2018 FOUR CORNERS SEMINAR SPEAKERS
(C – Covington; LC – Lake Charles; WM – West Monroe; BC - Bossier City/S’Port)

Eric K. Barefield (LC, WM, BC) is Ethics Counsel for the LSBA. After obtaining his JD from LSU, he began his professional career as an Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish. He also served as Deputy Disciplinary Counsel with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and was responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct. He is responsible for the LSBA’s Ethics Advisory Service, a confidential service for LSBA members to field ethical concerns.

Craig Bayer (C) is the founder of Optiable, a company which assists law firms in choosing and setting up document management software. For over 15 years, he has provided law-related technology consulting, and has worked with hundreds of law firms, small and large. Craig, with his thorough knowledge of technology matched with his straight forward manner, is invited often to deliver presentations to bar associations around the state. His mantra: Provide advice based always on what’s best for the client, even if it winds up being a solution that he doesn’t provide.

Brandi B. Cole (WM) is Corporate Counsel for CenturyLink in Monroe, La. She provides advice on ethics and compliance matters to various internal departments within the organization and conducts corporate investigations. Ms. Cole practiced Labor and Employment law at Phelps Dunbar, LLP before joining CenturyLink. She obtained her law degree from LSU, and is a member of the Order of the Coif.

Ashley Flick (C, LC, WM, and/or BC) is Professional Liability Loss Prevention Counsel for the LSBA and is employed by Gilsbar, LLC, in Covington, Louisiana. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Southeastern Louisiana University and earned her Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University College of Law. Prior to joining Gilsbar, she practiced law for an insurance defense law firm in Covington, La. She lectures often on ethics as part of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirements for attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Louisiana.

Shawn L. Holahan (C, LC, WM, BC) is the Practice Management Counsel for the LSBA, and administers the LSBA’s fee dispute arbitration program. A former member of the ABA LP Division’s Publishing Board, its State and Local Outreach Committee and its TECHSHOW Planning Board, she is also the former Chair of the Practice Management Advisors of North America. Prior to her position at the bar, she was a partner with a medium sized law firm in New Orleans (labor and employment primarily) and had completed two federal clerkships in the USDC (E.D. La.). She assists lawyers with law office management issues and with choosing technology.

Becky Owenson Kilpatrick (WM) is Corporate Counsel for CenturyLink. Ms. Kilpatrick advises numerous departments within the Company on privacy matters, focusing recently on vendor compliance with the GDPR recently enacted in the EU. She obtained her law degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, where she graduated cum laude, awarded the Order of the Coif and was a member of the Missouri Law Review.

Richard P. Lemmler, Jr. (C, LC, WM, BC) is Ethics Counsel for the LSBA and is responsible for the administration of the LSBA’s lawyer advertising filing and evaluation process. A frequent presenter on legal ethics and lawyer advertising topics; he has written several articles for the Louisiana Bar Journal. Before joining the LSBA staff, he practiced law in New Orleans for 14 years as a solo general practitioner. He also served two consecutive three-year appointments to the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board, first as a lawyer member of a hearing committee and then as chair of a hearing committee.

Gayle O’Connor (LC), a legal technology consultant with 30 years’ experience, was recently named as an Honoree in the 5,000 strong membership of Women in eDiscovery. She is also a former trial technician for the federal public defenders, a marketing director for numerous legal software providers and has taught legal research at law schools. She has been a featured speaker at American Lawyer Media LegalTech Events, ABA TECHSHOW, Special Libraries Association, Washington State Paralegal Association, National Business Institute, ABA Litigation Section Meetings, local Bar Associations throughout the U.S., and international organizations.
Tom O’Connor (LC), is a nationally known expert and consultant, speaker and writer on computerized litigation support systems. Armed with an undergraduate degree in political science from The Johns Hopkins University and a JD degree, he offers expertise on technology issues, including to federal and state courts on complex cases involving large amounts of electronic evidence. His expertise is also sought for negotiating ESI exchange protocols. A co-author of the award winning article, “In Katrina’s Wake,” he is also the author The Automated Law Firm: A Guide to Computer Systems and Software and The Lawyers Guide to Summation and EDiscovery for Small Cases, both published by the ABA.

Dona Renegar (C, LC, WM, BC) is the president of the Louisiana State Bar Association, and a member of Huval Veazey Felder & Renegar, L.L.C of Lafayette, Louisiana. She focuses on Louisiana Workers’ Compensation Act claims, Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act claims, automobile liability and premises liability. She has an undergraduate degrees (magna cum laude) from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette and her law degree from Tulane University School of Law. She worked for the Legal Services Corporation in New Orleans, and represented victims of domestic abuse. She returned to Lafayette, resumed a family law practice and later began an insurance defense practice.

Madeline C. Rice (C, LC, WM and/or BC) is a member of the Contracts and Compliance department of Gilsbar, Inc. in Covington, Louisiana. Prior to joining Contracts and Compliance, she was an underwriter in the Professional Liability department for GilsbarPRO. Ms. Rice received her undergraduate degree and juris doctor from Loyola University New Orleans. She can be reached at mrice@gilsbar.com.

Buddy Stockwell (LC, WM) is the Executive Director of the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (JLAP). He earned his undergraduate and J.D. from LSU. He enlisted in the US Navy where he served on a Guided Missile Destroyer. He is also a U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Captain. After practicing law for many years in Baton Rouge, he sold his law office and home. He and his wife moved aboard a large catamaran and sailed the seas for six years. He is a Certified Clinical Interventionist through training at the Betty Ford Center and has personally been in recovery from alcoholism for over thirty years. Always on call, he assists bar applicants, lawyers, judges, and their family members.

Brooke Theobold (C, LC, WM, BC) joined the LSBA staff last year and is responsible for the administration of the Transition Into Practice (TIP) mentoring program. She also provides support for the LSBA’s Fee Dispute Arbitration Program. Brooke obtained her undergraduate degree from Louisiana State University and her law degree from Loyola Law School in New Orleans.

Chuck Vann (C, LC, WM, BC) owns a consulting business which focuses on single practitioners and small to medium sized firms in the management of the business end of a law practice. With his MBA background, he has been advising law firms and in house corporate legal departments for over 25 years. His expertise includes profitability analyses, associate and staff compensation plans, business development strategies including return-on-investment measuring, financial planning and tracking, administrative operational efficiencies, policies and procedures, and office space design and build-out.

Kevin S. Vogeltanz (C) litigates civil and criminal cases in New Orleans. A solo practitioner who forgoes a support staff, Kevin handles each aspect of every case from engagement agreement to trial. By using technology and streamlined practices, Kevin not only provides his clients with excellent representation, but does so at a fraction of the overhead most firms incur. A cum laude graduate from the University of Arkansas, School of Law, he was recruited by one of New Orleans's top firms where he litigated maritime, oil & gas, and white-collar matters until 2012 when he left to start his own practice.