

# Bar Briefs

September 2017

Louisiana State Bar Association

Vol. 32, No. 5

## Kutcher, Sonnier, Sternberg, Jones nominated for LSBA, YLD leadership positions

**R**obert A. Kutcher of Metairie and Shayna L. Sonnier of Lake Charles have been nominated for 2018-19 Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) president-elect and 2018-20 LSBA treasurer, respectively. The LSBA's Nominating Committee formulated these recommendations on Aug. 25 and presented its report to the Board of Governors on Aug. 26.

The Young Lawyers Division (YLD) Council nominated Scott L. Sternberg of New Orleans and Carrie L. Jones of Baton Rouge for 2018-19 YLD chair-elect and secretary, respectively.

### Self-Qualifying Open; Deadline Oct. 16

Several leadership positions are open in the 2017-18 LSBA election cycle. Balloting will be conducted electronically only, as approved by the LSBA Board of Governors. No paper ballots will be provided.



Robert A. Kutcher



Shayna L. Sonnier



Scott L. Sternberg



Carrie L. Jones

On Sept. 18, notice of the action of the Nominating Committee and self-qualification forms for positions on the Board of Governors, LSBA House of Delegates, Nominating Committee, Young Lawyers Division and American Bar Association House of Delegates were provided to the membership.

Deadline for return of nominations by petition and qualification forms is Monday, Oct. 16. First election ballots will be available to members on Monday, Nov. 13. Deadline for electronically casting votes is Monday, Dec. 11.

The president-elect will automatically as-

sume the presidency in 2019-20.

According to the president-elect rotation, the nominee must have his/her preferred mailing address in Nominating Committee District 2 (parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana).

According to the treasurer rotation, the

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nominee must have his/her preferred mailing address in Nominating Committee District 3 (parishes of Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Cameron, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Carroll, Evangeline, Franklin, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Red River, Richland, Sabine, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Tensas, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Webster, West Carroll and Winn).

### Other Positions Open

Other positions to be filled in the 2017-18 elections are:

**Board of Governors** (three-year terms beginning at the adjournment of the 2018 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the adjournment of the 2021 LSBA Annual Meeting) — one member each from the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth districts.

**LSBA House of Delegates** (two-year terms beginning at the commencement of the 2018 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the commencement of the 2020 LSBA Annual Meeting) — one delegate from each of the First through Nineteenth Judicial Districts, plus one additional delegate for every additional district judge in each district.

**Nominating Committee** (15 members, one-year terms beginning at the adjournment of the 2018 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the adjournment of the 2019 LSBA Annual Meeting) — Dis-

trict 1A, Orleans Parish, four members; District 1B, parishes of Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany, one member; District 2A, East Baton Rouge Parish, two members; District 2B, Jefferson Parish, two members; District 2C, parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Feliciana, Iberville, Lafourche, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana, one member; District 3A, Lafayette Parish, one member; District 3B, parishes of Acadia, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion, one member; District 3C, parishes of Allen, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Grant, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, St. Landry and Vernon, one member; District 3D, parishes of Bossier and Caddo, one member; and District 3E, parishes of Bienville, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Tensas, Union, Webster, West Carroll and Winn, one member.

**Young Lawyers Division. Chair-elect** (2018-19 term), nominee **shall** be a resident of or actively practicing law in any parish in Louisiana, based on preferred mailing address. **Secretary** (2018-19 term), nominee **shall not** be a resident of or actively practicing law in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard or Plaquemines, based on preferred mailing address. Petitions for nomination must be signed by 15 members of the Young Lawyers Division. Also to be elected, one representative each from the First, Second, Third, Fifth and Seventh districts (two-

year terms).

**American Bar Association House of Delegates** (*must be members of the American Bar Association*) — two delegates from the membership at large and one delegate from that portion of the membership not having reached their 35th birthday by Aug. 7, 2018 (young lawyer delegate). All LSBA members may vote for both sets of candidates. The delegates will serve two-year terms, beginning with the adjournment of the 2018 ABA Annual Meeting and expiring at the adjournment of the 2020 ABA Annual Meeting, as provided in Paragraph 6.4(e) of the ABA Constitution.

For more information on the election procedures and the schedule, go to: [www.lsba.org/goto/elections](http://www.lsba.org/goto/elections). 📄

## House resolution deadline is Dec. 13 for 2018 Midyear Meeting

**T**he Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Midyear Meeting is scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 18-20, 2018, at the Renaissance Hotel in Baton Rouge. The deadline for submitting resolutions for the House of Delegates meeting is Wednesday, Dec. 13. (The House will meet on Jan. 20, 2018.)

Resolutions by House members and committee and section chairs should be mailed to LSBA Secretary John E. McAuliffe, Jr., c/o Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404. All resolutions proposed to be considered at the meeting *must be received* on or before Dec. 13. Resolutions must be signed by the author. Also, copies of all resolutions should be emailed (in MS Word format) to LSBA Executive Assistant Mindi Hunter at [mindi.hunter@lsba.org](mailto:mindi.hunter@lsba.org). 📄

## Bar Briefs

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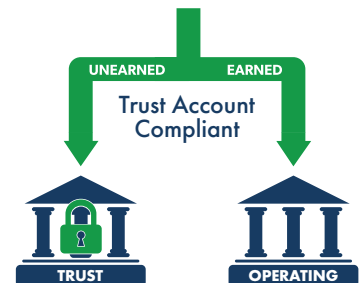
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# Assistance Needed for Legal Community Members in the Virgin Islands

**A**s you know, Hurricane Irma had a devastating impact on the United States Virgin Islands. SOLACE is requesting assistance for the members of the Virgin Islands Bar Association, their staff, and families to get back on their feet. The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Disaster Response and Preparedness (ABA SCDRP) has been in contact with the Virgin Islands Bar Association. And owing to the current difficulty in communications on

the island, ABA SCDRP is assisting with outreach by SOLACE to and coordination with the Virgin Islands Bar.

The Virgin Islands Bar Association has requested gift cards to Home Depot, Office Depot, Walgreens, Kmart, Ace Hardware, and Amazon. These gift cards will allow individuals to purchase such supplies as solar chargers, vehicle chargers, and other equipment for office and home that will be most helpful to them.

The Louisiana State Bar Association has

generously agreed to receive, collect, and forward the gift cards to the Virgin Island Bar Association. The Virgin Island Bar Association will then distribute the gift cards to those members adversely affected by the hurricane.

If you can assist, please directly send your gift cards to: Louisiana State Bar Association, Attn: Mindi Hunter, 601 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70130. 📧

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

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

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

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



# LBF accepting Hurricane Harvey donations


After a disaster, civil legal aid needs are dramatically increased. Displaced families and individuals experience a variety of legal needs. Domestic violence centers are impacted with increased residents. Vulnerable children need protection due to family instability and separation. The economic security of the elderly is in jeopardy. Many need help with successions and title clearing to access federal recovery dollars.

Funding for immediate legal services is a significant need facing Texas and Louisiana hurricane victims. The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is working with stakeholders on the local, state and national level to most

efficiently and effectively address the many needs.

The Louisiana Hurricane Harvey Disaster Fund has been established to provide support. Also, donations may be provided directly to the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation Hurricane Legal Aid Fund.


Donations can be made online at [www.raisingthebar.org](http://www.raisingthebar.org), or checks may be sent, payable to "Louisiana Bar Foundation/Harvey Disaster Fund," to: Ste. 1000, 1615 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112.

For more information on these funds, contact LBF Development Director Laura Sewell at (504)561-1046. 

## Red Mass scheduled for Oct. 2 in New Orleans; LSBA's Memorial Exercises to follow


The St. Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association is coordinating the annual Red Mass, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans. A reception will follow at the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Assembly for the Red Mass begins at 9 a.m. Judges are to assemble at the Supreme Court Building. St. Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association members and guests are to assemble at the St. Louis Cathedral for the ecclesiastical, judicial and legal procession.

The Louisiana State Bar Association has scheduled its annual Memorial Exercises to honor deceased members of the Bench and Bar following the Red Mass, beginning about 11:45 a.m. at the Louisiana Supreme Court, 400 Royal St., New Orleans. 

## LSBA Disaster Response Website activated

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is committed to serving the needs of members and the public in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. The LSBA's Disaster Response website provides information on displace-

ment resources, court closures, emergency declarations and assistance for flood victims. The site also includes links to offer donations and to volunteer services. Go online: [www.lsba.org/DR/](http://www.lsba.org/DR/). 

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# Attorney arbitrator volunteers sought for LSBA Lawyer Fee Dispute Resolution Program

Coordinators for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Lawyer Fee Dispute Resolution Program are seeking more attorney arbitrator volunteers to handle cases. Bar members who are interested are asked to complete and submit an online Attorney Arbitrator Form, available at: <http://files.lsba.org/documents/PublicResources/ARBITRA->

[TORFORM.pdf](#).

Arbitration training for the program will be provided at a later date. The program was formed to resolve legal fee disputes between attorneys and clients as well as between attorneys and other lawyers.

More information on the program (including a downloadable form, rules and general guidelines) can be accessed online at:

[www.lsba.org/Public/FeeDisputeResolution.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/Public/FeeDisputeResolution.aspx).

For more information, contact LSBA Practice Management Counsel Shawn L. Holahan at (504)619-0153 or email [shawn.holahan@lsba.org](mailto:shawn.holahan@lsba.org). The LSBA cannot give legal advice or represent anyone in their fee dispute. 📞

## LSBA's 11th Annual Solo, Small Firm and Tech Conference

The Louisiana State Bar Association's 11th Annual Solo, Small Firm and Tech Conference is set for Feb. 15-16, 2018, at the Sheraton New Orleans. This is the Thursday and Friday after Mardi Gras 2018. This is the ONLY conference offering the full CLE requirement and dedicated to the small office practitioner. Interested in becoming an exhibitor or sponsor? Direct inquiries to Shawn Holahan via email at [shawn.holahan@lsba.org](mailto:shawn.holahan@lsba.org). 📞

## Notice from 22nd JDC/St. Tammany Parish: Document Recordation

As of Sept. 1, attorneys and pro se litigants will be responsible for recording all documents that require recordation in 22nd Judicial District Court/St. Tammany Parish. Read the full notice: <https://www.sttammanyclerk.org/>. 📞

## Save the date! 9th Annual Animal Law Section CLE

The Louisiana State Bar Association's ninth annual Animal Law Section CLE program is set for Friday, Dec. 15, in New Orleans. Check the Animal Law Section's website for updates: [www.animallawla.org](http://www.animallawla.org). 📞

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# Secret Santa

## Brightening the holidays for needy children

The Louisiana State Bar Association/Louisiana Bar Foundation's Community Action Committee is inviting Bar members and other professionals to brighten the holidays for needy children by participating in the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Secret Santa Project.

- Sponsors will shop with inspiration from the child's "Wish List."
- Informational packets will be distributed in November.
- No required minimum or maximum amount on gifts.
- Gift collection will run from Thursday, Nov. 30 through Monday, Dec. 4, 2017.
- More details about gift-wrapping, drop-off, etc., will be included in the informational packet.

The Secret Santa Project also welcomes monetary donations to help buy gifts for children not adopted. For more information, visit [www.lsba.org/goto/SecretSanta](http://www.lsba.org/goto/SecretSanta).

For more information or questions about the Project, contact Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez at (504)619-0131 or [secretsanta@lsba.org](mailto:secretsanta@lsba.org).

**SIGN UP EARLY!**

Sign up early and receive your informational packets in November!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ child(ren). Preferred age range (not guaranteed) \_\_\_\_\_  
(12 and under)

**To participate, fax this form to Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez at (504)566-0930.**



# Cuneo, Davoli receive LBF President's Awards

**D**onna C. Cuneo and Charles R. (Chuck) Davoli each received the 2017 Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) President's Award from 2016-17 LBF President E. Jane Sherman. The president selects the recipients based on their dedication and commitment to the LBF, volunteer service, leadership roles in major LBF accomplishments, and willingness to volunteer and assist the president in addressing concerns facing the LBF.

Cuneo was recognized for her support, dedication and advancement of the mission and goals of the LBF. She has served the LBF for 22 years, the last 15 years as executive director. She received the award at the LBF's Annual Fellows Membership Meeting in May.

Davoli was recognized for his support, volunteer service, dedication and advancement of the mission and goals of the LBF. He was



**Donna C. Cuneo, left, received the 2017 Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) President's Award. The award was presented by 2016-17 LBF President E. Jane Sherman. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.**



**Charles R. (Chuck) Davoli, right, received the 2017 Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) President's Award. The award was presented by 2016-17 LBF President E. Jane Sherman. Photo by Michelle M. Sorrells.**

instrumental in bringing the Kids' Chance Scholarship Program to Louisiana in 2004. The program awards scholarships to the children of Louisiana workers who have been killed or permanently and totally disabled in a work accident. He has served on the LBF Kids' Chance Committee for 12

years. This year, he led a special effort to have Gov. John Bel Edwards officially proclaim Louisiana Kids' Chance Awareness Week. He received his award at the Baton Rouge Bar Association Workers' Compensation Section's Annual Kids' Chance fundraiser in May. 📷

## LBF unveils new grant application system

**N**ew this year, all Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) grant applications will be submitted online through a new grants management system. The new system is user-friendly and will make it easier to submit applications, populate and summarize data, and provide for the submission of electronic reports.

The LBF grant application for 2018-19 funding will be available online on Oct. 2. Deadline for sub-

mitting grant applications is Dec. 1, 2017.

The Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) application for 2018-19 funding will be available online on Oct. 2. Deadline for submitting LRAP applications is Feb. 9, 2018.

For more information, contact Renee LeBoeuf at (504)561-1046 or email [renee@raisingthebar.org](mailto:renee@raisingthebar.org).

Grant applications are available at [www.raisingthebar.org](http://www.raisingthebar.org). 📷

## Save the Date! LBF 32nd Annual Fellows Gala Friday, April 20, 2018

**D**iscounted rooms are available Thursday, April 19, and Friday, April 20, 2018, at \$239/night. To make a reservation, call the Hyatt at 1(888)421-1442 and reference "Louisiana Bar Foundation" or go to <https://aws.passkey.com/go/LABarFoundationAnnualGala>. Reservations must be made before Thursday, March 29.

For more Gala information or to be a sponsor, contact Danielle J. Marshall at (504)561-1046 or email [danielle@raisingthebar.org](mailto:danielle@raisingthebar.org). 📷



# LBF celebrates Kids' Chance Awareness Week Nov. 13-17

**N**ational Kids' Chance Awareness Week is designed to highlight Kids' Chance initiatives, programs and state organizations and raise awareness about Kids' Chance and its mission.

Here's what you need to know about Kids' Chance in Louisiana:

► The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) Kids' Chance is a scholarship program for dependents of Louisiana workers killed or permanently and totally disabled in a work accident. This year, 20 scholarships were given totaling \$59,000.

► Go online for Kids' Chance guidelines: <http://raisingthebar.org/kids-chance-scholarship-program/kids-chance-scholarship-guidelines>.

► Online applications for the 2018-19 school year will be available Dec. 1. The deadline to apply is Feb. 19, 2018.

► If you represent a family whose

main wage earner has been killed or is permanently and totally disabled, but the children are too young to attend an accredited, post-secondary educational program, they can register with Kids' Chance of America: <http://www.kidschance.org/planning-for-the-future/>.

► Be LBF Kids' Chance sponsor or make a donation: <http://raisingthebar.org/kids-chance-scholarship-program/become-a-kids-chance-sponsor>.

► In conjunction with Kids' Chance Awareness Week, the LBF committee will collect and distribute Kids' Chance Care packages to the scholarship recipients. A variety of goods are being collected, including gift cards, usb drives, can koozies,



note pads, pens, pencils, calculators, cellphone wallet/card holders, chargers, totes, shirts, beads and snacks. To donate items, gift cards or money, contact Dee Jones at (504)561-7303 or email [dee@raisingthebar.org](mailto:dee@raisingthebar.org).

The LBF Kids' Chance Scholarship Program was started in 2004 and is administered by the LBF and governed by a committee representing a cross-section of the state's legal and workers' compensation communities. Since 2004, the LBF Kids' Chance Scholarship Program has awarded 275 scholarships totaling \$604,600. The first Kids' Chance program began in Georgia in 1988 and now there are programs in 36 states. 📌

## LBF completes nine new oral histories for its collection

**T**he Louisiana Bar Foundation's (LBF) Education Committee recently added nine new videos to its series of oral histories — Hon. W. Ross Foote, Shreveport; Hon. Jeanette Giddens Garrett, Shreveport; Hon. Gay Caldwell Gaskins, Shreveport; Alfred Smith (Smitty) Landry, New Iberia; Prof. Lucy S. McGough, Baton Rouge; Helen Onebane Mendell, Lafayette; Prof. William P. Quigley, New Orleans; Henry C. Walker, Shreveport; and Hon. Vanessa Guidry Whipple, Houma.

There are more than 100 oral

histories on the website. To view them, go to: <http://raisingthebar.org/programs-and-projects/oral-history-project>.

The Oral History Project is a part of the committee's plans to systematically broaden the LBF's work to preserve the history, culture and flavor of Louisiana law. The goal is to put into place a system for regularly recording oral histories of retiring judges, bar leaders and other legal personalities. These video presentations are available for use in classrooms, CLE seminars and other venues to preserve, honor and improve the state's

system of justice.

Nominations for oral history interviews are made through the regional LBF Community Partnership Panels (CPP) and the LBF Education Committee. LBF CPP chairs and the Education Committee chair can be contacted via the website: <http://raisingthebar.org/about-us/who-s-who-at-lbf>.

For more information on the Oral History Project, contact LBF Communications Director Dennette Young at (504)561-1046 or email [dennette@raisingthebar.org](mailto:dennette@raisingthebar.org). 📌

# Reminder: CLE compliance by Dec. 31 for board-certified specialists

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBSL), as set forth in the individual Specialty Standards for each field of legal specialization, board-certified attorneys in a specific field of law must meet a minimum CLE requirement for the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 2017. The requirement for each area of specialty is:

- ▶ Appellate Practice — 18 hours of appellate practice law.
- ▶ Estate Planning and Administration Law — 18 hours of estate planning law.
- ▶ Family Law — 18 hours of family law.
- ▶ Tax Law — 18 hours of tax law
- ▶ Bankruptcy Law — CLE is regulated



ed by the American Board of Certification. CLE credits will be computed on a calendar year basis and all attendance information must be delivered to the Supreme Court

Committee on Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) no later than Jan. 31, 2018. Failure to earn and/or timely report specialization CLE hours will result in a penalty assessment.

Preliminary specialization transcripts will be mailed in November to all specialists who are delinquent in their specialization CLE hours. Specialists should satisfy all specialization CLE requirements by Dec. 31, 2017.

To obtain copies of specialization transcripts, go to the LBSL's website: [www.lasc-mcle.org/specialization/](http://www.lasc-mcle.org/specialization/).

For more information, contact LBSL Specialization Director Mary Ann Wegmann at (504)619-0128 or email [maryann.wegmann@lsba.org](mailto:maryann.wegmann@lsba.org).

## Community Action Committee & 'WEEN DREAM Partnering for Halloween Costume Donations

The Louisiana State Bar Association/Louisiana Bar Foundation's Community Action Committee is assisting the 'WEEN DREAM program in the collection of new and/or slightly used Halloween costumes for children in need.

Law firms, attorneys and legal professionals wishing to donate should drop off costumes at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, on Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 1-10, during business hours (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

Costumes may simply be placed in bags. There is no labeling or sorting process required. 'WEEN DREAM volunteers will handle the sorting process and match the costumes to children for Halloween 2018. (Costumes that were donated after Halloween 2016 are being distributed to children for 2017.)

<p><b><u>NEW ORLEANS</u></b> Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez Louisiana State Bar Association 601 St. Charles Ave. New Orleans, LA 70130 (504)566-1600</p>	<p><b><u>LAFAYETTE</u></b> Jo Abshire Lafayette Bar Association 2607 Johnston St. Lafayette, LA 70503 (337)237-4700</p>	<p><b><u>ALEXANDRIA</u></b> Alainna Mire Alexandria City Hall 915 Third St. Alexandria, LA 71301</p>	<p><b><u>LAKE CHARLES</u></b> Shayna L. Sonnier Hunter, Hunter &amp; Sonnier, LLC 1807 Lake St. Lake Charles LA, 70601 (337)436-1600</p>
<p><b><u>BATON ROUGE</u></b> Baton Rouge Bar Association 544 Main St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802 (225)344-4803</p>	<p><b><u>MONROE</u></b> Clint R. Hanchey Hayes, Harkey, Smith &amp; Cascio 2811 Kilpatrick Blvd. Monroe, LA 71201 (318)387-2422</p>	<p><b><u>SHREVEPORT</u></b> Dana Southern The Shreveport Bar Association 625 Texas St. Shreveport, LA 71101 (318)222-3643</p>	<p><i>-or-</i> Hoffoss Devall, LLC 517 West College St., Lake Charles LA 70605 (337)433-2053</p>



# LBSL sets dates for certification applications

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBSL) will soon be accepting requests for applications for certification in six areas — business bankruptcy law, consumer bankruptcy law, appellate practice, estate planning and administration, family law and tax law.

The application period for appellate practice, estate planning and administration, family law and tax law certification is Nov. 1, 2017, through Feb. 28, 2018.

Applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification will be accepted from Jan. 1, 2018, through Sept. 30, 2018.


In accordance with the Plan of Legal Specialization, a Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) member in good standing who has been engaged in the practice of law on a full-time basis for a minimum of five years may apply for certification. Further requirements are that each year a minimum percentage of the attorney's practice must be devoted to the area of certification sought, passing a written examination to demonstrate sufficient knowledge, skills and proficiency in the area for which certification is sought, and five favorable references. Peer review will 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. LSBA members should refer to the LBSL standards for the applicable specialty for a more detailed description of the requirements for application.

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


- ▶ Appellate Practice — 18 hours of appellate law.
- ▶ Estate Planning and Administration Law — 18 hours of estate planning law.
- ▶ Family Law — 18 hours of family law.
- ▶ Tax Law — 18 hours of tax law.
- ▶ Bankruptcy Law — CLE is regulated by the American Board of Certification, the testing agency.

With regard to applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bank-

ruptcy law certification, although the written test(s) is administered by the American Board of Certification, attorneys should apply for approval of the LBSL simultaneously with the testing agency in order to avoid delay of board certification by the LBSL. Information concerning the American Board of Certification will be provided with the application form(s).

Anyone interested in applying for certification should contact LBSL Specialization Director Mary Ann Wegmann, email [maryann.wegmann@lsba.org](mailto:maryann.wegmann@lsba.org) or call (504)619-0128. For more information, go to the LBSL website: [www.lascmcle.org/specialization/](http://www.lascmcle.org/specialization/). 

## Justice Reinvestment Reforms Practitioners' Guide now available

The Justice Reinvestment Reforms Practitioners' Guide, offered as a resource by the Louisiana Department of Corrections, is now available online. The guide provides in-depth descriptions of how Louisiana's justice reinvestment reforms change state laws. For each change in state law, the guide identifies the relevant bill, the statutes affected, the changes from prior law, the effective date of the changes, and whether the changes apply prospectively or retroactively. Go to: <http://files.lsba.org/documents/CJC/JR-PractitionersGuide.pdf>. 

## 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)

Alexandria	Steven Cook .....	(318)448-0082
Baton Rouge	Steven Adams .....	(225)921-6690
	.....	(225)926-4333
	David E. Cooley .....	(225)753-3407
	John A. Gutierrez .....	(225)715-5438
.....	(225)744-3555	
Lafayette	Alfred "Smitty" Landry .....	(337)364-5408
	.....	(337)364-7626
	Thomas E. Guilbeau.....	(337)232-7240
James Lambert .....	(337)233-8695	
.....	(337)235-1825	
Lake Charles	Thomas M. Bergstedt .....	(337)558-5032
Monroe	Robert A. Lee .....	(318)387-3872
	.....	(318)388-4472
New Orleans	Deborah Faust .....	(504)304-1500
	Donald Massey .....	(504)585-0290
	Dian Tooley.....	(504)861-5682
	.....	(504)831-1838
Shreveport	Michelle AndrePont .....	(318)347-8532
	Nancy Carol Snow .....	(318)272-7547
	William Kendig, Jr. ....	(318)222-2772
	.....	(318)572-8260 (cell)
	Steve Thomas.....	(318)872-6250

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



# Focus on *Access to Justice*

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



Richard M. Arceneaux, left, Louisiana Clerk of Court Association president, and Michael W. Schachtman, Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Access to Justice (ATJ) Self-Represented Litigation counsel, welcomed the LSBA to the 57th annual Clerks of Court Institute in Alexandria from August 15-17. Schachtman and Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects counsel, promoted LSBA ATJ materials designed to educate the public about Louisiana's civil legal aid network. These materials include information about the various self-represented litigant resources, language access information, IFP information and information about the online pro bono program *LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org*.

## Volunteers needed for "Lawyers in Libraries" events in 4 parishes

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the Louisiana Library Association are scheduling "Lawyers in Libraries" events statewide during the week of Oct. 23-28. Attorney volunteers are needed to provide "Ask-a-Lawyer" sessions or educational presentations free of charge in the following parishes: Evangeline, Jackson, Union and West Carroll.

To participate, contact the LSBA Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0106 or (800)421-5722, ext. 106, or email [nicole.louque@lsba.org](mailto:nicole.louque@lsba.org). Learn more about the project: <http://www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org>.



*Louisiana lawyers are proud to partner with Louisiana libraries to help address the legal needs of our communities.*

On October 23-28, 2017, the Louisiana Library Association and the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) will sponsor "Lawyers in Libraries" events across the state in support of the National Pro Bono Celebration. Attorney volunteers will provide "Ask-a-Lawyer" sessions, or educational presentations, free of charge to library patrons.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP to be the Lawyer in your local Library.**

To participate in a "Lawyers in Libraries" event, contact the LSBA Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0106 or (800)421-5722, ext. 106, or email [Nicole.Louque@lsba.org](mailto:Nicole.Louque@lsba.org). More info on the project can be found at: [www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org](http://www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org)

Special thanks to all the participating attorneys helping to make this project a success.



# More LSBA attorney volunteers sought for participation in *LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org*

*LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org* is the online pro bono website that connects low-income individuals with attorneys. Through the website, attorney volunteers are able to log in whenever and wherever they like and anonymously respond to legal questions submitted by individuals who could not otherwise afford to consult an attorney.

The Louisiana State Bar Association is seeking more attorney volunteers.

The American Bar Association provides malpractice insurance for any legal advice given through the site.

In order to qualify for the site, users



must meet certain income eligibility requirements — must be age 18 or older; not currently in jail or prison; have a household income within 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and have less than \$6,000 in assets.

The LSBA is partnering in this initiative as another means to expand legal ser-

vices to the poor or working poor in the state who currently cannot be assisted by the established civil legal aid community for various reasons — federal restrictions on income eligibility; restrictions on accepted case types; and/or logistical challenges in accessing legal services.

To volunteer or learn more, go to the LSBA's Access to Justice webpage, <https://www.lsba.org/atj>. Or contact Rachael Mills with the Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0104 or email [rachael.mills@lsba.org](mailto:rachael.mills@lsba.org).



## #yourLSBA: A Pro Bono Hero *Providing Justice for ALL*

‘Without society men could not live, and without laws men could not be sociable, and without authority somewhere invested, to judge according to Law, and execute according to judgment, Law was a vain and void thing.’

– Henry Parker, *Tracts on Liberty by the Levellers of their Cities*

“ In the above-quoted volume, Mr. Parker, thought to be one of the first persons to use the term pro bono publico, reasons that without law and a means by which to justly execute it, society cannot function. For me, pro bono work brings the “Law” to those persons who otherwise could not benefit from it. ”

**R. Gary Higgins, Jr., Attorney at Law**  
Covington, LA



## Nomination procedures listed, forms online for Trailblazer Award, Guardian of Diversity Award, Citizen Lawyer Award

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Member Outreach and Diversity Department has announced the nomination periods and procedures for the Trailblazer Award, the Guardian of Diversity Award and the Citizen Lawyer Award.

For more information on awards and to access nomination forms, go online: [www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx). Click on "Diversity and Inclusion Awards" and "Service Awards." Or email the Member Outreach and Diversity Department at [outreach@lsba.org](mailto:outreach@lsba.org).

### LSBA Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award

The LSBA Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award was established in 2016. It combined two previous diversity awards — the Trailblazer Award (established in 2013) and the Human Rights Award (established in 2010). The Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award is awarded by the Association annually in June at the LSBA's Annual Meeting.

The nomination period runs from October through February.

This award recognizes individual attorneys and judges who champion the ideals set forth by Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, the first African-American chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, who has always exhibited an unwavering commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

Nominees must be admitted to practice in Louisiana. Judges must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana; the lawyer or judge can be on active or inactive status and from any practice setting; and the lawyer or judge cannot be a current member of the LSBA's Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession.

The Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award recipient should demonstrate a unique blend of experience, skills and accomplishments which translate into suc-

cessful diversity and inclusion efforts which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ▶ supporting and encouraging attorneys who are members of an unrepresented group within the legal profession to reach their career and personal potential;
- ▶ ensuring opportunities for the advancement of diverse people through mentoring efforts and diversity outreach;
- ▶ commitment to addressing issues of equality, fairness and injustice in the legal profession; and
- ▶ participation in community service activities which promote and broaden the diversity pipeline to the legal profession.

Last year's Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award was presented to Hon. Karen Wells Roby, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana.

### Guardian of Diversity Award

The Guardian of Diversity Award, established in 2013, recognizes non-profit groups, local and specialty bar associations, and public interest organizations that implement and advance diversity programs to promote and support diversity in the legal community. It is presented at the LSBA's Annual Meeting.

The nomination period is October through February.

Nominees can be bar associations, courts, law firms/departments, or community organizations (including non-profits and public interest organizations).

Recipients should demonstrate the following diversity and inclusion efforts:

- ▶ creating and implementing innovative strategies to promote and advance the concept and spirit of diversity and inclusion in society;
- ▶ making a significant impact on diversity issues in the legal profession;
- ▶ enhancing access and equality in employment, economic and educational opportunities;
- ▶ advocating and promoting an understanding and awareness of diversity;
- ▶ dedication to improving and bridging

the relationship between diverse groups; and

- ▶ proven commitment to creating a culture of diversity and inclusion.

### Citizen Lawyer Award

The Citizen Lawyer Award is an LSBA service award that recognizes individual attorneys and judges who have performed public services out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism. In 2001, the Louisiana State Bar Association instituted the Crystal Gavel Awards, designed to recognize these outstanding lawyers and judges who have been unsung heroes and heroines in their communities. The award program was updated in 2014 and renamed the Citizen Lawyer Awards.

To be nominated, the lawyer must be admitted to practice in Louisiana, and the judge must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana.

In order to qualify, nominees must have made a difference in their local communities, in local organizations, or even in the life of one person, and have served the public in a number of areas, including:

- ▶ aiding the administration of justice;
- ▶ assisting groups or individuals on a volunteer basis in a non-legal capacity;
- ▶ educating the public or individuals or students about legal matters;
- ▶ providing pro bono legal services in a matter of a significant nature, in a significant number of cases, or in a way that significantly changed the life of a person or group; and
- ▶ working in conjunction with the court system to make it more welcoming, inviting and understandable for jurors, witnesses or victims of crime.


The nomination period is April through June 30.

Awards are presented in local communities throughout the state. There is no limit to the number of awards which will be presented, as the LSBA wishes to recognize all deserving individuals. 🗳️



**New Admittees Reception scheduled for Oct. 10 in New Orleans**

Join the Louisiana State Bar Association in welcoming the newest members to the profession at the annual New Orleans Area New Admittees Reception from 5-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans.

The event is free to all attorneys. RSVP by Nov. 7 to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewAdmittee2017>. 



**LSBA DIVERSITY  
OUTREACH  
& INCLUSION**

**DIVERSITY • INCLUSION • PROFESSIONALISM**

**For latest news on diversity and inclusion in the profession, visit [www.lsba.org/diversity](http://www.lsba.org/diversity)**

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**&**  
INCLUSION

**Rhetoric  
to  
REALITY**



**MARCH 9, 2018 • NEW ORLEANS, LA**

**11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONCLAVE ON DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

# TRAINING SEMINAR

## Professionalism Facilitator Training Workshop

**Saturday, November 18, 2017**

Hyatt Centric French Quarter • 800 Rue Iberville • New Orleans, LA

► Registration Fee: FREE – 3.00 CLE Credit Hours (Professionalism)  
Facilitators are attorney volunteers that give of their time to educate others on promoting diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

At the workshop LSBA Members will:

- Increase your knowledge of unconscious bias that affects each one of us
- Discover new ways to reduce bias
- Learn how to help others become more culturally competent
- Gain tools to promote diversity and inclusion through training
- Boost your confidence in delivering effective CLE presentations

Questions? Contact Member Outreach and Diversity team members by email at [diversity@lsba.org](mailto:diversity@lsba.org). Or register online at [www.lsba.org/CLE](http://www.lsba.org/CLE)



**NATCHITOCHE LIGHTS  
CLE SEMINAR**

**Friday, December 15, 2017**

Chateau Saint Denis Hotel  
751 Second St., Natchitoches, LA



## “Natchitoches Lights” CLE Seminar

**Friday, December 15, 2017**

Chateau St. Denis Hotel • 751 Second St. • Natchitoches, LA

- Registration Fee: \$55.00
- Full registration includes access to conference sessions, lunch, coffee breaks, and electronic course materials. Written course materials will not be available.
- CLE Credit Hours 6.00 - including 1.00 hour Ethics, 1.00 hour Professionalism, 1.00 hour Law Office Management
- Need a hotel room? We have a great rate!
- The LSBA has reserved a block of rooms at the newly opened Chateau St. Denis hotel at a discounted rate of \$209.00 per night (excluding taxes and fees).

Questions? Contact Member Outreach and Diversity team members by email at [diversity@lsba.org](mailto:diversity@lsba.org). Or register online at [www.lsba.org/CLE](http://www.lsba.org/CLE)

# 2018 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 2017/January 2018 *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
- ▶ View last year's publication at [www.lsba.org/expertwitness](http://www.lsba.org/expertwitness)

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- ▶ E-mail or mail ads on a disk to the addresses provided below.
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## Contact Info, Deadlines & Pricing

To reserve space in the directory, mail and/or e-mail your display ad or text listing/photo and check (payable to the Louisiana State Bar Association) to:

Communications Assistant Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez  
Louisiana State Bar Association  
601 St. Charles Ave.  
New Orleans, LA 70130-3404  
e-mail: [kbellanger@lsba.org](mailto:kbellanger@lsba.org)

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.

**Final Deadline  
Oct. 18, 2017**

1/2-page, black & white . . . . .	\$475
1/2-page, <b>color</b> . . . . .	\$760
Full-page, black & white . . . . .	\$850
Full-page, <b>color</b> . . . . .	\$1135

**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.





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THE  
DATES**



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**I**n the legal community the more you know, the faster you'll get ahead. That's why the Louisiana State Bar Association offers a variety of seminars on a wide range of legal topics. Enrolling in them will help you stay competitive and keep up with the ever-changing laws. The Continuing Legal Education Program Committee sponsors more than 20 programs each year, ranging from 15-hour credit seminars to one-hour ethics classes. Check online for the most up-to-date list of upcoming seminars at [www.lsba.org/CLE](http://www.lsba.org/CLE).

## 2017-2018 LSBA CLE Calendar

**Social Security/Elder Law**  
Sept. 29, 2017 • New Orleans

**Tax & Estate Planning**  
Oct. 6, 2017 • New Orleans

**11th Annual Dispute Resolution Seminar**  
Oct. 13, 2017 • Baton Rouge

**Hanging Out Your Own Shingle**  
Oct. 16, 2017 • New Orleans

**57th Bi-Annual Bridging the Gap**  
October 17 & 18, 2017  
New Orleans

**Federal Legislative Updates**  
Oct. 20, 2017 • New Orleans

**Voodoo Fest CLE**  
October 27, 2017 • New Orleans

**Workers' Comp CLE**  
Nov. 2, 2017 • Baton Rouge

**DWI & Disciplinary Actions**  
Nov. 3, 2017 • New Orleans

**Ethics & Professionalism**  
Nov. 3, 2017 • Bossier City

**Family Law Updates 2017**  
Nov. 8, 2017 • New Orleans

**17th Annual Class Action/  
Complex Litigation Symposium**  
Nov. 10, 2017 • New Orleans

**Environmental Law Summit**  
Nov. 14, 2017 • New Orleans

**An Evening with the Pelicans**  
Nov. 15, 2017  
Smoothie King Center

**Advanced Appellate Practice**  
Nov. 16 • New Orleans

**New York, New York CLE**  
Nov. 18-21, 2017  
InterContinental NY Times Square  
New York City, NY

**Ethics & Professionalism:  
Watch Your P's & Q's**  
Dec. 1, 2017 • New Orleans

**An Evening with the Pelicans**  
Dec. 6, 2017 • Smoothie King Center

**29th Summer School Revisited**  
Dec. 7 & 8, 2017  
New Orleans

**Depositions CLE**  
Dec. 8, 2017 • New Orleans

**Trial Practice CLE**  
Dec. 12, 2017 • New Orleans

**Quality of Life CLE**  
Dec. 12, 2017 • New Orleans

**CLE Wrap Up**  
Dec. 15, 2017 • New Orleans

**Historic Charleston CLE**  
Feb. 26-28, 2018  
Renaissance Charleston Historic  
District Hotel  
Charleston, SC

**Cyber Security**  
March 23, 2018 • New Orleans



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*Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.*

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

## 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

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\$85 per insertion of 50 words or less  
\$1 per each additional word  
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\$60 per insertion for 50 words or less  
\$1 per each additional word  
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*Screens:* \$25

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### Deadline

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

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### Positions Offered

**Growing New Orleans** insurance defense firm seeks associate attorney with two to three years’ experience. The ideal candidate will have some litigation experience, be self-motivated and have excellent communication skills. All inquiries strictly confidential. Forward résumé and writing sample to: 2620lawfirm@gmail.com.

**Lafayette healthcare defense firm** interviewing for two associate positions — 1) Associate with three-seven years’ litigation experience to handle medical malpractice defense files; trial work and travel required. 2) Associate with two-plus years’ defense experience to handle medical malpractice defense files, or a background in nursing in lieu of legal experience. Competitive salary and benefits package. All inquiries will remain confidential. Email résumés to Hope.Marks@gachassin.com, or mail to Hope Marks, P.O. Box 80369, Lafayette, LA 70598.

**Attorney wanted.** Aggressive, successful, experienced plaintiff personal injury attorney with excellent winning jury trial record in Orleans Parish Civil District Court. All replies and résumés will remain strictly confidential. Respond to C-Box 278.

### For Rent - New Orleans

**Offices available** at 829 Baronne St. in prestigious downtown building, tastefully renovated. Excellent referral system among 35 lawyers. Includes secretarial space, receptionist, telephones, voice mail, Internet, conference rooms, kitchen, office equipment and parking. Walking distance of CDC, USDC and many fine restaurants. Call Cliff Cardone or Kim Washington at (504)522-3333.

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#### Contact

Krystal Bellanger-Rodriguez  
at (504)619-0131 or email

[kbellanger@lsba.org](mailto:kbellanger@lsba.org)

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Fulfill your pro bono obligation of 50 hours without ever leaving your office or seeing a client. *LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org* offers attorneys a quick, easy way to help low-income, elderly, and disabled Louisiana residents.

*LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org* allows volunteers to:

- Log in whenever/wherever
- Choose the question you answer and respond anonymously
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- Be covered by malpractice insurance

To volunteer contact Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects Counsel by emailing [rachael.mills@lsba.org](mailto:rachael.mills@lsba.org) or calling 504.619.0104.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT  
**[WWW.LSBA.ORG/ATJ](http://WWW.LSBA.ORG/ATJ)**  
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