FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2023

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LSBA Installs 2023-24 Officers and Board of Governors

NEW ORLEANS—The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) 2023-24 officers and members of the Board of Governors were installed June 8 at a ceremony at the LSBA’s Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla. Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer administered the oath of office.

Shayna L. Sonnier, an attorney in the Lake Charles law firm of Veron Bice, LLC, was installed as the 83rd LSBA president.

Patrick A. Talley, Jr., a partner in the New Orleans office of the law firm Phelps Dunbar, LLP, was installed as the 2023-24 president-elect. He will assume the presidency in 2024-25.

Valerie T. Schexnayder, a mediator and arbitrator with Schexnayder Mediation Services, LLC, in Baton Rouge, is beginning her two-year term as secretary. She also serves as editor of the Louisiana Bar Journal, the LSBA’s bimonthly magazine.

Lawrence J. (Larry) Centola III, a principal member of the New Orleans law firm of Martzell, Bickford & Centola, is beginning his second year of a two-year term as treasurer.

Stephen I. Dwyer, a founding member and managing partner of the Metairie law firm of Dwyer, Cambre & Suffern, APLC, will continue his service to the LSBA as the 2023-24 immediate past president.

Sena D. Hall, an assistant district attorney in the Caddo Parish District Attorney’s Office in Shreveport, was installed as 2023-24 chair of the LSBA Young Lawyers Division.

Members of the 2023-24 Board of Governors also were installed by Chief Justice Weimer.

First District
• J. Christopher Zainey, Jr., a partner in the New Orleans law firm Lambert Zainey Smith & Soso, PLC.
• Graham H. Ryan, a partner in the New Orleans office of the law firm Jones Walker, LLP.

Second District
• Jeffrey G. Lagarde, an attorney in the Slidell office of Lagarde Law.
Third District
• Melanie Chatagnier, the sole attorney and owner of Chatagnier Law Office in Thibodaux.

Fourth District
• Adam P. Johnson, a partner in The Johnson Firm in Lake Charles.

Fifth District
• Carrie LeBlanc Jones, the chief legal officer and general counsel for the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.
• Kelly M. Rabalais, assistant vice president of communications and strategy for St. Tammany Health System.

Sixth District
• Charles D. Elliott, a solo practitioner at the law firm of Charles Elliott & Associates, LLC, in Alexandria.

Seventh District
• W. Michael Street, a partner in the Monroe law firm of Watson, McMillin & Street, LLP, and a member of Marathon Title Co., LLC.

Eighth District
• Curtis R. Joseph, Jr., a partner in the Shreveport law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O’Quin & Roberts, APLC.

At-Large Members
• Blake R. David, a founding partner of the Lafayette law firm of Broussard & David, LLC.
• Jeffrey A. Riggs, a partner in the Lafayette office of the law firm Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, LLP.
• L. Bradley Hancock, the executive partner in the Houston, TX, office of the law firm Holland & Knight, LLP.

Loyola University College of Law/Faculty Representative
• Prof. Monica Hof Wallace, the Dean Marcel Garsaud, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Law at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

Southern University Law Center/Faculty Representative
• Prof. Donald W. North, vice chancellor of student affairs at Southern University Law Center.

Louisiana State Law Institute Representative
• André Doguet, commissioner for the 15th Judicial District Court in Lafayette.

House of Delegates Liaison Committee
• Chair Keenan K. Kelly, an attorney in the Natchitoches law firm of Kelly & Townsend, LLC.
• Member Sandra K. Cosby, an associate with Frederick A. Miller & Associates in Metairie.
• Member Shannon Seiler Dartez, an attorney with the Glenn Armentor Law Corporation in Lafayette.

*Full profiles of the officers and members of the Board of Governors are available online at:*
http://www.lsba.org/BarGovernance/BoardofGovernors.aspx

*Photos of officers and members of the Board of Governors are available online at:*

*The Louisiana State Bar Association assists its more than 23,000 members in the practice of law. The statewide association, as part of its multi-faceted mission, promotes and maintains access to justice initiatives for the state’s residents, assists the Louisiana Supreme Court in its regulation of the practice of law, upholds the honor of the courts and the profession, and supports programs that increase public understanding of and respect for the law.*