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Missouri State Auditor Dies

(AP/MS News)-Missouri Auditor Tom Schweich (shywk), a Republican candidate for governor, has died.

According to his office, the 54-year-old Schweich died Thursday.

The St. Louis Post Dispatch reports that Schweich suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Earlier reports indicated that he was taken to the hospital after what his staff described as a "medical situation" at his home in the St. Louis suburb of Clayton.

Schweich had served as state auditor since January 2011 and won re-election to a second, four-year term in November. He announced last month that he was seeking the GOP nomination for governor in 2016..

Before entering politics, Schweich worked as a private-sector attorney and for the federal government.

He served as chief of staff to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and later worked in the State Department, where he was assigned to coordinate an anti-drug initiative in Afghanistan.

Associated Press/Many Signals Communications