

CHAPTER 95

FREEDOM MEMORIAL WALL COMMISSION

9500. Freedom Memorial Wall Commission Established.
There is established the Freedom Memorial Wall Commission.

9501. Membership.
The County Executive shall appoint eleven (11) members to the Commission subject to the disapproval of the Legislature. All members shall be residents of Jackson County. One member shall be a member of the County Legislature. All members shall be business, community, and/or neighborhood leaders, who possess significant knowledge about the civil rights movement and the contributions of African Americans and other minority groups to the history and development of Jackson County. The County Executive shall solicit nominations to the Commission from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE²), the Metropolitan Community Colleges, Penn Valley Campus, and neighborhood organizations within the County. The County Executive shall give the strongest possible consideration to the appointment of the presidents or other chief executive officers of the specific organizations named above to serve on the Commission. (Ord. 5092, Eff. 04/30/18)

9501.1 Term

Each member, except for the County Legislator member, shall serve a term of three years, and may be reappointed to two additional three-year terms. The County Legislator member shall serve a term coterminous with his or her term on the County Legislature.

9502. Chairman.
The County Executive shall designate one member as chairman.

9503. Compensation.
Commission members shall serve without compensation.

9504. Freedom Memorial Wall Commission, Purpose and Duties.
The Freedom Memorial Wall Commission shall have the following purpose and duties:

9504.1 Purpose.

The Commission's purpose is to select inductees for the Freedom Memorial Wall, which will be located at 31st Street and Benton Boulevard in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri in the Leon Jordan Memorial Park. The Freedom Memorial Wall will honor those that have made significant contributions to the Civil Rights

Movement in Jackson County.

9504.2 Inductee Selection.

The Commission shall meet annually to select up to one hundred (100) inductees each year for approximately ten (10) years. Inductees can be selected posthumously. The inaugural Commission will create the guidelines for the selection process of inductees. The Commission shall not meet during any period in which, in the opinion of the Commission's chairman, public health conditions or other exigent circumstances warrant against meeting. (Ord. 5310, Eff. 2/10/2020; Ord. 5403, Eff. 9/29/2020)

9504.3 Induction Ceremonies.

With the assistance of the Jackson County government, the Commission will plan an induction ceremony that appropriately honors inductees and or their families. The Commission may decide to conduct this ceremony during Black History Month, or on Memorial Day, Martin Luther King's birthday, or on any other date the Commission may choose.

9505. Expiration Date, Extension.

The Commission shall cease to exist when one thousand (1000) names have been placed on the Freedom Memorial Wall unless the Legislature, by ordinance, authorizes its continuation. (Ord. 4632, Eff. 06/03/14)