

2019 Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Intern Program

June 10 – 28, 2019

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*



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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.



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

About Us

WHAT IS THE “LOUISIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION”?

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.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHAT IS THE “LOUISIANA BAR FOUNDATION”?



The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) entity organized under the State of Louisiana. As the largest state funder of legal aid, the LBF supports service organizations throughout Louisiana that provide free, civil legal representation to the indigent, law-related education to the public and administration of justice projects. Since 1989, the LBF has distributed \$54.5 million to hundreds of Louisiana non-profit organizations to meet these goals. The LBF serves as the fiscal administrator for the State of Louisiana Child in Need of Care Program which provides free legal representation to all children in foster care, and for the Louisiana Supreme Court Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts Program.

Each year, the LBF awards grants to more than 70 non-profit organizations that provide access to the justice system and civil legal assistance to Louisiana's low-income citizens. Through grants, the LBF assists women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, the newly unemployed, those facing loss of their homes, disaster victims and many others by providing services that go to the very heart of the health, safety and security of many citizens and their families.

THE *SUIT UP FOR THE FUTURE* PROGRAM IS A PROUD RECIPIENT OF THE LOUISIANA BAR FOUNDATION LAW RELATED EDUCATION GRANT.

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children...to leave the world a better place...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



2019 SUMMER LEGAL INSTITUTE

SCHOLARS

Name	Grade	School
Jamia S. Brown	First-Year College	Benjamin Franklin High School
Jessica A. Burrell	11th Grade	Mandeville High School
Benjamin J. Burstain	First-Year College	Lusher Charter School
Javier A. Calderon-Yanar	11th Grade	Northshore High School
Madison G. Campbell	11th Grade	Venice High School
Christian A. Falcone	12th Grade	Mandeville High School
Lizzie N. Flores-Miranda	11th Grade	Kenner Discovery
Rachael J. Hahn	First-Year College	St. Mary's Dominican High School
Kai Z. L. Haley	11th Grade	Lusher Charter School
Issis M. Haydel	First-Year College	Benjamin Franklin High School
Trinity A. Holmes	11th Grade	Homeschooled
Miles I. Lee	12th Grade	Baton Rouge Magnet High School
Christian J. Olivier	12th Grade	Homeschooled
Ann M. Rome	12th Grade	Riverside Academy
Casey L. Schaefer	12th Grade	Mount Carmel Academy
Quentin C. Stalker	11th Grade	Carolina Day School
Taylor P. Wardsworth	11th Grade	Edna Karr High School
Ning (Nina) Xi	12th Grade	Benjamin Franklin High School

2019 Suit Up for the Future Program Agenda

Week One

Monday, June 10, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 9:30am	<p>Welcome Presenter: Robert A. “Bob” Kutcher, LSBA President 2019-20; Honorable Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning (JTB); Members of the Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-Chair Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Angela White-Bazile, Executive Counsel, Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court; LSBA Department of Member Outreach and Diversity</p>
9:30 am – 10:15 am	<p>Choose Law Video, American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Orientation/Program Overview Introduction of Interns and Externs Presenter: Members of the Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-chair Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Angela White-Bazile, Executive Counsel, Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court</p>
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Break and Suit Up Photo IDs
10:45 am – 11:00 am	<p>Icebreaker Presenter: Members of Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-chair Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Angela White-Bazile, Executive Counsel, Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court; Suit Up Interns and Externs</p>
11:00 am – 11:30 am	<p>Introduction of Mock Problem for Oral Argument Presenter: Members of Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee: Co-chair Scherri N. Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defenders Office; Angela White-Bazile, Executive Counsel, Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court</p>
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Legal Research and Writing Presenter: Professor Emily A. Bishop, Westerfield Fellow, Director of the Lawyering Program, 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 Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Memorandum Outline Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
9:30 am - 9:45 am	Travel to field trip and Security Check: Louisiana Supreme Court and Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED) 400 Royal St., New Orleans, LA
9:45 am – 11:30 am	Viewing of Oral Arguments, Louisiana Court of Appeals Fourth Circuit Presenter: Honorable Ronald L. Belsome, Jr., Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Honorable Sandra C. Jenkins, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Honorable Terri F. Love, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch and Interaction Presenter: Honorable Tiffany G. Chase, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Honorable Marcus Clark, Associate Justice, Louisiana Supreme Court; Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court; Theo Shaw, Law Clerk to Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Tour of Louisiana Supreme Court, Library and Museum Presenter: Miriam D. Childs, Director, Louisiana Supreme Court Library; Trina S. Vincent, Public Information Specialist, Louisiana Supreme Court
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
2:15 pm – 2:45 pm	Break

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Memorandum Outline Preparation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Memorandum Outline Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Constitutional Law Presenter: Professor Raymond T. Diamond, Director of the Pugh Institute for Justice, James Carville Alumni Professor of Law, & Jules F. & Frances L. Landry Distinguished Professor of Law, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Contracts Presenter: Professor Roederick C. White, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Southern University Law Center
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Memorandum Outline Preparation (One-On-One Assistance)
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Thursday, June 13, 2019

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; Annie Scardulla, Advocacy Fellow, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Resume Preparation Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Presenter: Janell McFarland-Forges, O'Byron & Schnabel, PLC
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Memorandum and Oral Argument Preparation Viewing of 2018 Oral Arguments Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Brainstorming Session: Questions to Ask A Law School Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Friday, June 14, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in DRAFT OF RESUME ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Matthew R. Slaughter, Phelps Dunbar, LLP; Suit Up Interns and Externs
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Travel to field trip: Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office, 619 S. White St., New Orleans, LA
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	District Attorney Presentation and Tour Presenter: Leon A. Cannizzaro, Jr., District Attorney, Orleans Parish; Ken Daley, Public Information Officer; Anne Kiefer, Director, Citizen's Academy; Graymond Martin, First District Attorney, Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Break
3:45 pm – 4:30 pm	Memorandum Preparation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Week Two

Monday, June 17, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in DRAFT OF MEMO ASSIGNMENT DUE
9:00 am – 9:30 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
9:30 am – 2:30 pm	United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., Courtroom B437, New Orleans, LA Presenter: Honorable Karen Wells Roby, Chief Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; Rebecca Coman, Director of Education & Training/Court Events/Naturalization, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; Maurice Lightfoot, Deputy U.S. Marshall, U.S. Marshalls Service, Eastern District of Louisiana; Jordan Ginsberg, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office; Susan Jones, Librarian, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch at Louisiana Bar Center
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Travel to United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
2:45 pm – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Matthew R. Slaughter, Phelps Dunbar, LLP; Suit Up Interns and Externs
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Travel to field trip and Security Check: Orleans Parish Criminal District Court (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED) 2700 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, LA
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Orleans Parish Criminal District Court 2700 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, LA (STUDENT ID REQUIRED/CELL PHONES NOT PERMITTED)

	Presenter: Honorable Camille G. Buras, Section H; 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 – 1:30 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 Public Defenders Office 2601 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Orleans Public Defenders Office Presentation and Tour Presenter: Lindsay Hortenstine, Director of Communications and Development; Robert Jones, Client Advocate; Robert McKnight, Staff Attorney, Orleans Public Defenders Office
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

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 20, 2019

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 21, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in FINAL RESUME ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE
9:00 am – 10:45 am	College and Law School Admission Preparation Workshop (Personal Statement Tips) Presenter: Jake T. Henry III, Admissions Director, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law School; Candice Dazet, Regional Admissions Counselor, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Tristyn Wheeler, Admissions Counselor, Southeastern Louisiana University; Kate Donsbach, Assistant Director of Admissions Recruitment, University of New Orleans;

10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Presenter: J. McCaleb Bilbro, Gaudry, Ranson, Higgins & Gremillion, LLC; Kieone H. Cochran, United States Social Security Administration
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Memorandum Preparation (One-On-One Assistance) Presenter: Suit Up Interns and Externs
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Week Three

Monday, June 24, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in FINAL MEMO ASSIGNMENT DUE
9:00 am – 11:30 am	Oral Argument Preparation
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Travel to field trip: Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 7214 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Loyola University New Orleans and Loyola University New Orleans College of Law Presentation and Tour Presenter: Michael J. Cusanza, Admissions Counselor, Loyola University New Orleans; Kimberly Jones, MS, JD, Director of Law Admissions, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
2:15 pm – 2:45 pm	Travel to field trip: Tulane University Law School 6329 Freret St., New Orleans, LA
2:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Tulane University Law School Presentation and Tour Presenter: Lezlie A. Griffin, Assistant Dean for Career Development & Diversity Initiatives; Emily Wojna-Hodnett, Assistant Director of Admission, Tulane University Law School
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Travel to Louisiana Bar Center
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

8:45 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and Check-in
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Oral Argument Preparation
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Statutory Interpretation Presentation Presenter: Kristen A. Lee, Law Clerk to Honorable Regina Bartholomew, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Micah C. Zeno, Gordon, Arata, Montgomery, Barnett, McCollam, Duplantis and Eagan LLC
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

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 Presenter: LSBA Diversity Committee Co-chair Denia S. Aiyegbusi, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP
1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Thursday, June 27, 2019

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 – 4:30 pm	Oral Argument Preparation
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

Friday, June 28, 2019

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 (NOTE: STUDENT ID REQUIRED/ CELL PHONES NOT PERMITTED) Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Oral Argument Presentation Judges: Honorable Dana M. Douglas, Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; Honorable Karen Wells Roby, Chief Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Oral Argument Presentation Judges: Honorable Dale N. Atkins, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Honorable Ronald L. Belsome, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit; Honorable D. Nicole Sheppard, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Deliberation by Judges

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Awards Ceremony (Judges' Overall Impressions of Oral Argument Presentations, Oral Argument Award(s), Memorandum Award(s), and Certificates of Completion)
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Sign Out and Transportation Arrival

FEDERAL FIRSTS

FEMALE JUDGES

In 1934, **Florence Allen** 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** 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** 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** 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** 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**, was appointed as the first African American justice on the Supreme Court of the United States.

ASIAN JUDGES

In 1971, **Herbert Choy** 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** 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 Hawai'i.

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 Hawai'i.

LATINO JUDGES

In 1961, **Reynaldo G. Garza** 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

CHIEF JUDGE 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.



Honorable Dale N. Atkins attended the University of Notre Dame on scholarship, where she received her B.A. degree in 1980 and was named as a Notre Dame Scholar. Upon graduation from Notre Dame, Judge Atkins attended the Southern Methodist University School of Law and received her J.D. degree in 1983.

Throughout her career, Judge Atkins has focused upon public service, which led to her successful campaign to be elected as the Clerk of Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans in 1989. Her historic win made her the first African American woman to be elected clerk of a district court in the entire state of Louisiana, and also one of the youngest clerks elected in the state.

Judge Atkins' commitment to the legal profession and to the community is extensive and long-standing. In addition to fulfilling the substantial duties of Clerk of Civil District Court for almost 30 years, Judge Atkins has served as a member of many professional and service organizations. Her commitment to the profession and leadership has been recognized by the Louisiana Supreme Court, which resulted in her appointment by Chief Justice Johnson to serve on the Louisiana Access to Justice Commission. Judge Atkins also serves as a member of the Louisiana Supreme Court Costs Committee.

Judge Atkins' commitment to the importance of education and the community is probably best reflected in her important work with her high school alma mater, Xavier Preparatory High School. When the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament made the decision in 2013 to close this landmark high school, which has educated thousands of African American female students in New Orleans, Judge Atkins was a founding member of the five-person alumni group which worked diligently to keep Xavier Prep open. Because of the tireless work and commitment of this

dedicated group of alumni, Xavier Prep reopened in the fall of 2013 under the name of St. Katherine Drexel Preparatory High School. Judge Atkins also serves on the Board of Directors for St. Katherine Drexel Prep.

In 1997, she was recognized on a national basis as one of the 50 most distinguished Black Alumni of the University of Notre Dame and named a Black Exemplar. She has also received the Louis A. Martinet Presidential Award, the Covenant House Volunteer Award, the New Orleans Chapter of the SCLC Rosa Parks Award for Community Service, and the YWCA Role Model Award.

Judge Atkins is a member of the New Home Full Gospel Church and serves on the Scholarship Committee at New Home as she continues to work to improve educational opportunities for young people in our community.



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.



Honorable Roland L. Belsome, Jr. of the State Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit has emerged in recent years as one of the most visible and active jurists in Louisiana, recognized not only for his involvement in professional organizations and continuing legal education, but also for his commitment to community activities, and for his progressive and inclusionist view of the judicial process.

Judge Belsome is a graduate of New Orleans Public Schools, the University of New Orleans, and Tulane University School of Law, where he has served as an adjunct professor. Before his election to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit, he was a judge in Orleans Parish Civil District Court and a well-known trial attorney with unusually broad experience and practice. He is an active lecturer in various continuing legal education programs given by organizations such as the Louisiana State Bar Association, Tulane Law School, Loyola Law School, the Louisiana Trial Lawyers Association, and others, on a wide variety of legal topics.

Judge Belsome has been deeply involved in programs that benefit inner city youth, like his annual Christmas Bike giveaways that benefit outstanding local students. He has created programs that bring children into the courtrooms of Civil Court, to promote awareness of opportunities in the legal profession and a general awareness of our system of justice. He has also sponsored a winter coat program for children of local congregations. Among many acts of philanthropy, he has been active with other community leaders in the promotion of Café Reconcile, where he was a founding board member.

Judge Belsome has taken the view that it is important for the courts to make overtures to the public, particularly to young people, reaching out to bring them into the courtrooms – not as litigants or defendants, but as observers who better understand the process. He has promoted opportunities for youths to become professionals and attorneys through mentoring programs and scholarships. He has been recognized for his efforts to create new opportunities for minorities, the young, and the disadvantaged.

Judge Belsome is a member of numerous professional organizations and has served on the board of important public policy initiatives.



Lauren Bennett is a rising 2L at Southern University Law Center. She graduated from Loyola University New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and the University of New Orleans with a Master of Public Administration. At Southern, she is a member of the Black Law Students Association and Federal Bar Association. Prior to law school, Ms. Bennett worked in Human Resources for a Louisiana State Civil Service Agency. She enjoys traveling and is a member of GirlTrek, a national health movement.



Ashley Berry is a rising junior at Dillard University. She is a native New Orleanian and graduated from Cabrini High School. Ms. Berry is majoring in Mass Communications with a concentration in Public Relations. She participated in the Suit Up for the Future program in 2016, and served as an intern in 2017, 2018 and 2019.



Adrija Bhattacharjee is an upcoming senior at Haynes Academy. Ms. Bhattacharjee loves everything law related - debating about it, the idea of practicing it, and studying it. Ms. Bhattacharjee has flat feet, has never watched Toy Story, Cars, or Monsters Inc., and she is obsessed with spicy food and chocolate.



John E. Bicknell, Jr. is an associate with Scott, Vicknair, Hair and Checki, LLC whose practice areas include commercial litigation, property casualty, workers' compensation, and family law.

Mr. Bicknell is skilled in trial preparation and has organized trial plans involving thousands of documents and exhibits. His proven skills have led to favorable results in multi-million-dollar commercial arbitration and trials, as well as more individual matters.

While in law school, he worked on the Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property, who published his comment, "Is Graffiti Worthy of Protection: Changes Within the Visual Artists Rights Act's Recognized Stature Requirement." Mr. Bicknell also had the opportunity to work as a judicial intern for Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, and as an extern for Associate Justice Scott Crichton of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Outside of his professional life, he is an avid runner, occasional baker, and full-time art lover.



J. McCaleb Bilbro has been a partner at Javier Law Firm, L.L.C. since 2009. Mr. Bilbro has prior experience in the handling of matters arising under the Jones Act, the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and toxic tort (asbestos) litigation.

Mr. Bilbro graduated with a B.A. in political science from Mississippi State University and graduated in 1994 from the University of Mississippi School of Law.

He is a board member of the St. George Episcopal Church Dragon Café and a former president of the Louise S. McGehee School Dads' Club.



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 spent a summer interning 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, D.C. office of WilmerHale LLP in the areas of Securities Litigation and Securities Enforcement. Her pro bono work focused on reproductive rights litigation.

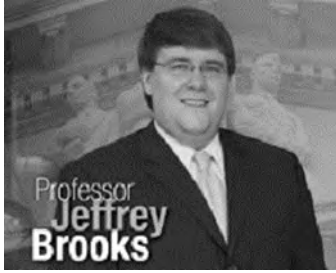
Professor Bishop has been teaching at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law since 2013. She is currently the Co-Director of the Lawyering program and teaches courses on legal research, objective legal writing, persuasive legal writing, and oral advocacy. Since 2018, Professor Bishop also has served as the faculty advisor for Loyola’s ABA Moot Court Team, which competes annually in the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition. Her article, “Avoiding ‘Ally Theater’ in Legal Writing Assignments,” was published in 2018 in the legal writing journal *Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing*.



Jonathan Bourg graduated from Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He began his career at Entergy in 2002 at the company’s Ninemile Power Station in Westwego, Louisiana. In 2004, he left that position to seek a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University.

After graduating from Loyola in 2007, Mr. Bourg practiced law for a New Orleans defense firm, focusing on toxic tort litigation and insurance defense. He returned to Entergy in 2011 as a Policy Consultant in Entergy Services, Inc.’s Transmission Regulatory Support organization. He then began working in Entergy Services, Inc.’s Regulatory-Legal organization, where he provided regulatory support for various matters, including the company’s transition into the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. Regional Transmission Organization.

In 2014, Mr. Bourg accepted a position as Manager, Regulatory Affairs for Entergy Louisiana, LLC, and was then promoted to Director, Regulatory Affairs. In 2018, he accepted his current position as the Finance Director.



Professor Jeffrey C. Brooks is the Preis PLC Director of Advocacy and Professional Practice and an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice at the LSU Law Center. Professor Brooks directs the Law Center’s highly competitive moot court, trial advocacy, and alternative dispute resolution programs, and coordinates the Law Center’s rapidly expanding externship programs. He also teaches a course in Advanced Appellate Advocacy.

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, where he was a trial attorney representing the City of New York and the New York City Police Department in federal civil rights cases, including the complex litigation arising out of arrests made during the 2004 Republican National Convention. He previously worked as an intern for Associate Justice Stephen G. Crane of the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department.

Professor Brooks received his J.D. from Tulane University Law School, and his B.A. in Geography-Anthropology from Vassar College. While at Tulane, he was Senior Notes and Comments Editor of the *Journal of Law and Sexuality* and was a member of the Jessup International Law Moot Court and Pace Environmental Law Moot Court teams. Professor Brooks is a member of the New York State Bar and an active member of the Federal Bar Association.



Marcus V. Brown is executive vice-president and general counsel for Entergy Corporation. In this capacity he leads the corporation’s legal, ethics and compliance, corporate communications, federal policy, regulatory and governmental affairs, corporate social responsibility, sustainability and environmental policy, and corporate security and governance groups.

Mr. Brown is also a member of the Energy Insurance Mutual Board of Directors. Prior to joining Entergy in 1995, he practiced with the New Orleans-based Stone Pigman law firm.



Trinity Brown is an energy litigator in the Liskow and Lewis New Orleans office. She has experience representing clients in contract disputes, tort claims, products liability, and oil and gas disputes. She also has experience with First Amendment issues, securities fraud, and trademark infringement.

Ms. Brown received her Juris Doctor from Yale Law School, and her Bachelor of Arts from Duke University, *cum laude*. She was a member of the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic, the San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project at Yale Law School and a Reginaldo Howard Memorial Scholar and a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow at Duke University.



Honorable Camille Buras was elected to Section “H” of Orleans Criminal District Court in 1998. During her tenure on the bench, she has presided over several hundred jury trials, been a Drug Court Judge and has been an active member of the Court’s Technology Committee.

Judge Buras was the first female judge to serve as the Chief Judge of the Orleans Criminal Court. Prior to being elected as a District Court Judge, she served 12 years as an Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish and as the First Assistant District Attorney. Judge Buras is a graduate of Loyola Law School.



Leon A. Cannizzaro, Jr. has served the citizens of New Orleans and their criminal justice system for his entire career. Since being elected District Attorney in November of 2008, DA Cannizzaro has worked aggressively to reform New Orleans’ criminal justice. To accomplish this goal, he has instituted reforms to allow non-violent and juvenile offenders to obtain meaningful rehabilitation rather than a criminal conviction. Working with the judges of Criminal District Court, he moved domestic violence cases from Municipal Court to Criminal District Court. Furthermore, working with multiple stakeholders within the criminal justice system, he executed a policy to move non-violent misdemeanors from Criminal District Court to Municipal Court, which he believes will allow the judges of Criminal District Court to focus their attention on violent crimes.

DA Cannizzaro began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish. During his five years as an ADA, DA Cannizzaro worked his way up to chief of the trials division. After leaving the District Attorney’s office, he worked in private practice and as a staff attorney for the Orleans Indigent Defenders Program for a short time.

Prior to being elected District Attorney, DA Cannizzaro served this community as a judge on the 4th Circuit Court of Appeal for five years. Additionally, he has served as a faculty member at the University of New Orleans and the Tulane University School of Law.

In 2014, DA Cannizzaro was reelected without opposition. As District Attorney, he has won numerous awards from good government groups such as the Metropolitan Crime Commission recognizing his reform of the New Orleans criminal justice system. In 2014, he was awarded the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigation Director’s Award for his use of the Louisiana racketeering statute to combat violent street gangs in New Orleans.

DA Cannizzaro is a life-long resident of New Orleans. He is a graduate of De La Salle High School and the University of New Orleans. At the University of New Orleans, he met Norma Gonzalez, his future wife.

DA Cannizzaro earned a law degree from Loyola University School of Law. He and Norma have been married for more than 30 years and are the proud parents of four children and their nine grandchildren.



Honorable Tiffany Gautier Chase received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Loyola University and her Juris Doctorate from Loyola University School of Law.

Judge Chase began her legal career as a law clerk at the Louisiana Supreme Court. She served as a staff attorney, and then as a research attorney, to the Honorable Chet D. Traylor. Judge Chase also spent several years as an associate in the law firm of Martzell and Bickford. She previously served as Judge of Division A of Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. On October 14, 2017, Judge Chase was elected to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, where she currently serves as an Appellate Court Judge.



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 been responsible for or provided support to all areas of library operations, including staff management and training; cataloging; database maintenance; reference and research services; government documents; and preservation.

Ms. Childs came to the library with a strong technical services background. 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. She received her B.A. in History from Louisiana State University in 1992 and her M.L.I.S. from Louisiana State University in 1993.



Keegan E. Chopin has spent the last 20 years focused on providing her clients pragmatic solutions. Licensed to practice law in Louisiana and Texas, Ms. Chopin has a diverse practice representing a broad spectrum of clients including individuals and business both large and small. Her experience includes personal injury litigation, commercial and construction litigation, corporate and business law, and general counsel services.

Early in her career, she clerked for the late Honorable Sheldon J. Fernandez in the 24th JDC in Gretna, Louisiana. As an insurance defense and commercial litigation associate, Ms. Chopin tried multiple jury trials. In 2002, she moved to Houston, Texas where she spent 15 years as in-house counsel to some of the world's largest oilfield services providers.

A native New Orleanian, Ms. Chopin returned home in 2016, and spent two years in-house with Ochsner Health System providing a variety of general corporate legal counsel and transactional support.

Ms. Chopin is actively involved in the alumnae associations of all three of her alma maters, Loyola University College of Law (1999), University of Dallas (1996), and the Academy of the Sacred Heart (1992). A mom of two young boys, Ms. Chopin is often found volunteering at her children's school, Holy Name of Jesus.



Kieone H. Cochran is currently an Attorney Advisor at the U.S. Social Security Administration and an ABA Young Lawyers Division Scholar. Ms. Cochran is a native of New Orleans. She received her B.A. in Mass Communications and English from Loyola University New Orleans in 2004. After working for Fox 8 News in New Orleans for four years, Ms. Cochran decided to make a career change. She earned her J.D., Certificate in Taxation and Certificate in International Studies in 2012. Ms. Cochran enrolled in the LL.M.

Taxation Program at the University of Houston Law Center in the 2013, where she received the prestigious Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry Award for Distinguished Paper in Taxation and was published in the Houston Business & Tax Law Journal. After earning her LL.M., she interned for the Honorable Juan F. Vasquez, Judge, United States Tax Court, served as a Louisiana Workforce Commission Administrative Law Judge, and worked as a Louisiana Department of Revenue Litigation attorney.



Rebecca Coman is the Director of Education and Training for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. As Director of Education and Training, Ms. Coman develops and coordinates educational and training programs for court employees, members of the legal community, and New Orleans-area high school students. In addition, she coordinates court naturalization ceremonies and other court events. Prior to joining the court, Ms. Coman practiced personal injury law and clerked for the Honorable Ross P. Ladart of the 24th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Jefferson. Ms. Coman is a proud graduate

of LSU Law School, LSU Undergrad, and Ben Franklin High School, and the proud mother of two young daughters.



Michelle D. Craig is Managing Partner of Transcendent Law Group. With over 15 years of Am200 law firm experience, she became the first African-American female Partner in the New Orleans office of an Am200 regional law firm before starting her own firm. She holds dual degrees, including a Juris Doctorate (J.D.) and a Bachelor of the Civil Law (B.C.L.), from the Louisiana State University (LSU) Law Center. She also studied International and Comparative Law at the Université d'Aix Marseille III in Aix-en-Provence, France.

In her practice, she facilitates effective resolution of legal matters for small to large companies in all practice areas. She regularly provides legal counsel to existing and newly formed charter schools. In that capacity, she assists charter schools with their employment and legal needs from inception through operation, including drafting employment documents, vendor agreements, student handbooks, parent teacher handbooks and authorization documents.

She also assists with ongoing personnel matters, board governance and procedures, compliance with the charter application processes, and the selection and training of administrators. In addition, she serves as the outside general counsel for several companies by providing transactional and litigation advice, proactive management and human resources guidance and counseling. To assist small and medium-sized firms in their process improvement, she created Proquire, a legal project management software. She is active in the community and passionate about the economic sustainability and development of the New Orleans area. She currently serves as both the Chairperson of the Orleans Parish Civil Service Commission and the Secretary of the Downtown Development District in New Orleans.



Michael J. Cusanza is an admissions counselor in his third year at Loyola University New Orleans. He graduated from Louisiana State University with an undergraduate degree in Business Management, and is currently pursuing a Master's in Business Administration from the Loyola University New Orleans College of Business.



Courtney Dunn is a bond advocacy attorney with the Orleans Public Defenders specializing in representation immediately after arrest. She is a native of Baton Rouge and earned her J.D. from Southern University Law School. She is a member of the Greater New Orleans Chapter of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society and was a past member of the LSBA Leadership program.



Ken Daley joined the Orleans Parish District Attorney's office in November 2017, after nearly five years as a crime and criminal courts reporter for NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune. He was honored three years in a row as the city's top breaking news reporter by the Press Club of New Orleans (2015-17).

Mr. Daley previously worked as a sports columnist, reporter, editor or freelance contributor for the Orange County (Calif.) Register, Los Angeles Daily News, Dallas Morning News, Sports Illustrated, MLB.com and The New York Times. He spent 21 years of his journalism career covering Major League Baseball in Los Angeles and Dallas. Mr. Daley graduated from Cal State Fullerton.



Tiffany Davis is a litigator focused on complex energy-related matters concerning maritime and oilfield torts and contracts, environmental cleanup, property damage, and coastal erosion. Ms. Davis also handles toxic tort litigation related to claims for occupational exposure to asbestos. She also has experience with regulatory and transactional matters concerning environmental and energy law.

Her litigation background includes managing docket-wide discovery and involvement in trials, trial preparation, motions practice and mediation. She helps energy-sector clients throughout the region with permitting, enforcement and compliance with environmental rules and regulations.

Ms. Davis serves as the chair of the firm's Diversity Committee and is active in several professional and community organizations.



Candice Dazet is a native of Metairie, LA. She graduated in 2011 from The University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a BA of Liberal Arts in Mass Communications: Broadcasting and a Minor in Theatre.

Ms. Dazet's passion for recruiting has always played a role in her life. Whether as a member of her sorority recruitment committee in college or recruiting potential employees at job fairs.

Ms. Dazet enjoys getting to share information with people and have them get excited about the things she is passionate about. That will always include any and everything Ragin' Cajun related.

Outside of work, Ms. Dazet stays involved with multiple organizations throughout the community, including alumni and philanthropic organizations. She loves to travel and experience other cultures. Ms. Dazet is currently planning her next trip abroad and needs to brush up on her Greek language skills.



Deandra De Napoli is an associate at Scott, Vicknair, Hair & Checki whose practice areas include personal injury and commercial litigation. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. De Napoli attended Tulane Law School where she was a member of the Moot Court program. She was a competitor and co-coach of the program's Alternative Dispute Resolution team and served as a Justice of the Moot Court executive board.

Ms. De Napoli received several honors and awards at Tulane, including induction into the Order of the Barristers for excellence in written and oral advocacy, a CALI award of excellence for Legal Profession, and was elected as the Most Outstanding Justice of the Moot Court Board by her peers. Outside of professional life, Ms. De Napoli is a passionate vocalist, avid runner, and animal lover.



Tamunobelema Derefaka graduated from Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies. She participated in the LSBA Suit Up for the Future program in 2016 right before her junior year of high school. Suit Up for the Future shaped and reaffirmed what Ms. Derefaka wants to do in the future.

She currently attends Howard University in Washington D.C., where she is a rising sophomore majoring in psychology and double minoring in political science and economics. Her goal and aspiration is to become an attorney and also a barrister in Nigeria, but most importantly to help change the justice system from within.



Professor Raymond Diamond is the James Carville Alumni Professor of Law and Jules F. & Frances L. Landry Distinguished Professor of Law at Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Louisiana State University. Prof. Diamond teaches and has written widely in the area of constitutional law, race relations, and legal history. He has also written and taught in the areas of criminal law, administrative law and antitrust. His scholarship in the area of the Second Amendment and the right to bear arms has twice been cited in Supreme Court jurisprudence, most recently in *McDonald v. City of Chicago* (2010) (Justice Thomas concurring), and was awarded the 2000 Carter-Knight Freedom Fund Award. In connection with the issues he has raised in his Second Amendment scholarship, he was co-counsel on the amicus brief presented by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) to the Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, decided in 2008. He is the co-author of *BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION: CASTE, CULTURE, AND THE CONSTITUTION*, which was awarded the 2003 David J. Langum, Sr., Prize by the Langum Project for Historical Literature. His newest scholarship, "Public Safety and the Right to Bear Arms," a chapter in *The Bill of Rights in Modern America* (revised 3rd ed., 2019), is forthcoming.



Sandra Diggs-Miller holds the position of Assistant General Counsel with the Legal Services Department for Entergy. She earned her Juris Doctorate degree in 1998 from Loyola University School of Law. She began her practice with the law firm of Stone, Pigman, Walther, Wittmann, L.L.C., where she focused primarily on complex commercial litigation, class action defense, and insurance defense. In 2000, she joined the litigation section of the Legal Services Department at Entergy, where she handles primarily property, casualty and commercial litigation matters across the State of Louisiana.

From 2010 to March 2015, Ms. Miller served as the Diversity and Inclusion Chairperson for the Entergy Legal Department's Diversity and Inclusion Council. Following her tenure as Diversity Chairperson, she was appointed to serve as one of seven system-wide Corporate Diversity Advisors for the company and continues to work with other company leaders developing corporate strategy in the area of diversity and inclusion.

Ms. Miller is admitted to practice law before the state and federal courts in Louisiana, and is a member of the American Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Association, New Orleans Bar Association, Minority Corporate Counsel Association, Corporate Counsel Women of Color, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

She proudly serves as a mentor to many Loyola Law students and alumni. In addition to her active legal career, Ms. Miller has trained more than 50 people over the last five years to achieve their goal of running a 10k or half Marathon. She believes in inspiring and encouraging others to be the best that they can be for themselves, their family, their friends, and their careers. She

most enjoys spending time with her husband and three daughters creating a lifetime of wonderful memories.



Kate Donsbach is the Assistant Director for Undergraduate Recruitment at the University of New Orleans.

Ms. Donsbach has lived in New Orleans all her life and is a proud UNO alum. She has a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies with a focus on Diplomacy & International Organizations. Ms. Donsbach will be receiving her Master of Education in Higher Education Administration from UNO in August.

As an undergraduate, Ms. Donsbach was a student leader, which motivated her commitment to helping students have access to higher education today.



Honorable Dana M. Douglas is a Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of Louisiana. Judge Douglas attended Loyola University College of Law where she received her Juris Doctorate. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana to the Honorable Judge Ivan L.R. Lemelle. Judge Douglas is also a former shareholder of the law firm of Liskow & Lewis where her practice focused in the areas of energy, products liability, and intellectual property litigation in the state and federal courts of Louisiana and across a wide variety of industry sectors.

Judge Douglas has been committed to her community for her entire career. She is the immediate past president of the New Orleans Bar Association and a past president of the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. Judge Douglas also served as chair of the 2017 Annual Justice For All Ball, a fundraiser that benefits The Pro Bono Project, which provides pro bono civil legal aid services to the underserved in New Orleans. She also served as a vice-chair and commissioner of the New Orleans Civil Service Commission. The Commission is the quasi-judicial and policy-making body that exercises oversight of activities of the city's Civil Service Department. She is also a charter and founding member of the Louisiana chapter of the Women's Energy Network.

Judge Douglas' service to the community has been formally recognized by many. In 2008, she was presented with the prestigious Louisiana State Bar Association ("LSBA") President's Award. She was also recently selected as a "Women of the Year" honoree by *New Orleans CityBusiness* and a recipient of the 2018 National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division Outstanding Minority Partner in Majority Firm Award. Judge Douglas is also a past recipient of the LSBA Crystal Gavel Award, the Federal Bar Association Camille Gavel Award, and the Loyola University School of Law Gillis Long Public Service Award.

Judge Douglas assumed her role as a United States Magistrate Judge on January 7, 2019.



Adrian D'Arcy's primary practice areas include commercial litigation, construction litigation and surety litigation. He is a LEED Green Associate and has presented numerous lectures on green building. Additionally, Mr. D'Arcy crafts and reviews construction contracts so that clients are protected on the front end of projects.

Mr. D'Arcy is a proponent of resolving matters early in mediation and through alternative dispute resolution if possible so clients can focus on their companies and not on litigation. Mr. D'Arcy graduated cum laude from Loyola Law School and is a partner Shields|Mott.



Honorable Tracey Flemings-Davillier graduated Cum Laude from Loyola University New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology. Thereafter, she attended Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law and received a Juris Doctorate degree.

On August 22, 2014, Judge Davillier was re-elected without opposition to serve a second term as Judge of Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, Section "B".

Judge Davillier regularly participates in leadership/mentor programs geared toward working with high school students across the Metropolitan New Orleans area. She continually opens her Court to observations by students in middle and high school and college, as well as law students in conjunction with the externship programs at Tulane University School of Law and Loyola University School of Law.

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

Judge Davillier recently authored "Our Sheroes" - published in the March 2019 GNO Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. newsletter. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Omicron Lambda Omega Graduate Chapter; The New Orleans (LA) Chapter of The Links, Inc.; and the New Orleans Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Judge Davillier is a member of various judicial/bar and civic organizations.



Honorable Nakisha Ervin-Knott was elected to Civil District Court on November 4, 2014. Prior to being elected, Judge Ervin-Knott was the first African-American female partner in the law firm of Gainsburgh, Benjamin, David, and Meunier & Warshauer. Her practice focused on medical negligence cases in addition to automobile, 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.

Beyond her legal practice, Ms. Ervin-Knott served on the Council of Directors for the Louisiana Associate for Justice, vice chair of ASI Federal Credit Union, and is a former president of the Independent Women’s Organization, the oldest and largest democratic women’s organization in the city. Currently, Judge Ervin-Knott serves as the chair of Civil District Court’s Information Technology Committee, on the Board of Governors of the Louisiana Judicial College and on the board of the Fourth Circuit Judges Association. She is also a member of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, the Association of Women Attorneys, was recognized as a 2014 “Leader in Law” by New Orleans City Business and was recently inducted into the Southern University Law Center’s Judicial Wall of Fame.

Judge Ervin-Knott is a graduate of Southern University Law Center and an honor graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana, with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. She is married to Steven Knott and they are the proud parents of two boys, Devin and Dylan Knott, ages 16 and 13.



Daniel Falstad is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Energy Legal Department. He also serves as the Secretary of the company and its operating company subsidiaries, with responsibility for corporate governance and maintenance of each company’s official corporate records. Mr. Falstad also counsels management in corporate disclosure and SEC reporting matters.

Mr. Falstad is a graduate of Duke University and received his law degree in 1985 from Yale Law School. Following a judicial clerkship, he began practicing corporate and securities law with a private law firm in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986. Mr. Falstad practiced with Troutman Sanders LLP, Kilpatrick Stockton LLP and DLA Piper LLP in Atlanta before joining Entergy in 2009. Prior to joining Entergy, he had a wide-ranging corporate and securities law practice including corporate governance, securities compliance, capital markets transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and other complex corporate transactions.



Honorable Lee V. Faulkner, Jr., was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and is a lifelong resident of Jefferson Parish. He is a graduate of West Jefferson High School, Xavier University of Louisiana and the Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Following law school, Judge Faulkner entered into private practice, his practice consisted of personal injury, criminal, domestic and civil litigation. He also served as an assistant public defender for the Jefferson Parish Public Defender's Office.

Prior to being elected as Judge, he was appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court to serve as Judge Pro Tempore for Second Parish Court for the Parish of Jefferson. He also served as a traffic hearing officer for Second Parish Court.

He was elected as a District Judge, Division "P" in 2008, following the retirement of the Honorable Melvin C. Zeno.

Judge Faulkner is a member of numerous social, judicial and legal organizations, including but not limited to the National Bar Association; American Judges Association; Past President, Jefferson Bar Association; Louisiana State Bar Association; President, Fifth Circuit Judges Association; recently elected as Board Member, Fourth and Fifth Circuit Judges Association. He is proud member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Gamma Rho Chapter, New Orleans, Louisiana. He also serves as the President of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Playground Booster Club and previously served as the Legal Advisor of the Old Harvey Canal Civic Association.

He and his wife, Toyane are the proud parents of three children.



Ally Flakes will be attending Loyola University of New Orleans in the fall and will major in history with a concentration in pre-law. Participating in the 2018 Suit Up for the Future program helped Ms. Flakes cement what she wanted to do and played a large part in picking her major.

Ms. Flakes is an alumna of Benjamin Franklin High School.



A New Orleans native, **Miles Francis** attended Brother Martin High School, graduating in 2016. He is currently a senior studying Psychology with a specialization in forensic science at Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida. He also plays for the university's men's soccer team.



Jordan Ginsberg is an Assistant United States District Attorney in the Eastern District of Louisiana and the Chief of the Office's Public Corruption Unit. He specializes in the prosecution of various complex white-collar and cybercrimes, including public corruption, computer intrusion/hacking, child exploitation and trafficking, and health care fraud. Mr. Ginsberg has successfully tried 10 federal jury trials, including complex public corruption cases and the first juvenile sex trafficking matter tried in the Eastern District of Louisiana. He has also argued before the Fifth and Seventh Circuit Courts of Appeals. Mr. Ginsberg serves as the Office's Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property (CHIP) coordinator and has spoken at conferences nationally and internationally on a variety of topics. Mr. Ginsberg is an Associate Professor at Tulane University Law School and an Adjunct Professor at Tulane's A.B. Freeman School of Business. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Washington and Lee University in 2001 and from the University of Chicago Law school with honors in 2004. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Mr. Ginsberg served as a law clerk in the Northern District of Illinois for the Honorable Mark Filip and as an associate at Sidley Austin LLP.



Lezlie A. Griffin, Assistant Dean for Career Development & Diversity Initiatives, oversees career development as well as initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion in the Tulane Law community. Dean Griffin previously served as the Assistant Dean for Career Services at the University of Alabama School of Law, where she successfully led a reorganization of the school's career services office, was promoted twice, and was tapped for national leadership roles with the Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP). Before her move to Alabama, Dean Griffin was a career counselor and diversity coordinator at Tulane Law, and previously practiced labor and employment law as a staff attorney with AFSCME. Dean Griffin is a two-time graduate of Tulane Law School, earning both her J.D. and a Master of Laws in International and Comparative Law. She earned her undergraduate degree from Troy University. Dean Griffin is an active member of the Florida Bar, NALP, the ABA, the Martinet Legal Society, and the Association for Women Attorneys.



Recognized as a judicial pacesetter, **Honorable Piper D. Griffin** was elected to Orleans Parish Civil District Court in 2001, serving as its Chief Judge from 2012-2014. She holds a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and received her J.D. from LSU in 1987.

Judge Griffin is active professionally and civically. Judge Griffin served as President of the Louisiana Judicial Council/National Bar Association; Past President of the 4th and 5th Circuit Judges Association; Secretary of the Louisiana Association of District Court Judges; member, Testing Committee of the Louisiana Committee on Bar Examinations; member, Louisiana Law Institute; President, Board of Directors for St. Katharine Drexel Prep (formerly Xavier Prep); President, Crescent City Chapter of Links, Inc. and member, Second Baptist Church Sixth District Board of Trustees.



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) in 1995 and went on to receive her Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center in 1999.

She is currently working as a Senior Misdemeanor Attorney with the Fifteenth Judicial District Public Defenders office in Lafayette and handling a full range of criminal cases. 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, and the National Association of Public Defense Attorneys.



Michael Harrison is a judicial law clerk serving the Honorable Piper Griffin of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. A native of New Orleans, he graduated from Saint Augustine High School in 2011. He obtained an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame and a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University New Orleans. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He is a newlywed and plans to start a family soon.



Jake T. Henry, III is the Director of Admissions at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center. He received his BS degree in Psychology from The University of Southern Mississippi, and his law degree from Washburn University School of Law. Prior to attending law school, Director Henry worked in local and state law enforcement. Director Henry is currently a Staff Senator at LSU, where he is the Chair of the Scholarship Committee. He has also completed the coursework for his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership, Research, and Counseling, and is conducting research for his dissertation on minority access to legal education.



Asia Hentkowski is a graduate of Saint Mary's Dominican High school. She is a rising sophomore at Loyola University of New Orleans, where she majors in political science on the pre-law track. Ms. Hentkowski is an alum of the Suit Up for the Future program. She won best oral argument in 2016.



Lindsey Hortenstine is the Director of Communications and Development, shaping Orleans Public Defenders (OPD) strategic communications and development efforts, expanding community awareness and advocacy and garnering support for our fight for equal justice. Since 2012, she has led OPD's media presence and the rise in coverage of public defense, both locally and nationally, with features in the *New York Times*, *60 Minutes*, *Washington Post*, BuzzFeed, NPR, Al Jazeera America, Huffington Post, the *Guardian* and others. With more than a decade of communications and PR experience, Ms. Hortenstine is a graduate of the LSU Manship School of Communications and the 2015 PRSA of New Orleans Individual Award of Excellence honoree for her work around OPD's funding crisis and feature on John Oliver's Last Week Tonight.



After 23 years of practicing law, **Honorable Sandra C. Jenkins** was elected on November 6, 2012 to the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal.

A Baton Rouge native, Judge Jenkins completed her studies at LSU, BA; Southern University, MPA; and Southern University Law Center, JD. She received her Master of Divinity from Mercer University (Atlanta), McAfee School of Theology.

Teaching is Judge Jenkins' passion. In 2018, she was invited to be a faculty member of the National Judicial College, the national leader in judicial education. Judge Jenkins is an adjunct professor at Xavier University of Louisiana, where she teaches pre-law courses.

Judge Jenkins holds membership in National, State, and Local Bar Associations. On July 18, 2018, Judge Jenkins was appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards to the Louisiana Women's Incarceration Task Force. She is also on the Board of Directors for Operation Restoration and on the Pink Executive Council for Making Strides against Breast Cancer.

Shortly after her election on November 6, 2012, Judge Jenkins developed her Law Camp. The law camp is designed as an educational tool to encourage dialogue about the law.



Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson is the Louisiana Supreme Court's 25th Chief Justice, its second female Chief Justice, and its first African-American Chief Justice. Born in Donaldsonville, Louisiana, she attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science in 1964. She was one of the first African-American women to attend and earn a Juris Doctorate degree from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University in 1969. She also received an Honorary Doctorate in Law from Spelman College in 2001. Chief Justice Johnson was inducted into the LSU Law Center's Hall of Fame in 1996 and was recently named as an Honorary Inductee into the LSU Order of the Coif.

Chief Justice Johnson's judicial career began in 1984 when she was the first woman elected to serve on the Civil District Court of New Orleans. In 1994, her colleagues elected her Chief Judge. She was then elected to serve on the Louisiana Supreme Court in 1994 and was re-elected without opposition in 2000 and 2010. As the senior justice on the Court, she was sworn in as Chief Justice on February 1, 2013.

On the bench, Chief Justice Johnson emphasizes principles of fairness and equality. She has served on the National Campaign on Best Practices in the area of Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts. She has also championed many successful initiatives, including the training and certification of the Limited English Proficiency Interpreters in the courts and the implementation of an electronic filing system for the Louisiana Supreme Court. Chief Justice Johnson has always been an advocate for social justice and civil rights. Following law school, she became the Managing Attorney of the New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation (NOLAC), where she provided legal services to clients in socio-economically deprived neighborhoods. She practiced in federal, state, and juvenile courts, advancing the rights of children, the poor, the elderly, and the disenfranchised.

Having dedicated herself to a life of service, Chief Justice Johnson is widely recognized as a trailblazer in the judiciary and is the recipient of numerous highly coveted awards. In October of 2013, the Chief received the prestigious Joan Dempsey Klein Award by the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ). She joins a distinguished list of Joan Dempsey Klein Award recipients that include U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Sonia Sotomayor. According to NAWJ President, Joan Churchill, "Chief Justice Johnson overcame many

obstacles in her judicial career while making impressive contributions to women in the legal profession.”

The American Bar Association has long recognized the value of Chief Justice Johnson’s service, awarding her the 2010 Spirit of Excellence Award from the ABA’s Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession, as well as the 1998 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. The National Bar Association, the nation’s oldest and largest association of African-American lawyers and judges, has also recognized Chief Justice Johnson’s work as a long-time member of the organization. In 2010, she was inducted into the NBA Hall of Fame at the annual meeting and was awarded the Distinguished Civil Rights Advocate Award by Attorney Barbara Arnwine on behalf of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law.

Chief Justice Johnson has received many other notable awards, including the 2013 Martin Luther King Unsung Hero Award presented by LSU; the 2012 National Urban League President’s Award; the 2012 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Award; the 2012 Exceptional Leadership Award presented by the Louisiana State Bar Association Diversity Committee; the 2009 Distinguished Jurist Award presented by the Louisiana Bar Foundation; the 2000 Medal of Honor presented by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans; the 2000 Women of Wonder Award by the National Council of Negro Women; and the first-ever Ernest N. Morial Award presented by the New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation.

On January 15, 2016, in recognition of Chief Justice Johnson’s widespread impact, the Louisiana State Bar Association Board of Governors unanimously voted to combine the Trailblazer and Human Rights Awards into the aptly named, “Louisiana State Bar Association Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson Trailblazer Award,” bestowed by the LSBA each year at their annual meeting. Chief Justice Johnson was honored as a 2018 Good Apple Honoree by Louisiana Appleseed for increasing access to justice throughout her esteemed career and was presented the Whitney M. Young Award by the Southeast Louisiana Council of the Boy Scouts of America at its Diversity in Scouting Gala. In 2019, Chief Justice Johnson received the prestigious Gertrude E. Rush Award from the National Bar Association for her leadership in the community and in the legal profession, as well as her concern for human and civil rights.

Chief Justice Johnson is a true civil servant who has spent her entire professional life serving her state, our profession, and our citizens. In addition to her professional achievements, and service to her community, Chief Justice Johnson is most proud of her commitment to her family, including her son, David Johnson, an accountant, who lives in Atlanta with his family, and her daughter, Judge Rachael Johnson, who now serves at Orleans Parish Civil District Court.



Kai Alexandra Johnson is a rising 2L at Tulane University School of Law. Her background includes conducting policy research for the United States House of Representatives and the Democratic Committee on Homeland Security. She currently serves as a Summer Judicial Extern at the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana under Chief Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby. She is pursuing a career in public interest.



Kimberly Jones joined Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2016 as the Director of Law Admissions after serving 12 years in various capacities in the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs at the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) School of Law. Prior to her career in law school administration, Ms. Jones practiced law in the area of creditors' rights with the firm Weltman, Weinberg, and Reis Co., LPA. While a law student, Ms. Jones clerked for two of the region's largest law firms, served as an associate editor of the University of Detroit Mercy Law Review, and was elected Vice-

President of the Black Law Students Association.

The most notable of her career accomplishments is that Ms. Jones initiated the Office of Multicultural Affairs at UDM Law. Its primary goal was to increase ethnic and racial minority enrollment at UDM Law and, subsequently, their presence in the practicing bar so that both reflect the community at large. During that time, UDM Law experienced record increases as to minority student enrollment.

In her current role as Director of Law Admissions, Ms. Jones provides leadership to the Office of Law Admissions Office, working closely with faculty and senior administrators to create a diverse and well-credentialed first-year class that meets the Dean and the University's Board of Trustees expectations.



Robert Jones is an exoneree that served nearly 24 years in prison for crimes that he did not commit. While incarcerated, he earned several college-level certificates in law, business, political science and journalism.

Mr. Jones is currently employed at the Orleans Public Defenders Office as a client advocate. He assists pre-trial and post-trial defendants re-enter society with smoother transitions. Mr. Jones is also co-founder of the non-profit organization, "Free-deem Foundation, Inc."

Mr. Jones sits on the board of directors of Innocence Project New Orleans, and the committee for the Community Advisory Group of the MacArthur Safety & Justice

Challenge Criminal Justice Initiative of New Orleans. He is also a national public speaker and published author.



Susan Jones is a librarian at the Fifth Circuit Library in New Orleans. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Centenary College, a Master of Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University, and a Juris Doctorate from Marquette University Law School.



Robert A. "Bob" Kutcher is the managing partner in the Metairie firm of Richard Kutcher Tygier & Luminais, L.L.P and the 2019-2020 LSBA President. He received his BS degree in 1972 from Cornell University and his J.D. degree, *cum laude*, in 1975 from Loyola University Law School. He was admitted to practice in Louisiana in 1976 and in New York in 1976.

Mr. Kutcher served as president-elect of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) in 2018-19 and as treasurer in 2014-16. He served in the House of Delegates and on the House Liaison Committee for several terms. He is a member of the Legislation Committee and the Committee on the Profession.

He was a member of the *Louisiana Bar Journal* Editorial Board and is a co-chair of the Summer School Planning Committee. He also served on the Nominating Committee and the Rules of Professional Conduct Committee. He chaired the Audit Committee in 2013 and received the LSBA President's Award in 2013.

Mr. Kutcher chaired the Louisiana State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission from 1990-94. He was an associate commissioner of the Anti-Defamation League National Commission from 1991-2002, regional chair of the Anti-Defamation League from 1992-96 and regional board member since 1984.

In his community, he served as president of Shir Chadash Conservative Synagogue and the Jewish Community Center of New Orleans. He also served as a board member of the Jewish Community Centers of North America in 1992-98.

He has been listed in *Best Lawyers* (2012-2019), including 2013 New Orleans Litigation-Real Estate Lawyer of the Year and Lawyer of the Year 2018 in the practice areas of closely held companies and family businesses law; and *Louisiana Super Lawyers* in business litigation (2008-2019).

Mr. Kutcher and his wife, Renee B. Kutcher, have been married for 34 years. They have four children.



Jennifer Gordon Lampton is the senior law clerk for the Honorable Nakisha Ervin-Knott of Orleans Parish Civil District Court, Division D. She received her Bachelor of Science in Management from the A. B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana, and obtained her Juris Doctor from Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law. In May 2018, Ms. Lampton became a board member of Voices for International Business and Education, Incorporated (VIBE), which operates International High School of New Orleans. Ms. Lampton's professional affiliations include: Louisiana State Bar Association, New Orleans Bar Association (chair of the Women in the Profession Committee and Young Lawyers Section Ambassador), Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society (co-chair of the Young Lawyers Committee), Association of Women Attorneys, and the A.P. Tureaud American Inn of Court.



Kristen Lee serves as law clerk to the Honorable Regina Bartholomew-Woods at the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. In 2012, Ms. Lee graduated *summa cum laude* from Loyola University New Orleans with a B.A. in Political Science. She was a 2011-2012 fellow in the Institute of Politics. In 2013, she received the St. Mary's Dominican High School Outstanding Young Alumna Award. Ms. Lee attended Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. In 2015, she earned a Juris Doctor and Certificate in International Legal Studies. As a law student, Ms. Lee served three terms on the Honor Board, participated in the Trial Advocacy program, and was a student practitioner in the criminal defense section of the Stuart H. Smith Law Clinic. She was also a law clerk in the Office of General Counsel at Loyola University New Orleans. Her professional affiliations include St. Thomas More American Inn of Court, New Orleans Bar Association, and Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. Ms. Lee is a native of New Orleans and is licensed to practice in Louisiana.



Wayne J. Lee is a Member of Stone Pigman and is currently Chair of the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group. For the last 15 years, his practice has included a concentration in insurance and insurance class action lawsuits. Mr. Lee is a Past President of the Louisiana State Bar Association. Throughout his career, he has held numerous other positions within the LSBA and has received three LSBA President's Awards. He is a frequent speaker at legal seminars. Mr. Lee received his law degree in 1974 from Tulane University Law School, where he was chosen to the Order of the Coif and was a member of the *Tulane Law Review* Board of Editors, 1972-74. He received his undergraduate degree from Tulane in 1971. Mr. Lee joined Stone Pigman, and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar, in 1974.



Honorable Ivan L. R. Lemelle was appointed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana on May 13, 1998 by President Bill Clinton. Prior to his appointment as a United States District Judge, Senior 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, and as such the sixth in the nation.

His professional and community services have included the following non-exhaustive examples: Federal Bar Association Bench Bar Committee; American Bar Association Standing Committee on Diversity in the Judiciary; Board of Reconcile New Orleans, Inc. d/b/a Café Reconcile-a nonprofit committed to addressing generational poverty, violence and neglect in the New Orleans area, specifically “at risk” young adults; Sigma Pi Phi and Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternities.

For his many services, Senior Judge Lemelle has been appreciably humbled by service awards for work with students at all levels of education and with professional organizations, e.g., Mentor of the Year presented by students at Rabouin High School, Colton Middle School and World of Work Academy; Alumnus of the Year twice presented by Moot Court Board, Loyola College of Law; Dean Westerfield Award presented by the A. P. Tureaud Chapter of BLSA, Loyola College of Law; Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Society; Hall of Fame of the National Bar Association; Loyola College of Law Alumni Association St. Ives Award, highest alumni award for service.

He is an honors graduate from Xavier University of Louisiana, with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1971, and Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans, with a Juris Doctorate degree in 1974.



Heather S. Lonian is a partner at Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann in New Orleans. Her practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, with a concentration in class action defense and insurance. She has litigated cases in federal and state district and appellate courts on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants. She has represented clients in class action, mass tort, and multidistrict litigation proceedings. In addition, she represented clients in cases involving unfair trade practice claims, intellectual property, employment discrimination, and complex contract disputes. Ms. Lonian is a member of the American Bar Association's Class Actions and Derivative Suits Committee and the Louisiana State Bar Association. Ms. Lonian is a graduate of Yale University (B.A. 2002) and Harvard Law School (J.D. 2005).



Honorable Terri F. Love is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. Judge Love graduated in 1983 from Jackson State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. She received a Juris Doctor from Tulane University School of Law in 1986 and was admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in April of 1987. In 2004, Judge Love received her Master of Laws degree in the Judicial Process from the University of Virginia. In 2007, Judge Love was selected to attend the International Judicial Academy, where she studied international law at The Hague, Netherlands. In 2011, Judge Love was selected by the Louisiana Supreme Court to participate in the inaugural session of the Louisiana Judicial Leadership Institute.

Judge Love began her legal career in New Orleans with the firm of Jefferson, Bryan, Gray, & Jupiter where, among other things, she represented the Orleans Parish School Board in tort litigation. In 1990, Judge Love established a private law practice; she represented clients in all areas of law and specialized in family law. In 1993, she was appointed Judge Ad Hoc by the judges of the Juvenile Court of Orleans Parish. The following year, Mayor Marc Morial appointed her Chief Deputy City Attorney for the City of New Orleans. During her tenure, Judge Love was the lead author of the city's first domestic violence ordinance.

In October 1995, Judge Love was elected to the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. In September 2000, she was elected to the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, unopposed. In August 2004, and August 2014, Judge Love was re-elected to serve ten-year terms, unopposed.

A continuing student of the law, Judge Love has completed the New York University School of Law's Institute for Appellate Judges and the George Mason School of Law Collegium. She is an active lecturer in various continuing legal education programs and has served as a Trial Advocacy Instructor at the Louisiana State University School of Law. She has also acted as an adjunct professor at Miles College Law School.

Judge Love has been married to Ellria Love for the past thirty years. They are the proud parents of Jasmine Love-Cockfield (Samuel) and Ellria Hall.



Betty Maury is law clerk to the Honorable Lee V. Faulkner, Jr. at the 24th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Jefferson. She received her Bachelor's degree *summa cum laude* from Concordia University of Wisconsin and her Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

Ms. Maury serves as a District 2 Representative of the LSBA YLD Council, is co-chair of the Wills for Heroes Program, serves in the LSBA House of Delegates, is a member of the LSBA Access to Justice Committee, and is

the LSBA Region 4 High School Mock Trial Competition Coordinator. Ms. Maury was a member of the 2017-18 Leadership LSBA Class and Co-Chaired the 2018-19 Leadership LSBA Class.

Ms. Maury is the 2017 recipient of the LSBA Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, a 2016 recipient of the Gillis Long Poverty Law Center Public Service Award, and was named the 2013 Outstanding Loyola Family Law Clinic Student by the New Orleans Association of Women Attorneys.

She is married to her high school sweetheart, Thomas, and they have two sons, Thomas, III and Lucas.



Annie G. McBride is an associate at Stone Pigman. She assists public agencies, private companies, and start-ups with corporate, business, and real estate matters. She joined Stone Pigman in 2016.

Ms. McBride received the President's Award from the New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association in 2018 for her service as chair of the Younger Lawyers Division Philanthropy Committee and its Landmark Cases project. Ms. McBride earned her J.D. from the Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2015, graduating *summa cum laude*. She was the editor-in-chief of the *Loyola Law Review* from 2014-2015. She received her B.A. from Loyola University New Orleans in 2007.



Janell McFarland-Forges is an Associate Attorney at O'Bryon & Schnabel, PLC. She focuses on litigating matters in the areas of casualty and personal injury, products liability, premises liability, and commercial litigation. 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

Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. After law school, she served as a teaching assistant and researcher at Xavier University of Louisiana to the Honorable Sandra C. Jenkins of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

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, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, and the Defense Research Institute.



Robert A. McKnight is a New Orleans native, who is a proud alumnus of Saint Augustine High School and *Cum Laude* graduate of Southern University Law Center where he earned his Juris Doctorate. He is a 4th generation New Orleanian, born and raised Uptown, all of which has earned him the nickname “the Son of Uptown.” Mr. McKnight is currently a staff attorney at the Orleans Public Defenders Office, who strives for equity within the criminal justice system for a fair and just New Orleans. Overall, Mr. McKnight is an advocate who is passionate about education policy, youth justice and reforming the criminal justice system.



W. Fritz Metzinger, III is an associate at Stone Pigman, he concentrates his practice on general business litigation. He assists businesses and individuals with a variety of simple and complex matters. Before joining Stone Pigman, Mr. Metzinger was an extern for Judge Martin L.C. Feldman at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. He joined Stone Pigman in 2017. Mr. Metzinger received his J.D. from Tulane University Law School in 2017. He graduated *magna cum laude* and is a member of the Order of the Coif. During his time at Tulane, he served as the online editor of the *Tulane Law Review* and Legal Research and Writing Senior Fellow. Mr. Metzinger received his B.A. in History and Economics, with distinction, from the University of Virginia in 2013.



Jimmy Miller is an attorney with Orleans Public Defenders (OPD), and he has represented clients facing both felony and misdemeanor charges for the last three years. Before joining OPD, Mr. Miller clerked for a judge in Shreveport and graduated from Tulane University Law School in 2014.



Trent J. Moss is an avid litigator who has been fighting for the rights of property owners throughout his career, taking the fight to insurance companies, banks, contractors, and anyone else who infringes on the rights of his clients.

Mr. Moss has worked tirelessly over the years to defend the rights of Louisiana residents and businesses damaged by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Isaac, and countless other storms, floods, fires, and myriad other losses. He has even taken on building product manufacturers, mortgage companies, big banks, and other companies that are “too big to fail.”

Mr. Moss is a proud Louisiana native who graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and Tulane Law School. Keeping true to his roots, Mr. Moss considers himself both a family man and a sportsman. He is also an active member of the New Orleans running communities, and he enjoys running marathons across the country on his time off.



Raechelle M. Munna serves as Senior Counsel at Entergy Corporation in the Corporate & Securities Group. Her primary responsibilities include advising the company on securities law disclosure and compliance, corporate governance matters, including ESG and sustainability matters, and other general corporate matters. Ms. Munna currently serves as the Chair of the Generational Employee Resource Group at Entergy.

Prior to joining the Entergy Legal Department in 2016, Ms. Munna practiced with Jones Walker in the Corporate & Securities Group. Her areas of practice include corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, securities law disclosure and compliance, capital markets transactions, and other general corporate matters.

Ms. Munna is a graduate of Spring Hill College, where she received a B.S. in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration. She received a Juris Doctorate Degree from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, where she served as Managing Editor of the Loyola Law Review.



Courtney R. Nicholson serves as Senior Counsel at Entergy Corporation in the Regulatory Litigation Group. Her primary responsibility is the handling of state regulatory proceedings before public service commissions in Louisiana and Texas. Ms. Nicholson's experience includes proceedings involving asset acquisitions/sales, cost recovery allowances, securitization financings, regional transmission organization membership and other regulatory compliance and utility ratemaking issues. Ms. Nicholson is currently a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the New Orleans Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Ms. Nicholson is a graduate of Florida A&M University, where she received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Business Administration degrees, and of Tulane University Law School, where she received her Juris Doctor degree.

While at Entergy, Ms. Nicholson has participated in various diversity, community service and pro bono initiatives. These initiatives include volunteering as a mentor with the Louisiana State Bar Association's Suit Up for the Future program, co-hosting several interview skills workshops at Southern University Law Center, actively participating with the Entergy Legal Department's diversity council and routinely volunteering at the Orleans Parish Civil District Court to assist pro se litigants.



Violet A. Obioha is an associate at Stone Pigman. She assists clients with corporate, business and commercial real estate matters. Ms. Obioha joined Stone Pigman in 2018 and is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Greater New Orleans Chapter of the Louis A. Martinet Society. She is also a Junior Member of the Louisiana State Law Institute. Ms. Obioha earned her J.D., *summa cum laude*, from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2018, where she was a member of the *Loyola Law Review*. She received her B.S., *summa cum laude*, from Loyola University New Orleans in 2012.



Gwyneth O'Neill is a staff attorney with the Orleans Public Defenders, where she represents indigent clients in a variety of felony matters in Orleans Parish Criminal Court. She received her B.A. from Boston College and J.D. from Rutgers School of Law – Newark, where she was a Kinoy-Stavis Fellow.

Following law school, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Brian Jackson in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana and then was as an E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow in the Criminal Justice Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center. As a Prettyman Fellow, Ms. O'Neil earned her L.L.M. in Advocacy while also representing indigent clients in D.C. Superior Court. Prior to law school, she served as a teachNOLA fellow working as a teacher in New Orleans public schools.



Lannette M. Richardson was born and raised in Southern California. She earned her B.A in Spanish from Loyola Marymount University and her M.B.A in Gaming Management from Alcorn State University. Ms. Richardson is a casino management professional. Her expertise is in the areas of accounting and compliance. Ms. Richardson's plan is to attend law school in the fall of 2019. She aspires to one day live and work in Latin America as an attorney within the casino industry.

Presently, she serves as National Chairwoman for Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Incorporated, a 10,000-member nonprofit organization. In her free time, Ms. Richardson enjoys volunteering, spending time with her family and playing tennis.



Wajiha Rizvi began her work at Entergy in 2011 after receiving her J.D. at the University of Texas School of Law. In her role as Senior Counsel in the company's Austin office, she manages state regulatory proceedings for Entergy Texas before the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Ms. Rizvi is Chair of the Entergy Legal Diversity & Inclusion Counsel and Chair of Entergy's Multicultural Employee Resource Group. She is also an active member of the Entergy Pro Bono and Community Service Committee. She encourages empowerment of diverse communities by mentoring girls through organizations such as GirlForward and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Texas. Ms. Rizvi also works on voting rights issues through the Texas Civil Rights Project's Voter Protection Task Force to ensure that immigrant communities have access to the polls.



Wendy Hickok Robinson is Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer for Entergy Corporation. She is responsible for developing, implementing, and leading Entergy's compliance program. She oversees the Ethics and Compliance group, which promotes ethical business culture and awareness of the company's legal compliance risk environment.

Ms. Robinson previously served as assistant general counsel in the Legal department's litigation group. She worked on significant litigation for the company, specializing in the areas of federal preemption, antitrust, and class actions. She was also responsible for leading the company's compliance efforts in the areas of antitrust and corporate political activity, including campaign finance, political action committees, lobbying, and gift laws.

Ms. Robinson has practiced law for 20 years. Prior to joining Entergy in 2010, she was a partner in the New Orleans-based law firm Gordon, Arata, McCollam, Duplantis, and Eagan LLP, where she represented Entergy and other clients on a range of commercial litigation matters.

Ms. Robinson graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in Russian Language and Literature, and from Columbia University School of Law, where she was an articles editor for the Law Review. She was awarded a Public Interest Fellowship from Skadden Arps Slate Meagher and Flom, which she pursued at New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation.

She currently serves on the board of Live Oak Wilderness Camp, which provides leadership development and outdoor experiences to a diverse community of outstanding New Orleans children.



Honorable Karen Wells Roby is the Chief United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana. She has served on the court for twenty (20) years, where she handles criminal and civil matters and also serves as a mediator. She is a Division Director for the ABA’s Litigation section and is formerly the Co-Chair of the ABA Litigation Section, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and former Co-Chair of the Section’s Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee.

In 2012, Judge Roby served as President of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association (“FMJA”), 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.

Judge Roby is a frequent speaker on various legal topics, and she has had over hundreds of speaking engagements throughout the United States during her career. She is also published in the areas of social media and ethics, settlement and ethics, and attorney’s fees. Judge Roby serves as an Adjunct Professor at Tulane University Law School, where she teaches a course on E-Discovery and Digital Evidence.



Anna Scardulla graduated *magna cum laude* and Order of the Coif from the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center in 2014. During her time in law school, Ms. Scardulla was a member of the Louisiana Law Review, served as President of the 2013-14 Moot Court Board, served as research assistant to John Randall Trahan, the Louis B. Porterie Professor of Law and Saul Litvinoff Distinguished Professor of Law, and served as a Judicial Extern to the Honorable Brian A. Jackson, United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana. Before returning to LSU Law in 2017, she worked as an associate with McCranie, Sistrunk, Anzelmo, Hardy McDaniel & Welch, LLC

doing primarily automotive products liability litigation in Louisiana state and federal courts. Ms. Scardulla also served as a Louisiana State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Observer of the Louisiana State Law Institute for the 2016 term. As the Law Center’s Advocacy Fellow, she now teaches, coaches, and assists in the administration of the Law Center’s moot court, trial advocacy, and alternative dispute resolution programs. She also provides student instruction related to advocacy skills, including brief writing, motion practice, and litigation case management. Outside of the legal community, Ms. Scardulla works closely with local nonprofit New Orleans Artists Against Hunger and Homelessness (“NOAAHH”) and the Create. Inspire. Change. Theater Company.



Theodore “Theo” Shaw received his B.A. in Political Science in 2012 from the University of Louisiana Monroe. During college, he interned with the Innocence Project New Orleans, a national nonprofit law office that represents innocent people serving life sentences in Louisiana and Mississippi. Before law school, he worked for three years as a community advocate with the Southern Poverty Law Center’s New Orleans office, where he worked with a team of attorneys and advocates challenging inhumane and violent conditions of confinement in prisons across Louisiana and Mississippi.

He received his law degree from the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, where he was a Gates Public Service Law Scholar, member of the Moot Court Honor Board, and, upon graduation, was presented with the Order of the Barristers honor.

During law school, he externed for the Honorable Richard Jones of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington, and he spent his law school summers interning with the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C. and the Bronx Defenders in Bronx, New York.

He is currently clerking for Chief Justice Bernette Johnson of the Louisiana Supreme Court, and this fall, he will be attending Georgetown University Law Center as a Prettyman Fellow with the Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic.



Honorable D. Nicole Sheppard is an alumna of Southern University at New Orleans and Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Judge Sheppard is a wife and mother, as well as a full-time Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge, local talk show host, and contributing local radio host.

Judge Sheppard founded the Sheppard Williams Law Firm in 2005. Judge Sheppard’s practice included estate planning, real transactions, corporate, family and domestic matters, families in need of services cases, children in need of care, contract law, contractor fraud cases, personal injury, medical malpractice, criminal and traffic litigation. She was of counsel to two law firms and represented a large number of Louisiana major retailers in civil matters.

Judge Sheppard was admitted to practice in all state, municipal and traffic courts in Louisiana and into the United States Courts for the Eastern District of Louisiana. In addition to presiding over cases full time, Judge Sheppard has also dedicated herself to the advancement of public education and the improvement of the social justice system. Her nearly twenty-five-year commitment to providing public education through television and radio programming evidence her unflinching pledge to the people of the Greater New Orleans area.



Matthew Slaughter focuses his practice on litigation with an emphasis on construction and commercial litigation. His previous experience as a law clerk for the Hon. Robert G. James and Hon. Karen L. Hayes, both of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, has given him deeper insight into the law. Prior to joining Phelps Dunbar, he served as a judicial extern for the Hon. Karen W. Roby of the Eastern District of Louisiana, the Hon. William E. Cassady of the Southern District of Alabama, and the Hon. L. Scott Coogler of the Northern District of Alabama.



Brooke C. Tigchelaar is a Member of Stone Pigman and focuses her practice in the areas of business litigation, products liability and class actions. She frequently represents high net worth individuals in domestic relations disputes and is a certified family and divorce mediator. She joined Stone Pigman in 2008. She is a Fellow of the Louisiana Bar Foundation and a member of the Junior League of New Orleans. Ms. Tigchelaar has been recognized as a Rising Star by *Louisiana Super Lawyers* magazine and as a Top Lawyer by *New Orleans* magazine. She earned her J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2008. She received her B.A., *cum laude*, in Communication from Tulane University in 2004.



Sean Toomey is an experienced trial lawyer who represents clients in high-stakes civil and criminal proceedings, as well as internal and government investigations. Mr. Toomey draws on his experience of over a decade in the Department of Justice as an assistant United States attorney in the Eastern District of Louisiana, where he focused on trying cases, arguing motions, and appearing before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in high-profile cases.

Mr. Toomey also handles commercial litigation, building on his earlier years of civil practice at two international law firms in New York, NY, focused on securities, regulatory, and general commercial disputes involving a broad spectrum of legal practice, including fraud, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, reinsurance, health care, as well as federal securities law.



Prior to entering law school, **Andrew Vicknair** worked as a software engineer for a major medical manufacturer and as an electrical engineer for a major chemical manufacturer. Mr. Vicknair regularly uses his prior work experience as a part of his legal practice. He is now a partner in Shields | Mott.

His primary practice areas include all phases of intellectual property including litigation, prosecution, and transactional matters. Mr. Vicknair handles all aspects of patent, trademark, and copyright litigation; and prosecution of U.S. patent applications, trademark applications, and registration of copyrights with the United States Copyright Office.

Mr. Vicknair's practice also focuses on commercial and construction litigation, including claims related to construction defects, payment disputes, design issues, and general disputes among subcontractors, owners, and general contractors.

Mr. Vicknair lectures on multiple aspects of intellectual property and construction law topics.



Trina Shelmire Vincent serves as Public Information Specialist in the Community Relations Department of the Louisiana Supreme Court. Ms. Vincent plays an integral role in communications and outreach to the public on behalf of the court. She is instrumental in implementing tours, meetings, events, and public involvement including handling media relations, public inquiries, providing photographic and videographic support as well as producing court publications. Her primary focus is to utilize these methods of outreach to inform, educate, and further public understanding of and public trust and confidence in the Louisiana judiciary.

Ms. Vincent is a native of New Orleans. Prior to joining the staff at the Louisiana Supreme Court, she developed a 20-year career that includes radio, television and cable marketing, production, and public relations. She also has experience at the collegiate level in university and media relations, recruitment, and fundraising. A recipient of the Public Relations Society of America Award and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education Award, Ms. Vincent holds a B.A. in Communications with a secondary study in Computer Science from Xavier University of Louisiana.



Raymond Waid is a maritime lawyer and veteran naval officer focused on helping companies in the marine and energy sector. Mr. Waid represents clients through all phases of litigation and in government investigations. He also provides clients with legal advice on maritime and environmental regulations and assistance in transactional matters, such as vessel sales, charterparties, and service.

As a full-time maritime lawyer, Mr. Waid has successfully handled the gambit of cases, including collision, allision, cargo, pollution, salvage, and injury cases.

Mr Waid is a graduate of Tulane University Law School. He is admitted to practice in Louisiana and Washington state.



Dan J. Walter is a Member of Stone Pigman and is a Tax Law Specialist, certified by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization. He represents clients in the areas of partnership and corporate tax, federal and state tax credits and incentives, real estate and corporate transactions, executive compensation and general corporate matters. He is a guest lecturer for the Music Industry Studies program at Loyola University, and has taught the program's capstone senior seminar courses. Mr. Walter also regularly volunteers at local incubators providing advice to entrepreneurs and small businesses through speaking engagements and office hours.

Mr. Walter has been named a Rising Star by *Louisiana Super Lawyers* and a Top Lawyer by *New Orleans* magazine. He earned his LL.M. in Taxation from the New York University School of Law, his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was selected to the Order of the Coif, was the managing editor of the *Virginia Tax Review*, and was a recipient of the Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize. He received a B.A. from Emory University.



Rod West is group president, utility operations for Entergy Corporation. In his role, Mr. West is responsible for the operational and financial performance of Entergy's five operating companies, including electric and natural gas distribution, and customer service operations. In addition, he oversees the utility's engagement with state and local regulators, and regulated retail commercial development and innovation.

As President and CEO of Entergy New Orleans from 2007-2010, Mr. West led Entergy New Orleans out of its post-hurricane Katrina bankruptcy and back to profitability. In the post-Katrina period, he is credited with leading the company's ongoing effort to replace nearly 850 miles of underground pipe damaged after Hurricane Katrina, an effort recognized as

the 2009 Global Infrastructure Project of the Year by Platts Global Energy Awards.

Before joining Entergy, Mr. West was senior attorney in the commercial litigation section of Vial, Hamilton, Koch & Knox, L.L.P. He also spent five years with New Orleans-based Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poitevent, Carrere & Denegre, L.L.P.

Mr. West has a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, where he lettered three years for Lou Holtz and the Fighting Irish's 1988 National Championship football team. He received his Juris Doctorate from the Tulane University School of Law and his MBA from Tulane University.



Stephanie L. Woodard is an attorney with the Orleans Public Defenders Office in New Orleans, Louisiana focusing on criminal defense. Prior to joining the OPD, Ms. Woodard worked as a diplomat for the state department in Malaysia, India, and Pakistan, doing both immigration and human rights advocacy work. She also previously worked for Texas Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Woodard is a graduate of Dillard University in New Orleans, as well as Columbia University, where she earned a Master's of International Affairs. She earned her J.D. from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in Chicago, where she served as co-president of Collaboration for Justice, which focuses on court watching and advocacy for judicial fairness, and editor of the Journal of Law and Social Policy. Ms. Woodard is a native of Houston, Texas and an advocate for justice and equality. She encourages youth to use the gifts bestowed upon them.



Tristyn Wheeler was born in New Orleans on September 1st 1995 and raised in Ascension Parish. Mr. Wheeler graduated with a degree in Marketing from Southeastern in 2018. He is currently furthering his education and seeking a master's degree in Business Administration through Southeastern.

Mr. Wheeler is the Admissions Counselor/Recruiter at Southeastern. His job is to assist and inform students through the entire application process. Mr. Wheeler has a border collie, a goldendoodle, and a cat. Wrestling is his favorite sport.



Dr. Angela White-Bazile is a graduate of University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She received her Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge. Dr. Bazile also received her Doctorate of Philosophy in Psychology & Biblical Counseling.

Dr. Bazile has been a practicing attorney for over 20 years. She has held positions such as Judicial Law Clerk to (the late Court of Appeals Judge Robert Katz, Judge Mickey Landry, and Judge Rose Ledet), Research Attorney for Associate Justice Bernette Johnson for over 12 years, Associate Attorney, Professor of Law, and in-house counsel.

She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., New Orleans Alumnae Chapter.

Dr. Bazile is the first African American Executive Counsel to the Louisiana Supreme Court under the first African American Chief Justice, Bernette Joshua Johnson.

In 2017, she was selected the first African American Queen of The Krewe of Selene.

Dr. Bazile has been elected as Secretary of the Human Trafficking Prevention Commission, and the Court named her the Judicial Liaison to Human Trafficking.



Professor Roederick C. White, Sr. is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He attended Southern University Laboratory School, where he graduated *magna cum laude* and accepted an academic scholarship to Southern University A&M College.

Professor White has extensive legal experience in labor law as supervisor of labor relations for General Motors Cadillac Motor Car Company in Detroit, Michigan. He held several positions of increasing responsibility, including assignment to the GM Corporate National Labor Relations staff.

After leaving GM, Professor White worked at Dykema Gossett, one of Michigan's largest law firms. He joined the law faculty of Southern University Law Center (SULC) in Baton Rouge Louisiana in 1993 and was named Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs in 2003 and Vice Chancellor in 2013. He is a member of the Governing Council of the Louisiana State Law Institute, Michigan Bar Association, American Bar Association, the National Honor Society of Business Scholars, and the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.



Rachel W. Wisdom is a Member of Stone Pigman and concentrates her practice in employment law, complex commercial litigation and class actions. She joined Stone Pigman in 1991. Ms. Wisdom is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and the American Bar Foundation. She has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* in the fields of commercial litigation, labor and employment and class action litigation, and *Louisiana Super Lawyers* in the field of business litigation. Ms. Wisdom served as judicial law clerk to the Honorable Martin L.C. Feldman, U.S. District Court, 1990-91, and as Judge *pro tempore* for the First City Court of Orleans Parish on multiple occasions from 1999-2009. She is an adjunct associate professor of law at Tulane University Law School and teaches Negotiation & Mediation Advocacy. Ms. Wisdom graduated *magna cum laude* from Tulane University Law School in 1990, where she was selected to the Order of the Coif and served as a Notes and Comments editor of the *Tulane Law Review*, 1989-90. She attended L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, 1982-83. She was selected to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated *magna cum laude* from Tulane University in 1984.



Emily Wojna-Hodnett worked in the Career Development Office before joining Tulane Law School's Office of Admission in 2014. As assistant director, Ms. Wojna-Hodnett attends recruitment events throughout the United States, coordinates admitted-student events and orientation, and counsels prospective law students throughout the application process.

Born and raised in New Orleans, Ms. Wojna-Hodnett attended Metairie Park Country Day School and Louisiana State University, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. 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.



Lacresha D. Wilkerson joined Simon Peragine Smith & Redfearn in 2018 as an associate with the firm's civil litigation section. She previously served as an Assistant Attorney General with the Louisiana Department of Justice and as a law clerk at the 19th Judicial District Court.

In her practice, Ms. Wilkerson's primary goal is to reduce the amount of liability her clients encounter. She is a strategic problem solver and an unwavering advocate for her clients.

Ms. Wilkerson is a founding member of the Charles Branch Kodiak Scholarship, whose mission is to provide a young leader who has demonstrated exemplary academic merit and public service

in her hometown an opportunity to advance his or her professional career with an academic scholarship.



Micah Zeno is an attorney at Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett where he focuses his practice on complex litigation, property law, and commercial transactions. Before joining the firm, he served for two years as the law clerk to the Honorable Judge June Berry Darensburg of the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District Court. Judge Darensburg is the first female, African-American judge elected in Jefferson Parish. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Zeno was a commercial banker at Regions Bank (formerly AmSouth).

Mr. Zeno is an active member of the legal community. He currently serves as co-chair of the Outreach Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and is a member of the Diversity Committee.

Mr. Zeno is an annual presenter at the LSBA Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute, volunteers as a judge at the Richard N. Ware, IV State High School Mock Trial Competition, and has been recognized as a Legacy of Leadership Honoree by the Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Mr. Zeno earned his J.D. and a certificate in Civil Law from Tulane University Law School, where he graduated Order of the Barristers and received the Tulane 34 Award and Tulane Student Crest Award. Mr. Zeno was also a recipient of the Dean's Honor Scholarship and the Louisiana Judicial Council/National Bar Association Scholarship.

Mr. Zeno earned his M.B.A. in Finance and B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Florida A&M University. He is licensed to practice in Louisiana and all Louisiana federal courts, including the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

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Tulane University Law School

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Orleans Public Defenders Office

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Honorable Terri F. Love, Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit

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PRESENTATIONS**

Morning Session

Honorable Karen Wells Roby

Honorable Dana M. Douglas

Afternoon Session

Honorable Dale N. Atkins

Honorable Roland L. Belsome

Honorable D. Nicole Sheppard

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SUIT UP FOR THE FUTURE STUDENT WINNERS!

BEST ORAL ARGUMENT WINNERS:

Morning Session

Prosecution: Jessica A. Burrell

Defense: Ann M. Rome

Afternoon Session

Prosecution: Issis M. Haydel

Defense: Rachael J. Hahn

BEST WRITTEN MEMORANDUM WINNERS:

Prosecution: Taylor P. Wardsworth

Defense: Javier A. Calderon-Yanar

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