The Louisiana Supreme Court hosted the Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) 30th Annual Pro Bono Awards Ceremony on May 19. LSBA 2014-15 President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr. and justices of the Supreme Court presented the awards to the 2015 Pro Bono Publico and Children’s Law Award recipients, recognizing attorneys, law students and public interest legal professionals for providing exceptional pro bono services to Louisiana’s indigent residents.

Also in attendance were LSBA 2014-15 President-Elect Mark A. Cunningham, Justice Marcus R. Clark, Justice Jefferson D. Hughes III, Justice John L. Weimer and Justice Scott J. Crichton.

The awards and 2015 recipients include:

**Career Public Interest Award**
Joseph R. Oelkers III, Lafayette

**David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award**
Jay M. Jalenak, Jr., Baton Rouge

**Children’s Law Awards**
Baton Rouge Bar Foundation’s Teen Court
Kathleen C. Gasparian, New Orleans

**Pro Bono Publico Awards**
Joseph R. Ballard, Baton Rouge
Valerie B. Bargas, Baton Rouge
Roy K. Burns, Jr., Covington
La’Gretta R. Fortune, Baton Rouge
Valerie G. Garrett, Lafayette
J. Spencer Hays, Bossier
Benjamin W. Kadden, New Orleans
Gregory A. Koury, Lafayette

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Law Student Pro Bono Awards

Gabrielle Alessi-Friedlander-Bowersox, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center
Sophia Mire, Loyola University College of Law
Christopher Kubacki, Southern University Law Center
Brittany Wolf, Tulane University Law School

Friend of Pro Bono Awards

Kay E. Donnelly & Associates, New Orleans
Dwayne M. Murray, Baton Rouge

Century Club Awards

Amy M. Bernadas, New Orleans
Mandi A. Borne, Lafayette
Philip H. Boudreaux, Jr., Lafayette
Mariana Broussard, Lafayette
William G. Cherbonnier, New Orleans
Jeffrey K. Coreil, Lafayette
L’Reece David, Lafayette
Elizabeth H. Emmett, New Orleans
Matthew R. Emmons, Mandeville
Bradford H. Felder, Lafayette
Valerie G. Garrett, Lafayette
Irain J. Gonzalez, Metairie
Catharine O. Gracia, New Orleans
Valerie V. Guidry, Lafayette
Jane A. Jackson, New Orleans
Amythist L. Kearney, Slidell
Gregory A. Koury, Lafayette
Cliff A. Lacour, Lafayette
Craig D. Little, Lafayette
Seth T. Mansfield, Lafayette
Jason A. Matt, Lafayette
Alysson L. Mills, New Orleans
Charles W. Montz, Jr., Lafayette
Jason T. Reed, Lafayette
Wendy Hickok Robinson, New Orleans
Dwazendra J. Smith, Lafayette
Hugh R. Straub, New Orleans
Mark C. Surprenant, New Orleans
K. Wade Trahan, Lafayette
Danielle E. Treadaway, Metairie

Focus on Access to Justice
June 7, 2015

Re: Lawyers in Libraries

Dear Colleagues,

The LSBA has become an “Access to Justice” leader by taking proactive approaches to meeting the legal needs of the public, but this would not be possible without the active support and engagement of our members. To help better connect the public with legal information, and also make attorneys more visible in their communities, the LSBA Access to Justice Program has partnered with public libraries throughout the state to form the Legal Education & Assistance Program (LEAP), a component of which is the “Lawyers in Libraries” project.

LEAP provides specialized legal resources for libraries, training for library staff on how to respond to legal inquiries, and direct access to attorneys for limited consultations through “Lawyers in Libraries.” During last year’s LSBA “Lawyers in Libraries Day of Service,” 125 attorneys representing every parish in the state volunteered their time and provided assistance to the public inside a local library.

This year’s day of service is scheduled for **Thursday October 29th** during National Celebrate Pro Bono Week. We hope even more attorneys will participate and meet with more individuals seeking help. LSBA Access to Justice Staff will again provide a number of helpful resources to make participation as easy as possible, and will assist with scheduling an event at your local library. To sign up, or for more information, please visit, [www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org](http://www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org) or contact Nicole.Louque@lsba.org.

Cordially,

Mark Cunningham

2015-2016 President
Louisiana State Bar Association