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MAGISTRATE JUDGES

The Bell Room Historical Gallery

Charles E. Whittaker Courthouse
400 East Ninth Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



The Bell Room Historical Gallery is **open to the public free of charge**, or you may schedule a group tour by contacting Crystal Charles at (816) 512-5030 or

Crystal_Charles@mow.uscourts.gov

The Exhibit

Located on the second floor of the Charles E. Whittaker Courthouse, the Bell Room Historical Gallery tells the story of the federal court in Western Missouri - the cases, the judges, the people whose lives were shaped by the decisions made here.

Features

The gallery includes:

- ♦ The court's landmark cases from the **Greenlease kidnapping** to the **Hyatt disaster** to the trials of **Tom Pendergast** and **Nick Civella**.
- ♦ A timeline tracing the types of cases heard by the court since its creation in 1822.
- ♦ **Interactive audio-visual units** where visitors can take quizzes and watch videos about the court.
- ♦ Information about what it's like to **serve on a jury** or **how to file bankruptcy**.

Did You Know?

During the Civil War, future federal judge John Philips led a Union cavalry regiment in the **Battle of Westport**.

Walt Disney filed for bankruptcy here before he moved to Hollywood to animate his famous mouse.

As a young attorney, future Supreme Court Justice **Thurgood Marshall** represented the Kansas City plaintiffs suing to integrate the **Swope Park swimming pool**.

Free agency in **Major League Baseball** exists today because of a case heard in this court.

Country superstars **Minnie Pearl**, **Roy Acuff** and **Porter Wagoner** all testified in a Western District case involving **The Grand Ole Opry** trademark.

The federal crimes of **pharmacist Robert Courtney** may have affected more than 4,200 cancer patients.

More than **1,500 people** become **United States citizens** every year in Western District courthouses.

