

NEWS RELEASE



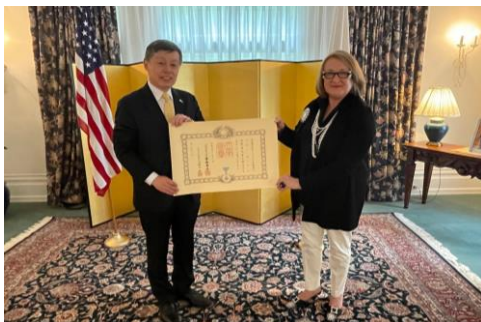
**Consulate-General
of Japan in Chicago**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On July 28, 2021, the Conferment Ceremony for the 2019 Autumn Conferment of Decorations to Foreigners was held at the Official Residence of the Consul-General of Japan in Chicago, where Consul-General Kenichi Okada presented the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Silver Rays to Ms. Lizann Kesse. Ms. Kesse was accompanied by her husband, Mr. Michael Fox. Also in attendance were Mrs. Yuko Okada, Honorary Consul-General of Japan James Kanki, and Mrs. Lydia Kanki. Consul-General Okada delivered the congratulatory remarks and presented the decoration and diploma to Ms. Kesse, after which she gave her reply address.

Ms. Kesse, a fourth-generation Kansan from Atchison and Westwood Hills, Kansas, was Assistant to the Consul-General of Japan at Kansas City serving under nine Consuls-General of Japan. Ms. Kesse was involved with the Consulate-General of Japan throughout its entire 25-year existence, which provided her with extensive understanding of the work that goes into the Japan-U.S. relationship. With that deep understanding, she has gone on to provide expertise to the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago.

Previously, Ms. Kesse had been a Recipient of the Shimizu City “Key to the City,” a Recipient of the Citation for Assiduous Service by the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a Member of the GLOBE International Executive Leadership Program.



Conferment of the diploma



From L to R: Mrs. Yuko Okada, Consul-General Okada, Ms. Lizann Kesse, Mr. Michael Fox, Mrs. Lydia Kanki, Mr. James Kanki

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