



From Courtroom to Community: Understanding Criminal Justice and Social Support in Kansas City

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 • 12:00 – 12:50 pm

Live via Zoom

Credit: Missouri – 1.0 ethics/elimination of bias / Kansas – pending

Cost: KCMBA Member – FREE / Non-Member – \$100

DESCRIPTION

This program provides attorneys with a comprehensive overview of the criminal justice system in Kansas City and Missouri, tracing the path of a defendant from arrest through sentencing, probation, and parole, and examining the practical realities of pre-trial detention, plea negotiation, and community supervision. The program then addresses the primary barriers individuals face upon re-entry into the community, including housing instability, employment discrimination, and gaps in addiction and mental health treatment, along with the local programs and resources available to address them. Finally, the program explores systemic inequities within the justice system, including racial disparities in policing, sentencing, and public defense resources, and the disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations such as women, youth, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Attendees will leave with a working knowledge of the criminal justice system's structure in Jackson County and Missouri, an understanding of the collateral consequences that follow a criminal conviction, and practical awareness of local re-entry resources relevant to advising clients and engaging in community service.

SCHEDULE

12:00 PM Program

12:50 PM Adjourn

SPEAKERS

Amanda C. Swysgood, Swysgood Law Center

*Course materials will be sent via email.

ZOOM ACCESS LINK WILL BE SENT UPON REGISTRATION

4 WAYS TO PRE-REGISTER:

1. **Online** at kcmba.org
2. **Mail** completed registration form with payment to KCMBA, 2300 Main St., Suite 100, Kansas City, MO 64108.
3. **Fax** (816) 474-0103
4. **Phone** (816) 474-4322

Parking is available in the parking garage and will be validated at the event. Visit [KCMBA's website](https://kcmba.org) for directions and a map.

Cancellations received 48 hours or more prior to the start of an event may receive a refund minus a \$25 processing fee, or a credit voucher in the full amount of the fees paid which will be valid for one year from the date of the event.

Substitutions for paid registrations are accepted. Credit vouchers are transferable.

No shows will not receive a refund or credit voucher. A request for refund due to emergency or hardship must be received in writing no more than 30 days after the event date.

Special accommodations may be made by contacting KCMBA at (816) 474-4322 prior to the program date.

KCMBA.org