

Focus on *Access to Justice*

For more information, visit www.lsba.org/atj.

Legal professionals, law students recognized for exceptional pro bono work

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA), in conjunction with the Louisiana Supreme Court, hosted the 29th annual Pro Bono Awards Ceremony on May 20. LSBA President-Elect Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr. presented the 2014 Pro Bono Publico and Children's Law Awards. The ceremony was held in the Louisiana Supreme Court building in New Orleans.

The Pro Bono Awards Ceremony honors attorneys and other public interest legal professionals from around the state who provided exceptional pro bono services to Louisiana's indigent, a group who may not otherwise have received adequate legal representation or access to the legal system.

This year's award recipients included:

► **2014 Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteerism:** Brian D. Lenard, Hammond.

► **2014 David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award:** Mark C. Surprenant, New Orleans.

► **2014 Career Public Interest Award:** Gregory L. Landry, Lafayette.

► **2014 Children's Law Award:** Family and Youth Counseling Agency, Lake Charles; and T. Darlene Bewley, New Orleans.

► **2014 Pro Bono Publico Award:** Office of the Attorney General, Alexandria Litigation, Alexandria; Phillip J. Antis, Jr., New Orleans; Robert T. Binney, Slidell; R. Alan Breithaupt, Monroe; Booker T. Carmichael, Baton Rouge; Michele M. Echols, Covington; Entergy Corp., New Orleans Office Legal Department, New Orleans; Michael D. Ferachi, Baton Rouge; Valerie G. Garrett, Lafayette; Catharine O. Gracia, New Orleans; Kenneth W. Jones, Lafayette; Judith R. Kennedy, Lafayette; Robert C. Owsley, Natchitoches; Sherrye K. Palmer, St. Amant; Sandra L. Sutak, New Orleans; Zebulon M. Winstead, Alexandria; and Amy M. Winters, New Orleans.

► **2014 Friend of Pro Bono Award:** P. Michael Breeden III, New Orleans; Gary



Children's Law and Pro Bono Awards Ceremony at the Louisiana Supreme Court on May 20. Photo by Matthew Hinton Photography.

M. Carter, Jr., New Orleans; Ian M. Ellis, New Orleans; Julie M. Lafargue, Shreveport; Wendy Hickok Robinson, New Orleans; Hugh R. Straub, New Orleans; and K. Wade Trahan, Lafayette.

► **2014 Law Student Pro Bono Award:** Savannah Steele, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center; Brittany Jaleesa Mckeel, Southern University Law Center; and Khalid Samarrae and Tyler Whittenberg, Tulane University Law School.

► **2014 Century Award:** Phillip J. Antis, Jr., New Orleans; John O. Brady, Baton Rouge; Scott Brown, New Orleans; Booker T. Carmichael, Baton Rouge; William G. Cherbonnier, New Orleans; Jeffrey K. Coreil, Lafayette; Anderson O. Dotson III, Baton Rouge; Elizabeth A. Dugal, Lafay-

ette; Bradford H. Felder, Lafayette; Valerie G. Garrett, Lafayette; Catharine O. Gracia, New Orleans; Mitchell P. Hasenkampf, New Orleans; Kenneth W. Jones, Jr., Lafayette; Judith R. Kennedy, Lafayette; Greg A. Koury, Lafayette; Cliff A. Lacour, Lafayette; Seth T. Mansfield, Lafayette; Gary K. McKenzie, Baton Rouge; Patrick O'Hara, Baton Rouge; Annette N. Peltier, Baton Rouge; Christopher K. Ralston, New Orleans; James C. Rather, Jr., New Orleans; Dona K. Renegar, Lafayette; Wendy Hickok Robinson, New Orleans; Marcus J. Roots, Baton Rouge; Dwazendra J. Smith, Lafayette; Grady M. Spears, Lafayette; Gregory T. Stevens, Baton Rouge; Mark C. Surprenant, New Orleans; Sandra L. Sutak, New Orleans; K. Wade Trahan, Lafayette; and Amy M. Winters, New Orleans. 📷

Is it really that important to report pro bono hours?

The unequivocal answer is YES . . . if you want to support your local pro bono and legal services programs. Each year, attorneys provide thousands of hours of pro bono work for those who can't afford to pay for legal services — and each year thousands of hours go unreported. Some attorneys say it's self-aggrandizement to report. Others say only the office manager sees the reporting form.

Don't do a disservice to your local pro

bono and legal services programs by not reporting. When seeking funding, these organizations are frequently asked, "What are attorneys doing to help?"

Help the Louisiana State Bar Association support your local public interest organizations by providing them information to respond to that question. Report your hours online at: www.lsba.org/goto/pbreporting. 📷