



ARDIE ANTON BLAND

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Summary

Experienced Judge for over 13 years with a dedication to civility, fair interpretation of the law and educating others. I have a demonstrated reputation for working with treatment courts to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for the community and law enforcement.

Education and Training

Drake University Law School | Des Moines, IA, **Juris Doctorate.**, 05/1995

Truman State University (NEMSU) | Kirksville, MO, **Bachelor of Science** in Economics, 05/1992

Experience

City of Kansas City, MO | Kansas City, MO

Municipal Court Judge

04/2008 – Current

- Served as Judge for over 13 years handling six high volume dockets per day with up to 250 cases per day in the largest municipal court in the State of Missouri.
- Assessed admissibility and relevance of evidence, motions and pleadings to ensure fair proceedings.
- Read and analyzed legal documents to make informed decisions on pre-trial issues, motions and final rulings.
- Listened to plaintiff and defendant's testimony and arguments to establish facts of case.
- Contributed to development, planning and completion of project initiatives.
- Participated in court committees to resolve issues regarding administration and court policies
- Provided leadership and supervision to Veterans Treatment Court, Mental Health Court and Truancy Court teams.
- Preside over trials and hearings in cases of assault, DUI, obstructing and resisting, property destruction, traffic, etc.
- Serving as Presiding Judge to lead and supervise 80 employees to maintain court compliance.

Self-employed | Kansas City, MO
Law Offices of Ardie A. Bland, LLC

01/1998 - 12/2008

- Maintained current knowledge of laws to provide clarification on legal concerns.
- Reviewed legal materials for compliance to assess legal, risk and compliance matters to determine organizational plan of action for my business clients

- Prepared pretrial motions and discovery
- Tried misdemeanor and felony criminal cases, family law cases and civil cases in Municipal, State and Federal courts
- Negotiated civil dispute settlements to minimize payment or maximize receipt of monetary damages.
- Communicated effectively with clients to interpret laws, rulings and regulations which affected each case.
- Selected jurors, conferred with judges and opposing counsel to discuss and settle case disputes.
- Propounded discovery documents such as form interrogatories and took depositions to discover facts
- Evaluated data involving assets, liabilities and surpluses.
- Investigated retaliatory and discriminatory employment claims.

Social Security Administration Office
of Hearing Office of Hearings and
Appeals | Kansas City, MO
Decision Writer
06/1997 - 6/2004

- Wrote two thousand (2,000) legally defensible decisions either granting or denying disability benefits while meeting expected writing quotas.
- Examined over one thousand (1,000) cases and recordings of administrative hearings regarding claimant's benefits
- Gained valuable knowledge and experience regarding mental and physical limitations of disabled individuals.
- Learned appropriate judicial demeanor and temperament and learn first-hand knowledge of judicial practices and procedures.
- Reviewed complex issues and medical records to make determinations to grant or deny disability benefits.

Honorable Thomas H. Newton |
Kansas City, MO
**Law Clerk-Jackson County
Circuit Court**
06/1996 - 6/1997

- Assisted in setting court dates and times for court hearings and case management and jury preparation.
- Researched legal authority and black letter law to compare case fact patterns to precedents to determine outcomes.
- Drafted and reviewed orders, judgments and opinions
- Observed court conferences, trials, and motion hearings to learn appropriate judicial demeanor and temperament to learn first-hand knowledge of judicial practices and procedures.
- Drafted legal correspondence and orders.

Activities and Honors

- The Missouri Bar, 1997 - Present
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 1998 - Present
- Jackson County Bar Association, 1998 - Present
- Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association, 2008- present
- American Judges Association – 2015-present (Board of Governors)
- Clay County Bar Association - 2018-2019
- Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association Executive Board Member Since 2014 and currently 2021-2022 President
- Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. 1989-Present
- Received the Community Guardian Award 2020-2021
- Missouri State University Women in Leadership Advisory Board 2021- present

Missouri Supreme Court Appointments

- Municipal Judge Education Committee (MJEC) – 2012-present – I serve as an instructor in judicial administration and ethics for new and provisional judges in the State of Missouri at the Municipal and Associate Circuit levels
- Committee on Practice and Procedure in Municipal Division Cases – 2015-present – Serve the Supreme Court of Missouri by writing and reviewing judicial practices and procedures to be approved by the Supreme Court of Missouri

Publications/Trainings

- Speaker: “Why Alcohol Monitoring is Critical to Improving Veterans Treatment Outcomes” Washington, D.C., December 3, 2013
- Speaker: Judicial Administration and Ethics, Municipal Judge Orientation, Jefferson City, MO, November 9, 2013
- Speaker: “Story for Continuous Alcohol Monitoring,” Osage Beach, MO, April 4, 2013
- Speaker: Municipal Judge Education Committee, Judicial Ethics, 1 hour, Jefferson City, Missouri, October 16, 2015,
- Speaker: Municipal Judge Education Committee, Judicial Ethics – Top Ten Complaints Made Against Municipal Judges. 1 Hour Ethics, Jefferson City, Missouri, April 29, 2016
- Speaker: Municipal Judge Education Committee, Courtroom Procedure and Judicial Administration – 2 hours Seminar, Jefferson City, Missouri, October 7, 2016
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judge Association, Regional Seminar, SB5 & SB 572 Update, 2 hours Seminar, Springfield, Missouri, November 4, 2016
- Speaker: Missouri Government Finance Officers Association, “The Impact of Supreme Court Rule 37 & New Operating Standards on Municipal Courts,” 1.5 hours, Camdenton, Missouri, May 12, 2017.
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association, Minimum Operating Standards Compliance Panel – 3 hours, Ozark, MO, May 24, 2017
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association, Regional Seminar – Minimum Operating Standards and Presiding Judge Checklist, 1.5 hours, Springfield, MO, November 3, 2017.
- Speaker: Missouri Association of Court Administrators, Minimum Operating Standards Panel, 1.5 hours, Ozark, Missouri, 1.5 hours, May 23, 2018.
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association, Regional Seminar, Caselaw Update, 1 hour, Lees Summit, MO, November 9, 2018.
- Speaker: Missouri Association of Court Administrators, Minimum Operating Standards, 2 hours, Ozark Missouri, May 21, 2019
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association, Minimum Operating Standards for Full Time Courts and Associate Judges, Moderator and Panelist, 2 hours, May 23, 2019,
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association Regional Seminar, Caselaw Update, 2 hours, Lees Summit, MO, November 1, 2019.
- Speaker: Western Association of Court Administrators, Rule 37 and Court Procedures, 2 hours, Independence, MO, November 8, 2019
- Speaker: AdHoc Webinar Series: “Epidemic of Violence; Black in Blue, Improving the Criminal Justice System from Within.” (Virtual); Panelist, 1.5 hours, June 26, 2020.
- Speaker: Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association Conference (Virtual), “Medical Marijuana in Missouri and Impacts on the Courts: Courting Marijuana”, 1 hour, Ozark, MO, August 12, 2020

- Speaker: Importance of Veterans Treatment Courts/Veterans Benefits Panel (Virtual), Kansas City, MO, .5 hours, November 7, 2020.