

## PRESS RELEASE

### SURVEY SHOWS FIFTY-TWO PERCENT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY CITIZENS AND SEVENTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY BUSINESSES IN FAVOR OF CHARTER

A survey which was conducted at no cost to the Jefferson County Charter Commission and provided to the Commission by Jefferson College indicated that fifty-two percent of the citizens of Jefferson County were already in favor of home rule or charter government while only twenty-one percent were opposed. The survey was conducted in December of 2003 by Focus St. Louis. The Commission discussed the importance of educating the public regarding the charter, particularly a large group of twenty-six percent that had no opinion.

The survey contained overall samples based on education level, age, gender and location within the county. The poll elicited information of the opinion as to the overall performance of Jefferson County government and the question was posed to Jefferson County citizens as to whether they favored or opposed Jefferson County adopting its own home rule charter. Seventeen percent strongly favored a charter form of government, thirty-five percent were somewhat in favor of a charter form of government, fourteen percent somewhat opposed a charter form of government, seven percent strongly opposed a charter form of government and twenty-six percent had no opinion.

Commission members were optimistic about the results of the survey showing fifty-two percent of the citizens of Jefferson County were already in favor of home rule or charter government, while only twenty-one percent were opposed.

The Commission also will be sponsoring a web site at [www.jeffcocharter.org](http://www.jeffcocharter.org). It is being provided at no cost and will be available soon.