



John Tyler
Chief Ethics Officer
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

John Tyler joined the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in 1999 as its general counsel and secretary. In 2004, he became (and remains) its first chief ethics officer. The Foundation fosters economic independence by advancing educational achievement and entrepreneurial success through its grant making and by directly operating programs, including a charter school and a program to facilitate access to capital for certain entrepreneurs.

In addition to managing legal and governance aspects of the Foundation's operations and serving on its leadership teams, John also is a liaison into philanthropy generally, including by serving or having served on fiduciary and advisory boards for the Philanthropy Roundtable, Alliance for Charitable Reform, Independent Sector, Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy, Philanthropic Collaborative, NYU's National Center on Philanthropy and the Law, Columbia University's Chief Charity Official project, Council on Foundations, among others.

John frequently speaks, writes, and guest lectures on the roles of private foundations and the charitable sector in society, compliance, governance, transparency, accountability, "public money," public private partnerships, social entrepreneurship/enterprise, social purpose business structures, "impact investing," ethics, and other topics. Many of his more than two dozen publications are available at <https://ssrn.com/author=723109>.

He also designed and is teaching two courses for Columbia University's Master's degree in Nonprofit Management: one on foundations and the other on social purposes business. In 2018, Missouri Lawyers Media designated John as one of the inaugural recipients of its Top Legal Innovator award.

Prior to joining the Foundation, John spent ten years as a commercial and railroad litigator at one of Kansas City's oldest and largest law firms.