



# THE LEAGUE *News*

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## NEW Course!

October 26  
(Belle Plaine)  
&  
October 27  
(Leavenworth)

## Hiring Public Safety Officials

Attracting, hiring and maintaining quality public safety officials is an issue of great importance to cities. The League is offering a NEW Municipal Training Institute class for municipalities to learn the best practices for Kansas cities to use throughout the hiring process specific to public safety positions.

The MTI will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Register online at [www.lkm.org/events](http://www.lkm.org/events).

This program has been approved for 1 CMC Education or 1 MMC Advanced Education credit. The course has also been submitted for CLE credit for attorneys.

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## E.A. MOSHER AWARD WINNER

The League of Kansas Municipalities is honored to announce Kim Thomas, Mayor of Stockton, is the 2017 E.A. Mosher Excellence in Local Government recipient.

Mayor Thomas is the 17<sup>th</sup> recipient of the E.A. Mosher Award. She was honored for her decades of public service to the City of Stockton and the surrounding community. As Mayor, Thomas has been involved in numerous initiatives to provide quality infrastructure in the community, develop economic opportunities, increase energy efficiency and add affordable housing stock within the city.

Ms. Thomas has served as Mayor since 2003 and has an extensive list of civic accomplishments including the development of a community swimming pool, construction of a new water treatment plant, new recreational initiatives including tennis courts and a pocket park on Main Street, along with the replacement of electric utility distribution lines.

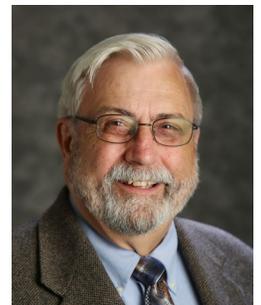
Read the full [announcement online](#). Congratulations, Mayor Thomas!



## GENERAL COUNSEL RETIREMENT

League General Counsel Larry Baer announced his retirement earlier this month. Larry has been a familiar and friendly face to countless League members over the past 16 years. In early January, Larry will be leaving us to retire and enjoy BBQ competitions, grandkids and travel. He has been a selfless civil servant, a trusted advisor to cities everywhere, a mentor to all of us, and just a heck of a guy to have around. On behalf of the entire League family, please join us in wishing Larry nothing but the best in his future!

The League is seeking to fill the position of General Counsel. The full [position description is online](#). Application review will begin October 18.



## 2017 REGIONAL SUPPERS START NEXT WEEK!

Each fall, League staff travels across the state to meet with state legislators and local government officials and staff to discuss the upcoming legislative session and gather input about local issues, efforts and challenges. This year we will visit these cities:

- October 4: Cimarron
- October 4: Hays
- October 5: Colby
- October 5: Derby
- October 11: Lawrence
- October 12: Coffeyville

We invite you to attend one of our Regional Suppers in a city close to you – invite your legislators - to meet League staff and talk with your colleagues and peers about League priorities and advocacy at the state capitol! [Sign up today!](#)





THE LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

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For subscription changes, address changes, comments or suggestions, please contact Nikki Harrison [nharrison@lkm.org](mailto:nharrison@lkm.org)

## NEW WEBINAR!

### CYBERSECURITY: SIMPLE STEPS FOR PROTECTING YOUR ORGANIZATION

The League is partnering with Midwest Public Risk (MPR) to offer a one-hour webinar for municipalities on cybersecurity and best practices for protecting your city network and customer base from cyber-attacks. Cybersecurity threats can include identity theft, data theft, damaged business or personal reputation, lost revenue or income, spam and malware/network intrusions. This webinar will provide information that cities can use to discuss cybersecurity concerns with employees and/or elected officials, tips to reduce risk within your organization and more valuable information on cybersecurity concerns.



Who should participate? We recommend any elected or appointed official with organizational risk responsibilities should attend. This webinar will be taught in an understandable, non-technical manner. The League will be developing more, in-depth cybersecurity resources in the coming months but this is a great primer and introduction into basic steps your organization should take to form a first-line of defense against cyber-attacks.

Webinar Registration is required ahead of time (limited to 100 participants). Webinar cost is \$25 for member cities, \$35 for non-member cities. [Register online for the webinar.](#)

### REP. JIM KELLY RECEIVES INTERGOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

It is with great pride and sincere appreciation that the League of Kansas Municipalities announces Representative Jim Kelly (R-Independence) has been selected to receive the 2017 Intergovernmental Leadership Award. Representative Kelly was selected for the honor for his outstanding leadership and support of issues affecting local governments. Since 1995, the Intergovernmental Award seeks to honor those who support cooperation between the various levels of government. Recipients of this award have demonstrated, in both promise and practice, an understanding that public servants at all levels serve the same citizens and should work together to provide the best service possible.

“Chairman Kelly is everything constituents and colleagues could want in a legislator,” said League of Kansas Municipalities Executive Director Erik Sartorius. “He listens, builds consensus and asks questions to root out issues that might not otherwise surface and be discussed. He wants to hear all views on a topic, and truly wants to make sure legislation avoids unintended consequences whenever possible.”

Representative Kelly is a life-long Kansan who was born and raised in Independence. His work, both leading up to and in the 2017 legislative session, led to significant changes in Working After Retirement legislation and allowed the same rules to apply to all levels of public employees at the state, local and school level.



### CHECK THIS OUT! NEW YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Citizen engagement is a priority for Kansas cities and the best place to start is with our youngest community members. This fall, the League is re-launching our youth civic education program. We started by crafting a Civic Learning Path to frame the new program and demonstrate a progression of civic growth. We expanded the program to include interactive lesson plans and a civic resource guide. To increase participation, we created an activity book, changed our “If I Were Mayor” writing contest to align with Kansas Department of Education guidelines and added new social media platforms to capture the interests of high schoolers. Download all of the files, curriculum and instructions for the program [on our website](#).

Introducing the League's

**Youth Civic Education Program!**  
Please visit [www.LKM.org](http://www.LKM.org) for these interactive PDFs or download for FREE!

**INTERACTIVE LESSON PLANS!**

**ACTIVITY BOOK & WRITING CONTEST!**

**NEW SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS!**

**BONUS! Civic Resource Guide**