

IPS

Local Government in Crisis

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Daily Objective

Learning Target: Students will understand the role of local elected officials.

Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

Brainstorm as many elected offices as you can think of off the top of your head. I am going to help get you started by naming three.

1. Mayor
2. Governor
3. State Auditor

How many can you add to the list?

Lesson/Activity

Some people may not realize how many local offices are elected by voters.

What made your list?

Did any of these?

County Assessor

County Prosecutor

Municipal Judge

Public Administrator

Recorder of Deeds

Library Board

School Board

County Collector

County Treasurer

Lesson/Activity

Today we are going to take explore the role of County Treasurer.

The Missouri County Treasurers Association explains the job of the Treasurer:

The role of the elected Treasurer is to serve the citizens of their County by performing all duties set forth by Missouri Statutes, mainly, but not limited to, Chapter 54 RSMo. The Treasurer is the custodian of all county money.

The primary task is careful accounting of revenues and expenditures and allocation of each to the proper fund.

The Treasurer fulfills administrative and executive duties for the County and exercises oversight and caretaker roles in regard to County funds.

<http://www.motreasure.org/About-Us/>

Practice

The job description for this elected office is specified by the state legislature. In other words, Missouri law mandates the responsibilities for the Treasurer.

Follow this link <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneChapter.aspx?chapter=54> to read more.

On your own paper, record the following information:

1. How long is the Treasurer's term?
2. What are the qualifications to run for this office?
3. How is the position filled in the event that there is a vacancy due to death?
4. Explain annual settlements.

Jackson County

While perusing the Missouri Statutes, you may have noticed the word Charter. You may have also noticed the Chapter 54 references different classifications.

Curious about your county? Let's take a look at this map. Here is the link:

<http://www.motreasure.org/Resources/>

You may notice that Jackson County is a Charter. What other Charter counties can you find?

Jackson County

Take a look at <https://www.jacksongov.org/573/Our-Charter> and find out more.

On your paper, please record:

3 Ways a person may forfeit their office

2 Responsibilities of the County Executive

1 Qualification for Prosecuting Attorney

Activity

In response to COVID 19, Jackson County Executive, Frank White Jr. issued an Executive Order. Please read this document.

Here is the link: <https://www.jacohd.org/files/diseases/Guidance.pdf>

Then, compose a letter to a Jackson County office holder or department in which you either commend them for taking necessary and effective steps to address the issue at hand, or in which you argue for different, more restrictive mandates.

Additional Resources

Centers for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

National Institutes of Health

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>

World Health Organization

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>