

NFOIC KNIGHT GRANT APPLICATION

Funding request is for: Project Sustainability

1. Name of Organization: **Missouri Sunshine Coalition**
2. Postal Address of Organization: **802 LOCUST ST
COLUMBIA, MO 65201**
3. Organization's Federal Tax Number/EIN: **26-4343749**
4. Name of Official Signatory for Organization: **Michael Sherry**
5. Phone Number of Contact for Organization: **913-341-8424**
6. Email Address of Contact for Organization: **nsherry@kc.rr.com**
7. Date of Funding Request: **March 15, 2010**
8. Amount of Request: **\$10,000.00**
9. **Please give a brief description (100 words or less) of your project and its objectives. What will be accomplished?**
Our objective is to ensure compliance with the Missouri Open Records Act. We will do that by highlighting noncompliance with the law and educating the public, among others, about their rights under the law and the importance of open government. We will also advocate for improvements to the open-records environment in Missouri.
10. **Please state how the funds will be used.**
The coalition's initial focus will be on conducting a statewide open-records audit. We will focus on county sheriff's offices because they have traditionally been some of the most noncompliant public officials in the state when it comes to open records. The audit will serve to highlight some of the most egregious violations of the Missouri Sunshine Law and highlight the everyday barriers citizens have to obtaining public information.
11. **Please provide, as Attachment A, an Invoice on your organization's official letterhead with the proposed budget for the project, activities to be included as part of the project, and a timetable for their completion of the project.**
 - a. The following statement must be included at the bottom of the invoice: *"I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the data above is correct, and that all outlays will be made in accordance with the grant agreement, and that payment is due and has not been previously requested."*
 - b. An official signature for the organization must be directly under the statement.
12. **List other funding or matching funds applied for by your organization for this project.**
None so far
13. **List other funding received by your organization for this project.**
None so far
14. **If this is an ongoing project, how was the project funded last year and how will the project be funded next year?**
N/A
15. **How will this project be publicized?**
Through the member papers of the Missouri Press Association and through public radio
16. **Please list previous funding the Organization has received from the National Freedom of Information Coalition.**
None. We are seeking start-up funding
17. **Please provide a list of the Organization's Board of Directors.**

Jim Robertson, president	Jack Whitaker, director	
Jo Sapp, vice president	Jean Buchanan, director	
Jean Maneke, secretary		
Mike Sherry, treasurer		
Randy Picht, director		

18. All funds received by the Organization must be used strictly in accordance with the proposal and budget submitted to the NFOIC. Any funds that are not expended must be returned to the NFOIC.
19. All recipients of funds from the NFOIC must report at specific times on the project.
20. If project funding is approved, the Organization will receive a NFOIC Knight Award Letter and a NFOIC Knight Grant Consulting Agreement form, which must be fully executed prior to payment being issued.
21. This Grant Application requires the following documents in PDF:
 - Attachment A: Invoice. See Item 11.
 - Attachment B: A copy of most recent IRS Letter determining the Organization's tax-exempt status.
 - Attachment C: A copy of the Organization's most recent Form 990. If the Organization has not yet filed a 990, please provide the most current financial statement.
 - Attachment D: A one-page Cover Letter that describes your project more fully and how results will be measured and/or how statistics will be gathered with regard to such things as the number of people impacted by the project.



Official Signature for Organization

02/27/10

Date

Please email your completed, signed NFOIC Knight Grant Application to meyersd@missouri.edu.



**802 Locust Street
Columbia, MO 65201
Phone 573-449-4167
www.missourisunshine.org**

ATTACHMENT A

INVOICE

--Sunshine Law programming (travel, food, facility rental, speaker travel, etc): \$4,000

(The coalition will hold several briefings around the state to inform citizens of their rights under the law, build membership, and introduce ourselves as a statewide resource. One key event will be a legislative kick-off prior to the opening of the Missouri General Assembly in January, which will be intended to draw pro-Sunshine Law lawmakers along with other open-government advocates.)

-- Marketing/membership materials (brochures, exhibit display, etc.): \$3,000

(The coalition will need promotional/information materials and displays to set up at its briefings and for appearances at other functions.)

--Open-records audit \$2,000

(In 2010, the coalition plans an open-records audit of sheriffs in all 114 counties. We will do this as cost-effectively as possible by making these requests via the phone or e-mail. We do, however, anticipate some travel costs in driving to some of these offices and some postal costs in following up with nonresponsive offices through certified letters.)

--Web site \$500

(Further design, development, and hosting of the Web site.)

--Office set up \$500

(Business cards, letter head, phone line, etc.)

Total \$10,000

The timetable for completing these tasks is June 2010-June 2011

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the data above is correct, and that all outlays will be made in accordance with the grant agreement, and that payment is due and has not been previously requested.

Name of Principal Investigator

Michael Sherry

Signature

Michael C. Sherry



802 Locust Street
Columbia, MO 65201
Phone 573-449-4167
www.missourisunshine.org

Financial Statement January 29, 2010

Credits March 2, 2009-January 29, 2010

Membership payments	\$1,110.00
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Total Credits = \$1,110.00

Debits March 2, 2009-January 29, 2010

Check Order	\$19.95
MPS Reimbursement for Reception	\$114.49
Rubber Stamp	\$15.73
Name Badges for Reception	\$9.66
AMEX (registration for 2 years)	\$146.54
United States Treasury (filing fee for 501c3 Status)	\$300.00

Total Debits = \$606.37

Balance as of January 29, 2010 = \$503.63

Attachment D

Charles Davis
Executive Director
National Freedom of Information Coalition
Missouri School of Journalism
101 Reynolds Journalism Institute
Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Charles:

The irony that Missouri – with its long ties to the coalition through the Missouri School of Journalism – didn't have an NFOIC chapter was not lost on those of us in the state's freedom of information community. We rectified that situation in December 2008 with the establishment of the Missouri Sunshine Coalition.

Since its formation, the coalition has held membership/awareness-raising events in Springfield and Columbia, where Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster was the keynote speaker. The coalition's main focus now is to continue building statewide awareness. To become a self-sustaining organization and extend our reach into all corners of the state, we need additional members (and dues) – both individuals and organizations.

Start-up funding from the NFOIC would help further those efforts by providing money for items like project-related travel, promotional materials, manpower, etc.

We intend in 2010 to conduct an open-records audit of the sheriff's offices in all of the state's 114 counties. We also plan to hold more informational meetings in parts of the state we have yet to visit.

Increased membership will be one key measure of success. We will also measure our results by the number of people we draw to our outreach events around the state. We will also strive to impact a large audience through statewide media coverage of the results of our audit.

In addition to using start-up funds for those activities, other projects include:

- Developing marketing materials: We would produce a brochure about the coalition that would include an application form. We would also create a display that could be set up at conventions of groups such as the Missouri Press Association, where we could attract individual members
- Developing a press kit to raise awareness of the Missouri Sunshine Coalition
- Enhancing our Web presence
- Sponsoring presentations by subject matter experts along the lines of the Sunshine Seminars offered by Florida First Amendment Foundation

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

AUG 05 2009

MISSOURI SUNSHINE COALITION INC
4435 MAIN ST STE 910
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

Employer Identification Number:
26-4343749
DLN:
17053154011019
Contact Person:
TODD COLE ID# 75901
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
December 03, 2008
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

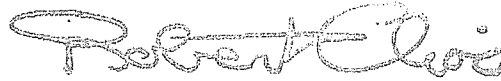
Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 947 (DO/CG)

RECD AUG 17 2009

MISSOURI SUNSHINE COALITION INC

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Choi". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Robert Choi
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Enclosures: Publication 4221-PC