

Fulton Sun

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Wilson to file for Callaway County prosecutor

By DON NORFLEET
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Asst. Prosecuting Attorney Christopher Wilson said Monday he intends to file for Callaway County prosecuting attorney.

Wilson, 41, has worked closely with Prosecuting Atty. Bob Sterner since 2006. Sterner announced recently he will not seek re-election but will be a candidate this November for Callaway County associate circuit judge to replace retiring judge Cary Augustine.

With extensive experience in criminal law, Wilson has prosecuted many cases in Callaway County and he serves as Sterner's first assistant prosecuting attorney. "Prosecution is what I have always wanted to do," Wilson said.

Wilson traced his career path back nearly 20 years when he was captivated by what prosecutors did.

A native of Mississippi, Wilson chose to live in Fulton and commute to Columbia when he had a job representing the juvenile office in Columbia.

The Wilsons moved to Mid-Missouri in 1997 when he became a lawyer in the 13th Judicial Circuit Family Court Services. He represented the juvenile office in matters involving juvenile crime and delinquency as well as child abuse and neglect.

The job with the circuit court allowed his family to return to Mid-Missouri and settle in Fulton, which they liked, and got him back into the area of law which he enjoys. His wife Kristie joined the faculty at St. Peter School in Fulton. They have one son, Ashton.

When Sterner offered him a job in 2006, he welcomed the change to do adult criminal prosecution and to work where he lived in Fulton rather than commute to and from Columbia.

Wilson continued to use his experience involving child victims when he went to work in the prosecuting attorney's office, handling child abuse and child sex abuse cases.



Wilson has secured indictments and convictions of dozens of drug dealers while working in the Callaway County prosecutor's office.

"I am proud to go to court representing the people of the State of Missouri and with Bob Sterner leaving office, I am ready to take the lead," Wilson said.

A graduate of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Wilson received his law degree from the University of Mississippi in 1996.

In addition to work with juvenile offenders, Wilson has worked as a public defender and practiced corporate law. Wilson now occupies four offices in Callaway County. In addition to assistant Callaway County prosecuting attorney, he also serves as the Fulton city prosecutor, the Auxvasse city prosecutor and the New Bloomfield Municipal Court judge.

Wilson has published articles on juvenile law and taught courses to law enforcement officers and other attorneys. He also has taught a class at **William Woods University** on juvenile and criminal law.

Active in civic affairs, Wilson is a member of the Fulton Breakfast Optimist Club, which finds him trackside at Cub Scout Pinewood Derbies.

He is a member of the Panther Athletic Booster Club and helps maintain the St. Peter gym floor. He also serves as a youth football and baseball coach for the YMCA and the City of Fulton Parks and Recreation Department.

Wilson has been a lawyer for more than 14 years. "My first job as an attorney was as an assistant public defender, so I have practiced within the criminal justice system from both sides," he said. "As Callaway County's elected prosecuting attorney, I would follow the special ethics that apply to prosecutors to seek justice for the community and crime victims while preserving the rights of the accused." Wilson, a Republican, has formed the Wilson for Prosecuting Attorney Committee with Tom Arms as treasurer.

Wilson will be on the April primary election ballot. If he wins or receives no opposition, he then will be on the November general election ballot.