



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Kansas City Election Board Staffer Awarded  
Rosemary Plitt Award**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Sept. 26, 2013)** – Kansas City Election Board (KCEB) staffer Alby Shipman was awarded the Rosemary Plitt Award at the 2013 Missouri County Clerks Association and Election Authorities Conference (MACCEA) today.

The Rosemary Plitt Award for Excellence in Election Administration was established in 1987 through the joint efforts of the Urban Election Boards, the Missouri Association of County Clerks and the Missouri Secretary of State's Office. The award was established to honor, on an annual basis, an individual or group of individuals who have made significant contributions to elections or to the electoral process.

At 91-years young, Alby knows a thing or two about elections. She has been employed at KCEB for 24 years, joining the agency at the young age of 67. Prior to becoming a full-time employee "Miss Alby," as the staff affectionately calls her, served for years as an Election Day judge. In 1989, her outstanding work at the polls was recognized and she was hired full-time in KCEB's Records Department. She transitioned from Records to the position she enjoys the most now, Switchboard Operator.

"Kansas City Election Board, how may I direct your call?" is her signature greeting when voters call the office. "I love to talk to people all over the world, said Alby. "I like how it sounds like someone is next door, but they are really in another state or overseas in another country."

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Alby always looks forward to Election Day. She is the first person to the office in the morning, and she is the last person out of the office after election night results have been posted. Her favorite part of Election Day is answering the overflow of phone calls to assist the voters.

Alby has experienced much more than just elections in her 91 years. She has experienced many more adventures than most people can vouch for in their lives. A worldwide traveler, Alby visited Europe, the Caribbean and more recently Central America. When visiting the Caribbean, she went parasailing at age 72. She also enjoyed traveling to Paris, where she climbed the Bell Tower at the top of Notre Dame Cathedral. For exercise Miss Alby has periodically walked up flights of stairs backwards. She came in second in a 5K marathon in the “80 and up” category several years ago.

A native of Indiana, Alby grew up an only child with her father and grandfather, where she spent summers at their country home and winters at their city home. She came to Kansas City by way of Stephens College in Columbia. There she met and married Ernest Shipman and raised five children – one daughter and four sons. At one time Alby was the area president of the local PTA in Kansas City. Now a widow, she enjoys the company of her children, 15 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren, as well as being an active member of her Eastern Star Lodge and church group.

KCEB is truly honored to have Miss Alby receive the Rosemary Plitt Award.

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**For additional information or assistance, please contact [kceb@kceb.org](mailto:kceb@kceb.org) or call (816) 842-4820.**

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