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**LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MISSOURI (LSEM)
WELCOMES JAMES MCCONNELL TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ST. LOUIS – James McConnell has been elected to a two-year term (2009-2111) on the Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM) Board of Directors.

McConnell is an Attorney in private practice in Shelbina, Missouri, where he also serves as Prosecuting Attorney of Shelby County and City Attorney for Clarence, Missouri.

Prior to establishing his own firm in 1995, McConnell was a Partner at Wallace, McConnell & Greenwell in Shelbina, Mo.

McConnell earned his B.S. in Business Administration from Northeast Missouri State University (now Truman State) in Kirksville, Mo., and his J.D. degree from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo. He is a graduate of North Shelby High School.

A member of the Missouri Bar and Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, McConnell has received numerous honors and achievements during his legal career including: the Lon Hocker Trial Attorney Award from the Missouri Bar Association; Missouri Bar Young Lawyer's Division Chairperson Award.

McConnell's present civic activities include: Shelby County Economic Development Board; Shelbina Area Community Foundation Board; Economic Development Council for City of Shelbina; First Responder, Salt River Ambulance; Shelbina Lions Club; Shelbina Arts Council; Shelbina Chamber of Commerce; Shelbina Sons of American Legion; Shelby County Democrat Club; and the Shelby County Democrat Central Committee.

Since becoming an American Cancer Society (ACS) Volunteer in 1983, McConnell has been heavily involved with the organization in various capacities at the local, regional and national levels. He presently serves as a Relay for Life –Co- Chair. He was awarded the St. George National award in 2005.

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McConnell continues to be involved with numerous professional associations including the 41st Circuit Bar Association and 41st Circuit Drug Court; and the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. From 1985 to 1987, he served as President of Legal Services of Northeast Missouri. Governor Nixon appointed him to the Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission in 2009.

McConnell lives in Shelbina, Missouri.

Legal Services of Eastern Missouri is an independent, non-profit organization that has provided high quality legal assistance in civil cases to the low-income community for more than 50 years. In 2008, LSEM represented over 6,500 clients in 21 counties.

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Editor's Note: James McConnell lives in Shelbina, Missouri.