

THE ADVOCATE

May
2013



Judge Aaron Roberts with his wife Carol, daughter Madeline and son Thomas

Upcoming events:

May

Elder Law CLE & Dinner featuring former Kansas City Royal Jeff Montgomery

*When: May 14
CLE at 4:00 pm
Dinner at 6:00 pm*

Where: Hollywood Casino

*Cost: \$25 for the CLE
\$25 for dinner*

Investiture of Aaron T. Roberts

When: May 24 at 3:30 pm

Where: Division 9

June

Golf Tournament & Ethics CLE

*When: June 27
CLE at 10:00 am
Tee off at noon*

Where: Dub's Dread Golf Course

*Cost: \$25 for the CLE
\$100 per person for the golf tournament*

AARON T. ROBERTS TO BE SWORN IN ON MAY 24TH

Kansas City, Kansas Municipal Court Judge Aaron T. Roberts will be sworn in as the newest District Court Judge for the 29th Judicial District on May 24, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in Division 9 of the Wyandotte County District Court.

Judge Roberts was born in Kansas City, Kansas to Tom and Janet Roberts. He has one brother, Brian, who is a Kansas City, Kansas police officer. After graduating from Bishop Ward High School in 1996, Roberts attended the University of Kansas where he obtained his undergraduate degree in 2000 and his law degree in 2003.

Upon graduation, Roberts began working for the Unified Government Legal Department primarily handling tax appeal and tax collection cases. In 2007, he moved to the City Prosecutor's Office where he prosecuted traffic violations, misdemeanor offenses and municipal code violations. And in November, 2008, he was appointed to an open position as a Municipal Court Judge.

Roberts and his wife Carol were married in 2005, and have two children; Madeline, 6, and Thomas, 3. Carol is an elementary school teacher currently on hiatus as a stay at home mom. The family attends St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kansas City, Kansas where Madeline just finished kindergarten.

Judge Roberts will be assigned to Division 13 where he will primarily hear limited actions cases, traffic violations, DUIs and preliminary hearings in felony criminal cases.

"It is an honor to be appointed to the Wyandotte County District Court," Roberts said. "I promise to continue the Court's longstanding tradition of high ethical standards and humble public service."

FORMER ROYALS' GREAT JEFF MONTGOMERY TO SPEAK AT MAY MEETING

Our May CLE and Meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at the Hollywood Casino.

This month's meeting features something for everybody. The topic for this CLE will be Elder Law and will include a presentation by KU Law Professor Molly Wood. Longtime member and unofficial Bar Association historian Loren Taylor will be receiving the 2013 Liberty Award. The Honorable Dean Smith, retired Wyandotte County District Court Judge, will be honored as a Legend of the Bar.

And, last but not least, former Kansas City Royal Jeff Montgomery will be our featured speaker. Montgomery was selected for the Major League Baseball All-Star Game three times, has been inducted into the Royal's Hall of Fame and now serves as a commentator for Fox Sports Kansas City.



Jeff Montgomery spent 12 of his 13 seasons in the Major Leagues pitching for the Kansas City Royals.

Member Spotlight: Jennifer "Jenny" Myers



Jenny Myers was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas. She attended Bishop Ward High School and Kansas State University. Jenny always had an interest in criminal law and many members of her extended family worked in the court system. Her interest in a legal career brought her to Washburn University

where she earned her law degree.

Jenny interned in the Wyandotte County District Attorney's office one summer while in law school. After graduation she went to work for D.A. Jerry Gorman and actively prosecuted criminal cases for nine and a half years. Other members of the bar know that Jenny is a skilled trial lawyer and also someone who worked well with opposing counsel.

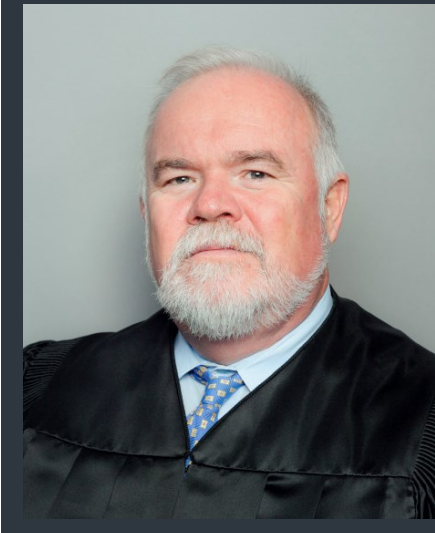
Recently, Jenny began working for the Unified Government Legal Department. Her new job involves multiple areas of civil law, including being the legal advisor to the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department. Jenny enjoys her new job although she finds the switch from criminal to civil law to be a challenge.

Jenny lives in Kansas City, Kansas with her husband Ron who works for the BNSF Railroad. They have two children: Lillian, age 5; and Ronnie, who is a year and a half old. Her social life centers around friends and family, especially those who have children of the same age as hers. She regularly works out at the YMCA and enjoys playing Bunko with the friends. She is active in the community and has played a major role in keeping the downtown YMCA open.

Jenny is on the Board of Governors of the Wyandotte County Bar Association. She is active in the bar association and finds it a great way to meet and spend time with other lawyers that she doesn't see on a regular basis. She is interested in trying to get younger members of the bar involved in the association.

Those who know Jenny find her to be open, outgoing, and a pleasure to spend time with.

Submitted by Mike Sexton



A message from our President

The Bar Association year is off to a good start. We continue to have excellent CLE's at the best price in town and fun meetings. Everyone should make their reservations now for the May meeting (May 14 at the Hollywood Casino). In addition to honoring Loren Taylor with the Liberty Bell Award, we have the Honorable Dean Smith as our Legend of the Bar. The speaker for the program is a special treat. Jeff Montgomery, a member of the Royals' Hall of Fame and the franchise's all-time saves leader will be with us to give us his slant on the new look Royals. It should be an entertaining event.

Next month is our Annual Golf Tournament. For me this is often the best day of the summer. Thanks to the scramble format, I get to hit from the fairway, something which rarely happens when I play my own ball. There is also a report of a surprise visitor after dinner. Make your reservations early, as we expect the tourney to fill up.

As many of you know, I'm a sentimental person. Recently, I've been feeling nostalgic for the old Bar Meetings. When I was a newby (oh so many years ago), the Bar Meetings were held at the now departed Terrace Club on the top floor of the New Brotherhood Building. Generally after the meeting we would convene an investment club. Our name for the marathon nickel, dime, quarter poker games we had. These often went on until the wee hours of the morning with the biggest winner maybe being up \$20. Dealer called the game and the rules were thoroughly litigated as only lawyers can do. A wonderful time remembered (I'm sure) with advantages.

This brings us to our July event. It will be a TGIF on the 19th at St. John's Social Club. The Bar Association will buy the beer and the bowling from 4 to 7 p.m. We also plan to have the first Wyandotte County Bar Association Texas Hold 'Em Tournament. The plan is to have a maximum of 24 players. Since we can't gamble for money, this will be a test of skill. The entry fee will be \$10 which will go for cheap and tawdry prizes or solemn mementos of the day. I haven't decided yet. If you don't know this game there is a tutorial available on the internet, which is all I know about it. I hope we can fill this tournament up and everyone will have a great time.

**The Honorable Daniel A. Duncan,
President**



The 33rd Annual Wyandotte County Bar Association Golf Tournament is just over a month away. Now is the time to clear your calendar, put together your team and turn in your registration form!

For more information contact Brenda Eaton at (913) 573-2899 or visit the website at www.wycobar.com

Jury verdicts:

Civil

Division 6

4/22/13

Case No. 11 CV 554

Keith Few vs. Robert Allen

Plaintiff: Pro Se

Defense: Jeff Southard

Cause of action: Breach of contract

Verdict: Directed verdict for the Defendant at the close of Plaintiff's case.

Criminal

Division 4

4/29/13

Case No. 12 CR 1213

State of Kansas vs. Thomas B. Park Jr.

Prosecution: Brett Richman & Chris Mann

Defense: Lindsey Erickson

Charges: Count I—Burglary
Count II—Theft
Count III—Criminal Damage to Property

Verdict: Not guilty on all counts.

Division 5

3/11/13

Case No. 12 CR 104

State of Kansas vs. Arthur Mitchell

Prosecution: Jennifer Tatum

Defense: James Spies

Charges: Count I—First Degree Murder
Count II—Criminal Discharge of a Firearm at an Occupied Vehicle
Count III—Criminal Possession of a Firearm

Verdict: Not guilty on all counts.

3/18/13

Case No. 12 CR 1449

State of Kansas vs. Mark Quinn

Prosecution: Michael Duma

Defense: Phillip Crawford

Charges: Count I—Aggravated Battery
Count II—Aggravated Battery
Count III—Criminal Damage to Property

Verdict: Guilty of a lesser included offense on Count I, Guilty on Counts II and III.

3/25/13

Case No. 11 CR 1186

State of Kansas vs. Lamar Willis

Prosecution: Jennifer Tatum

Defense: Michael Mogenson

Charges: Counts I & II—Aggravated Indecent Liberties with a Child
Counts III-VII—Aggravated Criminal Sodomy
Counts VIII-IX—Attempted Rape
Verdict: Guilty on Counts I-III and VIII. Not guilty on all other counts.

Division 8

3/4/13

Case No. 12 CR 256

State of Kansas vs. Tywan Poole

Prosecution: Jacob Fishman

Defense: Charlie Ball

Charges: Count I—Criminal Threat
Count II—Criminal Damage to Property
Count III—Theft

Verdict: Not guilty on Count I. Guilty on all other counts.

Jury Verdicts (continued):**3/11/13**

Case No. 12 CR 680
State of Kansas vs. Raul Campos
Prosecution: Jacob Fishman
Defense: Olivas-Zarate
Charges: Count I—Attempting to Patronize
a Prostitute
Verdict: Not guilty.

3/12/13

Case No. 12 CR 1293
State of Kansas vs. Erick Perea
Prosecution: Mark Menefee
Defense: Steven Parker
Charges: Count I—Attempting to Patronize
a Prostitute
Verdict: Not guilty.

3/25/13

Case No. 11 CR 1614
State of Kansas vs. Dion Martin
Prosecution: Ryan Walkiewicz
Defense: David Grummon
Charges: Count I—Possession of Cocaine
Count II—DUI
Count III—Transporting an Open
Container
Count IV—Failure to Stop at a
Stop Sign
Verdict: Not guilty on Counts I & II.
Guilty on all other counts.

4/8/13

Case No. 12 CR 412
State of Kansas vs. Stevaughno Brown
Prosecution: Shawn Boyd
Defense: Jeffrey Leiker
Charges: Count I—First Degree Murder
Verdict: Guilty of the lesser included
offense of Voluntary
Manslaughter.

4/29/13

Case No. 12 CR 917
State of Kansas vs. Jose Leal
Prosecution: Mollie Hill
Defense: Mark Birmingham
Charges: Count I—Aggravated Assault
Count II—Domestic Battery
Count III—Domestic Battery
Verdict: Guilty of a lesser included offense
on Count I. Hung on Count II. Not
Guilty on Count III.

Division 9**3/25/13**

Case No. 10 CR 459
State of Kansas vs. Christopher Avdeychik
Prosecution: Elizabeth Evers
Defense: Jean Ann Uvodich
Charges: Count I—Aggravated Battery
Count II—Domestic Battery
Verdict: Not guilty on all counts.

4/1/13

Case No. 12 CR 471
State of Kansas vs. Antonio Hopkins
Prosecution: Shawn Boyd
Defense: Charles Lamb
Charges: Count I—Aggravated Battery
Count II—Aggravated Burglary
Verdict: Guilty on all counts.

4/8/13

Case No. 12 JV 553
In the Matter of G.C.
Prosecution: Logan McRae
Defense: Terak Devkota
Charges: Count I—Battery on a Corrections
Officer
Verdict: Guilty.

Jury Verdicts (continued):

Division 9

3/30/13

Case No. 12 CR 628
 State of Kansas vs. Gustin Brownlee
 Prosecution: Jennifer Tatum
 Defense: KiAnn McBratney
 Charges: Count I—First Degree Murder
 Count II—Criminal Possession of
 a Firearm
 Verdict: Guilty on all counts.

4/10/13

Case No. 10 CR 839
 State of Kansas vs. Van Callahan
 Prosecution: Mark Menefee
 Defense: Debra Erickson
 Charges: Count I—Distribution of Heroin
 Count II—Obstruction a Law
 Enforcement Officer
 Count III—Conspiracy to
 Distribute Heroin
 Count IV—Unlawful Use of a
 Communication Facility
 Verdict: Not guilty on Counts I, III and IV.
 Guilty on Count II.

4/17/13

Case No. 12 CR 1370
 State of Kansas vs. Jose Acosta
 Prosecution: Cathy Eaton
 Defense: Jeffrey Leiker
 Charges: Count I—Aggravated Kidnapping
 Count II—Rape
 Count III—Aggravated Criminal
 Sodomy
 Count IV—Aggravated Robbery
 Verdict: Not guilty on all counts.

4/30/13

Case No. 11 CR 1574
 State of Kansas vs. Jose Sanchez
 Prosecution: Ryan Walkiewicz
 Defense: Tim Dupree
 Charges: Count I—Aggravated Assault
 Verdict: Hung Jury

Announcements:

Congratulations to our very own Ruth Benien who celebrated 10 years of being cancer-free this month. Nobody has benefitted more than this organization!

Office Space for Rent:

Office space available at 827 Armstrong Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas. Just a block and a half from the courthouse!

Call (913) 321-9600 for more information.

Office space available at 78th and State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas. Great western Wyandotte County location!

Call (913) 334-4800 for more information.



Ruth Benien and Tim Alvarez, Bar Association CLE Committee Chairperson, pose for a picture at the April meeting following Ruth's CLE presentation. (A very special thanks to Lisa Garza for always having a camera ready at our events!)

THE ADVOCATE

WYANDOTTE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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For information contact:

BRENDA EATON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WYANDOTTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
FIFTH FLOOR
710 N. 7TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KS 66101

PHONE: (913) 573-2899
FAX: (913) 573-2892

WEBSITE: WWW.WYCOBAR.COM