



## **The LSBA's LIFT Program and Justice & Accountability Center seek social justice entrepreneurs for new incubator project in Shreveport**

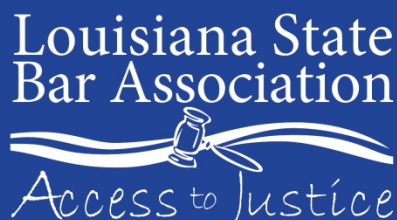
Legal Innovators for Tomorrow (LIFT) is a legal incubator program designed to address the legal needs of underserved and underrepresented populations in Louisiana. The program supports new lawyers develop viable and sustainable public interest-focused law firms that address gaps in available legal services. Through a collaboration with the Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana (JAC), LIFT Fellows work to reduce barriers to public housing, employment, and education for youth transitioning to the community after incarceration. Participating incubator attorneys will provide legal services in expungement, housing, public benefits, and ancillary matters.

The LIFT/JAC Incubator Project is for new or transitioning attorneys starting their own solo or small firm law practice in Shreveport. During the 15-month program, two incubator attorneys will receive training, resources, and \$15,000 for the representation provided. Mentorship for expungements, housing and government benefits will be provided by JAC and partner organizations.

### **Application Process**

Louisiana licensed attorneys with 0-5 years practice experience who plan to develop or have begun to develop a law practice and are committed to reducing barriers to reentry for Louisiana's youth are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is August 18. Please send your completed applications in ONE pdf file to [amy.duncan@lsba.org](mailto:amy.duncan@lsba.org).

To learn more about the program go to [www.lsba.org/LIFT](http://www.lsba.org/LIFT)



For more information, contact:  
Louisiana State Bar Association  
Access to Justice  
601 St. Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70130-3404  
[www.lsba.org/lift](http://www.lsba.org/lift)



# Louisiana State Bar Association

## LIFT Legal Incubator Project

### Application

Legal Innovators for Tomorrow (LIFT) is a legal incubator program designed to address the legal needs of underserved and underrepresented populations in Louisiana. The program supports new lawyers build viable and sustainable public interest-focused law firms that address gaps in available legal services. Through a collaboration with the Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana (JAC), LIFT Fellows work to reduce barriers to public housing, employment, and education for youth transitioning to the community after incarceration.

The LIFT Incubator Project is for new or transitioning attorneys starting their own solo or small firm in Shreveport. During the 15-month program, incubator attorneys receive *training, mentorship, resources*, and a *stipend* based on the representation provided. Mentorship for expungements, housing, and government benefits will be provided by JAC and partner organizations.

Louisiana licensed attorneys with 0-5 years practice experience who plan to develop or have begun to develop a solo or small law practice and are committed to providing legal representation to decrease recidivism and increase successful reentry are encouraged to apply. The application process deadline is August 18. Please send your completed applications in **ONE** pdf file to Amy Duncan at [amy.duncan@lsba.org](mailto:amy.duncan@lsba.org).

#### Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Admission to the Louisiana Bar: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Other bar admissions and dates (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Practice Experience (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Date you are available to begin your practice: \_\_\_\_\_

List any history of improper conduct or reported incidents to the bar: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The following documents must be included:**

1. A statement of no more than 1000 words indicating why you want to be a solo or small-firm practitioner, why you should be selected to participate in this LIFT Incubator Program, and how you expect to serve justice-involved youth to reduce barriers to reentry. Also, include an instance or instances when you have demonstrated entrepreneurial initiative or other experience showing ability to be a successful entrepreneur.
2. A current Resume
3. Business Plan no more than 3 letter-sized pages that includes<sup>1</sup>:
  - a. Area(s) of your proposed practice focus (e.g., family law, consumer law, criminal defense, small business organizations, etc.), and your preparation for the area(s) of practice.
  - b. Business Summary including mission, objectives and strategy for building your practice.
  - c. Operations Summary describing operating procedures, staffing and other resources required to carry out your practice.
  - d. Marketing Initiatives you will employ during the first 12 months including plans for client development and any existing relationships with client community.
  - e. Financial Analysis including sources of capital to pay for practice expenses and estimated budget with first year income and expense projections (1 page max.).

Please initial each statement below indicating your agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that eligibility to enter or continue in the LIFT Program requires that I continue to be a member of the Louisiana Bar in good standing. I agree to notify the Program Director immediately of any change in my status or of any action by the Louisiana State Bar Office of Disciplinary taken against me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to carry at all times while I am part of the LIFT Program malpractice insurance and to pay for any tail if the policy is a claims-reported policy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the requirements of the program and, if selected to participate in the LIFT Program, I agree to abide by and remain compliant with all the rules governing the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if chosen to participate in LIFT, I will receive training from third parties who may make suggestions and recommendations regarding application and software usage in my practice and that these recommendations may or may not be endorsed by the Louisiana State Bar Association. I am to use my own discretion when deciding to incorporate these items into my practice.

\_\_\_\_\_ All statements in this application and accompanying attachments are true to the best of my knowledge and reflect realistic projections based on information reasonably available to me. I understand that any material misstatements herein may be the subject of termination of my participation in the LIFT Program should I be selected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<sup>1</sup> For more information and a general guide to business plan writing *see* SBA.GOV, “Create Your Business Plan available at <http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/starting-managing-business/starting-business/how-write-business-plan>