



ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS OF KANSAS CITY

## 2010 Judicial Recognition Award

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### Hon. Victor C. Howard



AWL is proud to name The Honorable Victor C. Howard as our 2010 Judge of the Year. When asked about AWL, Judge Howard remarked, "I have the utmost respect for AWL and have valued my participation in the Association's events over the years. Not only does AWL advance the role of women in the legal profession but also is committed to assisting and mentoring the less fortunate in our community."

Judge Howard received a Bachelor's of Science from CMSU and a JD from UMKC School of Law. He was appointed to the Clay County Circuit Court in 1993 by Governor Mel Carnahan. In 1996, he was appointed by Governor Carnahan to serve on the Court of Appeals in the Western District of Missouri, where he remains today. This year, he was named by Missouri Lawyer's Weekly as Missouri's Best Appeals Court Judge in the Western District.

Judge Howard is an avid supporter of AWL and is frequently seen at our socials, golf tournaments and other activities. Rumor has it he has AWL to thank for his beautiful wife Missy, as they met at an AWL function. We're very proud to have Judge Howard at our events and we thank him for his great support. Congratulations to our 2010 Judge of the Year!



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## 2010 Woman of the Year Award

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### Tamara Marler



Tamara Marler is a true unsung hero of the Kansas City's judicial system. She has made a major contribution to the success of AWL's Step Up for Women pro bono program. As the Administrative Assistant to the Judges at Kansas City Municipal Court, Tamara has worked tirelessly to make sure the program is well run, she has met with AWL representatives, made great suggestions on how the program should be organized, has served as a liaison between AWL volunteers and the judges, and coordinated participant records.

Thanks to her involvement and tireless work on the AWL Step Up Program through the years, the 2010 Step Up was well-organized, and allowed for efficient delivery of pro bono services to those in need.

Tamara has worked as an administrative professional for 25 years, working primarily as a Legal Secretary/Assistant for various firms and government entities. She served on active duty for six years with the Army as both a Supply Clerk and Switchboard Operator early in her career. After moving from Boise, Idaho to Kansas City, Missouri in August 2008, she began working for the Municipal Court and became involved with the annual AWL Step Up event. She also spearheads the court's involvement with the annual Stand Down court event. Ms. Marler played an active role in the formation of the new Veterans Treatment Court at Municipal Court and continues to be a participating member of that specialty court team. Additionally, Ms. Marler is a member of the International Association of Administrative Professionals and is active within that organization as a member-at-large. Ms. Marler is an accomplished cellist and has performed with the Heritage Philharmonic in Independence, Missouri. She also records with Prometheus Unbound, an instrumental ensemble in Kansas City, Missouri. Prior to moving to Missouri, she owned and operated a farm in Canyon County, Idaho. Tamara has three children and lives with her partner and youngest son in south Kansas City. In short, Tamara Marler is all-around fabulous, and we are thrilled to celebrate her as the 2010 AWL Woman of the Year!



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## 2010 President's Award

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### Beth Murano

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Beth Murano's leadership as the 2010 co-chair of the Membership Committee and the Step Up for Women event deserves special recognition. Both the 2010 Membership Drive and the 2010 Step Up owe their success, in large part, to Beth Murano's vision, hard work, and dedication. Beth has served on the AWL Board in various roles, bringing unflinching work ethic, organizational skills, and the ability to work with others, to each of the projects with which she has been involved. Beth has the distinction of being the first woman to serve as the City Prosecutor for the City of Kansas City, Missouri. She joined the office as an assistant prosecutor in 1997 after receiving her law degree (with honors) from Drake University. Beth is a member of both the Missouri and Iowa bars. In addition, Beth has taught as an adjunct professor and lectured on various legal topics. She has been a peer reviewer for the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. Beth is currently a member of the Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Court Prosecutors' Association. She also serves on the Bridges Advisory Board, a program for homeless people who continually come into contact with the criminal justice system. Beth's past affiliations include KCMBA, YouthFriends, City in Motion Dance Theater, Inc., Committee for County Progress and Kansas City Progressive Women Coalition.



### Sheryl Nelson

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Sheryl Nelson practices in the area of commercial law with the Corporate Counsel Group LLP, with an emphasis in general corporate and business law. She graduated in 1990 from the Washburn University School of Law, cum laude, and has been a practicing corporate lawyer in Kansas City ever since. Sheryl has served on the AWL Board since 2006. She has chaired and co-chaired the AWL's Membership, Community Support, and Member Benefits committees. Sheryl volunteered on numerous AWL projects, such as the AWL Step Up, CLEs, the AWL Golf Tournament, and Habitat for Humanity. Together with her Membership Co-Chair Beth Murano, Sheryl has lead a vigorous 2010 AWL membership campaign, resulting in a considerable increase in our membership. In addition to giving her time and her leadership skills to AWL, Sheryl has consistently advised the AWL Board on board governance matters, often serving as the "lawyers' lawyer" with regard to complex issues.



### Tricia Scaglia

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Tricia Scaglia of the Scaglia Law Firm, LLC, is an AWL Board Member. In 2010, Tricia chaired the AWL Golf Tournament Committee. This year's Committee had more than fifteen (15) members and raised more than \$16,000 for AWLF. Together with Angela Nadler, Mary Weir and Susan Szczucinski, Tricia was instrumental in the development of the AWL-Hope House Pro Bono Pilot Program. This project provided training to AWL members to provide pro bono legal services for victims of domestic violence. Tricia's firm was also a Silver sponsor for AWL this year.

Tricia practices primarily in the area of family law, frequently serving as a Guardian Ad Litem and mediator. She also handles family law appeals and has appeared before the Western District, Eastern District and the Missouri Supreme Court. She is currently the President-Elect for the KCMBA Family and The Law Section, past chair of the KCMBA Family Law Committee and a member of the Jackson County Circuit Court Family Court Committee. She is a co-chair of the Missouri Bar Family Law Section and chair of the Missouri Bar Annual Family Law Conference. Tricia serves on the Missouri Supreme Court Committee for Access to Family Court.

Tricia received her Juris Doctor from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and dual degrees of Bachelor of Journalism and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She served as law clerk to the late Honorable Kelly J. Moorhouse, Sixteen Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri and to the Honorable Robert E. Larsen, United States District Court for Western District of Missouri. Tricia was a 2008 KCMBA President's Award recipient and a Best of the Bar Recipient for 2009 and 2010. Congratulations, Tricia for this well-deserved award and thank you for all of your outstanding contributions to AWL!



ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS OF KANSAS CITY

## 2010 Firms of the Year Award

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The logo for Langdon & Emison Attorneys at Law is a dark red square with the text 'LANGDON & EMISON' in a gold, serif font, and 'ATTORNEYS AT LAW' in a smaller, gold, sans-serif font below it.

LANGDON  
& EMISON  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### Langdon & Emison

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LANGDON & EMISON represents clients nationwide who have been injured or lost a loved one due to a defective product or the negligence of another party. The firm regularly obtains maximum compensation to which a plaintiff is entitled from a wide variety of cases, including motor vehicle accidents, pharmaceutical and medical device litigation, and several other areas of practice. Langdon & Emison is committed to the principles and heritage of AWL – this year the firm was a Platinum Sponsor of the organization, while Phyllis Norman served as its Secretary (and will serve as President Elect in 2011). All attorneys at the firm are AWL members, and in 2010 were involved in the AWL golf committee, fundraising efforts, Hope House Pilot Project, Step-Up and many of the association's social events.

The logo for Boyd & Kenter P.C. is a dark grey square with the text 'BOYD & KENTER P.C.' in a white, serif font.

BOYD &  
KENTER P.C.

### Boyd and Kenter, P.C.

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Boyd & Kenter is being recognized for its support of AWL. The firm has not only been a generous supporter of AWL projects, but has been represented on the AWL Board by one of our most involved and productive members, Brianne Niemann. Since 1983, the attorneys of Boyd and Kenter, P.C. have exclusively represented victims of personal injury and the interests and welfare of injured workers and their families, primarily handling Missouri and Kansas Workers' Compensation claims. Boyd & Kenter, P.C. has also consistently garnered an 'AV' Rating from Martindale-Hubbell's Peer Review process, the highest possible rating that can be attained, and which less than 5% of all active attorneys ever receive.

The logo for Humphrey, Farrington, McClain, P.C. features three vertical bars of varying heights on the left, followed by the firm name in a bold, sans-serif font, and the tagline in a smaller, italicized font.

**HUMPHREY FARRINGTON McCLAIN**  
*Personal Injury Trial Attorneys*

### Humphrey, Farrington, McClain, P.C.

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AWL is recognizing HUMPHREY, FARRINGTON & McCLAIN, P.C. for the firm's general support of our projects. HFM has been providing excellent legal services to its clients for more than forty years. It is a firm of firsts, winning the first asbestos property damage school lawsuit in the nation, achieving the first tobacco verdicts in Kansas and Missouri and the first

verdict for a worker exposed to butter flavoring. HFM pioneered butter-flavoring litigation across the nation. The firm has represented hundreds of workers exposed to the chemical found in microwave popcorn butter flavoring – diacetyl – and has been awarded verdicts and negotiated settlements in excess of \$150 million on behalf of these clients.

In addition to the toxic exposure practice, HFM also represents victims and families of those catastrophically injured or killed in trucking accidents. The firm has been awarded verdicts of more than \$40 million for these clients. The firm has always and continues to represent local and regional clients with traditional business, estate planning, tax and probate issues, as well as school districts and local governments. It is the balance of understanding and meeting the everyday needs of clients and being a fierce advocate for the injured that make HFM the unique and formidable firm it is.



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## 2010 Membership Award

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**Baty, Holm & Numrich, P.C.**



Baty, Holm & Numrich, P.C. is a Kansas City-based law firm with offices on the Country Club Plaza and in Springfield, St. Louis and historic Shawnee, Kansas. The Firm specializes in civil litigation, workers' compensation and business law and represents clients in Missouri, Kansas and Illinois. Several of the Firm's 20 attorneys have been recognized as Best of Bar, Super Lawyers and Rising Stars. Of the Firm's 19 KC Metro attorneys, seven are AWL members.

We thank Baty, Holm & Numrich for its support of and commitment to AWL and its mission by encouraging membership in our organization.