House to consider 3 resolutions at Midyear Meeting

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) House of Delegates will consider three resolutions at its Saturday, Jan. 19, meeting, held in conjunction with the Midyear Meeting. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. in the Blaine Kern Ballroom at the New Orleans Marriott at the Convention Center, 859 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans.

The resolutions include two proposed by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS). The LBLS is proposing an amendment to its rules and regulations to impose penalties for the late payment of its annual dues. Also, the LBLS is proposing an amendment to its rules and regulations to create a mechanism for an exemption from specialization CLE in the event of hardship related to illness, disability or other mitigating circumstance.

In another resolution, the House will consider the establishment of the John Ashby Hernandez III Memorial Award for Francophone Leadership, to be presented annually to the person whose activities in the prior year most contributed to the perpetuation and enhancement of the Francophone legal tradition.

In other business, the House will elect a member to the Budget Committee and a member and chair for the House Liaison Committee.

To review the meeting agenda and all resolutions, go to: www.lsba.org/InsideLSBA/HOD.asp.

Election

Online voting underway in 2 runoff races

Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) members are deciding two runoff races. Online voting began Monday, Jan. 14. First-round voting closed Dec. 10 and results have been certified. Runoff races are required for the LSBA Board of Governors First District seat and the LSBA Young Lawyers Division Council Second District seat.

Several other LSBA members have been certified elected for their positions. Online runoff balloting will be conducted through Feb. 18.

Voting continued on page 2
Runoff election: Online voting reminder

For the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) runoff election, voting will be conducted online-only. Voting begins Monday, Jan. 14, and continues through Monday, Feb. 18. No paper ballots will be mailed. To make this voting procedure as smooth as possible, here’s what members need to know:

- Members eligible to vote in the two runoff races will receive an email with their E-ballot. The sender address will be “LSBA_Election_Admin@vres.us” and the Subject Line will reference “Louisiana State Bar Association E-ballot.”

- The email will include the member’s PIN number and a link to the voting website. On the voting website, the member must type in the PIN number to access the ballot.

- Members without email addresses, or members preferring to vote from the LSBA website, will be able to log-in from the LSBA website to a special log-in page that will ask for additional information (Bar roll number, birth date, zip code). The “Vote Now” icon will be accessible from the home page once voting is open: www.lsba.org.

For more information on elections, go to: www.lsba.org/InsideLSBA/elections.asp.

Voting continued from page 1

Runoff Races

LSBA members in runoff races include:

LSBA Board of Governors
First Board District
- Brent B. Barriere
- David W. Leefe

LSBA Young Lawyers
Division Council
Second Board District
- Stephanie M. Quigley
- Jennifer Z. Rosenbach

Certified Elected

The following LSBA members have been certified elected for their positions:

LSBA Board of Governors
- Fourth Board District: Shayna L. Sonnier

LSBA Nominating Committee
- District 1A: Donald R. Abaunza, Brent B. Barriere, H. Minor Pipes III and Phillip A. Wittmann.
- District 2B: William C. Credo III and Raymond S. Steib.
- District 3E: Alex W. Rankin.

LSBA House of Delegates
- Twenty-Fifth Judicial District: S. Jacob Braud and Dominick J. Scandurro, Jr.

LSBA Young Lawyers Division Council
- Secretary (2013-14): Erin O. Braud.
- Fourth Board District: Lynsay M. Fontenot.

Early-bird registration through Jan. 31 for combined Annual Meeting/ Joint Summer School

“Strengthening Our Profession” is the theme of the combined Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) 72nd Annual Meeting and the LSBA/Louisiana Judicial College Joint Summer School, set for June 2-7 at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Destin, Fla.

The two events have merged for 2013, allowing participants to enjoy six days of substantive programming, social events and fascinating speakers for one great price.

Early-bird registration rates are effective through Jan. 31. Special pricing is available for judges, lawyers employed full-time by local, state or federal government, and lawyers employed full-time by legal aid agencies or indigent defense agencies.

For more information on registration, the program schedule, speakers and hotel accommodations, go to: www.lsba.org/annualmeeting.

Bar Briefs

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“Bar Briefs” is published online, in January, March, May, July, September and November, by the Louisiana State Bar Association.

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

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Sponsors sought for LSBA events

The Louisiana Supreme Court reviewed and approved the latest District Court Rules amendments on Nov. 27, following a 30-day public comment period and a Court Rules Committee review of all comments received. These amendments took effect on Jan. 1, 2013. To review the amendments, go to: www.lasc.org.

LASC approves District Court Rules amendments

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Sponsors sought for LSBA events

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is currently seeking sponsors for three 2013 events:

- Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession, March 8, Baton Rouge.
- Combined LSBA 72nd Annual Meeting and LSBA/Louisiana Judicial College Joint Summer School, June 2-7, Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, Destin, Fla.

For more information on sponsorship levels and various packages, contact LSBA Program Coordinator/Marketing and Sections Christine A. Richard, (504)619-0105, email crichard@lsba.org.
The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Midyear Meeting is scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 17-19, at the New Orleans Marriott Convention Center, 859 Convention Center Blvd.

Registration is still open for two CLE programs being offered on Thursday, Jan. 17.

► The free CLE, “Navigating Mass Torts, Class Actions and Consumer Litigation: Avoiding Self-Inflicted Wounds,” will be led by Richard J. Arsenault and Val P. Exnicios. Organizers have applied for 2 CLE credit hours.

► The CLE, “Advocacy for the Ages: Cicero Speaks to the Generations & Genders,” has been approved for 2.5 CLE credit hours in professionalism. The CLE is free for LSBA members registered for the Midyear Meeting and for LSBA Diversity Statement signatories. General registration is $50.

For more information and to register online for these two CLEs, go to: www.lsba.org/midyear2013.

Also, limited space is available for the LSBA Young Lawyers Division’s Professional Development CLE seminar on Friday, Jan. 18. The seminar is limited to the first 175 young lawyers who register. Organizers have applied for 4 hours of CLE credit (including 1 hour of ethics, 1 hour of professionalism and 1 hour of law practice management). The registration cost is $30 and includes electronic course materials, breakfast and valet parking at the New Orleans Marriott at the Convention Center (859 Convention Center Blvd.). On-site registration will not be allowed unless space is available.

Topics to be discussed include ethics, law practice management issues and professionalism. For more information and to register online, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/2013YLDseminar.

The LSBA’s room block for the meeting has expired. Anyone needing a room should contact the hotel directly to determine availability. Call Marriott Reservations at (877)622-3056, or check availability online at www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/msymc-new-orleans-downtown-marriott-at-the-convention-center/.

Save the Date for

The Historic Investiture Ceremony of Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson as

Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court

Thursday, February 28, 2013

The Louisiana Supreme Court
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

For additional information: chiefjustice2013@lasc.org

BRBA schedules Jan. 30 Memorial Ceremony

The Baton Rouge Bar Association is holding its annual Memorial Ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, in the Ceremonial Courtroom, 11th floor, 19th Judicial District Court, 300 North Blvd., Baton Rouge. Attorneys who have passed away in 2012 will be remembered and new members of the profession will be introduced. For more information, go to: www.brba.org.

Free Fastcase CLE webinars are back for 2013

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is again offering free Fastcase CLE webinars throughout 2013. Earn up to three free CLE credits with Fastcase’s three-session live webinar Internet courses, “Introduction to Legal Research on Fastcase (2013),” “Introduction to Boolean (Keyword) (2013)” and “Advanced Tips for Enhanced Legal Research on Fastcase (2013).” To take advantage of this offer, you must register through the LSBA website by using your LSBA log-in information; finding the link for the date and session that suits you; and following the instructions. CLE credit will be issued when your attendance is confirmed after the webinar. For more information, go to www.lsba.org and click on “Fastcase” under “Member Services” on the left of the home page.
The Louisiana 1st Circuit Court of Appeal took the final step to fully implement its Email Notification Program. Effective Jan. 1, 2013, emailing is now an official transmission method for notices of judgment and dispositions of the court.

The court instituted its voluntary E-Notification Program in 2009. Since that time, more than 2,100 attorneys and parties without counsel have registered for the program, with less than 1 percent cancelling.

The law currently provides that the delay for applying for a rehearing or a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court runs from the mailing of the notice of judgment and opinion of the appellate court. During the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature, Act 290 was passed to amend Code of Civil Procedure articles 2166 and 2167 and Children’s Code article 1143. Coordinating changes to the Uniform Rules of Louisiana Courts of Appeal — posted to the announcement section on the 1st Circuit website, www.la-fcca.org — were adopted in October to take effect Jan. 1. The changes to the law and rules provide that, as of Jan. 1, the delay for applying for a rehearing or a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court will run from the date of transmission of the notice of judgment. “Transmission” is defined as the sending by U.S. mail, email or fax.

As of Jan. 1, the 1st Circuit clerk’s office began issuing a “Notice of Judgment and Disposition” with each opinion and writ application decision issued by the court. This notice will comply with the 1st Circuit’s newly adopted Local Rule 6. Local Rule 6 states that U.S. mailing addresses are to be included on the Notice, but if the Notice is sent to a person by email or fax, the email address or fax number will be printed below the U.S. mailing address for that person. Furthermore, Local Rule 6 states that the clerk will transmit the notice by only ONE of the three transmission methods. Local Rule 6 ensures that all litigants are made aware of who received the notice, when, and by what transmission method.

Email notification is sent from 1stcircuitenotify@la-fcca.org with the 1st Circuit docket number in the subject line and with an electronic image in PDF format of the issuance attached. The advantages for E-Notification registrants is they receive their transmissions from the court more quickly than those who opt for U.S. mail. Furthermore, the opinion or disposition of the court is attached to the email, so the recipient can immediately review it without having to take the extra steps to access the court’s website. From the court’s perspective, the E-Notification program has significantly reduced costs for postage, printing and copying and has helped the court deal with budget cuts.

For more information on registering for the program, call the clerk’s office at (225)382-3000, or go online: www.la-fcca.org.
La. Board of Legal Specialization waives fees for 2013

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) has announced that the application and exam fees for 2013 applicants seeking certification will be waived. This translates to a $400 savings.

The LBLS understands the challenges of the current economy and the need to encourage the younger generation of attorneys to consider legal specialization. “We received such positive feedback and noted growth from our initial waiver idea in 2012 that the board decided to apply the waiver for 2013 to continue the growth of qualified specialists in Louisiana,” said LBLS Chair Kendrick J. Guidry of Lake Charles.

The LBLS is currently accepting requests for applications for 2014 certification in five areas — business bankruptcy law, consumer bankruptcy law, 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 April 15, 2013. Applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification will be accepted through Sept. 30, 2013.

The LBLS said certification in labor and employment law is now in development. The minimum requirements for certification are:

► A minimum of five years in the practice of law on a full-time basis.
► Satisfactory showing of substantial involvement in the particular field of law for which certification is sought.
► 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.

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: www.lascmcle.org/specialization.

Legal specialization dues notices due by Feb. 15; renewal applications by March 1

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) mailed 2013 dues notices to all qualified specialists. The dues notice, together with a $175 check payable to the “Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization,” should be forwarded to the LBLS office, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130, no later than Feb. 15, 2013, to avoid a penalty assessment.

Additionally, the LBLS has mailed the 2013 Application for Renewal of Certification to all qualified specialists. The renewal application, together with a $100 check payable to the “Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization,” should be forwarded to the LBLS office at address above no later than March 1, 2013, to avoid revocation of certification.

For more information, contact LBLS Executive Director Barbara Shafranski at (504)619-0128 or (800)421-5722, ext. 128, or email barbara.shafranski@lsba.org.

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We Leave Nothing to Chance. We are proud that many of Louisiana's most prominent law firms routinely choose to work with us.

The professionals of Bourgeois Bennett draw from the wealth of knowledge accumulated since 1923, and have the foresight to resolve issues before they can become problems. Calling us “detail oriented” is an understatement.

Give us a call and see what our experience—and our obsessive drive to leave no stone unturned—can do for your firm and for your clients.
Award nomination deadlines set for 2013 LSBA, LBF awards

Nomination deadlines have been set for several Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and Louisiana Bar Foundation awards to be presented in 2013: LSBA Human Rights Award, Louisiana Bar Foundation’s Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award, LSBA Access to Justice Pro Bono and Children’s Law awards, the Catherine D. Kimball Award for Advancement of the Administration of Justice, and the LSBA Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteerism. More information on the awards, the nomination deadlines and the submission procedures are provided below.

► Human Rights Award. Nominations will be accepted through Thursday, Jan. 31. The award recognizes outstanding efforts made by a bar association, a law firm or law department, an individual attorney or judge, a court or a community organization or individual in promoting diversity in the legal profession. For more information, go to: www.lsba.org/diversity/diversityevents.asp.

► Boisfontaine Award. Nominations must be received by the Louisiana Bar Foundation by Friday, Feb. 8, and should be mailed to Dennette Young, Communications Director, Louisiana Bar Foundation, Ste. 1550, 909 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, or emailed to dennette@raisingthebar.org. For more information, go to: www.raisingthebar.org.

► Young Lawyers Division Awards. The nomination deadline is Feb. 15 for several LSBA Young Lawyers Division awards — the Hon. Michaelle Pitard Wynne Professionalism Award, the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, the Service to the Public Award, the Service to the Bar Award and the YLD Pro Bono Award. For more information on each award and submission information, go to: www.lsba.org/yld.

► Pro Bono, Children’s Law Awards. The LSBA’s Access to Justice Committee must receive nominations by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, for several Pro Bono Awards and the Children’s Law Award. For more information on the award categories, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/nominations.

► Catherine D. Kimball Award for Advancement of the Administration of Justice. The nomination deadline is Thursday, Feb. 28. The annual award — established by the LSBA to honor Catherine D. Kimball, the first woman to serve as chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court — recognizes an individual who has done exemplary work in advancing the administration of justice in Louisiana. The award is open to both attorneys and judges. In addition to presenting a plaque to the individual, as a lasting tribute, a larger plaque will be displayed at the Louisiana Supreme Court to list new recipients of the award each year. To download a nomination form, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/2013KimballAward. For more information, contact LSBA Executive Director Loretta Larsen, CAE, (504)619-0113, email loretta@lsba.org.

► Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteerism. The nomination deadline is Thursday, Feb. 28, for the LSBA’s Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteerism, the premier award of the LSBA’s Crystal Gavel Awards program. The award is named in honor of the late Leah Hipple McKay, a member of the LSBA and a deeply committed volunteer. For more information, go to: www.lsba.org/InsideLSBA/CrystalGavelAwards.asp. For a nomination form, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/2013McKayAward.

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.

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For more information, go to: www.lsba.org/solace.
In preparation for the 2013 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 Michael W. McKay, 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/GoTo/legislation.

The LSBA also wants to inform members of several important dates in relation to the 2013 Louisiana legislative session and the LSBA Legislation Committee:

- Friday, March 29: Bill prefiling deadline for Louisiana legislators.
- Saturday, April 6: LSBA Legislation Committee’s first meeting, Baton Rouge.
- Monday, April 8: 2013 Louisiana legislative session convenes.

Professionalism Speakers’ Workshop set for March 1

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Committee on the Profession’s Professionalism Speakers’ Workshop is set for 1:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, March 1, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans. Anyone interested in becoming a better speaker on professionalism topics should register for this free highly interactive workshop. For more information or to register, contact LSBA Professional Programs Counsel for Practice Assistance Bill King at (504)619-0109 or email bking@lsba.org.

CDs for sale: “Louisiana Uniform Title Standards” book

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) has available for sale a limited number of CDs containing the book, “Louisiana Uniform Title Standards,” originally published in hard copy in 2000, a project of the LSBA Uniform Title Standards Committee. The CD, on sale for $20, contains the book in PDF format. To download an order form, which also contains payment and contact information, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/TitleStandardsCD.

2013 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 2013 will be four (4.0%) percent per annum.

IRS sets 2013 mileage rate for business purposes

The Internal Revenue Service has set the 2013 mileage rate for business purposes at 56.5 cents per mile. This rate became effective Jan. 1.
LBF seeking nominations for Boisfontaine Award

The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is seeking nominations for the 2013 Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award.

Nominations should include the 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 must be received in the LBF office by Friday, Feb. 8, and should be mailed to Dennette Young, Communications Director, Louisiana Bar Foundation, Ste. 1550, 909 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, or emailed to dennette@raisingthebar.org.

The award — recognizing a Louisiana attorney who exhibits longstanding devotion to and excellence in trial practice and who upholds the standards of ethics and consideration for the court, litigants and all counsel — 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 to a Louisiana nonprofit, law-related program or association of the recipient’s choice.

This 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, L.L.P., the Boisfontaine family and friends established the fund.


Save the Date!

Friday, April 12, 2013
Louisiana Bar Foundation 2013 Gala
Hyatt Regency New Orleans

Discounted Rooms
Hyatt Regency New Orleans $209 a night
Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12

Reservations must be made before Monday, March 22 to get the discounted rate.

Call the hotel at 1 (888) 421-1442 and reference Louisiana Bar Foundation to make a reservation. For more information, contact Laura Sewell at (504) 561-1046 or laura@raisingthebar.org.

Invitations will be mailed in early March.

LBF Kids’ Chance scholarship applications available for 2013-14 academic year

The deadline to submit an application for the 2013-14 Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) Kids’ Chance scholarship is Friday, Feb. 22. The LBF Kids’ Chance program provides scholarship to children of Louisiana workers who have been killed or permanently and totally disabled in an accident compensable under a state or federal Workers’ Compensation Act or law. Since 2004, the program has awarded 179 scholarships totaling $317,600. For an application, contact Dee Jones at (504) 561-1046 or email dee@raisingthebar.org. Or go online to: www.raisingthebar.org/ProgramsAndProjects/kcapplication.pdf.

LBF Annual Membership Meeting set for April 12

The Louisiana Bar Foundation’s (LBF) Annual Membership Meeting, held in conjunction with the 27th Annual Fellows Gala, will be Friday, April 12, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. The lunch meeting is an opportunity for Fellows to be updated on LBF activities and elect new board members. A meeting notice will be sent to all Fellows in good standing in the spring. If you have any questions, contact Laura Sewell at (504) 561-1046 or email laura@raisingthebar.org.
LSBA 6th Annual

Solo & Small Firm Conference

FEBRUARY 14 & 15, 2013
Marriott New Orleans Hotel • 555 Canal St.

THE Conference of the Year!

Priced Right – Relevant, Useful Topics – Your Entire CLE Requirement & Then Some!
“Oldie but Goodie: A one stop shop for the solo lawyer.” • “Best CLE program ever.”

ONLY $300 until Feb. 7, 2013 for up to 14 CLEs, breakfast & lunch (under $22/credit hour)

► Need to know about cloud computing and the latest in legal technology?
► Want updates on substantive issues affecting the small office practitioner?
► Want to network with other small office practitioners?
► Want to bring your legal assistant at special pricing?

Nearly 50 national and regional speakers will speak on legal technology, law practice management, substantive law tips and forms, ethics, professionalism, marketing tips and more -- all tailored to the small office practitioner. Exhibitors will also be on hand to answer your technology questions.

Among this year’s featured speakers are:


REID TRAUTZ, noted lawyer, author and blogger on management, technology, legal ethics and attorney-client communications and co-author of The Busy Lawyer’s Guide to Success: Essential Tips to Power Your Practice.


Breakfast and lunch are included, along with a smashing Thursday night reception at the hotel.

DON’T MISS THIS CONFERENCE!

For more information, call (504)619-0138, or to register online or through a mail-in form, visit www.lsba.org/goto/2013Solo
For more information, visit www.lsba.org/atj.

Elder Law Task Force attorneys participate in mini boot camps

Several Elder Law Task Force (ELTF) attorneys participated in mini boot camps in 2012, aimed at providing information to the elderly on various topics.

Two mini boot camps were conducted in October 2012 at the Capital Area Agency on Aging in Baton Rouge, conducted during Baton Rouge Women’s Week. Over the course of the two boot camps, 32 seniors attended legal information workshops presented by Carrie H. Pailet, on community property and usufruct; Carl S. Goode, on last wills and testaments, non-probate assets and beneficiary designation planning; Laurie K. Redman, on powers of attorney over property assets and health care; Robert W. (Bob) Robison, Jr., on living wills; and Greg Mullowney, on interdiction. The sessions were moderated by ELTF Chair Jane Arieux Thomas.


Nomination deadline is Feb. 15 for Pro Bono, Children’s Law Awards

Do you have a pro bono hero? Someone who has shown dedication and leadership in the field of pro bono work? If the answer is yes, consider nominating that person for a 2013 Pro Bono Award, sponsored by the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Access to Justice Committee. The Pro Bono Awards and the Children’s Law Award recognize pro bono and public interest attorneys dedicated to serving Louisiana’s indigent citizenry.

Nominations will be accepted online for the Friend of Pro Bono Award, the Pro Bono Publico Award, the Career Public Interest Award, the David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award, the Law Student Award, the Children’s Law Award and the Century Club Award. The awards will be presented at a pro bono reception in May 2013.

For more information on the award categories, visit the website, www.lsba.org/goto/nominations. Nominations must be received by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15.
Save the dates
June 2-7, 2013
Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort
Destin, FL

Strengthening Our Profession
Combined LSBA Annual Meeting and LSBA/LJC Summer School
Register Online at www.lsba.org/AnnualMeeting
Early registration deadline is Feb. 15 for Conclave on Diversity

The early registration deadline is Feb. 15 for the Louisiana State Bar Association’s sixth annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession. The conclave, with the theme “Leveraging Diversity Through Inclusion: Insights for Action,” is 7:45 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Friday, March 8, at the Renaissance Hotel, 7000 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge.

The early registration price of $60 is available through Feb. 15. The conclave has been approved for up to 6 credit hours, including ethics and professionalism.

Morris Dees, founder and chief trial attorney of the Southern Poverty Law Center, is the luncheon keynote speaker.

During the conclave, highly credentialed speakers will provoke discussions regarding the scope and meaning of inclusion; the professional and financial importance of a diverse and inclusive legal profession for practitioners, judges and the administration of justice; and practical tips to create a more inclusive legal profession. The program will include a two-hour interactive workshop facilitated by nationally recognized expert on diversity Vernâ Myers. The program will also include panel discussions and a few specialized breakout sessions.

To review the schedule and speakers, to register online or to download a registration form, or to review the list of sponsoring firms and organizations, go to: www.lsba.org/GoTo/diversityconclave.

Roundtable CLE on “Unmasking Depression” set for Feb. 21

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Institute of Inclusion will present a professionalism CLE, titled “Unmasking the Truth About Depression: Breaking Stigma, Being Each Other’s Keepers, Restoring the Profession,” from 10-11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans.

J.E. (Buddy) Stockwell III, executive director of the Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc., will provide general facts and statistics about depression in the legal profession. He also will facilitate an interactive discussion regarding the impact of depression on a lawyer’s practice and on the members of the firm/office; signs and behaviors that can alert family, friends and co-workers that a lawyer is struggling with depression; what policies can be implemented to keep attorneys from falling to the point of no return; and what we can do to safeguard ourselves from depression. Organizers have applied for 1.5 CLE hours.

For more information and to register, go to: www.lsba.org/cle.

Minority Involvement Section hosting Virtual Internship Fair

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Minority Involvement Section has converted its fifth annual Minority Legal Internship Fair to a “virtual” fair rather than hosting an “in person” event. Participating in the virtual fair will still give employers access to a large pool of talented students with diverse backgrounds who are seeking free or modestly-paid internships during all or part of the summer.

Interested 1L, 2L and 3L law students should update their profiles and upload résumés by March 28.

All registered internship fair employers will receive a link to the students’ résumés by March 31. Employers may interview the students at their convenience. Additional accommodations can be made for those employers who want an interview list or assistance connecting with students who live in particular areas or who have particular experiences.

Interested employers wanting to participate may register by calling (504)619-0115 or registering online: https://law-lsba-csm.symplicity.com/employers.

For more information or a customized approach to connecting with diverse, talented students, contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, email kelly.legier@lsba.org, call (504)619-0129; or LSBA Program Coordinator/Marketing and Sections Christine A. Richard, email crichard@lsba.org, call (504)619-0105.
The United States Department of Justice has long recognized the importance of diversity initiatives in the workplace and in the community at large. The Department encourages U.S. Attorneys’ Offices to undertake community outreach projects to assist minority groups and others impacted by the work of the Department. The Department also seeks the collaboration of diverse community groups in helping to further its initiatives of crime prevention and detection, crime victims’ support, and enforcement of specific program areas such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Since becoming the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana in 2010, Donald J. Cazayoux, Jr. has continued the work of the U.S. Department of Justice in promoting and fostering diversity and cultural inclusion both inside and outside the U.S. Attorney’s Office. “To ensure that the U.S. Attorney’s Office successfully achieves its mission of securing justice, it is imperative that the office reflects the diverse nature of the district,” Cazayoux said.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office has participated in several outreach activities among the diverse groups in the Middle District. The office understands the important role that religious congregations play in minority communities, and Cazayoux and members of the office participate in crime prevention programs sponsored by these churches. The U.S. Attorney’s Office has been an active participant in the Brave Project, initiated by District Attorney Hillar Moore and local law enforcement officials and which contains a significant community outreach component.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office has made strides in building a trusting and collaborative relationship among the Arab- and Muslim-American community, law enforcement and the community at large. As part of this effort, the U.S. Attorney’s Office hosted a seminar attended by nearly 100 federal, state and local law enforcement officers to foster a better understanding of the Muslim, Arab-American and Sikh cultures. Cazayoux and his office continue to consult regularly with leaders of these local communities to further their collaboration in the Department’s initiatives.

Another initiative central to the office’s commitment to fostering diversity is its resolve in enforcing the laws enacted to ensure that the civil liberties of all are protected. Attorneys from the Civil Division have participated in national training seminars aimed at expanding enforcement of the ADA and other civil rights laws. As a result of the lessons learned from other districts nationwide, the Civil Division is currently in the planning stages for a symposium on ADA compliance issues affecting the community. Cazayoux also recently participated in the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Disabilities Summit, where he discussed the need for a continued commitment to diversity and inclusion of all members of our bar, including individuals with disabilities.

The commitment to diversity extends inside the office as well. The U.S. Attorney’s Office actively recruits and hires talented people from diverse backgrounds. The office celebrates its diversity through events such as African-American, Asian-American and Pacific Islander American Heritage Celebration Months, in which members of the office share their heritage and experiences at programs sponsored by the office.

In furtherance of the office’s efforts to recruit and promote diversity within the Department, the staff of the U.S. Attorney’s Office participated in the planning for the National Executive Conference for the National Organization for Black Law Enforcement Executives, held this year in Baton Rouge, and for the National Black Prosecutors Association (NBPA) Conference, held February 2012 in New Orleans. Cazayoux attended and addressed both conferences. Attorneys from the U.S. Attorney’s Office also have attended and participated in the NBPA Job Fair, the LSBA’s Minority Job Fair and a Job Fair at Southern University sponsored by the LSBA.

While recognizing the Department’s longstanding commitment to diversity and the U.S. Attorney’s Office’s strides in these areas, Cazayoux said, “We must continue our focus of maintaining a workplace and profession that places diversity as one of our top values by which to abide in helping to secure justice for the people of Louisiana.”
**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
- $20 for a C-Box number

Members of the LSBA
- $60 per insertion of 50 words or less
- $1 per each additional word
- No additional charge for a C-Box

**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

**Responses**

To respond to a box number, address your envelope to:
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c/o Louisiana State Bar Association
601 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, La. 70130

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**Positions Offered**

**Growing AV-rated New Orleans defense firm** seeks full-time attorney with four-six years’ experience in workers’ compensation defense. Excellent writing and communication skills required. Great opportunity for advancement to partnership or lateral placement. All inquiries are treated with the strictest confidence. Qualified individuals should submit résumé, transcript and writing samples to: Admin, 701 Poydras St., #4700, New Orleans, LA 70139-7708. Visit our website at www.jibylaw.com.

**Immediate opening** for a civil litigation associate with two-five years’ experience preferred (judicial clerkships apply). Salary commensurate with experience. Email résumés to hforet@dps-law.com.

**New Orleans firm** with expanding business seeks Louisiana licensed attorney with 7-10 years of transportation civil defense litigation and first chair trial experience.

*Perrier & Lacoste offers competitive compensation. Forward all résumés to admin@perrierlacoste.com.*

**Local Counsel Collective**, a nationwide network of attorneys that covers short procedural hearings across the country, is currently looking to expand its network with attorneys willing to accept local hearing assignments. Attorneys interested in supplementing small or solo firm income should register at http://localcounselcollective.com attorneys. Anyone with questions should call (800)910-1492, ext. 2, or email attorneyservices@localcounselcollective.com.


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**Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline**

Director J.E. (Buddy) Stockwell III, 1(866)354-9334
Ste. 31, 1011 N. Causeway Blvd., Mandeville, LA 70471
e-mail lap@louisianalap.com

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The Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. provides confidential assistance with problems such as alcoholism, substance abuse, mental health issues, gambling and all other addictions.
LEVERAGING DIVERSITY THROUGH INCLUSION: Insights for Action

Sixth Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

MARCH 8, 2013

Renaissance Hotel • 7000 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge

The conclave will encourage discussion among judges and attorneys, primarily hiring and managing attorneys within law firms and law departments, about the importance of diversity within the legal profession and how to improve diversity within the profession in Louisiana.

Sponsored by the Louisiana State Bar Association in cooperation with the Louisiana Supreme Court and:
- Acadia Inn of Court
- Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc.
- Greater Baton Rouge Louis A. Martinet Society, Inc.
- Hispanic Lawyers Association of Louisiana
- Lafayette Bar Association
- Louisiana A. Martinet Society, Inc. -- Central Louisiana Chapter
- Louis A. Martinet Legal Society Inc. Greater Lafayette Chapter
- Louisiana Asian Pacific American Bar Association
- Louisiana Association of Black Women Attorneys
- Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel
- Louisiana Association of District Judges
- Natchitoches Parish Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- New Orleans Chapter of the Association for Women Attorneys
- Region V of the National Bar Association
- Shreveport-Bossier Black Lawyers Association
- Southwest Louisiana Bar Association
- Vietnamese American Bar Association of Louisiana

6.0 CLE HOURS, including ethics and professionalism (application pending)

AGENDA – Friday, March 8, 2013

7:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Registration – Renaissance Hotel
9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. – Welcome Remarks
John H. Musser IV, Louisiana State Bar Association President
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Calibrating the Scale: Diversity and Inclusion ≠ Division (PROFESSIONALISM)
This interactive presentation will explain how both diversity and inclusion components are necessary for the successful creation of a professional legal environment; discuss ways to avoid creating division when initiating diversity and inclusion initiatives; and facilitate activities to develop best practice tips for successful inclusive environments for lawyers and judges.
Facilitated by:
- Verná Myers, Verná Myers Consulting Group, LLC
10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Moving Diversity Forward: How To Go From Well-Meaning To Well-Doing (PROFESSIONALISM)
In this interactive workshop, nationally recognized expert on diversity Verná Myers will highlight practical steps to move diversity talk to actions of inclusion. Through activities and break out discussions, Ms. Myers will provide participants an opportunity to move past polite awkwardness into a new and rewarding effectiveness of inclusion.
Facilitated by:
- Verná Myers, Verná Myers Consulting Group, LLC
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Networking Luncheon
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Keynote Speaker – With Justice for All in a Changing America
Keynote Speaker:
- Morris Dees, Founder and Chief Trial Attorney, Southern Poverty Law Center
Morris Dees will address how our commitment to justice for all will determine our nation’s success in the next century as America becomes more diverse and economic disparity widens. He will also discuss how and why he founded the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as well as some of the SPLC’s more prominent cases and its new work. Finally, Dees will highlight the impact of hate crimes and the need to teach tolerance, love and respect for one another.
2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Networking Break
2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Adding the Weight of Hot Inclusion Topics: A View from the Bench (PROFESSIONALISM)
This panel of judges will present hypotheticals and video clips to prompt a lively discussion on hot button issues impacting the legal profession, such as generational clashes, cross-cultural misunderstandings, and missteps regarding age, disability, religion and race. Panelists will offer practical suggestions on how to address these issues in daily practice and within the courts.
Panelists:
- Hon. Scott J. Crochet, Judge, First Judicial District (Caddo Parish)
- Hon. John M. Guity, Judge, Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal
- Hon. Bernette Johnson, Chief Judge Elect, Louisiana Supreme Court
- Hon. Harry F. Randow, Chief Judge, Ninth Judicial District Court (tentative)
Moderator:
- Mayor Kip Holden, City of Baton Rouge (invited)

3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. – Searching for Balance: The Professional Ethics Case for Diversity (ETHICS)
Panelists will explore the ethical implications of cultural incompetence. The panelists will demonstrate how culture can impact the way people from different backgrounds perceive the same facts. They also will highlight that the failure to properly evaluate and adjust to cultural differences can create serious problems in maintaining a successful relationship with a client.
Panelists:
- Dane S. Ciolino, Professor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
- Linda Perez Clark, Partner, Kean Miller LLP
- Charles “Chuck” B. Plattsmier, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Louisiana TBIA, Vice President and General Counsel, Walmart
Moderator:
- Christine Lipsey, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. – Networking Reception

NEW FEATURES

Special Conclave Breakout Sessions
Two new sessions:
- Designed especially for Criminal Law Practitioners
- Exclusive breakout session for Managing Partners

For more information, visit www.lsba.org/diversity