans, seniors, small-business owners, and community leaders who embody the best of Missouri. Whether in small towns or big cities, one thing was clear everywhere I went: Missourians are grounded in faith, family, and hard work.

Our office focused on the issues that matter most — protecting seniors, supporting veterans, and promoting Missouri's small businesses and tourism economy. Every initiative moved us closer to one goal: keeping Missouri strong and free for the next generation.

As we look ahead, my priorities remain the same — safeguarding our seniors, honoring our veterans, growing our economy, and holding government accountable to the people. Missouri's best days are ahead because of the men and women who love this state and work every day to make it stronger.

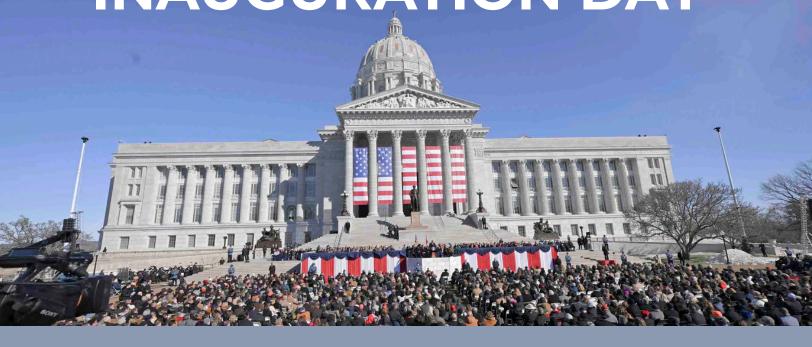
Thank you for the privilege of serving you. God bless you, and God bless the great State of Missouri.

David Wasinger

Jaid A Waring

Lieutenant Governor of Missouri

# **INAUGURATION DAY**



JANUARY 13, 2025

"I took the oath of office to defend the Constitution and to serve the people of Missouri with faith, integrity, and accountability." - Lt. Governor David Wasinger







# SUPPORTING VETERANS

As Missouri's Veterans Advocate, the Lieutenant Governor prioritized efforts this year to expand awareness of programs and resources available to veterans and their families. In May, Lt. Governor Wasinger met with Doug Collins, United States Secretary for Veterans Affairs, to discuss continued intergovernmental cooperation and ways to strengthen support for Missouri's veterans.

#### HONORING MISSOURI VETERANS

In November, the Lieutenant Governor hosted the Missouri Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda. The 2025 class included six veterans and one honorary inductee, all recognized for their military service and their lifelong contributions in civic leadership, professional achievement, veteran advocacy, and volunteerism. The inductees' names are permanently displayed on a plaque outside the Lieutenant Governor's Capitol Office.



#### SUPPORTING MISSOURI'S ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

In April, Lt. Governor Wasinger toured Fort Leonard Wood, meeting with base leadership and community partners who support the fort's mission and its service members. During a visit to Waynesville, he delivered the keynote address at the Salute to Service event honoring high school students from across southern Missouri who have committed to serving in the U.S. Military or National Guard. Following the "Operation Midnight Hammer" mission in Iran, the Lieutenant Governor visited Whiteman Air Force Base, where he received a briefing on B-2 stealth bomber operations and the critical role the pilots and support staff play in safeguarding our nation.

Pictured left to right, all from the Lieutenant Governor's Office: Policy Director Chris Walker, Lt. Governor Wasinger, Chief of Staff Katie Ashcroft, and General Counsel Frank Jung

# CARING FOR MISSOURI VETERANS

The Lieutenant Governor toured the Missouri Veterans Homes in St. James and St. Louis, meeting with staff and residents to learn more about the services provided and the challenges they face. He also met with the Veterans Service Officer team in Springfield to recognize and thank them for their essential work connecting Missouri veterans with the benefits they have earned.







# PARTNERSHIP FOR ADVOCACY

The Lt. Governor's office partnered with the Missouri Veterans Commission to host a Veterans Estate Planning Clinic in Jefferson City. Over 35 veterans and their spouses received free legal assistance in preparing essential legal documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and advanced directives.

In September, the University of Missouri School of Law Veterans Clinic welcomed the Lieutenant Governor to campus to showcase its work. The clinic's staff attorneys and law students provide free legal assistance to veterans seeking discharge upgrades, drafting high-level amicus briefs, and offering training for practicing attorneys. To help expand awareness of this resource, the Lieutenant Governor recorded a public service announcement and discussed additional ways to promote the clinic's services statewide.

# PROTECTING OUR SENIORS







Above, left to right: Senior Day at the Missouri State Fair, the Lieutenant Governor and Senior Service Award recipients

As the statutory advocate for Missouri's seniors, the Lieutenant Governor devoted significant effort this year to highlighting the needs of older Missourians and supporting organizations that serve them. He worked in coordination with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, state legislators, and nonprofit partners to help ensure seniors receive the care, safety, and dignity they deserve.

#### SENIOR SERVICE AWARDS

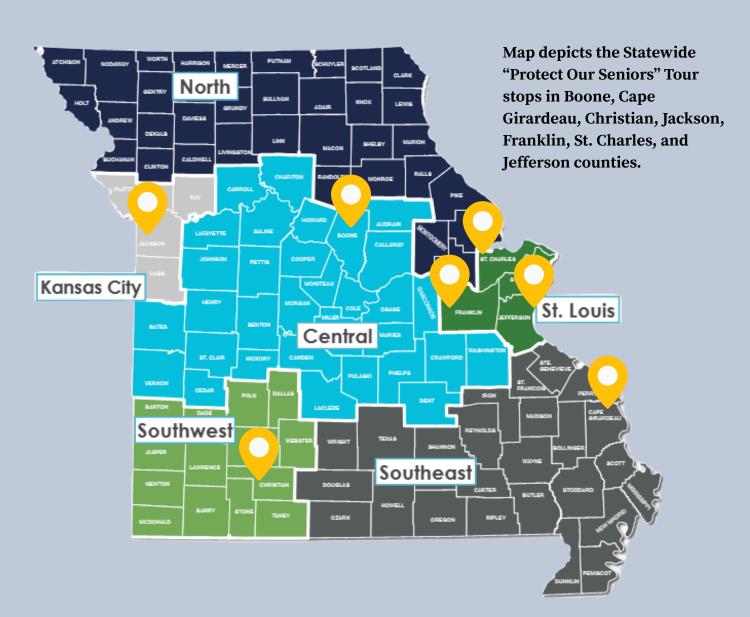
The Lieutenant Governor's Senior Service Award recognizes and celebrates the positive contributions Missouri's senior citizens make in their local communities. In April, the Lieutenant Governor honored eleven Missouri seniors whose time, talent, and service have made a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Pictured, right: The
Lieutenant Governor with
a Senior Service Award
recipient and state legislators



# STATEWIDE "PROTECT OUR SENIORS" TOUR

In the fall, Lt. Governor Wasinger and State Senator Adam Schnelting hosted a statewide series of forums to shine a light on the growing challenges of elder abuse and neglect. These events brought together family members who have experienced elder abuse, local legislators, and legal experts specializing in elder protection. The Missouri Attorney General's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit also participated, providing valuable information on its efforts to investigate abuses and safeguard Missouri seniors.



# **TOURISM**

As a member of the Missouri Tourism Commission, the Lieutenant Governor works closely with the Missouri Division of Tourism to promote the state's diverse destinations and cultural assets. Throughout the year, he visited numerous entertainment venues, museums, and major events across Missouri, including:

- → The Truman Presidential Library- Independence
- → Sight and Sound Theatre- Branson
- → The Sikeston Rodeo- Sikeston
- → Pony Express Museum- St. Joseph
- → Stifel Charity Classic- St. Louis
- → Route 66 Museum- Pacific
- → Lake of the Ozarks Shootout
- → Missouri State Fair- Sedalia
- → The Balloon Glow-St. Louis
- → KC 2026 FIFA World Cup Planning Operations
- → Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery- Branson

"Tourism isn't just about travel; it's about connecting people to our history, our outdoors and our communities."

- Lt. Governor Wasinger

and many more!











#### BRINGING BACK THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S CUP

In August, Missourians gathered at the Lake of the Ozarks Shootout to watch world-class powerboat racers compete for the reinstated Lieutenant Governor's Cup in the nation's largest unsanctioned speedboat competition. The event drew more than 100,000 inperson attendees, generated 25.3 million television and streaming views, and raised over \$700,000 for local charities. The Lieutenant Governor awarded this year's Cup to Darana Hybrid, whose boat reached an impressive top speed of 242 miles per hour.



**Top Gun of the 2025 Shootout** 

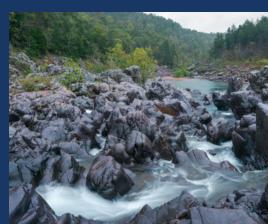
#### **AGRITOURISM**



Agritourism continues to grow as an important industry in Missouri, providing farmers with additional revenue while connecting the public to agriculture through entertainment and educational experiences. The Lieutenant Governor's Office partners with the Missouri Department of Transportation to help agritourism businesses attract visitors by reimbursing a portion of the cost for signage along Missouri roadways. Missouri wineries, pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and self-pick berry farms are all examples of agritourism operations. Interested applicants can visit the Lieutenant Governor's website for details on the sign cost-share program.







# **BUY MISSOURI**

The Buy Missouri program, launched in 2017, is an economic development initiative that highlights businesses that manufacture their products in Missouri. Lieutenant Governor Wasinger is proud to promote Missouri's manufacturers and showcase goods made right here in the Show-Me State. This year, Buy Missouri saw continued growth and engagement:

Businesses in the Buy Missouri program as of October 2025

(21,159) Missourians employed by Buy Missouri businesses

24 Businesses added to the Buy Missouri program in 2025











- → Buy Missouri Day at the Capitol welcomed 34 businesses to the Capitol Rotunda, where hundreds of visitors learned about products made across the state.
- → The program had a strong presence at the Missouri State Fair, offering samples of Missouri-made goods and recruiting new participating businesses.
- The Lieutenant Governor hosted a Buy Missouri BBQ luncheon during veto session, featuring BBQ sauces from six Missouri companies.
- → Lt. Governor Wasinger visited Buy Missouri businesses across the state, including Show Me HH Farms, Ortmann Woodcraft, Hammons Black Walnuts, and others.





#### Buy Missouri Booth at the Missouri State Fair: Director Anna Littrell and Admin. Assistant Kiana Schrandt;

Buy Missouri Day at the Capitol: The Lt. Governor with Baylee's BBQ; Best of Buy Missouri BBQ; Show Me HH Farms: The Lt. Governor

and Owners in sunflower field.







# MISSOURI ARTS COUNCIL

The Missouri Arts Council plays a vital role in strengthening the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of our state. In Fiscal Year 2025, the Council awarded grants to 493 organizations to:

- Grow Missouri's economy through the development of community arts districts and music friendly communities.
- Engage residents in every House district, with a special focus on programs that improve the well-being of veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.
- Strengthen educational outcomes by expanding arts programming in schools.







## **MISSOURI ARTS AWARDS**



Pictured above: 2025 Missouri Arts Awards Winners with Lt. Governor Wasinger

Each February, the Missouri Arts Council presents awards recognizing individuals, organizations, and communities that have made lasting contributions to the arts across Missouri. Lieutenant Governor David Wasinger participated in this year's ceremony, honoring distinguished recipients in eight categories: Art Education, Arts Organization, Creative Community, Individual Artist, Leadership in the Arts, Philanthropy, Signature Image Artist, and Awards Artwork Artist.

# PRESIDENT OF THE MISSOURI SENATE

Under Missouri's Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor serves as President of the Missouri Senate during the legislative session, which runs from January through May. During the First Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly, the Senate enacted significant legislation to strengthen public safety, provide tax relief through the elimination of the income tax on capital gains, and protect life.

As a political outsider, the Lieutenant Governor brought a fresh perspective to Senate proceedings, emphasizing accountability and a desire to improve the body's efficiency.

During the summer months, the General Assembly was called into two Extraordinary Sessions to address initiative petition reform and other priority legislation.



Above: Archbishop Rozanski joins the Lieutenant Governor on the Senate dais Right: Senate Chamber





# BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Throughout the year, the
Lieutenant Governor serves
on several Boards and
Commissions that play
essential roles in Missouri's
government and economic
development:

The Board of Public
Buildings provides
general supervision and
oversight of state facilities
at the seat of government.

The **Missouri Tourism Commission** establishes
policy and provides
administrative oversight
for the promotion of
tourism statewide.

The Missouri Development
Finance Board supports
infrastructure and
development projects that
strengthen Missouri's
economy.

The Missouri
Community Service
Commission (ServMO)
promotes volunteerism
and encourages citizen
service across the state.

Development
Commission works to
provide quality,
affordable housing
opportunities for lowincome Missourians.

The Board of Fund
Commissioners issues,
redeems and cancels
general obligation bonds
and carries out duties
related to state debt
management.

The **Missouri State Capitol Commission** 

oversees the preservation, restoration and renovation of the State Capitol and ensures its history is properly recorded.



Pictured: The Lieutenant Governor at ServMO 9/11 Meal Packing Day

## IN THE NEWS

Muddy River News

Wasinger says he'll bring values learned in Hannibal to Jefferson City as lieutenant governor

FOX 2

Missouri's Lt. Governor wants to be more than a placeholder

Missourinet

Lt. Gov. Wasinger leads effort to launch Missouri advocacy office for seniors

Muddy River News

Wasinger addresses Missouri business leaders in Hannibal

KY3 KY3

'Not getting its job done': Political-newcomer lieutenant governor calls for changes in Missouri Senate rules

Hoodline

Lt. Governor David Wasinger Launches 2026 Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign in Jefferson City

The Lake Sun

Shootout bringing back Lieutenant Governor's Cup

**Hoodline** 

Missouri Lt. Governor David Wasinger Advocates for Veterans Day Honors and Actionable Support

F0X4KC.com

https://fox4kc.com > news > missouri-It-gov-wasinger-a...

Missouri Lt. Gov. Wasinger announces 'Protect Our Seniors' tour

## **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS**

As Chair of the 2026 Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign (MSECC), the Lieutenant Governor met with the Governor's cabinet to encourage statewide participation and addressed hundreds of state employees at the campaign kickoff in Jefferson City. For nearly four decades, the MSECC has been one of the nation's most effective workplace giving programs, with Missouri state employees contributing more than \$36 million to charities since 1985.





In October, Lt. Governor Wasinger announced the creation of the Missouri Lieutenant Governor's Patch, a new recognition program developed in partnership with Scouting America. The patch honors Scouts who exemplify leadership, service, and citizenship at the state level, encouraging young Missourians to learn about their government, serve their communities, and deepen their commitment to civic responsibility







Pictured left to right: MO Scouts Day at the Capitol with Scouts in the House Chamber, the Lieutenant Governor's Patch, Webelo Georgie Reul conducting an interview of Lt. Governor Wasinger.

## MISSOURI HUMANITIES

The Missouri Humanities Council hosted acclaimed best-selling author Ron Chernow in St. Louis for a discussion of his biography of Mark Twain. As a proud Hannibal native, Lt. Governor Wasinger was honored to introduce Mr. Chernow before his remarks.

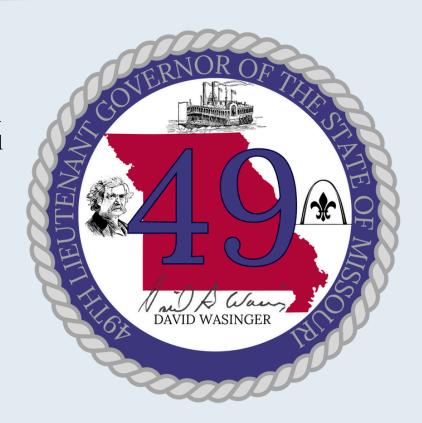




In February, the 2025 Lieutenant Governor's Missouri Humanities Celebration recognized fourteen small towns across the state and featured a screening of the film "Small Town Showcase" in the Capitol Rotunda.

## **CHALLENGE COIN**

Challenge coins are small tokens bearing emblems unique to an individual or organization, and each one tells a story. Lt. Governor Wasinger's coin reflects both his personal background and professional journey. As Missouri's 49th Lieutenant Governor, he honors his roots in Hannibal, represented on the coin by a steamboat and an image of Mark Twain. The Gateway Arch symbolizes St. Louis, where he practiced law for most of his career and built his professional life.



Missouri is a remarkable place filled with remarkable people. From our farms and factories to our small towns and growing cities, this state is built on hard work, strong families, and neighbors who look out for one another. Over the past year, our office has worked to honor that spirit—supporting our veterans, protecting our seniors, championing Missouri tourism, celebrating our artists and makers, and uplifting the small businesses and manufacturers that drive our economy.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report—from the inauguration to the Buy Missouri program and everything in between—reflect a simple belief: Missouri is worth fighting for. Ours is a beautiful state and an exceptional place to raise a family, start a business, and build a future. Our responsibility is to preserve what is right and address what needs improvement, so the next generation inherits a Missouri even stronger than the one we were given.

I love this state and its people. Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. I will never stop working and never stop fighting for the people of Missouri.







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