

## **Tim Lohmar selected to replace Jack Banas as County Prosecutor**

Nov. 19, 2012

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**St. Charles County, Missouri** - Tim Lohmar, an Associate Circuit Court Judge in St. Charles County, has been nominated to replace Jack Banas as Prosecuting Attorney by County Executive Steve Ehlmann.

Banas was elected Circuit Court Judge in November's election. He will replace the retiring Judge Lucy Rauch in Division 3.

Because Banas still had two years remaining on his four-year term, it was up to Ehlmann to appoint someone from the same political party who will hold that office from Jan. 1, 2013, until the next general election, November 2014. Ehlmann headed a committee, which interviewed several candidates for the prosecutor's job, and the selection was Lohmar.

The County Council must confirm the appointment of Lohmar, who is a Republican, as is Banas.

Lohmar served as the first Municipal Judge of the St. Charles County Municipal Court from 2007-2010. He also was Municipal Judge in Moscow Mills from 2005-2007, and also was the prosecuting attorney in City of St. Charles from 2004-2008.

He is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Law (1999) and also holds an undergraduate degree from Missouri-Columbia (1996).

He is a lifelong resident of St. Charles County, and served on the St. Charles Community College of Board of Trustees from 2002-2010. He also was on the SSM St. Joseph Foundation Board of Directors and the Disabled Athletes Sports Association Board of Directors. He's a member of the Rotary Club of St. Charles and Messiah Lutheran Church, Weldon Spring.

Ehlmann pointed out that he expects Lohmar to "continue to aggressively prosecute crime. It won't bother me at all if the criminals in the St. Louis area stay out of St. Charles County because they know our prosecutor will be tough on them. Tim is somebody who was born and raised in St. Charles County, and he understands how important safe neighborhoods are to our families."

Banas served as prosecutor for 14 years, elected to his first term in 1999. He was re-elected in 2010.

During his tenure, he was instrumental in the formation of the drug court and, as a component, the alcohol court. He also assigned a prosecutor to work exclusively on domestic violence.

"We've taken a hard stance on any type of violent crime," Banas said. "We've got some very talented people (in the prosecutor's office) and they're doing extremely well."

Banas said he figured it was "good thing to make a change" at this time.

"Tim, in my opinion, will do a good job," Banas said. "They made a great selection."

St. Charles County Sheriff Tom Neer echoed that sentiment.

“I’ve worked with him (Lohmar) in the past,” Neer said. “He was our first Municipal Court Judge. I found him to be a reasonable and honorable man. He’s an excellent selection, and I’m looking forward to working with him.”

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