

# Focus on *Access to Justice*

For more information, visit [www.lsba.org/atj](http://www.lsba.org/atj).



Richard M. Arceneaux, left, Louisiana Clerk of Court Association president, and Michael W. Schachtman, Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Access to Justice (ATJ) Self-Represented Litigation counsel, welcomed the LSBA to the 57th annual Clerks of Court Institute in Alexandria from August 15-17. Schachtman and Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects counsel, promoted LSBA ATJ materials designed to educate the public about Louisiana's civil legal aid network. These materials include information about the various self-represented litigant resources, language access information, IFP information and information about the online pro bono program *LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org*.

## Volunteers needed for "Lawyers in Libraries" events in 4 parishes

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the Louisiana Library Association are scheduling "Lawyers in Libraries" events statewide during the week of Oct. 23-28. Attorney volunteers are needed to provide "Ask-a-Lawyer" sessions or educational presentations free of charge in the following parishes: Evangeline, Jackson, Union and West Carroll.

To participate, contact the LSBA Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0106 or (800)421-5722, ext. 106, or email [nicole.louque@lsba.org](mailto:nicole.louque@lsba.org). Learn more about the project: <http://www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org>.



*Louisiana lawyers are proud to partner with Louisiana libraries to help address the legal needs of our communities.*

On October 23-28, 2017, the Louisiana Library Association and the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) will sponsor "Lawyers in Libraries" events across the state in support of the National Pro Bono Celebration. Attorney volunteers will provide "Ask-a-Lawyer" sessions, or educational presentations, free of charge to library patrons.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP to be the Lawyer in your local Library.**

To participate in a "Lawyers in Libraries" event, contact the LSBA Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0106 or (800)421-5722, ext. 106, or email [Nicole.Louque@lsba.org](mailto:Nicole.Louque@lsba.org). More info on the project can be found at: [www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org](http://www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org)

Special thanks to all the participating attorneys helping to make this project a success.

# More LSBA attorney volunteers sought for participation in *LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org*

*LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org* is the online pro bono website that connects low-income individuals with attorneys. Through the website, attorney volunteers are able to log in whenever and wherever they like and anonymously respond to legal questions submitted by individuals who could not otherwise afford to consult an attorney.

The Louisiana State Bar Association is seeking more attorney volunteers.

The American Bar Association provides malpractice insurance for any legal advice given through the site.

In order to qualify for the site, users



must meet certain income eligibility requirements —must be age 18 or older; not currently in jail or prison; have a household income within 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and have less than \$6,000 in assets.

The LSBA is partnering in this initiative as another means to expand legal ser-

vices to the poor or working poor in the state who currently cannot be assisted by the established civil legal aid community for various reasons — federal restrictions on income eligibility; restrictions on accepted case types; and/or logistical challenges in accessing legal services.

To volunteer or learn more, go to the LSBA's Access to Justice webpage, <https://www.lsba.org/atj>. Or contact Rachael Mills with the Access to Justice Department at (504)619-0104 or email [rachael.mills@lsba.org](mailto:rachael.mills@lsba.org).



## #yourLSBA: A Pro Bono Hero *Providing Justice for ALL*

‘Without society men could not live, and without laws men could not be sociable, and without authority somewhere invested, to judge according to Law, and execute according to judgment, Law was a vain and void thing.’

– Henry Parker, *Tracts on Liberty by the Levellers of their Cities*

“ In the above-quoted volume, Mr. Parker, thought to be one of the first persons to use the term pro bono publico, reasons that without law and a means by which to justly execute it, society cannot function. For me, pro bono work brings the “Law” to those persons who otherwise could not benefit from it. ”

**R. Gary Higgins, Jr., Attorney at Law**  
Covington, LA

