



# The Kansas Coalition for Life

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**News Release:** December 15, 2016

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## Illegal Action by City-of-Wichita Causes Life-Saver Mom to Sell Her Own Blood to Avoid Eviction

By Mark S. Gietzen

A young Kansas mother, **Lauren**, one of over 500 Kansas Coalition for Life, (KCFL) Life-Saver-Moms, saved her baby from death by abortion in 2008, based on KCFL's offer of financial help, if she decided to keep her baby.

The nation-wide Catholic publication, OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, ran parts of [Lauren's story](#) as front-page news during the anniversary of the US Supreme Court Decision, *Roe v. Wade*, in January of 2010.

For eight continuous years, KCFL has faithfully kept its commitment to help **Lauren**, as her source of *'last resort financial help'* when needed.

Both of **Lauren's** beautiful daughters have thrived under **Lauren's** loving care, and they now attend grade school in the Halstead, Kansas school district.

Then, out of the blue, in early February 2016, and again in May 2016, comes the City-of-Wichita Sign Code Enforcement Unit, demanding that KCFL stop using

graphic signs, such as the one depicted in the background of this [YouTube Video](#). They also demanded that KCFL stop placing Christian Memorial Crosses on the City Easement between the sidewalk and the curb at the gate of the South Wind Abortion Facility.

**Mark Gietzen** informed the Sign Code Enforcement Unit Supervisor, **John R. Cox, Jr.** that city easement is public property, and that the placement of the graphic signs and crosses had already been challenged and fully adjudicated in 2004, and that KCFL was protected by the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights of the ever-present volunteers at the gate of the (then) Tiller Abortion Facility, now operating under the name, South Wind Abortion Facility.

**Cox** told **Gietzen** that he enforces the City Sign Code, and that he has nothing whatsoever to do with the US Constitution or the First Amendment! **Cox** flatly rejected **Gietzen's** argument that we all have to follow the same US Constitution.

With the armed protection of the Wichita Police Department, on June 1, 2016, the City-of-Wichita conducted an 'Indian Style' raid of the KCFL proLife sign displays at the South Wind abortion facility, confiscating the memorial crosses and all of the graphic proLife signage that was not locked inside of the Truth-truck.

The large graphic sign visible in the background of this 1 min. 49 sec. [YouTube Video](#) was damaged during the raid. It was later repaired at taxpayer expense, after the City of Wichita lost its case against KCFL. The signs and crosses were finally returned to KCFL on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, after being impounded for 155 days.



Emboldened by the illegal actions of the City-of-Wichita, and prior to the return of the KCFL signage, a South Wind Security Guard, **John Rayburn**, came out of the South Wind Abortion Facility, on July 13<sup>th</sup>, and with no authority to do so, confiscated a graphic sign, showing a smiling baby (*not an aborted baby*) that was being held by a 99% blind, elderly KCFL volunteer named **David Schmidt**. The two got into a scuffle, and the police were called.

In the end, it was the blind volunteer, **David Schmidt**, and not the aggressor and bully, **John Rayburn**, who was sent to jail.

KCFL bailed **David** out of jail, but now, after five Court Appearances and the same number of opportunities for the City-of-Wichita to drop all charges against this innocent blind man, The City of Wichita has delayed or 'continued' **David's** trial to January 12, 2017.

**So how does all of this cause a mother to have to sell her own blood to avoid eviction from her rented home?**

KCFL depends on donors to support its work and the considerable large monthly expense of helping Life-Saver-Moms with rent, utilities, school costs, car repairs, insurance, etc.

Almost immediately, when the City-of-Wichita illegally confiscated the KCFL signage, donations to KCFL declined dramatically, with donors openly questioning if what KCFL is doing on-site, is actually legal.

Then, when **David Schmidt** was thrown in jail, an even larger decline in KCFL donations followed. KCFL hoped for a speedy trial, in order to bring past donors back on board. But with **David's** trial now set for January 2017, it looks like it will be a very bleak Christmas for **Lauren**, and the other KCFL Life-Saver-Moms who depend on KCFL for financial support.

Without exception, KCFL has always operated 100% in compliance with the law. Yet, KCFL cannot give financial support that it does not have. In this matter, a false reputation has proven to be more important than the facts.

To help KCFL and all nine of our currently supported Life-Saver Moms, who are suffering from the illegal activities of the City-of-Wichita, please consider making a donation [here](#), or mail a check to KCFL, at PO Box 16514, Wichita KS 67216. Thank you!      # # #      [View as a PDF](#)