



HONORABLE ZEL M. FISCHER

MISSOURI SUPREME COURT

Honorable Zel M. Fischer was appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri October 2008 and retained by the voters in the November 2010 general election for a 12-year term expiring December 31, 2022. Prior to becoming a Judge on the Supreme Court of Missouri, Judge Fischer was a trial judge and trial lawyer in Northwest Missouri where he was born and raised and still resides today. He graduated from William Jewell College with majors in political science and philosophy, receiving the Harry S. Truman most outstanding Political Science Major, and was honored by William Jewell College with the Citation for Lifetime Achievement. He received his law degree with distinction from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. Justice Fischer is an ASTAR/NCSI Fellow, which is a select group of judges from around the country who have special training and education to preside over complex cases involving difficult science and technology issues. Recently, Justice Fischer has been elected to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Courts and Science Institute, which is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to training judges in Science. The NCSI Board of Directors selected him to be the President and chair of the Executive Committee. Justice Fischer is a frequent lecturer to judges and lawyers regarding the intersection of science and the law as well as constitutional issues and professional ethics. Chief Justice Fischer is also actively involved in presenting Constitutional Forums at high schools, colleges, and universities, where he impresses upon the students the prominent importance of protecting the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. In 2019 while presiding as Chief Justice, Judge Fischer was selected for the prestigious Missouri Bar Theodore McMillian Judicial Excellence Award.