

# Bar Briefs

May/June 2015

Louisiana State Bar Association

Vol. 30, No. 3

## Online system activated for LSBA/LADB 2015-16 dues/assessment payments and statement filing

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is again utilizing electronic billing for the collection of LSBA dues and Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (LADB) assessments. The collection method allows payment of fees either by an ACH electronic check or credit card, but, this year, also includes a component for members to download their Attorney Registration Statements and mail checks for the payment of fees.

All LSBA members received 4x6 postcards (mailed May 13) outlining information on the payment and registration filing system. The postcards include instructions to go online to [www.LSBA.org](http://www.LSBA.org) to complete the registration process and to go online to [www.LADB.org](http://www.LADB.org) to complete the Louisiana Supreme Court Trust Account Disclosure and Overdraft Notification Authorization Form. **This is the only mailing members will receive prior to the July 1, 2015, due date; attorney registration statements will NOT be mailed.**

The collection schedule is the same as in prior years. All online (or paper) forms must be filed and all payments must be made on or

before July 1, 2015, to avoid penalties. The LSBA will continue to mail delinquency and ineligibility notices to those who fail to meet the deadline.

Members are encouraged to pay and file electronically, as this access will be available 24/7, including times when the Bar Center is closed or if mail service is disrupted due to inclement weather. Further, electronic payment gives members more control over their information in the database and allows for more timely updates to their member records.

“There were some growing pains with last year’s transition to electronic billing and we have modified our procedures which we hope will make the entire process more user friendly,” said LSBA President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr. “We encourage members to pay and file electronically if at all possible, but are incorporating options which will allow payment by check for those who are more comfortable with that approach.”

Filing electronically should be a quick and simple process, utilizing the online member accounts that participants have re-

**DUES continued on page 2**

## Eight resolutions on agenda for June 11 House of Delegates meeting

Eight resolutions are on the agenda for the next Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) House of Delegates meeting, set for Thursday, June 11, at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Destin, Fla. The House meeting, being held in conjunction with the LSBA’s Annual Meeting/Joint Summer School, will immediately follow the General Assembly, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Magnolia Ballroom of the Baytowne Conference Center.

The resolutions to be considered include:

► The LSBA’s Corporate and Business Law Section is asking the House to approve a restatement of its bylaws.

► The Solo and Small Firm Section is asking the House to approve amendments to its bylaws.

► The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization has proposed three resolutions

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lied on for years to register for CLE seminars and to access Fastcase. If an attorney has not yet set up a member account, one can easily be created at: [www.lsba.org/Members/memberacts.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/Members/memberacts.aspx). This webpage also allows members to edit their existing accounts and to reset a lost or forgotten account password.

After member data is confirmed but before the payment/filing process begins, members will be advised that they also need to go to [www.LADB.org](http://www.LADB.org) to complete the Louisiana Supreme Court Trust Account Disclosure and Overdraft Notification Authorization Form and will be asked to confirm that they understand this requirement.

Once they have electronically filed their Attorney Registration Statements (including any necessary changes and/or updates) and made the required payments, members will receive email confirmations.

Members who pay by electronic check (or mail in paper checks) will pay the following fees:

- ▶ LSBA dues (practicing more than three years): \$200;
- ▶ LSBA dues (practicing three years or less): \$80;
- ▶ LADB assessment (practicing more than three years): \$235; and
- ▶ LADB assessment (practicing three years or less): \$170.

**Those who are planning to pay by electronic check should contact their financial institutions to confirm that their accounts allow payment by this method.**

As was the case last year, processing fees of 3 percent plus a .20 transaction fee will be

passed along to those paying by credit card. Total amounts including credit card processing fees are as follows:

- ▶ LSBA dues (practicing more than three years): \$206.20;
- ▶ LSBA dues (practicing three years or less): \$82.60;
- ▶ LADB assessment (practicing more than three years): \$242.25; and
- ▶ LADB assessment (practicing three years or less): \$175.30.

Bar staff members will be available to answer questions and provide assistance to members. All questions and concerns should be directed to:

- ▶ Email — [processing@LSBA.org](mailto:processing@LSBA.org)
- ▶ Telephone — (504)566-1600 or (800)421-LSBA; ask for Payment Processing.

## Check-Off Boxes for Donations

Using either the online payment/filing procedure, or via the downloadable form, LSBA members may still make voluntary, tax-deductible contributions to the Access to Justice Fund, the Louisiana Bar Foundation, the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education and the Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc.

### Access to Justice Fund

Donations will be used to benefit Louisiana's justice community through technology, intake and referral, and disaster or emergency response. The mission of the Access to Justice Committee is to ensure that every Louisiana citizen has access to competent civil

legal representation by promoting and supporting a broad-based and effective justice community through collaboration among the LSBA, the Louisiana Bar Foundation, Louisiana law schools, private practitioners, local bar associations, pro bono programs and legal aid providers. For more information, contact LSBA Access to Justice Director Monte T. Mollere at (504)619-0146, (800)421-5722, ext. 146, or email [mmollere@lsba.org](mailto:mmollere@lsba.org); or go to: [www.lsba.org/atj](http://www.lsba.org/atj).


### Louisiana Bar Foundation

*It's not justice if it's not equal.* A tax-deductible contribution to the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) will help ensure that justice is a reality — not just for those who can afford it, but for everyone in Louisiana. Donations support a network of non-profit organizations providing critical, civil legal aid services to women, children, the elderly, the working poor, people with disabilities, the newly unemployed and those facing loss of their homes. For more information on the LBF, contact Executive Director Donna Cuneo at (504)561-1046 or email [donna@raisingthebar.org](mailto:donna@raisingthebar.org), or visit the LBF website at: [www.raisingthebar.org](http://www.raisingthebar.org).

### Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education

As the LSBA's public education partner, the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education's (LCLCE) mission is to educate Louisiana's youth about the role of responsible citizens while increasing their understanding of and respect for the law and the legal system. Tax-deductible donations will be used for the administration of LCLCE programs. For more information, contact LCLCE Executive Director Peggy V. Cotogno at (504)619-0134 or (800)421-5722, ext. 134, or email [peggy.cotogno@lsba.org](mailto:peggy.cotogno@lsba.org), or go to: [www.lalce.org](http://www.lalce.org).

### Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc.

The Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. (LAP), a non-profit corporation, provides confidential, life-saving assistance to lawyers, judges and their family members who suffer from alcohol/drug abuse, depression, gambling addiction or other mental impairments. LAP's efforts also help attenuate or prevent the harm that impaired lawyers and judges may cause to both the public and the reputation of the legal profession. For more information on LAP, contact Executive Director J.E. (Buddy) Stockwell at (866)354-9334 or email [LAP@louisianalap.com](mailto:LAP@louisianalap.com); or go to: [www.lsba.org/LAP](http://www.lsba.org/LAP). 

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## RESOLUTIONS continued from page 1

— 1) seeking House approval to amend the Family Law Standards to permit board-certified family law specialists to receive family law specialization CLE credit for providing pro bono legal representations, in accordance with the Louisiana Supreme Court Rules for Continuing Legal Education; 2) seeking House approval for an additional area of specialty and certification for attorneys practicing in the field of appellate law; and 3) seeking House approval for the proposed standards for the appellate practice specialty (if the specialty is approved).

► The LSBA's Access to Justice Policy Committee is seeking House approval to create the Louisiana Access to Justice Commission and to amend the LSBA by-laws accordingly.

► Delegate Steven G. (Buzz) Durio (15th Judicial District) is proposing that the House recommend to the Louisiana Supreme Court the adoption of South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 1.19 to address succession plans for


lawyers in the event of death or disability.

► Delegate Michael W. McKay (19th Judicial District) is proposing a resolution 1) stating the LSBA's objection to compelling attorneys to provide uncompensated professional services for the benefit of the State; 2) endorsing and encouraging private litigation that would challenge the constitutionality and lawfulness of appointing attorneys to represent indigent defendants without compensation; and 3) urging the Louisiana Legislature to authorize sufficient funding to meet the State's constitutional obligation to provide effective assistance of counsel for indigent defendants in state criminal proceedings.

In other business, the House will elect members to two committees:

► three members to serve on the Special Advisory Committee to Authorize the President to Speak on Behalf of the Association; and


► five members to serve three-year terms on the Legislation Committee.

To review all resolutions and the meeting agenda, go to: [www.lsba.org/BarGovernance/HouseofDelegates.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/BarGovernance/HouseofDelegates.aspx). 

## New Title IV rules, appendices for family law proceedings to take effect on July 1

Following a 30-day public comment period, the Louisiana Supreme Court approved the new Title IV rules and appendices for family law proceedings on April 30. These new rules and appendices will become effective on July 1, replacing the Title IV numbering system and court-specific rules currently in place.

The new material is available for review on the Supreme Court's website, [www.lasc.org/rules/dist.ct/TitleIV.asp](http://www.lasc.org/rules/dist.ct/TitleIV.asp). The material also will appear in West's 2015 *Louisiana Rules of Court, Volume I, State* book.

Questions or comments on the new rules and appendices may be emailed to the Supreme Court's Court Rules Committee at [distcrules@lasc.org](mailto:distcrules@lasc.org) or mailed to Court Rules Committee, Ste. 1190, 400 Royal St., New Orleans, LA 70130. 

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## Application forms available online for lawyers to earn CLE credit for pro bono representation


Effective May 1, attorneys who provide pro bono legal services can earn one hour of CLE credit for every five hours of pro bono representation, up to a maximum of three hours of CLE credit a year, under an order signed by Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson.

The Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Committee has uploaded the forms needed to claim credit for “uncompensated pro bono legal representation to an indigent or near-indigent client or clients.” To be eligible for credit, “the matter must have been assigned by a court, a bar association, or a legal services or pro bono organization that has as its primary purpose the furnishing of such pro bono legal services.”

Entities wanting to qualify as a pro bono organization under the rule must complete the Application for Approval as

a Qualifying Pro Bono Organization. Go to: [www.lascmcle.org/pdf/ProBonoOrganization.pdf](http://www.lascmcle.org/pdf/ProBonoOrganization.pdf).


To earn credit for pro bono representation, attorneys who perform pro bono legal work must complete the Application for CLE Credit for Pro Bono Representation. Go to: [www.lascmcle.org/pdf/ProBonoCLE.pdf](http://www.lascmcle.org/pdf/ProBonoCLE.pdf).

The court order followed a proposal by Louisiana Appleseed, a non-profit that recruits professionals to donate pro bono time to solve problems at their root cause — advancing social justice by effecting change at the policy, or systemic, level. Attorneys from Adams and Reese, L.L.P. — Martin A. Stern, Jeffrey E. Richardson and Ronald J. Sholes — worked together with retired Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Harry T. Lemmon on this project for Louisiana Appleseed. 

## LBLS accepting requests for bankruptcy law certification

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) is accepting application requests for 2016 certification in business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law through Sept. 30, 2015.

Although the written test for these specialties is administered by the American Board of Certification, attorneys should apply for LBLS approval simultaneously with the testing agency to avoid delay of board certification by the LBLS. Information concerning the American Board of Certification will be provided with the application form(s).

For more information on certification CLE and other requirements, contact LBLS Executive Director Barbara M. Shafranski, email [barbara.shafranski@lsba.org](mailto:barbara.shafranski@lsba.org) or call (504)619-0128. Or, go to the LBLS website at: [www.lascmcle.org/specialization](http://www.lascmcle.org/specialization). 

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# “Dialogues on Inclusion” CLE scheduled for June 29; Judge Lemelle to be honored

The New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (FBA) is presenting a CLE program, “Dialogues on Inclusion: A Panel Discussion on Breaking Barriers in the Legal Profession,” on Monday, June 29, at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Room C-501, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans.

The program, co-hosted by the Louisiana State Bar Association, is inspired by the achievements of U.S. District Court Judge Ivan L.R. Lemelle who will assume senior status in the Eastern District in June 2015.

The CLE, approved for 2 hours of


credit (1 hour professionalism), is from 3-5 p.m. and will be followed by a reception honoring Judge Lemelle. Attendees are reminded to allow sufficient time for security screenings at the courthouse. Registration will open 30 minutes before the program.

Panel members include Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart, U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals; attorney Wayne J. Lee with Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, L.L.C.; Dean María Pabón López, Loyola University College of Law; and attorney Christopher J. Alfieri with Christovich & Kearney, L.L.P. U.S. Eastern District Judge Nannette Jolivet Brown is the moderator. Panelists

will discuss breaking the historic barriers of racial, socio-economic, gender and sexual orientation bias in the legal profession, explore their professional experiences with the bench and bar, and reflect on today’s civil rights issues.

Registration is \$20 for FBA members and co-hosting organizations; and \$30 for non-members.

To download a registration form or to register online, go to: <http://www.nofba.org>.

For more information, contact Executive Director CC Kahr, New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, at (504)589-7990 or email [fbaneorleans@gmail.com](mailto:fbaneorleans@gmail.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
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Opelousas/Ville Platte/	John L. Olivier	(337)662-5242 (337)232-0874	(337)942-9836	<a href="mailto:johnolivier@centurytel.net">johnolivier@centurytel.net</a>
River Parishes Area	Judge Jude G. Gravois	(225)265-3923 (225)265-9828	Cell (225)270-7705	<a href="mailto:judegravois@bellsouth.net">judegravois@bellsouth.net</a>
Shreveport Area	M’Lissa Peters	(318)222-3643		<a href="mailto:mpeters@shreveportbar.com">mpeters@shreveportbar.com</a>

For more information, go to: [www.lsba.org/goto/solace](http://www.lsba.org/goto/solace).

# Leadership LSBA Class hosts first legal aid hackathon in Louisiana

The Leadership LSBA 2014-15 Class partnered with the *ABA Journal* and New Orleans Entrepreneur Week to present the state's first legal aid hackathon, "Hackcess to Justice — Louisiana." The March 21-22 event at Loyola University College of Law offered participants an opportunity to use their legal, entrepreneurial, coding and related skills to create a technology-enabled solution for the numerous challenges faced by citizens who cannot afford a lawyer and the lawyers trying to serve them.

The first-place prize was awarded to the "Legal Proof" app created by developers from Omega Ortega. Tom Ortega, owner of Omega Ortega, described the app as "the 'app for that' when you need legal evidence of things. The app provides a simple way to create court-admissible evidence regardless of the civil category: divorce, custody, wills, landlord or workplace issues."

The second-place prize was awarded to "Paperless App," submitted by William Palin and Ernie Svenson. This app is a case-management platform for attorneys, which enables legal aid staff to check eligibility of clients and send and receive documents through their private communications. "The app would allow organizations to text clients without sharing a phone number, and allow clients to continue to communicate without a phone plan, or if their minutes run out," said Palin, who coded the app. "The app even supports push notifications and local reminders so clients will be reminded of upcoming meetings, court dates and other legal issues," he added.

The third-place prize was awarded to an app called "ExpungeMe," created by developers Benjamin Schenker, George Maurer and Steve Price. This app helps individuals with convictions prepare expungement records without a lawyer, freeing up time for legal aid providers.

The first-place team received \$1,500 and a week of free business boot camp services donated by 52Businesses. The second-place team received \$1,000, and the third-place team received \$500.


Competition judges were Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Access to



Several Leadership LSBA 2014-15 Class members attended the opening remarks of "Hackcess to Justice — Louisiana." From left, Adam P. Johnson, Travis J. Broussard, Allison Colomb Foster, Frances M. Montegut, Lynette Roberson, Jeremy S. Epstein, Ingrid Janell James and Graham H. Ryan.

Justice Director Monte T. Mollere; Glenn Rawdon, Legal Services Corporation's Program Counsel for Technology; Nadine M. Ramsey, New Orleans City Councilmember, District B; Abid Hussain, Hussain Law, L.L.C.; and LSBA President-Elect Mark A. Cunningham.

"Leveraging technology to streamline the administration of legal aid services is a common-sense approach to help individuals unable to afford a lawyer," said Graham

H. Ryan, an attorney in the New Orleans office of Jones Walker LLP and a member of the Leadership LSBA Class. "But the benefit doesn't stop there — helping citizens get out of a legal bind or get back on their feet benefits the entire population by decreasing the burden on the justice system, and also results in a more efficient expenditure of resources by the great legal aid providers across the state of Louisiana." 



Winners of the "Hackcess to Justice — Louisiana" hackathon were Tom Ortega, left, and Chris Eggleston from Omega Ortega with their "Legal Proof" app.



The Louisiana State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division's Barristers for Boards Program and the United Way of Southeast Louisiana's Women Leadership Council hosted a nonprofit board training session on March 24 at the United Way office in New Orleans. More than 40 young lawyers attended the event. An attorney/nonprofit agency meet-and-greet session was conducted on March 31, also at the United Way office in New Orleans. Through the Barristers for Boards Project, young lawyers are selected to serve on nonprofit boards or committees throughout the state.

## Application deadline is June 19 for members of Leadership LSBA 2015-16 Class

**L**ouisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President-Elect Mark A. Cunningham is currently seeking applications from young lawyers for the Leadership LSBA 2015-16 Class. Deadline for return of applications, along with a CV or résumé, is Friday, June 19.

The program, created in 2002 by then-LSBA President Larry Feldman, Jr., provides exposure on how the LSBA functions as well as on the pressing issues facing the association and the legal profession. Participants also receive information on the responsibilities of volunteer leaders. Through at least one class project, the program further develops young attorneys' leadership skills and provides them with opportunities for statewide networking. (Previous projects included a high school art contest, a series of pro bono CLEs, a 5K benefiting the Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. and a legal aid hackathon.)

Cunningham's goal is to appoint 10 members.

By conclusion of FY 2015-16 (ends in June 2016), participants will be required to:

- ▶ attend one meeting of the Board of Governors;
- ▶ attend one meeting of the House of Delegates;

- ▶ attend one meeting of the Young Lawyers Division Council;

- ▶ attend one Budget Committee meeting;

- ▶ attend one meeting of the Access to Justice Committee;

- ▶ attend one meeting of an LSBA committee of their choice;

- ▶ work with the class to develop and implement a class project with the help of staff; and

- ▶ commit to serve on an LSBA committee for 2016-17.

At the conclusion of the year, class members who have completed all requirements will be recognized at the LSBA Annual Meeting. (With the exception of the Annual Meeting, expenses for attendance at meetings and activities will be reimbursed in accordance with LSBA policies.)

Interested candidates should submit applications, along with a CV or résumé, by the June 19 deadline to: Danielle E. Boveland, LSBA Communications Coordinator/Online Media, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130; fax (504)566-0930; or email [danielle.boveland@lsba.org](mailto:danielle.boveland@lsba.org).

To download an application, go to: <http://bit.ly/1ELGPf7>. 📄

### 2015 legislative session: Board of Governors takes positions on bills

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Board of Governors on April 25 approved several bill position recommendations of the LSBA's Legislation Committee. Note that, until the legislative session has concluded, bill positions may change subsequent to bill amendments. To review the bills and reasons for support or opposition, go to: [www.lsba.org/legislation](http://www.lsba.org/legislation), then click on "2015 Regular Session." The Louisiana legislative session ends on June 11. 📄

### LBSL developing labor law specialization, employment law specialization

**T**he Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBSL) is continuing its efforts to implement specialty certifications in the fields of labor law and employment law.

In December 2012, the LBSL announced it was initiating the process of implementing a certification in labor and employment law. After meeting with various members of the Bar and considering their comments, questions and concerns, it was determined that the specialty field of labor and employment law would be better served if it was redefined into two separate and distinct specialties with separate certification criteria and testing. To that end, the LBSL submitted a resolution to the Louisiana State Bar Association's House of Delegates; the House, and then the LSBA's Board of Governors, approved the resolution in June 2014. Thereafter, the LBSL received final approval from the Louisiana Supreme Court in September 2014.

The LBSL is ready to move forward with the development of these two specialties and is seeking practitioners interested in a specialty certification in labor law or employment law, as well as members of the Bar who are willing to participate on the steering committees tasked with the development of the standards and exam for each of these specialties. Participation is purely voluntary as the LBSL is not permitted to compensate its members.

Anyone interested in a labor law certification or an employment law certification, or anyone interested in serving on a committee to implement these specialties, should email LBSL Executive Director Barbara Shafranski at [barbara.shafranski@lsba.org](mailto:barbara.shafranski@lsba.org). 📄



# LADB and Diversity Integration Subcommittee presenting Diversity CLE seminars

In partnership with the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (LADB), the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Diversity Committee's Diversity Integration Subcommittee is presenting a series of one-hour diversity CLE seminars. Lynn Luker, a frequent presenter of LSBA diversity seminars, has gathered a team of LSBA facilitators to bring the seminar to more than 1,400 attorneys in five locations across Louisiana.

The first CLE was April 9 in Shreveport, with diversity speaker and attorney I.J. Clark-Sam as the facilitator.

The second CLE was May 27 in Baton Rouge, with Administrative Law Judge Kelly McNeil Legier and attorney Chauntis T. Jenkins, with the New Orleans firm of Porteous, Hainkel & Johnson, LLP, as facilitators.

The next CLEs are scheduled for June 17, Pontchartrain Center, Kenner; July 22, Hilton Hotel, Lafayette; and Sept. 30, SAI Convention Center, Alexandria.

For more information and registration, go to the LADB website: [www.ladb.org](http://www.ladb.org).



Administrative Law Judge Kelly McNeil Legier, left, and New Orleans attorney Chauntis T. Jenkins were the facilitators for the May 27 Diversity CLE in Baton Rouge.

## Sues to receive 2015 LBF Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award

Eugene J. Sues, a shareholder in the Alexandria firm of Gold, Weems, Bruser, Sues & Rundell, is the recipient of the 2015 Louisiana Bar Foundation's (LBF) Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award.



Eugene J. Sues

The award will be presented at the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Annual Meeting in June in Destin, Fla.

Sues will receive a plaque and \$1,000 will be donated in his name to the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

The award was established through an endowment to the LBF in memory of Mr. Boisfontaine, who served as president of the LSBA and of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel. Donations from Sessions, Fishman, Nathan & Israel, L.L.P., the Boisfontaine family and friends established the fund.

Sues, a civil litigation defense attorney, has more than 40 years of trial experience in the areas of medical malpractice defense, products liability, general tort and governmental liability.

## 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](mailto:lap@louisianalap.com)


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Baton Rouge	Steven Adams .....	(225)921-6690
	.....	(225)926-4333
	David E. Cooley .....	(225)753-3407
	John A. Gutierrez .....	(225)715-5438
Lafayette	.....	(225)744-3555
	Alfred "Smitty" Landry .....	(337)364-5408
	.....	(337)364-7626
	Thomas E. Guilbeau.....	(337)232-7240
Lake Charles	James Lambert .....	(337)233-8695
	.....	(337)235-1825
Monroe	Thomas M. Bergstedt .....	(337)558-5032
New Orleans	Robert A. Lee .....	(318)387-3872
	.....	(318)388-4472
Shreveport	Deborah Faust.....	(504)304-1500
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	Dian Tooley.....	(504)861-5682
	.....	(504)831-1838
Shreveport	Michelle AndrePont .....	(318)347-8532
	Nancy Carol Snow .....	(318)272-7547
	William Kendig, Jr. ....	(318)222-2772
	.....	(318)572-8260 (cell)
	Steve Thomas.....	(318)872-6250

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

## 17 students receive 2015-16 LBF Kids' Chance scholarships

The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) awarded \$52,500 in Kids' Chance Scholarships to 17 Louisiana students for the 2015-16 school year. Since 2004, the LBF has awarded 235 scholarships totaling \$459,600. Scholarships are awarded 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 2015-16 scholarship recipients are Caleb Adams, Monroe; Kaitlyn Arceneaux, Lafayette; Brittany Bailey, Deridder; Allana Gross, Marrero; Jessica Harper, Eros; Heather Jones, New Orleans; Katelyn Kerner, Jefferson; Grant Klentzman, New Iberia; Anna LaGrange, Breaux Bridge; Tabitha Monceaux, Sulphur; Taylor Morris, Sulphur; Casey Shelton, Denham Springs; Alexander Stroh, Lake Charles; Lauren Stroh, Lake Charles; Christina Thiels, Alexandria; Jacob Underwood, Leesville; and Alesha Widcamp, Lake Charles.

For more information about Kids' Chance or to donate to the scholarship fund, contact Dennette Young at the LBF office, (504)561-1046, email [dennette@raisingthebar.org](mailto:dennette@raisingthebar.org). Or go to: <http://raisingthebar.org/ProgramsAndProjects/KidsChanceProgram.asp>. 



The 2015-16 officers of the Louisiana Bar Foundation were installed May 1 during the 29th Annual Fellows Gala. From left, Vice President E. Jane Sherman, Baton Rouge; President H. Minor Pipes III, New Orleans; Treasurer Valerie Briggs Bargas, Baton Rouge; and Secretary W. Michael Street, Monroe. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.



The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) recognized four legal professionals during its 29th Annual Fellows Gala May 1, held in conjunction with the fifth Annual Assembly in New Orleans. H. Minor Pipes III, far left, who was installed as the 2015-16 LBF president, congratulated honorees, from left, Calogero Justice Award recipient Marta-Ann Schnabel; Shirley Smith, who accepted the 2014 Distinguished Attorney Award on behalf of her late husband, Allen L. Smith, Jr.; 2014 Distinguished Professor, Gail S. Stephenson; and 2014 Distinguished Jurist, John W. Greene. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.

## LSBA Member Services

The mission of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is to assist and serve its members in the practice of law. The LSBA offers many worthwhile programs and services designed to complement your career, the legal profession and the community.



In the past several years, the legal profession has experienced many changes. The LSBA has kept up with those changes by maturing in structure and stature and becoming more diverse and competitive.

For more information,  
visit [www.lsba.org](http://www.lsba.org)

# 2016 Expert Witness, Consultant and Legal Services Directory

The Louisiana State Bar Association is publishing its Expert Witness, Consultant and Legal Services Directory. The supplement to the *Louisiana Bar Journal* will be printed separately and shrink-wrapped for mailing with the December 2015/January 2016 *Louisiana Bar Journal*. The directory is published annually, guaranteeing a year's worth of exposure in print and on the LSBA Web site.

- ▶ Reach 21,000+ practicing attorneys
- ▶ Listings indexed **THREE** ways: alphabetical, geographical and by category
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Communications Assistant Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez  
Louisiana State Bar Association  
601 St. Charles Ave.  
New Orleans, LA 70130-3404  
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If you prefer to charge your listing (Visa, Mastercard or Discover only), please contact Krystal at (504)619-0131 or (800)421-5722, ext. 131.

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½-page . . . . .	\$400	\$475
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [www.lsba.org/expertwitness](http://www.lsba.org/expertwitness)**

**Note to Lawyer/Law Firm Advertisers:** Per Rule 7.7 of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct, all lawyer advertisements — unless specifically exempt under Rule 7.8 — are required to be filed for a compliance review by the Louisiana State Bar Association's Ethics Counsel prior to first publication. This process could take up to 30 days, so advertisers should consider that time window in relation to the publication's ad placement deadline. For more information on compliance with the Rules, contact LSBA Ethics Counsel and/or go online: [www.lsba.org/LawyerAdvertising](http://www.lsba.org/LawyerAdvertising). Communications Department staff cannot discuss Rules compliance issues.



# Focus on *Access to Justice*

For more information, visit [www.lsba.org/atj](http://www.lsba.org/atj).

## LSBA Access to Justice Program's success praised at March Summit

"The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice (ATJ) Program has made Louisiana into a national leader when it comes to providing services and resources for those without the means to hire counsel," said consultant John Tull at the March 27 Access to Justice Summit in Baton Rouge.

Tull, a private consultant with more than 40 years of experience working with various aspects of civil justice across the country, facilitated the Summit, which was coordinated by the LSBA to build on the program's success and to identify and plan future initiatives.

The Summit — attended by a broad range of stakeholders including Louisiana Supreme Court representatives, LSBA leadership, district judges, the Louisiana Bar Foundation, legal aid and pro bono organizations, law schools, local bar associations and private practitioners — provided an opportunity to identify and celebrate justice community accomplishments and to recognize areas for increased collaboration and communication among courts and service providers.

Prior to the Summit, Tull conducted interviews with Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson and other local and state leaders who provided practical insight regarding the challenge of meeting the state's legal needs.

Louisiana "is in the top four or five" states when it comes to access to justice programming, Tull said. But, he added, "though there is certainly awareness of the importance of various access to justice initiatives in the state, there is not a collective appreciation of the magnitude and quality of what has been accomplished since the ATJ Committee began its work."

A portion of the Summit was devoted to a discussion of the delivery model through which access to justice efforts are made, in particular, the Access to Justice "Commis-



Louisiana Bar Foundation Vice President E. Jane Sherman, left, and facilitator John Tull participated in the March 27 Access to Justice Summit in Baton Rouge.

sion." Other states have created commissions to expand the role of the Supreme Court in access to justice initiatives. Tull discussed the benefits of this model as displayed in other states but stressed that Louisiana's current structure is producing great benefits and leaders should be conscious of how alterations would affect that progress.

Additionally, the Summit covered several other issues including disaster response preparedness, cultivating new leadership, resources for courts to assist self-represented litigants, statewide and local strategies to secure funding, and training opportunities for legal aid attorneys. The Summit also offered networking opportunities for participants.

Based on the success of this event, the Access to Justice Committee will conduct additional Summits in the future.

For more information, email LSBA Access to Justice Director Monte T. Mollere at [mmollere@lsba.org](mailto:mmollere@lsba.org).

### Yes, it really is important to report your pro bono hours!

Pro bono and civil legal aid organizations do benefit from Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) members who report their pro bono service hours. It helps the organizations answer questions from funders, such as: "What are attorneys doing to help poor people?" Each year, thousands of volunteer hours of legal services to poor people go unreported by attorneys because attorneys think it doesn't matter or because they think it is self-aggrandizement to report. Support your local public interest organizations by reporting your hours and providing them with a response to that question.

Complete the online "Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting Form" at: <https://www.lsba.org/ATJ/ProBonoVoluntaryReporting.aspx>. If you need assistance, contact Nicole Louque at (800)421-5722, ext. 106, or email [nicole.louque@lsba.org](mailto:nicole.louque@lsba.org).

# IT'S TIME TO BOOK A LISTING IN 'WHO'S WHO IN ADR 2015'

*The print version of the directory for arbitrators and mediators will be mailed with the October/November 2015 Louisiana Bar Journal.*

*For the one low price of \$125, your listing is first published in the print directory, then the directory is uploaded to the LSBA website in interactive PDF format (email addresses and website URLs are activated and instantly accessible).  
The Web version of the directory remains active for one full year!*

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The special Arbitrators and Mediators Directory will feature brief articles and photographs of arbitrators and mediators (**INDIVIDUALS ONLY**).

The articles should be **150 words MAXIMUM**. Provide your address, phone, fax, email address and website information at the end of the listing (not part of the word count).

Submit either original photos or digital photos. Digital photos should be submitted separately from the article, in either .tif, .jpg or .eps format (the order of preference). **DO NOT** submit digital photographs embedded in word processing programs; send the photograph as a separate file. High-resolution digital photos work best (at least 300 DPI/dots per inch).

## **DEADLINE IS JULY 31 FOR ALL LISTINGS AND PHOTOS! DIRECTORY/WEB COMBO PRICE IS \$125.**

Articles and photographs must be for individuals only. No group articles or group photographs will be used. But, as an **ADDED BONUS**, firms which have three or more arbitrators/mediators purchasing individual listings will receive a free **firm** listing in the section. (Firms are responsible for submitting the additional information, 150 words maximum.)

If you would like to repeat a prior listing and photo, you may send us a photocopy of that listing along with your check; please provide the year the listing appeared. (Digital photos appearing in ADR directories are archived back to 2000.)

## **IT'S EASY TO RESERVE SPACE IN THE DIRECTORY!**

• Email your listing and photo to Publications Coordinator Darlene M. LaBranche (email: [dlabranche@lsba.org](mailto:dlabranche@lsba.org)). Then mail your check for \$125 (payable to *Louisiana State Bar Association*) to: **Publications Coordinator Darlene M. LaBranche, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La. 70130-3404.**

• Or, mail your listing, photo, disk and check to the above address.

For more information, contact

**Darlene M. LaBranche**

**(504)619-0112 or (800)421-5722, ext. 112.**

## Thanks 2014-15 Diversity Committee Members!

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Diversity Committee's mission is assessing the level of racial, ethnic, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and disability diversity within all components of the legal profession in Louisiana; identifying barriers to the attainment of full and meaningful representation and participation in the legal profession by persons of diverse backgrounds; and proposing programs and methods to most effectively work to remove those barriers.

On behalf of the LSBA and the Member Outreach and Diversity Department, thank you to the 2014-15 Diversity Committee and Subcommittee members.

### Diversity Committee

#### Co-Chairs

Hon. Roland L. Belsome, Jr., Luis Arturo Leitzelar and Barbara Bourgeois Ormsby.

#### Members

Jeremy Christopher Lee Babers, Paul Stephen Tuano Balanon, Attorney General James D. Caldwell, Derrick Edwards, Demarcus Johnathan Gordon, Scherri Neewana Guidry, Kandace Runita Hamilton, Joseph Henry Hart IV, Christopher Bondreak Hebert, Crystal Marie Heine, Paul Damon Hesse, Chauntis Trenelle Jenkins, Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, Hon. Quintillis Kenyatta Lawrence, Wayne J. Lee, Hon. Kelly McNeil Legier, Prof. Maria Pabón López, Kellen James Mathews, Prof. David D. Meyer, Elena M. Perez, Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., Michael Ray Robinson, Ronald Joseph Scalise, Jr., Chantell Marie Smith, Scott Jerome Spivey, Ranie T. Thompson, Hon. Max N. Tobias, Jr. and Prof. Jack M. Weiss III.

### Diversity Subcommittees

► **Awards Subcommittee:** Chair Chantell Marie Smith, Co-Chair Elena M. Perez and Chauntis T. Jenkins.

► **Communications Subcommittee:** Chair Crystal Marie Heine, Co-Chair Derrick Edwards, Adreja L. Boutte, Lauren E. Godshall, Hon. Kelly McNeil Legier and Claire M. Ojeh.

► **Conclave Subcommittee:** Co-Chair Hon. Roland L. Belsome, Jr., Co-Chair Luis A. Leitzelar, Co-Chair Barbara B. Ormsby, Denia Aiyegbusi, Nadege A. Assale, Jeremy C. Babers, Troy N. Bell, Micah J. Fincher, Demarcus Johnathan Gordon, Christopher Hebert, Hon. Kelly McNeil Legier, Hon. Quintillis Kenyatta Lawrence, Kellen J. Mathews, Ebony S. Morris and Amani P. Perkins.

► **Integration Subcommittee:** Chair Scott Jerome Spivey, Co-Chair Joseph Henry Hart IV, I.J. Clark-Sam, Monique M. Edwards, Jacqueline Epstein, Jeremy S. Epstein, Matthew J. Glodowski, Schalyece M. Harrison, Deborah Love, Michael Ray Robinson and Cherrilynne Washington Thomas.

► **LGBT Subcommittee:** Chair Paul D. Hesse, Co-Chair Tyler J. Douglas, Paul Stephen Tuano Balanon, Max V. Camp, L. Bianca Chretien, Nicholas Hite, Robert E. Lancaster, Monte Mollere, Angie M. Peraza, Michael Schachtman, Nicholas C. Tomlinson, Emily Trostle and Zachary L. Wool.

► **Pipeline to Diversity/Outreach Subcommittee:** Chair Scherri N. Guidry, Co-Chair Kandace R. Hamilton, Chanelle N. Gaither, Erin Guruli, Tracy O. Joseph, Rhonda M. Mercadel, Charles K. Middleton, Ranie T. Thompson, Hon. Max N. Tobias, Lykisha R. Vaughan and Jack M. Weiss III. ■

## 2015 "Suit Up" Program starting on June 15

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program will begin its 2015 session on June 15 with 20 student interns.

This year's three-week program (June 15-26 and July 6-10) will include abridged law school sessions, shadowing opportunities at local firms, courts and agencies, and field trips to courts and law schools. During their final week, the students will focus on developing a written memorandum and an oral argument to be presented to a panel of judges in a courtroom.

The Suit Up Program, a partnership with the Just the Beginning Foundation and the Louisiana Bar Foundation, is an award-winning Diversity Pipeline Program and a 2013 American Bar Association Partnership Program recipient.

Several attorneys have volunteered for the program, either talking to the students one-on-one or offering "shadowing" opportunities.

Several professors and law schools' staff members are volunteering their time to teach the students, including Prof. Mary Garvey Algero, Loyola University College of Law (Legal Writing); Prof. M. Isabel Medina, Ferris Family Distinguished Professor of Law, Loyola University College of Law (Constitutional Law); Prof. Russell L. Jones, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Jesse N. Stone, Jr. Endowed Professor of Law, Southern University Law Center (Criminal Law); Prof. Michelle A. Jackson, Director of Career Services, Adjunct Professor of Law, Southern University Law Center (Education Law); Erin Phifer, Director of Career Services and Employer Relations, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center (College and Law School Admission Preparation); and Jeffrey C. Brooks, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center (Making an Oral Argument). ■

# Through the Lens:

Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession / 3-6-15



Luis A. Leitzelar, right, co-chair of the Diversity Committee, presented Rolando R. Urbina, president of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. Greater Baton Rouge Chapter, with the Guardian of Diversity Award. Urbina accepted the award on behalf of the Martinet Society. The award recognizes the organization's efforts in implementing and advancing diversity programs to promote and support diversity in the legal community. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*



Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr., left, and Wayne J. Lee, with the firm Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, L.L.C., and a former LSBA president, chat between sessions. Stone Pigman was a Gold level sponsor of the Diversity Conclave. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*



Diversity Conclave Co-Chairs Luis A. Leitzelar, left, and Barbara B. Ormsby listen as Kim M. Keenan gives her keynote address. Keenan spoke about minorities and the historical impact of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*



Conclave keynote speaker Kim M. Keenan, CEO and president of Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*



Louisiana State Bar Association President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr. welcomed Diversity Conclave attendees. Seated far left is Diversity Conclave Subcommittee Co-Chair Hon. Roland L. Belsome, Jr. and fellow Co-Chair Luis A. Leitzelar. Seated at right is Henry (Hank) James Thomas, one of the original 13 Freedom Riders. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*



Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson introduced Conclave keynote speaker Kim M. Keenan, CEO and president of Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council, at the Awards Luncheon. *Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.*

# 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:

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**Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P.**, a regional law firm, is seeking an associate for its Business Practice Group in the Baton Rouge office. The ideal candidate will have two-plus years’ experience in the areas of business law, particularly banking, real estate and commercial transactions. Excellent academic credentials required (top 25 percent) and Moot Court/*Law Review* preferred. The position offers competitive salary and benefits. Interested candidates should email a cover letter, résumé and transcript to Rachel Woolridge at [rachel.woolridge@phelps.com](mailto:rachel.woolridge@phelps.com).

**Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P.**, a regional law firm, is seeking an associate for the firm’s Labor and Employment Practice Group in the Baton Rouge office. The preferred candidate will have three to four years of litigation experience. Labor and employment law experience preferred. Must have excellent writing skills and academic credentials (top 25 percent required). Interested candidates should send a cover letter, résumé and transcript to Rachel Woolridge, Ste. 2000, 365 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130, or email [rachel.woolridge@phelps.com](mailto:rachel.woolridge@phelps.com).

**Lafayette law firm** seeking transaction attorney with experience in the acquisition, disposition, development, financing and leasing of commercial real estate; business matters involving entity formation, corporate governance and business practices; and debt and equity financing, including bridge financing and construction and permanent financing. Minimum of three-five years’ transactional experience requested. Respond to: Lydia Bordelon, Becker & Hebert, L.L.C., 201 Rue Beauregard, Lafayette, LA 70508; (337)233-1987; (337)235-1748 (facsimile).

**Lafayette defense firm** seeking attorneys with zero-five years’ experience. Opportunities include part-time contract work and full-time associate position. Compensation includes productivity bonus. Position would be ideal for a young attorney seeking a mentor. Email résumé and writing sample (if available) to [connie@rhhnet.com](mailto:connie@rhhnet.com).

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