

**2022 Suit Up for the Future High School Summer
Legal Institute and Intern Program**

June 13, 2022 – July 1, 2022

Award-Winning Diversity Pipeline Program

2013 ABA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AWARD RECIPIENT



*Strengthening diversity in the legal profession
A partnership of the Louisiana State Bar Association,
Just the Beginning, and Louisiana Bar Foundation
A Diversity Pipeline Program
New Orleans, Louisiana*



Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.



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WELCOME ADDRESS

The Louisiana State Bar Association and Just the Beginning are pleased to welcome you to their Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program. Through this program, we hope to encourage your interest in the law as a profession and inform you about trailblazers in the law who have paved the way to make it easier for you to become a lawyer. We aim to lead you to work hard, experience life as a law student, and stimulate your interest and knowledge of the legal profession.



About Us

WHAT IS THE “LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION”?



We hope to nurture your interest in law as a profession.

The mission of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is to assist and serve its members in the practice of law, assure access to and aid in the administration of justice, assist the Supreme Court in the regulation of the practice of law, uphold the honor of the courts and the profession, promote the professional competence of attorneys, increase public understanding of and respect for the law, and encourage collegiality among its members.

Through its Diversity Committee, the LSBA is working to assess the level of racial, ethnic, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and disability diversity within all components of the legal profession in Louisiana; identify barriers to the attainment of full and meaningful representation and participation in the legal profession by persons of diverse backgrounds; and propose programs and methods by which the LSBA can most effectively work to remove those barriers and achieve greater diversity.



WHAT IS “JUST THE BEGINNING”?



Just the Beginning (JTB), a diversity pipeline organization, is a multiracial, nonprofit organization comprised of lawyers, judges, and other citizens. It is dedicated to developing and nurturing interest in the law among young persons from various socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds who are underrepresented in the legal profession and supporting their continued advancement. JTB’s long-term goal is to increase racial diversity in the legal profession and on the bench.

Just the Beginning began as a celebration of the integration of the Federal Judiciary on September 19, 1992, in Chicago, Illinois. The celebratory event, titled "Just The Beginning - A Celebration of Integration of the Federal Judiciary," honored Judge James Parsons, the first African-American United States District Court Judge, on his retirement after he devoted thirty-one years on the federal bench.

Building on that celebration, Just the Beginning offers pipeline programs aimed at introducing, cultivating and supporting underrepresented students as they travel the path towards the legal profession. JTB’s programs include its Middle School Law Camp, Summer Legal Institutes for high school students and judicial externship programs for law school students. JTB tracks and supports its students from middle school to high school, college, law school, and beyond. JTB partners with a broad and diverse coalition of bar associations, law firms and law schools to host these programs around the country and to sponsor national conferences held every two years in different cities.



“Law and order exist for the purpose of establishing justice and when they fail in this purpose, they become the dangerously structured dams that block the flow of social progress.”

2022 SUMMER LEGAL INSTITUTE

SCHOLARS

Name	Grade	School
Lindsay M. Bickham	First-Year College	Ursuline Academy
Olivia M. Cassreino	First-Year College	St. Mary's Dominican High School
Samuel R. Danzig	12 th Grade	Metairie Park Country Day
Lonzo L. Hamilton Jr.	12 th Grade	Saint Augustine High School
Abigail C. Hu	12 th Grade	Benjamin Franklin High School
Isabella A. Mantilla	12 th Grade	Academy of Sacred Heart
Evanston L. Markey	12 th Grade	Holy Cross High School & NOCCA
Madeleine P. Morrison	12 th Grade	Isidore Newman School
Brinley B. Pethe	12 th Grade	Haynes Academy of Advanced Studies
Dylan G. Rhoton	11 th Grade	Brother Martin High School
Warren M. Stevens	12 th Grade	Saint Augustine High School
Myla A. Stovall	12 th Grade	Cabrini High School
Nathan T. Vatter	First-Year College	Jesuit High School
Selae J. Walker	First-Year College	St. Mary's Dominican High School

2022 Suit Up for the Future Program Agenda

Week One

Monday, June 13, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in Suit Up Photo IDs
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome Presenter: H. Minor Pipes, III, LSBA Immediate Past President 2021-22
9:15 am – 9:45 am	Welcome Choose Law Video (American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division) Presenter: Hon. Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning (JTB)
9:45 am – 10:30 am	Welcome Orientation/Program Overview Introduction of Interns Presenter: Members of Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-Chair(s) Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Janell M. McFarland-Forges, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit; Suit Up Interns
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Break Suit Up Photo IDs
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Icebreaker Presenter: Members of Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-Chair(s) Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Janell M. McFarland-Forges, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit; Suit Up Interns
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Introduction of Mock Problem for Oral Argument Presenter: Members of Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-chair(s) Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Janell M. McFarland-Forges, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit

11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch Suit Up Photo IDs
12:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Legal Research and Writing Presenter: Professor Emily A. Bishop, Westerfield Fellow, Writing Instructor and Lawyering Program Co-Director, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
1:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Mock Legal Problem/Questions; Mock Legal Argument Team Assignments; Suit Up Evaluation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Memorandum Outline Preparation Discussion of Mock Problem and Case Law Presenter: Suit Up Interns
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Contracts Presenter: Professor Kenya J.H. Smith, Freddie Pitcher, Jr. Endowed Professor of Law, Southern University Law Center
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Memorandum and Oral Argument Preparation Viewing of Past Oral Arguments Presenter: Suit Up Interns

11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Statutory Interpretation Presentation Presenter: Kristen A. Lee, City of New Orleans; Micah C. Zeno, Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett McCollam Duplantis & Egan, LLC; Bianca N. Moore, Orleans Criminal District Court
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Memorandum Outline Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Thursday, June 16, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in MEMO OUTLINE ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE
9:00 am – 10:45 am	Oral Argument Workshop: How to Deliver an Oral Argument Presenter: Professor Jeffrey C. Brooks, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Travel to field trip: Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 7214 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Lunch at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
12:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Loyola University New Orleans College of Law Presentation and Tour Presenter: Christina M. Jackson, MBA, Admissions Counselor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law; and Carly M. Greenfield, JD, Admissions Counselor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Travel to field trip: Tulane University Law School 6329 Freret St., New Orleans, LA

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Tulane University Law School Presentation and Tour Presenter: Emily Wojna-Hodnett, Assistant Director of Admissions, Tulane Law School; Julia Martin, JD, Assistant Director of Admissions, Tulane Law School
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Friday, June 17, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in DRAFT OF RESUME ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Travel to United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED/CELL PHONES NOT PERMITTED) Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., Courtroom B437, New Orleans, LA
9:15 am – 12:00 pm	Federal Court Presentation, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana Presenter: Honorable Karen Wells Roby, Chief Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
12:00 pm – 12:15 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
12:15 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm – 1:45 pm	Law School Admission Preparation Presenter: Daphne A. James, Director of Admissions, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law School
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Break
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Memorandum Outline Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Week Two

Monday, June 20, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in DRAFT OF MEMO ASSIGNMENT DUE
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
11:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Law School Admission Preparation The Ultimate Guide to Succeeding in Law School Presenter: Kimberly R. Silas, Author, The Ultimate Guide to Succeeding in Law School, Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One) Presenter: Suit Up Interns
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Job Shadowing Lunch, Louisiana Bar Center (Invitation to attorneys, firms, courts, and agencies providing a shadowing opportunity)
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to field trip: Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office 619 S. White St., New Orleans, LA

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	District Attorney Presentation and Tour Presenter: Jason Williams, District Attorney, Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

8:30 am – 4:30 pm	Shadow Placement Day (Do NOT come to the Louisiana Bar Center!) Go directly to assigned locations.
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Thursday, June 23, 2022

8:30 am – 4:30 pm	Shadow Placement Day (Do NOT come to the Louisiana Bar Center!) Go directly to assigned locations.
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Friday, June 24, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in FINAL RESUME ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Travel to field trip and Security Check: Orleans Parish Criminal District Court 2700 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA STUDENT ID REQUIRED/MOBILE PHONES NOT PERMITTED
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Orleans Parish Criminal District Court 2700 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA STUDENT ID REQUIRED/MOBILE PHONES NOT PERMITTED Presenter: Honorable Tracey E. Flemings-Davillier, Section B, Orleans Parish Criminal District Court
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Week Three

Monday, June 27, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in FINAL MEMO ASSIGNMENT DUE
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to Field Trip and Security Check: Louisiana Supreme Court 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA STUDENT ID REQUIRED/MOBILE PHONES NOT PERMITTED
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Tour of Louisiana Supreme Court, Library, and Museum Presenter: Miriam D. Childs, Director, Louisiana Supreme Court Library Robert Gunn, Louisiana Supreme Court, Deputy Judicial Administrator/Community Relations
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to field trip: Orleans Public Defenders Office 2601 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Orleans Public Defenders Office Presentation and Tour Presenter: Derwyn Bunton, Chief District Defender and Robert Jones, Director of Community Outreach, Orleans Parish Public Defenders Office
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Oral Argument Preparation
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Travel to lunch – Shake Shack 333 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Lunch – Shake Shack Presenter: Shake Shack – Canal, Lunch Sponsor
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
12:30 pm – 12:45 pm	Break
12:45 pm – 1:30 pm	Suit Up Jeopardy
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Thursday, June 30, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Suit Up Evaluation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Friday, July 01, 2022

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Final Oral Argument Preparation
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Travel to United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED/ CELL PHONES NOT PERMITTED)
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Oral Argument Presentation United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center

1:15 pm – 1:45 pm	Lunch and Suit Up Survey, Louisiana Bar Center Deliberation by Judges
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED/ CELL PHONES NOT PERMITTED)
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Award Ceremony (Judges' Overall Impressions of Presentations, Oral Argument Award(s), Memorandum Award(s), and Certificates of Completion)
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

FEDERAL FIRSTS

FEMALE JUDGES

In 1934, **Florence Allen (Deceased)** became the first woman to serve on a U.S. Court of Appeals. She was appointed to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit in 1934.

In 1949, **Burnita Shelton Matthews (Deceased)** became the first woman to serve on a U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

In 1981, **Sandra Day O'Connor** became the first female justice of the United States Supreme Court.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN JUDGES

In 1950, **William Henry Hastie (Deceased)** became the first African American to serve as an Article III judge and was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

In 1961, **James B. Parsons (Deceased)** became the first African American to serve on a U.S. District Court, appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

In 1966, **Constance Baker Motley (Deceased)** became the first African American woman to serve on a U.S. District Court, when she was appointed to the Southern District of New York.

In 1967, **Thurgood Marshall (Deceased)**, was appointed as the first African American justice on the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 2022, **Kentaji Brown Jackson**, was appointed as the first African American woman justice on the Supreme Court of the United States.

ASIAN JUDGES

In 1971, **Herbert Choy (Deceased)** became the first Asian American to serve as a U.S. Court of Appeals judge when he was appointed to the Ninth Circuit.

In 1975, **Dick Wong (Deceased)** became the first Asian American to serve on a U.S. District Court when he was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii.

In 1998, **Susan Oki Mollway** became the first Asian American woman to serve on a U.S. District Court when she was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii.

LATINO JUDGES

In 1961, **Reynaldo G. Garza (Deceased)** became the first Latino federal judge, appointed to the U.S.

District Court for the Southern District of Texas, and the first Latino Court of Appeals judge, appointed to the Fifth Circuit in 1979.

In 1980, **Carmen C. Cerezo**, became the first Latina Article III judge appointed to the U.S. District Court for Puerto Rico.

In 2009, **Sonia Sotomayor** became the first Latino American justice to be appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

NATIVE AMERICAN JUDGES

In 1979, **Frank Howell Seay** became the first Native American federal judge when he was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma.

In 2014, **Diane Humetewa** became the first female Native American federal judge when she was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona.

JTBF MEMBER JUDGES IN LOUISIANA- BIOGRAPHIES

CARL E. STEWART, U.S. FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS



Carl E. Stewart, born in 1950, is a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Appointed by President Bill Clinton in 1994, Judge Stewart previously sat on Louisiana's Second Court of Appeal and served as an accomplished judge, attorney, prosecutor, and professor. Judge Stewart, who has been honored multiple times for his commitment to community service, is the first African-American ever to serve on the Fifth Circuit as it is currently constituted.

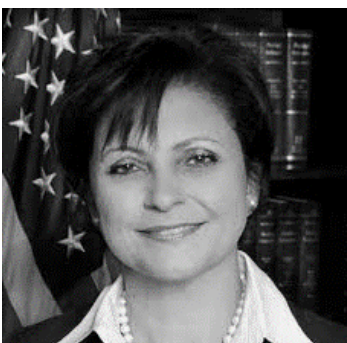
IVAN L. R. LEMELLE, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE - RETIRED



On May 13, 1998, President Clinton appointed Judge Ivan L. R. Lemelle to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Immediately prior to his appointment as a United States District judge, Judge Lemelle served for more than a decade as a United States Magistrate Judge (1984-1998). His appointment in 1984 made him the first African-American United States Magistrate Judge in the Louisiana Federal Courts.

Judge Lemelle was educated at Xavier University of Louisiana, where he received his Bachelor of Science, *cum laude*, in 1971. He received numerous scholarships to attend Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans, where he received his Juris Doctorate in 1974.

NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE



Nannette Jolivette Brown is a United States District Judge on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. She served as City Attorney for the City of New Orleans until becoming a Federal Judge in 2011. As City Attorney, Judge Brown had been responsible for all city contracts and oversaw all legal matters for the city.

Judge Brown received a Bachelor of Arts degree from University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1985 and later attended Tulane Law School, where she received a Juris Doctorate degree in 1988 and a Master of Laws in Energy and Environment in 1998.

On March 2, 2011, Judge Brown was nominated by President Barack Obama to fill the seat of Judge Stanwood Duval. The United States Senate confirmed her appointment by unanimous consent on October 3, 2011. She received her judicial commission the following day. Judge Brown is the first African American female to serve as a District Judge on the court.

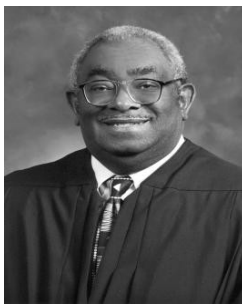
KAREN WELLS ROBY, U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE



Judge Karen Wells Roby is a Federal Magistrate Judge on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Judge Karen Wells Roby was appointed to serve as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana on October 16, 1998; she took her oath of office on February 22, 1999, and began her service as a Federal Magistrate Judge.

Judge Roby is the Immediate Past President of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association, a 600-member organization of United States federal judges, and the first African American Woman to serve in this leadership capacity. Judge Roby is also the First African American female to serve on the federal bench in Louisiana. Judge Roby, in addition to helping to coordinate this program, is a speaker and mock trial judge of the Law School Summer School and Intern Program and a Professor at Tulane Law School. She also has traveled to Kenya as a part of the Lawyers Without Borders program and brought U.S. Case Management Best Practices to Magistrates in Kenya.

LOUIS MOORE JR., U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE - RETIRED



Judge Louis Moore, Jr. served as a federal magistrate judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. He was appointed as a federal magistrate judge in 1985. Formerly, Judge Moore was an assistant U.S. attorney and a federal public defender in the Eastern District of Louisiana. Judge Moore also served as an assistant district attorney and an assistant public defender in Orleans Parish.

A native of Bogalusa, Judge Moore earned a B.A. degree from Southern University and a J.D. degree from Southern University Law Center. Judge Moore was inducted into the SULC Hall of Fame in 2006. His portrait was among the first unveiled for the SULC's Judicial Wall of Fame in 2011.

Judge Louis Moore, Jr. retired after twenty-seven years of service.

RALPH E. TYSON, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE - DECEASED



Ralph E. Tyson served as a United States federal judge. Born in 1948, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Judge Tyson received a B.A. from Louisiana State University in 1970 and a J.D. from Louisiana State University Law Center in 1973. He was in private practice from 1973 to 1988. He served as an Adjunct Professor at Louisiana State University Law School from 1989 to 1991. He served as a Professor in the Sociology/Law Enforcement Department at Southern University from 1989 to 1998. He was a judge on the Baton Rouge City Court from 1988 to 1993. He was a judge on the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, East Baton Rouge Parish from 1993 to 1998. In late 1998 he was appointed by President Bill Clinton to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana. There he served as chief judge from 2005 to 2011.

BRIAN A. JACKSON, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE - CHIEF JUDGE, MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA



Judge Brian A. Jackson received his J.D. from Southern University School of Law, where he served as the editor-in-chief of the Southern University Law Review, and his LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center. Judge Jackson was a member of the U.S. Department of Justice for over sixteen years, during which he practiced law as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, an Associate Deputy Attorney General, and as the court-appointed United States Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana. In 2002, he entered private practice as a partner at the law firm of Liskow & Lewis, where he practiced in the firm's Commercial Litigation section. He also served as chair of Liskow's White-Collar Defense Practice Group and a member of the firm's Board of Directors.

On October 29, 2009, President Barack Obama formally nominated Jackson as District Judge and the Senate confirmed Judge Jackson on June 15, 2010. On July 25, 2011, upon the death of Chief Judge Ralph E. Tyson, he became Chief Judge of the court. In 2013, Judge Jackson was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to serve on the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Judge Jackson is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the National Association of Former United States Attorneys, and a member of the Federal Judges Association. He previously served on the Admissions Committee for the Louisiana Supreme Court and wrote the examination on Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Evidence during this time.

Just the Beginning

Learn more about the JTB Judicial Externship Program by going to www.jtbf.org.



"It is the spirit and not the form of law that keeps justice alive."

Earl Warren

PROGRAM SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Denia S. Aiyegbusi is a partner at Deutsch Kerrigan LLP. As part of the firm's civil litigation department, Ms. Aiyegbusi works on cases ranging anywhere from small property subrogation claims, all the way to multi-million dollar, traumatic, brain injury, personal injury cases.

Ms. Aiyegbusi has successfully argued motions in both state and federal courts throughout Louisiana. As an appellate lawyer, she has successfully argued in the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal and briefed to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Ms. Aiyegbusi graduated from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2007. In 2016 and 2017, she was on the "Louisiana Rising Star" list. She currently serves as co-chair on LSBA's Diversity Committee and is also involved with the Minority Involvement Section.



Troy N. Bell was admitted to practice law in 1990 and is admitted to practice before all federal and state courts in Louisiana. He received his B.A. from Loyola University in 1985 and his J.D. from Southern University Law Center 1990, where he was an Associate Editor of the Law Review. In addition to his varied litigation experience, he was privileged to serve as law clerk for the Honorable Revius Ortique Jr., Associate Justice, and the Honorable Felicia Toney Williams, Associate Justice *Pro Tempore* of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Mr. Bell has served as an Administrative Law Judge for the City of New Orleans and on national and regional trial teams for national clients. He has tried numerous cases throughout Louisiana and Mississippi, managed thousands of complex mass tort claims, and been appointed co-chair of the Louisiana State Bar Association Diversity Committee.



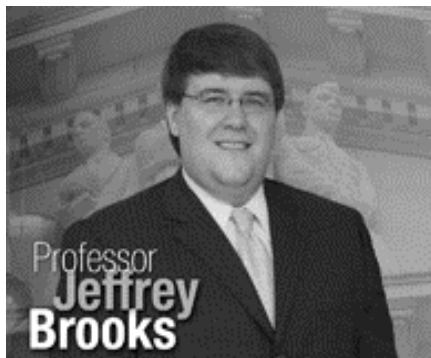
Adrija Bhattacharjee, originally from New Orleans, is a rising junior at the University of Rochester, majoring in Political Science and Bioethics with a minor in Gender & Women's Studies. She currently serves as the President of the Undergraduate Students Association Government, works as an Alumni Volunteer Program Assistant at the Greene Center for Career Education and Connections, and is a Student Alumni Ambassador for the Office of Alumni Relations. Ms. Bhattacharjee's main focus is bringing awareness to minority representation and diversity initiatives and she looks forward to exploring the relationship between health and the law with the hopes to attend law school.



Professor Emily Bishop earned her J.D., *cum laude*, from New York University School of Law and her undergraduate degree, *summa cum laude*, in American Studies from Georgetown University. While in law school, Professor Bishop interned for The Honorable Ricardo Urbina on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. She served as the Senior Notes Editor of the *New York University Law Review*, and her student Note, “A Child’s Expertise: Establishing Statutory Protection for Intersexed Children Who Reject Their Gender of Assignment,” was published in May 2007.

After graduation, Professor Bishop clerked for The Honorable Shirley Wohl Kram on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She then practiced for three years at the Washington, DC office of WilmerHale LLP in the areas of Securities Litigation and Securities Enforcement. Her pro bono work focused on reproductive rights litigation.

Professor Bishop has been teaching at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law since 2013. She is currently the Co-Director of the Lawyering program and teaches courses on legal research, objective legal writing, persuasive legal writing, and oral advocacy. Since 2018, Professor Bishop has served as the faculty advisor for Loyola’s ABA Moot Court Team. Her article, “Avoiding ‘Ally Theater’ in Legal Writing Assignments,” was published in 2018 in the legal writing journal *Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing*. Currently, Professor Bishop serves as a Managing Editor for *The Second Draft*, a publication of the Legal Writing Institute.



Professor Jeffrey Brooks joined the LSU Law Center faculty in 2010. He is the faculty director of the Law Center’s Field Placement Program and of its moot court, mock trial, and alternative dispute resolution program (the Advocacy Program).

Prior to joining the Law Center faculty, Professor Brooks practiced law as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Special Federal Litigation Division of the New York City Law Department.

Professor Brooks is a 2006 graduate of Tulane University Law School, where he was named to the Order of the Barristers. While at Tulane, he was the Senior Notes and Comments Editor of the *Journal of Law and Sexuality*, a Senior Justice on Tulane’s Moot Court Board, the President of its Public Interest Law Society, and a member of Tulane’s Jessup International Law Moot Court Team and National Environmental Law Moot Court Team. Professor Brooks received a B.A. in Geography-Anthropology from Vassar College in 2003.

Professor Brooks is highly active in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the world’s largest moot court competition, as a judge and administrator. He is the

author of the 2017 Jessup Problem, the *Case Concerning the Sisters of the Sun*, and was the recipient of the competition's 2016 Pamela Young Award and 2015 Steven M. Schneebaum Award. Professor Brooks is an active licensed member of the New York State Bar.



Derwyn Bunton is the Chief District Defender for Orleans Parish (New Orleans) Louisiana leading the Orleans Public Defenders Office (OPD). Appointed in 2009, Derwyn has led OPD to be among the most highly regarded public defense programs in the country and a leading voice for public defense and criminal justice reform. He serves on the executive leadership committee of the National Association for Public Defense and is the 2015 recipient of the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' prestigious Justice Albert Tate Award. Prior to his current role, Derwyn was the Executive Director of Juvenile Regional Services, the first stand-alone juvenile defender office in the nation and the first non-profit law office devoted to juvenile justice reform and front-line juvenile representation. Derwyn earned his J.D. from New York University School of Law.



Miriam Childs has been the Director of the Law Library of Louisiana in New Orleans since May 2016. She started with the Law Library in 2003 as an assistant librarian responsible for serials and acquisitions. In 2006, Ms. Childs was promoted to Head of Technical Services, and then to Associate Director in 2013. During her tenure at the Law Library, Ms. Childs has provided support to all areas of library operations, including staff management and training; cataloging; database maintenance; reference and research services; government documents; and preservation.

Her previous positions include serials librarian at the University of New Orleans, reference and collection management librarian at Jefferson Parish Public Library, and assistant librarian at Exxon Chemical Baton Rouge. Ms. Childs received her B.A. in History from Louisiana State University in 1992 and her M.L.I.S. from Louisiana State University in 1993.



Rebecca Coman is the Director of Education and Training for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. She coordinates and facilitates training, continuing legal education, educational outreach, and naturalization programs for the Court and serves as the Court's employment dispute resolution coordinator. Prior to her employment at the Eastern District of Louisiana, she practiced personal injury law at the Law Office of Robert Angelle, The Young Firm, and Morris Bart, LLC. She also clerked for the Honorable Ross P. Ladart at the 24th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Jefferson.

She received her law degree from LSU's Paul M. Hebert Law Center, where she was named to the

Chancellor's List, and her bachelor's degree in International Trade and Finance with a minor in Economics from LSU's E. J. Ourso College of Business, where she was named Outstanding Student by the Economics Department. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and taking aerial arts and pole fitness classes.



On April 1, 2006, the **Honorable June Berry Darensburg** was elected Judge to the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District Court, Division C, for the Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana. She was re-elected without opposition in July 2008, August 2014, and July 2020. Judge Darensburg is the first African-American female elected to a judgeship in Jefferson Parish.

Judge Darensburg is a 1980 graduate of Grace King High School. Pursuing her first career ambition, she enrolled at Xavier University of Louisiana where she majored in Pharmacy. She received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Xavier in 1985.

While working as a Pharmacist, Judge Darensburg developed an interest in the law. She attended Loyola University College of Law full time, while working part time as a Pharmacist. In December 1994, Judge Darensburg graduated from Loyola. She worked in private practice, and was employed by the Jefferson Parish Indigent Defender Board providing legal services to those unable to afford representation. She was also employed as an Associate Attorney by The LeBlanc Butler Law Firm where she was a litigator in the areas of Products Liability and Insurance Defense.

Judge Darensburg is a member of the National Bar Association, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, National Association of Women Judges, American Bar Association, Louisiana State Bar Association, Louisiana Judicial Council-NBA, Louisiana District Judges Association, Fifth Circuit Judges Association, Fourth and Fifth Circuit Judges Association, Jefferson Bar Association, Louis A. Martinet Society and Louisiana Pharmacy Association.

She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Westwego Rotary Club, the Xavier University Investigational Review Board, Leadership Jefferson Task Force and Loyola Law Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Judge Darensburg presides over civil, criminal and domestic cases, and volunteers as an Intensive Probation Drug Court Judge. She currently serves as Chairwoman of the LJC/NBA and Treasurer of LJCF/NBA. She served as Chief Judge of the 24th Judicial District Court from January 1, 2014 until December 31, 2015.



Casie Z. Davidson is a Partner at Simon Peragine Smith & Redfearn and is a member of the firm’s general liability and commercial litigation section. She represents institutional and corporate clients in trucking and transportation litigation, premises liability and contract disputes, insurance coverage litigation, and related matters. She earned her J.D. from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center and her B.A., magna cum laude, from the University of Georgia.



Judge Nakisha Ervin-Knott was elected to Orleans Civil District Court, Division “D”, on November 4, 2014, and re-elected on July 24, 2020, with no opposition. On July 22, 2022, Judge Ervin-Knott was elected to the Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit, Division “A” without opposition. Prior to being elected, Judge Ervin-Knott was a partner in the law firm of Gainsburgh, Benjamin, David, and Meunier & Warshauer. In fact, she was the first African-American female partner in the history of the more than 70-year-old firm. Her practice focused on medical malpractice, personal injury, and class action matters. Before joining the firm, she served as a staff counsel for LAMMICO, the largest insurer of health care providers in the state.

Currently, Judge Ervin-Knott serves on the board of the Louisiana District Judges Association and Board of Governors of the Louisiana Judicial College; Past-President of the Fourth Circuit Judges Association; Vice-Chair of the Louisiana Supreme Court Technology Commission; Chair of the Orleans Parish Civil District Court's Information Technology Committee; and Coordinator/Presenter of new judge training for judges within the State of Louisiana. She is also a member of the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Association of Women Attorneys, A.P. Tureaud Inn of Court, and is Board Chair of Hotel Hope, a nonprofit, interfaith organization that provides housing to women and their children in a safe and loving atmosphere while guiding them to self-sufficiency and self-empowerment through intensive case management.

Judge Ervin-Knott received her Juris Doctor from Southern University Law Center, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Xavier University of Louisiana, in New Orleans, Louisiana, graduating cum laude. She is married to Steven Knott, and they are the proud parents of two boys, Devin and Dylan Knott, ages 19 and 16.



Alexandrea Flakes is a rising senior at Loyola University New Orleans. She is a graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School. She is majoring in History with a concentration in Pre-Law. Ms. Flakes will attend Loyola Law School after graduation and has held a paralegal position for a burgeoning roadside services and towing business. Ms. Flakes plans to pursue multiple avenues of law before making any final decisions about what area she would like to concentrate on. However, she is currently leaning towards civil rights law.



Judge Tracey Flemings-Davillier has served as a Louisiana State Court Judge since March 2010. She currently serves as Deputy Chief Judge of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, where she has been serving since 2013. Previously, she served as Judge in the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court from 2010 – 2012. Judge Flemings-Davillier serves as the Judicial Liaison over Court Intervention Services, which oversees Drug Court, Domestic Violence Monitoring Court, Mental Health Court, and Pretrial Services. In addition, she serves on the Court’s Rules, Pretrial Services, Legislative, and Magistrate Oversight Committees. Judge Flemings-Davillier has been appointed by Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Johnson (retired) to serve on the Louisiana Judicial College Governing Board and previously on the Louisiana Body Camera Task Force.

As a member of the National Association of Women Judges, Judge Flemings-Davillier serves as Co-Chair of the Domestic Violence Committee. Judge Flemings-Davillier also serves as a member on the Federal Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, the City of New Orleans Blueprint for Safety Committee and the City of New Orleans Criminal Justice Council and Ethnic and Racial Disparities Working Group. Judge Flemings-Davillier has served on various criminal justice reform and judicial/legal related panels. Judge Flemings-Davillier is a member of various Judicial/Bar and civic organizations, including The American Bar Association, The National Bar Association Judicial Council, The Louisiana State Bar Association, The Louisiana District Judges Association (Department of Public Safety & Corrections Committee), The Louisiana Judicial Council, The Fourth and Fifth Circuit Judges Association, The Fourth Circuit Judges Association, The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. and The New Orleans Bar Association.

In recognition for her service to the community, she has been awarded the City Business Leadership in Law Award; Crystal Gavel Award (Louisiana State Bar Association); Gillis Long Poverty Law Center Award (Loyola University School of Law); Woman of the Year, Louisiana Federation of Business and Professional Women; Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated, New Orleans Chapter Mother of the Year Award; Distinguished Service as a Pro Bono Volunteer Award (2003, 2004 and 2006); and Young Leadership Award (Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc.)



Kelly A. Gismondi is an Associate at Simon Peragine Smith & Redfearn and focuses her practice on construction and commercial litigation. She has significant experience in formal and informal court advocacy through plea and sentencing negotiations with judges and district attorneys. After her first year in law school, Ms. Gismondi served as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable John Marshall Kest of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida. She received her J.D., cum laude, from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law; a Master of Education from Lipscomb University; and her B.A. from the University of Central Florida.

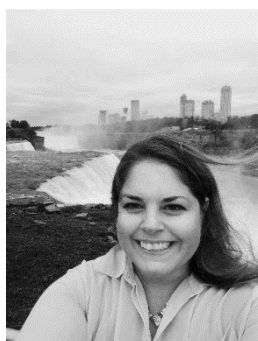


Demarcus J. Gordon is a partner at Kelly Hart and Pitre Attorneys at Law in the oil and gas and environmental litigation sections. He represents clients in general litigation, environmental litigation, environmental due diligence, crisis management, oil and gas litigation, premises liability litigation, and mass tort and class action lawsuits.

Mr. Gordon has particular experience representing clients in cases involving premises liability and personal injury. He works closely with clients to develop litigation and trial plans. He is actively involved in identifying key expert and fact witnesses and preparing them for deposition and trial testimony.

Mr. Gordon has also been involved with the immediate response to crisis or other emergency situations. He has collected initial witness statements, identified potential hazards, collected and preserved evidence, regularly communicated with all potentially interested regulatory agencies, and implemented damage control measures.

He earned his J.D. at St. Louis University in 1997 and graduated from the University of Illinois, B.S., in 1991.



Carly M. Greenfield, JD is originally from Colorado Springs, CO. Ms. Greenfield earned her B.A. in English Literature with an emphasis on creative writing in 2006 from the University of Denver. She graduated from Loyola New Orleans College of Law in 2018 and was admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in 2019. She opened her private practice in 2020. Prior to law school, Ms. Greenfield worked in student services at Ashford University.



Scherri N. Guidry is a native of Opelousas and graduate of Lawtell High School. She obtained her Bachelor's degree from University of Louisiana-Lafayette (then University of Southwestern Louisiana) and went on to receive her Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center.

She is currently working as a Felony Attorney/Defense Attorney with the 15th JDC Drug Treatment Court. She previously served as Staff Attorney for the Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. in Monroe, Louisiana where she handled a wide variety of civil cases. These included Family Law, Consumer Law, employment-related issues, landlord-tenant disputes, contract disputes, and issues involving elderly residents. Ms. Guidry previously practiced as a private attorney in Opelousas.

Prior to engaging in the full-time practice of law, Ms. Guidry was a counselor and mentor in the Upward Bound program at University of Louisiana-Lafayette, an academic enrichment program that prepares first-generation college students and students from economically disadvantaged families for the academic and social challenges of college.

Ms. Guidry is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association's Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession, the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society Lafayette Chapter, the Lafayette Parish Bar Association, Public Defender Association of Louisiana and the National Association of Public Defense Attorneys.



Robert Gunn serves as Deputy Judicial Administrator/Community Relations for the Louisiana Supreme Court. In this role, Mr. Gunn is responsible for managing the operations of the Community Relations Department to further its mission of promoting public trust and confidence in the judiciary via a number of methods including developing community outreach programs to explain the work and role of the judiciary, responding to information requests from both the public and media, designing and producing court publications, updating and maintaining the Court's website, www.lasc.org, and leading tours of the Supreme Court building for school and community groups.

Mr. Gunn previously served as Community Relations Project Coordinator/Website Coordinator for the Supreme Court and was part of the web team which spearheaded the redesign and relaunch of the Supreme Court's website, which in 2005 was awarded a spot on the Top-10 Court Web Sites list by Justice Served, an alliance of court management and justice experts, for being among the best in providing online court services, placing the Court's website as one of the top ten court websites worldwide.

Mr. Gunn holds a BA in Journalism with an emphasis in Public Relations, and a minor in Psychology.



Galen M. Hair is licensed in multiple states and boasts clients from around the world. He has gained a reputation for getting the job done both inside and outside the court room early on in his career.

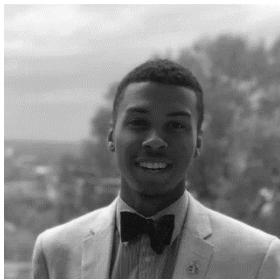
He focuses not only on the litigation in front of the client, but the long term personal and business effects that his clients' issues will cause. His clients are family to him, and it shows.

Mr. Hair is a best-selling author having written "Picking Up the Pieces: Surviving Your Property Insurance Claim" the authoritative handbook written for policyholders about property claims in easy-to-understand language.

He has received numerous accolades and awards including Super Lawyer Rising Star, Top Lawyer by New Orleans Magazine, Pro Bono Publico Award, Martindale Hubbel AV Rating (the highest rating possible), AVVO Client Choice and 10.0 ratings, National Trial Lawyers 40 Under 40, Top 10 Bad Faith Insurance Lawyers, and more.

Mr. Hair is frequently consulted by the media with interviews and articles with nearly every major media outlet. Recently, Inman, the number one real estate publication in the world, picked up an article by Mr. Hair to assist real estate agents in navigating real estate transactions where the building has been affected by a disaster.

Mr. Hair also stays active in non-profits and the community at large. He also is an Assistant Examiner for the Louisiana Bar Exam in Constitutional Law.



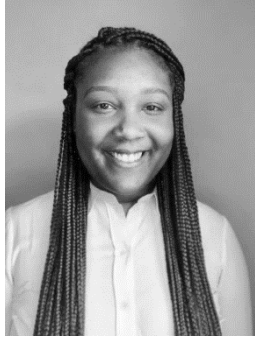
Jereme A. Henry is a 2L at Southern University Law Center. Mr. Henry was born and raised in New Orleans, LA. He attended the University of Tennessee Chattanooga where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. In his spare time, Mr. Henry likes to indulge in golf.



Christina M. Jackson graduated from Loyola University New Orleans College of Business, where she was awarded the 2020-2021 Josie Greco LaNasa Memorial Scholarship. She also received the G. Ralph Smith Award for the Outstanding Master of Business Administration Graduate upon finishing her M.B.A.

Concurrent to the pursuit of her degree, Ms. Jackson completed a two-year Research Assistantship with Dr. Michelle K. Johnston. She assisted with the writing and editing of Dr. Johnston's book titled "The Seismic Shift in

Leadership: How to Thrive in a New Era of Connection” (Advantage Publishing, 2022), for which she penned the Afterword. Prior to joining the College of Law, Ms. Jackson worked for a number of non-profit organizations including the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Kayla Jackson is a rising 3L at Southern University Law Center. She grew up in Los Angeles, CA and attended the University of La Verne where she earned an undergraduate degree in psychology. Ms. Jackson is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. After law school, she hopes to return to Southern California and pursue a law career in intellectual property or technology.



Daphne A. James has over twenty-years’ experience in higher education. Currently, she is the Director of Admissions at the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center. Originally an admissions counselor when she joined the LSU Law staff, Ms. James went on to become the assistant director and associate director prior to assuming her current role in 2020.

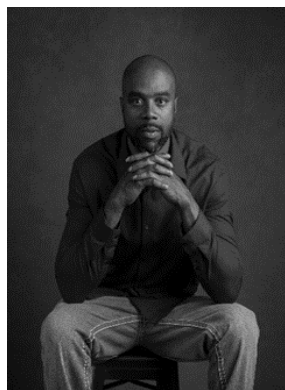
As Director of Admissions, she manages and participates in all admissions activities, including marketing, recruitment, evaluation, counseling/advising, record management, data and statistical analysis, and planning. Ms. James also coordinates admissions and scholarships through a faculty committee and advises the Assistant Dean and Dean regarding issues related to admissions. She works closely with the LSU Law Ambassadors and several other law student organizations and is currently a member of the LSU System Council of Staff Advisors.

Prior to joining the staff at LSU Law Center, Daphne A. James started her higher education career as an admissions counselor at Southeastern Louisiana University. She later became coordinator of scholarship services at Southeastern. Ms. James holds a B.A. and M.A. in History.



Andrew Jones recently joined Division M as Judge Beevers Morvant’s Administrative Assistant. A veteran of the United States Navy’s Submarine Force, Mr. Jones came to the Division after graduating from Loyola University New Orleans with a B.A. in Political Science. His experiences on various ships developed in him a thorough understanding that each facet of daily life is served through collective efforts. As such, he believes all roles within the justice system require the same amount of zeal, prompt professionalism, and attention to detail that are required when returning a ship to port. Whether leading a division through deployments or acting as a liaison between the court and our communities’ attorneys, Mr. Jones believes that, at every

scale, to build a better team one must aim to be a better teammate. He and his wife MaryJane are the proud parents of one son.



Robert Jones is an innocent exoneree from New Orleans, Louisiana who served more than 23.5 years in prison for crimes he did not commit. Since his exoneration in 2017, Robert has been diligently working in the greater New Orleans area as an activist, trying to bring about real changes in the criminal legal system that caused him and his family so much harm. Mr. Jones is currently the Director of Community Outreach at the Orleans Public Defenders (OPD). He joined OPD soon after his exoneration because he understands the importance of providing effective legal representation to all, regardless of race and wealth. Mr. Jones is also the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Free-Dem Foundations, a nonprofit organization that mentors young man at the cusp of young adulthood. He is also an entrepreneur, published author, public speaker, and a respected community activist. Mr. Jones serves on several boards and committees. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Innocence Project New Orleans, an advisory board member of the Center for Racial Justice at Dillard University of New Orleans, a member of the New Orleans City Council Advisory Committee, and a member of New Orleans Voices, a community advisory committee developed to further the goals of the McArthur Safety and Justice Challenge.



Luke P. LaRocca is a Partner at Simon, Peragine, Smith & Redfearn, LLP and concentrates his practice in construction law. A native of Mobile, Alabama, he received his B.S. in Business Management from Tulane University in 2005; and, upon graduation, was commissioned as an Officer in the United States Navy where he worked as a Human Resources Officer. During his time in the Navy, Mr. LaRocca received his Master's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources Management from the University of New Orleans. His service in the military culminated in 2009 as the Enlisted Programs Officer for Naval Recruiting District New Orleans. After his time in the military, he enrolled in Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, where he graduated magna cum laude in 2012.



Kristen A. Lee, a native of New Orleans, is an Assistant City Attorney for the City of New Orleans. She practices general litigation in both state and federal court and civil service appeals. For the previous five years, she served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Regina Bartholomew-Woods at the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. In 2015, Ms. Lee earned a Juris Doctor and Certificate in International Legal Studies from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. As a law student, she served three terms on the Honor Board. In 2012, Ms. Lee

graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from Loyola University New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. In 2018, she received the Loyola University New Orleans Young Alumna of the Year Award.

Her professional affiliations include the Louisiana Bar Association, St. Thomas More American Inn of Court, New Orleans Bar Association, and Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. Ms. Lee serves on the Board of Directors at St. Mary's Dominican High School as well as the Loyola University New Orleans Young Alumni Board. She is driven by Mahatma Gandhi's call to "be the change that you wish to see in the world."



Kellen J. Mathews is a partner in the Baton Rouge office of Adams and Reese LLP. He has a diverse practice, where he focuses on litigation, as well as administrative and regulatory matters. His litigation experience spans numerous areas of law including insurance, construction, government contracting, labor and employment, products liability, and personal injury. In the community, Kellen is a member of the Board of Directors for the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Louisiana and the Executive Committee of C100.



Janell M. McFarland-Forges is a Research Attorney at the Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit. Ms. McFarland-Forges is a native of New Orleans. She graduated from McDonough 35 Senior High School and Loyola University of New Orleans. After graduating from Loyola University New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts degree, she attended Southern University Law Center, earning a Juris Doctor degree. While at Southern, she was a student practitioner in the Civil and Administrative Law Clinic. Prior to graduation, Ms. McFarland-Forges was a judicial extern for the Honorable Roland Belsome of the Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit.

After law school, she served as a teaching assistant and researcher at Xavier University of Louisiana to the Honorable Sandra C. Jenkins of the Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit. She has several years of experience in litigating matters in the areas of casualty and personal injury, products liability, premises liability, and commercial litigation.

Ms. McFarland-Forges is admitted to practice before all Louisiana state and federal courts. She is an active member of the American Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Association, New Orleans Federal Bar Association, New Orleans Bar Association, and the Jefferson Bar Association.



Bianca N. Moore, currently serves as judicial clerk to the Honorable Nandi F. Campbell, Section G Orleans Parish Criminal District Court. In 2016, Bianca Moore graduated from Xavier University of Louisiana, with a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish Language and Literature. In 2019, she received a Juris Doctor and certificate in Social Justice from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. After passing the Louisiana bar in 2019, Bianca dedicated her first two years of practice to representing indigent defendants as staff attorney and ABA bond advocacy fellow at the Orleans Public Defender’s Office.

During law school, Bianca served as the 2017-2018 President of the A.P. Tureaud Chapter of BLSA, 2018-2019 Trial Advocacy President, and 2018-2019 Moot Court First Amendment coach. In 2019, she was inducted into the St. Thomas More Inn of Courts and Order of Barristers and received the inaugural Harry Herman Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy. Bianca currently serves as Board Member for Southeastern Louisiana Legal Services, President-elect of The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Foundation and Legal Society, co-coordinator for Judge Arthur Hunter’s Allen Ray Bolin Trial Advocacy Workshop, and a mentor for various organizations such as Dillard’s L.E.A.D program and the Walton-UNCF Education Reform Fellowship.



Honorable Shayna Beevers Morvant was elected to the 24th Judicial District Court and took office in October 2020. Prior to her election, she was managing partner of the Gretna law firm of Beevers & Beevers, L.L.P. She received a B.S.M. degree in 2009 from Tulane University’s A.B. Freeman School of Business and her J.D. degree in 2012 from Tulane Law School.

During her time as a general practitioner, she gained extensive class action and civil litigation experience. Her practice areas included personal injury, criminal defense, family law, and representation of local law enforcement agencies. She is a member of the adjunct faculty at Tulane University Law School, teaching litigation skills for the Boot

Camp and Trial Advocacy Programs.

Judge Beevers Morvant makes time to promote the interest of her community. She is a leader in Tulane’s American Inn of Court, a national association that promotes ethics and professionalism in law. Additionally, she believes in promoting respect for law; as such she is currently the President of the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education and working on Chief Justice Weimer’s Judges Imparting Knowledge, Education, & Skills Task Force.

A passion prior to assuming her duties on the bench was working with the Wills for Heroes Program where she prepared wills and trusts for first responders at no charge. She was a

member of Bridging the Gap Legal Education Committee which assisted students transitioning into the practice of law. She was elected for two terms on the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Young Lawyers Division Council as the District 2 Representative. She served on the LSBA's House of Delegates and was elected to the Nominating Committee for the years 2017, 2019, 2020, and 2021. For several years she was the secretary of the Civil Law and Litigation Section and a regular contributor to the Louisiana Bar Journal. Additionally, she was a member of the 2015-2016 Leadership LSBA Class.

Judge Beevers Morvant has frequently been selected as instructor of continuing education since 2013, with a focus on social media, professionalism, and trial litigation. She has also presented CLE programs for the New Orleans Bar Association, the Jefferson Bar Association, and Tulane University Law School.

Apart from her legal related activities, she is a former chair of legislative affairs for the Junior League of New Orleans, and a Louisiana Children's Museum campaign leader. Judge Beevers Morvant and her husband, Wesley, are the proud parents of two children.



H. Minor Pipes III is a founding member of the New Orleans firm of Pipes Miles Beckman, LLC. He received a BA degree in 1991 from Penn State University and his J.D. degree in 1996 from Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

He was admitted to practice in Louisiana in 1996. Mr. Pipes served as Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) president-elect from 2020-21 and as treasurer from 2016-18. He represented the First District on the Board of Governors and has served in the House of Delegates. He has co-chaired the LSBA's Summer School for Lawyers. He was a member of the Leadership LSBA Class in 2002 and received the LSBA's President's Award in 2009. He served as 2015-16 president of the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

In his community, he volunteers his time with the Hogs for the Cause program, Kid Smart and Trinity Episcopal School. He and his wife, Jill McKay Pipes, have been married for 22 years and are the parents of three children.



Honorable Karen Wells Roby is a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana with twenty-three years of service. Formerly, she served as the Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge from 2017- 2021. She has been active in the American Bar Association serving in various leadership roles and was responsible for the success of the three-day gathering of diverse leaders who trained future leaders in the areas of marketing,

branding and networking; Diverse Leaders Academy and the Professional Success Summit "PSS".

Additionally, Judge Roby served as the President of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association ("FMJA") in 2012, a national organization of over 600 U.S. Magistrate Judges across the country. As President of the Association, she worked to secure pay raises for all active and recently retired federal magistrate judges. She is a graduate of Tulane Law School and Xavier University. Currently, she is enrolled in the Duke Law Masters of Judicial Studies Program where she will receive a Masters' Degree in Judicial Studies.

Judge Roby serves as an advisor to the Dean of Tulane Law School as a member of the Dean's Advisory Board. She is an Adjunct Professor at Tulane.

Judge Roby's commitment to the community is unsurpassed. She was integral in saving her high school, has served as the coordinating judge over the Suit Up program in New Orleans for the last eleven years. She also serves as a mentor to area young female lawyers where she hosts round tables to discuss issues of interest and dispense sage advice on career goals and challenges.



Brian Schaps is a partner with Deutsch Kerrigan's construction department providing legal guidance to contractors, engineers, architects, and surveyors and represents these clients in all manners and stages of construction litigation.

Brian provides attentive, diligent, and cost-effective representation to help his clients manage risks, evaluate potential liability and exposure, and achieve favorable resolutions to construction-related disputes. He consults with clients regarding front-end issues related to contracts and risks, assists clients in managing and resolving disputes during construction projects, and aggressively litigates cases in state and federal courts. Brian is recognized by Chambers USA, The Best Lawyers in America® and Louisiana Super Lawyers. He received his B.S.M. and J.D. from Tulane University.



Professor Kenya Smith is an experienced attorney, educator, executive and advocate with more than twenty years of corporate, community engagement and governmental regulatory experience. He is a community centered, creative, results oriented self-starter with a demonstrated ability to manage dynamic, culturally diverse environments.

After graduating from McMinn Magnet High School, Professor Smith earned his B.A. (cum laude) in Political Science from Southern University at New Orleans. He then went on to earn his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School and began his legal career with Adams and Reese, LLP as a member of the firm’s transactions and corporate advisory services team. He next served in various senior executive positions in the New Orleans city government, including Executive Counsel to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Relations and Deputy Mayor for Community Development. He also worked closely with the BP Gulf Coast Recovery Leadership team in the wake of the MC-252 incident.

As an educator and scholar, Professor Smith maintains a robust package of business law courses including Business Associations, Commercial Law, Federal Income Tax, Contracts and Obligations; with a focus on the formation and taxation of business entities, constitutional law and legislation. He has taught in legal institutions across the Americas, including Phoenix, Arizona, Miami, Florida, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Mexico City, Mexico. He has publications in the *Louisiana Law Review*, *Marquette Law Review*, *Michigan Journal of Law Reform*, *Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law*, *Rutgers University Law Review* and *Tulane Law Review*. Professor Smith is a member of the Wisconsin and Louisiana State Bar Associations, has served as a leader of various local chapters of civic and charitable organizations, including the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.



As Assistant Director of Admission, **Julia Spencer** counsels prospective law students throughout the application process, plans and implements post-acceptance recruiting activities, and travels to off-campus events throughout the United States. Born and raised in New Orleans, Julia received her B.A. in Asian Studies from Vassar College in 2014, and her J.D. from Tulane University Law School in 2019.



Casey Wendling is an associate in Deutsch Kerrigan’s Civil Litigation practice. She is a proud New Orleans native who is passionate about contributing to the community. Casey has exemplary written and verbal communication skills. As a law student at Louisiana State University, Casey served as the Production Editor for Volume 89 of the Louisiana Law Review. Also, Casey was nominated for membership in the Wex S. Malone American Inn of Court, an organization extending membership to selected students based on their ability to orally argue during the LSU Law Center’s annual Trial Advocacy Program. Her diverse practice includes defending commercial transportation, products liability, and premises liability cases. As a strong advocate for her clients, she uses her time efficiently and prides herself on a persuasive and high-quality work product.



Lori A. Waters is the Managing Attorney with Hair Shunnarah Trial Attorneys. Ms. Waters currently practices in the areas of First Party Property Casualty, Personal Injury, Products and Premises Liability, and General Civil Litigation. She has also worked extensively in matters involving catastrophic injuries as well as asbestos exposure, and chemical release incidents.

Ms. Waters has written and lectured on legal professionalism and ethics topics. She is a member of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board, an Assistant Bar Examiner for the Louisiana Committee on Bar Admissions, a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, New Orleans Bar Association, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, The National Trial Lawyers, and the A.P. Tureaud Inn of Court. Ms. Waters is an AV Preeminent rated attorney and has been recognized as a “Top Lawyer” in New Orleans Magazine.

Ms. Waters earned her J.D. in 2004 from Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans, her B.A. in History from The Ohio State University, and her B.A. in English from Seton Hall University. She is admitted to practice before all state courts in Louisiana, all United States District Courts of Louisiana, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.



Honorable Jason Rogers Williams was sworn in as District Attorney of Orleans Parish on January 11, 2021. He is a proud Tulane University Law School Alumni. After graduating law school, he started his own law practice focused on criminal defense, Jason Rogers Williams and Associates Law Firm. After winning a series of high-profile criminal cases, the Louisiana Supreme Court appointed District Attorney Williams to serve as a judge in the New Orleans’ Criminal District Court. In 2014, he ran for City Council. He was a councilmember for six years, four of which he served as Council President, before being elected District Attorney. He is a proud and devoted father to three children: 2-year-old Xavier, 14-year-old Graham and 20-year-old Zoe. He lives in uptown New Orleans with his wife, Dr. Liz Marcell Williams, founder and CEO of the Center for Resilience, his two young sons, and a very lazy pit bull, Ignatius.



Emily Wojna-Hodnett has served as an Assistant Director in Tulane Law School's Office of Admission since 2014. Born and raised in New Orleans, Ms. Wojna-Hodnett is a graduate of Metairie Park Country Day School and Louisiana State University, where she graduated Cum Laude and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society. As a student at Tulane University Law School she served on the Moot Court Board, Student Bar Association, Graduate and Professional School Assembly, and Dean's Advisory Committee. She also coached and competed on the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Team in Vienna and Hong Kong.



Micah Zeno is a civil litigator and trial attorney representing clients in a wide range of industries. He has a broad legal practice that includes complex litigation, appellate practice, civil procedure, property law, commercial litigation and risk management. A former banker, Micah also provides businesses with advice on a variety of issues including participation agreements, early termination clauses, remedies for breach of contract, and mitigation of repayment risk. Micah is also an arbitrator with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Micah is a member of the firm's Diversity Committee.

Before joining Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett, Micah served for two years as a law clerk for Chief Judge June Berry Darensburg of the 24th Judicial District Court. Micah is also former judicial intern for Deputy Chief Judge Fredericka Homberg Wicker of the Louisiana Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal. Prior to practicing law, Micah worked for six years as a credit analyst and commercial banker at Regions Bank (formerly AmSouth). While at Regions Bank, Micah structured loans for commercial clients in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi with credit needs of up to \$1,500,000.00 and negotiated financing for multi-million dollar healthcare real estate projects. Micah is also a former Loaned Executive for the United Way.

Micah graduated from Tulane Law School Order of the Barristers and received the Tulane 34 Award and Tulane Student Crest Award. Micah was also a recipient of the Dean's Honor Scholarship and the Louisiana Judicial Council/National Bar Association Scholarship. While at Tulane Law, Micah served as a member of the Faculty Interviewing & Appointment Committee, Chief Justice of the Honor Board, an associate in both the Civil Rights & Federal Practice Clinic (formerly Civil Litigation Clinic) and the Tulane University Legal Assistance Program, and a member of Moot Court. As a distinguished member of Tulane's Moot Court, Micah competed in the American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition, the Louisiana State Bar Association Law School Mock Trial Competition, and placed first in the coveted Tulane 3L Intraschool Competition. Micah's name is now forever inscribed on the marble tablets in The Wendell H. Gauthier Moot Court Room at Tulane Law.

Micah is an active member of the legal community. He is a member of the Louisiana Law Institute and has held various leadership positions with the Federal Bar Association, the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. Micah is a lecturer at the Louisiana State Bar Association Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and the Louisiana State Bar Association Law School Professionalism Orientations. Micah also volunteers as a judge at the National High School Mock Trial Competition and is a speaker with the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education Lawyers in the Classroom/Judges in the Classroom program.

While at Florida A&M, Micah was awarded a Presidential Special Scholarship (full academic scholarship), served as legal counsel to the Student Government Association President and Vice President and was the graduate student member of the Student Government Association Budget Committee.

Micah is a native of Terrytown, Louisiana. He currently lives in New Orleans with his wife Johana and their precocious three-year-old son, Melvin.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SUIT UP FOR THE FUTURE STUDENT WINNERS!

BEST WRITTEN MEMORANDUM WINNERS:

Prosecution: Brinley P. Pethe

Defense: Nathan T. Vatter

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BEST ORAL ARGUMENT WINNERS:

Prosecution: Selae J. Walker and Samuel R. Danzing

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