

Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this section, visit www.lsba.org/diversity.

2020 Diversity Conclave cancelled; 2021 program set for March

Due to continuing concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) has cancelled its 2020 Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession. The program was originally scheduled for March 2020 and postponed until August. However, amid ongoing concerns and the New Orleans Mayor's suggestion that no large gatherings be held, the LSBA has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 program.

The 2021 Conclave, which will be held March 5 in New Orleans, will feature the

same exciting format and sessions with highly credentialed speakers that will provoke discussions regarding the scope and meaning of inclusion, the state of the profession, and the case for a diverse and inclusive legal profession. Registrants and sponsors will be notified. Registrants will have the option of transferring registration. Sponsors will be provided an opportunity to support the conference in 2021.

For more information, email the team in the LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Department at diversity@lsba.org.

LSBA cancels 2020 Suit Up Program

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee has made the difficult decision to cancel the Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Intern Program scheduled for June 15-26 and July 6-10 at the Louisiana Bar Center. Applicants will be notified and all applications submitted for the 2020 program will be deferred to June 2021 (with no further action needed from the applicant). For more information, email the team in the LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Department at diversity@lsba.org.

Thanks to the 2019-20 LSBA Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) would like to thank the 2019-20 members of the Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession and its Subcommittees. Your service was greatly appreciated.

The mission of the Committee on Diversity is to assess the level of racial, ethnic, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and disability diversity within all components of the legal profession in Louisiana; to identify barriers to the attainment of full and meaningful representation and participation in the legal profession by persons of diverse backgrounds; and to propose programs and methods by which the LSBA can most effectively work to remove the barriers and achieve greater diversity.

Committee members included:

Denia S. Aiyegbusi, Co-Chair
Kenneth R. Barnes
Rashida D. Barringer
Troy N. Bell
Roland L. Belsome
Katia D. Bowman
William C. Bradford
Dominique R. Bright-Wheeler
George W. Britton

Christine T.C. Bruneau
I.J. Clark-Sam
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J. Dalton Courson, Co-Chair
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Sandra Diggs-Miller
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Dean Thomas C. Galligan, Jr.
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Joseph H. Hart
Nicholas J. Hite
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Adria N. Kimbrough
Arlene D. Knighten
Robert E. Lancaster
Dean Madeleine M. Landrieu
Jeffrey M. Landry
Susan R. Laporte
Quintillis K. Lawrence
Wayne J. Lee
Luis A. Leitzelar
Misha M. Logan
Lynn Luker
Sowmya Mandava

Janell M. McFarland-Forges
Dean David D. Meyer
Ne'Shira D. Millender
Pamela S. Moran
Jared E.A. Nelson
Barbara B. Ormsby
Courtney H. Payton
Ezra Pettis, Jr.
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Deidre D. Robert
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Rachel M. Scarafia
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Chantell M. Smith
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Monica M. Vela-Vick
Michael B. Victorian
Angela White-Bazile
Sharonda R. Williams
John A. Womble, Co-Chair
Micah C. Zeno

Nominations accepted through June 30 for Citizen Lawyer Award

Nominations will be accepted through June 30 for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) *Citizen Lawyer Award*, a 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 LSBA instituted the Crystal Gavel Awards. This 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. Nominees must have made a difference in their local communities, in local organizations, or in the life of one person, and have served the public in a number of areas, including:

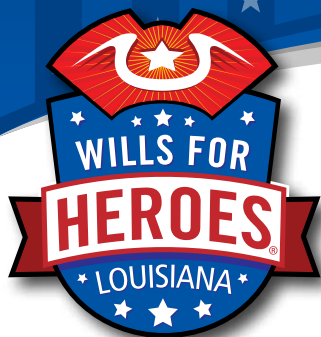
- ▶ Aiding the administration of justice.
- ▶ Assisting groups or individuals on a volunteer basis in a non-legal capacity.
- ▶ Educating the public or individuals or students about legal matters.
- ▶ Providing pro bono legal services in a matter of a significant nature, or in a significant number of cases, or in a way that significantly changed the life of a person or group.

▶ Working in conjunction with the court system to make it more welcoming, inviting and understandable for jurors, witnesses or victims of crime.

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.

For more information about the award or to submit a nomination, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CitizenLawyerAward>. Or email the LSBA's Member Outreach and Diversity Department at outreach@lsba.org. 📧

Protecting Those Who Protect Us[®]



Police, firefighters, paramedics and other first responders risk their lives every day to make sure our communities are safe. Some die in the line of duty, leaving grieving families behind.

The Louisiana Wills for Heroes program is a way for lawyers to support and salute the important work of first responders. Lawyers provide free wills and other estate documents to first responders and also to their spouses or domestic partners.

Louisiana has provided hundreds of first responders with wills, thanks to the efforts of the Louisiana State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division.



For more information about the Louisiana Wills for Heroes program, view upcoming program event dates or to register as a volunteer, please visit www.lsba.org/yld/willsforheroes.aspx or contact Louisiana Wills for Heroes committee chairs **Betty Ann Maury** or **Loren Shanklin Fleshman**.

www.lsba.org/YLD/willsforheroes.aspx

