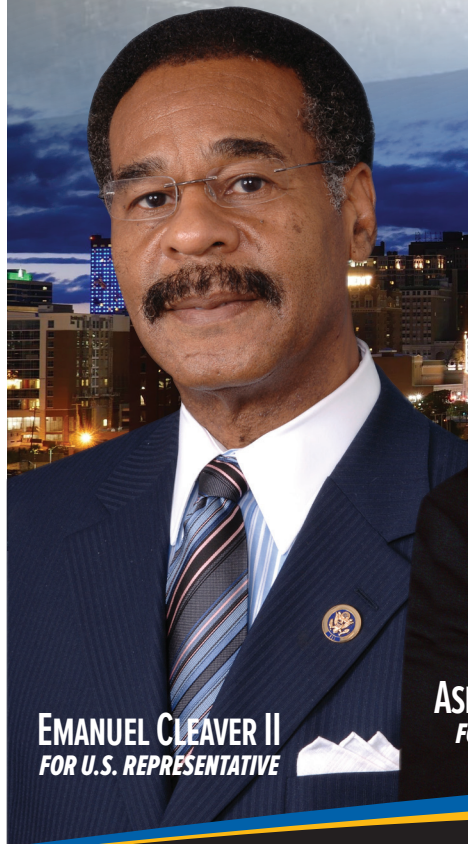


FREEDOM FORWARD

★ ★ ★ *Over 55 Years of Service—Est. 1962* ★ ★ ★

VOLUME 8 / ISSUE 2

VOTE *for* PROGRESS



EMANUEL CLEAVER II
FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE



ASHLEY BLAND MANLOVE
FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



DARRYL FORTÉ
FOR JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF



RON FINLEY
FOR JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATOR

VOTE FREEDOM'S BALLOT TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018

Message from the Leadership Team



FREEDOM, INC.



FORWARD™

Board of Directors

Leadership Team

Senator Shalonn "Kiki" Curls
Dr. Gayle Holliday

Ken Bacchus
Bruce Beatty, *Treasurer*
Gail McCann Beatty
Craig Bland
Rodney Bland
Keith Brown
Richard Brown
Melba Curls
Dr. Melissa Patterson-Hazley
DaRon McGee
Keith Thomas
Bishop James Tindall
Barbara Anne Washington

1202 Brooklyn Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64127
816-483-VOTE (8683)
Fax 816-483-1246
Email info@freedomincorporated.org

FREEDOMINCORPORATED.ORG



Can we talk?

This is such a desperate time in our history that we can't believe every African American in Kansas City, age 18 or older, isn't registered to vote—*are you serious?* It seems that no matter how hard organizations, groups and individuals encourage voter registration—nothing seems to work. This paradigm must change right now. For our community to matter in the world of politics and government, we must get in the game and that means **VOTING IN EVERY ELECTION.**

If you are 18 years of age or older and not registered to vote, you must move this instant and call the **Kansas City Board of Election** at **816-842-4820**. They will explain to you just how easy it is to get registered. **You only have until July 11 to register to vote in the August 7 Primary Election.** If you missed the deadline, go ahead and get registered anyway so that you can vote in the **November 6 General Election.**

Every election is critical to our wellbeing. We need to put Democratic candidates in office in Washington, in Missouri, in Jackson County, and in Kansas City. We are asking you to support **U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill** and **U.S. Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II** and return them to Washington to watch our backs.

At the State level, we are supporting an emerging young leader, **Ashley Bland Manlove**, to represent the 26th District and incumbent Democratic Representatives: **Daron McGee** (Dist. 36), **Barbara Anne Washington** (Dist. 23), **Richard Brown** (Dist. 27), **Jerome Barnes** (Dist. 28), and **Ingrid Burnett** (Dist. 19). In Jackson County, we endorse Democrat **Ron Finley** for Legislator in the 2nd District. And be sure to support the Democratic Committeemen and Committeewomen featured on pages 4 and 5, these elected volunteers act as facilitators on behalf of community interests and assist citizens with defining the issues and representing the issues to elected officials.

Many dedicated hours are involved in the review and screening of candidates and ballot issues by our Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. These Freedom-endorsed candidates have proven to have the requisite skills, aptitude, and equally important, the commitment to our mission—to **impact public policy decisions, foster economic development, and generate wealth to improve the quality of life for African Americans.**

THERE'S A LOT OF HARD WORK FOR US TO DO AND YOU CAN HELP BY SIMPLY VOTING! JOIN US ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018 AND "VOTE FOR PROGRESS!"



S. Kiki Curls



Gayle Holliday

VOTE *for* PROGRESS: JACKSON COUNTY

for JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATURE – 2ND DISTRICT

RON FINLEY

- ★ Fair and equitable assessment of property taxes
- ★ Expansion of healthcare services for senior citizens
- ★ Lower the jail population through:
 - Bail bond reform
 - Increased pretrial and diversion programs
 - More use of Drug Court
- ★ Improvement and expansion of COMBAT – Illicit drug use and violent crime prevention, education and treatment.

“I am committed to serve the people of Jackson County and to make life better for our children and grandchildren.”



for JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATURE –

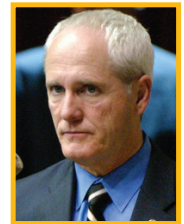
1ST DISTRICT AT-LARGE JALEN ANDERSON

“Together we can build a better and just society for future generations.”



2ND DISTRICT AT-LARGE JOHN BURNETT

“I will always demand honesty and transparency in government.”



3RD DISTRICT AT-LARGE *Re-Elect*

TONY MILLER

“Working to change the culture of governance one vote at a time.”



4TH DISTRICT *Re-Elect*

DAN TARWATER

“I strive to convey the voices of Jackson County citizens by building relationships on trust and experience.”



for JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF

DARRYL FORTÉ

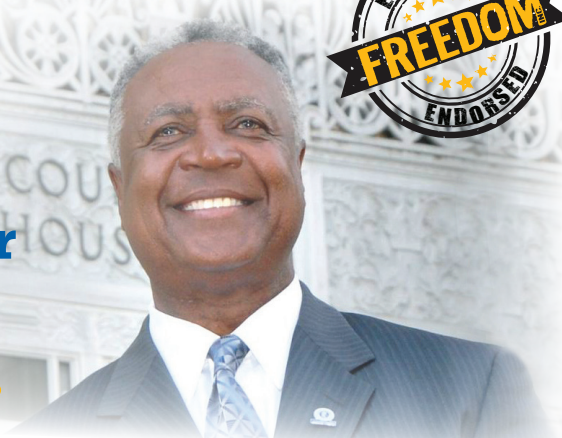
- ★ Forté has proudly served and protected citizens with professionalism, honor and integrity for over three decades:
 - Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) – 1985 to 2016
Served as Officer, Sergeant, Captain, Major, Deputy Chief, and Chief.
 - Jackson County Sheriff (Appointed) – 2018

“I pledge to serve the citizens of Jackson County by upholding the laws and creating a positive partnership with all law enforcement agencies in the county.”



“I believe in the people of Jackson County. We are living and working each day to make our community an even better place to live.”

Re-Elect COUNTY EXECUTIVE FRANK WHITE, JR.



MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER



It has been an honor serving as the first African-American female Democratic Floor Leader in the Missouri House of Representatives.

As my time comes to an end, I am proud of the accomplishments that we've made including: funding for the **Negro Leagues Baseball Museum** and **Buck O'Neil Education Center**; establishing July 1st as **Lucile Bluford Day**, which raises awareness of her contributions to journalism and civil rights; creating transparency in state government by requiring the Attorney General to provide a report on all state settlements and judgements on a monthly basis; and increase the penalties for filing false deeds.

This session has been historic. For the first time in its history, the State Legislature called themselves into special session for the impeachment of a governor. The lesson from this special session is that **Missourians deserve an open, honest and transparent government**. We must elect individuals who understand that their obligation to serve the people of Missouri must always come first.

Let me introduce you to **Ashley Bland Manlove**, a young and determined candidate who I am endorsing to represent the residents of the 26th District. The Kansas City delegation has worked well together during my tenure and I am confident that this younger generation will continue that tradition.

I am grateful for the support from our community, It has truly been an honor to serve.

“Ashley Bland Manlove stands ready to serve the people of the 26th District with a listening ear and strong leadership skills.”

—GAIL MCCANN BEATTY, MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – 26TH DISTRICT

VOTE *for* PROGRESS: KANSAS CITY

**FREEDOM, INC.
DEMOCRATIC
COMMITTEE
CANDIDATES:**





VOTE *for* PROGRESS: MISSOURI

for HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – 26TH DISTRICT

ASHLEY BLAND MANLOVE

Ashley Bland Manlove’s biggest influences growing up were the strong women in her life, especially her grandmother, former **Senator Mary Groves Bland**. After graduating from St. Teresa’s Academy, Ashley attended Philander Smith College in Arkansas. In 2010, she joined the Army National Guard as an Intelligence Analyst, scoring in the top 20 percentile on the entrance exam. She was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for her service and outstanding achievements.



★ ASHLEY BLAND
MANLOVE
DEMOCRAT FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 26

As State Representative for Kansas City’s 26th District, Ashley will be committed to:

★ EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT

- Modify Missouri’s Foundation Formula to treat urban school districts fairly.
- Adequately fund public education from early childhood through college.

★ CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

- Increase re-entry programs and reduce recidivism.
- Support alternatives to imprisonment for non-violent offenders.

★ JOB DEVELOPMENT

- Leverage more state funds for skilled-trades and union-based apprenticeships.
- Increase workforce development funding to create and retain permanent jobs and raise income levels.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES *continued, page 6...*



continued...



VOTE for PROGRESS: MISSOURI

Re-Elect for HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES –

19TH DISTRICT

INGRID BURNETT

“As a former educator, I will continue to be a strong voice for our children.”



23RD DISTRICT

BARBARA ANNE WASHINGTON

“I will continue to fight for economic development, affordable housing and health care for all.”



27TH DISTRICT

RICHARD BROWN

“I am committed to reducing gun violence, properly funding our schools, and expanding Medicaid.”



28TH DISTRICT

JEROME BARNES

“As your representative, education, public safety and healthcare policies are my top priorities.”



36TH DISTRICT

DARON MCGEE

“I will continue to be a strong voice on the legislature for the issues that matter to South Kansas Citians.”



EMERGING leader:

leadership



Mark Sharp is a South Kansas City resident and graduate of the Hickman Mills School District and Clark Atlanta University. Mark is a teacher at KIPP Endeavor Academy. He is a member of Freedom, Inc., the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the South Kansas City Alliance.

Recently, I visited Washington, D.C., and viewed many of the monuments to our nation's history. The one that stood out to me the most was the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, along with this engraved quote, “Make a career of humanity. Commit yourself to the noble struggle for equal rights. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country, and a finer world to live in.”

As adult role models we have an obligation to help our youth understand the importance of volunteering their time and talent to improve our communities and the importance of always voting to improve our city, state and nation.

Voting is particularly important now when extremist political forces are aggressively pushing voter suppression efforts such as onerous voter ID laws designed to make it difficult for college students, the elderly who

no longer drive and the impoverished to exercise their right to vote.

It's easy to become depressed when we are bombarded daily with a stream of hatred and divisiveness from the current President aimed at immigrants and Muslims, when hard won civil rights for people of color and the LGBT community are being rolled back, when regulations protecting the environment are being shredded, and when young children and their parents seeking asylum in the U.S. are being caged like animals.

But we can't allow our disappointment to lead to apathy. It must lead to action!

The voting power of fair-minded citizens of good will banding together to fight the resurgent forces of bigotry, hatred and racism can turn the tide of recent events and put our country back on the path toward finally fulfilling its stated principles.

But this won't happen automatically. We each need to do our part. We can't afford to sit this struggle out when we have so much at stake and so much to lose!

VOTE “NO” ON QUESTION 1

Residential Rental Inspection Fees Could Add To The Homeless Population In Kansas City

On the August 7th Ballot, the City of Kansas City has proposed to enact and enforce an Application/Annual Permit Review Fee, a Re-inspection Fee, and a Re-instatement Fee totalling \$470 (plus late fees, if applicable) on residential rental properties.

Renters will inevitably be handed down these additional costs by rental owners causing a rise in evictions which will lead to an increase in the homeless population and a reduction of low-income housing throughout the Kansas City area.

We urge voters to reject these additional rental fees by voting “NO” on QUESTION 1.



FORWARD™

BRING THIS BALLOT WITH YOU TO THE POLLS!
NEED A RIDE TO THE POLLS? CALL 816-483-VOTE (8683)

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ELECTION
OFFICIAL BALLOT

● FOR U.S. SENATOR
CLAIRE McCASKILL

● FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 5
EMANUEL CLEAVER II

● FOR STATE AUDITOR
NICOLE GALLOWAY

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 19
INGRID BURNETT

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 23
BARBARA ANNE WASHINGTON

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 26
ASHLEY BLAND MANLOVE

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 27
RICHARD BROWN

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 28
JEROME BARNES

● FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – DISTRICT 36
DARON MCGEE

● FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE – JACKSON COUNTY
FRANK WHITE, JR.

● FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR – 1ST DISTRICT AT-LARGE
JALEN ANDERSON

● FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR – 2ND DISTRICT
RON FINLEY

● FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR – 2ND DISTRICT AT-LARGE
JOHN BURNETT

● FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR – 3RD DISTRICT AT-LARGE
TONY MILLER

● FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR – 4TH DISTRICT
DANIEL T. TARWATER III

● FOR SHERIFF – JACKSON COUNTY
DARRYL FORTÉ

● **VOTE “NO” QUESTION 1**
RESIDENTIAL RENTAL INSPECTION PROGRAM

FOR DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEEWOMAN AND COMMITTEEMAN

2ND WARD DEE EVANS
KEITH BROWN
3RD WARD LESHYEKA ROLAND
ARTHUR JOHNSON
7TH WARD ROSA JAMES
KEITH MARTIN THOMAS
10TH WARD ASHLEY BLAND MANLOVE

14TH WARD SHALONN “KIKI” CURLS
RON FINLEY
15TH WARD VELDA COOK
LAWRENCE W. CRAWFORD
16TH WARD GAIL McCANN BEATTY
KEN BACCHUS – **WRITE IN**
17TH WARD MELISSA A. DOUGLAS
CRAIG C. BLAND

18TH WARD KENNETH RAY
19TH WARD KRISTI D. WHITAKER
CECIL D. WILLIAMS
23RD WARD PHYLLIS WOODSON
25TH WARD NIKKI CROCKER JOHNSON
DARRELL CURLS
26TH WARD CAROL GRAVES
DARON MCGEE

VOTE for PROGRESS: TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018

★ ★ ★ *Over 55 Years of Service—Est. 1962* ★ ★ ★

- 1963** Bruce R. Watkins and Dr. Earl Thomas become the first African-American members of the Kansas City Council. They represent the 3rd District.
- 1964** Public accommodations ordinance passes, mandating desegregation in Kansas City's public spaces.
- 1964** Leon Jordan and Harold Holliday, Sr. are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives for the first time.
- 1966** Bruce R. Watkins becomes the first African American to win a county-wide election for Jackson County Circuit Court Clerk.
- 1968** Dr. William Bryan becomes the second African American to win a county-wide office, winning the post of Jackson County Coroner. Herman Johnson and William Carson are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives, bringing the number of African American representatives from Kansas City to four.
- 1970** After the assassination of Leon Jordan, his widow, Orchid, is the first African-American woman elected to the Missouri House of Representatives from Kansas City.
- 1971** Charles Hazley is elected to the Kansas City Council for the first time.
- 1972** Harold "Doc" Holliday, Jr., Mamie Hughes and Lee Vertis Swinton are all elected to seats on the Jackson County Legislature.
- 1975** Bruce R. Watkins wins a seat on the Kansas City Council for the 5th District, bringing the number of African-American members to three.
- 1976** Alan Wheat is elected to the Missouri House of Representatives.
- 1979** Bruce R. Watkins runs for mayor, winning the primary. Although he lost the general election, African-American voter turnout reaches a record high. Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II wins a seat on the City Council.
- 1980** Lee Vertis Swinton is elected the first African-American State Senator from Kansas City. A record number of African Americans are elected to the Missouri House of Representatives. Mary Groves Bland, Walter Peterson, Jr., Earl Pitts, Sr., and James Tindall, Sr. win election for the first time.
- 1982** Alan Wheat becomes the first African American to represent the Kansas City area in U.S. Congress.



Freedom founders sign official incorporation papers, April 1962.

FREEDOM, INC.



FORWARD™

The mission of Freedom, Incorporated is to impact public policy decisions, foster economic development, and generate wealth to improve the quality of life for African Americans.

Freedom is at the forefront of registering and mobilizing African-American voters in the country.

Our community has achieved a lot, but we have much more to do.

- 1983** Mark Bryant is elected to the City Council. Phil Curls is elected to the Missouri State Senate.
- 1986** Carol Coe is elected Jackson County Legislator.
- 1991** Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II is elected the first African-American Mayor of Kansas City. Carol Coe, Ron Finley, D. Jeanne Robinson, and Ken Bacchus are elected to the City Council.
- 1995** Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II is elected to a second term.
- 1998** Mary Groves Bland is elected to the Missouri State Senate – the first African-American female state senator from Kansas City.
- 2004** Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II is elected to the U.S. Congress, the second African American to represent the Kansas City area in Congress.
- 2008** Barack Obama is elected the first African-American President of United States.
- 2011** Sylvester "Sly" James becomes the second African-American Mayor of Kansas City. Shalonn "Kiki" Curls is elected to the 9th Senatorial District.
- 2012** President Barack Obama is elected to a second term.
- 2013** Kansas City Health Levy is renewed.
- 2014** Translational Research Tax is defeated 86% to 14% in African-American wards. Dr. Amy Hartsfield and Melissa Robinson are elected to the Kansas City School Board. Frank White and Alfred Jordan are elected to the Jackson County Legislature.
- 2015** Darrell Curls and Carol Graves are elected to the Hickman Mills School Board. Lee Barnes is elected Councilman At-Large for the 5th District – the first African American in 16 years to hold this seat.
- 2017** The Central City Economic Development (1/8-cent) Sales Tax passes by a 70% margin. Voters approve reduction of penalties for marijuana and paraphernalia possession, and the \$15 minimum wage in Kansas City. New KCI Terminal construction is approved.
- 2018** The Capital Improvement Sales Tax is approved to build a new Buck O'Neil Memorial Bridge. Gail McCann Beatty is appointed Democratic Leader in the Missouri House of Representatives. Darryl Forté is appointed Interim Jackson County Sheriff.

VOTE FREEDOM'S BALLOT TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018