



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Aug. 18, 2026**

**Greene County Commission accepts Sheriff Arnott's resignation,  
appoints Captain Jason Johnson as Interim Sheriff**



*SPRINGFIELD, Mo.* – The Greene County Commission accepted the resignation of Sheriff Jim Arnott on Aug. 18 and appointed Captain Jason Johnson as Interim Sheriff of Greene County, completing a transition that began in March with Arnott's nomination to serve as the next U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Missouri.

Arnott was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on Friday, Aug. 7, and his appointment was signed by President Donald Trump shortly after, finalizing the federal process and clearing the way for him to assume the U.S. Marshal role. His resignation to the Commission is effective 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, concluding more than 37 years with the Greene County Sheriff's Office (GCSO), and nearly 18 years as its elected Sheriff. Arnott was first elected in November 2008 after serving in several positions with the GCSO and was re-elected in 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2024.



"I am honored to have had this opportunity to work with so many people throughout this portion of my career. I want to thank the Commission, County Offices, the Sheriff's Office, and our community, for an incredible time serving as your Sheriff," said Jim Arnott, outgoing Sheriff of Greene County. "I am excited for this next chapter and for the future of Greene County and it's Sheriff's Office."

"Sheriff Arnott has given this county nearly four decades of service, and Greene County is safer for it," said the Greene County Commission. "We congratulate him on this appointment and thank him for the professionalism

he brought to this transition. From the beginning, our commitment was to follow Missouri statute exactly as it is written, to be fully transparent with our citizens, and to ensure there was no gap in law enforcement leadership for a single day. That is what happened today. Captain Johnson steps into this role with the full support of the Commission, and the people of Greene County will have the final say at the ballot box in November."

Following acceptance of the resignation, the Commission appointed Cpt Johnson, a longtime member of the Sheriff's Office, to fill the vacancy. He will be sworn in by Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 18. Johnson was the only candidate to apply during the selection process window that closed April 15. His certifications meet all Missouri statutory requirements. He will serve as Interim Sheriff until midnight, Dec. 31, 2026.



“I am honored to have been appointed Interim Sheriff of Greene County. My immediate priority is ensuring a smooth transition. I look forward to working as Sheriff, with the outstanding men and women of the Greene County Sheriff’s Office,” said Jason Johnson, Interim Sheriff of Greene County.

## **Election process**

Because the vacancy occurred after the close of the regular primary filing window and on or before Aug. 25, the sheriff’s race will appear on the Nov. 3, 2026 general election ballot, and no special election is required.

Under RSMo § 115.363, each political party’s county committee will convene to select its nominee, and those nominees will be placed directly on the November general election ballot. Independent candidates may also seek placement on the ballot through the petition process provided by law.

The candidate elected in November will take office Jan. 1, 2027, and serve the remainder of the unexpired term through Dec. 31, 2028.

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*Greene County is the State of Missouri’s fourth most populous county, serving approximately 308,000 people. Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.*

**For additional information contact the Greene County Commission’s Public Information Office at 417-844-4311 or [pio@greencountymo.gov](mailto:pio@greencountymo.gov). Or contact the GCSO Public Information Officer, Jonah Beadles at 417-829-6393 or [jbeadles@greencountymo.gov](mailto:jbeadles@greencountymo.gov).**