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Dedication to Professor Erica Beecher-Monas

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DEDICATION TO PROFESSOR ERICA BEECHER-MONAS

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Professor Erica Beecher-Monas. Professor Beecher-Monas was Professor of Law at Wayne State University before her passing in the summer of 2017. KENTUCKY LAW JOURNAL is honored to publish her work, *Actus Reus, Mens Rea, and Brain Science: What Do Volition and Intent Really Mean?*, as a lasting tribute to her legacy. The legal profession is better off thanks to the intellectual curiosity and academic leadership of Professor Beecher-Monas.

– *Jordan T. Shewmaker, Editor-in-Chief*

Often times posthumously rendered accomplishments are exaggerated. This is not true for Erica Beecher-Monas. In her case, the perseverance, honesty, and grace with which she lived her personal life was applied in equal measure to her work. Since our collaboration began in 1998, her incisive, original, and substantive ideas on what the law should do for society have been at the forefront of her efforts. This article, *Actus Reus, Mens Rea, and Brain Science*, is a tribute to the productive accomplishments over that time that resulted in a number of important contributions. Through a protracted illness, she worked doggedly on this manuscript that stands as a legacy to a unique law professor. Just as in neuroscience, few in legal academia realize how removed their daily endeavors are estranged from everyday life. The consequences of such an estrangement for the well-being of society are significant. It is to the more informed decision-making, the more humane policy drafting, and the more relevant law enactment, that Erica devoted her life. And she did so with the same love and commitment she had for her children and grandchildren, to whom our work is dedicated.

– *Dr. Edgar Garcia-Rill, Professor of Neurobiology and Director of the Center for Transitional Neuroscience, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences*