



Press Release

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Law Week 2010

Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges

Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges is the focus of Law Week 2010. The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA) will celebrate Law Week April 12 - 16, 2010—by hosting activities around the Kansas City metropolitan area. Law Week is an annual event aimed at providing the public with access to and knowledge of the legal system, while highlighting the role of attorneys in the community and improving the public perception of the legal profession. Activities will focus on Lincoln's legacy and his impact on social movements and constitutional democracy throughout American history.

During the last decade our country's national security, morale, and economics have been greatly affected by events that have occurred in our country and abroad and these events have greatly affected the laws that have been passed in the last decade. When laws are made in the United States the principles and standards of the Constitution continue to affect how our laws are crafted; however, as we become increasingly globalized, as technology advances, and as we continue to adapt to national and global changes, adherence to the traditions of the Constitution may become difficult or may not be possible.

What are the challenges that lie ahead as our nation enters the 21st century and what role will the law play in addressing these issues? Will we be able to hold onto the ideals and traditions of law that our country was founded upon?

Law week has always been one of the most important events for the YLS and KCMBA because of the importance of educating the public on the role of the legal system in our lives. Over the course of the week, more than 100 lawyers will give back to the community as volunteers for this important celebration.

This year the YLS again partners with Fox4 for the Ask-A-Lawyer program. With its solid commitment to helping the community with its Problem Solvers investigative unit, Fox4 is a strong ally for activities that will help place focus on ways the rule of law touches peoples' lives and, also, on the services lawyers provide in helping to provide foundations of opportunity and equity in the community.

Ask-A-Lawyer Telethon

Held in conjunction with Fox4 and its Problem Solvers Investigative Unit, this event runs from Monday, April 12 through the evening of Thursday, April 15. Hours for each evening will be 5 to 7 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m., during which lawyers will help answer legal questions from callers.

State v. Gold E. Locks

Young lawyers and a veteran judge will present the criminal trial of Gold E. Locks, who has been charged with trespassing and property damage, to groups of elementary students from schools around the area. While the young lawyers conduct the trial, the students sit as the jury to decide the fate of the defendant in this first-hand look at the legal system.

Naturalization Ceremony

With the cooperation of the Immigration and Naturalization Service for the Western District of Missouri, the YLS is sponsoring a naturalization ceremony at the Federal Courthouse on Friday, April 16 at 1 p.m. As part of the ceremony, the YLS will welcome the new citizens and emphasize the importance of the American legal system.

Note to media: Specific times for each event will be provided on Monday morning, April 5.

The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association serves approximately 5,000 members in the nine-county Kansas City metro area: Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas and Cass, Clay, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri. The mission of this Association is to serve our members and our community by promoting justice, professional excellence and respect for the law.