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## **LSBA Recognizes Legal Professionals, Law Students for Pro Bono Service**

**NEW ORLEANS**—Several Louisiana legal professionals and law students were recognized for exceptional pro bono service over the past year at the 31th annual Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Pro Bono Awards Ceremony on May 24. The Louisiana Supreme Court hosted the ceremony at its courthouse in New Orleans.

LSBA 2015-16 President Mark A. Cunningham and members of the Louisiana Supreme Court presented the awards to the 2016 Pro Bono Publico and Children’s Law Award recipients. Incoming LSBA President Darrel J. Papillion announced the award winners.

The Pro Bono Awards Ceremony honors attorneys and other public interest legal professionals from around the state who provided exceptional pro bono services to Louisiana’s indigent who may not otherwise have received adequate representation or access to the legal system.

The awards and the 2016 recipients include:

• **David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Glenn P. Marcel of Baton Rouge** received the David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes a Louisiana attorney who has demonstrated a commitment to the provision of legal services to the poor, made significant contributions to enhance the pro bono movement in Louisiana and shown significant leadership and service on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised.

Marcel retired in 2015 after a legal career spanning 40 years. He was a member of the LSBA’s Access to Justice Committee, the Baton Rouge Bar Association’s (BRBA) Pro Bono Committee and the BRBA Pro Bono Panel. He regularly volunteered for the BRBA’s Ask-A-Lawyer and Thirst for Justice programs and the LSBA’s Wills for Heroes program assisting first responders.

• **Career Public Interest Award**

**James F. Welch II of New Orleans** received the Career Public Interest Award, which recognizes Louisiana attorneys or non-attorneys who have devoted 10 or more years of service to public interest legal work, providing significant service on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised.

Since 1985, Welch has been a civil legal aid attorney in the New Orleans area, serving low-income individuals through Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. Over his career, he has assisted 19,000 people, helping clients obtain or preserve assets, income or benefits valued at more than \$15 million. In 2012, he began work as the legal arm of the Delgado Community College Single Stop USA project. The project received the first LSBA Access to Justice Innovation in Civil Legal Service Delivery Award in 2015.

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# Pro Bono Awards

## Add 1

- **LSBA President's Access to Justice Award**

**Linton W. Carney of New Orleans** received the LSBA President's Access to Justice Award, recognizing a person for a lifelong commitment and dedication to ensuring access to justice for Louisiana citizens. Since 1999, Carney has served in leadership roles in the original LSBA Access to Justice Committee, the subsequent Access to Justice Policy Committee and most recently the Access to Justice Commission.

- **Children's Law Award**

**Zebulon M. Winstead of Alexandria** received the Children's Law Award, presented by the LSBA Children's Law Committee to recognize Louisiana attorneys or Louisiana-based organizations for outstanding services in children's law.

Winstead, managing member of the Alexandria law firm of Crowell & Owens, has volunteered to represent children in Child in Need of Care (CINC) cases for several years. He also chairs the Louisiana Bar Foundation's Central Partnership Panel, is a member of the LSBA's House of Delegates and is a Hearing Committee member for the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board.

- **Friend of Pro Bono Award**

Three Friend of Pro Bono Awards were presented to the **New Orleans Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section, Lake Charles attorney John F. DeRosier** and **Baton Rouge attorney Emily P. Ziober**. The award recognizes attorneys, non-attorneys, law firms or organizations making major contributions to the enhancement and promotion of pro bono legal services to the poor.

The New Orleans Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section sponsors several annual fundraising events to benefit Southeast Louisiana Legal Services and the Pro Bono Project in New Orleans.

DeRosier, serving his third term as district attorney of Calcasieu Parish, is a decorated Vietnam veteran who supports veterans' causes and other charitable activities. He founded a 501c(3) foundation to help the needy in Calcasieu Parish. In 2016, he led the Fresh Start Initiative, a collaborative project aiding job seekers in need of expungements.

Ziober, a solo practitioner who served as administrative general counsel for the Louisiana 1st Circuit Court of Appeal and as assistant director of the Center of Civil Law Studies at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, was the 2012-15 Baton Rouge Bar Association Pro Bono Committee chair.

- **Law Student Awards**

Four Louisiana law students received the Law Student Pro Bono Award, recognizing dedication to providing legal services to the poor. The award recipients are **Lauren Bradberry, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center; Rebecca Holmes, Loyola University College of Law; Britni Duplantis, Southern University Law Center; and Stacey Michel, Tulane University Law School.**

- **Pro Bono Publico Award**

The Pro Bono Publico Award recognizes attorneys and law firms for providing pro bono legal services to Louisiana residents that meet or exceed the aspirational goal of 50 hours of pro bono services per year, as established in Rule 6.1 of Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct.

**The 2016 award recipients are:**

Gold, Weems, Bruser, Sues & Rundell, Alexandria  
Nadège A. Assalé, New Orleans

## **Pro Bono Awards**

### **Add 2**

Dana D. Atchison, New Orleans  
Jeffrey M. Cole, Lake Charles  
Lisa C. Cronin, Shreveport  
Jonah A. Freedman, New Orleans  
Meredith S. Grabill, New Orleans  
Valerie V. Guidry, Lafayette  
Thomas R. Hightower III, Lafayette  
Jane A. Jackson, New Orleans  
Jonathan T. Jarrett, Lafayette  
Winfield E. Little, Jr., Lake Charles  
Thomas L. Lorenzi, Lake Charles  
Maria A. Losavio, Alexandria  
Seth T. Mansfield, Lafayette  
Eric R. Miller, Baton Rouge  
Ross F. Roubion, Lafayette  
Dyan L. Schnaars, Lafayette  
Paul J. Tellarico, Alexandria  
Rolando R. Urbina, Baton Rouge  
Christian N. Weiler, New Orleans  
James J. Zito, Baton Rouge  
Gary M. Zwain, Metairie

#### **• Pro Bono Century Awards**

The Pro Bono Century Award recognizes attorneys who have shown consummate pro bono leadership by completing 100 hours of service from January 2014 through December 2015.

#### **The 2016 recipients include:**

Nadège A. Assalé, New Orleans  
Robert L. Blankenship, Baton Rouge  
Robert C. Clotworthy, New Orleans  
Jeffrey K. Coreil, Lafayette  
Sherry Dolan Ormond, New Orleans  
Paula J. Ferreira, Kenner  
Jonah A. Freedman, New Orleans  
Valerie G. Garrett, Lafayette  
Keren E. Gesund, Metairie  
Meredith S. Grabill, New Orleans  
Catharine O. Gracia, New Orleans  
Valerie V. Guidry, Lafayette  
Thomas R. Hightower III, Lafayette  
Jane A. Jackson, New Orleans  
Jonathan T. Jarrett, Lafayette  
Victor M. Jones, New Orleans  
Mandie E. Landry, New Orleans

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## **Pro Bono Awards Add 3**

Stephanie S. Lintern, New Orleans  
Winfield E. Little, Jr., Lake Charles  
Seth T. Mansfield, Lafayette  
Douglas P. Matthews, New Orleans  
Mark W. Mercante, Mandeville  
Henry V. Meyer, Metairie  
James D. Rhorer, Metairie  
Sophie D. Rosado, Kenner  
Ross F. Roubion, Lafayette  
Dyan L. Schnaars, Lafayette  
John F. Shreves, New Orleans  
Dwazendra J. Smith, Lafayette  
Mark C. Surprenant, New Orleans  
Dorothy L. Tarver, New Orleans  
Danielle L. Trostorff, New Orleans

*To access profiles of award recipients, go to: <http://files.lsba.org/documents/News/ATJ/probonobio.pdf>.*

*To access event photographs, go to the LSBA's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/louisiana.bar>.*

*The Louisiana State Bar Association assists its more than 22,000 members in the practice of law. The statewide association, as part of its multi-faceted mission, promotes and maintains access to justice initiatives for the state's residents, assists the Louisiana Supreme Court in its regulation of the practice of law, upholds the honor of the courts and the profession, and supports programs that increase public understanding of and respect for the law.*