

# Focus on Diversity


For more information on items in this section, visit [www.lsba.org/diversity](http://www.lsba.org/diversity).

## Nominations being accepted for diversity/inclusion awards through Feb. 28

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Member Outreach and Diversity Department will be accepting nominations for two awards through Feb. 28.

The LSBA's **Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer 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 exhibited an unwavering commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

The LSBA's **Guardian of Diversity Award** 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.

Both awards will be presented at the LSBA's Annual Meeting in June. For more information on the awards, go to: [www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx). Click on "Diversity and Inclusion Awards." 



**LSBA DIVERSITY  
OUTREACH & INCLUSION**

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



The report, "Gender and Racial Diversity of Louisiana's Judges," was the focus of a panel discussion on Oct. 24 at Tulane University. Participating in the discussion were, from left, Salmon Shomade, visiting associate professor, Emory University; Judge Nannette Jolivette Brown, Eastern District of Louisiana; Judge Bernadette D'Souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court; Sally J. Kenney, professor, Newcomb College Institute of Tulane University; and David Meyer, dean of Tulane University Law School.

## Panel discussion conducted on gender and racial diversity of Louisiana judges

The report, "Gender and Racial Diversity of Louisiana's Judges," was the focus of a panel discussion on Oct. 24 at Tulane University Law School. The report included research by Professors Salmon

Shomade and Sally J. Kenney. The event was organized by the Commission on Race and Tulane Values. The findings of the report were presented, followed by a panel discussion featuring several judges. 



Louisiana State University's A.P. Tureaud, Sr. Black Alumni Chapter hosted the 2016 Legends Forum in September, recognizing 2016 LSU Legend Judge (Ret.) Luke A. LaVergne, second from right. Attending the event in the LSU Student Union Atchafalaya Room were, from left, Felicia Harry, chapter board member; Kenya Messer, LSU Office of Diversity and chapter ex-officio board member; James Williams, member of the LSU Board of Supervisors; Bradley J. Bellow, LSU Alumni Association and chapter ex-officio board member; Valencia Sarpy Jones, member, LSU Board of Supervisors; Leo C. Hamilton, LSU Alumni Association president-elect; Todd Schexnayder, chapter treasurer; honoree Judge LaVergne; and Joaneane A. Smith, chapter board member.



*Friday*  
**MARCH 24, 2017**

*New Orleans Marriott*  
**555 CANAL ST., NEW ORLEANS**

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

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