

# Bar Briefs

July 2013

Louisiana State Bar Association

Vol. 28, No. 4

## Nominating Committee to meet Aug. 23 to nominate president-elect, treasurer

The Nominating Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) will meet Friday, Aug. 23, in New Orleans to nominate a president-elect for the 2014-15 term and a treasurer for the 2014-16 term. The president-elect will automatically assume the presidency in 2015-16.

According to the president-elect rotation, the nominee must have his/her preferred mailing address in Nominating Committee District 1 (parishes of Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany).

**NOMINATIONS continued on page 2**



John H. Musser IV, left, 2012-13 Louisiana State Bar Association president, receives a plaque of appreciation during the Annual Meeting Installation Dinner from Richard K. Leefe, 2013-14 Louisiana State Bar Association president. For more on the Annual Meeting, read the August/September *Louisiana Bar Journal*. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.



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## NOMINATIONS

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According to the treasurer 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).

Any member interested in seeking the position of president-elect or treasurer should contact members of the Nominating Committee. Go online to: [www.lsba.org/GoTo/NominatingCommittee](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/NominatingCommittee). (Members' names, phone/fax numbers and email addresses also are provided on page 3.)

## Election Schedule

For the 2013-14 election cycle, balloting will be conducted electronically only, as approved by the LSBA Board of Governors at its June 30, 2011, meeting. No paper ballots will be provided.

The Nominating Committee report will be submitted to the Board of Governors on Aug. 24.

On Sept. 30, notice of the action of the Nominating Committee and self-qualification forms for positions on the Board of Governors, Nominating Committee, LSBA House of Delegates, Young Lawyers Division and American Bar Association House of Delegates will be provided to the membership.

Deadline for return of nominations by petition and qualification forms is Monday, Oct. 28. First election ballots will be available to members on Monday, Nov. 25. Deadline for electronically casting votes is Monday, Dec. 16.

## Other Positions Open

Other positions open for the 2013-14 elections are:

**Board of Governors** (three-year terms beginning at the adjournment of the 2014 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the adjournment of the 2017 LSBA Annual Meeting): one member each from the First, Second, Third and Fifth Board districts.


**Nominating Committee** (15 members, one-year terms beginning at the adjournment of the 2014 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the adjournment of the 2015 LSBA Annual Meeting): District 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.

**LSBA House of Delegates** (two-year terms beginning at the commencement of the 2014 LSBA Annual Meeting and ending at the commencement of the 2016 LSBA Annual

Meeting): one delegate from each of the 1st through 19th Judicial Districts, plus one additional delegate for every additional district judge in each district.


**Young Lawyers Division:** Chair-elect (2014-15 term), nominee shall be a resident of or actively practicing law in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard or Plaquemines, based on preferred mailing address. Secretary (2014-15 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).

**ABA House of Delegates** (must be a member 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. 12, 2014, that delegate being the "Young Lawyer Delegate," all as required by the rules of the American Bar Association. All LSBA members may vote for both sets of candidates. The delegates will serve two-year terms, beginning with the adjournment of the 2014 ABA Annual Meeting and expiring at the adjournment of the 2016 ABA Annual Meeting.

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

## Pay dues and assessment, file statement, file trust account disclosure form online to avoid penalties and ineligibility

The 2013-14 Louisiana State Bar Association membership dues, the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board assessment, the Attorney Registration Statement, and the Louisiana Supreme Court Trust Account Disclosure and Overdraft Notification Authorization Form were all due on July 1.

Delinquency notices will be mailed the first week of August to members who have not complied. Attorneys who fail to timely pay their assessment and dues and file their registration statement and trust account form will ultimately be subject to monetary penalties and certification of ineligibility to practice law, pursuant to the Association's By-Laws and the Supreme Court's Rule XIX. 

## Bar Briefs

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# Space still available for LSBA Danube River Cruise CLE

Space is still available for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Danube River Cruise CLE in December 2013.


Partnering with Vacations At Sea Travel, the LSBA program will be held Sunday, Dec. 8, through Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, aboard the Viking Longship Skadi. The eight-day itinerary will take passengers through four of Europe's most enchanting countries — Austria, Germany, Hungary and Slovakia — along the storied Danube River.

Special LSBA pricing, available only through Vacations At Sea, represents a savings of \$125 per person off of the lowest available rates. (This CLE program is being offered at no cost to the LSBA; all costs will be covered by those who choose to participate.) More information on the CLE programming will be provided once the schedule is finalized.



Travel insurance is available through the cruise line, Viking River Cruises, or an independent company. The cruise line also offers airfare and transfers, and pre- and post-cruise hotel stays. Information is available through Vacations At Sea. For

more information or to book, contact Jill Wall at (504)482-1572, (800)749-4950, or email [jwall@seavacations.com](mailto:jwall@seavacations.com).

To review more information on pricing and the cruise itinerary, go to: [www.lsba.org/GoTo/DanubeCruise](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/DanubeCruise). 

## Volunteers sought for 2013 law school professionalism orientations

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Committee on the Profession is seeking lawyers and judges to lead discussion groups in the next round of law school professionalism orientations in August. (*See schedule below.*)

The orientations, conducted at each of the state's four law schools, are a permanent part of the orientation process for entering law students. The committee is asking lawyers and judges to return to their alma mater or to any of the schools to help give back part of what the profession has given them by dedicating a half-day of their time.

The purpose of the program is to introduce the concept of professionalism to first-year students. The committee will provide leaders with a list of hypothetical situations, including annotations and suggested questions. Pair up with a friend or classmate to co-lead a group of aspiring lawyers in a practical discussion of lawyer professionalism.

Respond by completing the accompanying form or calling Associate Executive Director for Professional Programs Cheri Cotogno Grodsky at (800)421-5722, ext. 107, or (504)619-0107; fax (504)598-6753; or email [cgrodsky@lsba.org](mailto:cgrodsky@lsba.org).

### 2013 Law School Professionalism Orientations

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year admitted to the LSBA \_\_\_\_\_ Bar Roll # \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteering for the following law school(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for volunteering \_\_\_\_\_

#### Law Schools

#### Date & Time

|          |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Loyola   | Monday, Aug. 12, 2013 • 6:30 p.m.     |
| Southern | Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013 • 10 a.m.     |
| LSU      | Friday, Aug. 16, 2013 • 2 p.m.        |
| Tulane   | Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2013 • 10:30 a.m. |

#### Return form to:

Committee on the Profession, Attn: Cheri Cotogno Grodsky  
601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404  
Fax: (504)598-6753 • Phone: (800)421-5722, ext. 107, or (504)619-0107



## House approves 4 resolutions, seats committee members at Annual Meeting

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) House of Delegates approved four resolutions and seated members to various committees during its June 6 meeting in Destin, Fla.

Considering the resolutions, the House:

► approved the resolution proposed by the LSBA's Criminal Justice Committee to study criminal justice funding, particularly that 1) the House will support the study of criminal justice funding in the effort to identify alternative funding structures and innovative funding strategies to lead to a more effective, efficient and best practices approach for Louisiana's criminal justice system; 2) the House will ask state leaders to designate a bipartisan, inter-branch task force to be an involved and participating subset of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission to assist in its research, development and analysis of the concerns of Louisiana's criminal justice system affecting costs and to develop recommendations to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable and control correction costs; 3) the House will ask state leaders to use the recommendations developed by this task force as the basis for

legislative and administrative action in 2014; and 4) the House will ask state leaders to strongly consider the reinvestment of a portion of the savings generated by the policies and practices adopted through this process into other areas of the criminal justice system, such as crime victims' services and programs proven by research to reduce recidivism.

► approved the resolution proposed by the LSBA's Executive Committee opposing the imposition of a sales tax on legal services and empowering the LSBA's Legislation Committee and leaders to go on record in opposition of such a tax should one ever be proposed.

► approved the resolution proposed by the LSBA's Executive Committee supporting the stabilization of funding of the current Federal Defenders program to maintain the efficiencies and expertise. The resolution also asks that Congress provide full support and funding for the Department of Justice, including supplemental funding for Federal Defender Organizations in the current fiscal year to reinstitute previously cut funds, and ongoing funding at levels sufficient to run the program without staff reductions and/or


other service cuts.

► approved the resolution encouraging support of an Orleans Parish Civil District Court stand-alone courthouse on the Duncan Plaza site in New Orleans.

The House elected five members to serve three-year terms on the Legislation Committee: Charles C. Bourque, Jr., 32nd Judicial District; Val P. Exnicios, Orleans Parish; Keenan Kirk Kelly, 10th Judicial District; Michael W. McKay, 19th Judicial District; and Ann S. Siddall, 7th Judicial District.

Paula Adams Ates was elected to serve ex-officio on the Louisiana Bar Foundation's board of directors.

Because there were no nominees to serve on the Special Advisory Committee to Authorize the President to Speak on Behalf of the Association, 2012-13 LSBA President John H. Musser IV subsequently appointed Orleans Parish delegates John H. Musser V, Louis G. Schott and Patrick A. Talley, Jr. to serve on the committee.

To review the resolutions and other meeting action, go to: [www.lsba.org/InsideLSBA/HOD.asp](http://www.lsba.org/InsideLSBA/HOD.asp). 

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# LSBA Senior Lawyers Division launches quarterly e-newsletter: *Seasoning*

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Senior Lawyers Division (SLD) launched its quarterly e-newsletter, *Seasoning*, this month. Future issues will be distributed directly to SLD members via email in October, January and April. Content from the issues is uploaded for general review on the SLD webpage, [www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers).

In each issue, Editor Edward J. Walters, Jr. aims to provide members with meaningful and useful information and to create a forum for the exchange of ideas.

“Our purpose is to be the voice of the Senior Lawyers Division of the LSBA, but also to be YOUR voice,” Walters said. “We named it *Seasoning*, not *Seasoned*, because you’re still practicing law and still being seasoned. This dish is not done yet. We also chose a name that would reflect one of the most important aspects of living in Louisiana — the food.”



**Seasoning.** n. 1. Something, such as a spice or herb, used to flavor food; 2. The act or process by which something is seasoned

Edward J. Walters, Jr., Editor - Volume 1, Number 1 - July 2013

## From the Division Chair: Inaugural Issue

Anyone with ideas for content should email Walters at [walters@lawbr.net](mailto:walters@lawbr.net).

The SLD was approved by the House of Delegates in June 2012. All LSBA members aged 65 and over are automatically members of the SLD. There are no additional dues assessed for membership. Currently, there are 3,602 SLD

## From the Editor: All in the Name

members, with 2,600 more members between 60-65 soon to be joining the group — taking the SLD to more than 5,000, representing 25 percent of the LSBA’s total membership. 📧

## 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                        | Area                                   | Coordinator   | Contact Info   |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
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For more information, go to: [www.lsba.org/solace](http://www.lsba.org/solace).



**ACT NOW!**  
DEADLINE FOR  
2013 DIRECTORY  
IS JULY 31!

# IT'S TIME TO BOOK A LISTING IN 'WHO'S WHO IN ADR 2013'

One price gets  
you in the print  
directory and  
on the Web!

View the 2012  
directory at  
[www.lsba.org/ADR](http://www.lsba.org/ADR)

*The print version of the directory for arbitrators and mediators will be mailed with the October/November 2013 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 Web site in interactive PDF format (e-mail addresses and Web site URLs are activated and instantly accessible). The Web version of the directory remains active for one full year!*

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, e-mail address and Web site 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!

• E-mail your listing and photo to Publications Coordinator Darlene M. LaBranche (e-mail: [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.**

• 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.



## LASC establishes Transition Into Practice Voluntary Mentoring Program

By court order on May 15, the Louisiana Supreme Court formally created the Transition Into Practice (TIP) Voluntary Mentoring Program. The program, geared to the new admittees into practice, is also of great importance to the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Senior Lawyers Division, as one of the Division's goals is to offer assistance as mentors.

The program will apply to 2014 admittees, with a kickoff date in January 2015. It is a voluntary program and will start in Shreveport, Baton Rouge and the greater New Orleans area.


The LSBA is in the process of creating an online registration procedure for mentors and mentees. Interested mentors may pre-register now by completing the Mentoring Registration Form, accessible by a link on the Senior Lawyers Division webpage, [www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers). 

## Sponsors sought for 2013 law school professionalism orientations

Sponsors are being sought for the Louisiana State Bar Association Committee on the Profession's 14th annual professionalism orientations at the state's law schools. Sponsor response deadline is Monday, Aug. 5.

Sponsors are needed for the August orientations at Loyola University College of Law (Aug. 12), Southern University Law Center (Aug. 15), and Tulane Law School (Aug. 21).

The orientations are designed to introduce the concept of professionalism to first-year law students.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities, contact LSBA Program Coordinator/Marketing and Sections Christine A. Richard at (504)619-0105, (800)421-5722, ext. 105, or email [crichard@lsba.org](mailto:crichard@lsba.org). 

## Louisiana lawyers, law firms invited to attend Legal Services Trade Mission to China


The General Counsel of the United States Department of Commerce, with the support of the American Bar Association, will lead a Legal Services Trade Mission to China from Sept. 16-18, 2013. Louisiana lawyers and law firms are invited to participate. The application deadline is Aug. 16.

As China seeks to transition from a manufacturing, export-based economy to a center of international business and finance, its need for sophisticated multinational legal and financial services is growing. Opportunities exist for U.S. law firms providing legal services in China in a number of practice areas, including capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, international trade, inbound and outbound investment, shipping, intellectual property rights, arbitration, life

sciences, real estate, information technology and e-commerce, labor and employment, private equity, and venture capital.

This mission, which will include stops in Beijing and Shanghai, will introduce U.S. law firms to the Chinese market, help firms market legal services to Chinese law firms and companies, including those interested in doing business in the United States, and further an ongoing dialogue with Chinese authorities on opening the Chinese legal services market.

For an application and additional information, go to: [www.lsba.org](http://www.lsba.org).

For more information about this trade mission, contact the mission coordinator, Frank Spector, at (202)482-2054 or email [frank.spector@trade.gov](mailto:frank.spector@trade.gov). 


## Scams targeting lawyers and law firms continue: Be aware!

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) believes it is extremely important to again warn Bar members about scams that continue to target lawyers and law firms. Despite the Bar's efforts to warn its members, it is apparent that various scams involving fraudulent checks or phishing emails to gain account information continue to plague Louisiana's lawyers and law firms.

The LSBA has recently received calls from targeted lawyers. Although the scams may take different forms, many involve fake clients or fake requests seeking bank account information and passwords.

For example, one scam follows this basic format: A potential client contacts the lawyer (typically by email) and asks for representation to assist in the collection of a significant sum of money. With minimal amount

of work by the lawyer, such as an engagement or demand letter, a check is received. The client typically wants the funds immediately and asks for funds to be wired. The funds are disbursed before the check is found to be fraudulent. The risk is that if the check (possibly a good forgery or copy) had been deposited into trust, the local bank would have given the lawyer "provisional credit." If a lawyer disburses funds to the "client," the lawyer, most likely, would have been advised in the next week that the original check was invalid and the lawyer would have had a large sum of money stolen from him.

The LSBA, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and law enforcement agencies encourage LSBA members to exercise caution when accepting new cases. 


## LSBA's 20<sup>th</sup> annual Admiralty Symposium set for Sept. 20 in New Orleans

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) 20th annual Admiralty Symposium is set for Friday, Sept. 20, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, 500 Canal St. The symposium has been chaired by Alexandria attorney Richard J. Arsenault since its inception.

This CLE program, co-sponsored by the LSBA's Insurance, Tort, Workers Compensation and Admiralty Law Section,

has been approved for 7 CLE credit hours, including ethics.

Symposium speakers include Patrick Juneau, Stephen Herman and a roster of federal judges, magistrates and state court judges focusing on admiralty law.

For more information on sessions and speakers or to register online, go to: [www.lsba.org/cle](http://www.lsba.org/cle). 

*Save the dates!*



Louisiana  
State Bar  
Association

*Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.*

**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).

## Upcoming LSBA CLE Seminars

**Technology, Media & Intellectual  
Property: How They Will Generate Legal  
Work for You and Your Firm**

August 16, 2013

New Orleans Marriott Hotel

**Employment Law Update 2013**

August 23, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Ethics & Professionalism - Lafayette**

September 10, 2013

Hotel Acadiana

**20th Annual Admiralty Symposium**

September 20, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Ethics & Professionalism - New Orleans**

September 27, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Personal Injury CLE**

October 11, 2013

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**Dispute Resolution with the Masters:  
The Science and Psychology of  
Negotiation and Mediation**

October 18, 2013

Baton Rouge

**Bridging the Gap**

October 23 - 24, 2013

New Orleans

**Ethics & Professionalism - Bossier City**

November 1, 2013

Horseshoe Bossier City

**Voodoo Fest CLE**

November 1, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Consumer/Mortgage CLE**

November 15, 2013

Hyatt French Quarter • New Orleans

**DWI: What Everyone Should Know BUT  
No One Would Tell You!!**

November 15, 2013

Hyatt French Quarter • New Orleans

**13th Annual Class Action/Complex  
Litigation Symposium**

November 22, 2013

New Orleans

**New York, New York CLE**

November 23 - 25, 2013

Millennium Broadway Hotel

**Ethics & Professionalism:  
Watch Your P's & Q's**

December 6, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Moving Your Cases Through Court!!**

**Motion Practice CLE**

December 10, 2013

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**25th Summer School Revisited**

December 12 - 13, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Discovery & Depositions**

December 13, 2013

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**Quality of Life CLE**

December 17, 2013

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**Trial Practice CLE**

December 17, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Evidence CLE**

December 20, 2013

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**MDL CLE**

March 14, 2014

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**Healthcare Law CLE**

March 14, 2014

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**LSBA Uncorked CLE**

March 24 - 26, 2014

Sonoma, California

**Immigration Law CLE**

April 4, 2014

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Mineral Law CLE**

April 11, 2014

New Orleans

**French Quarter Fest CLE: 5th Annual  
White Collar Crime Symposium**

April 11, 2014

Westin Canal Place Hotel

**Federal Court Practice**

April 25, 2014

**Jazz Fest CLE**

April 25, 2014


Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

**Ethics & Professionalism Summer Rerun**


June 13, 2014

For up-to-date information, visit  
[www.lsba.org/CLE](http://www.lsba.org/CLE)

## **LBLS amends rules and regulations on dues and CLE hardship**

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) has amended its rules and regulations to include an additional penalty assessment for late payment of dues (Paragraph 6, items g and h) and a provision for a specialization CLE hardship exemption (Paragraphs 7.8 and 7.10). A copy of the amended LBLS Rules and Regulations may be downloaded from the website: [www.lascmcle.org/specialization](http://www.lascmcle.org/specialization). 


### **Notice: Proposed reappointment of U.S. Magistrate Judge James D. Kirk**

The current term of U.S. Magistrate Judge James D. Kirk (Western District of Louisiana, Alexandria Division) will expire on Dec. 14. The U.S. District Court is required by law to establish a citizens' panel to consider the reappointment of the judge to a new term. Comments on the proposed reappointment should be mailed to Edward E. Rundell, 2001 MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA 71301. Comment deadline is July 19. 

### **Registration open for Senior Lawyers Division's July 26 CLE**

Registration is open for the Louisiana State Bar Association Senior Lawyers Division's first CLE, set for noon-6:45 p.m. Friday, July 26, at the Hyatt French Quarter Hotel, 800 Iberville St., New Orleans. The CLE is approved for 3 credit hours and will offer sessions on Retirement and Estate Planning; Social Media and Technology Today; and Mentoring. Three non-credit sessions will be offered: Wellness by

### **LSBA Multi-Section CLE Program postponed**

The Louisiana State Bar Association's Multi-Section CLE, originally scheduled for Aug. 8-9 in New Orleans, has been postponed. When the event is rescheduled, information will be provided in print and online publications. 


## **Applications accepted for bankruptcy law certification through September**

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) is accepting applications for 2014 certification in business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law through September 2013.

In accordance with the Plan of Legal Specialization, any Louisiana State Bar Association member who has been engaged in the practice of law on a full-time basis for a minimum of five years may apply for certification. The five-year practice requirement must be met for the period ending Dec. 31, 2013. A further requirement is that each year a minimum of 35 percent of the attorney's practice must be devoted to the area of certification sought.


Regarding applications for business

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

For an application or more information, contact Barbara Shafranski, LBLS executive director, at (504)619-0128 or (800)421-5722, ext. 128. Or go to the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization's website at [www.lascmcle.org/specialization](http://www.lascmcle.org/specialization). 

### **July 29 meeting set to discuss Labor/Employment Law specialization**

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBLS) is continuing its efforts to implement a Labor and Employment Law specialty. The LBLS will meet with the Louisiana State Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section beginning at 9 a.m. Mon-

day, July 29, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans. Those wanting to participate should RSVP by July 22 to Barbara Shafranski, LBLS executive director, [barbara.shafranski@lsba.org](mailto:barbara.shafranski@lsba.org). 

## **Nomination deadline is July 22 for LSBA's Crystal Gavel Awards**

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Crystal Gavel Awards Committee is seeking nominations for 2013-14 Crystal Gavel Awards. The nomination deadline is July 22.

The Crystal Gavel Awards, instituted by the LSBA in 2001, are presented to attorneys and judges who have performed public services out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism. Such services may include:


- ▶ 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 or in a significant numbers of cases; and
- ▶ providing pro bono legal services in a way that significantly changed the life of one person or group.

Awards are presented in the recipients' local communities. The nominator(s) may

be asked to assist in selecting a forum for the nominee to receive his/her award. There is no limit to the number of awards presented each year, as the LSBA wishes to recognize all deserving individuals.

Nominators should complete and submit the nomination form, along with a signed, written statement describing the work of the nominee in the category selected, along with a detailed description of why the nominee should be considered for the Crystal Gavel Award.

To download the nomination form, go online to: [www.lsba.org/GoTo/Crystal-Gavel](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/Crystal-Gavel).

Nominations should be mailed, faxed or emailed to: Danielle E. Boveland, Communications Coordinator/Online Media, c/o Louisiana State Bar Association, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404; fax (504)566-0930; or email [danielle.boveland@lsba.org](mailto:danielle.boveland@lsba.org). For more information, contact Boveland at (504)619-0147 or (800)421-5722, ext. 147. 



# 2014 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 2013/January 2014 *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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  - Full-page CV ad . . . . . 600 words max, not including contact info
- ▶ Display ads must be provided camera-ready in PDF format, black and white only.
- ▶ For text/CV ads, supply text in an editable word-processing format.
- ▶ For CV ads, submit original or digital headshot photos separately from the text, in .jpg or .tif format (high-resolution digital photos of at least 300 dpi work best).
- ▶ E-mail or mail ads on a disk to the addresses provided below.
- ▶ **DON'T FORGET TO PROVIDE YOUR 5 INDEXING CATEGORIES.**

## 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.

|                     | Early Bird Deadline<br>Sept. 13, 2013 | Final Deadline<br>Oct. 18, 2013 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1/2-page . . . . .  | \$400                                 | \$475                           |
| Full-page . . . . . | \$725                                 | \$850                           |

**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.

 **Louisiana  
State Bar  
Association**  
*Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.*



## It's Not Justice, If It's Not Equal

# LBF grants \$5.9 million to nonprofit organizations for 2013-14

**T**he Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) has awarded \$5.9 million in grants to nonprofit organizations for the 2013-14 year. Since 1989, the LBF has distributed more than \$54.4 million statewide to help address the legal needs of indigent citizens, provide a basic understanding of the law and assist with improvements to the justice system. Grants were awarded in several categories to agencies statewide.

### **Building Capital Development... \$125,000**

*Grants, on a matching basis, to current grantees to assist in the acquisition of an office building and/or property.*

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Acadiana Legal Services Corp. ....       | \$25,000 |
| Innocence Project New Orleans .....      | \$25,000 |
| Lafayette Parish Bar Foundation .....    | \$25,000 |
| Shreveport Bar Foundation .....          | \$25,000 |
| Southeast Louisiana Legal Services ..... | \$25,000 |

### **Children's Legal Services..... \$1,995,000**

*Grants for legal assistance to needy children in areas of law which affect their safety, well-being and future development.*

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Acadiana Legal Services Corp. ....            | \$755,000 |
| Advocacy Center .....                         | \$10,000  |
| Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center .....  | \$5,000   |
| Capital Area Community Mediation Center ..... | \$10,000  |
| Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana..       | \$20,000  |
| Juvenile Regional Services .....              | \$30,000  |
| Legal Services of North Louisiana .....       | \$535,000 |
| Louisiana CASA Association .....              | \$5,000   |
| Southeast Louisiana Legal Services.....       | \$605,000 |
| T.E.A.M.S. ....                               | \$10,000  |
| Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany.....      | \$10,000  |

### **Law-Related Education..... \$100,000**

*Grants for law-related educational programs benefitting children and/or the public.*

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Baton Rouge Bar Foundation .....                | \$11,687 |
| Baton Rouge Child Advocacy Center ....          | \$8,439  |
| Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana ....      | \$10,937 |
| Louisiana Center for Law & Civic Education..... | \$50,000 |
| LSBA Diversity Committee.....                   | \$6,250  |
| NextSTEP of Central Louisiana, Inc. ....        | \$4,000  |
| Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany ....        | \$8,687  |

### **Legal Assistance to the Poor .... \$1,891,750**

*Grants to provide free direct legal services to indigent clients.*

#### **► Domestic Violence Programs.... \$299,250**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Beauregard Community Concerns .....                      | \$19,400 |
| Chez Hope.....   | \$19,400 |
| D.A.R.T. ....  | \$16,400 |
| Faith House, Inc. ....                                   | \$17,400 |
| Jeff Davis Communities Against Domestic Abuse.....       | \$17,400 |
| Metropolitan Center for Women and Children.....          | \$34,400 |
| Oasis .....  | \$16,400 |
| Project Celebration .....                                | \$17,750 |
| Project S.A.V.E./Catholic Charities of New Orleans ..... | \$28,400 |
| Providence House.....                                    | \$16,400 |
| Safe Harbor .....  | \$14,900 |
| Safety Net for Abused Persons .....                      | \$20,400 |
| Southeast Spouse Abuse.....                              | \$10,400 |
| St. Bernard Battered Women's Center ....                 | \$13,400 |
| The Haven .....  | \$18,400 |
| The Wellspring .....                                     | \$18,400 |

#### **► Legal Service Corporations \$1,080,000**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Acadiana Legal Services Corp. ....      | \$283,693 |
| Legal Services of North Louisiana ...   | \$261,541 |
| Southeast Louisiana Legal Services..... | \$534,766 |

#### **► Other Legal Service Providers ...\$297,000**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Arts Council of New Orleans .....                                 | \$10,000  |
| Catholic Charities of Baton Rouge..                               | \$40,000  |
| Catholic Charities of New Orleans/Immigration Legal Services..... | \$40,000  |
| Common Ground Relief.....   | \$25,000  |
| Eden House .....  | \$12,000  |
| Innocence Project New Orleans ....                                | \$100,000 |
| Loyola University Law School/Workplace Justice Project .....      | \$30,000  |
| NO/AIDS Task Force/AIDS Law of Louisiana.....                     | \$30,000  |
| The Pro Bono Project .....  | \$10,000  |

#### **► Pro Bono Project ..... \$215,500**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Baton Rouge Bar Foundation .....         | \$42,500 |
| Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project ..... | \$19,500 |
| Lafayette Parish Bar Foundation .....    | \$34,500 |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Shreveport Bar Foundation .....         | \$23,000 |
| Southwest Louisiana Bar Foundation..... | \$19,000 |
| The Pro Bono Project .....              | \$77,000 |

### **Loan Repayment Assistance**

#### **Program ..... \$34,584**

*Provides forgivable loans of up to \$5,000 per year to attorneys working at an organization supported by the LBF. Applicants' identities are anonymous.*

### **Special Initiative**

#### **Mortgage Servicing Settlement.... \$1,503,300**

*Provide advice, counseling and direct attorney representation to affected consumers including but not limited to the homeless, FHA borrowers, veterans and the unemployed in matters including financial counseling; wrongful foreclosure; foreclosure relief; loan modification; principal reduction; refinancing; foreclosure prevention and mediation; and bankruptcy.*

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Acadiana Legal Services Corp. ....                | \$356,500 |
| Louisiana Appleseed.....                          | \$50,000  |
| Louisiana Civil Justice Center .....              | \$65,000  |
| Legal Services of North Louisiana .....           | \$313,000 |
| Southeast Legal Services Corp. ....               | \$518,800 |
| Additional second round announced July 2013 ..... | \$200,000 |


### **Other Special Initiatives**

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| LSBA Access to Justice..... | \$75,000 |
| Louisiana Appleseed.....    | \$50,000 |

### **Scholarships, Fellowships, Awards, and other projects**

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Kids' Chance Scholarships.....   | \$44,500 |
| Law Student Pro Bono Awards..... | \$2,100  |
| Legal Education Projects.....    | \$6,250  |
| ProBono/LawHelps Website.....    | \$11,500 |

### **Jock Scott Community Partnership Panel Grants..... \$90,000**

*Nine Community Partnership Panels serve as regional chapters of the Foundation. These panels identify needs in their communities and fund efforts to address those needs. Grants are awarded throughout the year.* 



# *It's Not* Justice *If It's Not* Equal

*The Louisiana Bar Foundation proudly supports the following programs:*

Acadiana Legal Services Corporation

Advocacy Center

Arts Council of New Orleans

AVEC Les Enfants

Baton Rouge Bar Foundation

Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center

Beauregard Community Concerns

Capital Area CASA Association

Capital Area Community Mediation Center

Catholic Charities of Baton Rouge

Catholic Charities of New Orleans - Immigration Legal Services

Catholic Charities of New Orleans - Project SAVE

Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project

Chez Hope

Common Ground Relief

D.A.R.T. of Lincoln

Eden House

Faith House, Inc.

Families Helping Families

Friends of Lafourche

Jeff Davis Communities Against Domestic Abuse

Innocence Project New Orleans

Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana

Juvenile Regional Services

Lafayette Parish Bar Foundation

Legal Services of North Louisiana

Louis A. Martinet Foundation

Louisiana Appleseed

Louisiana CASA Association

Louisiana Center for Law & Civic Education

Louisiana Civil Justice Center

LSBA - Access to Justice

LSBA - Diversity Committee

Loyola University Law School - Workplace Justice Project

Metropolitan Center for Women and Children

National Consumer Law Center

NextSTEP of Central Louisiana, Inc.

NO/AIDS Task Force/AIDS Law of Louisiana

Oasis A Safe Haven for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Pro Bono/Law Helps Website

Project Celebration

Providence House

Safe Harbor

Safety Net for Abused Persons

Shreveport Bar Foundation

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

Southeast Spouse Abuse

Southwest Louisiana Bar Foundation

St. Bernard Battered Women's Center

Teen Court of Avoyelles Parish

The Haven

The Pro Bono Project

The Wellspring

West Side Visitation Center

Training, Education, and Mediation for Students (T.E.A.M.S.)

Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany



Since 1989, the LBF has distributed more than **\$54.4 million** throughout Louisiana to programs that make all the difference to needy families – the difference between staying in a home and living on the street; between a safe family and a life of fear and violence; between getting paid earned wages and having nothing to eat.

To support the work of the LBF please make a donation online at [www.raisingthebar.org](http://www.raisingthebar.org)

909 Poydras Street, Suite 1550, New Orleans LA 70112 504-561-1046





## Louisiana Bar Foundation's 2013-14 board of directors installed

**L**eo C. Hamilton, a partner with Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P., in Baton Rouge, was installed as the 2013-14 president of the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF). Other officers are Vice President Hon. C. Wendell Manning, 4th Judicial District Court, Division F, Monroe; Treasurer H. Minor Pipes III, Barrasso, Usdin, Kupperman, Freeman & Sarver, L.L.C., New Orleans; Secretary E. Jane Sherman, attorney, Baton Rouge; and Immediate Past President Patricia A. Krebs, King, Krebs & Jurgens, P.L.L.C., New Orleans.

Board members include: Valerie Briggs Bargas, Kinchen, Walker, Bienvenu, Bargas & Reed, L.L.C.; Amanda W. Barnett, Red River Bank; Alan G. Brackett, Mouldoux, Bland, Legrand & Brackett, L.L.C.; Hon. James R. McClelland, 16th Judicial District Court; Hon. Page McClendon, 1st Circuit Court of Appeal; Hon. Roy S. Payne, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas; Tara G. Richard, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; W. Michael Street, Watson, McMillin & Harrison, L.L.P.; Hon. Susan L. Theall, 15th Judicial District Court, Division M; Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President Richard K. Leefe, Leefe, Gibbs, Sullivan & Dupre, L.L.C.; LSBA President-Elect Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea, L.L.C.; LSBA Immediate Past President John H. Musser IV, Law Office of John H. Musser IV; LSBA House of Delegates Representa-

tive Paula A. Ates, Ates Law Firm, A.P.L.C.; LSBA Access to Justice Committee Representative Darrel J. Papillion, Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, L.L.C.; LSBA Young Lawyers Division Designee Lawrence J. Centola III, Martzell & Bickford; Member-at-Large Designee Hon. Sylvia R. Cooks, 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal; Judicial District Judges Association Designee Hon. M. Lauren Lemmon, 29th Judicial District Court; and LBF Geographical Appointment Robert C. McCorquodale, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office.

Past presidents serving permanent ex-officio include: Mathile W. Abramson, Kean Miller, L.L.P.; Marc T. Amy, Louisiana 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal; David F. Bienvenu, Simon, Peragine, Smith & Redfearn, L.L.P.; Elwood F. Cahill, Jr., Sher, Garner, Cahill, Richter, Klein & Hilbert, L.L.C.; Hon. Eldon E. Fallon, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, Section L; Donna D. Fraiche, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C.; Marcel Garsaud, Jr., attorney; Cyrus J. Greco, Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips, L.L.P.; Harry S. Hardin III, Jones Walker, L.L.P.; Suzanne M. Jones, attorney; Drew Ranier, Ranier Law Firm; Herschel E. Richard, Jr., Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway, A.P.L.C.; Garland R. Rolling, Law Office of Garland Rolling & Gregory Rolling; John G. Swift, Swift & Rhoades; and Paul W. Wright, Exxon Mobil Corp. ■

## LBF announces 2013-14 committee and Community Partnership Panel chairs

**L**ouisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) President Leo C. Hamilton appointed the following Fellows as chairs of LBF Community Partnership Panels (CPP) and LBF committees.

CPP chairs include: Acadiana CPP, Rebekah R. Huggins; Bayou Region CPP, Robert P. Fuhrer; Capital Area CPP, Karleen J. Green; Central CPP, Zebulon M. Winstead; Greater Orleans CPP, Kerry A. Murphy; North Shore CPP, Laura Mauffray Borchert; Northeast CPP, A. Carter Mills IV; Northwest CPP, Julie M. Lafargue; and Southwest CPP, Betty A. Raglin.

Committee chairs include: Annual Fellows Gala, Kelsey Kornick Funes and Christopher K. Ralston; Communications, E. Jane Sherman; Development, Bennett L. Politz; Education, Michael J. Mestayer; Governance, Patricia A. Krebs; Grants, H. Minor Pipes III; and Kids' Chance, Michelle M. Sorrells and Sherry A. Watters. ■

## Pro Bono Project's 25th Justice For All Ball set for Sept. 20

**T**he Pro Bono Project in New Orleans will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Justice For All Ball (JFAB) fundraiser on Friday, Sept. 20, at the Audubon Tea Room in New Orleans. The event, from 8 p.m. to midnight, provides a major source of funds for The Project to continue to serve those in need within a six-parish area. A private patron party will precede the ball.

This year's ball will feature music from George Porter, Jr. and Runnin' Pardners and food and beverages from more than 20 area restaurants. The raffle will include items from several retail and service businesses. Silent and live auctions will feature art and travel opportunities.

Tickets are \$150 in advance, \$175 at the door; young attorneys, \$100 in advance, \$125 at the door; and students, \$75 in advance, \$100 at the door. Raffle tickets are \$5 each. Ticket packages and corporate sponsorships also are available. All proceeds from sponsorships, ticket sales, the raffle, and live and silent auctions will benefit The Pro Bono Project.

To purchase advance tickets online, go to: [www.probono-no.org/jfaball/index.html](http://www.probono-no.org/jfaball/index.html). Or call the JFAB Hotline at (504)581-3480.

For sponsorship opportunities or more information on the ball or The Project, contact Executive Director Rachel Piercey, (504)581-4043 or email [rpiercey@robono-no.org](mailto:rpiercey@robono-no.org). ■

## Senior Lawyers Division's July 26 CLE postponed

The Louisiana State Bar Association's Senior Lawyers Division's CLE program, originally scheduled for Friday, July 26, in New Orleans, has been postponed. When the event is rescheduled, information will be provided in print and online publications. To keep up-to-date on Senior Lawyers Division news, go to: [www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/SeniorLawyers). ■

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Shown clockwise  
from back left:

**Edward T. Simmons,**  
CPA/ABV, CVA, CFE, CFF

**Robert H. Alexander,**  
CPA/ABV/CFF, ASA

**Jeffrey N. Aucoin,**  
CPA, CFF, CFE, CIA

**Lori T. Liddell,**  
CPA/ABV, CFE

**Paul E. Foster,**  
CPA, CFE

**Jessica R. Cormier,**  
CPA, CFE

The fraud, forensic and litigation team at HORNE LLP provides a comprehensive range of services within the forensic accounting profession. Our team members are credentialed in focused practice areas with emphasis on economic damages, valuation, internal audit, fraud and financial forensics. As a top 50 business advisory and accounting firm nationally, the fraud, forensic and litigation team has access to internal resources in the service areas of tax and auditing with focused practice areas in the franchise, construction, financial institutions, health care and disaster recovery industries and to high-wealth individuals, private equity and SEC clients.

## OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

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  - Deposition and discovery assistance
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# Focus on Access to Justice

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

## ‘SRL Toolkits,’ judges’ CLE offer focus on SRL efforts in Louisiana

By Michael W. Schachtman,  
LSBA Self-Represented Litigation  
Counsel

Addressing challenges created by the increasing number of self-represented litigants (SRLs) is a significant issue in the area of access to justice and continues to receive a great deal of attention from the LSBA and courts across the state. Over the past year, LSBA staff has worked with courts and legal aid providers to launch a variety of programs assisting self-represented parties. Within the past several months, the Louisiana Supreme Court amended the Code of Judicial Conduct to provide more explicit guidance to help these litigants present their cases. With this diversity of stakeholders channeling energy to this effort, the results have been mutually beneficial to litigants, court staff and legal aid providers who are now better able to concentrate their limited resources.

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the Louisiana Judicial College joined forces at the June Annual Meeting/Summer School to provide a timely forum highlighting the achievements of judges across the state in the SRL area. The LSBA and the Louisiana District Judges Association (LDJA) staffed an SRL information table providing judges the opportunity to meet with LSBA SRL Counsel Michael Schachtman to discuss the feasibility of similar projects for their courts and to talk to staff members from courts already operating self-help programs. The LSBA provided member of the judiciary with “SRL Toolkits” – flash drive storage devices containing a statewide summary of SRL services, sample court forms, a 10-step “how to” template for launching services, LSBA brochures for distribution on specific issues, and other resources for courts.


The information table complemented a judges-only CLE session titled “It’s Really Time to Pay Attention to Self-Represented Litigants: The Data Shows More Are Seeking Justice Without Lawyers!” presented by Hon. Lisa M. Woodruff-White, 19th JDC Family Court, Hon. Harry Randow, 9th JDC and Hon.



Michael Schachtman (above) and Hope LaFleur (not shown) answered questions and distributed SRL Toolkits during the 2013 Combined LSBA Annual Meeting and LSBA/LJC Summer School. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.

Jerome Barbera, 17th JDC.

Though self-help services may better prepare and assist people in getting into court, judges still play a critical role in ensuring that self-represented litigants are afforded a fair process. Recent amendments to the Louisiana Judicial Code of Conduct provide judges with explicit guidance on how to assist

a self-represented party without jeopardizing impartiality. The SRL CLE provided a lively discussion about how the amendments work in practice, and what issues judges should be aware of when an unrepresented party appears before them. The main consensus reached is that judges would benefit from more opportunities to discuss this issue in the future. 


## Volunteers sought for ongoing Disaster Response efforts

Now that the 2013 hurricane season has begun, Access to Justice (ATJ) Program leaders are reminding everyone, particularly nonprofit legal service providers, of the ongoing multiple strategy efforts for response during times of potential disasters. This is a combined effort of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Access to Justice Committee, the Legal Services Corporations, pro bono providers across the state, the LSBA Young Lawyers Division and the Louisiana Civil Justice Center.

Working with American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Disaster Legal Services liaison Cristin G. Fitzgerald, the group has enacted several initiatives and is working to support and coordinate with

others working for this same purpose.

Response is coordinated through local groups of attorneys prepared to assist when a disaster occurs. Attorneys interested in providing legal services to Louisiana citizens affected by disasters are encouraged to contact ATJ Administrative Assistant Katie Mozier, email [katie.mozier@lsba.org](mailto:katie.mozier@lsba.org) or call (504)619-0106 or (800)421-5722, ext. 106.

A free online training webinar will be provided to prepare volunteers willing to respond in the event of a disaster. To review the full disaster plan, resources on volunteering opportunities and volunteer training manuals and webinars, go to the LSBA's Disaster Response website at: [www.lsba.org/dr](http://www.lsba.org/dr). 



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Be sure to visit [www.lsba.org/CLE](http://www.lsba.org/CLE) for more information as it becomes available!



# Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this special section, contact Louisiana State Bar Association Director of Member Outreach and Diversity Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, (800)421-5722, ext. 129, or email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org).

## Minority Involvement Section re-designs Job Fair

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Minority Involvement Section is celebrating its 25th annual Job Fair by renewing the event's purpose and making it more meaningful for employers and law students within today's economic reality. The Section has re-designed the event to increase focus on professional development of the students, rather than job placement. This year's event, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14, at Loyola University College of Law, will feature a new seminar, the "Professional Development Symposium: Preparing Practice-Ready Attorneys."

The Job Fair encourages employers to consider diversity in their hiring decisions and allows legal employers across the state to connect with diverse law students. Attorneys and judges are invited to participate in the Professional Development Symposium by assisting with mock interviews, serving as speakers, or taking part in the speed networking activity. Participating employers will gain free admission to the networking breakfast and will receive a link to résumé books of all participating law students.

For more information, contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org). To register, call (504)619-0115. 📱

### SAVE THE DATES!

Check the LSBA's Diversity webpage for more information on the following events:

- ▶ **Disabilities Summit**  
New Orleans • Oct. 24, 2013
- ▶ **2014 Diversity Conclave**  
New Orleans • March 21, 2014  
Seventh annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession, Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, 2 Poydras St., New Orleans

Check future print and online LSBA publications for more information!



2013 Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship participants visit the Louisiana Supreme Court.

## "Suit Up for the Future" Program selected for National ABA Award

The "Suit Up for the Future" High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program, a joint project of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the Just the Beginning Foundation, has been selected as one of the 2013 recipients of the American Bar Association's Partnership Award. The award will be presented Aug. 9 by the ABA's Standing Committee on Bar

Activities and Services.

The Suit Up Program was recognized for being "an excellent pipeline initiative, well-developed and well-executed, providing an amazing experience for the student participants." This year's three-week program for 25 high school juniors and seniors and three recent high school graduates ended on June 28. 📱

## Chief Judge Stewart honored at Social

The Martinet Societies of Louisiana, the Black Lawyers Associations in Louisiana and the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Minority Involvement Section hosted a Dessert and Cocktails Social in honor of U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart on June 6 during the LSBA's Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla. Approximately 35 people attended the event to congratulate Judge Stewart on his appointment as the first African-American chief judge of the Circuit Court. The organizations presented Judge Stewart with an engraved leather photo album to commemorate the event. 📱




Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart during Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla.

## LSBA trains 16 diversity/inclusion presenters


The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) successfully trained 21 presenters at its “Train the LSBA Diversity Facilitator” seminar on May 22. These facilitators are available to present programs to members, within firms and offices, and for future CLE programs. The diversity/inclusion presentations and workshops qualify for professionalism or ethics credit (depending upon content).

The legal profession needs venues to safely discuss topics that may be sensitive or even not-politically-correct. Accordingly, the LSBA is building its diversity/inclusion resources by equipping attorneys and judges with the skills needed to present diversity/inclusion workshops and to facilitate these much-needed discussions throughout the state. Through these workshops, the profession may learn and grow, increasing members’ abilities to interact with each other appropriately and professionally, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, generation, lifestyle or geography.

For more information or to schedule a presenter, contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org). 

## LSBA Human Rights Award deadline is Jan. 31, 2014

The deadline for nominations for the 2014 Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Human Rights Award is Jan. 31, 2014. The award recognizes outstanding efforts made by a bar association, a law firm or law department, an individual attorney or judge, a court or a community organization or individual in promoting diversity in the legal profession, in particular, to recognize efforts ensuring the full and equal opportunity of all persons for entry and advancement in Louisiana’s legal profession. One individual and one organization diversity award will be presented during the LSBA’s Annual Meeting.

For more information on the award and submission procedures, go to: [www.lsba.org/diversity/diversityevents.asp](http://www.lsba.org/diversity/diversityevents.asp). Or email LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org). 

# in the SPOTLIGHT

## McGlinchey Stafford, P.L.L.C

**M**cGlinchey Stafford, P.L.L.C., embraces diversity at all levels and promotes diversity both within its firm and its community. The firm believes that providing better quality legal service to clients means the composition of its law firm should reflect the composition of the clients and customers. Recruiting, retaining and promoting diverse talent are the pillars of success in diversity at McGlinchey Stafford. This is why the firm is dedicated to developing and maintaining a diverse, culturally rich workplace with both inclusion and respect.

The firm’s diversity efforts are promoted through national participation and membership in the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), an organization founded in 2008 and consisting of 215 in-house counsel and managing partners of law firms and corporations dedicated to creating a diverse legal profession. Among other diversity initiatives, the firm participates in the LCLD Fellows Program and the 1L LCLD Scholars Diversity Program.

In 2011, the LCLD launched its Fellows Program to provide training and mentoring for lawyers whose employers believe will become leaders in their respective law firms. The one-year, highly structured program identifies high-potential attorneys from diverse backgrounds and places them in networks of attorneys and business leaders for lessons on how to lead functions in law firm organizations. Among other activities, Fellows participate in the annual LCLD Retreat, as well as in virtual training management, in-person conferences, business development training and peer-group projects. They also receive formal and informal mentoring from senior attorneys in LCLD’s leadership.

The firm has sponsored Lauren Campisi, a consumer finance attorney in its New Orleans office, and Andy Cao, a partner in its Houston office, as Fellows. In 2013, Louisiana native Kyle Ferachi was the firm’s third LCLD Fellow.

McGlinchey Stafford created a 1L Diversity Fellowship in 2008 as a talent pipeline scholarship program for first-year law students

of diverse backgrounds. In 2012, the firm adopted the LCLD’s 1L Scholars Program, designed to encourage minorities and women to enter law and increase their likelihood of success in law school and beyond.

The Scholars program gives a diverse 1L student an opportunity to work with McGlinchey Stafford attorneys during a six-week paid summer associate position following the recipient’s first year of law school. LCLD Scholars are afforded other opportunities, including participation in the national LCLD Scholars Retreat, assignment of a formal attorney mentor, and a \$5,000 scholarship. In 2012 and 2013, the firm chose 1Ls from Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

The McGlinchey Stafford Diversity Committee, comprised of 15 partners and associates from offices across the firm and chaired by Mindy Brickman, develops and maintains innovative in-house initiatives and programs that advance diversity.

McGlinchey Stafford has been proud to co-host the Lionel R. Collins Dinner for more than 20 years in honor of one of Louisiana’s first and esteemed African-American judges. The annual dinner, in conjunction with the National Bar Association annual meeting, brings together current and past African-American jurists to hear speakers address topics such as equal opportunity, civil rights and emerging social trends.

The firm also embraces diversity and inclusion through its Women’s Initiative. The Initiative, designed to promote female attorneys’ professional development and advancement, hosts networking and charity events and publishes a quarterly internal newsletter edited by associate Sarah McMillan.

While McGlinchey Stafford remains proud of its efforts to advance diversity initiatives, the firm is always seeking new opportunities to advance diversity in the workplace.

“We look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and remain dedicated to building a more diverse, inclusive environment for both our communities and for the legal profession at large,” said Mindy Brickman, chair of the Diversity Committee at McGlinchey Stafford.

*The “In the Spotlight” section highlights diversity achievements and ground-breaking diversity accomplishments, primarily of signatories of the LSBA’s Statement of Diversity Principles. If you have recommendations for attorneys, judges or legal organizations that should be considered for future articles, call or email Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org).*



# 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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