



Lauren Perkins Allen
2021 Gala Chair

2021 Liberty & Justice Gala

Last year, current KCMBF President, Jill Katz concluded her article for the Liberty & Justice Campaign by writing: “Stay well and we will see you at the 2021 Liberty & Justice Gala.” On behalf of the KCMBF Board of Directors, we are honored to extend an invitation to you to attend this year’s Liberty & Justice Gala. We are back!

We are looking forward to this annual fall event as an opportunity to come together once again in person and enjoy one another’s company. The Gala will occur on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at The Abbott located at 1901 Cherry Street in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. The planning for this year’s event is well underway as the Sponsorship Committee led by Scott Bethune and Meghan Litecky and the Auction Committee headed by Ron Nguyen and Anna Berman are conducting meetings. We are also pleased to announce that Nate Orr has agreed to emcee the live auction.

Planning this year’s Gala has taken many turns from wondering if we would be in a position to actually have the event due to COVID-19 to how to approach the fact that our Gala date coincides with the 20th anniversary of 9/11. KCMBF’s Gala falls on our national holiday of Patriot Day. With this in mind, our focus will be on recognizing those who serve our country and communities instead of giving an individual award.

As we come together, let us remember the need for our Legal Connection programs of Military Matters, the Student Law Academy and Domestic Violence Alliance and meeting those needs in the Greater Kansas City community.

Our nationally-recognized Military Matters program continues to match military service members and veterans with local attorneys who volunteer their time on a variety of legal issues. Since the inception of the program, Military Matters has received 1,334 referral requests with over 7,000 pro bono volunteer hours dedicated by local attorneys at an estimated value of \$1,424,040.00.

The Student Law Academy continues to thrive. Created in 2019 in partnership with local education non-profit organization PREP-KC, SLA serves as a future pipeline to diversify Kansas City’s legal community. This year’s SLA kicked off on June 1 allowing the Scholars to interact with legal professionals and mentors while hearing from over 65 speakers. The 2021 SLA Graduation took place on June 25th with remarks by Kansas City, Missouri Mayor Quinton Lucas and keynote address by then incoming Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri, the Honorable Paul C. Wilson. The overwhelming sentiment of the 2021 SLA graduates was that they want to go into the legal profession to help others.

KCMBF is a long-standing advocate for domestic violence survivors. Our Domestic Violence Alliance is an annual day-long seminar connecting legal, social service, medical and law enforcement agencies across the Kansas City Metropolitan area who support victims and work to prevent domestic violence. The 24th Annual Domestic Violence Alliance Seminar will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021. The seminar has covered topics from the early collection of evidence needed for sexual assault cases through the trial process as well as the support services along the path to justice for domestic violence survivors.

Please join us at KCMBF’s Gala on September 11, 2021 to reflect on all of the good works our organization provides to others in the community and connect with friends and colleagues once again. Your support and presence are appreciated.■

KCMBF

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Military Matters Pro Bono Spotlight



Michael R. Thiessen

Michael R. Thiessen of Lewis Rice LLC is this month’s honoree of the Military Matters Spotlight, a monthly recognition to distinguish the great work performed by the

hundreds of pro bono volunteer attorneys within the Military Matters network. Please go to the KCMBF Facebook page to learn more about Michael’s service to Military Matters.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE FOUNDATION?

Contact: Sharra Wagner,
Foundation Director
swagner@kcmbf.org



The Abbott



Scan here for the Gala Sponsorship/Registration Form



Scan here for the Gala Auction Donation Form

Apply for the 2022 KCMBF Board of Directors



KCMBF is now accepting applications for positions on the 2022 KCMBF Board of Directors.

Apply at kcmbf.org by September 18.