

THE KANSAS CITY KANSAN

Tuesday,
September 20, 2005

The Daily Newspaper for Kansas City, Kansas & Wyandotte County

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Local prosecutor receives Lifetime Achievement Award from KCDAA

Nick Tomasic has been named the 2005 winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association. He will be presented his award at the KCDAA 2005 Fall Conference during lunch on Oct. 17 at the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel.



Nick
Tomasic

The Kansas County and District Attorneys Association is the professional organization for prosecu-

tors in the state of Kansas. The purpose of the association is to promote, improve, and facilitate the administration of justice in the state of Kansas.

General members of the Association include: district attorneys, county attorneys, deputy district attorneys, deputy county attorneys, assistant district attorneys and assistant county attorneys.

The KCDAA board selects the winner of this award annually. Tomasic was chosen for his longevity in prosecution and his commitment to the KCDAA during that time. Tomasic recently retired as the district attorney in Wyandotte County, where he worked the past 38 years. The first six years of his career, he was chief deputy, and then he was elected district attorney in 1972. He has headed one of the busiest jurisdictions in the state for crime.

Many of his cases have been high-profile. One such case was a widely publicized anti-defamation case against a local newspaper publisher and reporter, who were subsequently convicted of libel. He ousted two board of public utilities members investigated for corruption; prosecuted the Piper School Board for an open meetings violation involving plagiarism; convicted a KCK police officer of voluntary manslaughter; and most recently dealt with a case of a local minister, who along with his wife and others, tortured and killed his son.

Other pinnacles of his career were the closing of adult entertainment operations in the county and petitioning the Kansas Supreme Court regarding the consolidation of the city and county consolidation in Kansas City, Kan.

Tomasic has been the recipient of many awards

over the years. Most notably, he was a former winner of the KCDAA Prosecutor of the Year, and in 1998, a recipient of the Attorney General's Commitment to Crime Victims' Service Award in the category of Outstanding Prosecutor. He has been a former KCDAA board member and served a year as president of the association in 1975. He was also a legislative representative for KCDAA.

Tomasic graduated from Rockhurst College and the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. He began his career in the Wyandotte County Attorney's Office in 1967, and was instrumental in establishing the district attorney system in Kansas, implemented in 1973.

He and his wife, Carolyn, live in Strawberry Hill in Kansas City, Kan., and they have six children and 14 grandchildren.