# Official Manual State of Missouri 2001-2002



#### MATT BLUNT SECRETARY of STATE



# Official Manual

State of Missouri 2001–2002

Matt Blunt Secretary of State

> Rob Davis Editor



## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MISSOURI JEFFERSON CITY 65101

Dear Fellow Missourian:

The Official Manual or the "Blue Book" is one of the most recognized and widely used publications of Missouri state government. This edition, the first of my term and the 63rd in the history of the manual, contains useful information about your government-federal, state and local.

I am pleased to dedicate this edition to Missouri's timeless heroes-our veterans. Without their sacrifices and commitment to our state and nation, Missourians would neither enjoy the freedoms nor the privileges that we do today. Another special feature of this edition is the photo contest honoring Missouri's patriotism. Photographers from across our state submitted entries depicting the rich heritage and pride that unite us as Missourians and Americans.

Former Missouri State Archivist Gary Kremer has written a poignant feature article on Jefferson City's 175th anniversary as the state capitol of Missouri. Missourians have come to expect the Blue Book to be a window to our past in addition to serving as a resource for current information. Professor Kremer's essay continues this proud tradition.

In preparing the manual, my staff and I utilized emerging technologies to improve the efficiency of publication and to hold down expenditures. It is an honor to serve the people of Missouri and I hope you will find this edition of the Official Manual to be helpful and informative.

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Matt Blunt Secretary of State

#### Missouri Veterans Defending Our Freedom

A beautiful spring day brought difficult problems to the attention of a famous Missourian. An Army veteran who had served America in wartime, he set to work with characteristic determination.

Through the day on May 23, 1946, Harry Truman worked to avert a nationwide railroad strike. An hour before the deadline, Missouri's President left the White House and went to the South Lawn, where he hosted a reception for nearly 900 soldiers, sailors, and airmen who had been wounded in World War II. One of his early decisions as President had been to revive the tradition of honoring hospitalized veterans at the White House.

Our greatest leaders are those who set an example. For me, one of the finest demonstrations of Harry Truman's character was his concern for men and women who have served our nation in times of crisis.

Missouri's distinguished heritage of patriotism and valor dates from the first days of our history. The earliest settlers of American territory west of the Mississippi River included veterans of the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and state military units. Time and time again, Missouri has been made proud by the selfless patriotism of people like Pershing and Bradley and Truman, and by others who have served in peace and war, and who serve today on active duty around the world as well as those in the Missouri National Guard and in the Reserve.

It is not possible for us to ever fulfill the debt we owe to our veterans. The loss of friends and loved ones ... the scars of battle ... the willingness to place oneself in harm's way, in service to others ... these are gifts to Missouri and the nation that cannot be repaid.

As a state and nation, we have sought to honor and assist veterans of military service. Acting through their state government, Missourians have provided services to veterans since 1931. In 1989, the former Division of Veterans' Affairs was rechartered by the legislature as the Missouri Veterans' Commission. With the support and help of our veterans organizations, the Commission counsels and assists Missouri veterans who are filing for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; maintains and operates long-term skilled care facilities for veterans; is developing a system of five state cemeteries for veterans; accepts and administers donations to benefit veterans; and makes grants to restore, renovate, and maintain memorials to veterans.

It is with a sense of profound gratitude to all those who have served in the armed forces of the United States that I dedicate the 2001–2002 Official Manual of the State of Missouri to the veterans of our state.

As Americans, we owe our freedom and way of life to soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen of the past and present. When they endured the terrible hardship of the winter at Valley Forge, they acted from a deep and abiding faith in the future of freedom. When Missourians offered all they had in the World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and in other conflicts, they acted out of love for this great nation and a willingness to serve their fellow citizens.

It is the prayer of every American that our nation will continue to live in peace and that the United States will remain forever a beacon of freedom to people around the world. We must never forget the dear price of American liberty, peace and freedom and those whose continued vigilance keeps us free.

Nati Blut-

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Veterans' Memorial — Missouri State Capitol, Jefferson City (Missouri Division of Tourism)

## Acknowledgements:

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On behalf of Secretary of State Matt Blunt and myself, please accept our deepest appreciation.

Rob Davis Editor

Authority for publication: Compilation and distribution of the Missouri Manual is under the direction of the secretary of state authorized in the following manner: *Revised Statutes of Missouri*, 2000, Section 11.020.

**11.020. State Manual—number of copies—contents—distribution.**—The secretary of state shall biennially, as soon as practicable after the organization of each general assembly, prepare and publish forty thousand copies of the Missouri manual, to contain historical, official, political, statistical and other information in regard to the national and state governments, such as is found in the manuals of 1907 and 1908. The manuals shall be distributed by the secretary of state, to the members of the general assembly, the state, judicial and county officers, each high school and each elementary school within the state and to the newspapers of the state and the surplus volumes shall be distributed throughout the state upon proper applications made therefor. Each member of the senate shall receive two hundred volumes and each member of the house of representatives shall receive one hundred volumes of the manual.



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