

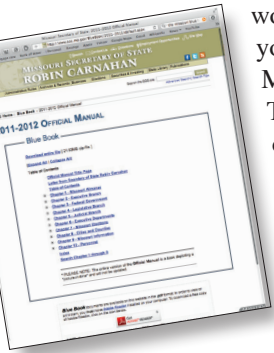
Vote Missouri!

ELECT YOUR SECRETARY OF STATE



Who Is Lincoln County Named For?*

Many of you would probably guess that Lincoln County is named after our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln, and that would be a good guess. But how could you make sure you were right? Who in Missouri compiles this kind of information? The secretary of state is responsible for compiling many kinds of records for Missouri. A lot of the information is found in Missouri's official information manual, commonly known as *The Blue Book*.



The secretary of state is also Missouri's chief election official.

Those wanting to run for elected offices sign up at the secretary of state's office. The secretary is then responsible for setting up elections and making sure the elections are run smoothly and fairly.

HELP WANTED

Secretary of State for the State of Missouri

He or she must be:

- 1 a resident of Missouri for one year before the election

The secretary of state also makes sure Missouri's historical documents are kept safe. These documents are put in a place called the archives. Another role the secretary of state has is making sure that businesses in Missouri are being honest and following Missouri's laws. But these are just a few of the many roles the secretary of state has.

The secretary of state, like most of Missouri's elected officials, is elected every four years in November at the same time the governor and president of the United States are elected. There are no limits on how many times someone may be elected secretary of state.

LEARN MORE ABOUT ELECTIONS AND VOTING IN MISSOURI, INCLUDING CURRENT CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE— mo.gov and sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri.



Brought to you by this newspaper, The Missouri Bar and the Missouri Press Association

* Lincoln County was named for Benjamin Lincoln, a Revolutionary War general.

Secretary of State Facts

1. Four secretaries of state have gone on to be governors: John Cummins Edwards (1844), Hamilton Rowan (1861), Warren E. Hearnes (1965), and Matt Blunt (2001).
2. The only statewide elected official ever impeached and then removed from office in Missouri was Secretary of State Judith Moriarty in 1994 after she let her son sign up to run for office after the filing deadline had passed.
3. James C. Kirkpatrick was elected five times as the secretary of state and served 20 years, longer than any other statewide elected official. The Missouri State Information Center is named after him.
4. Roy Blunt (1985-1993) and Matt Blunt (2001-2004) are the first father and son to serve as secretaries of state.

LEARNING EXTENSIONS

- 1 For all grade levels, go to www.sos.mo.gov for more information on the office of secretary of state.
- 2 Grades 4-6:
ACTIVITY #1—If you were Missouri's secretary of state, what would you do to encourage people to vote in elections? Interview a family member over 18 years of age and ask how important voting is to him/her, then share these views with other class members.
ACTIVITY #2—Take a trip to your school library and ask to see a copy of Missouri's *Blue Book*. What do you think is the most interesting and valuable part of this book? Why?
- 3 Grades 7-12:
ACTIVITY #1—The only qualification to be Missouri's secretary of state is to have been a state resident for one year. Do you think there should be more qualifications, and if so, what should they be?
ACTIVITY #2—Do you think there should be a term limit for a secretary of state? Compare and contrast the roles of secretary of state and governor. Why do you think the framers of Missouri's Constitution imposed a term limit on the governor and not the secretary of state?

MISSOURI STANDARDS ALIGNMENT:

GLE—SS3-A1, C, CA2, 3, 1.6 (for grades K-8)
CLE—SS2C, CA 2, 3, 1.6 (for grades 9-12)