

# 1889

In 1889 when Frank Sebree began practicing in Kansas City, The Coca-Cola Company was incorporated in Atlanta, Grover Cleveland was ending his first term as President and the initial edition of *The Wall Street Journal* rolled off the presses.

In Paris, the Eiffel Tower opened, and was generally considered an eyesore. That year, Vincent Van Gogh painted "Starry Night," and, in Japan, the Nintendo Company was formed to create and sell playing cards.

Pioneering American journalist Nellie Bly met Jules Verne's fictional challenge in 1889 by circling the globe in fewer than 80 days, and the first intercollegiate football game was played in South Carolina.

In 1889, Kansas City was flourishing, growing into a commercial center for railroads, banking, livestock, clothing and steel. Blue-collar jobs were abundant, drawing immigrant laborers who clustered in ethnic neighborhoods like Columbus Park and Strawberry Hill.

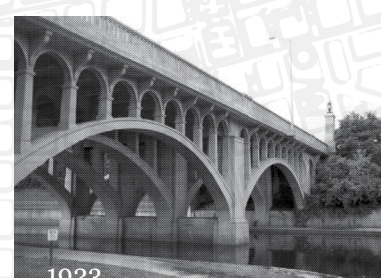
Frank Sebree came to Kansas City in July 1889 and partnered with William Alderson, who was already First Assistant City Counselor and handled virtually all of the city's trial and appellate work...



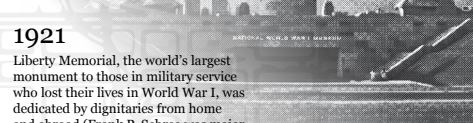
1889  
Anderson & Sebree opens its Kansas City office in the River Market (515 Main Street)



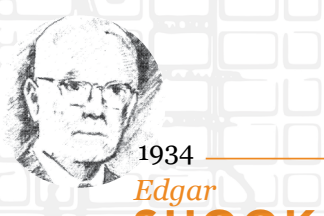
1908  
Frank P. Sebree becomes senior partner in Sebree, Conrad & Wendorff (largest practice in the state of Missouri); corporate law and civil litigation with railroads, financial institutions and insurance companies as the principal clients



1923  
Dedication of Sebree Bridge over Brush Creek at Benton Boulevard to Frank P. Sebree in Kansas City, Missouri



1921  
Liberty Memorial, the world's largest monument to those in military service who lost their lives in World War I, was dedicated by dignitaries from home and abroad (Frank P. Sebree was major fundraiser for the Liberty Memorial)



1934  
Edgar SHOOK  
John Sebree & Sebree, The Firm becomes Sebree, Sebree & Shook

Edgar Shook appointed by the Governor to the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners (completed Pershing Road between Main and Grand)



1939  
David R. HARDY  
John Sebree, Sebree & Shook

1942  
David R. Hardy joins the Army as a private; discharged as captain in the Military Police Corps (1942 - 1946)

1939  
Edgar Shook named Kansas City's "Man of the Year"



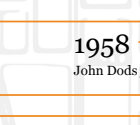
The Honorable Elmo B. Hunter is appointed to the Kansas City District of the Missouri Court of Appeals

1948  
David R. Hardy becomes Partner

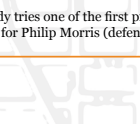


1956  
Charlie BACON  
joins the Firm

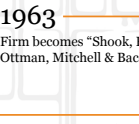
1959  
David R. Hardy is elected president of the Kansas City Bar Association



1958  
John Dods joins the Firm



1962  
David R. Hardy tries one of the first product liability cases for Philip Morris (defense verdict)



1963  
Firm becomes "Shook, Hardy, Otman, Mitchell & Bacon"

1963  
Shook hires Mari Proutis Ulmer, its first female Shook attorney



Former President Harry S. Truman leased an office downtown in the Federal Reserve Bank Building but on a different floor from the firm. Every morning, he could be seen briskly striding into the lobby with his trademark hat and walking stick. Truman would often stop and chat with whoever was there. Many times, he would take the public elevator rather than the one reserved for his private use. This gave a number of people in the firm an opportunity to meet the former President.



1960s  
Shook develops Analyst program to work on scientific trials, with guidance from Shook Partner Bill Shinn



1973  
Firm becomes "Shook, Hardy & Bacon"



1976  
Laurel Corn Harbour becomes the first woman promoted to partner at Shook

1976  
David R. Hardy passes away



1988  
Gene Voigts becomes Firm Chair



1990  
Bill Shinn becomes Firm Chair



1991  
Shook Alumna Elwood L. Thomas appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri



1991  
Pat McLarney becomes Firm Chair



1998  
Shook opens Miami office



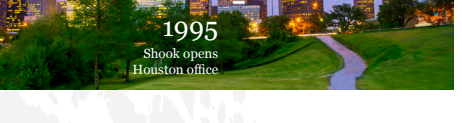
1997  
Shook opens Washington, D.C. office



1996  
Marie Woodbury becomes the first woman Division Managing Partner



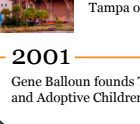
1998  
Shook opens San Francisco office



1995  
Shook opens Houston office



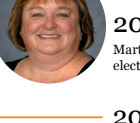
2001  
Shook Alumna the Hon. Lisa White Harbick is appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District



2001  
Gene Balloun founds The Kansas Foster and Adoptive Children Scholarship Fund



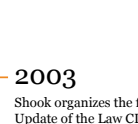
2001  
Shook establishes the Women's Management Council (WMC) to assist women lawyers to develop the necessary legal skills, mentoring relationships, and marketing opportunities to support their promotion to the partnership



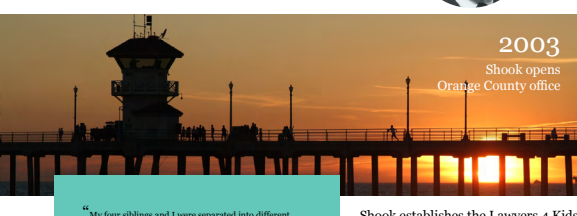
2002  
John Murphy becomes Firm Chair



2003  
Shook Alumna Dennis Dow named to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri



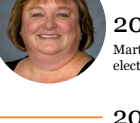
2003  
Shook Alumna Laura Denver Smith is appointed to the Supreme Court of Missouri



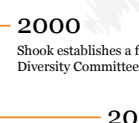
2003  
SHB Foundation awards first scholarship to diverse law school students



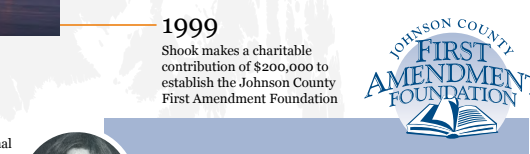
2003  
Shook Partner Mike Buser appointed to the Kansas Court of Appeals



2000  
Marty Warren becomes the first woman elected to Shook's Executive Committee



2000  
Shook establishes a formal Diversity Committee

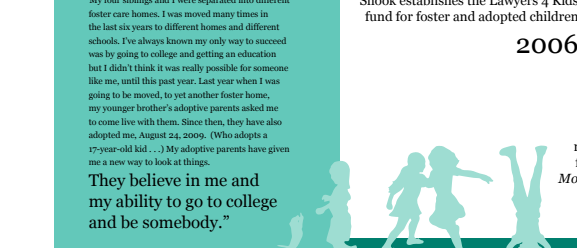


The Johnson County First Amendment Foundation grew out of a successful lawsuit challenging an attempt to remove an award-winning book from the shelves of a Johnson County, Kansas, high school. The book, "Anne On My Mind" by Nancy Gardner, tells the fictional story of a romantic relationship between two high school girls. Between 1988 and 1993, as part of a half-dozen attempts were made to ban the book from public and school libraries nationwide.

At the request of the Olathe School District, school librarians reviewed the book to determine whether it was clearly appropriate for high school students. They decided it was, and gave the book a favorable review. But in 1994, notwithstanding the librarians' opinion, the superintendent of schools (with the approval of the school board) ordered it removed from district libraries. When the district refused to reimburse the book, Shook, Hardy & Bacon agreed to represent six students and their families in a lawsuit challenging the superintendent's action.

A federal court ruled that the school district had violated the students' First Amendment rights, as well as their rights under the Kansas Constitution's Bill of Rights, when it removed "Anne On My Mind" from the school library. The court ordered the book returned to school libraries and made available under the usual terms and conditions for library materials in the district. The court also ordered the district to pay the students' attorney's fees.

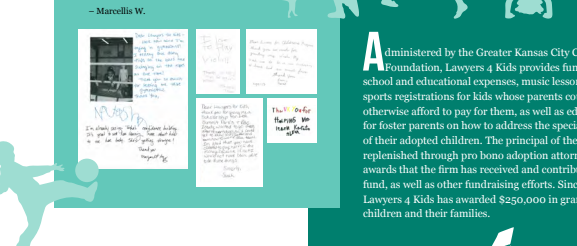
After the case was concluded, on December 22, 1999, Shook established the Johnson County First Amendment Foundation with a \$200,000 contribution that included the attorney's fees paid by the Olathe School District. The two principal attorneys in the case, Gene Balloun and David Wasse, were instrumental in establishing and organizing the Foundation, whose mission is "to promote a better understanding among Kansas students, particularly in Johnson County, of First Amendment and other constitutional rights that ensure a free society's freedom to write, freedom to publish and freedom to read." Among its other activities, the Foundation sponsors brings government constitutional scholars and jurists to speak to local students; the speaker series has included Lawrence Tribe, Floyd Abrams and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.



2006  
Shook opens Denver office



2012  
Shook opens Philadelphia office



2014  
Shook opens Dallas office



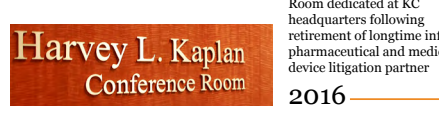
2015  
Shook opens Chicago office



2014  
Shook opens Denver office

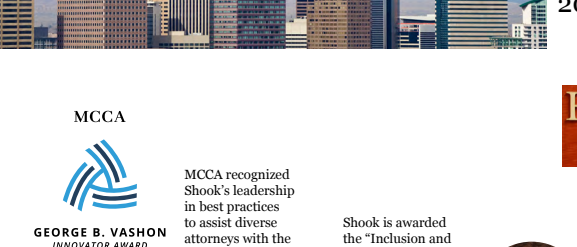


2014  
Shook opens Denver office



Harvey L. Kaplan Conference Room

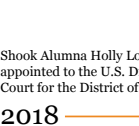
2016  
Harvey L. Kaplan Conference Room dedicated at KC headquarters following retirement of longtime influential pharmaceutical and medical device litigation partner



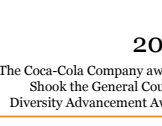
MCCA recognized Shook's leadership in best practices to assist diverse attorneys with the Vashon Innovator Award



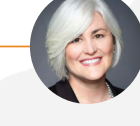
2018  
Shook Alumna Holly Lou Teeter appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas



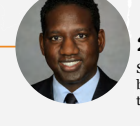
2019  
Shook Partner Angel Mitchell appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas



2017  
Shook Alumna Willie Epps becomes Firm Chair for the Western District of Missouri



2017  
Madeline McDonough becomes Firm Chair (2017 - present)



2017  
Shook Partner George E. Wolf III appointed as Circuit Judge of Division 11 of the 16<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri



2019  
Shook opens Los Angeles office



2019  
Shook opens Atlanta office



130<sup>TH</sup>  
Because of the continued growth of the Lawyers & Kids Fund, the geographical scope of its assistance was expanded beyond Jackson County to nearby counties in Missouri

"Family is something that every child wants, especially when they haven't had one in a long time. It is the thing that shows you that you are wanted and loved... I know I would never forget the day Love and warmth filled my heart as tears streamed down my face as I watched my new parents raise their right hands. Every time I look at the pictures from our Adoption Day, I can hear the safety nets running down my face."  
-Angelina M.

1,315  
Pro Bono adoptions completed by Shook attorneys to date  
As of 2018

Shook Partner Gene Balloun founded the Kansas Foster and Adoptive Children Scholarship Fund in 2001 with the attorney's fees paid to him for providing pro bono assistance to families and children in adoption cases. Other Shook attorneys also contribute pro bono hours and attorney's fees, and the Fund also accepts private donations. In July 2018, the Fund reached \$1 million in scholarships awarded.

\$1M+  
Scholarships granted to adopted and foster children to date  
As of 2018

# 2019