HISTORY

In 1895, three young lawyers with energy and vision, William P. Borland, Edward D. Ellison and Elmer N. Powell, founded the Kansas City School of Law with the active assistance of leading members of the bench and bar. Borland, the first dean of the school, was elected to Congress in 1910 and was succeeded by Ellison, who served as dean until the School of Law merged with the University of Kansas City in 1938. After affiliation with the University of Missouri System in 1963, the school assumed its present name as the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

VISION
To be a model urban public law school for the 21st century that economically and efficiently delivers excellent legal education, serves as an intellectual leader in law, and increases access to justice for our community.

MISSION
To prepare students to practice law with the competencies needed to integrate academic theory and practical skills to become expert problem-solvers and trusted advisors who serve their clients and their communities in the interests of justice; to provide expertise to benefit our many constituencies through scholarship and engagement, and to increase access to justice through research and service to our community.

VALUES
We value:
- Respect for law and lawyers
- Commitment to the rule of law and to justice
- Professionalism, integrity and excellence in everything we do
- Respect for interdisciplinary understandings in advancing law and effective legal practice
- Creativity and innovation and the role of entrepreneurship in advancing the profession and economic development
- The role of advocacy and persuasion to effect positive resolution of disputes and needed social change
- Diversity of backgrounds and views, inclusion and empowerment, and access to law and legal education
- Service to our constituencies, with particular regard to our urban community and its families and children