



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Jason Crowell
27th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 323
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:
September 17, 2008**

**Contact: Bev Schuelen
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Sen. Jason Crowell Announces Nomination of David Bertrand to the Board of Probation and Parole

JEFFERSON CITY– Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today announced that he will serve as the Senate sponsor for David Bertrand, who was recently appointed by the governor to serve on the Board of Probation and Parole. Sen. Crowell recommended Bertrand to the governor for the position earlier this month.

The Missouri Board of Probation and Parole is responsible for determining whether a person confined by the Department of Corrections should be paroled, and for supervising all those on probation and parole. Members of the board provide professional assessment during the parole process to decide if offenders are ready for release.

Bertrand has an impressive 22 years of experience with the Department of Corrections, and has gained personal experience with offenders and the court system as a probation officer. He is also a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University and served as an active duty Marine.

“I submitted David’s name for this appointment because I know his extensive experience with the probation and parole process will be a benefit the board and the state,” said Sen. Crowell. “I am very pleased with this appointment and look forward to the work that David is sure to accomplish in this role.”

The members of many state commissions and boards are appointed by the governor. Gubernatorial appointees then work with a state senator, who sponsors the nominee in the confirmation process. Sen. Crowell will advance Bertrand’s nomination during the upcoming session in January. The confirmation process begins before the Senate’s appointments committee and concludes with a consenting vote by the full Senate.

Following is the official letter of submission Sen. Jason Crowell provided the governor recommending David Bertrand as a member of the board.



MISSOURI SENATE

JASON G. CROWELL

27TH District

September 2, 2008

The Honorable Matt Blunt
Governor of Missouri
Jefferson City, MO 65101

RE: Mr. David Bertrand
Missouri Board of Probation and Parole

Dear Governor Blunt,

I fully support Mr. David Bertrand for appointment to serve as a member of the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole.

David Bertrand is an experienced public servant who has twenty-two years of service as a Probation and Parole Officer in the Cape Girardeau area. He has served as a court officer, writing hundreds of presentence investigations and sentence assessment reports for the court. He has also provided structured supervision to several hundred probationers and parolees. He has made referrals to appropriate resources and imposed sanctions as necessary to manage needs and control risk with the ultimate goal of guiding offenders to become successful, contributing members of the community. David is a man of great integrity and honesty who has earned the respect of judges, fellow Probation Officers, and law enforcement.

I believe that David has the skills and experience to fill the upcoming vacancy on the Missouri Parole Board. David's years of field experience will be beneficial in determining the release of offenders from confinement and knowing which supervision strategies will be appropriate for each offender. David will also be competent with stipulating the appropriate special conditions in order to address specific offender needs for public safety and success under supervision. I feel that David will also be an advocate of victim's rights while being vigilant in the endeavor to preserve the public welfare and safety of all citizens.

I am confident that the state would be well served by his appointment to this position. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason G. Crowell".

Jason G. Crowell
State Senator

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