

Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this section, visit www.lsba.org/diversity.

Nomination procedures listed, forms online for Trailblazer Award, Guardian of Diversity Award, Citizen Lawyer Award

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Member Outreach and Diversity Department has announced the nomination periods and procedures for the Trailblazer Award, the Guardian of Diversity Award and the Citizen Lawyer Award.

For more information on awards and to access nomination forms, go online: www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx. Click on "Diversity and Inclusion Awards" and "Service Awards." Or email the Member Outreach and Diversity Department at outreach@lsba.org.

LSBA Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award

The LSBA Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award was established in 2016. It combined two previous diversity awards — the Trailblazer Award (established in 2013) and the Human Rights Award (established in 2010). The Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award is awarded by the Association annually in June at the LSBA's Annual Meeting.

The nomination period runs from October through February.

This award recognizes individual attorneys and judges who champion the ideals set forth by Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, the first African-American chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, who has always exhibited an unwavering commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

Nominees must be admitted to practice in Louisiana. Judges must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana; the lawyer or judge can be on active or inactive status and from any practice setting; and the lawyer or judge cannot be a current member of the LSBA's Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession.

The Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award recipient should demonstrate a unique blend of experience, skills and accomplishments which translate into suc-

cessful diversity and inclusion efforts which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- supporting and encouraging attorneys who are members of an unrepresented group within the legal profession to reach their career and personal potential;
- ensuring opportunities for the advancement of diverse people through mentoring efforts and diversity outreach;
- commitment to addressing issues of equality, fairness and injustice in the legal profession; and
- participation in community service activities which promote and broaden the diversity pipeline to the legal profession.

Last year's Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award was presented to Hon. Karen Wells Roby, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana.

Guardian of Diversity Award

The Guardian of Diversity Award, established in 2013, recognizes non-profit groups, local and specialty bar associations, and public interest organizations that implement and advance diversity programs to promote and support diversity in the legal community. It is presented at the LSBA's Annual Meeting.

The nomination period is October through February.

Nominees can be bar associations, courts, law firms/departments, or community organizations (including non-profits and public interest organizations).

Recipients should demonstrate the following diversity and inclusion efforts:

- creating and implementing innovative strategies to promote and advance the concept and spirit of diversity and inclusion in society;
- making a significant impact on diversity issues in the legal profession;
- enhancing access and equality in employment, economic and educational opportunities;
- advocating and promoting an understanding and awareness of diversity;
- dedication to improving and bridging

the relationship between diverse groups; and

- proven commitment to creating a culture of diversity and inclusion.

Citizen Lawyer Award

The Citizen Lawyer Award is an LSBA service award that recognizes individual attorneys and judges who have performed public services out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism. In 2001, the Louisiana State Bar Association instituted the Crystal Gavel Awards, designed to recognize these outstanding lawyers and judges who have been unsung heroes and heroines in their communities. The award program was updated in 2014 and renamed the Citizen Lawyer Awards.

To be nominated, the lawyer must be admitted to practice in Louisiana, and the judge must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana.

In order to qualify, nominees must have made a difference in their local communities, in local organizations, or even in the life of one person, and have served the public in a number of areas, including:

- aiding the administration of justice;
- assisting groups or individuals on a volunteer basis in a non-legal capacity;
- educating the public or individuals or students about legal matters;
- providing pro bono legal services in a matter of a significant nature, in a significant number of cases, or in a way that significantly changed the life of a person or group; and

► working in conjunction with the court system to make it more welcoming, inviting and understandable for jurors, witnesses or victims of crime.

The nomination period is April through June 30.

Awards are presented in local communities throughout the state. There is no limit to the number of awards which will be presented, as the LSBA wishes to recognize all deserving individuals. ■

**New Admittees Reception scheduled
for Oct. 10 in New Orleans**

Join the Louisiana State Bar Association in welcoming the newest members to the profession at the annual New Orleans Area New Admittees Reception from 5-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans.

The event is free to all attorneys. RSVP by Nov. 7 to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewAdmittee2017>. 



**LSBA DIVERSITY
OUTREACH
& INCLUSION**

DIVERSITY • INCLUSION • PROFESSIONALISM

For latest news on diversity and inclusion in the profession, visit www.lsba.org/diversity



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION From Rhetoric to REALITY

MARCH 9, 2018 • NEW ORLEANS, LA

11TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE ON DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION



TRAINING SEMINAR

**Professionalism Facilitator
Training Workshop**

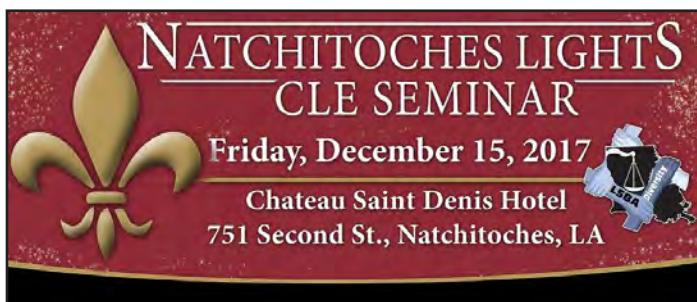
Saturday, November 18, 2017

Hyatt Centric French Quarter • 800 Rue Iberville • New Orleans, LA

► Registration Fee: FREE – 3.00 CLE Credit Hours (Professionalism) Facilitators are attorney volunteers that give of their time to educate others on promoting diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. At the workshop LSBA Members will:

- Increase your knowledge of unconscious bias that affects each one of us
- Discover new ways to reduce bias
- Learn how to help others become more culturally competent
- Gain tools to promote diversity and inclusion through training
- Boost your confidence in delivering effective CLE presentations

Questions? Contact Member Outreach and Diversity team members by email at diversity@lsba.org. Or register online at www.lsba.org/CLE



**NATCHITOCHES LIGHTS
CLE SEMINAR**

Friday, December 15, 2017

Chateau Saint Denis Hotel
751 Second St., Natchitoches, LA

**“Natchitoches Lights”
CLE Seminar**

Friday, December 15, 2017

Chateau St. Denis Hotel • 751 Second St. • Natchitoches, LA

- Registration Fee: \$55.00
- Full registration includes access to conference sessions, lunch, coffee breaks, and electronic course materials. Written course materials will not be available.
- CLE Credit Hours 6.00 - including 1.00 hour Ethics, 1.00 hour Professionalism, 1.00 hour Law Office Management
- Need a hotel room? We have a great rate!
- The LSBA has reserved a block of rooms at the newly opened Chateau St. Denis hotel at a discounted rate of \$209.00 per night (excluding taxes and fees).

Questions? Contact Member Outreach and Diversity team members by email at diversity@lsba.org. Or register online at www.lsba.org/CLE