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## **Danna McKitrick Succeeds in Precedent-Setting Decision on Disabled Parking Placards**

### **STATE OF MISSOURI MUST STOP CHARGING PARKING ACCOMMODATION FEES**

St. Louis, MO – October 11, 2006 – Danna McKitrick attorney Fred Switzer, was lead counsel for plaintiffs in a successful class action suit against the State of Missouri. The suit (*Charlotte Klingler, et al. v. Director of Revenue, State of Missouri*) alleged the State of Missouri violated the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), by charging an annual fee for the use of permanent removable windshield placards that allow the disabled to park in reserved spaces.

The suit filed in 1996 was vigorously opposed by Missouri. In 1998, the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri granted the plaintiffs' request for declaratory and injunctive relief prohibiting Missouri from charging a fee for the placard. The State appealed.

A lengthy battle (over ten years) involved three appeals, one of which went to the United States Supreme Court. Final Judgment for the plaintiffs was entered on September 28, 2006, and Missouri is now permanently enjoined from charging a fee for the placard.

"The ADA is pretty clear there cannot be a charge for providing an accommodation to a disabled individual," said Switzer. "No matter how small that charge may be."

An experienced principal in Danna McKitrick's litigation practice, the case joins Switzer's long list of achievements resolving complex legal and business problems. Resolution doesn't always mean court, thus Switzer often applies alternative methods of dispute resolution—he is qualified as a neutral in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program in several Missouri courts and serves on the Missouri Supreme Court Rule 17 Mediation Panel. Switzer earned his LL.M. in Taxation and J.D. from Washington University School of Law and his B.A., *cum laude*, from University of Notre Dame.

**About Danna McKitrick:** Located in Clayton, Missouri, Danna McKitrick, P.C. is a 50 person firm delivering outstanding legal representation to businesses (emerging to national), insurers, and individuals in the Midwestern region. The firm has long-standing local roots serving local businesses as well as providing regional representation for major corporations. The firm is on the Web at [www.dannamckitrick.com](http://www.dannamckitrick.com).

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