

From the Desk of Vernon J. Fields  
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April 13, 2017

I would like to introduce myself.

My name is Vernon J. Fields and on February 14, 2017, I entered the race as a candidate for the United States House of Representative for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District of Kansas.



While I am not a native Kansan, my family roots and ties can easily be traced to this great State and specifically, this Congressional District. My grandmother was born and raised in Paola, Kansas and my father spent most of his formative years in the Argentine area of Kansas City. Upon my relocation from Colorado to Kansas (in 2000) as an employee of the United States Department of Justice (Federal Bureau of Prisons), I felt this was the best move of my Bureau career. I have made Basehor, Kansas my permanent home since 2000.

Service has been a major part of my life to include proudly serving in the United States Army, working as a Registered Nurse and as an elected official for the City of Basehor.

In addition to serving the City of Basehor, I also serve on various local, county and regional governmental committees by representing and advocating for the needs of the citizens in the region. Briefly, on a county level, I am actively involved in representing Basehor on the Leavenworth County Development Corporation (LCDC), Leavenworth County Port Authority (LCPA) and the Leavenworth County Infrastructure Committee.

On a wider regional level, I am an alternate voting member representing Leavenworth County on the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors, which consists of 33 locally elected leaders from the nine member counties and the six largest cities in the Kansas City region. I am also a voting member of the Surface Transportation Program (STP) a Regional Transportation Committee (MARC), which focuses on how federal funds are used in the MARC region (Eastern Kansas).

Finally, on a larger (state) level, I have worked with elected State officials, various Chambers of Commerce, and other municipalities on economic development initiatives that focus on stimulating economic development growth and addressing infrastructure issues for communities within this region.

I have a strong commitment to helping individuals become as successful as possible, and I know success and achievements can be challenging. However, I also believe in taking pro-social steps that are grounded in removing, decreasing and eliminating barriers by becoming individually committed to becoming successful. Due to my belief in education, I chose to make an investment in my education by earning an Associate, Bachelor, Master's degrees and finally a Ph.D. in Human Services with a focus on Criminal Justice.

I am entering this race for Congress because I believe the citizens of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District will benefit from a representative that will resolutely and unambiguously address their concerns and issues in the United States Congress. As a criminologist, veteran, educator and Registered Nurse, I have positioned myself to be able to articulate and actively address quality of life issues and concerns. Our quality of life problems and concerns are intrinsically linked to our safety (such as health care, economic growth, and other opportunities) and security (such as law enforcement, crime prevention, homeland security, terrorism, etc.), which are concerns of all citizens of this District and our Great Country.

While my name may be known in and around Leavenworth County, I believe I can effectively represent and serve the citizens of this congressional district with the same focus, commitment and determination that is fundamentally grounded in my faith in humanity, supporting the sanctity of life, encouraging personal responsibility, limiting government, and in support of our State and Federal Constitutions.

I will officially announce my candidacy in June 2017. Just prior to the official announcement, I will activate my campaign web page, Facebook and other social media platforms that will be used in the campaign.

If you would like to meet with me (before or after the official announcement) to further discuss my commitment and candidacy, please feel free to contact my Campaign Chair, Jon Gallion at (913) 724-1845 or [jon@vernonjfields.com](mailto:jon@vernonjfields.com). In addition to Jon, please feel free to reach out to me at (800) 401-2395 or at [vernon@vernonjfields.com](mailto:vernon@vernonjfields.com).

I ask you for your support as I enter the race as a candidate in this important race for the future of our great District and Country.

Thank you,

Vernon J. Fields  
Basehor, Kansas