

2015 Robert L. Gernon Award for Outstanding Service to Continuing Legal Education in Kansas



Jan Hamilton, Topeka, Kansas, has been selected by the Kansas Continuing Legal Education Commission as the recipient of the 2015 Robert L. Gernon Award.

Jan Hamilton has practiced law in Topeka since 1973, most of that in private practice until he was appointed as the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee for Topeka in 1998, an appointment he continues to hold today. Throughout his career he has been involved in providing quality continuing legal education to the legal profession throughout the state of Kansas.

The Commission received many letters in support of his nomination, which underscore the impact Mr. Hamilton has had on the profession, especially the in the area of bankruptcy. The Honorable Cynthia Norton, a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri, writes in her nomination letter, “Kansas is blessed to have so many lawyers who give unfailingly of their time and knowledge in order to make our lawyers better. But Jan stands out even among these, in terms of his willingness and commitment to continue helping lawyers and judges, even after an otherwise lengthy and stellar career. In sum, Jan exemplifies what the Robert L. Gernon award is all about.”

On both a professional and personal level, Mr. Hamilton is viewed with utmost respect and affection by his peers and colleagues. We know that his work and service to the legal community will continue for years to come.

Mr. Hamilton graduated from Washburn University and received his juris doctorate from Washburn University School of Law. He belongs to several bankruptcy related organizations, including the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees. He is also a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy.

Established in 2005 and presented annually by the Kansas Continuing Legal Education Commission, the Robert L. Gernon Award for Outstanding Service to Continuing Legal Education in Kansas recognizes those individuals or organizations that have demonstrated a unique commitment to legal education for lawyers in Kansas and have provided outstanding service to continuing legal education.

The award is named for Kansas Supreme Court Justice Robert L. Gernon (1943 - 2005), whose career included tireless devotion to the training, education and professionalism of attorneys in Kansas and across the nation.

Previous award recipients include:

2014 – Steve Obermeier, Olathe; 2013 – Robert Collins, Wichita; 2012 – Cynthia Grimes, Lenexa; 2011 - J. Nick Badgerow, Overland Park; 2010 - Jack Scott McInteer, Wichita; 2009 - Mira Mdivani, Overland Park; 2008 - Sheila Reynolds, Topeka; 2007 - Hon. Robert J. Schmisser, Pratt; 2006 - Philip Bowman, Wichita