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# Trump fills federal bench in Kansas

**Jason Alatidd**  
Topeka Capital-Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

All six spots on the federal bench in Kansas are now filled with district court judges appointed by President Donald Trump.

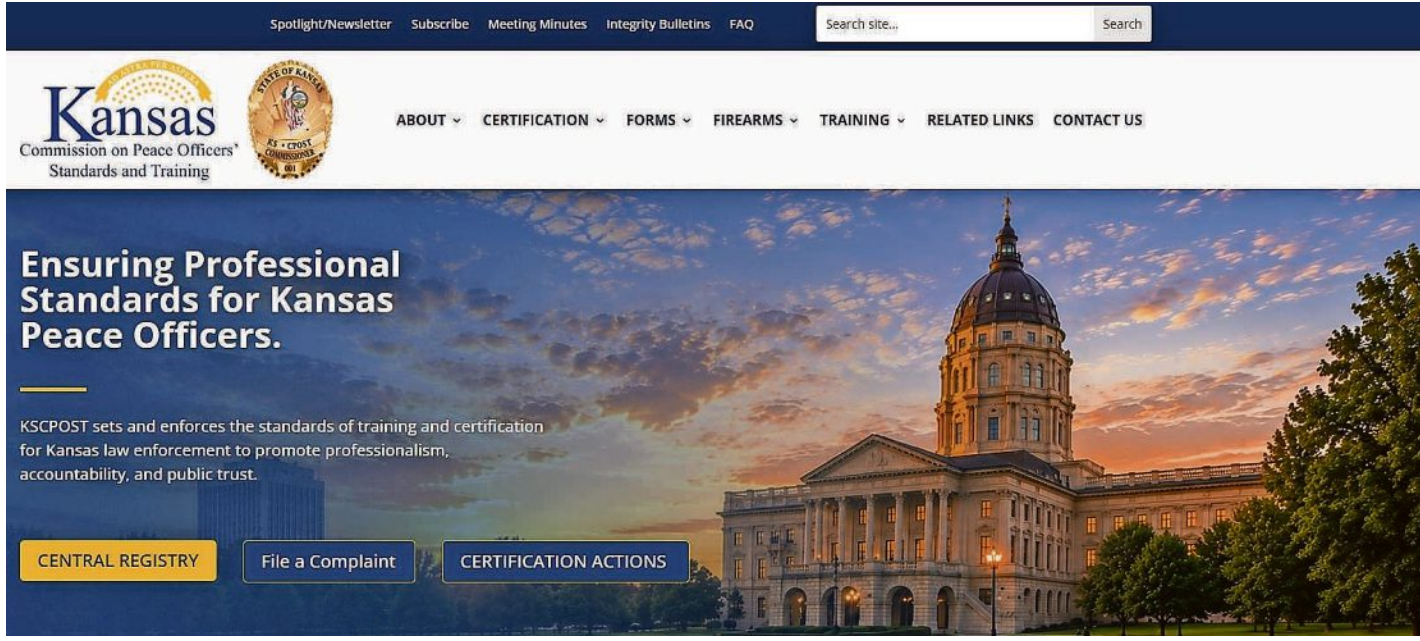
Republicans in the U.S. Senate on June 10 confirmed Tony Powell's nomination. Senators previously confirmed Tony Mattivi and Jeffrey Kuhlman. All three were confirmed in party-line votes and will be district judges for the U.S. District Court in Kansas, which are lifetime appointments. The three

Kansans still have to take their oaths and receive their judicial commissions. University of Richmond law professor Carl Tobias, who is an expert on federal judicial selection, said it is "interesting that all six active judges have

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**Kansas solicitor general Anthony Powell, who previously served as a state appellate court judge, will be a federal judge.**  
EVERT NELSON/THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL



This screenshot taken June 2 of the website for the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training shows what appears to be an AI-generated image of the Statehouse in Topeka. SCREENCAPTURE OF KSCPOST.GOV

# Fake AI image ended up on a state website

**Jason Alatidd**  
Topeka Capital-Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A state government agency tasked with promoting public trust in law enforcement used a fake image of the Kansas Statehouse for its website. The Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training website, kscpost.gov, had been using an image of the Capitol building in Topeka that appeared to have been generated by artificial intelligence. The image was placed on the website by an IT vendor based in Missouri's capital city and was removed after The Capital-Journal asked about it.

**Can you tell it's fake?**

The image features at least two prominent inaccuracies, though more observant viewers can find other tells. The real Capitol building in Topeka has a dome adorned with the Ad Astra statue. The image on the KSCPOST website has a shape that looks more like a weather vane instead of a Native American warrior arching a bow and arrow toward the stars. The real Statehouse also has massive steps on each wing creating entrances to the second floor. The wing shown in the KSCPOST image lacks such steps and instead has funky-looking arches.

**KSCPOST leader didn't know Statehouse image was inaccurate**

Mike Brown, the KSCPOST executive director, told The Capital-Journal he wasn't aware the agency's image was inaccurate "until you pointed it out." But he doesn't know whether the image was generated by AI. "I am not certain," Brown said in an email. "Our website vendor is the one who used the image on our website." The government agency's office is in Kechi, a suburb of Wichita. The role of KSCPOST is to establish and enforce

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# Kansans seeking clemency include killer of 4

**Tim Hrenchir**  
Topeka Capital-Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Lauren Kahler, 16, played bass guitar in a rock band, and also played tennis. Emily Kahler, 18, was a freshman studying at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Karen Kahler, 44, was a mother and homemaker. Dorothy Wight, 89, was Karen Kahler's grandmother. Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach shared that information about those four victims, all murdered in 2009 by James Kraig Kahler, during a news release last week in which he asked Gov. Laura Kelly to deny requests made by James Kraig Kahler and seven other Kansas death row inmates seeking clemency. Kobach also addressed the topic during a news conference. "As the maxim holds: mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent," Kobach said. "The victims and their families deserve justice."

**Eight death row murderers sought clemency last month**

Kobach said eight of the nine convicted murderers facing death

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