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In Missouri, individuals convicted of a felony are eligible to restore their voting rights upon completion of their sentence, probation and parole, as long as they were not convicted of an offense associated with voting rights.

Missouri law now requires penal institutions to inform individuals in writing, upon release, about the process and procedure that will allow restoration of their voting rights.



RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

Every voter has a right to participate in the voting process...



Restoration of voting rights is relatively simple.

The vision of the Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners is to continually improve the services we offer to our voting public, while complying with all applicable statutes and codes.

In recent years, our nation has seen a great deal of debate, discussion, legislative action and grassroots activity on the issue of disenfranchisement and restoration of rights of felons. Although Missouri law disallows registration of those currently serving time with felony convictions and those on probation and/or parole (RSMo. 115.133.2.(2)), our state is one of the more lenient governments when it comes to restoring these rights.

Each month, the Circuit Court and Department of Corrections provides the Election Board with a listing of residents in our jurisdiction who have been convicted of a felony, or misdemeanor, and a listing of those who have completed their sentence, probation or parole. This data is used to update our voter registration data base.

Upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole, Missouri residents are eligible to have their voting rights restored. The exception is those convicted of a felony or misdemeanor connected with voting infractions (RSMo. 115.133.2.(3)). In that instance, voting rights cannot be restored.

The process of restoration is relatively simple. Once a citizen's name appears on the list of those who have completed their sentence, the Election Board automatically restores that citizen's voting rights, providing the voter's registration is current and updated.

If the voter's address has not changed, no further action is needed and the voter's rights are restored. If the voter has moved since last voting, a change of address is required. The voter will need to submit a new registration or provide his or her new address. Registration forms are available at any Kansas City Public Library, DMV, social services office, NAACP, or the Election Board office at Union Station.

In 2003, the Missouri state legislature adopted legislation to further improve the restoration process. RSMo. 217.730.3 requires penal institutions to inform individuals, in writing, about the process and procedure that will allow restoration of their voting rights when they are released.

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