

18th Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Victor M. Jones

Senior Counsel

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund

New Orleans, LA

Victor Jones serves as Senior Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF). Through his work at LDF, he has helped thousands of schoolchildren in the Deep South obtain the equal educational opportunities they are constitutionally entitled to receive, as recognized by the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*. In addition to education equity, Jones recently began focusing his work on voting rights issues. He is a member of a team of attorneys at LDF who filed a federal lawsuit challenging racially discriminatory electoral maps in DeSoto County, Mississippi, under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. Jones was recognized for his work in 2024 as the LSBA's Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year. He is also the 2023 recipient of the LSBA's Children's Lawyer of the Year Award.

Jones is a frequent guest commentator for local and national news outlets, and the author of two law journal articles that focus on children's civil rights issues: *COVID-19 and the Virtual School to Prison Pipeline* (41 Child. Legal Rts. J. 105 (2021)), and *To Bryce Gowdy, With Love: Prioritizing Medicaid's EPSDT Mandate for America's Most Vulnerable Youth* (48 S.U.L.Rev. 127 (2020)). Jones received his law degree from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. He also holds a Master's Degree in Education from Harvard University, and a B.A. in Literature from Xavier University of Louisiana. Prior to practicing law, he was a public school kindergarten teacher.