

Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this section, visit www.lsba.org/diversity.



The firm of Courington Kiefer & Sommers, L.L.C., presented a shadowing opportunity for students Gabriela T. Guzman and Asia J. Hentkowski. With them is Troy N. Bell.



The firm of Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore, L.L.C., presented a shadowing opportunity for students Ashley A. Berry and Fatima A. Rahman. With them is Darleene Darensbourg-Peters.

19 student interns complete 2016 “Suit Up” Program; shadowing opportunities are assets

The Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program had another successful year with 19 student

interns completing the program. The three-week program (June 13-July 1) included abridged law school sessions; shadowing opportunities at law firms, courts and agencies; and field trips to courts and law schools.

The shadowing component contributes to the overall success of each year’s program.

For more insight into the program, read the article “Strengthening the Pipeline to the Legal Profession” by Darleene Darensbourg-Peters of the law firm of Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore, L.L.C., published in the October/November 2016 *Louisiana Bar Journal* (Focus on Diversity, page 210). Her sons completed this summer’s program. Go to: <https://www.lsba.org/NewsAndPublications/BarJournal.aspx> and click on “Whole Publication.”

Other Suit Up shadowing employers included Liskow & Lewis, P.L.C.; Orleans Public Defenders Office and Chief Defender Derwyn D. Bunton; Orleans Parish Civil

District Court and Judge Piper D. Griffin; 24th Judicial District Court and Judge June Berry Darensburg and Judge Raymond S. Steib, Jr.; Orleans Parish First City Court and Section B Judge Angelique A. Reed; Courington Kiefer & Sommers, L.L.C.; and U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, and Judge Ivan L.R. Lemelle. 🇺🇸



The 24th Judicial District Court and Judge Raymond S. Steib, right, presented a shadowing opportunity for student Deja S. Hansell.

**LSBA DIVERSITY
OUTREACH & INCLUSION**

**DIVERSITY • INCLUSION
PROFESSIONALISM**

For latest news on diversity and inclusion in the profession, visit www.lsba.org/diversity


Nominations being accepted for diversity/inclusion awards through Feb. 28, 2017

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Member Outreach and Diversity Department has opened the nomination period for two awards. The nomination period will end on Feb. 28, 2017.

The LSBA's Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award recognizes individual attorneys and judges who champion the ideals set forth by Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, the first African-American chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, who has exhibited an unwavering commitment to

enhancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

The LSBA's Guardian of Diversity Award recognizes non-profit groups, local and specialty bar associations, and public interest organizations that implement and advance diversity programs to promote and support diversity in the legal community.

Both awards will be presented at the LSBA's Annual Meeting in June 2017. For more information on the awards, go to: <https://www.lsba.org/Members/Awards.aspx>. Click on "Diversity and Inclusion Awards." 

Save the Dates!

North Louisiana Outreach Natchitoches Lights CLE Seminar

- ▶ Dec. 16, 2016
- ▶ Registration: \$25
- ▶ CLE credit hours: 4.0, including 1 hour ethics and 1 hour professionalism
- ▶ More info: <https://www.lsba.org/CLE/CLESeminar.aspx?CLESeminar=94c984d9-dbf1-4430-9d1b-f94edff48ff4>

Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

- ▶ "Diversity is Good for Everyone"
- ▶ March 24, 2017
- ▶ New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal St.
 - ▶ More info: <https://www.lsba.org/Diversity/DiversityConclave.aspx>


Speaker Highlights

▶ **Keynote speaker:** Samuel Reeves, SVP and senior counsel at Walmart Stores, Inc., nationally recognized advocate for diversity in the legal industry.

▶ **Diversity and Inclusion Workshop Presenter:** Shawn C. Marsh, Ph.D., director of judicial studies and associate professor of communication studies and social psychology, University of Nevada-Reno.

LBSL-certified specialists being offered hardship CLE exemption

Specialists certified by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBSL) who experienced substantial flood damage to their homes and/or offices can take advantage of

a specialization CLE hardship exemption for 2016. Contact LBSL Executive Director Barbara Shafranski at (504)619-0128 or email barbara.shafranski@lsba.org. 



DIVERSITY IS GOOD FOR EVERYONE
Register today! 

10TH Anniversary of the Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

Friday, March 24, 2017

New Orleans Marriott • 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

For the past nine years, the Louisiana State Bar Association has convened a "Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession," as a "conclave" signifies "an assembly or gathering, especially one that has special authority, power or influence." Join the LSBA for the 10th anniversary celebration of the Diversity Conclave on **March 24, 2017, in New Orleans**, with keynote speaker Samuel Reeves (senior vice president and counsel at Walmart, Inc.), workshop presenter Dr. Shawn Marsh and other dignitaries. **Reserve your spot and register before Feb. 17, 2017**, for a discounted rate - visit <https://www.lsba.org/diversity/DiversityConclave.aspx>.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available - deadline December 16, 2016.