

17 LSBA Members Recognized for Volunteer Work with Citizen Lawyer Awards

Seventeen Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) members received Citizen Lawyer Awards in 2015-16.

The Citizen Lawyer Awards, previously known as the Crystal Gavel Awards, recognize individual attorneys and judges who have made significant volunteer contributions in their communities. Award recipients have performed volunteer work out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism.

The LSBA wishes to acknowledge these 17 unsung heroes and heroines from across the state. The list of community projects undertaken by these LSBA members is extensive. Here are a few highlights for each of the award recipients. (For 2015-16, no nominations were received from District 2.)

District 1

Hon. Joyce C. Lobrano, New Orleans

Hon. Joyce C. Lobrano, a judge on the 4th Circuit Court of Appeal, is a founder of the Plaquemines Community C.A.R.E. (Counseling, Assessment/Advocacy, Resources, Education) Center Foundation, Inc., a nationally recognized non-profit center providing quality-of-life-enhancing services (legal, behavioral and mental health). Her care center model is also being used in St. Charles Parish. Judge Lobrano also is a founding member of Eden House, a non-profit organization offering housing, food, medical and dental services, therapy, education and job training for women who have survived lives of prostitution, violence and addiction, often victims of human trafficking. She co-authored a White Paper for the Louisiana Senate on the issue of the human trafficking of minors in Louisiana, and she participated on the Legislature's Human Trafficking Minors Working Group. She also has implemented Project L.E.A.D. (Legal Enrichment And Decision-making) for fifth graders and Project L.A.W. (Legal-thinking, Awareness and Wellness of spirit, mind and body) for ninth graders.

Kim S. Sport, New Orleans

Attorney Kim S. Sport founded Jefferson Dollars for Scholars, which has awarded more than \$15 million in summer camp and college scholarships to 4,500 students in the Jefferson Parish Public School System. A three-time cancer survivor, Sport, in 2010, launched "Breastoration," a philanthropic partnership to assist and educate women contemplating surgical options following a diagnosis of breast cancer. She collaborated with the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to draft the 2012 breast cancer treatment alternatives brochure, mandated by state law to be given by physicians to every woman diagnosed with breast cancer. During the 2014 legislative session, Sport drafted five domestic violence bills, among them, to help women immediately divorce their abusers, to provide punitive damages for physical and mental injuries caused by a family member and to increase criminal sanctions for domestic abuse and violations of protective orders. All bills passed unanimously and were signed into law in May 2014.

District 3

Hon. Douglas J. Saloom, Lafayette

Hon. Douglas J. Saloom, a judge for Lafayette City Court, has volunteered countless hours to the Lafayette Bar Association, civic and professional organizations and schools. He presented free CLEs for Acadiana area attorneys on the Legislature's changes to expungement laws and prepared materials on the topic to the Lafayette Parish Public Law Library. He helped create a pro se expungement clinic program. Clinics are held at the Lafayette Bar Association using videoconferencing equipment donated by the LSBA. Judge Saloom is an advocate for public safety and use of automobile safety belts, particularly the "I Click It! Cross My Heart" Program, which reached 8,000 children in Lafayette. He also was involved in creating a traffic program to help prevent fatigued and impaired driving. A frequent

guest speaker at schools, he has addressed more than 20,000 students since 1995 on topics of judicial impartiality and the impact of drunken driving.

District 4

Homer E. Barousse, Jr., Crowley

Attorney Homer (Ed) Barousse, Jr. has made contributions in the legal and extralegal arenas. An attorney for 50 years, he has participated in the administration of ethical complaints against attorneys on behalf of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board. He also has represented attorneys with complaints that have been filed against them. Whenever there is a community event, Barousse is present. More likely than not and without any fanfare, he financially contributed to the event.

Derrick D. Kee, Lake Charles

Attorney Derrick D. Kee is president of the V.I.S.A. (Vision, Integrity, Structure and Accountability) Coalition, a community organization working to build bridges of success for future generations through education, expungements and civic engagement. V.I.S.A. has organized a "Parade to the Polls" event to encourage voter turnout in local elections. More than 300 people attended the event, with the tagline, "It doesn't matter who you vote for, just come vote with us!" V.I.S.A. also sought and was awarded grant funding to provide free expungements for 15 people whose records were preventing them from achieving gainful employment.

Hon. David A. Ritchie, Lake Charles

Hon. David A. Ritchie, a judge for the 14th Judicial District Court, was recognized for his continued dedication to the Southwest Louisiana Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section (YLS). He served as a presiding judge for the Louisiana State Bar Association's mock trial tournament in Lake Charles. He also has worked closely with the Southwest Louisiana Bar Foundation to provide greater access to the justice system for members of the local community.

District 5A

Preston J. Castille, Jr., Baton Rouge

Attorney Preston J. Castille, Jr., as president of the Baton Rouge Chapter of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc., assisted in the establishment of the Louis A. Martinet Foundation and the foundation's pro bono and mentoring programs. As president of the Baton Rouge Bar Association and Foundation in 2011, he assisted in the creation of the Bar's Junior Partners Academy, an award-winning mentoring program for elementary and middle school students. He chaired the Capital Area Legal Services Corp. board of directors and assisted in the organization's transition to Southeast Legal Services Corp. In 2012, as president of the Southern University Laboratory School, he helped the school avoid closure because of funding deficits and worked to secure state capital outlay funding for building improvements. In 2013, he joined the New Schools for Baton Rouge board of directors, a group focusing on improving the quality of K-12 education in the Baton Rouge area.

District 5B

Lila Tritico Hogan, Hammond

Attorney Lila Tritico Hogan has been an inspiration to Hammond area attorneys for her work in domestic violence and family law. She is a former president of the Mayor's Commission on the Needs of Women and drafted its Sexual Abuse Manual. She also serves with the Southeast Spouse Abuse Program as an organizer, trainer and drafter of protective order forms. She is a member of the the Southeastern Louisiana University Family Counseling Advisory Committee and the LSU Family Law Seminar Planning Committee. Since 2011, she has been involved with both the national organization and the state chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts.

Hon. William J. Knight, Covington

In 2012, Hon. William J. Knight founded the 22nd Judicial District Court's Reentry Court Program and worked to pass legislation that granted authority for a pilot program of a Risk-Needs Assessment procedure. The Reentry Court gives nonviolent felony offenders the tools needed to become produc-



tive members of the community. Through the program, participants learn a vocational skill and obtain a GED, if necessary. For participants who have returned to probation, Judge Knight holds weekly staffing sessions with treatment providers, case managers, and representatives from the District Attorney's and Public Defender's offices. He also organizes trips to Angola for community members and prospective employers interested in the program. Judge Knight has been actively involved with CASA, the Youth Services Bureau, the Franklinton Area Economic Development Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce, Upward Community Services, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, the National Cancer Society, the Susan G. Komen Foundation and the Washington Parish Junior Livestock Program.

Alan A. Zaunbrecher, Covington

Attorney Alan A. Zaunbrecher serves on the President's Council of the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center. The President's Council hosts a single major fundraiser each year to help make the Center's services available to anyone, regardless of the ability to pay. In 2012, he was co-chair of the Bench, Bar and Badge Project, in which members of the legal community built a Habitat for Humanity house. He participates in the Real Men of St. Tammany Annual Gala, which raises funds to support women and children who are the victims of domestic violence. He also

volunteers with the Southeast Louisiana Legal Services North Shore Pro Bono Project.

District 6

Hon. Dee D. Drell, Alexandria

Hon. Dee D. Drell, a judge for U.S. District Court, Western District of Louisiana, received the Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteerism. He has devoted many pro bono hours to help individuals suffering from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. He also counseled the Central Louisiana AIDS Support Services and AIDS Law of Louisiana, Inc. He served on the boards of the Family Mediation Council of Louisiana and the Rapides Parish Indigent Defender Board. He also was a member of a state task force on racial and ethnic fairness in the courts and is an active member of Kiwanis International.

Paul J. Tellarico, Alexandria

Attorney Paul J. Tellarico, recognized for his outstanding pro bono work, volunteers for nearly every event hosted by the Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project. He also regularly accepts cases from the Project. He is a volunteer for the Child in Need of Care (CINC) Program, and he volunteers with the Self-Help Desk at the Rapides Parish Courthouse. He participates in free legal clinics coordinated by the Central Louisiana

Pro Bono Project, helping clients prepare their wills, advance directives and gives general civil legal advice. He has received the Project's MVP Award for having the most pro bono hours in that year.

District 7

Derrick D. Carson, Ferriday

Attorney Derrick D. Carson has used his legal skills to serve as a peacemaker and go-between in his community on issues of civil rights. In 2005, he was awarded the Freedom Fund Award by the local chapter of the NAACP. The award recognizes those who have dedicated their time and energy in education, government, business and community service to the ideals, vision and mission of the NAACP. In 2007, he received the Trustees of Freedom Gideon Award from the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, presented to attorneys in recognition of outstanding contributions to the right to counsel, including legislative work, work "in the trenches" and a concern for clients and criminal justice.

Hon. Terry A. Doughty, Rayville

Hon. Terry A. Doughty, a judge for the 5th Judicial District Court, administers and presides over the Drug Court Program in the 5th JDC and was instrumental in establishing the newly formed Juvenile Drug Court Program. He is active with the Celebrate Recovery Program for individuals suffering

from various addictions, both in his home parish of Richland and in West Carroll Parish (another parish in his judicial jurisdiction).

District 8

W. Michael Adams, Shreveport

Attorney W. Michael Adams is active with the Volunteers of America of North Louisiana, serving as board chair and Endowment Committee chair (implementing the endowment itself) and working with the VOA's Lighthouse, an after-school tutoring program for at-risk students. He chairs the First United Methodist Church's Administrative Board and is a member of the board of trustees. He also has actively participated in the Red River Revel Arts Festival for several years, serving as president of the governing board and as the on-call volunteer for the information booth.

Melissa Scott Flores, Shreveport

Attorney Melissa Scott Flores is the Project Research and Development chair of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier. She created the Girls'/Women's Education Institute, which fosters monthly interaction between League members and at-risk girls and women on topics of finances, career preparation, healthy living and self-esteem. She serves on the Caddo Parish Children and Youth Planning Board, implementing a comprehensive plan for services and programs for children and youth. She also

is involved with the Volunteers of America Program and is a "Cherish the Children" member. She was instrumental in partnering her law firm and the VOA for "Give for Good Day," a 24-hour online giving challenge to raise unrestricted dollars for the nonprofits in north Louisiana.

Hon. Carl E. Stewart, Shreveport

Hon. Carl E. Stewart, chief judge of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, is a board member of the Norwela Council Boy Scouts of America, serving as Council president and as local council representative for the National Council of Boy Scouts of America. At the national level, he is chair of the Whitney M. Young, Jr. National Service Award Selection Committee for Boy Scouts of America and is a member of the Boy Scouts of America National Scoutreach Committee. He is a former president of the Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier. A charter member of the Harry V. Booth/Judge Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court in Shreveport, he served as vice president of the American Inns of Court Foundation. He has volunteered with the Shreveport Bar Association's "People's Law School" and the LSU Law Center Post-Graduate Summer School for Lawyers.

The 2016-17 Citizen Lawyer Award nomination deadline is June 30. Learn more about the award and nomination procedures online (click "Service Awards") at: <https://www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx>.

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