

KCMBF

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Social Media Campaign 2021 Philly Award Submission

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation Volunteer Appreciation Week Social Media Campaign

The following pages include the social media posts made public on Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation's (KCMBF) Facebook and Instagram accounts between the dates of April 14 and April 25, 2021.

The following hashtags were used consistently through the week with relevant posts:

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF
#MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity #DVA #DomesticViolenceAlliance
#DomesticViolence #SLA #SLA2021 #YouCanBeALawyer

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Volunteer Appreciation Week Approaches!

Wednesday, April 14

Stay tuned for National Volunteer Appreciation Week, coming up next week April 18 – 24! We are excited to be highlighting 14 randomly selected volunteers out of the hundreds who make our programs at KCMBF possible. We couldn't do it without them!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Appreciation Week Begins!

Sunday, April 18

It's National Volunteer Appreciation Week! We plan to spend the next 7 days showcasing our wonderful volunteers who work with KCMBF, giving back to the Kansas City community through our three Legal Connection programs.

To our volunteers, none of this would be possible without YOU! We are so grateful for your time, expertise, and dedication to supporting the Kansas City community.

Stay tuned for more throughout the week!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Volunteer Post 1

Sunday, April 18

Welcome to National Volunteer Appreciation Week, and our first Volunteer of the Day highlight! KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. We are excited to showcase Jennifer B. Wieland who has been working with KCMBF's Military Matters program since 2017.

"I volunteer with Military Matters because I enjoy working with veterans and helping them with legal issues. Helping a veteran find a solution when they feel like they are in a situation with no options is very rewarding, personally and professionally. As a (now 16-year) transplant to the Kansas City area, supporting this community that has given so much to me and my family is a high priority. The people of Kansas City are the best!"

Jennifer is a partner at Berkowitz Oliver LLP. A graduate of the University of Virginia, she handles complex civil litigation matters for businesses and individual clients. Her practice is primarily in federal court, where she focuses on commercial disputes and employment and intellectual property matters.

Thank you, Jennifer, for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 2

Sunday, April 18

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. For our second Volunteer of the Day highlight, please help us in thanking Andrew S. LeRoy who has been volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program since 2020!

"Helping veterans with their legal problems is the least I can do to thank them for their service. I have found that veterans come from all walks of life, all classes and all neighbors in Kansas City. By helping the veterans thrive, I know that each neighborhood is improving. The connections I have made with my clients throughout Kansas City really pushes me to keep volunteering."

Andrew created Bautista LeRoy LLC with José Bautista to help individuals who have suffered personal injuries, including elder abuse by nursing homes. He strives to provide a voice to the elderly in Missouri and Kansas by holding nursing homes accountable for substandard care.

Andrew's practice concentrates on car accidents, elder abuse, nursing home negligence cases and insurance bad faith litigation. Andrew enjoys fighting insurance companies, zealously advocating for his clients to get the most out of each insurance policy. Prior to becoming a partner with Bautista LeRoy LLC Andrew was a plaintiff's attorney handling complex product liability cases involving ATVs, Remington Model 700 rifles, tree stands and farming equipment. His products liability work has allowed him to develop a national practice handling cases in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Tennessee. This experience has allowed Andrew to gain a greater understanding of how insurance companies operate around the United States which allows him to achieve better results for the firm's clients.

Thank you, Andrew, for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 3

Monday, April 19

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Starting off today's Volunteer of the Day highlight, Paul K. Hentzen began working with KCMBF's Military Matters program in 2020. "I volunteer with Military Matters to show gratitude, in a tangible way, to those who have served this country in the armed services." Paul believes in contributing to the community in which one lives. "I have the gift of legal skills. I am happy to put that gift to use for veterans and others who have contributed to make Kansas City a great city, and the USA, a great country."

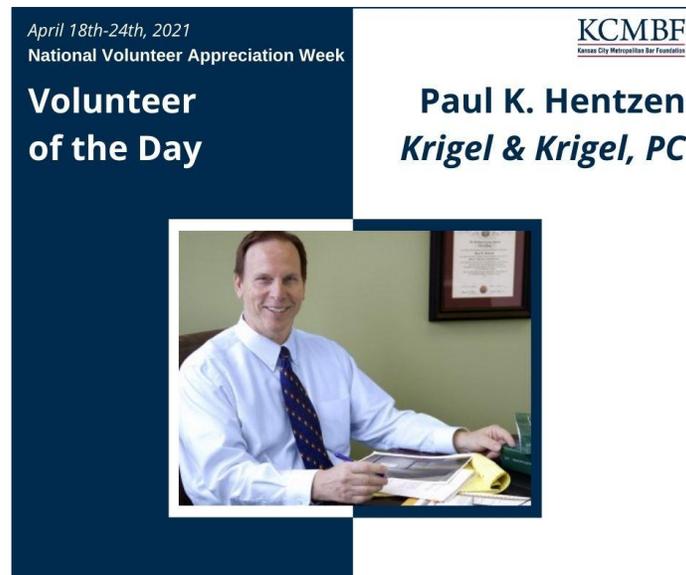
Paul K. Hentzen was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas, where he worked in a family construction company and as a construction engineer for the Pizza Hut Corporation for ten years before moving to Kansas City to work as the Director of Operations for the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, now Unbound. He attended Northern Arizona University for his undergraduate degree in Business Administration. He obtained his MBA and his legal education at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Paul's background in a family construction company, as a construction engineer, and in the non-profit world, combined with his more than twenty years of experience in the legal profession, gives him a unique perspective on the civil litigation, estate planning, business law, and personal injury matters that make up the bulk of his practice.

Paul and his wife, Crystal, have three children. The Hentzens are active in St. Thomas More Parish, where Paul is a past member of the Pastoral Council. He is also an active foundation director at Kansas City Hospice and Palliative Care.

Please help us in thanking Paul for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

How Our Volunteers Support Domestic Violence Alliance

Monday, April 19

Our longest standing Legal Connection program, Domestic Violence Alliance, has been supported by volunteers on the planning committee and volunteer speakers since 1997. These volunteers come from the legal field, social services, medical institutions, and law enforcement agencies across the Kansas City metro. We are grateful for over 24 years of support!

Learn more about Domestic Violence Alliance at <http://kcmbf.org/dva>.



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Thank You Domestic Violence Alliance Volunteers!

Friday, April 23

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who assist with our annual Domestic Violence Alliance seminar! Check out this video for a quick message from this year's DVA Committee Chair, Judith Westmoreland!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to go directly to the video!

Volunteer Post 4

Monday, April 19

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in celebrating another Volunteer of the Day, Craig Napier, who volunteered with the Domestic Violence Alliance in 2020 as a guest speaker!

“It’s important to me to remind folks in this system that everyone accused isn’t necessarily guilty, and defense attorneys can be key in healing a domestic situation and not just a thorn in the side of complaining partners.” Craig feels that the role of defense in these situations can often be underrepresented to the community.

He was quick to volunteer with DVA when asked. “I continue to support the Kansas City Community because KC is my town, and I want to do what I can to help us reduce the prevalence of domestic violence in our families and educate our citizens about both sides of the issue.”

Confident, knowledgeable, and experienced, Craig has represented thousands of citizens charged with serious felonies throughout Missouri. Whether it be in small towns, or big cities, each and every one of Craig’s clients know that he is ready to stand up to Judges, Prosecutors, or anyone on their behalf. He has achieved acquittals for clients charged with violent acts, sex crimes, and other serious matters. He is a respected trial attorney with over 30 felony jury trials under his belt and is ready to go to court, again, to fight for you.

Craig has spent his professional life since admission to the Missouri Bar in 2004 in pursuit of top-notch experience and training. He has taken most of the advanced trial training available to Missouri attorneys. He spent many years teaching trial skills to public defenders from all over the state, and in 2015 graduated from the National Criminal Defense College’s Trial Practice Institute. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Craig has called Kansas City home for most of his life. He currently resides in Waldo with his wife, Jen, kids Aidan and Ayla, and rescue dog George Harrison.

Thank you, Craig, for volunteering with KCMBF’s Domestic Violence Alliance!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #DomesticViolenceAlliance #DVA
#KansasCity



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 5

Tuesday, April 20

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Today we will be highlighting the volunteer work of Kevin Regan, who signed up to volunteer with KCMBF's Military Matters program when it started in 2016. Kevin has volunteered with the program every year since!

"My father served in the United States Army during the Korean War. I still have his uniform in my closet. I have been inspired by my dear friend and esteemed attorney, Art Fillmore, who founded the Vietnam War Memorial, the Stand Down program for homeless veterans, and has helped eradicate homelessness for veterans here in Kansas City.

My parents often said, 'Community service is the rent you pay for living on God's green earth!' My parents were always helping others and it's a pleasure to be able to chip in to such a wonderful program of the Bar.

Kansas City has been wonderful to me. I lived all over the country growing up with my father's career. I met my wonderful and beautiful wife here, my children and grandchildren live here, and I believe this is the finest community in the country in which to raise a family. Giving back to the community puts a warm smile on your face and a warm glow in your heart.

It is a pleasure to be a longtime member of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, the country's best!"

Kevin E. J. Regan is the founder of The Regan Law Firm, L.L.C. The firm is enjoying its 20th year and Mr. Regan is enjoying his 40th year as a practicing attorney in Kansas and Missouri City, State, and Federal Courts. He is pleased to practice with his partner and son, Charles R. C. Regan. The firm engages in criminal and civil trial practice in the Midwest.

Please help us in thanking Kevin for his long-time support of KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity

April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

**Volunteer
of the Day**

Kevin Regan
Regan Law Firm, LLC

KCMBF
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation



Picture Description:

Kevin Regan (far left) at the Horse Soldiers Freedom Monument in New York City with Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Roger Donlon (second from left), and Mark Nutsch (far right), Special Forces leader of Task Force Dagger who conducted the Horse Soldier operation in Afghanistan. These two gentlemen earned their green berets. Mr. Regan purchased his at an Irish store!

Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 6

Tuesday, April 20

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in thanking Sean Cooper, for his volunteerism with KCMBF's Military Matters AND Student Law Academy programs for the last several years! Sean has taken referrals through Military Matters to assist veterans and has volunteered as a speaker for the Student Law Academy program.

"Both programs are excellent opportunities to give back. Both Military Matters and Student Law Academy provide an opportunity to connect with under-served communities in a positive and rewarding way." Sean states, through Military Matters "I've gained an appreciation of the many challenges our service members and veterans face. Participating in Student Law Academy provides an opportunity to remember why I became a lawyer in the first place."

Sean is a big supporter of the Kansas City community. "My family has deep ties to the community and it's an awesome place to live and raise a family. The least I can do is take a little time to support my home town."

Sean focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, class actions, wrongful death and catastrophic injury, antitrust litigation, mass torts and wage and hour litigation. He joined Paul LLP in 2017.

Sean earned his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 2013. During law school, Sean was an Associate Editor of the Kansas Law Review and won CALI Excellence for the Future Awards in KU's Immigration and Asylum Clinic and International Human Rights Law. Before law school, Sean earned a B.A. in English from Truman State University and graduated summa cum laude. Sean also received his M.A. in English from Truman State, where he was graduate student of the year in the English program. Sean was a four-year varsity tennis player at Truman State, posting one of the winningest records in school history. After receiving his M.A., Sean taught English as a second language in Bangkok, Thailand.

Thank you, Sean, for your support of KCMBF's programs!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #StudentLawAcademy #SLA #SLA2021 #KansasCity



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 7

Wednesday, April 21

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please welcome our next Volunteer of the Day, Nick Leyh, who began volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program in 2020!

"I became a lawyer to make a difference for people who have been wronged but may not have the means to seek legal representation on their own. I have a strong appreciation and respect to U.S. service members for their service to our country, so Military Matters is a great fit for me. It is beyond rewarding to give back in any way that I can to U.S. service members."

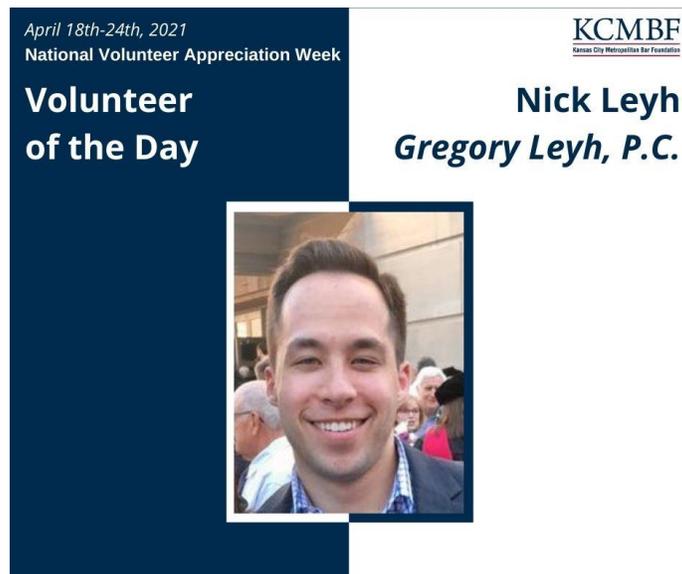
Nick focuses his practice on consumer advocacy, handling cases from pretrial to appellate stages. Nick currently works on a variety of cases ranging from wrongful foreclosure actions to class actions on behalf of tenants. Previously, he has worked on national product liability class actions.

At the University of Missouri Law School, Nick served as a board member for the Journal of Dispute Resolution. During law school, Nick interned for Hon. Edward Ardini, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District.

Before becoming a lawyer, Nick worked in Washington D.C. for the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness in the communications department, where he organized congressional briefings to inform Congressional members of the current issues concerning homelessness in America.

Please help us in thanking Nick for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity



April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

**Volunteer
of the Day**

KCMBF
Kansas City Members for Economic

Nick Leyh
Gregory Leyh, P.C.

Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

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Volunteer Post 8

Wednesday, April 21

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. We would like to extend our thanks to Geraldine Mims, our next Volunteer of the Day, for her volunteerism with KCMBF's Military Matters program! Geraldine joined the program in 2019, and has accepted many referrals since then.

"I was drawn to volunteering with Military Matters because both my father and husband served in the U.S. Military and I am so grateful for their service! Also, for more than 10 years, I have been an active service provider for the annual Stand Down Program for homeless veterans. I feel this is the least I can do to help improve the lives of those who helped to secure our peace and safety."

Geraldine (Jeri) Mims is the managing attorney of Mims Law Office, LLC, a boutique law firm practicing in the area of Social Security disability law exclusively for over 10 years. Prior to the formation of Mims Law Office, LLC in 2010, Ms. Mims was an associate of Deans Law Office from 1998 to 2010, a law firm that also emphasized Social Security disability law exclusively. Ms. Mims also held the position of disability counselor for the Social Security Administration, Section of Disability Determinations prior to attending the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

Thank you, Geraldine, for your volunteerism with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity



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How Our Volunteers Support Military Matters

Wednesday, 21

Our Legal Connection program, Military Matters, started in 2016 and is today supported by a roster of more than 240 local attorneys. These attorneys volunteer to take pro bono and low bono referrals from veterans and service members in the community who need legal assistance and do not qualify for help from other programs. Every one of these volunteers makes the program possible, and gives us the ability to serve those who have served our country.

Learn more about Military Matters at militarymatterskc.org.



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Thank You Military Matters Volunteers!

Wednesday, April 21

Thank you, to all of our Military Matters volunteers! Our program would not exist without you!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to go directly to the video!

Volunteer Post 9

Thursday, April 22

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in thanking Brandee B. Bower for her service to KCMBF. Brandee B. Bower has been a volunteer with our Military Matters program since 2019, and is a strong supporter of KCMBF.

“One of my all-time favorite people is my grandfather, Maurice. He fought bravely in WWII in the Army Air Force. His plane was shot down and he was held as a POW for 14 months before he escaped. He inspires me on a daily basis. My father, George, served in the Army and fought in Vietnam and my boyfriend, Eric, served in the Army in Operation Iraqi Freedom I and II. Eric’s courage and leadership in the military and now in business sets an example for all. It is my pleasure to volunteer through KCMBF and help other men and women who proudly served as well.

While I initially volunteered to help others, I have found that I am the one who has benefited the most from working with veterans. Freedom isn’t free and I am impressed with everyone who has selflessly given to our great country. I am happy to do a small part to help them navigate the legal process.”

Though Brandee wasn’t born in Kansas City, she claims it as her home. “I moved here for law school and have no plans to leave. The Midwestern spirit of the people of Kansas City is the heart of the city, and I have seen time after time that people here are more concerned with helping others succeed than they are with helping themselves. It is quite motivating!”

Brandee Bower, founder of Bower Law Firm, handles first-party property damage matters. She is a graduate of Baylor University (the reigning NCAA men’s basketball champions!!!) and UMKC School of Law. She currently sits on the AWL Foundation Board, the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation Board and the Board for the River of Refuge. She previously served as President of AWL and is a former Chiefs Red Coater.

Thank you, Brandee, for your volunteerism with KCMBF’s Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC
#KansasCity



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Volunteer Post 10

Thursday, April 22

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in celebrating our next Volunteer of the Day, Ashley Garrett, who has volunteered with Student Law Academy several years!

“My parents set the example for my brother and I to dedicate our time to community service as both remain very active in the community through various organizations. My Dad, a banker, has helped to develop and create programs to teach community members about personal banking, investments, buying a home, etc.; meanwhile, my Mom, a nurse, has chaired health programs for many years.”

Ashley has a passion for helping youth pursue a career in the legal field, and was drawn to supporting SLA. “The Student Law Academy mission, goal, and dedication to these esteemed scholars made it a no brainer!” Through volunteering, Ashley says she has gained a new perspective.

“At the time the program started, it was after the events of George Floyd. My scholar was not interested in a career as a lawyer, but rather a police officer. As a young, African American female, that was generally a rare career choice—but especially after the recent events that transpired. Through our early discussions, we talked about the impact that these situations have on our community and how to be a voice and affect positive change. My scholar really struck me in saying that the events of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Elijah McClain, etc. were reminders for why she is pursuing a career in law enforcement. It was her way of being that positive example for which others will aspire and ultimately create change. My scholar’s perspective was a reminder of why I became a lawyer.

In college, I interned with the Kansas City Freedom Schools summer reading program. The program provided a different view than what I experienced growing up in Johnson County, Kansas. From that internship, I decided to commit my service largely to Kansas City through my sorority, legal organization, and other programs and activities that aligned with my passion toward youth, diversity, and women’s health.”

Ashley is an experienced trial attorney, focusing her practice on insurance defense, municipal law, employment discrimination, and law enforcement defense at Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Acho PLC in both Missouri and Kansas. Ashley has first-chaired both civil and criminal jury trials, obtained favorable verdicts, and successfully defended her civil trials at the federal and state appellate levels.

Thank you, Ashley, for your volunteerism with KCMBF’s Student Law Academy program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #Student Law Academy #SLA #SLA2021 #KansasCity

April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

KCMBF
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Volunteer of the Day

Ashley Garrett
*Cummings McClorey Davis
Acho & Associates, P.C.*



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Volunteer Post 11

Friday, April 23

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Today we will be highlighting the volunteer work of Elizabeth Sharp Lynch, who signed up to volunteer with KCMBF's Military Matters program in 2019!

"I believe that to whom much is given, much is expected. We, as a community, are only as strong as our weakest member. I've enjoyed working with Military Matters veterans because they are truly the most grateful clients I've ever had the pleasure of working with. It's humbling to see them overcome their problems and makes me so grateful for their service to our country."

Betsy Lynch is an asset protection attorney who represents small businesses in contract disputes, risk mitigation, and bankruptcy. She's taken on some of the largest law firms and corporations while protecting both Debtors assets and Creditors rights in bankruptcy courts in a variety of jurisdictions across the country and enjoys litigating claims in adversary proceedings.

Betsy opened her practice in 2011 hoping to represent small business owners and helping them achieve the American dream. She currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for KCMBF and serves on the Finance and Investments Committee for KCMBA as well as the Federal Courts Advocates Committee. She is Chairman of the Board for Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph, the charitable arm of the Catholic diocese providing social services to 27 counties in the state of Missouri. She's consistently named a Rising Star by SuperLawyers magazine and is a Best of the Bar recipient. Previously she's served on the Board of Directors for the Association for Women Lawyers of Great Kansas City, the Vice Chairman of the Board of the Directors for the Kansas City Bankruptcy Bar Association, and as a former Young Lawyer Representative to the Missouri Bar. She also has extensive volunteer and community experience, serving on the Board of Directors for the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri and the Fairness in City Contracts Board for the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

Born and raised a Missourian, Betsy loves living in Kansas City. She's a wife and mother of three who has enjoyed volunteering for countless nonprofits over the years. She enjoys sharing her love of volunteering with kids while serving as the Den leader for her kids Cub Scout Pack and spends her free time hiking with her kids and coaching their various ball teams.

Please help us in thanking Betsy for her support of KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC
#KansasCity

April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

KCMBF
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Volunteer of the Day

Elizabeth Sharp Lynch
*Lynch Sharp & Associates,
LLC*



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

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How Our Volunteers Support Student Law Academy

Friday, April 23

Our newest Legal Connection program, Student Law Academy, began in 2019 as a collaboration with PREP-KC to give underserved Kansas City high school students a dynamic summer internship. Our goal is to provide meaningful exposure to careers in the legal profession and a broad overview of the legal system to those who would not otherwise have the opportunity. This program has grown exponentially in its first 3 years, all thanks to the support of the local legal community who volunteer as mentors, educational speakers, and hosts for the internship.

Learn more about Student Law Academy at <http://kcmbf.org/sla>.



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Thank You Student Law Academy Volunteers!

Sunday, April 25

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who assist with our annual Student Law Academy program! Check out this video for a quick message from this year's SLA Committee Chair, Phyllis Norman, and Vice Chair, Jeffrey McCarther!



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to go directly to the video!

Volunteer Post 12

Friday, April 23

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in thanking our next Volunteer of the Day, Jim Lawrence, who has been volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program since 2020!

Jim volunteers for Military Matters to honor all of his family members who have served our country over the years. Jim takes his name from his Uncle Jim (Dale), who was a Marine stationed in Vietnam at the time of Jim's birth. He is also very proud of his family's continuing service in the Air Force from the 1940s to the present. Jim, in active recovery himself, works with many veterans seeking recovery from alcoholism and substance abuse.

"Working with KCMBF staff and our Military Matters clients is incredibly rewarding. It is an honor and privilege to be able to get to know and help our veterans. Our vets deserve so much more, but organizations like KCMBF are changing veterans' lives on a daily basis. Kansas City is an outstanding community with a colorful past and an exciting future as we continue to evolve into a more inclusive and just society for all Kansas Citizens."

Jim has vast experience as a commercial litigator handling a wide range of disputes arising in the U.S. and abroad. Jim serves as the Commercial Disputes Leader for Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP's Kansas City office. Jim is also co-leader of the BCLP's Global Higher Education Team and also serves on BCLP's Global Wellbeing Advisory and Action Board.

Jim is a proud graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism where he met his future wife of 25 years as of this July. After graduating from Mizzou, Jim moved to New York City and completed a short stint with a major advertising agency. He would eventually become a marketing and publicity executive with Atlantic Records where he worked with, among many others, Robert Plant, Jewel, and Stone Temple Pilots. He was instrumental in the development and enormous success of Hootie & the Blowfish's "Cracked Rear View."

With an eye toward returning to his roots in NW Missouri, as he was raised in St. Joseph, MO, Jim attended the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in NYC. After law school Jim worked for Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in NYC. Jim, a life-long Royals fanatic, eventually moved back to Kansas City in 2001 and has spent the last 20+ years working with his friends at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP where he routinely represents some of the largest financial institutions, insurance companies and other national and multinational corporations in complex litigation involving loan disputes, breach of contract, fraud and unfair business practices, among other matters.

In his spare time, Jim savors every minute with his daughters Ella (21) and Charlotte (18). Jim recently started oil painting and has exhibited his award-winning work in and around KC since 2018. Take a look at JimLawrenceArt.com. He enjoys spending time with his fellow "weekend warriors" cyclists, and is also a passionate advocate for advancement of LGBTQ rights.

Thank you, Jim, for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity

April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

KCMBF
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Volunteer of the Day

Jim Lawrence
*Bryan Cave Leighton
Paisner LLP*



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Volunteer Post 13

Saturday, April 24

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. We would like to extend our gratitude to our next Volunteer of the Day, Sean Colligan, who has been volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program since it began in 2016!

"Military Matters has been a great way to give back to the community in a way that resonates with my life experience. Having family members who served in the military, and a brother who counsels Army veterans suffering from PTSD, I know the hardships and sacrifices these individuals can face on lengthy and dangerous deployments."

Sean has dedicated 70 hours on eight different Military Matters referrals since the program began. "I gain satisfaction using my professional experience to help individuals who can't afford an attorney and are deeply appreciative of the help. Though the matters I handle for them may seem like small issues, to the clients they can be huge, life-altering problems, often tied to PTSD and substance abuse.

Kansas City is home, and this is one small way I can help make it a better place for veterans in need."

Sean chairs Stinson LLP's Business Torts Litigation Practice Group, where he focuses on D&O claims, regulatory enforcement defense and trade secret and non-compete litigation. He has practiced law for nearly thirty years, the first five of those with the U.S. Department of Justice and the rest with Stinson.

Thank you, Sean, for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC #KansasCity



Click the above image to visit the Facebook Post!

Click [this link](#) to visit the Instagram Post!

Volunteer Post 14

Saturday, April 24

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Please help us in thanking Mark Emison, who volunteers with KCMBF's Student Law Academy program!

"It's important that these bright students know that if they want to be a lawyer, they can. The idea of becoming an attorney, and particularly a trial attorney, can be daunting and foreign to students who have never known an attorney growing up. The main message to the students is that there is a place in the legal field to pursue their passions if that is what they choose to do, and they will have support along the way."

Mark stepped up quickly last year when our Student Law Academy program needed to pivot quickly to a virtual format, and the program was in need of local lawyers who could speak with the students on a variety of topics. "Interacting with students has been refreshing. They are passionate and want to make the world a better place. It's easy in practicing law to focus on the day-to-day grind we all go through. Interacting with Student Law Academy students has caused me to take a step back and reflect on why I decided to go into law, and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of our legal community."

Mark is a partner at Langdon & Emison. Mark devotes his practice to representing clients and families who have suffered a catastrophic injury or death. He serves clients across the country in cases involving defective products, trucking accidents, road construction defects, propane explosions, and wrongful death.

Mark graduated from the University of Chicago Law School. Prior to joining Langdon & Emison, Mark completed a clerkship with the Honorable William Ray Price, the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court at the time.

Mark serves on multiple boards of legal organizations, including the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation, the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys and is Immediate Past President of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association's Young Lawyer's Section.

Thank you, Mark, for volunteering with KCMBF's Student Law Academy program!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #StudentLawAcademy #SLA #SLA2021 #KansasCity

April 18th-24th, 2021
National Volunteer Appreciation Week

KCMBF
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

Volunteer of the Day

Mark Emison
Langdon & Emison, LLC



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Volunteer Post 15

Saturday, April 24

KCMBF is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week by highlighting randomly-selected volunteers. Wrapping up our Volunteers of the Day, we would like to extend one final thank you to an incredibly supportive volunteer for several of KCMBF's programs, Luke Hertenstein! Luke has volunteered with KCMBF's Military Matters and Student Law Academy programs for years.

"Volunteering with Military Matters allows me to give back to the community by providing pro bono representation of veterans and service members in my regular areas of practice. Similarly, volunteering with Student Law Academy allows me to encourage young members of our community to explore legal careers by sharing experiences I have had in my practice."

Luke was born and raised in Kansas City and Liberty, Missouri. After a stint in Chicago to earn a BA in Philosophy from Northwestern University and work as a computer consultant, Luke returned to KC to earn a JD from the UMKC School of Law. His law school experiences included internships with judges in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri and the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

Luke is a Senior Litigation Attorney at the Hollis Law Firm, PA, where he focuses his practice on mass tort product liability litigation, representing individuals harmed by defective drugs and medical devices, as well as employment discrimination litigation, representing individuals harmed by workplace discrimination and retaliation based on race, sex, religion, and/or disability. His professional recognitions include being named four times to the Missouri/Kansas Rising Stars list by Super Lawyers. Luke is a long-time member of KCMBF and currently serves on the KCMBF Military Matters Committee.

Thank you, Luke, for volunteering with KCMBF's Military Matters and Student Law Academy programs!

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #GiveBack #KCMBF #MilitaryMatters #MilitaryMattersKC
#StudentLawAcademy #SLA #SLA2021 #KansasCity



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Volunteer Appreciation Week Closes

Saturday, April 24

As National Volunteer Appreciation Week comes to a close, we want to show you the impact our incredible volunteers have had in the last year – a year defined by a COVID-19 pandemic, no less. Thank you to every individual who assisted with our programs in 2020 as we adapted to the new reality of quarantine standards, and who continue to support us in 2021.

#NationalVolunteerAppreciationWeek #KCMBF

April 18th-24th, 2021

National Volunteer Appreciation Week

Thank you to all of our volunteers!

 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ALLIANCE	 MILITARY MATTERS	 STUDENT LAW ACADEMY
2,200+ professionals educated to combat domestic violence	\$1.4 Million in pro or low bono legal services provided to veterans and service members	48 paid internships for underserved, local high school students


Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation

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