

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SEN. JOHN GRIESHEIMER SPONSORS  
GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF MICHAEL BAKER  
TO THE AMBER ALERT SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**

JEFFERSON CITY -- Sen. John Griesheimer, R-Washington, has successfully sponsored the gubernatorial appointment of Warren County Sheriff Michael Baker, Warrenton, to the Amber Alert System Oversight Commission.

“The AMBER Alert System has been fully operational in Missouri for only a few months, and it has already proven to be a valuable crime fighting tool,” said Griesheimer. “This commission plays an important role in keeping this system running smoothly.”

Baker has been the sheriff of Warren County since 1992, and prior to his election he served in the police departments of Warrenton, St. Charles and Wright City. He has received training at the Missouri State Highway Patrol Basis Police, 1974; Greater St. Louis Police Academy, 1977; National Sheriff’s Institute, 1993; FBI National Academy, 1997; and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development “LEEDS,” 2000.

“Sheriff Baker’s experience and special training will make him a valuable member of this commission,” Griesheimer said.

The Amber Alert System Oversight Commission regularly reviews the function of the Amber Alert System and revises its criteria and procedures in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety in order to provide for an efficient and effective public notification.

As soon as possible, the commission will adopt criteria and procedures to expand the Amber Alert System to provide urgent public alerts related to homeland security,

criminal acts, health emergencies and other imminent dangers to the public health and welfare.

The commission is made up of two representatives of the Missouri Sheriff's Association; two representatives of the Missouri Police Chief's Association; one representative of small market radio broadcasters; one from a large radio broadcasters; one representative of television broadcasters; one representative of the Missouri Highway Patrol; and one representative from the Department of Health and Senior Services. The director of the Department of Public Safety chairs the commission.

The governor makes appointments to state boards and commissions with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Senate Committee on Gubernatorial Appointments usually meets weekly during the legislative session. Their sponsoring senator presents each appointee to the committee.

Once the committee has approved appointments, the chairman reports on the committee's action to the floor for consideration by the full Senate.

Appointees must be approved by the committee and confirmed by the full Senate before taking the position on the board or the committee.