

## **For Immediate Release: Tuesday Lewis Reed Announces Campaign To Run For City Aldermanic President In the March 6, Democratic Primary**

**Mike McMillan and Beverly Buchheit-Named Co-Chairs**

**“Re-Building One St. Louis”**

Lewis Reed, a long-time resident of the Compton Heights neighborhood and alderman of the 6<sup>th</sup> ward officially announced today is intentions to run in the March 6, Democratic Primary as Aldermanic President. Reed is nearing his eighth year as an alderman, representing parts of the downtown business and loft district, including parts of residential Southside.

In making his announcement Reed said, “It’s time to make a change as to who is should be seated in the next four years in the Aldermanic President’s chair. The economic growth of our city indicates that a successful team approach works better in the re-building of **one** St. Louis. The next Aldermanic President must represent all of the people and all of the interests which will help lay a deep structural foundation that we and our kids can build on. St. Louis is a great City, and it has many challenges. However, we must deal with those challenges in a progressive, professional and constructive manner. The days of old-fashion politics is hurtful to the growth of the city. We must also include diversity of thought in the fiscal viability and quality of life which face us daily. I believe my candidacy brings a sense of pride, value and business acumen to the Aldermanic Presidency’s office.”

As the campaign moves forward with its fundraising efforts, Reed said that he and supporters are planning various community-outreach initiatives, city-wide. This will give the average citizen a chance to provide input, as well as volunteer for the campaign. The Reed for Aldermanic President Committee also will soon request that those planning to run for the seat sign, a Conduct Code of Ethics commitment. The commitment will keep the campaigns strictly on issues relevant to the individuals’ respective platforms and political records and they would avoid personal attacks, etc.

“The recent response from the public to the general election clearly indicated what happens when negative campaigning occurs in political leadership,” Reed said.

The Lewis Reed for Aldermanic President Committee also announced the appointment of Alderman Mike McMillan, license collector-elect and 6<sup>th</sup> ward committeewoman Beverly Buchheit, as co-chairs of this democratic campaign.

“This Aldermanic position is more critical than ever as we rebuild this City,” said 15<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderwoman Jennifer Florida, who is endorsing Reed’s candidacy. “It has to be **one** St. Louis, coming together and colleague Reed has demonstrated the vision and leadership to move us forward.”

Reed is a strong proponent of jobs, reinvestment and rebuilding. He continues to work in his district with some area developers to expand the housing market, adding jobs, hundreds of new housing units throughout the 6<sup>th</sup> ward and millions of dollars, including the expansion of an ever-expanding business district — new retail shops and restaurants.

“I’ve had the opportunity of working with Alderman Reed, and witnessed his tenacious drive to help move St. Louis forward,” said Alderwoman Dionne Flowers, who is also endorsing Reed’s candidacy. “His endless energy is readily accepted by many of his ward constitutes, colleagues, and others who have city-wide interests.”

**Lewis Reed**, is a native of Joliet, Illinois and majored in Mathematics and Computer Science at Southern Illinois University. Reed, who believes in giving back to the community, served as the chairman of the St. Louis Port Authority. Reed gained experience in overseeing riverfront property lease agreements, and riverboat gaming tax revenues. As a member of the board of directors of the St. Louis Development Corporation, Reed was able to aid in strengthening the city’s business development and minority business certification compliances. When Reed served as vice-chair of the Aldermanic Ways & Means committee he was able to provide input into the City’s \$700 million annual budget. As a member of the Aldermanic Public Utilities committee, Reed sponsored a very expansive technology bill.

Alderman Reed drafted and helped pass into law a Technology Bill, reorganizing all St. Louis City technology departments, decreasing cost and increasing efficiency. He also sponsored and aided in the passage of the first Community Improvement District (CID) in St. Louis with assessed properties value of over \$334 million and raising millions of dollars for numerous initiatives to rebuild and market downtown. Reed drafted and worked on the successful passage of the City’s first neighborhood based TIF in raising almost \$8 million to support neighborhood development plans. A strong proponent of promoting good health and supporter of the City’s scenic attributes, along with five other Alderpersons, Reed aided in co-founding, “Bike St. Louis,” which received over \$1.1 million in grants. “Bike St. Louis,” establish Bike routes connecting Forest Park to the Riverfront and various other parks and points of interests throughout the city.

Reed considered by many of his colleagues as soft-spoken, but focused and effective used his business acumen when addressing agenda items as a board member of Downtown Now and Downtown Partnership.

Reed, also served as a member of the Regional Justice Information Systems (REGIS) board of directors. He served as vice president of the 6th Ward Democratic organization.

Prior to being elected an alderman, he worked as the director of networks and telecommunications for the Edison Brothers Stores worldwide operations. Reed managed staff and renegotiated multi-million dollar worldwide contracts reducing cost and increasing production Also Reed served as the manager of data networks for SSM Health Businesses, a billion dollar plus, health care organization, consisting of 24 acute care facilities and over a 100 physicians clinics Reed developed technology solutions to meet business goals. These technology solutions were regularly covered in the local print press, and trade marketing publications.

The Lewis Reed for Aldermanic President Committee was recently formed and a this past weekend it opened its campaign headquarters, at 415 North Tucker.

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