

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NFL Official Sarah Thomas to be featured during the 2021 WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards

**BROADCAST TELEVISION EVENT WILL AIR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 at 7PM ON 38 THE SPOT KMCI**

KANSAS CITY, MO (November 11, 2020) – The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City ([WIN for KC](http://winforkc.org)) is excited to announce that the featured guest for the [2021 Women's Sports Awards](http://2021women.sportsawards.com) presented by Burns & McDonnell will be **Sarah Thomas**, the first full-time female official in NFL history.

Thomas is no stranger to "firsts." She was the first woman to officiate a major college football game, the first to officiate a bowl game, the first to officiate in a Big Ten stadium and the first to earn an on-field assignment for an NFL playoff game.

Thomas is a life-long participant in sports. She attended the University of Mobile on a basketball scholarship and was a three-time academic All-American. She began pursuing her officiating career in 1996 and worked her first varsity high school game in 1999.



On April 8, 2015 the NFL announced that Thomas would become the first permanent female official in NFL history and she made her NFL regular season debut in a game between (fittingly!) the Kansas City Chiefs and the Houston Texans.



KSHB Anchor/Reporter, **Dia Wall**, will emcee the event. Wall joined KSHB in April 2015 after previous stints with KLTV in Tyler, TX, KXII in Sherman, Texas and the Dallas Cowboys Football Club. In 2016, Wall won an Emmy Award for Morning Newscast.

### **About WIN for KC**

The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC), was established in 1994 under the umbrella of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission, with the mission to ignite girls and women through advocating and promoting the lifetime value of sports and fitness, while providing opportunities for participation and leadership development. WIN is a volunteer, membership-driven organization that operates as a program of the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. For more information, visit [WINforKC.org](http://winforkc.org). For the latest on WIN for KC news, follow on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/winforkc), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/winforkc) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/winforkc).