

**BARONS OF THE BOARDROOM:** Another of KCMBA's top awards, our Barons of the Boardroom are honored annually for their distinguished careers representing corporate/business clients. Please join us in honoring the 2012 award winners.

## KCMBA Baron of the Boardroom

### W.H. 'Bert' Bates

"Bert Bates is the consummate senior statesman for Lathrop & Gage. In addition to his fine legal career, Bert's civic, charitable and bar association involvement is unparalleled, and he continues to be a great representative in the community for Lathrop & Gage. Lathrop & Gage, the Missouri Bar Association and the Kansas City community in general are all better places because of Bert's outstanding efforts over a number of years," said Joel Voran, CEO, Lathrop & Gage LLP.



Born in Lexington, Mo., he grew up in Jefferson City, Mo., where his father served as an executive in several positions in state government. After graduating from high school, Bert entered the United States Army and served overseas during World War II with a combat unit of the Second Infantry Division. He enrolled at the University of Missouri-Columbia in the fall of 1946, graduating in 1949 Phi Beta Kappa. He attended the University of Michigan Law School, received his juris doctorate in 1952, having served as senior editor of the *Law Review*. After graduating, he assisted his father in a successful statewide campaign for the office of state treasurer. In his early practice Bert did everything from representing claimants to defending clients in personal injury cases, writing wills and trusts, real estate contracts, business transactions, and even ghost writing a tax information letter for the president of a bank. A former associate in the Lathrop & Norquist office, Bert was once characterized by prominent business executive Irv Hockaday as a "true man for all seasons," reflecting the breadth and scope of his legal activities. After the merger of Lathrop & Norquist and Gage & Tucker, Bert became more fully involved in the firm's business and corporate practice. He currently serves as senior counsel in the corporate department of Lathrop & Gage LLP's Kansas City office.

Throughout his career, he has gained extensive experience in public utility regulation, product liability, environmental law, employment law, construction law, economic development projects, real estate development, and writing and assisting in passage of economic development legislation. He has counseled large business enterprises, and handled claims for individuals and corporate interests regarding grievances with products and



Bert Bates and his wife, Joy, in Alaska.

services for which they have paid or contracted. Bert has been involved as an arbitrator since 1992.

In addition to his impressive legal career, Bert has served on the board or governing body of 25 entities, two banks, 15 charitable organizations, seven business/professional and three government entities. He has been president or chairman of eight of these, general counsel of five and another type of officer of three. Possessed of a wry sense of humor, he has never permitted boredom in the boardroom. He has been honored with 14 awards for his civic and professional contributions including four from bar associations, and five from the University of Missouri.

Well-recognized in community activities, Bert was identified by *Ingram's* magazine in 1999 as one of 24 "Living Legends" of Kansas City. It stated that his service with the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri and the Missouri Bar Association had "statewide impact;" and, locally, he was an important leader through his role in the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce for more than 30 years.

His efforts as a fundraiser have been significant for numerous organizations. His most important role, in addition to rendering competent, dedicated and fair service to clients, has been that of husband to Joy Godbehere Bates; father to Joy Ann Bates Boyle and William Bates; and grandfather to Bradon, Brittan and Tucker Bates.



### About the Author

Jay Felton is a partner in Lathrop & Gage LLP's Kansas City office concentrating his practice on litigation, representing companies in product liability, complex commercial, environmental and intellectual property matters.

## KCMBA Baron of the Boardroom

### Terry Satterlee

She doesn't ride horses well or lasso dogs. But she has worked tirelessly as a board member for the American Royal. She doesn't camp or hang out in the P&L District. But she's served on the Missouri State Parks Board and helped former mayors Cleaver and Barnes realize the dream of a revitalized downtown. And she didn't let a gender-based law-school rejection or demeaning remarks from judges averse to women practicing in their courtrooms in the 1970s hold her back from becoming a nationally preeminent environmental practitioner and a leading light of community service in Kansas City.



Terry Satterlee is an ardent, lifelong Kansas Citian, who is also one of a rare breed of late — a diehard Royals fan, who proudly boasts ownership of every rendition of the “Believe” T-shirt. This is fitting. Her distinction as 2012 “Baron of the Boardroom” is arguably attributable to her own unwavering ability to “believe” — to believe in her clients, in her community, and in the potential of her many colleagues and acquaintances.

One of just eight women among the 223 students who graduated in 1974 from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, she began her legal career working on employment, civil rights and zoning cases with Arthur Benson. During that period, she also represented farmers affected by the construction of Truman Dam, which sparked an interest in environmental law that would shape her career.



Terry Satterlee and her husband Bill Rice recently celebrated the marriage of their daughter Mary to Dave Ingram. From left to right: Brendan Rice, Tyler Rice, Bill Rice, Terry Satterlee, Mary Ingram, Dave Ingram, Cassandra Sagel, Joey Sagel, and the dogs, Linus and Otto.

Now a partner in Shook, Hardy & Bacon's Environmental Law Practice, Terry has devoted her career to environmental law in the public and private sectors for more than 35 years. She began practicing environmental law by serving as chief lawyer for the Enforcement Division at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1978, at the time that EPA's new laws were just getting under way.

Terry has also dedicated countless hours of community service on behalf of and for the advancement of women. She was the second woman named to the board of Legal Aid of Western Missouri and is active in its Endowment Founders Society. She also helped found The Central Exchange and has been part of the Women's Public Service Network. Her close friends would add that she is also a founding member of “The Rules Committee,” a close-knit group of judges and lawyers who have met every month for the last 25 years.

“She is as good at bringing people together as anyone I've ever seen in this community,” says Pat McLarney of Shook Hardy. “Terry is the ideal role model for young lawyers; the combination of her personality, good humor and energy, along with an incredible knowledge of her practice area, allows her to work with anybody.”

Her many acquaintances uniformly speak to her integrity, passion for justice and commitment to the community. “Terry's work before the Missouri Supreme Court and in other Missouri courts has been truly exceptional,” said Missouri Supreme Court Judge Laura Denvir Stith, “but that only tells half the story. She contributes just as much in her multi-faceted roles as a mentor to young lawyers, as a source of wise advice to her friends and fellow women lawyers, and as a community member who doesn't just spend her time wishing things would get better — she helps make them better.”

Her former partner, Missouri Court of Appeals Judge Alok Ahuja, similarly says “Terry is truly an ‘all-rounder’: She has excellent judgment, and knows how to get things done, whether in a courtroom or through the informal means. Beyond that, Terry has impeccable musical taste: I would bet that she was the first in Missouri history to quote Grateful Dead lyrics in a judicial investiture speech!”

As complete as Terry's professional life has been, she has always considered her many professional commitments as enriching, rather than competing with, her family life. She is a caring and devoted wife and mother who also presides over an ever-changing menagerie of cats and dogs. Her two daughters have matured into accomplished young women in their own right, and she now relishes being a grandmother. Not surprising, young (and not-so-young) professionals seek her guidance on balancing work and family. In this, as in everything else she does, she is more than eager to help.



### About the Author

*Tom Grever is a partner in the Environmental Practice Group at Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP. He has practiced with Terry since 2001.*