Bar Briefs

January 2016

Louisiana State Bar Association

Vol. 31, No. 1



Newly inaugurated Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards, seated seventh from left, met with members of the Louisiana State Bar Association's Board of Governors during their Jan. 15 meeting. Seated from left, S. Jacob Braud, House of Delegates Liaison Committee chair; Michael E. Holoway, Fifth District; President-Elect-Designate Dona K. Renegar; Secretary Alainna R. Mire; Treasurer Robert A. Kutcher; President-Elect Darrel J. Papillion; Gov. Edwards; President Mark A. Cunningham; Young Lawyers Division Chair Erin O. Braud; Marjorie L. Frazier, Eighth District; Kevin C. Curry, Louisiana State Law Institute; and John M. Frazier, at-large. Standing from left, Mickey S. deLaup, at-large; C.A. (Hap) Martin III, Seventh District; Blake R. David, Third District; Patrick A. Talley, Jr., First District; David W. Leefe, First District; Donald W. North, Southern University Law Center; Monica Hof Wallace, Loyola University College of Law; Immediate Past President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr.; C. Kevin Hayes, Fifth District; Charles D. Elliott, Sixth District; Shayna L. Sonnier, Fourth District; John E. McAuliffe, Jr., Second District; Julie Baxter Payer, House of Delegates Liaison Committee member; and Marcus A. Augustine, House of Delegates Liaison Committee member. Not in photo, Rachael D. Johnson, at-large. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.

HOD discusses resolutions, elects committee members

he Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) House of Delegates approved six of seven resolutions presented at its Jan. 16 meeting in New Orleans.

Three resolutions from the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization were ap-

proved — 1) amending the Standards for Appellate Practice; 2) amending the Standards for Estate Planning and Administration; and 3) amending the standards for Tax Law.

Two resolutions from the LSBA's Bar Governance Committee were unanimously approved — 1) amending the bylaws and adding Bar Governance as a standing committee; and 2) amending the bylaws and adding Outreach as a standing committee.

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LSBA members certified elected for leadership positions; 3 runoffs scheduled

everal Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) members were certified elected for leadership positions following the close of voting on Dec. 14. Also approved was an amendment to eliminate the law student membership category.

Runoff races are needed to decide two Nominating Committee positions and one Young Lawyers Division Council position. Runoff balloting began Jan. 11 and will close on Monday, Feb. 1.

Listed below are candidates who have been **Certified Elected** for their races and the three **Runoff Races**.

Certified Elected

Board of Governors

► Fifth Board District: Edward J. Walters, Jr.

Nominating Committee

- ▶ District 2A: Edward J. Walters, Jr.
- ▶ District 2B: Robert A. Kutcher and Raymond S. Steib.
 - ▶ District 2C: Daniel A. Cavell.
 - ▶ District 3A: Steven G. (Buzz) Durio.
 - ▶ District 3B: Robert S. Dampf.

LSBA House of Delegates

▶ Fifteenth Judicial District: Loretta B. Chretien, Steven G. (Buzz) Durio, Chase J. Edwards, Scott F. Higgins, Matthew J. Hill, Jr., Katherine L. Hurst, Andrew B. Mims, Donovan J. O'Pry II, Joseph R. Oelkers III, Jeffrey A. Riggs, Michael D. Skinner, Dwazendra J. Smith and Juliette B. Wade.

▶ Nineteenth Judicial District: B. Scott Andrews, Kelly E. Balfour, Jesse H. Bankston, Jr., Valerie B. Bargas, James E. Boren, Dana B. Brown, Donald J. Cazayoux, Douglas J. Cochran, Jean M. Faria, Frank A. Fertitta, C. Frank Holthaus, Jay M. Jalenak, Michael W. McKay, Adrian G. Nadeau, Julie Baxter Payer, Mary E. Roper, Valerie T. Schexnayder, Amanda S. Stout, David Abboud Thomas, Mary Ann M. White and Jack K. Whitehead, Jr.

Young Lawyers Division Council

- ► Second Board District: Shayna Beevers Morvant.
 - ► Fifth District: Kristi W. Richard.

American Bar Association House of Delegates/Young Lawvers Division

► Kristen L. Burge

Runoff Races

Nominating Committee (one-year term) **District 2A** (1 position)

Bar Briefs

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Announcements and news contributions are welcome and should be mailed, faxed or emailed by the first of the month before publication to Darlene M. LaBranche.

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Frank A. Fertitta Adrian G. Nadeau **District 3C** (1 position) Robert L. Bussey William M. Ford

Young Lawyers Division Council (two-year term)

First District (1 position)

Cristin F. Bordelon Ryan M. McCabe

For more information on the election procedures and the schedule, go to: www. lsba.org/goto/elections.

RESOLUTIONS continued from page 1

A third resolution from the Bar Governance Committee addressing the composition of the Legislation Committee was amended as follows and approved — "to ensure geographically diverse representation, there shall be no more than four (4) House of Delegates representatives from a judicial district at any given time."

The resolution from House of Delegates member Charles C. Bourque, Jr. (32nd Judicial District) proposing that the LSBA develop and implement a public information and media strategy to permit the organization to respond to unwarranted attacks on the profession and the judiciary failed by a vote of 70 in favor and 82 against.

The House elected Sandra K. Cosby (24th Judicial District) to serve a three-year term (2016-19) on the House of Delegates Liaison Committee.

From the three Liaison Committee members, the House elected Julie Baxter Payer (19th Judicial District) as chair for a one-year term (2016-17).

The House elected Daniel A. Cavell (17th Judicial District) to serve the remaining one year of Dona K. Renegar's term on the Budget Committee (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) because of her election as 2016-17 president-elect.

To review the full meeting agenda and all resolutions, go to: www.lsba.org/Bar-Governance/HouseofDelegates.aspx.



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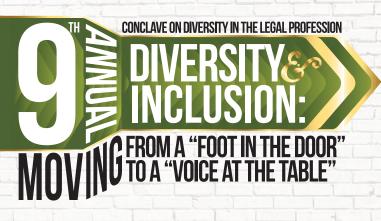




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SAVE # DATE MARCH 4, 2016

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JOIN US FOR THE Excellence in Diversity RECEPTION

The Excellence in Diversity reception honoring signatories of the LSBA Statement of Diversity Principles will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016, at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Speakers, sponsors, and Conclave registrants are encouraged to attend. Entertainment will be provided by August Heat Band. Please RSVP on the Conclave online registration page (www.lsba.org/CLE).

The LSBA has reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center at a discounted rate of \$149.00 per night (excluding taxes and fees). You are urged to make reservations early, as there are only a limited number of rooms available at the discounted rate listed above. The LSBA room block is reserved for seminar attendees only.

Hotel Reservation/Cancellation Policy

In order to reserve a room, please call 800-955-6962 or 225-344-5866 and request the "LSBA 2016 Diversity Conclave" group block rate. All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card by February 2, 2016, and the credit card will be charged a deposit of one night's room and tax when reservations are made. Any requests received after February 3, 2016, will be handled on a space and rate availability basis only. Please note that if your plans change and you do not timely cancel your room reservation by February 2, 2016, you are responsible for the room charge.

Registration Cancellation Policy: All cancellations must be received in writing and sent to diversity@lsba.org; telephone cancellations will not be accepted. Cancellations received in writing before February 18, 2016, will be fully refunded minus a \$30.00 administrative fee. If written confirmation of cancellation is not received by February 18, 2016, no refunds or credits will be issued of any kind. Credits will be processed within two weeks of receipt of the cancellation request.

PROGRAM AGENDA

7:45 - 8:15 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. 1.0 CLE hour each **Breakout Sessions**

PLEASE SELECT ONE BREAKOUT SESSION

Breakout #1 **Ethics**

Moderator: Lauren R. Aronson • LSU Law Center • Baton Rouge

Jonathan A. Grode • Green and Spiegel, LLC • Providence, RI Gordon J. Quan · Quan Law Group, PLLC • Houston, TX









Breakout # 2

Professionalism

I GRT Moderator: J. Dalton Courson • Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann L.L.C. • New Orleans Daniel J. Canon • Clay Daniel Walton Adams, PLC · Louisville, KY Laura E. Landenwich • Clay Daniel Walton

Adams, PLC · Louisville, KY



Breakout # 3

General

Criminal Law Professor Thomas D. Albright • Salk Institute for Biological Studies • La Jolla, CA Dylan C. Alge • East Baton Rouge District Attorney's Office • Baton Rouge



9:45 - 10:00 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

Mark A. Cunningham • Jones Walker LLP • New Orleans LSBA president, 2015-2016



10:00 - 10:05 a.m.

Introduction of Facilitator

Barbara B. Ormsby • Deutsch Kerrigan LLP • New Orleans

10:05 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. "Interactive Workshop" 2.0 CLE hours Professionalism

Facilitator: Kimberly Papillon, Esq. • The Better Mind • Oakland, CA



12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Luncheon & Presentation of Awards and Recognitions

Presented by LSBA Diversity Committee Co-Chairs, Conclave Subcommittee Chair and Co-Chairs Barbara B. Ormsby • Deutsch Kerrigan LLP

 New Orleans Troy N. Bell • Courington Kiefer

& Sommers, L.L.C., New Orleans Quintillis K. Lawrence • Commissioner,



Recognition of Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Mark A. Cunningham • Jones Walker LLP • New Orleans LSBA president, 2015-2016

19th Judicial District Court • Baton Rouge

Introduction of Keynote Speaker



1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

1.0 CLE hour

General

Roderick A "Rick" Palmore • Senior Counsel Dentons US LLP . Chicago, IL



2:00 - 2:15 p.m.

3:15 - 3:30 p.m.

3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

1.0 CLE hour

General

Networking Break

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. 1.0 CLE hour Professionalism **Best Practices Session**

Moderator: Liwen Mah • Fenwick & West LLP · San Francisco, CA Marcus V. Brown • Entergy, Inc. • New Orleans

Lori A. Chumbler • Walmart • Bentonville, AR Honorable Jenny Rivera • New York State Court of Appeals • Albany, NY





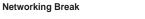








Linda Perez-Clark • Kean Miller LLP • Baton Rouge



Legal Pipeline Session Donald R. Cravins, Jr. · National Urban League • Washington, DC John R. Kouris • DRI • Chicago, IL





Nomination deadline is Feb. 12 for Young Lawyers Division Awards

he nomination deadline is Friday, Feb. 12, for five 2016 Louisiana State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (YLD) awards.

- ► The Hon. Michaelle Pitard Wynne Professionalism Award recognizes a young lawyer for commitment and dedication to upholding the quality and integrity of the legal profession and consideration towards peers and the general public.
- ► The Outstanding Young Lawyer Award recognizes a young lawyer who has made outstanding contributions to the legal profession and his/her community.
- ► The Service to the Public Award recognizes a young lawyer local affiliate for implementing a program or providing a service that assists the general public in the local community. (The program or



service must be sponsored by the young lawyer local affiliate.)

► The Service to the Bar Award

recognizes a young lawyer local affiliate for implementing a program or providing a service that has benefited and/or enhanced the attorney community. (The program or service must be sponsored by the young lawyer local affiliate.)

► The YLD Pro Bono Award recognizes a young lawyer for commitment and dedication to providing pro bono services in his/her community.

To review submission procedures and to download a nomination form, go to: www.lsba.org/yld. To submit nominations online, go to: https://apps.lsba.org/nominations.

For more information, contact YLD Awards Committee Chair Dylan T. Thriffiley, (504)842-4517 or email dylan. thriffiley@ochsner.org.





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LSBA's Rhine River CLE Cruise slated for December 2016

he Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is offering an exciting CLE opportunity paired with an eight-day Rhine River Cruise, traveling through France, Germany, The Netherlands and Switzerland. Partnering with Vacations at Sea, the LSBA program is Friday, Dec. 9, through Friday, Dec. 16, 2016, aboard the Viking Longship Mani. The trip scheduling will take advantage of the many European Christmas markets.

An hour of CLE will be offered prior to dinner for five nights of the cruise at a cost of \$150 per attorney CLE registrant. The LSBA will invoice registrants for this portion of the trip once they have booked the cruise portion with Vacations at Sea.

Special LSBA trip pricing, available only through Vacations At Sea, represents a savings of \$125 per person off of the lowest available rates. Past Viking passengers will receive an additional discount.

A deposit of \$500 per person, plus the passport names and dates of birth of all passengers, are required to hold a cabin. Space is extremely limited and categories can sell out. Final payments must be paid by June 10, 2016.

For more information on pricing, discounts, the itinerary and booking/payment procedures, go to: http://files.lsba.org/documents/Members/2016RiverCruiseCLE.pdf.

Public Notice: Magistrate Judge vacancy, Eastern District

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana is seeking qualified applicants to fill a vacancy for U.S. magistrate judge. The term of office is eight years. The full notice is available online at www.laed.uscourts.gov or in the office of the District Court Clerk, 500 Poydras St., Room C-151, New Orleans. Applications must be submitted only by potential nominees personally and must be received by Jan. 29, 2016.

LBF seeking nominations for 2016 Boisfontaine Award

he Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is seeking nominations for the 2016 Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award. Nominations must be received in the LBF office by Friday, Feb. 5.

Nominations should include nominee's name, contact information, a brief written statement on the background of the nominee, as well as reasons why the nominee is proposed as the award recipient. Nominations should be forwarded to Dennette Young, Communications Director, Louisiana Bar Foundation, Ste. 1000, 1615 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, or emailed to dennette@raisingthebar.org by the deadline.

The award will be presented at the Louisiana State Bar Association's Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla., in June. The recipient will receive a plaque and \$1,000 will be donated in his/her name to a non-profit, law-related program or association of his/her choice.

This trial advocacy award was established through an endowment to the Louisiana Bar Foundation in memory of Curtis R. Boisfontaine, who served as president of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel. Donations from Sessions, Fishman, Nathan & Israel, LLP, the Boisfontaine Family and friends established the fund.

The award is presented to a Louisiana attorney who exhibits long standing devotion to and excellence in trial practice and upholds the standards of ethics and consideration for the court, litigants and all counsel.

LBF's Fellows Meeting is April 8

he Louisiana Bar Foundation's (LBF) Annual Fellows Membership Meeting will begin at noon on Friday, April 8, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, 601 Loyola Ave. This luncheon meeting is an opportunity for Fellows to be updated on LBF activities and to elect new board members. The President's Award will be presented and recognition will be given to the 2015 Distinguished Honorees and the Calogero Justice Award recipient.

All LBF Fellows in good standing will receive an official meeting notice with the Board slate and a committee selection form in early March.

For more information, contact Laura Sewell at (504)561-1046 or email laura@raisingthebar.org.

LBF Kids' Chance scholarship application process open

he online application process for the 2016-17 Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) Kids' Chance Scholarship Program is now open. The deadline to apply is Friday, Feb. 19.

The program awards scholarships to dependent children of workers killed or permanently and totally disabled in an accident compensable under a state or federal Workers' Compensation Act or law. The program is administered by the LBF and is governed by a committee representing a cross-section of the legal and workers' compensation communities.

For more information on the program, go to: http://raisingthebar.org/ProgramsAnd-Projects/KidsChanceProgram.asp.

Mentee signup now open for Transition into Practice Program

irst-year lawyers admitted in 2015 are invited to sign up for Transition into Practice (TIP), a pilot mentoring program for the Shreveport, Baton Rouge and Greater New Orleans areas. The program introduces new lawyers to experienced mentors who can provide guidance through the intricacies of the first year of practice. To learn more or sign up online, go to www.lsba.org/Mentoring/.

Conference of the Year!

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For more info, call (504)619-0138, or to register online or download a mail-in form, visit www.lsba.org/goto/2016Solo



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LSBA lists Legislation Committee contacts, calendars pertinent 2016 dates

n preparation for the 2016 Louisiana legislative session, the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is reminding members that timely input will be accepted on proposed legislation which falls within the LSBA's purview.

For information on the process — as well as contact links for Legislation Committee Chair Keenan K. Kelly, members of the Legislation Committee, LSBA Legislation Committee liaison Shawn L. Holahan, the LSBA Board of Governors and LSBA Executive Director Loretta Larsen — go to: www.lsba.org/legislation.

The LSBA also wants to inform members of several important dates in relation to the 2016 Louisiana legislative session and the LSBA Legislation Committee:

- ► Friday, March 4: Bill prefiling deadline for Louisiana legislators.
- ► Saturday, March 12: LSBA Legislation Committee's first meeting, Renaissance Hotel, Baton Rouge.
- ► Monday, March 14: Louisiana legislative session begins.
- ► Tuesday, April 5: "Five Bill" deadline for Louisiana legislators.
- ► Saturday, April 9: Public Meeting, LSBA Legislation Committee's second meeting, Le Méridien Hotel, New Orleans.
- ► Saturday, April 9: LSBA's Board of Governors meeting, immediately following second meeting, New Orleans.
- ► Monday June 6: Louisiana legislative session adjourns

Attorneys needed as judges for Region 4 High School Mock Trial competition

Attorneys are needed as presiding and scoring judges for the Region 4 High School Mock Trial competition, hosted by the Louisiana State Bar Association. The competition is set for Saturday, Feb. 20, at the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans. Morning and afternoon volunteer opportunities are available.

Region 4 covers high schools in Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany parishes.

Register online at: http://bit.ly/1RRUA7g. Or, email aellis@joneswalker.com.

SOLACE: Support of Lawyers/Legal Personnel — All Concern Encouraged

The Louisiana State Bar Association/Louisiana Bar Foundation's Community Action Committee supports the SOLACE program. Through the program, the state's legal community is able to reach out in small, but meaningful and compassionate ways to judges, lawyers, court personnel, paralegals, legal secretaries and their families who experience a death or catastrophic illness, sickness or injury, or other catastrophic event. For assistance, contact a coordinator.

Area	Coordinator	Contact Info	Cell	Email Address
Alexandria Area	Richard J. Arsenault	(318)487-9874	Cell (318)452-5700	rarsenault@nbalawfirm.com
Baton Rouge Area	Ann K. Gregorie	(225)214-5563		ann@brba.org
Covington/ Mandeville Area	Suzanne E. Bayle	(504)524-3781		sebayle@bellsouth.net
Denham Springs Area	Mary E. Heck Barrios	(225)664-9508		mary@barrioslaw.com
Houma/Thibodaux Area	Danna Schwab	(985)868-1342		dschwab@theschwablawfirm.com
Jefferson Parish Area	Pat M. Franz	(504)455-1986		patfranz@bellsouth.net
Lafayette Area	Josette Abshire	(337)237-4700		director@lafayettebar.org
Lake Charles Area	Melissa St. Mary	(337)942-1900		melissa@pitrelawfirm.com
Monroe Area	John C. Roa	(318)387-2422		roa@hhsclaw.com
Natchitoches Area	Peyton Cunningham, Jr.	(318)352-6314	Cell (318)332-7294	peytonc1@suddenlink.net
New Orleans Area	Helena N. Henderson	(504)525-7453		hhenderson@neworleansbar.org
Opelousas/Ville Platte/	John L. Olivier	(337)662-5242 (337)232-0874	(337)942-9836	johnolivier@centurytel.net
River Parishes Area	Judge Jude G. Gravois	(225)265-3923 (225)265-9828	Cell (225)270-7705	judegravois@bellsouth.net
Shreveport Area	Dana M. Southern	(318)222-3643		dsouthern@shreveportbar.com

For more information, go to: www.lsba.org/goto/solace.

LBLS accepting requests for applications

he Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) is currently accepting requests for applications for January 2017 certification in five areas — bankruptcy law (business and consumer), estate planning and administration, family law and tax law. The deadline to submit applications for consideration for estate planning and administration, family law and tax law certification is March 31, 2016. Applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification will be accepted through Sept. 30, 2016.

With the expanding complexity of the law, specialization has become a means of improving competence in the legal profession and thereby protecting the public. An increasing number of attorneys are choosing to be recognized as having special knowledge and experience by becoming certified specialists. As a matter of practical necessity, most lawyers specialize to some degree by limiting the range of matters they handle. Legal specialization helps the general public locate a lawyer who has demonstrated ability

and experience in a certain field of law.

In accordance with the Plan of Legal Specialization, a Louisiana State Bar Association member in good standing who has been engaged in the practice of law on a full-time basis for a minimum of five years may apply for certification. Further requirements are that each year a minimum of 35 percent of the attorney's practice must be devoted to the area of certification sought, passing a written examination applied uniformly to all applicants to demonstrate sufficient knowledge, skills and proficiency in the area for which certification is sought, and five favorable references. Peer review shall be used to determine that an applicant has achieved recognition as having a level of competence indicating proficient performance handling the usual matters in the specialty field.

In addition to the above, applicants must meet a minimum CLE requirement for the year in which application is made and the examination is administered:

► Estate Planning and Administration Law — 18 hours of estate planning law.

- ► Family Law 18 hours of family law.
- ► Tax Law 20 hours of tax law.
- ▶ Bankruptcy Law CLE is regulated by the American Board of Certification, the testing agency.

Regarding applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification, although the written test(s) is administered by the American Board of Certification, attorneys should apply for approval of the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization simultaneously with the testing agency in order to avoid delay of board certification by the LBLS. Information concerning the American Board of Certification will be provided with the application form(s).

Applications are mailed. Anyone interested in applying for certification should contact LBLS Executive Director Barbara M. Shafranski, email barbara.shafranski@lsba. org, or call (504)619-0128. For more information, go to the LBLS website at: https://www.lascmcle.org/specialization.

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2016 Judicial Interest Rate is 4%

Pursuant to authority granted by La. R.S. 13:4202(B)(1), as amended by Acts 2001, No. 841, the Louisiana Commissioner of Financial Institutions has determined that the judicial rate of interest for calendar year 2016 will be four (4.0%) percent per annum.

Judicial Interest Rate Calculator online!

Need to calculate judicial interest? Check out the Judicial Interest Rate Calculator (courtesy of Alexandria attorney Charles D. Elliott) on the Louisiana State Bar Association's website. Go to: www.lsba.org/Members/JudicialInterestRate.aspx. Then, click on "Louisiana Judicial Interest Calculator."

IRS sets 2016 mileage rate

The Internal Revenue Service has set the 2016 mileage rate for business purposes at 54 cents per mile. This rate became effective Jan. 1.

NOTICE Attorney Fee Review Board

2001 Louisiana Acts 208 created the Attorney Fee Review Board. The Act allows for payment or reimbursement of legal fees and expenses incurred in the successful defense of state officials, officers or employees who are charged with criminal conduct or made the target of a grand jury investigation due to conduct arising from acts allegedly undertaken in the performance of their duties.

The Board is charged with establishing hourly rates for legal fees for which the State may be liable pursuant to R.S. 13:5108.3. Pursuant to R.S. 13:5108.4, the rates "shall be sufficient to accommodate matters of varying complexity, as well as work of persons of varying professional qualifications."

The Board met on October 6, 2015, and decided that requests for payment or reimbursement of legal fees should

be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the factors set forth in Rule 1.5 of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct. As directed by statute, the Board set a minimum rate of \$125 per hour and a maximum rate of \$425 per hour. These rates will remain in effect through 2017.

Attorneys who represent state officials and employees should be prepared to provide their clients and the Board with sufficient information to enable the Board to assess the reasonableness of attorney fees and expenses.

Any questions regarding the Attorney Fee Review Board should be addressed to Louisiana Supreme Court Deputy Judicial Administrator Richard Williams, 1600 N. 3rd St., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

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LSBA House of Delegates positions open: Interested in an appointment?

everal Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) House of Delegates seats received no qualifiers by the Oct. 19 qualifying deadline and will be filled by presidential appointment. Members interested in being considered for appointment to these positions should email LSBA Executive Assistant Mindi Hunter at mindi.hunter@lsba.org as soon as possible. Available positions are listed below.

House of Delegates

- Second Judicial District
 (1 appointment pending)
- Fourth Judicial District (1 appointment pending)
- Fifth Judicial District (1 appointment pending)
- Sixth Judicial District (1 appointment pending)
- Tenth Judicial District
 (1 appointment pending)

"Early-bird" registration open through Jan. 25 for Solo and Small Firm Conference

he early-bird registration rate of \$250 is available through Jan. 25 for the ninth annual Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Solo and Small Firm Conference, set for Thursday and Friday, Feb. 25-26, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, 601

Loyola Ave. Conference organizers will apply for up to 13.5 hours of CLE (the entire CLE requirement for the year, with carryover credit for 2017). To register online or for more information, go to: www. lsba.org/CLE/.

Jan. 25 Marketing Monday CLE: 2016 Social Media Best Practices for Lawyers

he next "Marketing Monday"
CLE is set for Jan. 25 at the
Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St.
Charles Ave., New Orleans.
Speaker Megan Hargroder, creator of
CONVERSATIONS, LLC, will discuss

"2016 Social Media Best Practices for Lawyers," including shortcuts on how to prevent social media from becoming a time vampire. The CLE is \$10, earning one hour of credit. Registration is online only. Go to: www.lsba.org/CLE.

Jan. 26 Tech Tuesday CLE: Technology 101

he next "Tech Tuesday" CLE is set for Jan. 26 at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans. Speaker Tom O'Connor, senior ESI consultant at Advanced Discovery, will discuss "Technology 101: An Introduction to the Basics of

Computer Technology that Every Attorney Should Know," including the necessary starting points for attorneys to incorporate effective technology into their practices. The CLE is \$10, earning one hour of credit. Registration is online only. Go to: www. lsba.org/CLE.

Sponsors sought for LBF's 30th Anniversary Gala

he Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) will celebrate the 30th Anniversary Gala on Friday, April 8. The gala and live auction will be held at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, 601 Loyola Ave., New Orleans.

The LBF will honor the 2015 Distinguished Jurist Sarah S. Vance, Distinguished Attorneys Judy Y. Barrasso and Herschel E. Richard, Jr., Distinguished Professor Alain A. Levasseur and Calogero Justice Award recipient, The Family Justice Center of Ouachita Parish.

Sponsorships are available at several levels: 30th Anniversary Circle; Benefactor; Cornerstone; Capital; Pillar; and Foundation. To learn more about each sponsorship level, and to purchase sponsorships or individual tickets, go to: www.raisingthebar.org/gala2016/.

Individual tickets to the gala are \$150. Young lawyer individual gala tickets are \$100.

Discounted rooms are available Thursday, April 7, and Friday, April 8, at \$229 a night. To make a reservation, call the Hyatt at 1(888)421-1442 and reference the "Louisiana Bar Foundation" or go to: *www.raisingthebar.org*. Reservations must be made before Monday, March 14.

For more information, contact Laura Sewell at (504)561-1046 or email laura@raisingthebar.org.

Registration open for "LSBA Uncorked" CLE in Sonoma

Registration is open for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) "LSBA Uncorked" multi-topic CLE, scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, Feb. 29-March 2, at the Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa in Sonoma, Calif. Program organizers are applying for up to 13 hours of credit. Early registration is encouraged as space is limited. Participants are encouraged to book flights early for the best airfares. Upon receipt of paid registration, the LSBA will forward confirmation packets with more information on the hotel. To download a registration form and for more information, go to: www.lsba.org/CLE.

Focus on Access to Justice For more information, visit www.lsba.org/atj.

Internship program established to cultivate future ATJ leaders

articipants attending the March 2015 Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Access to Justice Summit concluded that cultivating the next generation of access to justice leaders should not only be a priority but is necessary as sensible succession planning to ensure continued efforts within Louisiana's justice community.

In response, representatives of the LSBA, the Louisiana Bar Foundation, Louisiana civil legal aid providers, the Louisiana District Judges Association, Louisiana law schools, the Louisiana Supreme Court and the private bar joined forces to create the Access to Justice Developing Leadership Intern Program.

This initiative is an opportunity for law students to gain the insight and skills needed to become the next generation of access to justice leaders. Only four students, having completed their first year of law school, will be selected to participate in the program. Interns — one from each of Louisiana's four law schools — will be sponsored by law firms with records of dedication to access to justice issues. Interns will work with civil legal aid programs and the sponsoring law firms — Adams and Reese, L.L.P.; Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C.; Jones Walker LLP; and Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P.

Weekly programming will focus on the various civil legal needs of low-income people, the ways in which organizations within the justice community address those needs, and how these services are increasing the quality of life for those served.

Interns will gain hands-on experience with Louisiana's civil legal aid and legal services organizations including, but not limited to, interviewing clients, attending court hearings and participating in community outreach efforts.

Additionally, interns will have the opportunity to meet Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, as well as state and federal appellate and trial court judges who have been actively involved in developing and supporting pro bono and access to justice efforts throughout Louisiana.

The internship program will be conducted during the five-week period from May 23 to June 24. Interns will receive a \$2,500 stipend for their participation.

Online nominations open for 2016 Pro Bono, Children's Law Awards

ominations for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) 2016 Pro Bono and Children's Law Awards are now being accepted online by the Access to Justice Committee. Nominations must be received by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19.

Awards recognize outstanding achievement in several categories — Law Student Award, Friend of Pro Bono Award, Pro Bono Publico Award, Career Public Interest Award and the David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award. Also, attorneys who have provided more than 100 hours of volunteer services are recognized with the LSBA Century Club Award.

Award recipients will be honored at a May 24 reception hosted by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

For more information on the award categories and submission information,



go to: https://apps.lsba.org/nominations.
Once there, log in as an LSBA member or guest. For assistance, email ATJ Administrative Assistant Nicole Louque at nicole. louque@lsba.org.



LIFT Legal Incubator and Accelerator Program accepting 2016 applications through March 11

he Legal Innovators For Tomorrow (LIFT) program is currently accepting applications for its 2016 class of incubator participants. Applications are due by March 11.

Louisiana licensed attorneys with up to five years' practice experience who plan to develop, or have begun to develop, a solo or small law practice focused on serving unmet legal needs are invited to apply. The application is available online at: http://files.lsba.org/documents/ATJ/liftapp.pdf.

Operated by the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice Department, the LIFT statewide legal incubator and accelerator program is designed to increase access to legal services for low- and moderate-income Louisiana residents. The program provides new lawyers with the resources and support needed to develop public interest-focused solo firms that employ innovative solutions to addressing unmet legal needs.

Among the goals of LIFT are:

- ► assisting new attorneys to develop successful solo and small law firms;
- ► encouraging public interest and social justice-oriented practices;
- ▶ providing affordable professional legal services for modest-means clients; and
- ▶ helping to bridge the gap for those who would not otherwise qualify for free legal aid.





Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President Mark A. Cunningham, standing fifth from left, joined members of the 2014 and 2015 LIFT Classes. Seated from left, LSBA Access to Justice Training and Project Counsel Amy E. Duncan; and class member Erica L. Andrews. Standing from left, class members Nicholas J. Hite, Latisha-Nixon Jones, Carlton J. Miller and Betty A. Maury; Cunningham; class members John Love Norris IV, Corinne S. Beth and DeVonn H. Jarrett.

LIFT's 18-month program is divided into three phases. Each phase focuses on different aspects of developing a law practice and honing substantive law skills for new attorneys. During each phase, mentoring, CLEs and other law practice management training are provided.

- ▶ Phase 1, Start Up (0-6 months): Participants meet monthly and receive basic training in ethics and professionalism, entity-choice formation and law practice management, with a focus on technology solutions for the virtual office. During this phase, participants are required to dedicate some of their time to pro bono work.
- ▶ Phase 2, Business Development (6-12 months): Attorneys are assisted in developing a market plan for their practices while receiving training in procedural and substantive law.
- ▶ Phase 3, Strategic Planning and Practice Management (12-18 months): The second year of the program helps attorneys to develop long-term goals and a five-year business plan. Attorneys are assisted with implementing innovative de-

livery models and strategically structuring their law firms to meet the changing legal needs of the market. The participants are asked to provide mentorship to incoming LIFT applicants.

Through special collaborations with nonprofits and legal service programs, selected LIFT attorneys are presented unique opportunities to work onsite in their fields of interest. For example:

- Domestic Violence Project. Through a collaboration with the New Orleans Family Justice Center and Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, LIFT Fellows receive office space and work with attorneys in family and domestic violence law.
- ▶ Immigration Project. Central Louisiana Interfaith Immigration Center in Alexandria provides support and mentorship to LIFT Fellows practicing immigration law.

For more information on the program or application procedures, contact LSBA Access to Justice Training and Project Counsel Amy E. Duncan at (504)619-0148 or email amy.duncan@lsba.org.

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

Early registration open for March 4 Conclave on Diversity

he Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA), the Louisiana Supreme Court and several local and specialty bars throughout the state are hosting the ninth annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession, set for Friday, March 4, at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, 201 Lafayette St., Baton Rouge. This year's theme is "Diversity and Inclusion: Moving from 'A Foot in the Door' to 'A Voice at the Table."

The early registration fee of \$65 will be effective through Feb. 12; \$90 after Feb. 12. Program organizers have applied for 6 hours of CLE credit.

Read more about the program, presenters and registration information below.

Luncheon Keynote Speaker: Roderick A. (Rick) Palmore, senior counsel at Dentons US in Chicago, IL, and a nationally recognized advocate for diversity in the legal industry. He is the author of *A Call to Action: Diversity in the Legal Profession*, a legal industry manifesto urging general counsel to drive diversity by demanding results in the law firms with which they work as well as in their departments.

Facilitator: Kimberly Papillon, Esq., nationally recognized expert on medical, legal and judicial decision-making. She has served as regular faculty at the National Judicial College since 2005. She has delivered more than 100 lectures nationally and internationally on the implications of neuroscience, psychology and implicit association in the analysis of decision-making in the fields of business, medicine, education and the law. She resides in Oakland, CA.

LGBT Breakout Session

▶ J. Dalton Courson (moderator), a partner in the litigation section of Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, L.L.C., New Orleans. In 2014-15, he served as counsel for the Forum for Equality Louisiana and four married samesex couples who successfully challenged the State of Louisiana's refusal to give legal effect to their valid out-of-state marriages.

- ▶ Daniel J. Canon, founding member of Clay Daniel Walton Adams, P.L.C., Louisville, KY. He is one of counsel for the pioneering Kentucky and Indiana marriage equality cases (*Bourke v. Beshear, Love v. Beshear* and *Love v. Pence*), and counsel for the Kentucky plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case of *Obergefell v. Hodges*. He is currently counsel for *Miller v. Davis*, the highly publicized case in which plaintiffs were refused marriage licenses in Rowan County, KY.
- ▶ Laura E. Landenwich, founding member of Clay Daniel Walton Adams, P.L.C., Louisville, KY. She argued the Kentucky marriage equality cases before the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in August 2014.

Immigration Breakout Session

- ▶ Lauren R. Aronson (moderator), assistant professor of professional practice at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center. She joined the LSU faculty to teach and direct the Immigration Law Clinic as part of LSU Law's Clinical Legal Education Program beginning in fall 2015.
- ▶ Jonathan A. Grode, director of the Immigration Law practice in the Philadelphia, PA, and Providence, RI, offices of Green and Spiegel, L.L.C. He is co-chair of ABA's Labor and Employment Law Section's Immigration Committee.
- ▶ Gordon J. Quan, managing partner of Quan Law Group, P.L.L.C., Houston, TX. He was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2016 in the field of immigration law. He is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in immigration and nationality law.

Criminal Law Breakout Session

▶ Professor Thomas D. Albright, professor and Conrad T. Prebys chair at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, and director of the Salk Institute Center for Neurobiology of Vision, in La Jolla, CA. Dr. Albright currently serves on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Science, Technology and Law. He served as co-chair of the Na-

- tional Academy of Sciences Committee on Scientific Approaches to Eyewitness Identification, which produced the 2014 report, "Identifying the Culprit: Assessing Eyewitness Identification."
- ▶ Dylan C. Alge, attorney with the Appellate Division of the East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office. Currently, he is post-conviction counsel in two capital cases. He has argued on multiple occasions before the Louisiana 1st Circuit Court of Appeal, the Louisiana Supreme Court and the federal 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. He was initial counsel and argued *Montgomery v. Louisiana* in October at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Plenary / Best Practices Session

- ► Liwen Mah (moderator), associate in the Litigation Group of Fenwick and West, L.L.P., San Francisco, CA.
- ► Marcus V. Brown, executive vice president and general counsel of Entergy Corporation.
- ▶ Lori A. Chumbler, senior associate general counsel for Walmart on the Legal Operations team. She leads the department's Diversity & Inclusion programs and its external relationships with strategic diversity organizations.
- ▶ Hon. Jenny Rivera, associate judge of the New York State Court of Appeals. She clerked for Hon. Sonia Sotomayor on the Southern District of New York and was appointed by the New York State Attorney General as special deputy attorney general for civil rights.

Plenary / Legal Pipeline Session

- ▶ Donald R. Cravins, Jr., senior vice president for policy and executive director of the Washington Bureau of the National Urban League.
- ▶ John R. Kouris, executive director of DRI in Chicago, IL. DRI was founded as the Defense Research Institute and is the leading organization of defense attorneys and inhouse counsel.
- ► Linda Perez-Clark, partner in the Baton Rouge office of Kean Miller, L.L.P.

Continued next page



The Greater Baton Rouge Chapter of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. hosted its 2015 Christmas party and toy drive on Dec. 16 at the Boil and Roux in Baton Rouge. Among the attendees were, from left, President Rolando R. Urbina, Treasurer Lykisha R. Vaughn, Secretary Ashley J. Greenhouse and Immediate Past President Christopher B. Hebert.

The Greater Lafayette Chapter of the Louis A.

The Greater Lafayette Chapter of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. hosted a Halloween CLE seminar titled "Eat Drink and Be Scary." Presenters included, from left, Stephanie A. Finley, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana; and Josie G. Frank, 27th Judicial District Court hearing officer.

Conclave continued

Speakers, sponsors and Conclave registrants are encouraged to attend the reception honoring signatories of the LSBA's Statement of Diversity Principles from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center. Entertainment will be provided by August Heat Band.

For more information on the Conclave or to register, go to: www.lsba.org/diversity/diversityconclaveevent.aspx.

Integration Subcommittee hosts immigration CLE

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Diversity Committee's Integration Subcommittee and the LSBA's Immigration Law Section hosted an immigration CLE seminar titled "Navigating the Troubled Waters of Immigration" on Nov. 6 in Baton Rouge.

The seminar highlighted the challenges of immigration and addressed unaccompanied alien children, the detention of foreign nationals, how to represent foreign nationals, and the intersection of immigration and litigation. The seminar was moderated by Immigration Law Section Chair Ashely F. Dees. Presenters included Kathleen C. Gasparian, Gasparian Immigration; Glenda McGraw Regnart, executive director of the Central Louisiana Interfaith Immigration Center; and Emily C. Trostle with the Louisiana Esperanza Project.

Black History Month CLE scheduled for Feb. 25 in Baton Rouge

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Young Lawyers Division's Diversity/Minority Involvement Committee, the Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession (Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee), the LSBA's Minority Involvement Section, Southern University Law Center and Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center are hosting a Black History Month CLE on Thursday,

Feb. 25. The free seminar, "The Continuing Struggle of Desegregation," is 3:30-5 p.m. at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, 201 Lafayette St. A reception will follow at the Capitol Park Museum, 660 Fourth St., Baton Rouge.

For speakers and to register online, go to: http://www.lsba.org/CLE/CLESeminar.aspx?CLESeminar=2c39cee0-1a91-4e6b-a8d3-9a2c0a4c0dbc.

In conjunction with the event, law students are offered a free résumé workshop from 2-3 p.m. For presenters and registration information, go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LSBABlackhistory.

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The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. hosted its annual holiday party and toy drive on Dec. 17 at the McKenna Museum of African American Art in New Orleans. The toys collected were donated to Exodus House in New Orleans. Among the attendees were, from left, President-Elect Royce I. Duplessis, President Dana M. Douglas, Correspondence Secretary Ashley J. Heilprin, Immediate Past President Cashauna M. Hill and Vice President Justin I. Woods. Not in photo, Recording Secretary April D. Davenport and Treasurer James L. Moffett.

Classified Advertisements

Standard classified advertising in our regular typeface and format may now be placed in "Bar Briefs" and on the LSBA Web site, *LSBA.org*. All requests for classified notices must be submitted in writing and are subject to approval. Copy must be typewritten and payment must accompany request. Our low rates for placement in both are as follows:

Rates

Non-members of LSBA \$85 per insertion of 50 words or less \$1 per each additional word \$20 for a C-Box number

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Screens: \$25

Headings: \$15 for initial headings in

large type

Deadline

Payment and copy must be received by the first of the month before publication.

Send to:

Bar Briefs Classified Notices Louisiana State Bar Association 601 St. Charles Ave. New Orleans, La. 70130

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Positions Offered

AV-rated maritime and insurance defense firm with offices in Texas and Louisiana seeks attorneys for its Lafayette and New Orleans offices. Great opportunity for motivated and ambitious self-starter who is seeking considerable hands-on experience, a progression to partnership commensurate with experience, excellent compensation and fringe benefits package. Prior admiralty and/or coverage experience preferred. Mail confidential résumé to: C-Box 274, c/o Louisiana State Bar Association, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404.

Boutique New Orleans CBD/Northshore law firm seeks litigation attorneys to join its environmental team. The ideal candidate for the environmental litigation attorney — Minimum of five years' civil litigation experience is preferred with emphasis on complex litigation; A/V rating preferred; and environmental law, oil and gas law and/ or toxic tort experience preferred. The ideal candidate for the environmental and toxic tort first chair attorney — Minimum of eight years' defense experience is preferred in first chair civil jury trials, complex litigation and primary case management; A/V rating is required; and environmental and/or toxic tort experience preferred. To learn more about this position and to apply, visit the website at: www.curryandfriend.com/careers.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline

Director J.E. (Buddy) Stockwell III, 1(866)354-9334

1405 W. Causeway	Approach, Mandeville, LA 70471	email lap@louisianalap.com
Alexandria	Steven Cook	(318)448-0082
Baton Rouge	Steven Adams	(225)921-6690(225)926-4333
	David E. Cooley	• •
	John A. Gutierrez	(225)715-5438
		(225)744-3555
Lafayette	Alfred "Smitty" Landry	(337)364-5408
		(337)364-7626
	Thomas E. Guilbeau	* *
	James Lambert	
		(337)235-1825
Lake Charles	Thomas M. Bergstedt	(337)558-5032
Monroe	Robert A. Lee	(318)387-3872
		(318)388-4472
New Orleans	Deborah Faust	(504)304-1500
	Donald Massey	(504)585-0290
	Dian Tooley	(504)861-5682
		(504)831-1838
Shreveport	Michelle AndrePont	(318)347-8532
	Nancy Carol Snow	(318)272-7547
	William Kendig, Jr	
		(318)572-8260 (cell)
	Steve Thomas	(318)872-6250

The Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. provides confidential assistance with problems such as alcoholism, substance abuse, mental health issues, gambling and all other addictions.