



February 5th, 2014

Missouri Juvenile Justice Association
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Promoting Justice for Youth of Color



Justice Theodore McMillian, born on January 28th, 1919 in St. Louis, MO was a graduate of Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo, who then went on to obtain his law degree from St. Louis University School of Law. It wasn't long until he became the first African American judge of St. Louis in 1956. He served as a Juvenile Court Judge until he was elected to the Missouri Court of Appeals in 1972. Later, Justice McMillian was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to the Eighth U.S Circuit Court of Appeals

where he served until his passing on January 18th, 2006.

Justice McMillian was known as a very bright and intelligent man who stood for justice. He wrote landmark decisions on desegregation, free speech, employment discrimination, affirmative action and civil rights. Justice McMillian was the past president and founder of the Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club and served for a variety of civic organizations. Along with the many boards positions and affiliations he had been a part of, his impact

and concern for youth advancement and justice nominate him our weeks hero as a pioneer for juvenile justice.

Jeffrey E. Lewis, J.D., dean of the School of Law at SLU wrote of Justice McMillian quoting "that he did not want to be remembered for his accomplishments, but rather that he wished to be remembered by those to whom he gave a helping hand"

Today, MJJA continues efforts to promote justice for children, youth and families.

Work Cited

Theodore McMillian. (2014). Saint Louis University. Retrieved 12:29, February 1, 2014, from <http://www.slu.edu/readstory/more/6444>

Theodore McMillian. (2014). FuneralNet website. Retrieved 10:43, January 23, 2014, from http://www.memorialobituaries.com/memorials/memorials_print.cgi?memid=160975

"Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights and keep them. Our strength is our unity of purpose. To that high concept there can be no end save victory."

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

Join our Effort in DMC awareness, in your Community

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Did you Know?

- African American youth across Missouri are twice as likely to be referred to the juvenile office than Caucasian youth
- Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) is measured by [Relative Rate Index](#)
- There is a strong relationship between schools and the juvenile justice system [School-to-Prison Pipeline Video](#)

Black History Month

Teen Court of Peers in Missouri

As an alternative to a referral to the Juvenile Office, a parent is offered the option of sending their child to a trial by peers in school. School children have been selected and trained to be prosecuting and defense attorneys, and jury members. The offending child must agree to abide by the sentence handed down

by the jury of his peers. Sentences often include community service, apology letters and possibly future jury duty. Referrals to the Juvenile Office in one middle school have gone from 78 to 1 from the first semester of 2009 to the first semester of 2012 as a result of the implementation of Teen Court.

Check out

Article: [Hardin Middle School in St. Charles, Missouri.](#)

Video: [Hardin Middle School Teen Court](#)

[De-escalation training for teachers](#)

[Mentor Assignment in school for at-risk kids](#)