



SPEAKER BIOS

Eric K. Barefield is Ethics Counsel for the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA). A graduate of Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Barefield began his professional career as an Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish. He later served as Deputy Disciplinary Counsel with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and was responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct. He joined the LSBA staff in 2005, working first with the Practice Assistance Program's alternatives to discipline. Eric is responsible for the LSBA's Ethics Advisory Service which is comprised of attorneys across the state along with Ethics Counsel and provides confidential non-binding ethics opinions to Louisiana licensed attorneys.

Tad Bartlett is special counsel and the head of the appellate practice group at Fishman Haygood, LLP. Before this position, he was a partner at Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison for more than a decade. A former judicial law clerk to the Hon. James Dennis at the US. Fifth Court of Appeals, Tad is also adjunct faculty at Tulane Law School, where he has team-taught an annual seminar in Coastal Law Litigation and Policy. He is also a many-times published and award-winning writer of fiction, creative-non-fiction, and poetry, with multiple Pushcart nominations and an essay named a "Notable" essay by *2017 Best American Essays*.

Austin Benton is a practicing attorney at the law firm of Benton, Benton & Benton and focuses on domestic and civil litigation. He is also the owner of the legal technology company, Ayla, LLC. Ayla designs and builds document automation systems for practitioners of personal injury, family, successions, criminal, foreclosure, and commercial defense work. Ayla is utilized by firms located in Louisiana (including McGlinchey Stafford), New York, Texas, Florida, Mississippi, California, and Ohio. Austin works with over 100 law firms to assist in increasing productivity and decreasing the time required to generate simple and complex legal and administrative documents. Austin is also a member of the Access to Justice Technology Subcommittee.

John V. Cattie, Jr. is the Managing Member of Cattie & Gonzalez, P.L.L.C. His law firm focuses on lien resolution and government benefit preservation. John's office works with clients nationwide to verify, resolve, and satisfy reimbursement obligations associated with Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, Medicaid, Veterans' Administration (VA), Tricare, and other agencies and organizations which assert reimbursement rights for medical expenses. His firm also helps protect future entitlement to health insurance plans like Medicare and Medicaid after a workers' compensation, auto, liability insurance, or no-fault insurance settlement. John received his BA from the University of North Carolina and his JD/MBA from Villanova University. In his spare time, John also serves as the COO of Veloci-Docs, a document review software company providing electronic document review solutions to the legal and insurance industries.

Katherine Crouch is the founder of the New Orleans firm, Crouch Law LLC, where she practices criminal defense. She describes herself as a fighter for the underdog and is committed to finding second chances for her clients. A law graduate of Loyola, she currently serves as the vice chair of the LSBA's Solo and Small Firms and is also a contract attorney for the Orleans Public Defender Conflict Panel and the New Orleans Independent Police Monitor.

Wil Frank is a vice president of trial strategy with Legal Graphicworks. He carries 30 years' experience in the litigation support industry with technological expertise of deposition videography and editing, graphics design and live streaming of trials, hearings and arbitrations. His primary focus is providing trial presentation consulting. A native New Orleansian, Wil is a former U.S. Marine Corps Combat Engineer.

Shawn L. Holahan is the LSBA's Practice Management Counsel, and administers its fee dispute arbitration program. A former member of the ABA's LP Publishing Board, TECHSHOW Planning Board, LP State and Local Outreach Committee, she serves as an editor for the ABA's Law Practice Today e-magazine. She is also a former Chair of the Practice Management Advisors of North America. Prior to her position at the bar, she was a partner with a medium sized law firm in New Orleans (labor and employment matters primarily) and had completed two federal clerkships in the USDC (E.D. La.). A frequent speaker on law office management and technology, she has also written related articles in the Louisiana Bar Journal and other publications. She is the author of *Hanging Out Your Shingle, Louisiana Style*.

Elizabeth S. Meneray, a long-time member of the LSBA's Solo and Small Firms Section, recently accepted an appointment as a Domestic Hearing Officer for the 24th Judicial District Court. Prior to her appointment, she dedicated her practice to family law, including adoption, divorce, child custody, child and spousal support, and community property matters. A family law mediator trained in collaborative divorce practice, Liz regularly speaks on family law and professionalism topics for the LSBA. She currently serves on the Executive Board of the LSBA's Family Law Committee and has annually been named a top family lawyer by *New Orleans Magazine* and enjoys the designation, "Super Lawyer" by *Super Lawyers Magazine*. A New Orleans native with many community interests, Liz has hosted an all-vinyl jazz program on WWOZ radio for over 20 years.

Amanda Moeller is the vice president of strategic accounts for Legal Graphicworks. After obtaining her law degree from LSU, she practiced with New Orleans firms, was a career counselor with Tulane Law School and has been with Legal Graphicworks for the last seven years.

Sharon Nelson, a practicing attorney and **John Simek** founded Sensei Enterprises, Inc. which provides digital forensics and cybersecurity services nationwide. Noted authors of several books on cybersecurity and technology for lawyers, Sharon and John have spoken at the LSBA's Solo, Small Firm & TECH conferences and the LSBA's COVID webinars last year as well as other LSBA seminars as well as for conferences nationwide, including the ABA's TECHSHOW.

Tom O'Connor of Gulf Coast Legal Technology Center is a nationally known expert, consultant, speaker and writer on computerized litigation support systems. A New England native (now New Orleans "native") with an undergraduate degree in political science from The Johns Hopkins University and a JD degree, he supports complex litigation with his expertise on technology issues. He has been appointed by various federal and state courts on cases involving large amounts of electronic evidence. His expertise is also sought for negotiating ESI exchange protocols. He is the author of *The Automated Law Firm: A Guide to Computer Systems and Software* and *The Lawyers Guide to Summation and E-Discovery for Small Cases*, both published by the ABA. Tom's professional accolades include the inaugural Betsy Ann Reynolds Award for Excellence in Litigation Support from the Litigation Support Leaders Conference and the inaugural Scarpitti Award for Professional Achievement from the Masters Conference.

Leonor Prieto went into the practice of law fifteen years ago with the purpose of advocating for people confronted with family disputes, storm losses, employment disputes, and long term illness. Having personal experience with these kinds of legal issues, she understands that for clients these matters are not just business, they're personal. She represents clients in connection with storm claims, successions, family law, employment, basic estate planning and property management. A law graduate of Loyola, she currently serves as the Chair of the LSBA's Solo and Small Firms Section and as a member of the LSBA's Insurance Committee.

Damien Riehl is a lawyer and technologist with experience in complex litigation, digital forensics, and software development. A coder since 1985 and for the web since 1995, Damien clerked for the chief judges of state and federal courts, practiced in complex litigation for over a decade, has led teams of cybersecurity and world-spanning digital forensics investigations, and has led teams in legal-software development. The Minnesota State Bar Association has also appointed Damien to Chair the state's working group on AI and the Unauthorized Practice of Law (UPL). At SALI, the legal data standard, Damien develops and has greatly expanded the taxonomy of over 10,000 legal tags that matter, helping the legal industry's development of AI, analytics, and interoperability. At Fastcase and vLex Group, Damien helps lead the design, development, and expansion of Fastcase's various products, integrating AI-backed technologies (e.g., GPT) to improve legal workflows and to power legal data analytics.

John Simek is the vice president of Sensei Enterprises Inc., a managed IT service provider, digital forensics and managed cybersecurity firm in Fairfax, VA. With a national reputation as a digital forensics technologist, he has testified as an expert witness throughout the U.S. With degrees in engineering and an MBA, he is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional and an EnCase Certified Examiner. He is also a certified ethical hacker, Certified Handheld Examiner, Certified Novell Engineer, Microsoft Certified Professional + Internet, Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, NT Certified Independent Professional, and a Certified Internetwork Professional. He currently provides IT support to hundreds of Washington, DC area law firms, legal entities and corporations. He is a co-host of the Legal Talk Network podcast "Digital Detectives," a co-author of numerous ABA books (including *Locked Down: Practical Information for Lawyers Second Edition*, *Encryption Made Simple for Lawyers*, *Locked Down: Information Security for Lawyers*, *The Electronic Evidence and Discovery Handbook: Forms, Checklists and Guidelines*, *Information Security for Lawyers and Law Firms*, *The 2008-2020 Solo and Small Firm Legal Technology Guides*) and a contributing author of *eDiscovery*, Third Edition (Pennsylvania Bar Institute, 2014). He is a frequent author and speaker on cybersecurity, legal technology and electronic evidence throughout the country.

Rachel Thyre Vogeltanz, a graduate of the University of California at Davis School of Law, didn't plan on being a bankruptcy lawyer, but the economy landed her in a boutique bankruptcy firm and she hit the ground running, with consumer and Chapter 11 work. Except for a criminal law clerkship year at the Louisiana Supreme Court, she has represented bankruptcy clients ever since. Board-certified in consumer bankruptcy by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization and the American Board of Certification, she is a member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). She serves on the editorial board for NACBA's *Consumer Bankruptcy Journal*, on the Standards Committee for the American Board of Certification, and as Secretary for the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization's Bankruptcy Law Advisory Panel. She keeps track of bankruptcy case law as NACBA's Circuit Leader for the Fifth Circuit. Rachel feels fortunate every day to be a consumer advocate and is particularly interested in assisting clients with insurmountable student debt.