

Making a Better Community

You may have seen Chris Hesse's name mentioned in the business press in relationship to negotiating collective bargaining agreements between municipalities and their police and fire departments. As a founding member and managing partner at Hesse Martone, P.C., Chris practices in the areas of labor and employment law, employment litigation, and international employment. Chris' clients include small and large corporations, partnerships, municipalities, police and fire departments, and not-for-profit organizations.

One not-for-profit that has benefitted greatly from Chris' pro-bono legal services is Covenant House/CHAI Apartments. "Most small to mid-size non-profits can't afford the luxury of an HR department," commented Covenant/CHAI's Executive Director, Joan Denison. "Chris helps to ensure that we always follow good human resource practices. He provides us with excellent counsel, and despite his busy schedule, he makes himself available to us whenever we need him. We feel very fortunate that Chris chooses to benefit our organization with his expertise."

Chris' volunteer and community work extends beyond Covenant/CHAI. Chris is a Civilian Board Member and Chief Legal Advisor (Missouri) for the Major Case Squad and acts as General Counsel for the Missouri Police Chiefs Association. Chris is also an Instructor and Adjunct Professor at the Missouri Police Chiefs Charitable Foundation (MPCCF) Command College for Law Enforcement and works with the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs Association (SLAPCA). Chris currently serves on the Board of Directors and the Subcommittee on Human Resources for the YMCA of Greater St. Louis. He is General Counsel for World Aquarium and Program Director for Apex Response Training. Chris previously served on



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the Leadership Board for the St. Louis Science Center, St. Louis Aquacenter, Inc., and a local workshop for individuals with special needs in St. Louis. Chris is also a supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project, Navy Seal Foundation, and the Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial for Fallen Officers.

In addition to his non-profit work, Chris is a Tactical Instructor in both armed and unarmed conflict. He is P.O.S.T. Certified in Missouri for Law Enforcement Tactical Instruction. He is also certified by the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services as a Tactical Instructor and Program Director for Paramedics, Firefighters and First Responders.

A partner in a successful legal practice, a trainer, and a devoted father with a commitment to improve his community, Chris Hesse embodies the expression: "If you want to get something done, give it to a busy person." Covenant/CHAI's Executive Director, Joan Denison, said, "Our board and staff salute Chris as an unsung hero and long time ally in our mission of providing affordable senior housing in a vibrant, safe and supportive community guided by Jewish values. Chris is a fine example of the many talented and dedicated volunteers and supporters who benefit Covenant/CHAI."

** This Column was provided and supported by Covenant House/CHAI Apartments.*