Access to Justice

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

LSBA Pro Bono Awards to Return to Supreme Court for May Ceremony

After two years of virtual celebration, this year’s 37th Annual Pro Bono Publico & Children’s Law Awards returns to its traditional venue at the Louisiana Supreme Court in a ceremony scheduled for May 24.

Each year, the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) holds the awards event to celebrate attorneys and other public interest professionals who have gone beyond their professional duties to provide or support pro bono services. Their work, ever more critical throughout the instability of the pandemic and natural disasters, helps ensure that those without the means to hire an attorney can still access justice through the legal system.

The following individuals will be honored:

2022 Career Public Interest Award
Elizabeth A. Betz..................Baton Rouge

2022 Children’s Law Award
Advanced Advocacy Project. Baton Rouge
Mary Ann McGrath Swaim..........Houma

2022 Pro Bono Publico Award
Lauren M. Barletta..............New Orleans
Kasi C. Brannan....................Covington
Laura Peterson Butler..........Shreveport
William J. Faustermann, Jr. .......Slidell
Johanna R.H. Fini...............Baton Rouge
Scott P. Gaspard................Baton Rouge
James S. Knight................Franklinton
Paulette Porter LaBostrie......St. Gabriel
Sarah A. Simmons.............Lafayette

2022 LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org Award
Amber C. Sheppard...............Slidell

2022 Law Student Pro Bono Award
Adreaynne N. Hutchison...Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center
Devon J. Clancy...............Loyola University College of Law
Christopher M. Jordan...........Southern University Law Center
Jacob D. Edwards......Tulane Law School

2022 Friend of Pro Bono Award
George D. Ernest III ............Lafayette
Paula K. Woodruff Family Law Section........Lafayette

2022 Century Club Award
W. Scott Brown...............New Orleans
Gregory J. Reda...............New Orleans
Robert William Knights........Mandeville
Gary J. Williams............Slidell

Consider Reporting Your Pro Bono Hours: It Helps!

Local pro bono and civil legal aid organizations benefit from your reporting pro bono service hours. Each year, attorneys provide thousands of hours of pro bono work to those who can’t afford to pay for legal services. But each year, thousands of hours go unreported.

Some attorneys say its self-aggrandizement to report. Others say only the office manager sees the reporting form. When seeking funding, local pro bono organizations are frequently asked, “What are attorneys doing to help?” Help the LSBA support your local public interest organizations by reporting your hours and giving them information to respond to that question.

Complete the online “Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting Form” at: www.lsba.org/ATJ/ProBonoVoluntaryReporting.aspx.

For assistance in completing the online form, contact Jordan Maier at (800)421-5722, ext. 145.

Thanks to ATJ Internship Sponsors!

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s Access to Justice (ATJ) Department acknowledges the 2022 ATJ Developing Leadership Intern Sponsors. ATJ intern sponsors provide mentorship and a stipend to the four ATJ interns while they learn about Louisiana’s civil legal aid network during the six-week summer program.

This year’s sponsors include Entergy Services, LLC; Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore, LLC; Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center; and Phelps Dunbar, LLP.
Although, we have all been asked to stay home to slow the spread of COVID-19, you can still help those in need with their legal issues. **LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org** offers a quick, easy way to help low-income, elderly and those affected by COVID-19 during these difficult times.

**LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org** allows volunteers to:

- Log in whenever/wherever
- Choose the question you answer and respond anonymously
- Receive training and access to resources
- Be covered by malpractice insurance

To volunteer, contact Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects Counsel, by emailing rachael.mills@lsba.org or calling 504.619.0104.