

Kuckelman prepares for role as judge

(KAIR)--Atchison County Attorney Jerry Kuckelman is set to begin his new role as District Judge, possibly by the end of October.

According to information obtained from Kuckelman's office, the official notification of his appointment to serve the 1st District Court of Kansas has been received from the office of Governor Jeff Colyer. Now, Kuckelman awaits the necessary documents from the Secretary of State's Office to finalize the appointment.

Once those are received, Kuckelman will resign as Atchison County Attorney and begin serving as 1st District Judge, which could happen as early as October 29.

The appointment fills a vacancy created by the June retirement of Judge Gunnar Sundby.

According to Atchison County Counselor Patrick Henderson, an interim Atchison County Attorney will be appointed by 1st District Judges Martin Asher and Robert Bednar upon Kuckelman's formal resignation.

The Atchison County Republican Central Committee will later hold a convention to nominate someone to serve the remainder of Kuckelman's term, with the nominee to then be appointed by Colyer.

The Kansas 1st Judicial District is comprised of Atchison and Leavenworth Counties.

Kuckelman was chosen through a process overseen by the 1st Judicial District Nominating Commission, and was selected from among three other finalists for the position.