

## **MISSOURI SENATE**

Jeff Smith 4<sup>th</sup> Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

Capitol Building, Room 329 Jefferson City, MO 65101

For Immediate Release: March 26, 2009

Contact: Christine Brauner (573) 751-3599

## Senator Jeff Smith Announces Appointment of Bettye Battle-Turner to St. Louis Board of Commissioners

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, announced today (3/26) that the Senate Gubernatorial Appointments Committee and the full Senate have approved the nomination of Bettye Battle-Turner of St. Louis to the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners.

Mrs. Turner, a St. Louis attorney and former municipal and administrative judge for the city of St. Louis, will serve on the board for a term ending Feb. 25, 2013. The board of commissioners oversees the Metropolitan Police Department.

"Mrs. Turner is well suited to serve on the police board as a lifelong St. Louisan with decades of experience of legal experience and an unwavering commitment to making St. Louis a better and safer place to live," Sen. Smith said. "She brings accountability and credibility to the police board, and I know she will serve the citizens of St. Louis well."

Turner grew up in St. Louis and graduated from Soldan High School. She is among 12 children

born to the late Bishop Jesse Battle, Sr., and Mary Ann Battle.

"Our family had rules. You had to go to school, you had to go to college," she said of her parents' early influence. Of making St. Louis her choice for home and career, she said, "I don't know of anywhere else I would want to be, and I have traveled to lots of places."

Turner has a political science degree from St. Louis University and received her juris doctorate from St. Louis University School of Law. She also has a master's degree in business from Lindenwood University.

Sen. Jeff Smith (right) with Bettye Battle-Turner during the gubernatorial hearing.

For a high resolution photo, contact <u>kdrummond@senate.mo.gov</u> or call (573) 751-3824.

Turner is married and has two grown children. Her husband, Fred, is a retired Commander of Homicide for the St. Louis City Police Department.

###