

18 Students Complete LSBA's 2024 Suit Up for the Future Program

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Suit Up for the Future High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program had another successful year, with 18 students completing the program. The three-week program from June 10-28 included abridged law school sessions; job shadowing opportunities at law firms, courts and agencies; and tours of courts and agencies.

During the program, students prepared written memorandums to support their oral arguments. Oral arguments were presented on the last day of the program to a panel of judges at the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana.

The Suit Up 2024 winners for Best Oral Argument and Memorandum included Sydnee D. Ragas (Best Prosecution Memorandum, Best Prosecution Oral Argument, Morning Session); Allison L. Honeywood (Best Defense Memorandum); Emma M. Bonney (Best Defense Oral Argument, Morning Session); Matthew F. Bancroft (Best Defense Oral Argument, Afternoon Session); and Avishka R. Fernando (Best Prosecution Oral Argument, Afternoon Session).

The LSBA Suit Up for the Future program is an award-winning Diversity Pipeline program and a 2013 American Bar Association Partnership recipient.

The success of the Suit Up Program is possible with the help of dedicated volunteers.

Diversity Committee, Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee 2023-24 Co-Chairs: Denia S. Aiyegbusi, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, New Orleans; and Denice Redd-Robbinette, Liskow & Lewis, APLC, Baton Rouge.

Instructors: Professor Emily A. Bishop, director of the Lawyering Program and professor of practice, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, New



Suit Up 2024 coordinators and students. Front row from left, Denia S. Aiyegbusi, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, New Orleans; Magdalena A. Sisto; Anisa M. Cleggett; Ray'ven A. Chancellor; Emma M. Bonney; Sydnee D. Ragas; Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; Dasia T. Ball; Sia P. Mirpuri; Le'Ge P.J. Watts; Allison L. Honeywood; Avishka R. Fernando; and Denice Redd-Robinette, Liskow & Lewis, APLC, Baton Rouge. Back row from left, intern Brinley B. Pethe, 2022 Suit Up alumna, Tulane University, New Orleans; intern Sania B. Islam, 2021 Suit Up alumna, Tulane University, New Orleans; intern Kiera C. Martin, Southern University Law Center 2L, Baton Rouge; Charles N.H. Andrews; Matthew F. Bancroft; Deshan R. Joseph, Jr.; Ferdell A. Handy; Mia M. Mornay; Korry J. Hill; Olivia E. Magee; intern Claire H. Carter, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 3L, New Orleans; intern Sarah K. Warren, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 3L, New Orleans; Dillon C. Banks; and intern Eric J. Roshak, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center 3L, Baton Rouge.



Suit Up students and judges. Front row from left, Magistrate Judge Eva J. Dossier, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; Dasia T. Ball; Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; and Judge LaKeisha N. Jefferson, Orleans Parish Civil District Court, Division H, New Orleans. Second row from left, Dillon C. Banks; Matthew F. Bancroft; Avishka R. Fernando; Magdalena A. Sisto; Le'Ge P.J. Watts; Anisa M. Cleggett; Sia P. Mirpuri; and Ferdell A. Handy. Third row from left, Olivia E. Magee; Ray'ven A. Chancellor; Emma M. Bonney; and Allison L. Honeywood. Back row from left, Charles N.H. Andrews; Sydnee D. Ragas; Mia M. Mornay; and Korry J. Hill.

Orleans; Professor Kenya J.H. Smith, associate law professor, Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge; Professor Angela A. Allen-Bell, B.K. Agnihotri Endowed Professor, Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge; and Professor Jeffrey C. Brooks, assistant professor of

Professional Practice, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge.

Job Shadowing Employers: 24th Judicial District Court (Judge Lee V. Faulkner, Jr., Division P; Judge June B. Darensburg, Division C); Adams and Reese, LLP; City



Suit Up co-chairs. From left, Denia S. Aiyegbusi, co-chair, 2023-24 LSBA Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, New Orleans; Stephen I. Dwyer, LSBA President 2022-23, Dwyer, Cambre & Suffern, APLC, Metairie; Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; and Denice Redd-Robinette, co-chair, 2023-24 LSBA Pipeline to Diversity and Outreach Subcommittee, Liskow & Lewis, APLC, Baton Rouge.

of New Orleans Law Department, City Attorney Donesia D. Turner; Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne, LLC; Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP; Entergy Services, LLC; Hair Shunnarah Trial Attorneys, LLC; Kelly Hart Pitre; Liskow & Lewis, APLC; Loyola University New Orleans College of Law; Orleans Parish Civil District Court (Judge Bernadette D'Souza, Division K); Simon, Peragine, Smith & Redfearn, LLP; and Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, LLC.

Judges' Panel: U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans (Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator; Magistrate Judge Eva J. Dossier; Judge Brandon S. Long, Section O); Judge LaKeisha N. Jefferson, Orleans Parish Civil District Court, Division H, New Orleans.

Tour Presenters: Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, New Orleans (Kimberly Jones, JD, associate dean of Admissions; Allyson LaBruzza, Law Admissions counselor); Tulane University Law School, New Orleans (Alexandra Garon, associate director of Admissions; Tracie N. Ransom, JD, assistant dean for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion; Julia M. Spencer, JD, assistant director of Admission; Emily Wojna-Hodnett, JD, assistant dean of Students); Judge Tracey E. Flemings-Davillier, Section B, Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, New Orleans; Daniel L. Engelberg, chief district defender, Orleans Public Defenders Office, New Orleans; Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office,



Suit Up interns. From left, intern Brinley B. Pethe, 2022 Suit Up alumna, Tulane University, New Orleans; intern Claire H. Carter, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 3L, New Orleans; intern Sarah K. Warren, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law 3L, New Orleans; intern Kiera C. Martin, Southern University Law Center 2L, Baton Rouge; and intern Eric J. Roshak, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center 3L, Baton Rouge.

New Orleans (District Attorney Jason R. Williams; Michelle Woodfork, Forensic & Intelligence Investigations director; Micah Ince, chief of staff); Louisiana Supreme Court, New Orleans (Miriam D. Childs, library director; Robert Gunn, deputy judicial administrator/Community Relations); and Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans.

College and Law School Admission Presenters: Addrianne Davis, associate director of Recruitment, Dillard University, New Orleans; Diamond Lee, admissions counselor, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond; Breleigh Bentivegna, admissions counselor, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond; Kristin Guidry, associate director, Tulane University, New Orleans; Victoria Parenti, MA, LPC, NCC, regional admissions counselor, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette; and Dylan G. Rhoton, 2022 Suit Up alumnus, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.



Suit Up students and judges. Back row from left, Charles N.H. Andrews; Sydnee D. Ragas; Olivia E. Magee; Judge Brandon S. Long, Section O, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, Just the Beginning coordinator, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans; Dillon C. Banks; Mia M. Mornay; and Ferdell A. Handy. Front row from left, Dasia T. Ball; Ray'ven A. Chancellor; Magdalena A. Sisto; and Emma M. Bonney.

Career Path Session: Leadership LSBA 2023-24 Class members (Andrew M. Albritton, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC, New Orleans; Kristina F. Douglas, City of Shreveport, Shreveport; Stephanie M. Poucher, Phelps Dunbar, LLP, New Orleans; Karina Shareen, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, New Orleans); and Donovan J. Stone, Williams & Connolly, LLP, law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, Washington, DC.

Lunch Sponsors: Tulane University Law School and Shake Shack Canal (Yunior Batista and Anthony Paniagua).

Interns: Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, New Orleans (Sarah K. Warren, 3L; Claire H. Carter, 3L); Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge (Eric J. Roshak, 3L); Tulane University, New Orleans (Brinley B. Pethe, 2022 Suit Up alumna; Sania B. Islam, 2021 Suit Up alumna); Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge (Kiera C. Martin, 2L; Kaleena Arnold, 2L).



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