



Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

PRESS RELEASE

September 25, 2018

For Immediate Release

AnnMarie Thomas
Director of Membership, Communications and Events
816-474-4322
athomas@kcmba.org

KCMBA's 134th Annual Meeting to Feature Three-Time Olympian and USA Curling Team Captain, John Shuster

On December 14th, from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA) will host the 134th Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Hotel Crown Center. This event celebrates five awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award and Hon. Joseph E. Stevens, Jr. Aspire to Excellence Award. The keynote speaker for this year's program is three-time Olympian and USA Curling Team Captain, John Shuster.

John Shuster is the kind of guy everyone wants to see succeed, but his road to success has not been without a few bumps along the way. After a disappointing ninth place finish in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, USA Curling held a combine for the country's best curlers, meant to identify 10 athletes who would be asked to be on the high performance team. When the team was announced, Shuster's name wasn't on the list. The three-time Olympian was crushed. Jilted by the governing body, denounced by fans during the Sochi Games, Shuster was at a common crossroads in sports and in life: accept defeat and find something else to do or work even harder and earn his spot back on the team. He did what great competitors do. He reached down deep and put together a team of his peers that were also cast aside and got back to work at the rink. "People coined us Team Rejects," he told the West Fargo Pioneer. Soon enough, the rejects started to win. First, they won the 2015 national championship, defeating all those who had made the USA Curling Team. Team Shuster went on to finish fifth at the world championships later that year. After Team Shuster's success, USA Curling saw the promise and brought all four members of Team Shuster back into the fold. When Team Shuster defeated Heath McCormick's squad at the U.S. Olympic trials to qualify for PyeongChang, it seemed like the end to a storybook tale. Their dark horse story only got more incredible once the 2018 Olympic Games were underway.

His story is one of perseverance and the kind of success that comes from pushing oneself to achieve new heights, and therefore complements the celebration of award winners to be recognized for their diligence and exemplary work in the greater Kansas City legal community. Award winners will be announced shortly. Check www.kcmba.org/annualmeeting for updates and information, Reserve your seat or table today, as this event is expected to sell out.

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association serves approximately 5,000 members in the nine-county Kansas City metro area: Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas and Cass, Clay, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri. The mission of this Association is to serve our members and our community by promoting justice, professional excellence and respect for the law.

###