

BETSY BLAKE

General Overview

Betsy Blake practices in the areas of general local government law, litigation, county tax sale law, eminent domain, land use, and economic development incentives. Ms. Blake was formerly an attorney in the economic development unit of Legal Aid of Western Missouri from 2005-2008 where she worked on contract with Swope Community Builders representing various Kansas City neighborhood associations in all phases of nuisance and land use litigation. Betsy also worked closely with city staff and city officials to develop stronger nuisance abatement policies at the state and local level.

Education

University of Kansas, J.D., 2005

- Leslie Tupy scholarship, recipient

University of Kansas – B.A. English, 2002, *with distinction*

- Mortar Board Honor Society

Bar Admissions

Kansas, 2005

Missouri, 2006

U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri, 2010

Professional Affiliations

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

- Young Lawyers Section, Junior Member-at-Large (2011)
- Public Service Committee (2005- present, chair: 2009, vice-chair: 2008)
- Social Committee (vice-chair: 2010, member: 2005 – present)
- Lawyers in the Classroom (coordinator and mentor: 2009-present)
- Recipient of the 2008 Young Lawyers Section President's Award

Missouri Bar

- Young Lawyers Section (executive committee, 2010-present, council member: 2009-present, member 2005-present)
- Outstanding Service Award, Recipient (2010)
- YLS Liaison to the Local Government Law Committee (2010-present)
- Liberty Day (co-chair, 2010)

Missouri Municipal Attorneys Association
The Eastern Jackson County Bar Association

Relevant Legal Experience

- Successfully represented Cass County, Missouri in two bench trials concerning the constitutionality and validity of collector's deed for delinquent property taxes
- Argued on behalf of the Respondent-County Collector before the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, in *United Asset Management Trust v. Keith Clark, et al.*, WD 71589
- Barrister, Ross T. Roberts Inn of Court, 2008-2009
- National Institute of Trial Advocacy, 2006
- Community Economic Development Certificate, UMKC – Cookingham Institute of Public Affairs, 2008

Civic and Community Involvement

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kansas City, Kauffman Mentor (2009-present)
- Colonial Church in Prairie Village, Outreach Board (2007- present; Chair – 2009 to 2010)
- DEBATE-KC, Volunteer of the Year award recipient (2009)

Publications and Presentations

“Collector’s Deeds” Missouri Real Estate Practice, Chapter 27 (MoBar 5th ed. 2010) (with Phillip Gebhardt and Robert Guinness).

“Procedural Due Process and Dangerous Building Demolitions,” Missouri Municipal Attorneys’ Association, Annual Conference (July 2010).

“Pre-Tax Sale Notice: The Newest Requirement for County Collectors,” Missouri County Record (summer 2010 ed.).

“Tax Sales Notices: What County Collectors Should Require Of Tax Sale Purchasers Prior To Issuance of A Collector's Deed.” Missouri Association of Counties Annual Conference, 2009.

“Satisfying Due Process: What Notice Is Due?” Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association, Western Division Luncheon, August 19, 2009.

“Unclaimed Tax Sale Notices: What County Collectors Should Require of Tax Sale Purchasers Prior to Issuance of a Collector’s Deed,” Missouri County Record (summer 2009 ed.).

“How to Strengthen the Nuisance Abatement Process,” Williams and Campo Local Government Seminar Series, 2008.

“How to Create an Ethics Handbook,” Williams and Campo Local Government Seminar Series, 2008.

“Police Departments” II Missouri Local Government Law, Chapter 15 (MoBar 3d ed. supplement 2008) (with Paul Campo).