

Focus on *Access to Justice*

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

Attorney Volunteers Needed for 2024 Lawyers in Libraries Events in Several Parishes

Attorney volunteers are needed for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) 2024 Lawyers in Libraries events, set for the week of Oct. 21-26 in conjunction with National Celebrate Pro Bono Week.

Attorney volunteers are needed for the following parishes: Ascension, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, DeSoto, East Carroll, Franklin, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson, Lincoln, Livingston, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Rapides, St. Helena, St. John the Baptist, St. James, St. Charles, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermillion, Vernon, Washington, West Baton Rouge and Winn.

During this week, two-hour "Ask-a-Lawyer" sessions will be offered in-person at libraries across the state and by phone for those who may be unable to participate in-person. During the sessions, library patrons can ask legal questions in a one-on-one setting. Attorneys may volunteer for in-person Ask-A-Lawyer sessions or choose to offer sessions by phone. Also, attorneys may opt to be placed on the "On Call" list to handle last-minute changes.

"Ask-A-Lawyer" individual events are scheduled based on attorney preference and library availability. For more information on the process and the program, review the updated guide online at: www.lsba.org/documents/ATJ/LilGuideforAttorneys.pdf.

To volunteer for the program, go to: <https://lil.ivolunteer.com/2024>.

Once there, attorneys should select the library branch from the drop-down menu, then select date(s) and time(s) they want to volunteer and provide the required information. Attorneys preferring a virtual event should select the "Virtual Calendar" from the drop-down menu. Attorneys seeking a particular library branch currently not on the list should email bridget.berins@lsba.org.

For more information about the program, go to: www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org.



OCTOBER 21-26, 2024

Sign up to offer brief one-on-one consultations
in-person at your local library or by phone
for library patrons around the state.

Sign up at lil.ivolunteer.com/2024



LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES

OCTOBER 21-26, 2024

ATJ Developing Leadership Intern Program Begins Eighth Year

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice (ATJ) Developing Leadership Intern Program began its eighth year on May 13.

The program places interns with non-profit legal organizations and district judges, while also inviting them to numerous LSBA ATJ Department-related meetings to provide a bird's-eye view of Louisiana's civil legal aid network. The idea for this program was developed during an Access to Justice Summit where participants concluded that cultivating the next generation of access to justice leaders should not only be a priority but is necessary as sensible succession planning to ensure continued efforts within Louisiana's justice community.

This year's interns are working with the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation, the Justice and Accountability Center, Louisiana Appleseed, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, the New Orleans Pro Bono Project and the Parole Project.

The interns also will observe Judge Bernadette G. D'Souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court; and Judge Jeffrey C. Cashe, 21st Judicial District Court.

In addition to their experiences with



The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice Developing Leadership Intern Program began its eighth year on May 13. The four interns and two of the sponsors attended an opening event. From left, Christy F. Kane, Entergy Services, LLC; Rachael M. Mills, LSBA Access to Justice Program; Averi Jones, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center; Savannah Mahan, Tulane University Law School; Tierra Butler, Southern University Law Center; Tavaziva Mazhindu, Loyola University College of Law; and Christopher K. Ralston, Phelps Dunbar, LLP.

legal aid providers, interns are sponsored by law firms and organizations with a commitment to supporting access to justice in Louisiana. This year's sponsors are Entergy Services, LLC; Butler Snow, LLP; the LSBA's Civil Law & Litigation

Section; and Phelps Dunbar, LLP.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program or wanting to become a sponsor for 2025 should contact Rachael M. Mills, (504)619-0104, email rachael.mills@lsba.org.

Is It Really That Important to Report Pro Bono Hours?

The unequivocal answer is YES! 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 probably 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 local public interest organizations by providing them the information to respond to that question.

Complete the "Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting Form" included with the 2024-2025 dues statement or report pro bono hours online at: www.lsba.org/ProBono/ProBonoVoluntaryReporting.aspx.

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Louisiana State Bar Association
Access to Justice

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Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.