



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

Missouri Municipal League Names New Executive Director

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – The Missouri Municipal League recently appointed Dan Ross as the organization's executive director (photo of Ross available at <http://budurl.com/DanRoss>). The announcement was made by Gerry Welch, MML's president and mayor of Webster Groves, Mo.

In January 2010, Gary Markenson retired as the Missouri Municipal League's director after 39 years with the organization. Under Markenson's direction, MML grew from less than 350 members to 660 members.

"We are thrilled to find someone with Dan's government and management experience," said Mayor Welch. "Dan's knowledge of state government and contacts throughout the state will be wonderful assets for the Missouri Municipal League. Dan brings with him exceptional organizational, leadership and team-building skills. The board looks forward to working with Dan in furthering the position of the League as the strong voice of Missouri cities and towns."

Ross brings more than 25 years of state government experience to the Missouri Municipal League. From 2005 to 2008, Ross served as the state of Missouri's chief information officer. Prior to that, he was executive deputy secretary of state for four years, director of administrative services for the Missouri Department of Economic Development for four years, and the director of the administration division for the Missouri Public Service Commission for five years. From March 2009 until June 2010, Ross owned Bridging Gaps LLC, a consulting service offering program consolidation, organizational analysis and management training services. He holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Missouri and a bachelor's degree in industrial relations from Lincoln University.

Ross understands the importance of taking over this role and continuing the momentum and success of MML and the value it brings to Missouri's municipalities.

"I am pleased and humbled to have been selected to serve as executive director of the Missouri Municipal League and look forward to building on the firm foundation, quality organization and legacy provided by Gary in this role," said Ross. "My hope, aspiration and plan for the Missouri Municipal League are that it remains the valued support, advocacy and resource organization member cities, stakeholders and partners have come to expect. We will achieve

this by taking MML to a new level of advocacy, leadership, responsiveness, accountability and customer service that is linked to our strategic plan.”

Organized in 1934, the Missouri Municipal League was first established as a clearing house for information and to provide training and support for city officials. Today, MML is an independent, statewide, not-for-profit association governed by a 17-member board of directors consisting of a president, vice president, active past presidents, 12 elected and five appointed municipal officials, with at least one board member from each Congressional District. In addition to serving as a strong voice for Missouri’s cities and municipalities, it provides training, information sharing, legislative assistance, advocacy and administrative support for city officials across the state. In 2009, MML celebrated its 75th Anniversary, launching a new brand, “Growing Our Communities Together,” to promote the value that Missouri’s cities, towns and villages provide to their citizenry and the state.

The Missouri Municipal League represents 660 municipalities, including the state’s oldest community, St. Genevieve, founded around 1735 and the state’s top 10 municipalities based on population: Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Independence, Columbia, Lee’s Summit, O’Fallon, St. Joseph, St. Charles and Blue Springs. For more information on MML or for a link to your city’s website, visit <http://www.mocities.com>.

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Editor’s Note: Ross is a resident of Jefferson City, Mo. (65109).

The Missouri Municipal League is headquartered at 1727 Southridge Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109.