

Bar Briefs

May 2021

Louisiana State Bar Association

Vol. 36, No. 3

Registration open for Annual Meeting & Summer School; COVID protocols in place

Registration is open for the 80th Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Annual Meeting and the Louisiana Judicial College/LSBA Joint Summer School. With the theme “A New Frontier: Ideas Abound,” the events are set for Sunday through Friday, June 6-11, at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Destin, Fla.

The LSBA leadership is continuing to monitor the progress of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and additional efforts to slow the spread and is cautiously optimistic that members will be able to safely meet in person in the summer. This year’s meeting will look different and both Sandestin and the LSBA are fully committed to ensuring the safety and comfort of all guests. Sandestin has a number of enhanced cleanliness and safety protocols in place, as does the LSBA staff.

Special pricing discounts are available for judges; lawyers employed full-time by local, state or federal government; lawyers employed full-time by legal aid agencies or indigent defense agencies; lawyers



employed in academic institutions; and Young Lawyers. The four-day registration option will be available again for all groups.

Event participants will be able to enjoy six days of substantive programming, social events and fascinating speakers for one great price.

In addition to a full slate of meetings (LSBA Board of Governors, House of Delegates, Young Lawyers Division, Senior Lawyers Division, committees and sections) and several award and networking receptions, there are many CLE opportunities for all participants.

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Electronic payment of 2021-22 LSBA dues, LADB assessment open in mid-May

Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) members have the option to pay their 2021-22 LSBA dues and Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (LADB) assessment by ACH electronic check, credit card, or download and mail their Attorney Registration Statement and checks for the payment of fees. Members are encouraged to pay and file electronically, as this access will be available 24/7, including times when the Bar Center is closed or if mail service is disrupted due to inclement weather. Further, electronic payment gives members more control over their information in the database and allows for more timely updates to their member records.

Filing the Attorney Registration Statement is an important part of an LSBA member’s annual requirement and can be completed by mail or electronically. Mailing in the Attorney Registration Statement with two separate payments of Dues and Assessment constitutes filing.

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When paying online, verifying and/or updating member demographic information serves as electronically filing the Attorney Registration Statement.

Again available in this year's dues cycle is the category of Emeritus Status for lawyers who only handle pro bono work or uncompensated work for family members (both subject to certain guidelines and restrictions) and who meet age and practice criteria. Lawyers should review the Emeritus Status guidelines and restrictions for possible election. Review the "Emeritus Status Guidelines and Restrictions and Notice of Application" at: www.lsb.org/Members/EmeritusStatus.aspx.

Election of emeritus status MUST be made prior to payment of the Dues and Assessment and the election deadline for the 2021-2022 membership year is June 30, 2021.

Filing electronically can be a quick and simple process, utilizing the online member accounts that participants have relied on for years to register for CLE seminars and to access Fastcase. If an attorney has not yet set up a member account, one can easily be created at: <https://www.lsb.org/Members/memberacct.aspx>. This webpage also allows members to edit their existing accounts and reset a lost or forgotten account password.

After member data is confirmed but before the payment/filing process begins, members will be advised that they also need to go to <https://www.LADB.org> to complete the Louisiana Supreme Court Trust Account Disclosure and Overdraft Notification Authorization Form and will be asked to confirm that they understand this

requirement.

The Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board is the certifying agency for the Trust filing for LSBA members' IOLTA accounts. Filing is quick and easy at www.ladb.org and any issues concerning trust accounts should be directed to LADB at (504)834-1488.

The collection schedule will be the same as in prior years. In lieu of mailing a statement to each member, the LSBA will mail a postcard to each member this month, which will provide instructions to go online to <https://www.LSBA.org> to complete the registration process, and to go online to <https://www.LADB.org> to complete the Trust Account Form. ***This is the only mailing members will receive prior to the July 1, 2021, due date; attorney registration statements will NOT be mailed.***

With the introduction of the new email address, compliance@lsbamembership.com, the LSBA will email reminders throughout the dues collection period. Members are encouraged to add this email address to their contact list to avoid missing important communications. Members should not reply to this email address, but rather direct questions to processing@lsba.org.

Once members have electronically filed their Attorney Registration Statements (including any necessary changes and/or updates) and made the required payments, they will receive email confirmations. The filing and payment deadline will remain July 1. The LSBA will continue to mail delinquency and ineligibility notices to those who fail to meet the deadlines.

Members who elect to pay by electronic check will continue to pay the following fees:

- ▶ LSBA dues (practicing more than three years): \$200;

▶ LSBA dues (Emeritus Status): \$100; and

▶ LSBA dues (practicing three years or less): \$80;

▶ LADB assessment (practicing more than three years): \$235;

▶ LADB assessment (Emeritus Status): \$117.50; and

▶ LADB assessment (practicing three years or less): \$170.

Those who are planning to pay by electronic check should contact their financial institutions to confirm that their accounts allow payment by this method. If your account is Positive Pay Protected, update the Company ID 1016207445.

As was the case last year, processing fees of 3%, plus a .20 transaction fee, will be passed along to those choosing to pay by credit card. Total amounts, including credit card processing fees, are as follows:

▶ LSBA dues (practicing more than three years): \$206.20;

▶ LSBA dues (Emeritus Status): \$103.20; and

▶ LSBA dues (practicing three years or less): \$82.60;

▶ LADB assessment (practicing more than three years): \$242.25;

▶ LADB assessment (Emeritus Status): \$121.23; and

▶ LADB assessment (practicing three years or less): \$175.30.

Bar staff members will be available to answer questions and provide assistance to members. All questions and concerns should be directed to:

- ▶ Email — processing@LSBA.org
- ▶ Telephone — (504)566-1600 or (800)421-LSBA; ask for Payment Processing.

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Bar Briefs

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Announcements and news contributions are welcome and should be mailed, faxed or emailed by the first of the month before publication to Darlene M. LaBranche.

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2021 Regular Legislative Session: Board of Governors adopts positions on bills

The Louisiana State Bar Association's Board of Governors met on April 17 and voted to take positions on 10 bills pending before the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

To review the list of positions, go to: www.lsb.org/documents/Legislation/2021RLSBAPositions04172021REVISED.pdf.




AM/SS continued from page 1

The LSBA room block has reached maximum capacity for Wednesday, June 9, through Sunday, June 13. Rooms are still available for Sunday, June 6, through Tuesday, June 8. The LSBA is working with Sandestin to increase room availability. Monitor the LSBA website for updates. Email LSBA Program Coordinator Kristin Durand with any questions, kristin.durand@lsba.org.

Among the other offerings are nationally renowned keynote speakers; dynamic, interactive panels; multiple substantive law tracks; networking opportunities with leading judges and lawyers; business development/practice management tracks; evening receptions; law school gatherings; and supervised children's activities during evening social events.

Also, attendees may register for the golf and tennis tournaments or participate in the Fun Run/Walk, daily health and wellness programs and the Step Challenge. Learn more about all opportunities at the web link below.

To review all programming, register online, download a registration form, sign up for the golf or tennis tournament, or review housing information, go to: www.lsba.org/annualmeeting. 

DUES continued from page 2


Check-off boxes for donations

Using either the online payment/filing procedure, or via the downloadable form, LSBA members may make voluntary, tax-deductible contributions to the Louisiana Bar Foundation Access to Justice Fund, the Louisiana Bar Foundation, the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education and the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. (JLAP).

► **Louisiana Bar Foundation Access to Justice Fund.** Donations benefit Louisiana's justice community efforts in statewide technology, intake and referral, and disaster response. Include a separate check made payable to the "Louisiana Bar Foundation Access to Justice Fund."

► **Louisiana Bar Foundation.** Donations support the network of civil legal aid organizations across the state that are leading community-driven efforts to help hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents gain access to the legal system. Include a separate check made payable to "Louisiana Bar Foundation."

► **Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE).** As the public education partner of the LSBA, the LCLCE's mission is to assist people to develop an understanding of, and respect for, the law and legal system. Donations will be used to fund operations and support programs that bring lawyers and judges into the classroom and provide free professional development for social studies teachers and free civics education for adults. For more information, contact the LCLCE at (504)619-0134 or email peggy.cotogno@lsba.org.

► **Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. (JLAP).** JLAP is a nonprofit corporation that cannot effectively operate without generous contributions from outside sources. Donations will directly further JLAP's mission of providing confidential life-saving assistance to lawyers, judges and their family members who suffer from alcohol/drug abuse, depression, gambling addiction, or any other mental impairments. JLAP's efforts also help attenuate or prevent the harm that impaired lawyers and judges may cause to both the public and the reputation of the legal profession. 



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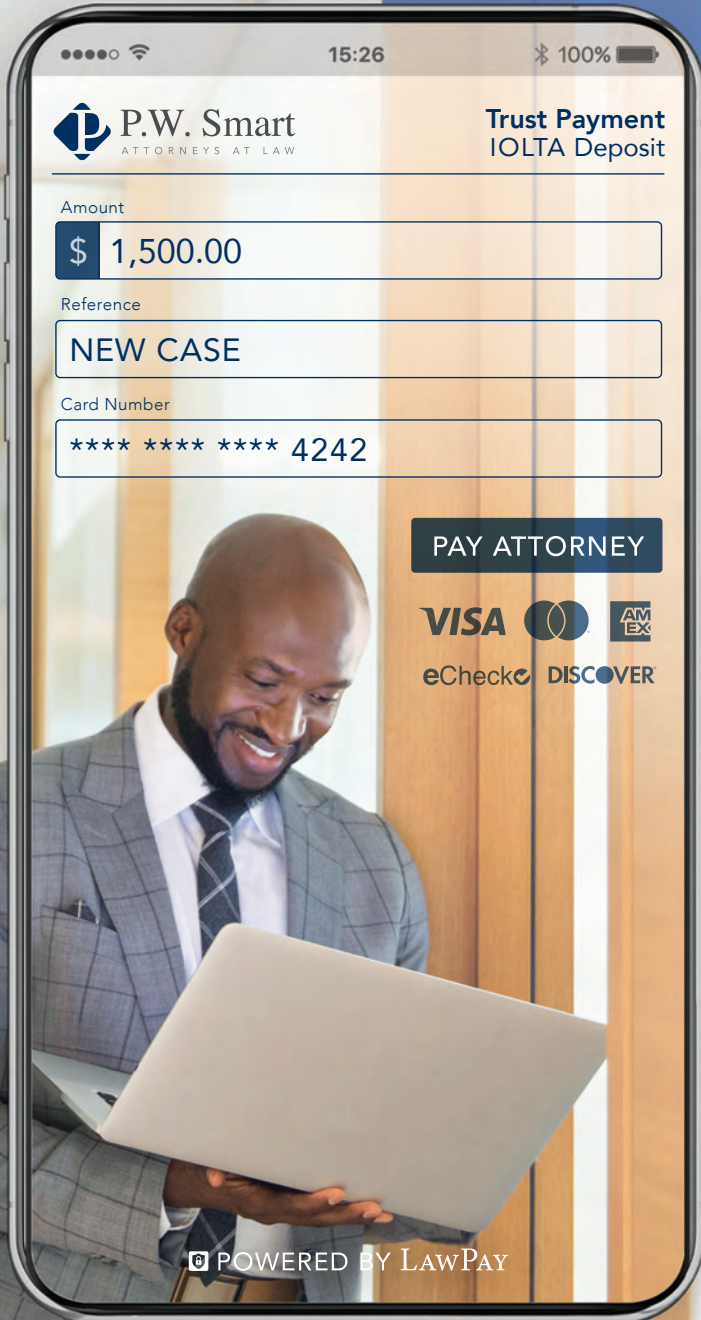
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LASC announces method of administration of July 2021 Bar Exam

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Bar Admissions (COBA), the Louisiana Supreme Court issued an Order announcing the method of administering the July 2021 Louisiana Bar Examination due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The July 2021 remote bar examination will be in open-book format, with no live monitoring or proctoring. The exam will be administered utilizing the services of a third-party software vendor. Applicants will download the software onto their

personal computer to facilitate viewing and responding to examination questions. The Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions will publish information regarding the third-party software vendor.

Chief Justice John L. Weimer said, "Faced with ongoing developments of the pandemic, it is important that we keep safety at the forefront while remaining vigilant in fairly administering the bar exam. Louisiana is not alone in its approach. According to the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to date,

22 states have announced the need to administer the bar exam remotely. I'd like to thank COBA volunteers and staff who work so diligently in preparation and administration of the bar examination. I also wish the applicants success."

Applicants must complete all other requirements for admission as set forth in Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XVII, including satisfying character and fitness requirements and passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination. 📄

House resolution deadline is May 12 for Annual Meeting

The deadline for submitting resolutions for the next Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) House of Delegates meeting is Wednesday, May 12.

The House will meet on Thursday, June 10, in conjunction with the LSBA's Annual

Meeting at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Destin, Fla.

Resolutions by House members and committee and section chairs should be mailed to LSBA Secretary Patrick A. Talley, Jr., c/o Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404. All

resolutions proposed to be considered at the meeting *must be received* on or before May 12. Resolutions must be signed by the author. Also, copies of all resolutions should be emailed (in MS Word format) to LSBA Executive Assistant Jen France at jen.france@lsba.org. 📄

In a word,

Seasoned.

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Interested in an appointed LSBA House of Delegates position? Respond ASAP

Several Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) House of Delegates seats received no qualifiers by the Oct. 19, 2020, qualifying deadline and will be filled by presidential appointment. Members interested in being considered for appointment to these positions should email LSBA Executive Assistant Jennifer France at jen.france@lsba.org as soon as possible. Available positions are listed below.

LSBA House of Delegates (June 2021-June 2023 term)

- ▶ Twenty-Third Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Twenty-Eighth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Twenty-Ninth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Thirtieth Judicial District: 3 appointments pending.
- ▶ Thirty-Second Judicial District: 4 appointments pending.

- ▶ Thirty-Fifth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Thirty-Sixth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Thirty-Seventh Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Thirty-Ninth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Forty-Second Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.

The following vacancies in the House of Delegates are also open for appointments.

LSBA House of Delegates (June 2020-June 2022 term)

- ▶ Second Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Fifth Judicial District: 2 appointments pending.
- ▶ Sixth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending.
- ▶ Eighteenth Judicial District: 1 appointment pending. 📧

TIP Mentor Program: More mentors needed!

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Committee on the Profession's "Transition Into Practice" (TIP) mentor program is seeking additional mentors.

The Louisiana Supreme Court issued an order which waives the bar exam for recent law school graduates because of coronavirus concerns. The order also requires the graduates to participate in the TIP mentor/mentee program. The Court's order makes it mandatory for the new lawyers.

Already numerous mentor and mentee pairings have successfully occurred across the state since the program was first implemented in 2015. The mentor program not only gives new lawyers a great opportunity to learn practical experience from seasoned lawyers, but it also gives experienced Bar members a chance to give back and to guide new lawyers in the right direction.

Through the program, new lawyers admitted into practice will be paired with mentors (one on one) to assist in learning practical knowledge of what they will encounter in the profession. Mentors must be in good standing, have no public disciplinary history and must have at least 10 years of experience. Mentors can receive up to 6.0 hours of free CLE credit by volunteering.

The mentees must complete the program by Dec. 21, 2021.

Mentors and mentees will meet four times over the course of the program to discuss various well-defined and organized topics. These meetings can take place by Zoom or possibly in-person later during the process. There is a handbook available which contains all the information mentors would need to cover the topics required by the program. Mentors are not required to do any independent preparation other than reviewing the handbook; most of the information shared will come from personal experience. Topics such as civility, professionalism, work/life balance, careers and career objectives, law school debt, conflicts, ethics issues for the new lawyer, dealing with the "difficult" client, time records, billing, fees, trust accounts and sharing fees and expenses are included.

To learn more about the program or to register as a mentor, go to: www.lsba.org/Mentoring/. 📧

Board-certified specialists may access specialization transcripts and CLE calendar online

Board-certified specialists may obtain a copy of their specialization transcripts on the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization's website: www.lsba.org/specialization/. Specialization transcripts may be accessed directly at: www.lsba.org/Specialization/SpecializationTranscripts.aspx.

To find approved specialization CLE courses, go to: www.lsba.org/MCLE/

[MCLECalendar.aspx?L=S](http://www.lsba.org/MCLECalendar.aspx?L=S). Click on the specialty area and "Search Courses" to find approved specialization CLE. The specialization CLE calendar is updated as new courses are approved for specialization credit.

For more information, contact Specialization Director Mary Ann Wegmann, (504)619-0128, email maryann.wegmann@lsba.org. 📧

LASC amends online CLE carry-over limit

The Louisiana Supreme Court issued an order stating: "In addition to lifting the cap on 'self-study' credits . . . attorneys shall be permitted to carry forward a

maximum of four (4) 'self-study' credits to compliance year 2022." Review the full order at: www.lsba.org/documents/News/LSBANews/MCLEOnlineCarryForward.pdf. 📧

Problem Gambling? Get Free, Confidential Help.



Problem Gambling Resource Services
www.FreeGamblingHelpLA.org
1-877-770-STOP

What is Problem Gambling Resource Services (“PGRS”)?

PGRS is a new program led by the Louisiana Department of Justice, Gaming Division in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health to bring awareness about problem gambling and the FREE gambling addiction services available to all Louisiana residents. Not only are attorneys in a unique position to determine that their clients may have a gambling problem, but attorneys are at a greater risk themselves.

A client’s gambling addiction may be the underlying cause of what led them to seek your help:

Attorneys are in a unique position to identify problem gambling behavior in their clients because they have access to client information, financial records, and other documentation that is generally not available to others. Clients, protected by attorney -client privilege, may feel safe disclosing a gambling problem to their attorney.

Lawyers and their staff are at a high risk for Problem Gambling. Here’s why:

- Lawyers are among the professionals most likely to suffer from stress and depression, which can play a role in the development of problem gambling behavior.
- Lawyers are risk takers. The legal profession is often a high risk, high reward environment, which may lead to risk taking behavior, such as gambling.
- Lawyers often have access to large sums of money, such as client trust accounts, retainers, settlement proceeds, etc.
- Lawyers are at a heightened risk for alcohol and drug misuse and dependency, which can increase the possibility for developing co-occurring alcohol/drug and gambling addictions.

What happens when someone calls 1-877-770-STOP?

- The Helpline, like all gambling addiction services offered by Louisiana, is confidential and FREE.
- The Helpline is answered by trained, certified and caring Helpline Specialists. The Specialists do not provide counseling, but they will refer you to a qualified counselor and all the FREE resources in your area.

If you have concerns about your own gambling or if you suspect that a client or colleague may have a problem, call or text 1-877-770-STOP for FREE help.

Application deadline is June 25 for Leadership LSBA 2021-22 Class

Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President-Elect H. Minor Pipes III is currently seeking applications from young lawyers for the Leadership LSBA 2021-22 Class. Deadline for return of applications, along with a CV or résumé, is Friday, June 25.

The program, created in 2002 by then-LSBA President Larry Feldman, Jr., provides exposure on how the LSBA functions as well as on the pressing issues facing the association and the legal profession. Participants also receive information on the responsibilities of volunteer leaders. Through at least one class project, the program further develops young attorneys' leadership skills and provides them with opportunities for statewide networking. (Previous projects

included a 5K benefiting the Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc., a legal aid hackathon, and a special edition of the *Louisiana Bar Journal*.)

Pipes' goal is to appoint 14 members.

By conclusion of FY 2021-22 (ends in June 2022), participants will be required to:

- ▶ attend one meeting of the Board of Governors;
- ▶ attend one meeting of the House of Delegates;
- ▶ attend one meeting of the Young Lawyers Division Council;
- ▶ attend one Budget Committee meeting;
- ▶ attend one meeting of the Access to Justice Committee;
- ▶ attend one meeting of an LSBA committee of their choice;

▶ work with the class to develop and implement a class project with the help of staff; and

▶ commit to serve on an LSBA committee for 2022-23.

Expenses for attendance at meetings and activities will be reimbursed in accordance with LSBA policies.

Interested candidates should submit applications, along with a CV or résumé, by the June 25 deadline to: Danielle E. Boveland, LSBA Communications Coordinator/Online Media, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130; fax (504)566-0930; or email danielle.boveland@lsba.org.

To download an application, go to: www.lsba.org/goto/classapplication2021.



SOLACE: Support of Lawyers/Legal Personnel — All Concern Encouraged

The Louisiana State Bar Association/Louisiana Bar Foundation's Community Action Committee supports the SOLACE program. Through the program, the state's legal community is able to reach out in small, but meaningful and compassionate ways to judges, lawyers, court personnel, paralegals, legal secretaries and their families who experience a death or catastrophic illness, sickness or injury, or other catastrophic event. For assistance, contact a coordinator.

| Area | Coordinator | Contact Info | Cell | Email Address |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Alexandria/Sunset Area | Richard J. Arsenault | (318)487-9874 | Cell (318)452-5700 | rarsenault@nbalawfirm.com |
| Baton Rouge Area | Ann K. Gregorie | (225)214-5563 | | ann@brba.org |
| Covington/ Mandeville Area | Suzanne E. Bayle | (504)524-3781 | | sebayle@bellsouth.net |
| Denham Springs Area | Mary E. Heck Barrios | (225)664-9508 | | mary@barrioslaw.com |
| Houma/Thibodaux Area | Danna Schwab | (985)868-1342 | | dschwab@theschwablawfirm.com |
| Jefferson Parish Area | Pat M. Franz | (504)455-1986 | | patfranz@bellsouth.net |
| Lafayette Area | Pam Landaiche | (337)237-4700 | | director@lafayettebar.org |
| Lake Charles Area | Melissa St. Mary | (337)942-1900 | | melissa@pitrelawfirm.com |
| Monroe Area | John C. Roa | (318)387-2422 | | roa@hhsclaw.com |
| Natchitoches Area | Peyton Cunningham, Jr. | | Cell (318)332-7294 | wpcjra@gmail.com |
| New Orleans Area | Helena N. Henderson | (504)525-7453 | | hhenderson@neworleansbar.org |
| River Parishes Area | Judge Jude G. Gravois | (225)265-3923 (225)265-9828 | Cell (225)270-7705 | judegravois@bellsouth.net |
| Shreveport Area | Dana M. Southern | (318)222-3643 | | dsouthern@shreveportbar.com |

For more information, go to: www.lsba.org/goto/solace.



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LBS accepting certification applications in bankruptcy law through Sept. 30

The Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (LBS) will be accepting applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification from now through Sept. 30, 2021.

In accordance with the Plan of Legal Specialization, a Louisiana State Bar Association member in good standing who has been engaged in the practice of law on a full-time basis for a minimum of five years may apply for certification. Further requirements are that each year a minimum percentage of the attorney's practice must be devoted to the area of certification sought, passing a written examination to demonstrate sufficient knowledge, skills and proficiency in the area for which certification is sought, and five favorable references. Peer review shall be used to

determine that an applicant has achieved recognition as having a level of competence indicating proficient performance handling the usual matters in the specialty field. Refer to the LBS standards for the applicable specialty for a detailed description of the requirements for application: www.lsba.org/documents/Specialization/LSBAPlanofLegalspecialization2017.pdf.

In addition to the above, applicants must meet a minimum CLE requirement for the year in which application is made and the examination is administered. Bankruptcy Law CLE is regulated by the American Board of Certification, the testing agency.

Approved specialization CLE courses can be viewed on the LBS Approved Course Calendar at: www.lsba.org/MCLE/MCLECalendar.aspx?L=S. Check off your specialization and click on "Search Courses"

to find approved specialization CLE.

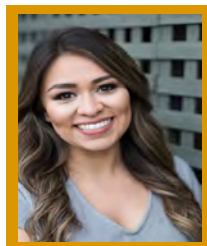
With regard to applications for business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law certification, although the written test(s) is administered by the American Board of Certification, attorneys should apply for approval of the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization simultaneously with the testing agency in order to avoid delay of board certification by the LBS. Information concerning the American Board of Certification will be provided with the application form(s).

Anyone interested in applying for certification should contact LBS Specialization Director Mary Ann Wegmann, email maryann.wegmann@lsba.org, or call (504)619-0128. For more information, go to the LBS website: www.lsba.org/specialization/.

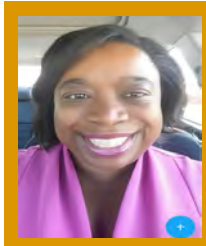


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Members of the Louisiana Bar Foundation are referred to as Fellows. Fellowship consists of judges, lawyers, and law professors whose professional, public, and private careers demonstrate their dedication to the improvement of the administration of justice.

For more information go to www.raisingthebar.org or follow us on social media.
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(504) 561-1046

IT'S TIME TO BOOK A LISTING IN 'WHO'S WHO IN ADR 2021'

The print version of the directory for arbitrators and mediators will be mailed with the October/November 2021 Louisiana Bar Journal.

*For the one low price of \$125, your listing is first published in the print directory, then the directory is uploaded to the LSBA website in interactive PDF format (email addresses and website URLs are activated and instantly accessible).
The Web version of the directory remains active for one full year!*

One price gets
you in the print
directory and
on the Web!

View the 2020
directory at
[www.lsba.org/goto/
adrdirectory](http://www.lsba.org/goto/adrdirectory)

The special Arbitrators and Mediators Directory will feature brief articles and photographs of arbitrators and mediators (**INDIVIDUALS ONLY**).

The articles should be **150 words MAXIMUM**. Provide your address, phone, fax, email address and website information at the end of the listing (not part of the word count).

Submit either original photos or digital photos. Digital photos should be submitted separately from the article as a high-resolution .jpg (at least 300 DPI at 4 inches wide). **DO NOT** submit digital photographs embedded in word processing programs; send the photograph as a separate file. High-resolution digital photos work best.

DEADLINE IS JULY 23 FOR ALL LISTINGS AND PHOTOS! DIRECTORY/WEB COMBO PRICE IS \$125.

Articles and photographs must be for individuals only. No group articles or group photographs will be used. But, as an **ADDED BONUS**, firms which have three or more arbitrators/mediators purchasing individual listings will receive a free **firm** listing in the section. (Firms are responsible for submitting the additional information, 150 words maximum.)

If you would like to repeat a prior listing and photo, you may send us a photocopy of that listing along with your check; please provide the year the listing appeared.

IT'S EASY TO RESERVE SPACE IN THE DIRECTORY!

- ▶ Email your listing and photo to Publications Coordinator Darlene M. LaBranche (email: dlabranche@lsba.org). Then mail your check for \$125 (payable to *Louisiana State Bar Association*) to: **Publications Coordinator Darlene M. LaBranche, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La. 70130-3404.**
- ▶ Or, mail your listing, photo, disk and check to the above address.

For more information, contact

Darlene M. LaBranche

dlabranche@lsba.org

(504)619-0112 or (800)421-5722, ext. 112.

Louisiana ATJ Commission receives \$100,000 grant from NCSC's Justice For All Project

The Louisiana Access to Justice (ATJ) Commission has received a \$100,000 grant from the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) Justice for All (JFA) Project, funded by The JPB Foundation. This is one of two grants the Commission has received from NCSC under the JFA Project, with the first awarded in October 2019.

The ATJ Commission will use the funds to increase access to civil legal resources in areas with high poverty rates, limited Internet access, and long drive times to the nearest legal aid office or self-help center. These areas, termed "civil legal resources deserts," impact approximately 600,000 Louisiana residents, as uncovered through a Geographic Information Systems Project during the JFA Project in 2020.

"Through the support of NCSC's Justice for All Project, the Commission was able to identify the greatest challenges people in Louisiana face to accessing civil legal aid," Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President Alainna R. Mire said. "Now we will use this information to expand access to civil legal resources through community-

led initiatives thanks to this invaluable opportunity."

NCSC created the JFA grant program to implement two advanced resolutions promulgated by the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators: 1) meaningful access to effective assistance for essential civil legal needs; and 2) for traditional and non-traditional stakeholders to collaborate and develop a comprehensive approach to achieve meaningful access to justice. The JFA Project is housed by NCSC and operated in partnership with the Self-Represented Litigants Network.

In the first grant, the Commission completed the Inventory Assessment and Strategic Planning phases of the JFA Project, which entailed a thorough statewide examination of people's access to in-person civil legal resources in Louisiana. The findings show that one in three people potentially income-eligible for civil legal aid are required to travel long distances for in-person legal help. Review the final report with recommendations at: www.lsba.org/documents/News/ATJ/JFAFinalReport.pdf.

"When the ATJ Commission received the initial JFA grant, we did not envision having to navigate through a pandemic," Jeffrey K. Coreil, co-chair of the ATJ Commission, said. "But it gave us a great opportunity to understand the impact of civil legal aid and take a deeper dive into mapping what justice for all could look like in Louisiana. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue this work and support the people of Louisiana by creating access points, expanding services and establishing partnerships."

Louisiana's Justice for All leadership includes active participation from the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Louisiana ATJ Commission, the LSBA, legal aid providers, public libraries and local community leaders in areas where access points will be implemented. The Louisiana ATJ Commission is a Louisiana Supreme Court-created standing committee of the LSBA tasked with ensuring all people have access to equal justice under the law regardless of economic circumstance. The Louisiana Justice for All Grant will be administered through the Louisiana Bar Foundation. 📌

Louisiana's Civil Legal Resource Deserts prevent 600,000 from accessing justice

Louisiana's "civil legal resource deserts" cover approximately 60 percent of the state and affect more than 600,000 Louisianans, according to a new study from the Louisiana Access to Justice Commission. Residents of these deserts struggle to access legal help because of where they live, the uneven distribution of legal resources and poor broadband and cellular coverage.

As the fourth most impoverished state in the nation, Louisiana has 1.8 million

people potentially eligible for free civil legal aid, and only 150 full-time attorneys devoted to serving low-income and marginalized populations. A total of 34 percent of Louisianans below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level live more than a 45-minute drive from in-person civil legal help.

The study, "Justice for All in Louisiana," shows an uneven distribution of resources throughout the state. Specifically, residents of civil legal resource deserts live at least a 45-minute

drive from legal resources like free civil legal services, self-help centers or law libraries. Combined with patchy Internet connections, people experiencing civil legal problems, like divorce or applying for unemployment, may struggle to get the information and tools they need to solve these issues. Geographic and technological barriers affect one in three people potentially eligible for free civil legal aid access help or other services

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LSBA to recognize exceptional Louisiana pro bono work at May 20 virtual ceremony

The 36th annual Pro Bono Publico & Children's Law Awards Ceremony is scheduled for May 20. Traditionally held at the Louisiana Supreme Court, this year's ceremony will be conducted virtually. Presiding over the ceremony will be Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer and Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President Alainna R. Mire.

Each year, the LSBA honors attorneys and other public interest professionals who have gone beyond their professional duties to provide or support pro bono services. Their work, ever more critical during the instability of the pandemic, helps ensure that those without the means to hire an attorney can access justice

through the legal system.

The following individuals will be recognized at the ceremony:

▶ **David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award:** Christopher K. Ralston.

▶ **Career Public Interest Award:** Andrea M. Jeanmarie.

▶ **Children's Law Award:** Ramona G. Fernandez; and Southeast Louisiana Legal Services Child in Need of Care Unit.

▶ **Law Student Pro Bono Award:** Aber M. Farid, Southern University Law Center; Constantino Raya, Jr., Tulane University Law School; Cara Sullivan Tippett, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center; and Jimmy Whitehead, Loyola University College of

Law.

▶ **Friend of Pro Bono Award:** Kathleen A. Crapanzano, MD, MACM; and Lindsay Meador Young.

▶ **Pro Bono Publico Award:** Patricia R. Bonneau, Andretta Breaux Atkins, Kyle M. Brennan, Jonathan T. Jarrett, Derrick McCorey, Robert A. McKnight, LaKendra D. Sampson, Frances M. Strayham and James J. Zito.

▶ **LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org Award:** Brian R. Johnson.

▶ **Century Club Award:** Kyle M. Brennan, W. Scott Brown, Joseph J. Cerise, Philip A. Franco, Ana E. Lopez, Derrick McCorey, Robert A. McKnight, Alysson L. Mills, Beau P. Sagona, Hugh R. Straub and James J. Zito. 📧

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offered by self-help centers and law libraries.

"Access to civil legal services for people unable to afford an attorney can have a significant impact on individuals and our communities," said Louisiana State Bar Association President Alainna R. Mire. "Especially in times of crisis, civil legal aid stabilizes individuals, families and entire communities by improving economic security and increasing access to basic necessities like housing, healthcare,

government benefits and disaster services. To address these issues, we must work together across organizational boundaries to find solutions."

The "Justice for All in Louisiana" study suggests a set of actions to remove barriers to justice for those living in areas identified as civil legal resource deserts. Courthouses in the state could increase the civil resource area by adding self-help centers, navigator programs (in-person and online), virtual meeting spaces or courtroom assistants. State government leaders can build a stronger culture

of limited scope representation across the state through programs such as the Modest Means Program. Partnerships with libraries, places of worship, higher education, health care and other institutions can help create community-led initiatives that will give people access to new online and in-person services in locations accessible to communities where the need is greatest.

To review the full report and GIS-data-based story map, go to: www.bit.ly/JFAStoryMap. 📧



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Retired Workers' Compensation District Court Judge,
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Focus on Diversity


For more information on items in this section, visit www.lsba.org/diversity.

Shadowing opportunities available for 2021 Suit Up for the Future Program

The Louisiana State Bar Association, in partnership with Just the Beginning, is again hosting the Suit Up for the Future program this summer, a free three-week legal institute for high school students and recent graduates interested in pursuing careers in the legal profession.

The 2021 program is set for June 14 through July 2. During the program, students attend an abridged law school session, take field trips to law schools and courts, and participate in an internship consisting of job shadowing at area law offices and courts.

Legal professionals are being asked to participate in job shadowing opportunities. During the program's second week (June 21-25), students will be assigned to "shadow" attorneys at firms, courts and organizations. This is an opportunity for the students to observe what attorneys do on a daily basis and to spend one-on-one time with attorneys in the workforce. New Orleans area attorneys, firms and organizations interested in providing a shadowing opportunity for one or more students should email diversity@lsba.org.

The program application deadline is May 10 for high school juniors, seniors and students entering their first year of college in fall 2021. Students may apply online at: www.lsba.org/goto/suitup. 

Nominations accepted through June 30 for Citizen Lawyer Award

Nominations will be accepted through June 30 for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) *Citizen Lawyer Award*, a service award that recognizes individual attorneys and judges who have performed public services out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism.

In 2001, the LSBA instituted the Crystal Gavel Awards. This award program was updated in 2014 and renamed the Citizen Lawyer Awards.

To be nominated, the lawyer must be admitted to practice in Louisiana, and the judge must have been elected or appointed to a state or federal court in Louisiana. Nominees must have made a difference in their local communities, in local organizations, or in the life of one person, and have served the public in a number of areas, including:

- ▶ Aiding the administration of justice.
- ▶ Assisting groups or individuals on a volunteer basis in a non-legal


capacity.

▶ Educating the public or individuals or students about legal matters.

▶ Providing pro bono legal services in a matter of a significant nature, or in a significant number of cases, or in a way that significantly changed the life of a person or group.

▶ Working in conjunction with the court system to make it more welcoming, inviting and understandable for jurors, witnesses or victims of crime.

Awards are presented in local communities throughout the state. There is no limit to the number of awards which will be presented, as the LSBA wishes to recognize all deserving individuals.

For more information about the award or to submit a nomination, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CitizenLawyerAward>. Or email the LSBA's Member Outreach and Diversity Department at outreach@lsba.org. 

Become a Signatory

to the LSBA Statement of Diversity Principles

For more information or to view the statement online, visit www.lsba.org/Diversity/DiversityPrinciples.aspx

Lafayette Bar and LSBA Diversity Committee host series of diversity-related Webinars

The Lafayette Bar Association, in partnership with the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession, hosted three diversity-related webinars.

The webinars explored a range of topics such as: generational differences in the workplace, defining equity and diversity, and understanding bias.

On Dec. 10, 2020, attorney Cynthia Simon Spadoni, with 16th Judicial District Attorney's Office, presented the seminar "Equity and Diversity."

On Dec. 14, 2020, attorney Claire Bergeron Edwards presented the seminar



Cynthia S. Spadoni



Claire Bergeron Edwards



Dwazendra J. Smith



Quincy L. Mouton

"Diversity in Practice."

On April 8, 2021, attorney Dwazendra J. Smith, with Doran & Cawthorne,

PLLC, and attorney Quincy L. Mouton, with Neuner Pate, presented the seminar "Equity and Diversity." 📺

LSBA Member Services

The mission of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is to assist and serve its members in the practice of law. To this end, the LSBA offers many worthwhile programs and services designed to complement your career, the legal profession and the community. In the past several years, the legal profession has experienced many changes. The LSBA has kept up with those changes by maturing in structure and stature and becoming more diverse and competitive. As the premier organization serving Louisiana's legal profession, the LSBA is working to advance its members' goals and interests through unparalleled programming and a comprehensive benefits package. Listed below are a few benefits of membership:

Discount Business Services

www.lsba.org/goto/memberbenefits

The LSBA works with many businesses and service providers to offer a variety of discounted services to our members. For a list of the latest providers and discounts, visit www.lsba.org/goto/memberbenefits.

Judicial Interest Rates & Calculator

<https://www.lsba.org/Members/JudicialInterestRate.aspx>

View information regarding judicial interest rates, both current and past rates. Calculate interest using the free web Judicial Interest Rate Calculator created by Charles D. Elliott.

LSBA Professional Programs Department Services

Legal Library

<https://www.lsba.org/Members/LegalLibrary.aspx>

The Louisiana State Bar Association collects and maintains an extensive amount of resources for both our members and the public alike. The Legal Library provides you with the most current guidelines, court rules, court orders and provisions.

Lawyer Advertising Filing and Evaluation • rlemmler@lsba.org

This program provides screening of proposed lawyer advertising to confirm compliance with the Supreme Court's advertising rules. For information/inquiries, contact LSBA Ethics Counsel Richard P. Lemmler, Jr. at rlemmler@lsba.org or (504)619-0144.

Practice Assistance and Improvement

bking@lsba.org

As mandated by the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Bar's Practice Assistance and Improvement Program offers alternatives to discipline via its Attorney-Client Assistance Program and the Diversion Program. For more information, contact Professional Programs Counsel for Practice Assistance William N. King at bking@lsba.org or (504)619-0109.

Opinions Service

www.lsba.org/Members/OpinionsService.aspx

The LSBA Opinions Service allows members to obtain the latest opinions released from Louisiana appellate courts (First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth circuits) and the Louisiana Supreme Court. By subscribing to this service, LSBA members can automatically receive appellate court opinions via automatic e-mail notifications.



Louisiana
State Bar
Association

Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.

For more information,
visit www.lsba.org

Classified Advertisements

Standard classified advertising in our regular typeface and format may now be placed in “**Bar Briefs**” and on the LSBA Web site, *LSBA.org*. All requests for classified notices must be submitted in writing and are subject to approval. Copy must be typewritten and payment must accompany request. Our low rates for placement in both are as follows:

Rates

Non-members of LSBA

\$85 per insertion of 50 words or less
\$1 per each additional word
\$20 for a C-Box number

Members of the LSBA

\$60 per insertion for 50 words or less
\$1 per each additional word
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Screens: \$25

Headings: \$15 for initial headings in large type

Deadline

Payment and copy must be received by the first of the month before publication.

Send to:

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601 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, La. 70130

Responses

To respond to a box number, address your envelope to:

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601 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, La. 70130

Positions Offered

Baldwin Haspel Burke & Mayer, LLC, seeks a qualified tax attorney with two-10 years’ experience to provide support to its diversified business transaction and personal tax planning practice. La. State Bar license required; LL.M. in taxation highly preferred. Great compensation including formula bonuses; comprehensive benefits package. Email résumé to: bprovensal@bhbmlaw.com. www.bhbmlaw.com.

Baldwin Haspel Burke & Mayer, LLC, seeks a qualified litigation associate with two-four years’ experience to provide support to its maritime, insurance and personal injury defense practice. Ideal candidates must be able to multitask and work collaboratively with supervising partners. La. State Bar license required. Email résumé to: bprovensal@bhbmlaw.com. www.bhbmlaw.com.

The Public Defender Selection Committee (PDSC) for the 19th Judicial District (East Baton Rouge Parish) is accepting résumés for the position of Chief District Defender. Qualifications shall be in accordance with La. R.S. 15:161. Salary negotiable. Résumés should be submitted to: PDSC, P.O. Box 351, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, or emailed to pdscubr@gmail.com. Application deadline is May 10, 2021.

Associate attorney position available in Lafayette AV-rated personal injury firm. Top academic background and prior personal injury experience (plaintiff or defense) desired. Career opportunity. Email résumés and writing samples to: donna@andersondozier.com.

King & Jurgens, LLC, seeks commercial litigation associate with two-three years of experience for challenging, fast-paced role in downtown New Orleans office. Must be prepared to take and defend depositions, draft and argue motions, and have direct client contact. Competitive salary, bonus structure and benefits offered. Email résumé with class rank, transcript and writing sample to: ssossi@kingjurgens.com.

Downtown New Orleans law firm, primarily involved in business, corporate, healthcare practice, seeking an experienced full-time legal secretary; part-time possible. Five years’ law firm experience preferred; no litigation requirement. Significant document typing and preparation. Must have computer skills and dexterity required for data entry and retrieval of information. Must be proficient with Windows-style applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook); QuickBooks a plus. Solid interpersonal skills and ability to work and communicate effectively with staff, clients and vendors. Backup to receptionist/phones during lunch/breaks. Salary \$42,000-\$46,000; paid parking. Email résumé to: sriera@md-law.com.

Services

Briefs/Legal Research/Analysis of Unusual or Problem Cases

JD with honors, federal judicial clerk, graduate of top 10 law school, 25 years’ experience federal and state litigation, creative legal thinker. Available for briefs, research, court appearances, analysis of unusual or problem cases. References on request. Catherine Leary, (504)436-9648, statewide services, registered office Jefferson Parish. Email CatherineLeary2020@gmail.com.

For Rent - New Orleans

Tastefully renovated office space suitable for lawyers, accountants, engineers or other professionals, one block from Channel 6 studios. Includes secretarial space, receptionist, telephones, voice mail, conference rooms, kitchen, office equipment and parking. Walking distance to all downtown courts and many fine restaurants. Rents range from \$600-\$1,200 per month depending on size. Contact Cliff Cardone, (504)522-3333.

Freshly renovated office space suitable for lawyers, accountants, notary public, other professionals, at 422 S. Broad, off Tulane. Includes secretarial space, receptionist, telephones, voice mail, conference room/library, kitchen, office equipment, off-street parking. Perfect for attorneys; walk-in criminal, domestic, traffic, personal injury cases. Rents from \$600-\$1,200 per month. David Band, (504)822-2263.

2022 EXPERT WITNESS, CONSULTANT AND LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

The Louisiana State Bar Association is publishing its Expert Witness, Consultant and Legal Services Directory. The supplement to the *Louisiana Bar Journal* will be printed separately and shrink-wrapped for mailing with the December 2021/January 2022 *Louisiana Bar Journal*. The directory is published annually, guaranteeing a year's worth of exposure in print and on the LSBA Web site.

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- ▶ E-mail or mail ads on a disk to the addresses provided below.
- ▶ **DON'T FORGET TO PROVIDE YOUR 5 INDEXING CATEGORIES.**

Contact Info, Deadlines & Pricing

To reserve space in the directory, mail and/or e-mail your display ad or text listing/photo, contact Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez via email at kbellanger@lsba.org and mail check (payable to the Louisiana State Bar Association) to:

Communications Assistant Krystal Bellanger Rodriguez
Louisiana State Bar Association, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404

If you prefer to charge your listing (Visa, Mastercard or Discover only), please call (504)619-0131 or (800)421-5722, ext. 131.

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