

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **MOCSA Luncheon Chance to Raise Awareness, Recognize Support**

*Keynote Speaker: TV commentator, former LA prosecutor Robin Sax*

Author and media commentator Robin Sax, a former Los Angeles county prosecutor who specialized in prosecuting sex crimes against children, will be the keynote speaker at the 2011 MOCSA Community Luncheon on **Friday, May 6**.

The annual luncheon is the largest fundraiser for the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault, a Kansas City-based organization whose mission is to lessen the ill effects of sexual assault and child sexual abuse through prevention, education, intervention, treatment and advocacy.

Set for **11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** at the Downtown Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City, the event will include comments from Palle Rilinger, MOCSA president and CEO, Maureen Mahoney, chair of the MOCSA Board of Directors, as well as Greg Graves and Sally Wood honorary co-chairs of the 2011 luncheon. MOCSA volunteer and former MOCSA board chair Jill McGee will give closing remarks following the keynote address.

Sax, who has written six books, is an in-house NBC News legal analyst and contributes regularly as a guest commentator for such TV programs as the Dr. Phil show, CNN Larry King and HLN Nancy Grace, and other media that includes *The Huffington Post* and *The New York Times*.

She is also an adjunct professor of Women and Crime at Cal State Los Angeles and a lecturer on criminal law and the justice system in UCLA's Paralegal Training Program, and created Kids Safe Day, a free program to help educate parents and children about child abuse, sexual assault, abduction and domestic violence.

Sax spent more than a decade as a deputy district attorney for the Child Sexual Assault Division of the Los Angeles County Sex Crimes Unit. While working with law enforcement, victims' advocates, social workers and members of the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services, she investigated and prosecuted hundreds of child sexual assault cases.

In an interview before coming to Kansas City, Sax said she believes education and raising awareness are crucial elements in the prevention and prosecution of sexual violence.

"Both educational and training pieces are important resources for everyone in an investigation," she said. "I think the more educated our professionals are -- the advocates, law enforcement, everyone on the multidisciplinary team -- the more empowered and educated the victims are going to be. It's a conduit of information."