2026 Annual Conference

This is a live online Zoom event.

Date: November 21, 2026, 1:00 - 2:30p.m.

At 2:30 - 3p.m. the KCADP annual business meeting will be conducted on the same link.

Registration link: https://forms.gle/eXu7Z2Gqp3RWAp7eA

For more info: Contact us at (785) 235-2237 or info@ksabolition.org

Celeste Dixon Celeste is a **murder victim family member**. She moved to Larned, Kansas in February of 2008 to work as a Park Ranger at Fort Larned National Historic Site. In 1986, while in the Navy and stationed in Puerto Rico, her mother was murdered in a home invasion in Hockley, Texas, a small town in the Houston area. The perpetrator was eventually caught, tried, and given the death penalty. Celeste was initially for capital punishment but soon came to realize that wishing for another human being to die was not the way to heal from such a devastating tragedy. She eventually forgave the man who murdered her mother and has been working for the abolition of the death penalty in Kansas. She hopes that sharing her story will help others come to understand the harm the death penalty does to victims' families.

Dale Baich Dale spent twenty-six years as a member of the Capital Habeas Unit with the Federal Defender's office in Arizona. He left that office in 2022 and now consults on policy issues related to capital punishment. Dale serves as an adjunct professor at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he has taught a course on the death penalty since 2004.

Dale led litigation teams that challenged execution protocols in Arizona and other states. Some of the issues litigated related to the nature and origin of the drugs used, the qualifications of the executioners, the medical procedures employed, and what the media and other witnesses can see during the execution.

Over his career, **Dale has witnessed 17 executions.**

Gary C Mohr Gary has 52 years of service dedicated to Corrections and Criminal Justice. In Ohio, he served as Director of the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice and Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Youth services. He spent a vast majority of his time in the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction where he served as a Teacher, Director of Staff development and Training, Warden of multiple facilities, Regional Director, Deputy Director and served for eight years on Governor Kasich's Cabinet as Director of the Ohio department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. He championed multiple legislative initiatives to reduce the prison population and increase funding to community corrections.

He now promotes system reform aimed at providing a sense of hope for those under confinement and the staff responsible for their supervision. Following serving as Ohio's Director, he served as Chief Advisor to the North Carolina Public Safety Director following the tragic death of five employees of North Carolina prisons after two separate disturbances. He works with the Alliance for Safety and Justice, dedicated to supporting system reforms to reduce prison populations and restoring lives. He serves as Senior Fellow for CGL Companies supporting safe, secure and restorative operational practices. He has also served on the faculty for the Executive Leadership Development Program for international correctional leaders at Sam Houston University.

Gary supervised 15 executions.

KANSAS COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY