

LETTER OF SUPPORT

From the Chairman of the Board, Show Me Christian County

To the Christian County Commission

December 1, 2025

Commissioners,

As Chairman of the Board for Show Me Christian County, I respectfully submit this letter for inclusion in your meeting packet as you consider ongoing support for countywide economic development.

Show Me Christian County serves as the economic development organization for Christian County, working every day to attract and retain businesses, support existing employers, strengthen workforce pipelines, promote site readiness, and coordinate with state and regional partners. Our mission is to position Christian County as a competitive and opportunity-ready community—one that can respond quickly to prospects, support growth, and ensure the long-term economic health of our cities and rural areas alike.

Across Missouri and the broader region, counties of our size and growth trajectory invest heavily in economic development. Peer counties within the Springfield metropolitan area and surrounding regions have formal funding commitments, enhanced business-development capacity, and unified countywide strategies. These investments are now standard expectations within the economic development landscape; they determine whether a county is prepared to compete for jobs, capital investment, and quality-of-life opportunities.

Christian County's continued participation in this work is essential. The county is fast-growing, strategically located, and part of a competitive region. Our ability to match the investment levels of our peers directly impacts the opportunities available to our residents and businesses. County support is not simply financial—it is a signal to employers, site selectors, and regional partners that Christian County is aligned, forward-focused, and committed to responsible growth.

Sustained and meaningful county investment allows Show Me Christian County to:

- Respond quickly to business recruitment and expansion inquiries
- Advance key site and infrastructure development conversations
- Support existing industries, workforce initiatives, and regional collaboration
- Maintain a consistent message and unified strategy for the county
- Strengthen our competitive position within the Springfield-Branson region and beyond

On behalf of the Board, I appreciate the Commission's partnership to date and strongly encourage continued investment in countywide economic development at a level that

reflects both the opportunities ahead and the expectations placed on us as a regional economic leader.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to shaping the economic future of Christian County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Devin Sonnenfelt". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "D" and a trailing flourish.

Devin Sonnenfelt

Chairman of the Board

Show Me Christian County