



MEDIA ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2021

Nikylan Knapper Wins Race to become First Black Mayor of Maplewood, MO
Knapper defeats incumbent by margin of 16 points.

SAINT LOUIS, Missouri. – April 7, 2021 - Federal Administrative Judge and Maplewood Richmond Heights (MRH) School Board Director, Nikylan Knapper, unseated the incumbent to become the city of Maplewood's first African American Mayor.

"I am excited to serve my entire community and I thank the people of Maplewood for electing me as the first African American Mayor of our great city. We made history and it would not have been possible without the phenomenal support from our community." said Knapper "I am ready to eradicate inequities within our community and find innovative solutions to support our residents and our local businesses."

Knapper is a public servant and has dedicated the past 15 years of her life to serving both in her professional career and in her personal life. She has experience in public defense, legal aid, labor rights, and as a federal administrative judge. As a Board of Education Director, she worked together with her school board colleagues to draft and implement the first educational equity policy in the state, which firmly positions the MRH School District as leaders in educational equity.

Knapper's vision for Maplewood is one of belonging for all in the community including renters, home owners, and business owners. Her approach will be innovative and focus on equity, inclusion, housing affordability, strengthening small businesses, public safety, and transparency.

On April 6 2021, supported by a grassroots people-powered campaign - Knapper won the election for Mayor of Maplewood Missouri with 58% of the vote and defeated incumbent, 66 year old architect Barry Greenberg, by an impressive 16-point margin (366 votes). Knapper's win was due in part to the numerous endorsements she received from Maplewood City Council representatives and the Professional Firefighters of Eastern Missouri, IAFF Local 2665 and the Maplewood Professional Firefighters Association.

About Nikylan Knapper

Nikylan Knapper is an attorney, federal administrative judge, Maplewood Richmond Heights School Board Member, volunteer, and mother. She is a proactive leader with extensive experience in building and implementing equitable policies. The priorities she has for Maplewood are: access, transparency, inclusion & communication, strength in the Maplewood business community, housing affordability, and public safety. Mrs. Knapper lives in the heart of Maplewood with her husband Sam and their three young children. To learn more and connect with Nikylan, visit nikylan.com

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