

Around the Bar

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
BATON ROUGE BAR ASSOCIATION

No. 277, May 2013



Inside:

Effective oral argument

Combatting compassion fatigue

in the legal profession

In memoriam:

Judge Frank J. Polozola

What I've learned:

Cordell Haymon

Just like mom
Mother's Day: May 12

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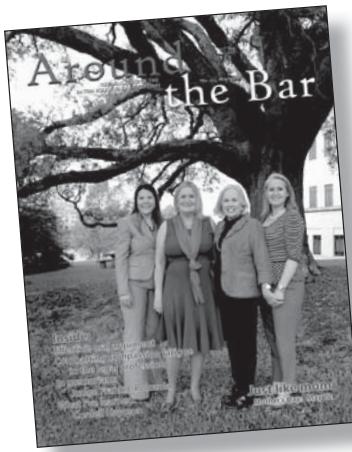
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On the cover:

Mother's Day is May 12, 2013. In honor of all BRBA attorney and judge members who are mothers of daughters who are attorneys, we have selected the following four ladies to be on this month's cover — (L to R) Mary Colvin and her mother, 19th Judicial District Court Judge Kay Bates, along with Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal Judge Toni M. Higginbotham and her daughter, Whitney H. Greene. The two mother-daughter pairs are photographed on the grounds of the Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal Building.

Cover artwork by Pamela Labbe.

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letter from the president

BY MICHAEL S. WALSH

Don't call me Mr. Mike

When I was a baby lawyer, I got invited to my first Baton Rouge Bar lunch at the old Prince Murat Inn by Tony Marabella and Frank Holthaus. I'd met Tony and Frank when I was lost inside the old City Courthouse on Laurel Street. In this building if you wanted to get to the Clerk's office from the courtrooms you had to go through the men's bathroom – I'm not making this up. I was so new that I didn't even have my law license framed yet, so these guys must have felt sorry for me because they invited me to lunch. Once we arrived, I was standing in line to pay for my lunch when the Dean of the Criminal Lawyers of Baton Rouge, Mr. Sam D'Amico, said, "Let me pay for your lunch, because I remember what it was like when I was starting out." At the time Mr. Sam was whom you hired if you were in criminal trouble in Baton Rouge. I felt pretty honored to have Mr. Sam buy me lunch and introduce me to everyone he knew.

Two other things that I remember about this bar lunch are that the food was awful (some things never change) and that Tony and Frank took their time to take me around and introduce me to judges and lawyers. It was pretty heady stuff for a new lawyer.

At this lunch I learned that being a real lawyer was more than just filing pleadings and going to court; being a lawyer involved giving back to the Baton Rouge community and, through the BRBA, our members were making a huge contribution to the Baton Rouge community.

Through the years BRBA lawyers have contributed thousands of hours to the Pro Bono Project by providing much needed legal services to the poor. Our members have also participated in community projects that help the community in many other ways – the Easter Eggstravaganza Project, Holiday Star Project, Teen Court and High School Mock Trial Competition, to name a few. The BRBA's programs have a positive effect on the students of our community.

By now you should have gotten your refrigerator magnet invitation to our annual Bench Bar Conference being held at Perdido Beach resort in early August. This year's Bench Bar Conference will offer all of the required MCLE hours. There will be many changes to the program, so come to the beach, have some fun with your family and friends and make an attempt to convince the IRS that the whole trip should be tax deductible (including the money you spend at the Flora-Bama). This year's Bench Bar Committee has put together a "Social Option" (where if you already have earned your CLE credits, you can just come and hang out at a reduced cost) and an option to stay off the site for the regular price (this is the option for those of you that have access to the condos down there).

This summer the BRBA will also have its "Softball Tournament." This tournament used to be called the "Beer League," but with political correctness and liability insurance being what they are, we had to change the name to something non-descript like "Softball Tournament." The softball tournament is held at the new BREC Oak Villa softball complex (which in my opinion is one of the best uses of my tax dollars I've seen in a long time). Traditionally the softball games are played on the hottest and wettest days of the year, but the Oak Villa complex is a great place to hang out and visit, even if your team gets booted in the first round.

So, if you're a young lawyer and no one has ever asked you to participate in the BRBA, please take this an invitation from me: I'd like to take you to a bar function. Email me and let me know you want to attend. I've got to attend all of them this year, and I'm always looking for company. I'd love to have you go with me, and you can introduce me to all the young lawyers. The part I don't like about the young lawyers is it really upsets me when they call me "Mr. Mike." It makes me feel old.

I hope to see you at Bench Bar and the Softball Tournament this summer, and be sure to remind me of your name. ■



Michael S. Walsh

tales from the bar side

BY VINCENT P. FORNIAS

Post-traumatic stress disorder is real, and it can take many forms. In the case of Gray Sexton, apparently his own issues resurfaced recently when we published the letter from one of our town's hall-of-famers of court report reporters, the late Jean Davis. Gray reports that in The Olden Days (long before smartphones were envisioned except as cool futuristic wrist models in Dick Tracy comic strips), he found himself as a relatively new associate at the Taylor, Porter firm. For some reason, wheels were not part of the standard fringe-benefit package at that esteemed firm, forcing Gray to rely upon walking, public transport or the proverbial kindness of strangers to make his way in the legal world. And so when he was assigned to attend a deposition as a workers' compensation intervenor in Alexandria, Gray gratefully accepted the offer of the venerable Janet Parker, queen of the court reporters, to ride with her to the situs.

Did we mention that the main opposing parties were represented by the legendary O. Romaine Russell and Charlie Franklin? Both of these dearly departed members of our local bar had reputations for many things, one of them being their respective, shall we say, excitability in the heat of battle, something of which young Gray was woefully unaware as the deposition commenced.

Perhaps a hint of what would soon proceed could have been found in the recitation of the "standard stipulation" for depositions if there had been some mention of Second Amendment rights. Be that as it may, sooner than you could say "Freeze!" things got a mite testy between Romaine and Charlie. Then they got personal. Gray, ever the innocent intervenor, found himself in his cozy foxhole as the verbal salvos flew back and forth overhead. Then suddenly Russell reached into his waistband and pulled a shiny Colt single-action revolver featuring a 12-inch "bunt line" barrel. Franklin upped the ante by summoning his own Smith and Wesson from a chest holster before reaching down to his ankle and producing a trusty derringer.

Nipped in the bud

At this point Gray was probably thinking he apparently had missed the law school lecture on bullet-proof-deposition vests. The only metal on poor Gray's person were his tooth fillings, a few paperclips and his standard issue graduation present Cross pen set. You may rightfully inquire what Mrs. Parker was doing while hostilities developed around her. Gray reports that for her, it was simply another day at the office. Without so much as looking up from her shorthand duties, she announced, "Boys, if y'all can't behave, I'm shutting this deposition down." And so they did, and the deposition continued without another single showdown.

On the drive back to Baton Rouge with Mrs. Parker, little was said about the deposition duel. And Gray could not help but be lost in his thoughts and concerns about what other vital matters had been left out of his legal education. ■

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in memoriam

BY LT. GOV. JAY DARDENNE – FEB. 27, 2013

Judge Frank J. Polozola had reverential esteem for the institutions he held dear:

The Roman Catholic Church
The Brothers of the Sacred Heart
Catholic High School
Louisiana State University
The federal judiciary
And, first and foremost, his family.

True to his Italian-American roots, by whatever name he was known (F. J., Frank or simply Judge), family came first. His father, Steve, and mother, Carolina, raised five sons — Frank, Gary, Ronnie, Steve and Ed — and one daughter, Pat. His wife, Linda, was ever by his side for 50 years, and his three children, Greg, Gordon and Sherry, their spouses and his seven grandchildren have been the focal point of his life despite the time-consuming rigors and pressures of being a federal judge. Family came before anything and everything else.

His extended family includes his only two secretaries, Jackie Gaudin and Liz Daigle, and more than three decades of law clerks, who were treated as sons and daughters, or, in the case of early clerks like me, younger brothers and sisters. He fashioned lifelong bonds with his clerks, many of whom are here today and all of whom cherish the time spent in the Judge's chambers, his courtroom or simply in his presence.

The Judge himself began his career as a law clerk ... to his mentor, Judge E. Gordon West. He practiced law with Seale, Smith and Phelps before becoming a United States Magistrate. He did not rise to the federal bench in the traditional sense. His on-the-job training as a magistrate attracted the attention and respect of Sen. Russell Long and prepared Judge Polozola for his appointment, at age 38, as one of the nation's youngest federal judges.

Although his legal scholarship and record of service are well known, the favorite line on his resumé identified him as a two-year letterman and member of LSU's 1961 Southeastern Conference Championship baseball team.

He was known for his work ethic and his expectation that all lawyers who entered his courtroom did so with a level of preparation that matched his own. He was a stickler for detail and a fiend for formality. He was tough on attorneys and tough on himself. That same toughness characterized his battle with the disease that ultimately brings us together today.

His stern presence on the bench masked his kind and thoughtful manner and the help he gave to hundreds of people throughout the years.

As a little boy, Greg remembers sitting in his dad's

Editor's note: This eulogy was given by Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne Feb. 27, 2013, and was reprinted with permission.

Judge Frank J. Polozola



Judge Frank J. Polozola

PHOTO BY MARIE CONSTANTIN

office late one day during the Christmas holidays when the maid came to vacuum. She apologized for the interruption, but wanted to thank the Judge for a Christmas gift and tell him how much she appreciated his helping her son, who apparently had some problems. While they were talking, Jackie or Liz buzzed the Judge on the speaker to tell him that the governor was on the phone. Greg doesn't remember which governor, but he's never forgotten the tears that streamed down the maid's face when the Judge responded: "Tell him I'll call back. I'm talking to someone important."

The Judge loved welcoming children to his courtroom for mock trials and particularly enjoyed naturalization ceremonies — sometimes with much pomp and circumstance and sometimes for a single person or family fulfilling their dream of American citizenship.

One such person was an Indian lady named Saraj Welch, whose visa was about to expire. The Judge held a moving and extended naturalization ceremony just for her. It turns out that she had been the counselor to the Sisters of Charity, Mother Theresa's Order, which took care of so many but often not themselves. As many of you know, the Judge had met Mother Theresa during her visit to Louisiana. Saraj and the Judge struck up a friendship,

and this past summer, she knitted a prayer shawl to comfort him during chemo treatments. Before delivering it to him, she was told not to stay very long, but, of course, the Judge wouldn't let her leave, and they talked about Mother Theresa throughout his treatment. Thereafter, the Judge said he felt a special presence whenever he was wrapped in that shawl.

The Judge was a man of faith who cherished history and propriety. His office was a shrine of interesting memorabilia. He also was a world-class scrounger throughout the years, gathering up untold items of furniture and property for use in his courtroom and chambers. His efforts not only salvaged unique pieces of Louisiana and American history but also saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars based on his frugal use of others' castoffs.

Judge Polozola certainly had his days in the limelight, presiding over high profile, controversial and difficult cases, both civil and criminal. But it is not how a judge reacts in the red hot glow of media scrutiny that marks a career. It is how a judge conducts himself and manages his docket and courtroom when lesser-profile litigants and defendants whose names are long forgotten stand before the bar of justice. It is in those moments that Judge Polozola's mettle was tested and when his star shone the brightest.

I think the greatest lesson I learned from him was not in the courtroom and had nothing to do with the law. It

was the same lesson Greg learned that late evening in his dad's office: treat all people no matter their station in life with dignity and respect.

Frank J. Polozola was born to be a judge. His demeanor, his intellect, his work ethic, his commitment to impartiality – in appearance, conduct and practice – are unquestioned. He rose to the pinnacle of his profession without ever forgetting his humble beginnings at 4862 Madison Avenue; without ever forsaking his faith, compromising his integrity or impinging upon the love and devotion he felt for his beloved family.

God speed, Judge Polozola, you no doubt will please the supremest of all courts wherein you now reside. ▀

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- Bench Bar Conference • Opening of Court Ceremony

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Aug. 1 - 3, 2013

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CLE seminars break at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, to allow free time to spend with family and friends
CLE seminars from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3 • Golf tournament on Saturday, Aug. 3
Silent auction to benefit the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation • Music by the V-Tones

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Chris Ulrich from the Body Language Institute

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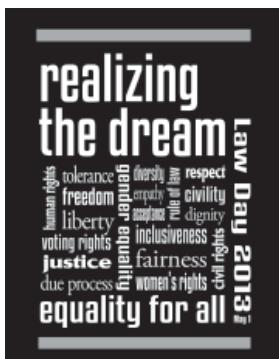
bar news

BY PAMELA LABBE

Law Day to take place Wednesday, May 1

Please attend the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation Law Day Celebration, scheduled Wednesday, May 1, 2013, at the Baton Rouge River Center Theatre. The theme is "Realizing the Dream: Equality for All."

Chairing the 2013 Law Day Committee is Elizabeth Spurgeon. Ryan Brown is the vice chair. This year's guest speaker will be Christopher J. Tyson, son of the late U. S. District Court Chief Judge Ralph Tyson. An Assistant Professor of Law at the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Tyson's teaching and scholarship focuses on the areas of local government law, real estate and urban development. Professor Tyson's interests include matters of race, politics and youth mentoring. Prior to joining the faculty of the LSU Law Center, he practiced as a real estate



and land use attorney with the law firm Jones Walker, LLP.

A naturalization ceremony will take place at 9 a.m. at the Baton Rouge River Center. At 10 a.m., the Law Day opening ceremonies will begin. Area middle and high school students who placed in the Law Day essay, poster and video contests will be honored on stage during the ceremony. In addition, the Mock Trial Competition trophy will be awarded to student representatives of Baton Rouge Magnet High School. Also, recipients of the Teen Court Scholarship Award will be honored at the event.

To assist with this year's Law Day Celebration, please contact Donna Buuck, staff liaison to the BRBF Law Day Committee, at 225-214-5556 or donna@brba.org.

19th JDC no-cellphone policy is on hold

The judges decided that the no-cellphone policy that had been in the works at the 19th Judicial District Court for months would not be implemented in March 2013, as had been previously planned. In the meantime, electronic devices may be brought into the 19th Judicial District Courthouse, but there will be stringent rules concerning using them inside the courtrooms. Each judge will implement and enforce his or her own policy concerning use of electronic devices in the courtroom and will impose appropriate penalties if that policy is violated.

FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE PETER J. LEMOINE

Social Security Disability Law Offices in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Cottonport

Adjunct Professor (1994-1997), Northwestern State University

MEMBER: American Bar Association, Louisiana State Bar Association, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Avoyelles Parish Bar Association, National Organization of Social Security Claimant Representatives, Legal Services for Purposes of Disability Committee (Louisiana State Bar Association).

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Softball practice time is here; gather your team together and prepare for the annual tournament

It's that time of year again! The BRBA Softball Tournament is just around the corner and the informal Lawyers' League is already underway. Now is the time to come out and join your colleagues for some softball practice and fun. For more information and to schedule Lawyers' League softball games, please contact Brooke Barnett-Bernal (bbb@longlaw.com), Chris Jones (cjones@kcwlaw.com) and/or Dana Brown (brown@eatel.net).

Young Lawyers luncheon scheduled for mid-June

The next BRBA luncheon, coordinated by the Young Lawyers Section, is Thursday, June 14, 2013, at De La Ronde Hall at 11:45 a.m. LSU Men's Basketball Head Coach Johnny Jones will speak. Scotty Chabert is the 2013 chair of the Young Lawyers Section. Call 225-344-4803 for information or to register.

Summer Sizzlin' CLE seminar to be held in July

Earn 4.0 hours of CLE at the YLS Summer Sizzlin' CLE Friday, July 19, 2013, at the Middleton Bar Center. For details, contact Susan Kelley at 225-214-5559.

BRBA Bench Bar Conference scheduled Aug. 1-3



The 2013 BRBA Bench Bar Conference, Aug. 1-3, will be held at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Ala. It will include 12.5 hours of CLE seminars. Emily B. Grey is this year's chair. Danny McGlynn is the co-chair of the committee.

Sponsors of this year's conference are Babcock Partners, LLC; Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson; Committee to Elect Hillar Moore III; Jill L. Craft; Chaffe McCall, LLP; Davoli, Krumholt & Price; DeCuir, Clark & Adams, LLP; Dudley DeBosier; Dr. Michael J. Goff/Louisiana Health & Injury Centers; Hammonds, Sills, Adkins & Guice, LLP; The Health Care Center; Jones Walker; Kantrow, Spaht, Weaver & Blitzer, APLC; Kean Miller LLP; Keogh, Cox & Wilson, Ltd.; The Law Offices of Ossie Brown; LexisNexis; Louisiana State Bar Association; Le Creolé; Long Law Firm, LLP; McGlinchey Stafford PLLC; Murphy's Law APLC; Newman, Mathis, Brady & Spedale; Kris A. Perret; Perry, Atkinson, Balhoff, Mengis & Burns, LLC; Perry Dampf Dispute Solutions; Roy Kiesel; Rathman Chiropractic Clinic; Saunders and Chabert; Talbot, Carmouche & Marcello; Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips; USDC-Middle District Bench Bar Fund; Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens; and West, a Thomson Reuters business. ▀

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STOP THE WHINING!

Effective oral argument

BY ED WALTERS

So, here you are. In court. Things are not going your way. The judge is just NOT getting it.

You have to do SOMETHING to convince the judge that you are right. Every time you try to tell her why you are right, she asks you a question that shows you that she doesn't believe your position.

You get frustrated, angry, defensive. Then when all else fails ... you whine. It may sound something like this:

You: Judge, with all due respect, I didn't get Mr. Jones's brief until late Friday and I need time to respond.

Judge: Well, did you ask Mr. Jones for more time or file a motion for more time?

You: No, Judge, you see, my secretary didn't put this discovery motion on my calendar correctly and, you see, well, this really is not my case, my associate has been handling this, and she's out for an illness – having a baby – which I guess is not really an illness, but I have not had the time because I had a FEDERAL COURT deadline.

Judge: So you came here unprepared?

You: Judge, he's not entitled to these documents.

Judge: Did you object and give reasons?

You: He's not entitled to these documents.

Judge: So how did you respond to the discovery?

You: Judge, I gave them what they are entitled to.

Judge: It says you failed to attend the 10.1 conference. Did you attend it?

You: Judge, I had a scheduling conflict in FEDERAL COURT so I could not attend, but he's not entitled to these documents.

Judge, it's just not right. He knows it. He knows he's not entitled to these documents.

Judge: Well, counsel, all of your whining has not answered ANY of my questions. He has followed the rules. He's getting the documents.

WOW! Ever been there? That's what YOU sound like when you are there. Below are some "tips" culled and collected from numerous legal authors, which, if followed, will assist your preparation so that you can argue properly and not be required to whine to the judge. Things not to say: "I'll be brief."

"It's in my brief."

"My secretary forgot to put this on my calendar."

"That's a good question."

"This isn't my case."

"I'm not a bankruptcy lawyer."

"I wasn't at the trial."

"I'll get to that later."

"It's complicated."

"With all due respect."

Be prepared. Familiarizing yourself with a motion while walking from the courthouse parking lot to the

courtroom guarantees an ineffective oral argument. Always take the time, well before the hearing, to review the applicable facts, law and arguments.

Be organized. Avoid fumbling for documents during the precious few minutes available for oral argument. Know the precise location of the moving and opposing papers in your file, as well as any other relevant documents. When you are arguing multiple motions, a separate file containing the relevant documents for each motion can be especially helpful.

Arrive early. The focus of your attention should not be getting to court, but on making the best oral presentation possible. You will do a much better job if you get to court early, review your materials and relax.

A good start. Describe your motion to the judge in 50 words or less. It focuses attention on what you think is important and why. It also shows that you are prepared.

Learn about the judge. Talk with other lawyers. Knowing the background, attitudes and personal style of the judge you will be appearing before will help you gear your presentation for maximum effectiveness.

Use proper names. The correct form of direct address to the court is "Your Honor," and the third person "the Court" is also appropriate. The court should not be addressed as "Judge." Be careful with confusing terms such as "defendant-in-reconvention" and the like. If using those terms confuses the matter, use the names of the parties.

Introduce yourself and whom you represent. The court may have a hard time figuring out whom you represent.

Listen to the question. When you don't like the question, your natural instinct is to respond to the question you wish you had been asked rather than the one actually posed. Answer the question the judge asked.

Answer the question immediately. If you say, "I'll get to that later," you will irritate the judge or you will simply create a situation in which the judge tunes you out until you answer.

Answer the question directly. Do not try to rephrase the question or try to explain an answer before giving a direct response. If the question requires a "yes" or "no," the next word out of your mouth should generally be "yes" or "no." Of course, you can then explain or qualify your answer.

Be candid. You know your case has strong points and weaknesses. So does the judge. At times, you may have to concede a "bad point," but you still have the opportunity to explain why that point is not controlling.

Be an advocate; follow through. After answering, return to your planned argument and make the important

points you had planned. This communicates command of the argument and confidence in your position.

Anticipate the questions. As you write your outline, try to anticipate the questions and prepare your answers in a way that will make this transition most natural.

Avoid being caught in a hostile dialogue. Some judges will try to get you to concede certain points through persistent questioning. Remain polite, firm, and simply “stick to your guns” in a way that is respectful. Do not abandon key points in your argument simply because a judge asks a question that attempts to extract concessions. Try to “follow through” to the next point of your argument.

Plan your rebuttal. The mover will have an opportunity to respond to statements from the non-mover. This rebuttal should be planned ahead of time. It should briefly respond to specific points raised by your opponent and go back to emphasize the strong points of your position. Anticipate your opponent’s arguments and plan your response. This is the “sweet spot.” Use it.

Do not ask rhetorical questions, such as “Does the Court really want to ...?”

Mind your image. Your goal should be to appear confident but respectful, both to the court and your opponent. Do not slouch, lean or fidget. Speak in a firm but controlled voice. And, most important, always keep your personal feelings under control. Address your comments to the bench — not to opposing counsel.

Speak audibly, clearly and at a reasonable speed. Often we become so involved in the proceedings that we begin speaking too quickly, necessitating an unwanted interruption by the judge — or more often the court reporter — asking that you slow down.

Know when to be quiet. Don’t interrupt your opponent, and never interrupt the court or try to talk over the judge when she is asking you a question.

Know when to stop. Once the court begins to rule, your oral presentation is over. Judges generally will not permit further argument, and to continue arguing makes you appear unprofessional and rude ... and desperate.

Do not repeat what's in your brief. The court has already read it. Your oral argument should be focused on engaging the court on key issues, addressing the court’s legal or factual questions, and countering your opponent’s arguments.

Give ground when appropriate. Some attorneys feel they must defend every argument, and they do so to the point of absurdity. Such an inflexible approach weakens your case. Be willing to acknowledge obvious weak points in your argument and counter with your strengths.

Ask to file a supplemental memorandum. If a previously unaddressed but pivotal issue comes up during oral argument, ask the court for the opportunity to file a supplemental memorandum. Although rare, courts will permit them in appropriate circumstances.

Be prepared to shift gears. You may need to make your

argument flexible to the flow of what is transpiring. If you are wed to a script, your argument will be flat, mechanical and unpersuasive.

Use questions from the court to your advantage. View such questions as an opportunity to address issues of concern, and, if you are properly prepared, you will have anticipated these questions and will have formulated responses that show why the court should decide in your favor.

Don’t argue with the judge. Attempting to convince a judge that his entire line of reasoning is wrongheaded will rarely be productive. Instead, acknowledge the court’s areas of concern and demonstrate why those areas should be resolved in your favor.

Know when to quit. If you believe you have won the argument, be quiet, or you may snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. If you have lost the argument, let it go.

Re-read the briefs. This will allow you to re-familiarize yourself with the major legal and factual points of the case. Your oral argument will then allow you to state your best points more persuasively and forcefully, to clarify points you did not make so well, and to address points made in your opponent’s brief that you did not anticipate when writing your original brief.

Review the record and KNOW the facts of the case. Unfortunately you can forget the crucial facts of the case between initial review of the record, writing the brief and then having to deliver an oral argument on the same set of facts. You must be the expert on the facts.

Reread the cases relied on by each side. Make sure that the authorities relied on in your brief are still “good law” and check for any recent developments that may affect your ultimate argument. Anticipate that your opponent will do the same.

Prepare a BRIEF outline of your argument. This outline or set of bullet points should be on a single sheet of paper. You should not read from your brief, nor should you write out your oral argument in its entirety and think that you should read from it.

Customs of the Court. Although many judges will play the role of devil’s advocate and try to get the attorney to focus on the weak part of the case, some judges merely are curious about certain facts or procedural details. Furthermore, some judges are asking questions to “help you along” either by providing some structure if you seem disorganized or by “throwing a softball” so that you can get back on track.

Make it clear what you want the judge to do. You want the court to rule in your favor, but make it clear what you want the court to do in its ruling.

Make it clear what the judge did. Whether the court rules in your favor or against you, make sure that the record is clear as to what the judge’s ruling covers and what it doesn’t.

Avoid repetition, avoid repetition, avoid repetition. ■

Awareness is first step in combatting compassion fatigue

BY BUDDY STOCKWELL

Litigation can be extremely stressful, especially in high conflict cases involving domestic and criminal matters. To protect our own emotional wellbeing in the midst of the trauma and chaos encountered in high stress areas of the law, both attorneys and judges quickly realize that they must strive for professional objectivity lest they become emotionally entangled in the cases at hand. However, scientific research indicates that simply deciding to remain objective may not be effective and that our natural empathetic responses may overpower our intellectual efforts to maintain objectivity. The result can be Compassion Fatigue (CF), a specific type of emotional burnout that can happen to anyone at any age and cause debilitating symptoms.

One of the first studies about CF's impact on lawyers, conducted in 2003 by Andrew Levin, M.D., at New York Medical College, Valhalla, N.Y., focused on attorneys handling domestic violence and criminal cases. "The attorneys demonstrated higher levels of intrusive recollection of trauma material, avoidance of reminders of the material and diminished pleasure and interest in activities, and difficulties with sleep, irritability, and concentration." Although not included in Levin's study, it's obvious that domestic and criminal court judges exposed to traumatic evidence day after day are at equal if not even greater risk for CF.

Lawyers and judges who are routinely exposed to disturbing evidence and distraught clients are often able to instantly recall, even after years have passed, how painful a particular case was, not only for the clients, but for everyone involved. Why, despite our best efforts to remain professionally detached, are we so profoundly affected by certain cases and for such a long time?

The answer may lie in relatively new research surrounding empathy and the role of the brain's mirror neurons. Giacomo Rizzolatti, an Italian neurophysiologist at the University of Parma, discovered an interesting phenomenon by accident: a macaque monkey's recorded brain waves respond identically whether or not the monkey picks up an object or the monkey sees a scientist pick up the same object. The premise is that when we review evidence and empathize, or observe behavior, our mirror neurons can spark as if we are actually experiencing the event rather than just observing it. Whether strong sensations

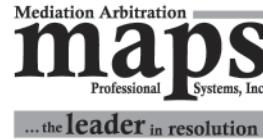
during a suspenseful football game or a chill down the spine by seeing someone mishandling a sharp knife, we have all experienced our own mirror neurons at work.

Warning signs of CF include excessive workloads that encroach on personal time; feeling exhausted all the time; nightmares; becoming pessimistic, irritable and losing faith in humanity; alienating from others; and becoming generally unhappy, unproductive and no longer on top of your game. Awareness is the first step in fighting CF. Dealing with the negative emotions that CF is causing is paramount. It is important not to "stuff" your feelings. Find a way to debrief traumatic cases with another practitioner who understands and is supportive to help you process how you were affected by the case. Exercise, good sleep habits and general self-care are important. Those who practice domestic and criminal law must remain especially vigilant against CF. If you feel overwhelmed or burned out, and you or someone you know could use help regarding Compassion Fatigue please contact the Lawyers Assistance Program at 866-354-9334, lap@louisianalap.com or visit www.louisianalap.com. Your call is confidential as a matter of law and you do not have to give your name. ▀

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West's Jury Verdicts – Baton Rouge

Venue/Case Type	Major Injury	Trial Type	Result
<u>East Baton Rouge Parish</u>			
Insurance	Monetary damages	Bench	\$4,500
Insurance	Herniated disc in lumbar spine; shoulder, leg, hand	Settlement	\$2,550,000
Labor and Employment	Monetary damages	Jury	Defense
Premises Liability	Burn injuries to feet, ankles, legs	Jury	\$3,750,000
Vehicle Negligence	Traumatic brain and neck injuries	Jury	\$789,494

West's Case of the Month

Plaintiffs Receive \$2.6M Settlement from Insurers Due to Intersection MVA

Wethey v. Harper

TYPE OF CASE:

Insurance • Automobile Policy
 Insurance • Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist
 Insurance • Bad Faith & Coverage
 Vehicle Negligence • Motor Vehicle v. Motor Vehicle
 Vehicle Negligence • Intersection
 Vehicle Negligence • Left Turn
 Vehicle Negligence • Right-of-Way

SPECIFIC LIABILITY: Motorist failed to yield the right-of-way while attempting to turn left at an intersection and collided with another vehicle; uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage provider denied coverage and committed fraud by altering the uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage selection form included in the insurance policy

GENERAL INJURY: Herniated disc in lumbar spine, requiring multiple surgeries; bulging disc in back; injuries to neck, shoulder, leg and hand; headaches; medical expenses; lost wages; loss of earning capacity

COURT: District Court of Louisiana, Nineteenth Judicial District, Parish of East Baton Rouge

DOCKET/FILE NUMBER: 594805

VERDICT: Plaintiffs, \$2,550,000

VERDICT DATE: May 22, 2012

JUDGE: William A. Morvant

ATTORNEYS:

Plaintiffs: Richard F. Zimmerman III, Gordon J. McKernan and John H. Smith, McKernan Law Firm, Baton Rouge.

Defendants (Harper and State Farm): Craig D. Gremillion, Terry J. Butcher and Associates, Baton Rouge.

Defendant (Zurich American): Michael D. Peytavin, Thomas L. Gaudry Jr. and Daryl A. Higgins, Gaudry, Ranson, Higgins & Gremillion, Gretna; Donald E. McKay Jr., Leake & Andersson, New Orleans; Thomas W. Darling, Baton Rouge; Omer Frederick Kuebel III, Locke Lord LLP, New Orleans.

Intervenor (Safelite Auto Glass): John J. Rabalais, Janice B. Unland and Thomas B. Delsa, Rabalais, Unland & Lorio, Covington; Kevin O'Bryon, O'Bryon & Schnabel, New Orleans.

TRIAL TYPE: Settlement

BREAKDOWN OF AWARD: \$2,525,000 to plaintiffs from defendant Zurich American for damages; \$25,000 to plaintiffs from defendants Harper and State Farm for damages

SUMMARY OF FACTS:

Bret Wethey, age 43, was reportedly operating a 2010 Chevrolet HHR owned by his employer, Safelite Auto Glass, west on John R. Junkin Drive in Natchez, Oct. 7, 2009. At the same time, Loyce Harper was driving a 2010 Buick Lacrosse east on John R. Junkin Drive, approaching its intersection with Natchez Mall Drive. As Harper attempted to turn left onto Natchez Mall Drive, she allegedly failed to yield to oncoming traffic and drove directly into the path of Wethey's vehicle. As a result, a violent collision occurred between the automobiles.

Wethey reportedly suffered severe personal injuries due to the accident. His injuries included a herniated disc in his lumbar spine, which required two surgeries. Wethey's physicians ultimately recommended he undergo implantation of a spinal cord stimulator. Wethey also reportedly suffered a bulging disc in his back, headaches, as well as injuries to his neck, shoulder, leg and hand due to the collision.

Bret Wethey and his wife, Rebecca Wethey, individually and on behalf of their minor children, filed a petition for damages against Harper, Harper's reported automobile insurance provider, State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co., and Bret's own uninsured/underinsured motorist (UM/UIM) coverage provider, Zurich American Ins. Co. (ZAIC), in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court for the Parish of East Baton Rouge. The plaintiffs argued Harper's negligence had caused Bret's personal injuries and their damages.

The defendants generally denied the plaintiffs' allegations and disputed the nature and extent of their injuries and damages caused by the accident. According to the plaintiffs' counsel, State Farm, on Harper's behalf, agreed to a settlement in the amount of \$25,000.

According to the parties' joint pretrial order, ZAIC denied the plaintiffs' claims for UM/UIM coverage. Upon review of the UM/UIM coverage selection form, the Wetheys discovered a representative from Safelite Auto Glass had failed to select or reject coverage. As a result, the plaintiffs asserted the insurance policy in question automatically provided Bret with UM/UIM coverage equal to the liability limitations.

The plaintiffs asserted ZAIC again denied them insurance coverage and subsequently sent an UM/UIM coverage selection form that reportedly included Bret's employer's initials next to the choice for rejection of coverage.

The Wetheys asserted ZAIC was aware that the initials on the UM/UIM coverage selection form had been altered after its original signing; as a result, the plaintiffs argued the insurance company's alleged actions were fraudulent, dishonest and constituted a breach of its duty of good faith and fair dealing.

ZAIC denied the plaintiffs' fraud allegations against it and asserted it had made a timely tender in the amount of \$180,000 to the Wetheys.

According to the plaintiffs' counsel, ZAIC subsequently agreed to pay the amount of \$2,525,000 in order to settle the lawsuit. Bret Wethey's past medical expenses for injuries he suffered due to the collision were reportedly in the amount of \$215,000.

CASE CITE: 2012 WL 7202398



WHAT I'VE LEARNED: Interview with Cordell Haymon

BY ED WALTERS

VITAL STATISTICS

Age: 69

Position: Sr. Vice President, SGS Petroleum Service Corp.

Born & Raised: in Baton Rouge

Parents: Father – Derryl Haymon, worked 33 years for Exxon, but also developed apartments and founded Petroleum Service Corporation. Mother – Helen Gold Haymon, was a social worker for the EBR Parish Welfare Department and later served as a volunteer at Woman's Hospital for 40 years.

Siblings: Two brothers – Brian and Martin, and two sisters – Rachel and Diane

Spouse: Ava Leavell Haymon, writer / poet / teacher

Children: Daughter – Carroll, family doctor in Seattle; Son – Houston, former professional trumpet player, now Business Development Manager

for SGS Petroleum Service Corporation in Houston

Education: Baton Rouge High School, Rice University and LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center

ATB: You and I served on the BRBA Board together for a number of years in the 1980s and 1990s. What are some things you remember about that?

CH: I recall that it was a good time for our Bar Association. We hired our first executive director, Bobbi Zaunbrecher, and she helped us grow membership and programs to become one of the best local bar associations in the country. Bobbi was succeeded by Ann K. Gregorie, and it is good to see that Ann and her staff, together with the present board, continue many of the programs we initiated. Those included the first bar-sponsored lawyer referral service in Louisiana and the first pro bono program in our state, and also the Bench Bar Conference. Unfortunately, this was before the tradition started of the bar president singing at the conference, so I missed my chance for musical fame.

ATB: What was the best thing about serving on the Baton Rouge Bar Association board?

CH: It was the opportunity to work with some of the finest lawyers in our community (Patterson, Rubin, Greco, Groves, Toups, Marks, Fertitta, Marabella, McKay, Eaton, West, Holthaus, Dampf. Oh yes, and Walters). I think I especially appreciated these relationships because of the fact that I was never part of a law firm.

ATB: What did you enjoy least about being bar president?

CH: Probably it was an issue that arose involving Capital

Area Legal Services. I had served as the chair of that board for a number of years before going on the board of the BRBA. We received a complaint that CALSC was not following its own bylaws in the appointment of its board of directors. I had actually drafted those bylaws, and we took the position that BRBA would withdraw all of its appointees from that board unless the bylaws were followed. That left CALSC without a functioning board and caused quite a firestorm. Ultimately, they agreed to comply with their bylaws and we returned our appointees to the board. At our next board meeting, Frank Holthaus presented me a plaque for the "Order of Asbestos" for "demonstrated ability to withstand heat and flame."

ATB: What would you say was a highlight of your tenure?

CH: I had the opportunity to represent Louisiana at a conference in Moscow in 1990, which was the first ever meeting between American lawyers and Soviet lawyers. There were about 600 of us and about 2,000 of them. Our delegation was led by U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers. Having lived my whole life in the shadow of the Cold War, it was an amazing experience to meet and talk with Soviet lawyers and public officials. President Mikhail Gorbachev was the speaker at our closing dinner.

ATB: What was discussed at the conference?

There were a lot of comparisons between our legal system and theirs. Theirs had very limited rights of private

ownership, but the basic historical structure was the civil law, which was more familiar to me as a Louisiana lawyer than it was to other American lawyers. One of the breakout sessions was on civil rights. One U.S. panelist was Alan Dershowitz, the Harvard Law professor who has been involved in a number of high profile cases. He seized the initiative at the start of the meeting to denounce anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, and he called for Mr. Gorbachev to go to the Moscow Synagogue and swear an oath that never again would Jews be persecuted in the Soviet Union. All of this was taking place with simultaneous translation through headphones, and the lawyers from the various Soviet Republics began to grumble loudly. It was clear that they had not come to this event to hear complaints about anti-Semitism, which seemed to be the least of their concerns. Instead, these lawyers from Georgia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, etc. wanted to rail against the Russians who had seized power in their republics. Dershowitz ended his diatribe by passing around a handwritten petition to Mr. Gorbachev on a yellow legal pad. I and the other Americans signed it. I don't think any of the Soviets did.



ATB: That sounds like Dershowitz.

CH: When I left that session, I decided to walk the couple of miles back to our hotel. I happened to fall in with Nicholas Katzenbach, who had been U.S. Attorney General in the 1960s when the Voting Rights Act and other legislation aimed at desegregating the south were passed. Katzenbach was responsible for the implementation of that legislation, which was extremely unpopular among many in Baton Rouge. Suddenly I had this realization that I was walking in the capital of the country that had been our enemy all my life, a free and prosperous man (certainly by Soviet standards) in a country that only two generations earlier my mother's Jewish father had to flee at age 14 to escape anti-Semitic violence. And I was having a cordial conversation with the man who my father's father (a segregationist, like many at that time) resented. It was quite a moment.

ATB: Are you still involved in bar activities?

CH: I'm on the Council of the Law Institute, which I had the privilege of serving as president a few years ago.

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Attorneys are frequent lecturers on workers' compensation issues, members of the Louisiana Bar Associations Legal Services for Persons with Disability Committee, Baton Rouge Bar Association Workers' Compensation Section and the Governor's Executive Counsel involving workers' compensation issues.

Brad Price is the attorney responsible for the content of this advertisement.

Professor Saul Litvinoff recruited me to work on the revision of the law of obligations soon after I finished law school, and I've been active with the Institute for 40 years. That has given me a wonderful continuing legal education and the opportunity to know and work with some of the best lawyers, judges and law teachers around our state. I also serve from time to time on bar committees, such as the one that worked on recent changes to the bar exam, and I am on the LSU Law School Board of Trustees.

ATB: What was a favorite experience related to the BRBA?

I enjoyed the annual softball tournament for many years until my knees protested too much. I was privileged

to play on a good team led by my dear friend, the late Bruce Macmurdo. We had some great games and won the tournament several times. I wish I could still get out there.

ATB: Why did you never work for a law firm?

CH: Growing up, I had the idea of a career combining law and business. My father worked for Exxon, but had started a business on the side called Petroleum Service Corporation (PSC) to load and unload barges. The company had only three employees when I got involved with it during law school, but my dad and I could see that it had the potential to be something larger. In the summer before my last year of law school, I clerked for Stone Pigman in New Orleans, and I really liked that firm, which had about 10 lawyers at that time. When they offered me a job, it was a difficult decision.

I remember talking to Judge Alvin Rubin (one of my all time heroes). When I told him I had the idea of practicing law and being in business at the same time, he wisely observed that it would be

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GAIL'S GRAMMAR

The apostrophe is a troublesome punctuation mark; writers seem to have difficulty figuring out when to use it. A particular problem is using apostrophes when two nouns appear alongside one another, as in "farmers market" — or is it "farmers' market"? If it's a market **for** farmers, farmers is a noun modifier and does not use an apostrophe. If it's a market organized **by** farmers or owned by them, it's possessive and needs an apostrophe. Sometimes, however, it's difficult to decide whether to use the apostrophe because the use is both possessive and modifying. For example, the Bench Bar Conference is organized **by** lawyers **for** lawyers. Thus, it can be correctly described as either a lawyers' conference or a lawyers conference.

Send suggestions for future Gail's Grammar columns to Gail Stephenson at GStephenson@sulc.edu, or call Gail at 225-771-4900 (ext. 216).

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very difficult to do both of those things well at the same time. Despite his sound advice, that was the path I took, and I hung out my shingle.

ATB: How did that work out?

CH: The law has become much more specialized over the last 45 years, but at that time it was still possible to be a generalist. I handled almost every kind of case, anything that would pay a fee. I got referrals from other lawyers along with a lot of generous advice and coaching. I actively practiced for about 25 years, but in the early 1990s my company had grown to the point where it needed my full attention, so I stopped taking clients.

I think transitioning to be a full-time CEO worked well for me. While I enjoyed the practice of law very much, I found that as I got older I was pleased to primarily be involved in coaching and developing our company's leaders, and found working with our customers was more satisfying than the adversarial conflict involved in law practice. Ultimately, my brother Brian and I sold the company in 2004 to SGS, a global company based in Geneva. We have stayed on and continued to run PSC as a separate division of SGS, and our division now has 2,000 employees.

ATB: So do you still practice law at all?

CH: No, and the law has become so specialized that I no longer feel competent in any area. I'm still proud to claim the title of attorney, but in legal matters my role is now that of client.

ATB: What was the best advice you ever gave a client?

CH: I don't know, but I think I used the best horse sense with a client in Livingston Parish who got so mad about his neighbor's horse always getting into his garden that he shot and killed the horse. He then called and asked me what to do. I asked if his neighbor was at home. He said no, that it was when he saw his neighbor drive away, ignoring the horse in his garden, that he got so mad he shot the horse. My advice was that he should leave and not be there when his neighbor got home and that he should avoid any contact with the neighbor until things cooled down. He followed my advice. He was later charged with cruelty to animals, but the case was dismissed when the owner of the dead horse failed to appear for trial.

ATB: So how do you spend your time now?

CH: I'm still employed at PSC, though my brother Brian now has overall responsibility for the business. I am on his leadership team and also on the board of SGS U.S. Holdings, our parent company. I also spend quite a lot of time in volunteer activities.

ATB: What are some of those?

CH: I get involved in the arts, which I think are so important for our community and for the development of our youth.

I am the board chair for the Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX). We have worked for 15 years to bring proactive planning to Baton Rouge and Louisiana. We led the planning process that has resulted in the continuing revitalization of downtown. We have worked in Old South Baton Rouge and Mid-City as well as on FutureBR, which is the new comprehensive plan for East Baton Rouge Parish. We have also helped about 18 other Louisiana parishes and communities create plans for their future. CPEX has an exceptional board and staff led by Boo Thomas, and I am proud to work with them.

I've also been involved in education reform and have served as board chair for Teach For America South Louisiana for the past eight years. TFA recruits top college graduates from around the country to teach in some of our most challenged public schools. Although the overall progress is sometimes hard to see, I am encouraged with the improvements that have been made in the past 10 years and in the general direction we are headed. The bright and committed young people in TFA, led by Michael Tipton, are an inspiration to me.

ATB: What experiences were formative for you?

CH: I guess you could say I've been very fortunate in my choice of parents and spouse. My father was the oldest of eight children born into a very poor family in the backwoods of western Louisiana. Despite limited educational opportunities, he applied his intelligence, creativity and determination to achieve success for himself and his family. I was lucky enough to work closely with him for many years in building a family business, and I learned a great deal from him.

My mother grew up in the Jewish orphanage in New Orleans after her mother died in the world-wide flu epidemic when my mother was five months old. She was very grateful for the care, support and love she received in the Home (as she called it). She always had enough to eat and got an excellent education. She had a strong faith and a strong belief in being in service to others, and she certainly inspired me to try to do the same.

I have been lucky to be married to Ava Leavell Haymon for 48 years, and we have raised two wonderful children who have given us three marvelous granddaughters. Ava is a remarkable poet and teacher, and she constantly challenges me with her insights and perspective.

ATB: What do you do for fun?

CH: I am a big fan of LSU sports, and I really enjoy golf, hunting, fishing, hiking and music.▣

foundation footnotes

PRO BONO PROJECT & TEEN COURT REPORTS FOR MARCH

PRO BONO PROJECT REPORT

We would like to thank Pro Bono Project volunteers for their contributions during the month of March.

The Thirst for Justice solo practitioner volunteers were **Byron Kantrow, Alexis Luker, Allen Posey, Judge Melvin Shortess (Ret.) and Jimmy Zito**. Thirst for Justice volunteers practicing with a firm were **Amber Day, Ashley Darville, Paul Wilkins, Dudley DeBosier; and Robert Wooley, Adams and Reese**.

The Ask-A-Lawyer volunteers were **Samantha R. Ackers; Jim Austin, Adams and Reese; Miranda Y. Conner, Monica Washington, Louisiana Department of Revenue; Frank Tomeny III, Tomeny & Fisher; and Emily Ziobr**.

The Self Help Resource Center attorney volunteers were **Samantha R. Ackers; Roy Bergeron, Alex Velazquez, Phelps Dunbar; Ryan Brown, Roedel, Parsons; Nicolette Colly, Louisiana Department of Justice; Brandon Hudson, David Hansen, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services; Raushanah Hunter; Bryan Jeanssone, Doré Jeanssone Law Firm; Judy Martin, Franciscan Legal Services; Tracy Morganti, Adams and Reese; and Jennifer Gauthreaux Prescott, deGravelles, Palmintier, Holthaus & Frugé**.

The students volunteering in our office and with our outreach clinics included **Lydia Adeosun, Justin Bello, Kathryn Dufrene, Victoria Jowers, Catherine Sens and Kirbie Watson, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center; Danielle Metoyer, Kiara Gradney and Brian Shinault, Southern University Law Center**.

The following volunteers accepted pro bono cases during the month of March: **Greg Bodin, Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC; Jerry Lindig; Lakiesha McKarry; Vincent Saffiotti, Downs, Saffiotti & Boudreaux; Amanda Stout, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC; Laura Tamblyn; and Monica Vela-Vick, Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, LLC.**



The Pro Bono Project is financially assisted by the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program of the Louisiana Bar Foundation; Southeast Louisiana Legal Services; Family, District and City Court Filing Fees and the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation.

TEEN COURT REPORT

Matthew Belser, Raveen Hills and Monica Vela-Vick served as judges for the March hearing. Professor Paul Guidry, Baton Rouge Community College; Diangleo Frazer and Brennan Vazquez, Southern University Law Center, served as jury monitors and teen attorney mentors. Curtis Nelson, Raveen Hills, Monica Vela-Vick and Diangleo Frazer conducted the Teen Court training session March 1, 2013.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Donna Buuck at 225-214-5556 or donna@brba.org.

JUNIOR PARTNERS ACADEMY

In March 2013, Wendy Shea coordinated a JPA field trip to Southern University Law Center for the second- and third-grade classes from Southern University Lab School. Law students assisted the lab students with the mock trial of "Gold E. Locks v. Three Bears" and conducted a "Jeopardy" game, reviewing what the lab students had learned in JPA throughout the year. ■

Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge is funded by a grant from the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice (formerly the Office of Youth Development), a grant from the Louisiana Bar Foundation's IOLTA program and from the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation. This project is also supported in part by Grant No. 2009-JF-FX-0059 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**TEEN COURT OF
GREATER BATON ROUGE**
needs attorneys to volunteer
to assist with the program.

To find out more, contact Donna Buuck at 225-214-5556 or donna@brba.org or R. Lynn Smith Haynes at 225-214-5564 or lynn@brba.org.

Teens Helping Teens
TEEN COURT
of Greater Baton Rouge

**Take a pro bono
case today!**

Contact Robin at 225-214-5561
(robin@brba.org) or Emily at 225-214-5558
(emily@brba.org) to volunteer.



For classified or display ad rates,
contact Pamela at (225) 214-5560
or email: pamela@BRBA.org

Duty Court Schedule

19THJDC CIVIL COURT

April 22-May 3	Judge Hernandez
May 6-May 17	Judge Clark
May 20-May 31	Judge Bates

19TH JDC CRIMINAL COURT***

April 26-May 3	Judge Erwin
May 3-May 10	Judge Jackson
May 10-May 17	Judge Daniel
May 17-May 24	Judge Moore
May 24-May 31	Judge Johnson
May 31-June 7	Judge White

BATON ROUGE CITY COURT*

April 29-May 5	Judge Ponder
May 6-May 12	Judge Davis
May 13-May 19	Judge Temple
May 20-May 26	Judge Wall
May 27-June 2	Judge Alexander

FAMILY COURT**

April 29-May 3	Judge Woodruff-White
May 6-May 10	Judge Day
May 13-May 19	Judge Lassalle
May 20-May 24	Judge Baker
May 27-May 31	Judge Woodruff-White

JUVENILE COURT

May 1-May 31	Judge Taylor-Johnson
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NOTE: Duty Court changes at 5 p.m. each Friday unless otherwise specified.

**City Court's Duty Court schedule changes each Monday at 8 a.m.*

***Family Court's Duty Court schedule changes at 4 p.m. each Friday*

****19th JDC Criminal Court changes each Friday at noon*

COURT HOLIDAYS

Monday, May 27	Memorial Day
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May 2013

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29
			30
			31



*Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held at the Baton Rouge Bar office.

Calendar of Events

Ongoing: Every Wednesday & Thursday, 3-5 p.m., Thirst for Justice takes place at St. Vincent de Paul.

Ongoing: Every Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Self Help Resource Center, 19th JDC

1	Law Day Activities, BR River Center & 19th JDC, begins at 9 a.m.
6	Teen Court Committee meeting, 4:30 p.m.; Teen Court Hearing, 5:30 p.m., EBR Parish Juvenile Court
7	Self Help Resource Center – Closed; Finance Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m., Bubby Burns's office; Executive Committee meeting, 8 a.m., Bubby Burns' office; YLS Council meeting, 12 p.m.
9	Self Help Resource Center – Closed; Corporate/Business Law Section: Business Entity Formation CLE Seminar, 11:45 a.m.
10	Junior Partners Academy presentations, Dalton Elementary School, 7:30 a.m.
14	Workers' Comp Section meeting, 12 p.m.
15	Ask-A-Lawyer workshop, 9 a.m., Catholic Charities; Volunteer Committee meeting, 12 p.m.; Board of Directors meeting, 5:45 p.m., Mansur's On the Boulevard
16	Family Law Section Meeting, City Club, 355 North Blvd., 11:45 a.m.
20	CLE Committee meeting, 12 p.m.
22	Youth Education Committee meeting, 12 p.m.; Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12 p.m.
27	Bar Office Closed – In Observance of Memorial Day
29	Bench Bar Conference Committee meeting, 12 p.m.
31	Nuts & Bolts CLE Seminar: Workers' Comp & Personal Injury, 8 a.m.

MEETING ROOM FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR DEPOSITIONS & MEDIATIONS

BRBA members can reserve conference rooms for \$50 per day (\$25 per half day) per room.

Non-members receive a rate of \$250 per day (\$125 per half day) per room.

To book space or for more information, contact Meredith French at 225-344-4803 or meredith@BRBA.org.

THE **Patterson** RESOLUTION GROUP



W. Ross Foote • E. Phelps Gay • Michael A. Patterson • Michael W. McKay • Patrick S. Ottinger

The Patterson Resolution Group, a new arbitration and mediation services firm comprised of four former presidents of the Louisiana State Bar Association and a retired district court judge, announces its opening.

Based in Baton Rouge at the office of group manager, Michael A. Patterson, The Patterson Resolution Group offers dispute resolution services in complex cases to businesses and individuals across Louisiana and the Gulf South. In addition to Patterson, founding members include Patrick S. Ottinger of Lafayette, W. Ross Foote of Shreveport/Alexandria, E. Phelps Gay of New Orleans, and Michael W. McKay of Baton Rouge.

The Patterson Resolution Group members have been actively engaged in dispute resolution for many years, both in and out of the State of Louisiana, serving as mediators, arbitrators, settlement/mediation counsel and special masters.

More information is available at the group's website www.pattersonresolution.com or by contacting Mike Patterson at 866-367-8620.

UPCOMING BRBA CLE SEMINARS

CORPORATE / BUSINESS LAW SECTION:
BUSINESS ENTITY FORMATION
May 9, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

LUNCH & LEARN ON CLOUD COMPUTING – 11:30 A.M.-1 P.M.
May 13, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.
(Contact the LSBA to register.)

NUTS & BOLTS OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND PERSONAL INJURY
May 31, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

NUTS & BOLTS OF MOTION PRACTICE
June 21, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

NUTS & BOLTS OF FAMILY LAW
June 28, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION
SUMMER SIZZLIN' CLE
July 19, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

BENCH BAR CONFERENCE
Aug . 1-3, 2013
Perdido Beach Resort,
Orange Beach, Ala.

NUTS & BOLTS OF ESTATE PLANNING
Aug. 9, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

FAMILY LAW SECTION
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
Aug. 15, 2013
Juban's Restaurant, 2729 Perkins Rd.

NUTS & BOLTS OF SUCCESSIONS
Aug. 16, 2013
Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St.

*For more information,
call Meredith French:*

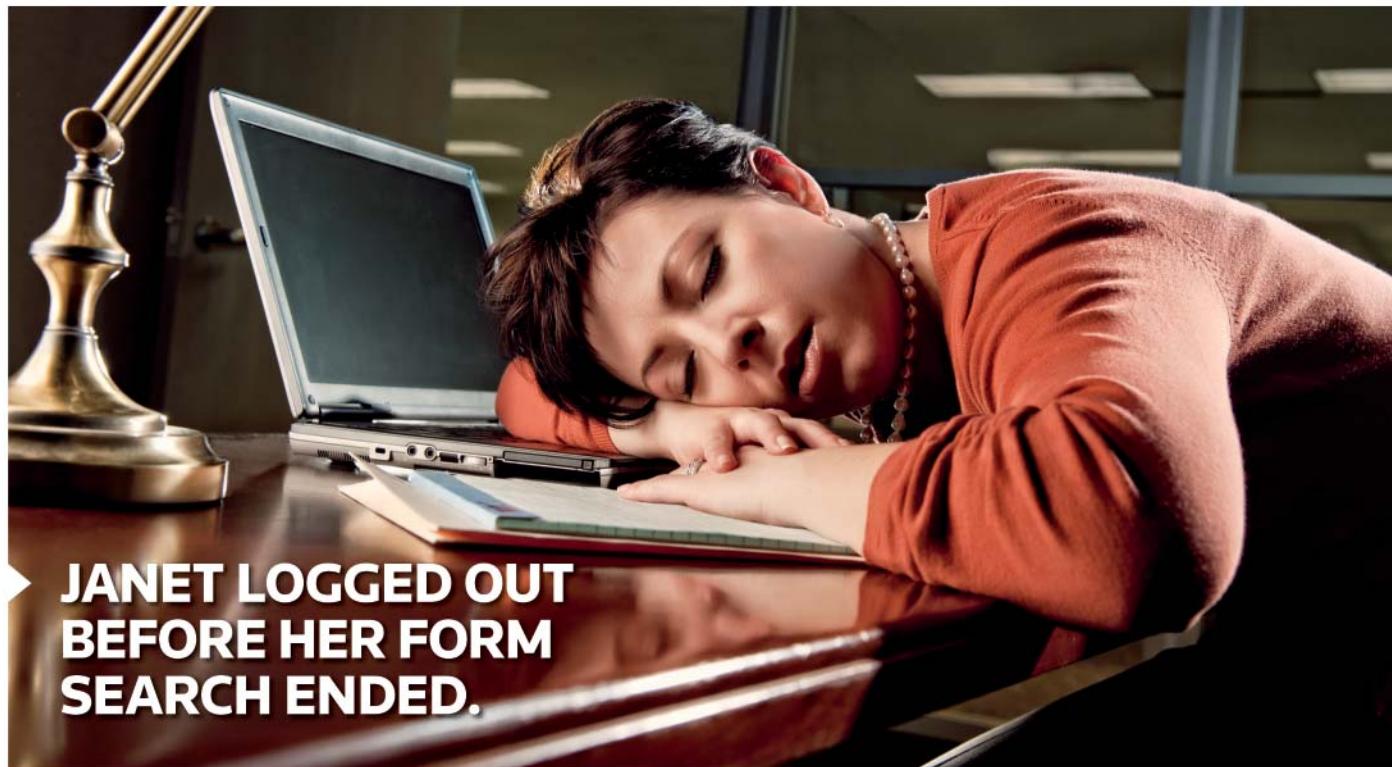
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