### **Political Blogs**



# Former Stoddard County Clerk Joe Watson Endorses Sawyer Smith for Prosecuting Attorney

APRIL 28TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

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LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 28TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

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## Wirz Running for Dexter School Board

MARCH 17TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Wirz Running for Dexter School Board

Hello, I am Brandy Wirz.

I am running for school board in the upcoming April election.

I graduated from Dexter High School in 1995.

I returned back to Dexter in 2000 after graduating from St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

My husband Rick and I have six children. Aslyn, Christiaan, and Francois "Frank" have attended school here since kindergarten.

I chose to run for school board because as a Dexter native I want to make sure that our district continues to be one of the best.

I want to represent ALL students and families because no two are the same.

My background in healthcare could provide useful insight and recommendations for policies and procedures.

I would appreciate your vote on April 5th.

Thank you,

Brandy Wirz

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## Randal Tennison, Candidate for Alderman Ward 1, Dexter

MARCH 04TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Randal Tennison, Candidate for Alderman Ward 1, Dexter

Dexter, MO - Randal Tennison has announced he is running for Alderman Ward 1 in Dexter. He has been a resident of Dexter for 39 plus years.

He has been married to his wife, Lynn for more than 51 years and is a Deacon at the First Baptist Church of Dexter. He also has two daughter Caroline Jones (husband is Jamie) and Jona Sadler (husband is Adam) along with four grandchildren, Carsen Jones, Avery Jones, Emma Sadler, and Lane Sadler.

Tennison graduated from Arkansas State University - Jonesboro with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. He then spent over 40 years in accounting and management retiring as Financial Manager at SEMO Electric Coop.

Tennison has a desire to see the city of Dexter managed in a fiscally responsible manner. He has conservative values and one of his goals is to attract more business and industry. This would provide well paying jobs to residents in our area. He also strongly supports our law enforcement.

City of Dexter election will be held on April 5, 2022 from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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# Candy Collier Announces Run for Stoddard County Recorder

FEBRUARY 21ST 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Candy Collier Announces Run for Stoddard County Recorder

Stoddard County, MO - Candy Collier has announced that she will run for Recorder of Deeds on the Republican ticket in the upcoming 2022 primary election in August.

She is married to Shannon Collier, Maintenance Supervisor at the MO State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield. They have one daughter, Becky Orton who is married to David Orton, both are employed by WW Wood Products in Dudley. They have 2 grandchildren, Brenner, age 12 and Druzy, age 5. Both grandchildren are students at Dexter Public Schools.

Collier has worked for 30 years in the Recorders Office, three years for Freida Lee and 27 years as Chief Deputy Recorder for Kay Asbell.

Asbell has chosen not to seek another term.

She has worked in the office when they went from aperture cards to computer indexing and scanning images to now the majority of recording being done through e recording an online service.

"I have assisted in maintaining our counties most important records, transferring real estate, subdivision plats, and surveys, Federal and State tax liens, Military Discharges and Marriage Licenses," commented Collier. "The work is very interesting and I enjoy my job. Kay has done a fantastic job in keeping the Recorders Office up on all the current updates and improvements available. I have been here and assisted her with every upgrade done to the office."

"Everything Kay has done has been to improve the office and the services available to the citizens of Stoddard County. I will continue the tradition she has established," continued Collier. "She has been a great boss and I have learned how the office operates under her leadership."

"I feel I have the knowledge and experience necessary to run the office and hope the citizens will have enough confidence in me to elect me the next Recorder of Deeds of Stoddard County."

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# Sawyer Smith Announces Run for Stoddard County Prosecutor

FEBRUARY 08TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

#### Sawyer Smith Announces Run for Stoddard County Prosecutor

Bloomfield, MO - Sawyer Smith, a local attorney at Mayer Law Office in Dexter, has announced he is campaigning for Stoddard County Prosecutor. The announcement came via social media on Tuesday as Smith released a video expressing who he is and the reasons why he is running. Smith's address took place at a podium in front of the Stoddard County Justice Center located in Bloomfield.

"The campaign I am announcing to you today is about 'Justice for All' and the best public service to everyone," Smith said in his video release.

Smith states that he has been listening to public demands for a change in the current prosecutor's office and is now acting on Stoddard County citizens' desire for a choice in the election.

"Stoddard County deserves a prosecutor that is truly pro-law enforcement. I promise to back up our brave police officers, deputies, and troopers – especially our Sheriff – and show respect and support to them all, as well as other elected officials," Smith states in his announcement.

"Stoddard County deserves a prosecutor that is 100% committed and dedicated to the job. I promise to have no involvements with any side businesses, political projects, or unnecessary conflicts of interest that distract away from the office that you the taxpayers fund so well. I will never accept full-time pay, only to do part-time work," Smith states.

Smith further articulates that he would be a passionate, professional, ethical prosecutor who would stand up for victims, victims' families, the laws of Missouri and the United States.

At the outset of his video Smith communicates he is proud that Stoddard County is his lifelong home and that he and his wife, Leeza, are passionate about serving their

communities. Smith tells of his family roots in Dexter, Dudley, Essex, and Puxico and family background in agriculture, as well as the service of one of his grandfathers who was a police officer, criminal justice professor, and city judge.

"Most important to Leeza and I is our personal relationship with Jesus – which is foundational to who I am and what I believe. We attend Liberty Hill Church in Aid, and First Baptist Church in Dexter, where I grew up attending with my parents."

Smith talks about his legal career citing his work experience with defense attorney Jasper Edmundson, the Missouri State Public Defenders Office, and attorney Dustin Mayer who is a former assistant prosecutor.

"Following the passage of the bar exam and obtaining a law license from the Supreme Court of Missouri, I have handled felony and misdemeanor cases in at least seven different counties within the 'Bootheel' region."

Smith faces twelve-year incumbent, Russ Oliver, who recently announced his intention to seek re-election for a fourth term as Stoddard County Prosecuting Attorney.

Smith's challenge to Oliver in the Republican Primary Election will be decided on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. The contest stands out among many this year in that Oliver has not had an opponent since he first ran against incumbent prosecutor Briney Welborn in 2010.

Smith closes by saying,

"As your next Prosecuting Attorney, I promise to put you, the great people of Stoddard County first, and work for your benefit, not my own. With your help we will begin a new era for justice in Stoddard County and I look forward to being the change that is needed, and that you, the voters, have asked for. I will see you on the campaign trail, and I hope to earn your support. Thank you and God bless you!"

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