

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Latrell S. Germany, Trustee for the)	
Germany Family Trust,)	
Complainant)	
v.)	<u>File No. GC-2026-0278</u>
)	
Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire,)	
)	
Respondent)	

NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY AND ORDER DIRECTING CLARIFICATION

Issue Date: April 17, 2026

Effective Date: April 17, 2026

On April 17, 2026, Latrell Germany, Trustee of the Germany Family Trust, filed a complaint with the Commission against Spire Missouri, Inc. d/b/a Spire; Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri; the St. Louis City Water Division; and the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District. The complaint is by “Latrell Shonta Germany Trustee/Authorized Representative, Germany Family Trust”

Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.040(5), specifically addressing practice before the Commission, states:

A natural person may represent himself or herself. Such practice is strictly limited to the appearance of a natural person on his or her own behalf and shall not be made for any other person or entity.

The basis for these Commission Rules is found in Sections 484.010 and 484.020,

RSMo. Section 484.010, RSMo, defines the practice of law as:

the appearance as an advocate in a representative capacity or the drawing of papers, pleadings or documents or the performance of any act in such capacity in connection with proceedings pending or prospective before any court of record, commissioner, referee or any body, board, committee or commission constituted by law or having authority to settle controversies.

Section 484.020, RSMo, restricts the practice of law and engagement in law business to licensed attorneys.¹

Under Missouri law a trust must be represented by an attorney. “A statutory entity such as a trust or corporation must appear in court through counsel, and, while an individual property owner may appear *pro se*, a trustee cannot.”² A non-attorney representing a trust would amount to the unauthorized practice of law, which is forbidden under Missouri Law.

Germany has not indicated that he is an attorney licensed in the state of Missouri. Therefore, the complaint is deficient because of the lack of representation as evidenced by the lack of a signature by an attorney authorized to practice law in Missouri.

Further, the complaint includes complaints against the St. Louis City Water Division, and the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, which are municipal utilities not under the Commission’s jurisdiction for billing complaints.

The Commission shall take no further action in this matter until such time as Germany clarifies whether he is attempting to represent the trust or is acting as a private individual on his own behalf as a utility customer.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than April 24, 2026, Germany shall file a pleading clarifying whether he is acting on behalf of the Germany Family Trust or as a private individual and utility customer.

¹ *Reed v. Labor and Indus. Relations Com'n*, 789 S.W.2d 19, 21 (Mo. banc 1990).

² *Collison v. Dir. of Revenue*, 621 S.W.3d 165, 168 (Mo. banc 2021).

2. This order is effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

John T. Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

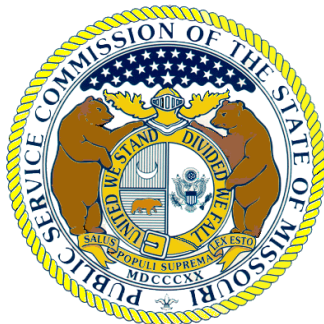
Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 17th day of April, 2026.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 17th day of April 2026.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

April 17, 2026

Case No: GC-2026-0278

MO PSC Staff

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Spire

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).¹

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
Secretary**

¹

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.