Two new attorneys join LSBA’s LIFT Legal Incubator Program

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Access to Justice Program announces that two new attorneys have joined the LIFT (Legal Innovators for Tomorrow) Incubator Program’s Flood Proof Project in Baton Rouge.

Gwendolyn Collins-Greenup and Lacie Lemoine Dauzat are solo practitioners dedicated to increasing access to legal services for people affected by the 2016 catastrophic flooding in Baton Rouge.

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Southern University Law Center, the American Bar Association’s Center for Innovation and the LSBA’s LIFT program have partnered to offer these new attorneys the opportunity to develop and grow their solo practices to address the continued demand for heirship and property title work for disaster survivors.

Collins-Greenup is a graduate of Southern University Law Center and the founder and managing member of Greenup Law, LLC, a boutique law firm and title company serving the Greater Baton Rouge area and across Louisiana. Her practice is primarily focused on real estate, construction law, personal injury, successions and tax law matters.

Dauzat is a graduate of Southern University Law Center. Her law firm provides affordable legal services in successions and criminal defense to people in Baton Rouge, Livingston and Ascension.

The partners of the project work with the attorneys through the 18-month program period. During the project, attorneys receive a $10,000 stipend, free access to case management software and legal research programs, training, mentorship, and case shadowing opportunities.

To learn more about this and other LSBA legal incubator projects, go to: www.lsba.org/lift or email Amy Duncan at amy.duncan@lsba.org.

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For the sixth year, the Access to Justice (ATJ) Developing Leadership Intern Program hosted interns for the six-week program. The program’s goal is to curate future access to justice leaders in Louisiana.

The unique program provides interns with a bird’s-eye view of Louisiana’s legal aid network by placing students with a variety of nonprofit legal organizations. In addition to their time with civil legal aid organizations, they also spend time observing the courtrooms of several district court judges. Interns are sponsored by law firms and organizations with a commitment to supporting access to justice in Louisiana.

Among the many civil legal aid providers, judges and organizations involved with the internship program, this year’s interns worked with the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation, Louisiana Appleseed, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, the New Orleans Pro Bono Project and the Parole Project.

In addition, the interns observed court procedures with Judge Bernadette G. D’Souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court; Judge Timothy S. Marcel, 29th Judicial District Court; and Judge Lisa M. Woodruff-White, East Baton Rouge Family Court.

The interns also learned about the Lagniappe Law Lab and the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Legal Education Assistance Program (LEAP) and attended a meeting of the ATJ Committee’s Pro Bono Subcommittee.

This year’s intern sponsors were Entergy Services, LLC, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center and Phelps Dunbar, LLP.

Firms or organizations interested in sponsoring an intern for 2022 should contact ATJ Projects Counsel Rachael M. Mills at (504)619-0104 or email rachael.mills@lsba.org.

Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge Bernadette G. D’Souza, right, with Caroline Perlis, an ATJ Developing Leadership Program intern sponsored by Phelps Dunbar, LLP.

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For more information or to volunteer, contact Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects Counsel, by emailing rachael.mills@lsba.org or calling 504.619.0104.

For more information, visit www.lsba.org/atj or call (504)619-0104.