

Mayor James Blue Ribbon Commission on Ethics Reform

Mayor James gave the Blue Ribbon Commission 90-days to make its recommendations on changes to the ethics codes when he appointed the group on June 2nd. Members of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Ethics Reform are:

Chairwoman, Andrea Bough. Andrea is currently of counsel with Stinson Morrison Hecker in the firm's Kansas City office. She led the Mayor's transition team in reviewing the city's ethics code and brings considerable public law experience to the commission. Bough graduated cum laude from Missouri State University, formerly Southwest Missouri State University, with a bachelor's degree in political science before graduating with distinction from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

Reverend Brian D. Ellison has lived in Kansas City and served as pastor of Parkville Presbyterian Church since 1999. He is currently the clerk of the Permanent Judicial Commission in the 103-church Heartland Presbytery, and has previously served as stated clerk. Reverend Ellison obtained his bachelor's degree in government from Harvard University and a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Barbara Glesner Fines is the Associate Dean for Faculty Development and the Ruby M. Hulén Professor of Law at the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law. Dean Glesner Fines holds a master's of law degree from Yale University, a Juris Doctorate (cum laude) from the University of Wisconsin Law School, and a philosophy degree from Thomas Jefferson College of Grand Valley State University. Dean Glesner Fines currently serves on the City's Municipal Officials Ethics Commission.

Chris Lester is an experienced Kansas City business and media executive and prize-winning journalist. Lester is a graduate of Iowa State University, with a degree in economics and journalism.

Robert Patrick is the current president of Local 500 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. He has served in this position since 2004, and has been active in the union since 1996. Patrick is a board member of the Greater Kansas City AFL-CIO. He also serves as a trustee of the Kansas City, Missouri Deferred Compensation Retirement Plan and trustee of the Kansas City, Missouri Employees Health Insurance Board. Patrick is a Park Hill High School graduate.

Leo Prieto is the Community Health Education Outreach Manager at Truman Medical Center. Prieto studied Spanish, social science, secondary Latin American studies, and leadership studies at Kansas State University before receiving his law degree from the University of Kansas.

Erik Stafford is an author, historian, and small business owner. He currently owns and operates the Kansas City Tour Company. Stafford studied at Penn Valley Community College before receiving his bachelor's degree in history from Central Missouri State University and a master's degree in business from Webster University's Kansas City campus.