

Focus on Diversity

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

Nomination deadline is Feb. 28 for Trailblazer Award and Guardian of Diversity Award

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Member Outreach and Diversity Department is reminding members that the nomination deadline for the Trailblazer Award and the Guardian of Diversity Award is Feb. 28.

For more information on the awards and to access nomination forms, go online: <https://www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx>. Click on "Diversity and Inclusion 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.

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 successful 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.

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. 📄



Black History Month CLE seminar set for Feb. 15

In honor of Black History Month, the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Diversity Committee and Adams and Reese, L.L.P., are sponsoring a CLE seminar on Feb. 15. Beginning at 3 p.m., the seminar will be held

at Adams and Reese's Baton Rouge office, 450 Laurel St. A networking reception will follow. For more information, email the LSBA's Member Outreach and Diversity Department at diversity@lsba.org. 📄



LSBA DIVERSITY OUTREACH & INCLUSION

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



Federal Bar Association New Orleans Chapter's annual Federal Judges' Reception

The New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association hosted its annual Federal Judges' Reception in November 2017. The reception honored the judiciary of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals; U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; and the Bankruptcy Court. Among the attendees were, photo below left, CC Kahr, past executive director, Federal Bar Association, New Orleans Chapter; W. Raley Alford III, Stanley, Reuter, Ross, Thornton & Alford, LLC, president, Federal Bar Association, New Orleans Chapter. Photo below right, Katherine M. Evans and Duane A. Evans, acting U.S. attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Louisiana. Above right, Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart, U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals; and Judge Nannette J. Brown, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana.



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11TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE ON DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Join the LSBA for the 11th annual celebration of the Diversity Conclave on **March 9, 2018**, in New Orleans, with keynote speaker Paulette Brown (Partner, Locke Lored LLP, Morristown, NJ), workshop presenter Ritu Bhasin (Founder and Principal, Bhasin Consulting Inc.) and other dignitaries. **Reserve your spot and register before March 8, 2018 - visit www.lsba.org/goto/conclave.**