

30th
Anniversary

Around the Bar

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
DAYTON POLICE BARS ASSOCIATION

No. 299, September 2015



Inside:
Civil Pro Bono Pilot
Project underway
Changes in summary
judgment law
Bad faith insurance law
Attorney spotlight:
Ben Anderson
In memoriam: Dennis Whalen
Interview: Clerk of Court
Michael L. McConnell
2016 Bar leader
nomination forms

Belly Up with the
Bar Committee
Event: Friday, Oct. 30

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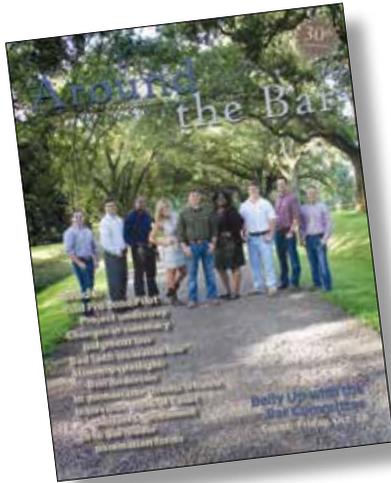
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On the cover:

Featured on the cover of the September 2015 issue of *Around the Bar* magazine is the Belly Up with the Bar Committee photographed on the property of Live Oak Arabians, the location of the 2015 Belly Up with the Bar event, which will take place Friday, Oct. 30, 2015.

Photographed (L to R) are Michael Schillage, Blake Leger, Courtney Joiner, Jennifer Racca, Ben Anderson (chair), JaQuay Jackson Gray, Hunter Schoen, Jonathan Mitchell and Druit Gremillion Jr.

Belly Up with the Bar Committee members who are not pictured include Amy Anazia, Amanda Collura, Charles Davoli, Christopher Day, Brandon Decuir, Loren Fleshman, Shelley Harrison, Joshua McDiarmid, Marcus Plaisance (vice chair), Robert Savage, Jack Stanley, Victor Suane, Andrea Tettleton and Trey Tumminello. Donna Buuck is the staff liaison to the committee.

Cover photography by Pamela Labbe.



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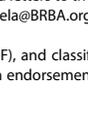
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We need lawyer volunteers to help with a law club for middle and high school students in the Gardere/South Burbank area. You will work with teens as they learn more about the field of law. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Lynn S. Haynes at lynn@brba.org or 225-214-5564.

The "Future Legal Eagles" law club is funded by a grant from the South Burbank Crime Prevention and Development District.

AROUND THE BAR supports participation of the membership in its production. We encourage the submission of articles and letters to the editor. Articles should be less than 1,500 words, typed and single-spaced. A Word file should be emailed as an attachment to: pamela@BRBA.org.

For advertising information call Pamela Labbe at 225-214-5560. Display ads should be high-resolution attachments (.PDF), and classified ads as text only. Please email all ad artwork to pamela@brba.org. Publication of any advertisement shall not be considered an endorsement of the product or service involved. The editor reserves the right to reject any advertisement, article or letter.

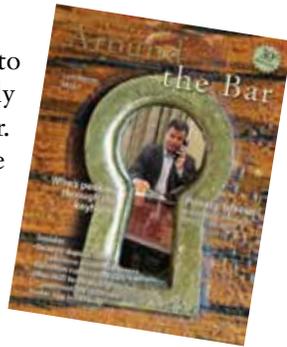
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letters

TO THE EDITOR

From the top of my head to the bottom of my heart, I strongly appreciate the message that Mr. Robert Burns Jr. sent out in the article, "Adapting in the computer age." This is a beautiful piece of advice to all lawyers: it's so critical to be updated, especially with technology. As a technology geek and an owner of a technology firm, I truly value this message from an attorney. Who said attorneys were old-schooled, old-fashioned, old-styled? I don't think so! I wish there would be more and more attorneys who will be aware of how technology can ease their operations, aid their practices as well as generate more clients to their businesses. Could you please help me say, "Thank you" to Mr. Burns for his wonderful article? I appreciate your help!

Best regards,
Ben Nguyen, *Cyber Fision Inc.*



GAIL'S GRAMMAR

Complement and *compliment* and their adjective forms *complementary* and *complimentary* are homonyms; they sound alike but have different meanings. *Complementary* refers to completeness or satisfying a lack in something, such as colors or foods that go together or angles that equal 90 degrees. *Complimentary* refers to flattering or something given at no charge. Remember that *complement* begins the same as complete. If you're not making something complete but are doing something nice, such as giving a gift or flattering someone, the correct word is *compliment* or *complimentary*.

EXAMPLES:

She wore a string of pearls that *complemented* her little black dress.

The judge *complimented* the lawyer's excellent brief.

Many exhibitors will give *complimentary* items at the BRBA Fall Expo & Conference on Sept. 17, 2015.

Send suggestions for future *Gail's Grammar* columns to Gail Stephenson at GStephenson@sulc.edu, or call Gail at 225.771-4900 x 216.



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letter from the president

BY ROBERT J. BURNS JR.

Baton Rouge: A port in the storm

A few days after Hurricane Katrina made landfall, I woke up early and took a survey. It was 4:30 in the morning. As I walked from room to room, I counted 34 heads. There were small duffels everywhere, the luggage of those who packed for a day or two away from home. Cellphones, it seemed, were plugged into every outlet in the house, recharging for the next day's session of failed calls. I'm sure that a few heard me going through the house, but most slept through it—they were physically exhausted and emotionally battered. Many had lost their homes and livelihoods overnight. Others were luckier, suffering the effects of only two-to-three feet of flood water inside their homes. And here they all were, thrown together in my home against their will, with nowhere else to go.



Robert J. Burns Jr.

Hurricane Katrina was one of those events that created a fault line in history. There is the before and the after. The terms “pre-Katrina” and “post-Katrina” became part of the vernacular. It fundamentally changed at least two major cities, New Orleans and Baton Rouge, when the evacuees from New Orleans fled and had nowhere to return. Traffic snarled, tempers flared, and in the semi-panic that gripped Baton Rouge, unconfirmed rumors of crime gangs paralyzed its citizens and its officials. Yes, there were some rough days, and, at times, things did get out of hand. The aftermath of Katrina brought out the best and worst in people.

But during that time, I witnessed some of the most impressive acts of human kindness I'd ever seen. People opened their doors and welcomed strangers into their homes. Doctors from all over risked their lives to staff the hospitals whose sick couldn't be moved. Boat owners did the unthinkable and slid their prized possessions onto flooded, tree-lined boulevards to help evacuate the stranded. “Camps” became homes for those in need. Lawyers in Baton Rouge and around the state worked around the clock to help guide bleary-eyed clients through the knotted and complex world of post-Katrina Louisiana. Shelters exceeded capacity. Schools swelled with new enrollments. An entire student body from a New Orleans high school attended evening and night classes on the campus of a Baton Rouge facility. The sick filled the Pete Maravich Assembly Center and other shelters and were attended by doctors, nurses, clergy, counselors and countless others seeking ways to help. Baton Rougeans did their best to extend a helping hand to those who had lost so much.

Lawyers were critical to the process. Their efforts, of course, are not the type that bring a spotlight or can easily be captured in a few short sentences of the Sunday paper. As helicopters flew over Baton Rouge ferrying back and forth to New Orleans, lawyers quietly worked in cramped quarters trying to help people rebuild lives. As white-coated doctors cared for the sick in shelters, lawyers spent hours upon hours researching and counseling clients in need. As the Louisiana National Guard tried to bring peace to a city of unrest, judges and legislators made emergency changes to the laws to preserve expiring legal rights. Many took on the task of helping clients weed through complicated insurance issues. Others spent months and, in some cases, years helping clients navigate through the minefield of issues that came in the wake of destroyed or abandoned homes, businesses and equipment. Still others gave up their time and talents to help clients find loved ones lost in the chaos. And the list goes on, and on, and on.

The 10-year mark since “The Storm” gives us all an opportunity to reflect on those events and to measure our response. And while it is anecdotal, I look back on the lives of those 34 people who found their way to my home in August 2005. Yes, their lives changed. Obviously.

But, the communal response that followed—that all of us gave—improved their lives, if only slightly. We were the port in the storm for thousands in need. We could not change their circumstance, but we could help. We could not make them happy, but we could provide food and shelter. We could not restore their jobs or careers, but we could give them counsel and assistance. We could not give them their homes, but we could help them rebuild. And as a community, we are better because of the storm. Those experiences were transcendent. We forged bonds with one another that deepened life's meanings. And while no one is better off because of the damage wrought by the storm, that circumstance gave us all an opportunity to help and be helped. In that sense, we are all better people because of the storm named Katrina. ■

**Volunteer writers needed to
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*Contact Pamela Labbe at pamela@brba.org
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1.0 hour credit | Aug. 20, 2015
12 - 2 p.m. | Beausoleil

PUBLIC LAW PRACTICE SECTION MEETING & CLE

1.0 hour credit | Aug. 26, 2015
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Middleton Bar Center

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4.0 hours credit | Aug. 28, 2015
7:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Middleton Bar Center

30TH ANNUAL FALL EXPO & CONFERENCE

[SEPTEMBER BAR
LUNCHEON & LAW EXPO]
3.0 hours credit | Sept. 17, 2015
L'Auberge Casino & Hotel BR
777 L'Auberge Ave.
11 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

FAMILY LAW SECTION MEETING & CLE

1.0 hour credit | Sept. 10, 2015
12-2 p.m. | Juban's

MEDICAID CLE

1.0 hour credit | Sept. 18, 2015
8:30-9:30 a.m. | TBA

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

2.0 hours credit | Sept. 23, 2015
3-5 p.m. | Flemings

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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Luncheon seating begins at 11:45 a.m.

Questions? Call the BRBA at 225-344-4803.

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CLE SEMINARS:

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

SPEAKER: *H. Alston Johnson III*, Phelps Dunbar, LLP
— BEGINS AT 12:30 p.m.

ETHICS:

SPEAKER: *Charles Plattsmier*, Chief Disciplinary Officer,
Office of Disciplinary Counsel
— BEGINS AT 2 p.m.

PROFESSIONALISM: CREATING A PRACTICE IN NEW AND EMERGING AREAS OF THE LAW

SPEAKERS: *Holden Hoggatt*: A Wild Ride;
Equine Law in Louisiana
Jolee H. Bollinger: Reducing Barriers to Health
through Medical Legal Partnerships
Nicholas J. Hite: Addressing LGBTQ Issues
— BEGINS AT 3:45 p.m.

FALL EXPO & CONFERENCE 2015

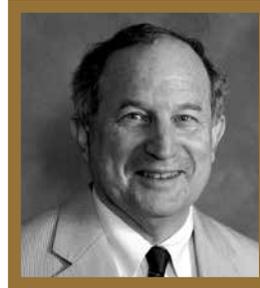
keynote speaker

The BRBA Fall Expo & Conference, taking place Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015, at L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge, includes an exhibitor Expo, a combined luncheon-CLE (featuring keynote speaker H. Alston Johnson III), two additional hours of CLE seminars (ethics and professionalism), and a long coffee break for an all-inclusive package price of \$75 per BRBA member, and \$150 per non-member or guest.

Lunch-only option for members: \$60 per person.

Lunch-only option for non-BRBA members: \$85 per person.

The BRBA Fall Expo & Conference is your opportunity to network with members of the bench and the bar; to visit with exhibitors/sponsors to learn about new products and services related to your legal practice; and to register to win prizes. The exhibitor expo begins at 11 a.m., the luncheon starts at 11:45 a.m., and the first of three CLE seminars will begin at 12:30 p.m. The Law Expo concludes at 4 p.m. and the last CLE ends at 4:45 p.m. We accept payment in advance and at the door. **Members of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society and the Baton Rouge Association of Women Attorneys (BRAWA) receive the BRBA member rate.**



H. Alston Johnson III

H. Alston Johnson III practices in the area of litigation, particularly at the appellate level and with emphasis in the areas of tort litigation, insurance coverage and litigation, and administrative law. Johnson has presented an annual Legislative Update seminar for the BRBA for more than 30 years.

Prior to joining Phelps Dunbar in 1984, Johnson was a member of the full-time law faculty at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center of LSU for 12 years. He served as an adjunct member from 1984-2011. He took senior partner status with Phelps Dunbar in 2012 and taught full-time at LSU until spring 2013, when he became an adjunct professor once again. He currently teaches courses in Federal Courts and Conflict of Laws, and previously taught courses in Torts, Insurance, Louisiana Civil Procedure and Louisiana's civil law subjects. Johnson maintains an active professional relationship with Phelps Dunbar, focusing on selected appellate work and supervisory practice.

PLEASE CHECK ALL APPROPRIATE OPTIONS BELOW AND FAX THIS ENTIRE PAGE TO THE BRBA, (225) 344-4805, BY NOON FRIDAY, SEPT. 11, 2015

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PLEASE INDICATE BELOW WHAT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

LUNCHEON / "LEGISLATIVE UPDATE" — **YES**, register me for the Luncheon, which begins at 11:45 a.m., and the 1.0 hour CLE seminar — 12:30-1:30 p.m.; **Speaker: H. ALSTON JOHNSON III of PHELPS DUNBAR, LLP.**

ETHICS CLE — **YES**, register me for this 1.0 hour CLE seminar — 2 - 3 p.m.
Speaker: CHARLES B. "CHUCK" PLATTSMIER, Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the LOUISIANA OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL.

PROFESSIONALISM: CREATING A PRACTICE IN NEW AND EMERGING AREAS OF THE LAW — **YES**, register me for this 1.0 hour CLE seminar — 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. **Speakers: HOLDEN HOGGATT, A Wild Ride; Equine Law in Louisiana; JOLEE H. BOLLINGER, Reducing Barriers to Health through Medical Legal Partnerships; and NICHOLAS J. HITE, Addressing LGBTQ Issues.**

LUNCH / LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CLE OPTION: **YES**, please register me **ONLY** for the **LUNCHEON and 1.0 hour of CLE (Legislative Update)** at L'AUBERGE CASINO & HOTEL BATON ROUGE taking place **THURSDAY, Sept. 17, 2015**, at a cost of \$60 per BRBA member, or \$85 per non-BRBA member. Expo exhibits open at 11 a.m. The luncheon will open at 11:45 a.m. *All luncheon attendees are encouraged to visit with Expo exhibitors immediately before or after the luncheon to register to win prizes. Reservations may be transferred, but not cancelled, after 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, 2015. "No shows" will be billed.*

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(all major credit cards accepted); (2) fill out and fax this form to 225-344-4805 before noon **Friday, Sept. 11, 2015**; or (3) mail this form in with your check payable to: BRBA, P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

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tales from the bar side

BY VINCENT P. FORNIAS

For credibility purposes, dear reader(s), let me commence by freely disclosing that (hopefully, my builder willing) by the time you read this I will no longer be residing across the street from City Park Golf Course. This alone should preemptively neutralize any collateral attacks alleging just more raving by a NIMBY (“Not In My Back Yard”) from an editor of a local publication who for many years has had it in for this nearly century-old architectural treasure. Thus far, his incessant salvos to close the course in favor of some Coke commercial free-love zone have rendered him the mirror image of the fabled Black Knight of “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” who persists in fierce and threatening battle even as one appendage after another is cleanly sliced away by a superior foe.

Alas, perhaps the editor has now won a minor skirmish in the form of the institution of a second “sport” at our hallowed golf course—something called “Foot Golf.” The press release announcing this change described it as “combining the elements of soccer and golf.” The author of that item was obviously unaware that such a sport already persists in your traditional Saturday morning golf outings, featuring “foot wedges” by duffers attempting to improve their fate. Nevertheless, the author describes the new sport as involving a player who lines up at a tee area and kicks a soccer ball down the course until the ball rolls “into a craterlike hole.” And now for the good part. The item proudly proclaims that City Park’s course can now “simultaneously accommodate traditional golfers and footgolfers because the games have their own space carved out on the course.” Ohhhhh, really?

Which brings us to the palpable nexus of this tome with anything relating to legal issues to which this publication is devoted. Having resided across the street from the third fairway of this golf course for well

Par for the courses

over a decade, your writer can painfully attest to the fact that at City Park, there exists no such “space” that is “carved out” for its humble golfers’ shots. On many an occasion have I arisen to find the results of duck hooks from hell not only on my front lawn, but over my roof and into my back yard—some landing even in the spa. The entire course and considerable surrounding areas are a veritable No Man’s Land of topped, chilli-dipped, sliced and/or hooked dimpled Top Flite x-outs. So what liability exposure genius decided that you could superimpose a gaggle of frolicking soccer ball kickers without first arming them with protective cups and helmets? Anyone have a formidable release form ready? Woe be to BREC’s unfortunate liability insurer.

And since the two sports are now supposed to co-exist symbiotically without incident, we are awaiting BREC’s next press release, proclaiming that all local golfers are hereafter invited to practice their driving at the Independence Park soccer facility. ■



12345 Perkins Road, Building One
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welcomes Renee Chabert Crasto



Renee Chabert Crasto

crasto@lawbr.net
Phone: 225.236.3636
Fax: 225.236.3650

Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, LLC, is very pleased to announce that attorney Renee Chabert Crasto has joined the firm in May 2015. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from LSU’s E.J. Ourso School of Business in 2005, Renee earned her J.D./B.C.L. in 2008 from LSU’s Paul M. Hebert Law Center. Renee has experience representing clients in a variety of matters in civil court, before the Louisiana State Legislature, and before numerous regulatory agencies. Renee will be working on the firm’s civil litigation matters and looks forward to expanding her legal career in the areas of personal injury and wrongful death.



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Federal Court launches Civil Pro Bono Pilot Project BY JUDGE SHELLY D. DICK

The U. S. District Court for the Middle District has begun a one-year pilot project to provide pro bono lawyers for civil inmate litigation. The program was developed in cooperation with the Baton Rouge Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, Louisiana Association for Justice, Baton Rouge Association of Women Attorneys and Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. The goal of this project is to provide pro bono representation to *pro se* inmates in civil litigation.

The Court is developing a Panel List of Civil Pro Bono Lawyers who are admitted to practice in the Middle District and who are willing to accept appointments in *pro se* civil matters. Generally, these matters are brought by inmates under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 seeking to challenge conditions of confinement. The Court will appoint pro bono counsel once the matter has survived dispositive motions. If it is determined that the matter satisfies the parameters established by the Court that warrant assignment of counsel the Court will send a **request for pro bono representation** to all pro bono panel members. Panel members will be provided PACER access at no cost for 30 days to review the pleadings. If, after review, the

panel member is willing to represent the *pro se* inmate in the subject case, the panel member would indicate his/her willingness to accept pro bono assignment by replying to the Court via the link provided in the initial notification. The Magistrate Judge will appoint counsel from among the panel members expressing a willingness to accept appointment in the subject matter. The Middle District will make its video-conferencing facilities available to any attorney who accepts appointment for the purposes of facilitating attorney-client communication and trial preparation of witnesses. Appointed attorneys are eligible for reimbursement of fees and costs from the Middle District Bench/Bar Fund in an amount up to \$2,500. Additionally, the BRBA is developing a list of experienced attorneys willing to serve as mentors to the civil pro bono panel lawyers.

To volunteer for the Civil Pro Bono Panel, navigate to the “Attorney Info” tab on the Court’s website at www.lamd.uscourts.gov and follow the instructions listed. For more information or to volunteer for the mentor panel, contact Robin Kay at 225-214-5561 at the BRBA. 



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17th Annual

"Belly Up with the Bar" Entry Form

Cook - off & Brew fest

Event takes place Friday, Oct. 30, 2015

The 17th Annual "Belly Up with the Bar" is a cook-off, brewfest and outdoor party with live music—sponsored by the Young Lawyers Section of the Baton Rouge Bar Association. Proceeds from this event will benefit the BRBF's Youth Education Program. Team and individual entries are welcome. Judges will select winners in a variety of categories. Advance general admission tickets are \$25 per adult, \$20 per law student, \$10 per child ages 12 to 17, and FREE admittance to children ages 11 and under. Prices at the door are \$30 per adult or law student, and \$10 per child, so buy 'em now!

LOCATION: Live Oak Arabian Stables, 6300 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806 in the sheltered arena.

DATE: Friday, Oct. 30, 2015, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. — **mark your calendars NOW!**

WHO CAN ENTER: Anyone who's willing to cook and serve enough to feed/water our local bar. The entry fee, which is \$125 per team (up to 5 members per team), gets you:
(1) in the door to try all the fabulous food and drinks
(2) all the beer you care to drink, and
(3) the chance to show off your culinary talents

THINGS YOU'LL NEED TO BRING:

- Enough food to serve roughly 500 "sample size" portions
- Any cooking/heating/brewing equipment necessary to serve your entry
- A team of no more than 5 members
- A sign to indicate what you're making
- Serving bowls (serving size), cups or plates

THINGS WE'LL PROVIDE: Forks and spoons; beer, live music . . . and fabulous prizes

ENTRY FORM — PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND FAX IT TO: (225) 344-4805 OR MAIL IT ASAP

To: Baton Rouge Bar Association, ATTN: YLS, P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Registration Deadline: Oct. 2, 2015.**

**(CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "BRBF - BELLY UP WITH THE BAR."
CREDIT CARD INFORMATION CAN BE PROVIDED BELOW.)**

TEAM NAME: _____

TEAM CAPTAIN'S NAME: _____

CAPTAIN'S LAW FIRM: _____

CAPTAIN'S MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CAPTAIN'S CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

CAPTAIN'S CONTACT NUMBER: _____

CAPTAIN'S EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

WHAT YOU'LL BE SERVING: _____

FOR "BELLY UP WITH THE BAR" TICKET INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE BRBA AT (225) 344-4803.

Credit Card Information: Type of card: (circle one) MC VISA AmExp Discover

Name on card: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security code: _____

Credit card number: _____

Signature: _____

*If you are unable to participate or attend, but you wish to make a donation for the BRBF's award-winning Youth Education Program, please make your check payable to the BRBF.

Changes in Summary Judgment law BY JORDAN L. FAIRCLOTH

In its 2015 session, the Louisiana Legislature passed HB 696, which amends La. C.C.P. art. 966 relative to motions for summary judgment. While the provisions become effective Jan. 1, 2016, they will not apply to any pending motion or appeal. HB 696 is intended to clarify and streamline summary judgment procedure. The underlying purpose of summary judgments and the legal standards remain unchanged.

Article 966 as amended will still permit a plaintiff to file a motion after an answer has been filed and permit a defendant to file a motion at any time. The article also maintains that a motion may be granted only “[a]fter an opportunity for adequate discovery.”

Article 966 will further include an exclusive list of documents that may be filed in support or opposition to the motion, specifically, pleadings, memoranda, affidavits, depositions, answers to interrogatories, medical records, written stipulations and admissions. Documents such as photographs, video images, and contracts (unless authenticated by affidavit) may not be filed in support

or opposition. The comments to Article 966 also provide that opinions of a medical review panel must be properly authenticated and attached to an affidavit to be considered. No additional documents may be filed with the reply.

A glaring change to Article 966 is the applicable deadlines and filing requirements. The motion and all supporting documents “shall be filed and served on all parties” at least 65 days before trial. Any opposition and supporting documents “shall be filed and served” at least 15 days before the hearing. Any reply “shall be filed and served” at least five days before the hearing. As such, District Court Rule 9.9, which sets forth the 15-8-1 day rule for filing and exchanging of motions, oppositions, and replies, will be superseded. A court may establish different deadlines but cannot shorten the deadlines. If any of the deadlines for filing and serving fall on a legal holiday, the document is timely if it is served and filed “no later than the next day that is not a legal holiday.”

Unless all parties agree, the hearing on a motion for summary judgment cannot be less than 30 days after the

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filing and not less than 30 days before trial. Notice of the hearing must be served on all parties at least 30 days before the hearing. A court may continue a hearing for good cause shown. The court must now render a judgment not less than 20 days before trial. This is to give a party sufficient time to apply for supervisory writs without disturbing a scheduled trial date. The court is also required to state either on the record or in writing its reasons for granting or denying the motion. A party may request written reasons if an appealable judgment is rendered.

A court may consider only the documents filed in support or in opposition to the motion and “shall consider any documents to which no objection is made.” Any objection, though, must be raised in an opposition or reply memorandum. This provision removes the option of filing a motion to strike to object to evidence. An oral objection to any document is not permitted. A court must also “specifically state on the record or in writing” which documents are inadmissible or not considered.

Article 966 will also clarify that, if a motion is granted determining that a party or nonparty is not negligent, not

at fault, or did not cause the injury or harm alleged, that party or nonparty cannot be considered in any subsequent allocation of fault. This does not need to be expressly stated in the judgment, however. At trial, no party may refer directly or indirectly to such fault, and that fault cannot be submitted to the jury or included on the jury verdict form.

A new provision provides that, on review, an appellate court cannot reverse a lower court’s denial and grant the motion, dismissing a party or case, without assigning the case for briefing and permitting an opportunity to request oral argument. Under prior law, if the appellate court reversed the lower court on a writ and granted the motion, the losing party was denied an appeal. The new provision provides a party—against whom summary judgment may be rendered at the appellate level—an opportunity to brief the case and request oral argument.

Knowing the procedural and substantive changes to Article 966 will be crucial to your practice. Keep them in mind when filing your motion for summary judgment in 2016. ■

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attorney spotlight

BY JOSEPH J. CEFALU III

Ben Anderson, 2015 Belly Up with the Bar Committee Chair

ATB: Where are you from?

BA: Greenwell Springs, La., which is now known as the City of Central.

ATB: Where did you go to college and law school?

BA: I went to college and law school at LSU. I spent the better part of a decade there (2001-2009) and loved every minute of it.

ATB: Where do you practice? What type of work do you do?

BA: I am an associate at Phelps Dunbar LLP. My area of practice is litigation with a focus on environmental litigation and environmental regulatory issues.

ATB: What are your leisure activities?

BA: I have twin one-year-old boys who are both walking (and often times in different directions). Chasing them doesn't leave me with much leisure time, but I enjoy hunting, fishing, spending time outside, reading and traveling with my wife. I look forward to the days when I can enjoy these activities with my sons.

ATB: Favorite sport to watch? Play?

BA: I enjoy watching almost every sport, but my favorite sports to watch are college football, college baseball and World Cup soccer. My favorite sport to play is soccer.

ATB: If you were not practicing law, what would be your alternate profession?

BA: I've wanted to be an attorney for as long as I can remember, so this is a tough one. If I had to choose an alternate



Ben Anderson, 2015 Chair of the BRBF Belly Up with the Bar Committee

profession, I would like to do what Steven Rinella does. He's a writer and television personality who has parlayed his love of the outdoors into a career that requires him to hunt and fish all over the world.

ATB: Are you involved with the BRBA?

BA: I've been a member of the Belly Up with the Bar Committee since 2010. This year, I am the chair of the Belly Up Committee. I love this event. It is a lot of fun and supports a great cause. The first Belly Up event was held Sept. 24, 1999,



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HUNTER R. BERTRAND has been elected partner. His diverse commercial litigation, construction and business practice includes representation of clients in matters involving insurance defense and coverage, suretyship, construction design, defect, delay and payment claims, bid disputes, premises liability, real estate disputes, and business formation, governance and shareholder disputes.



KATELIN HUGHES VARNADO has joined the firm as an associate and will continue her practice in the areas of commercial litigation, business and construction law. Ms. Varnado has experience representing insurers, sureties, contractors, and businesses in a wide range of commercial disputes. She has also served the oil and gas industry regarding mineral right title examinations and disputes.

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at Moore, Walters and Thompson. Over the years, the event grew so large that it was moved to Live Oak Arabians Stables in 2012. From 1999 to 2014, the Belly Up event has helped raise awareness and approximately \$175,000 in funding for the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation's award-winning youth education programs, which include Law Day, Lawyer in the Classroom, Junior Partners Academy, Teen Court, and a 10-parish regional high school mock trial competition.

ATB: What is in store for everyone at the Belly Up with the Bar event this year?

BA: Good food and libations, good music and good times, all in support of a great cause. As in prior years, this event allows local area attorneys, judges, law students and other professionals to showcase their culinary and cocktail-making abilities. It also gives them a chance to socialize with their colleagues over food and drinks while listening to a great band.

Last year, more than 700 people attended Belly Up. I hope we can surpass that number this year, and I look

forward to seeing everyone Friday, Oct. 30, at the stables of Live Oak Arabians.

ATB: Besides Belly Up with the Bar, what is your favorite BRBA activity or event?

BA: Holiday Star Project. When I was younger, my parents got a star for each member of the family. My brothers and I always enjoyed picking out gifts for the kids because we wanted to make sure that they would have a memorable Christmas. The Holiday Star Project taught us the importance of giving back. My wife, Sarah, and I have continued the tradition and look forward to sharing it with our boys. It is an excellent activity, and I strongly encourage everyone to get involved.

ATB: Tell us something interesting about yourself.

BA: I am a military spouse. My wife, Sarah, is a third-generation soldier and a Captain in the Louisiana Army National Guard. We are a proud Louisiana Army National Guard family. 🇺🇸

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Louisiana Supreme Court clarifi

On May 5, 2015, in *Kelly v. State Farm Fire & Cas. Co.*, 14-1921 (La. 5/5/15); ___ So.3d ___, 2015 WL 208254, the Louisiana Supreme Court issued a landmark decision answering the following two certified questions in the affirmative:

- (1) Can an insurer be found liable for a bad faith failure to settle claim under Section 22:1973(A) when the insurer never received a firm settlement offer; and
- (2) Can an insurer be found liable under Section 22:1973(B)(1) for misrepresenting or failing to disclose facts that are not related to the insurance policy's coverage?

In answering the questions, the Supreme Court made clear that liability insurers owe their insureds a duty to timely gather information during the claims process, to advise their insureds of significant developments in the claim process and litigation, and to protect their insureds from liability in excess of the policy's limits by taking some positive step to settle their insureds' claims. Perhaps more importantly, the Court adopted the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit's holding in *Stanley v. Trincharad*, 500 F. 3d 411 (5th Cir. 2007), that "an insured's cause of action for a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing are not limited to the prohibited acts listed in La. R.S. 22:[1973](B)."

The Court began with the language of La. R.S. 22:1973, which provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

A. An insurer . . . owes to his insured a duty of good faith and fair dealing. The insurer has an affirmative duty to adjust claims fairly and promptly and to make a reasonable effort to settle claims with the insured or the claimant, or both. Any insurer who breaches these duties **shall** be liable for any damages sustained as a result of the breach.

B. Any one of the following acts, if knowingly committed or performed by an insurer, constitutes a breach of the insurer's duties in Subsection A of the Section:

- (1) Misrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to any coverages at issue;
.....

The Court then turned to the following facts. On Nov. 21, 2005, Danny Kelly was injured in an automobile collision with Henry Thomas Jr., who had liability insurance with State Farm. Thomas and Kelly were driving in opposite directions, when Thomas turned left and struck Kelly. Kelly contended that Thomas had failed to yield to oncoming traffic, but Thomas maintained he was not at fault. Kelly was hospitalized and treated for a fractured femur at a cost \$26,803.17.

On Jan. 6, 2006, Kelly's attorney mailed a letter to State Farm that included copies of Kelly's hospital records and bills, and stated that he "will recommend release of State Farm Insurance Company and your insured, Henry Thomas Jr. for payment of your policy limits." Kelly's attorney requested that State Farm call him within 10 days to discuss the matter.

State Farm did not respond to the letter and, more than two months later, offered to settle the case for \$25,000, the policy's limit, and sent Kelly's attorney a letter memorializing the offer. Kelly rejected the offer and filed suit against Thomas. The same day State Farm received word that the offer was rejected, it sent Thomas a letter informing him of the possibility of personal liability and suggesting that he retain independent counsel. The letter from State Farm did not mention the January 2006 letter from Kelly's attorney, State Farm's offer to Kelly or the amount of Kelly's medical bills.

Kelly's suit against Thomas proceeded to trial, and Thomas was cast in judgment for \$176,464.07, plus interest. State Farm paid Kelly the policy limit of \$25,000. Thereafter, Thomas entered into an agreement with Kelly, assigning his right to pursue a bad faith action against State Farm to Kelly in exchange for Kelly's agreement not to enforce the judgment against Thomas' personal assets.

Kelly filed suit against State Farm and asserted two causes of action against State Farm as the assignee of Thomas' rights: (1) Failing to accept Kelly's 2006 settlement offer ("failure to settle claim"); and (2) failing to notify Thomas of Kelly's January 2006 letter ("failure to inform claim"). With respect to the failure to settle claim, State Farm argued that it could not be liable where Kelly's attorney did not submit an "actual offer to settle" and where State Farm's conduct did not fall within the ambit of conduct specifically prohibited by Section 22:1973(B)(1) – (6). With respect to the failure to inform

es bad faith insurance law

BY MICHAEL DeBARROS

claim, State Farm argued that its failure to keep Thomas fully informed of the status of settlement negotiations and other developments affecting his excess exposure was not a “misrepresentation” under La. R.S. 22:1973(B)(1) and was merely one factor to be considered in a multi-factored “bad faith” analysis. The Supreme Court rejected all of State Farm’s arguments.

On Kelly’s failure to settle claim, the Court noted that its resolution of the issue required a twofold analysis. First, is an insured’s cause of action against its insurer for a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing limited to the prohibited acts listed in La. R.S. 22:1973(B), or does an independent cause of action exist under La. R.S. 22:1973(A)? Second, must an insurer receive “a firm settlement offer” as a condition for an insured to recover for the insurer’s bad-faith failure-to-settle?

The Court found that the plain language of La. R.S. 22:1973(A) supported an independent cause of action. Most notably, after describing the duties owed by an insurer, La. R.S. 22:1973(A) concludes with mandatory, rather than permissive language: “Any insurer who breaches these duties shall be liable for any damages sustained as a result of the breach.” Further, while a third-party claimant has no cause of action under La. R.S. 22:1973(A), an insured does because the duty of good faith and fair dealing referenced in La. R.S. 22:1973(A) is an outgrowth of the contractual and fiduciary relationship between the insured and insurer—a relationship not present between the insurer and third-party claimant.

The Court also found that, for three reasons, the language of La. R.S. 22:1973(A) did not require the insurer’s receipt of a “firm settlement offer” before the insurer had a duty to make a reasonable effort to settle claims. First, the plain language of La. R.S. 22:1973(A) specified that the insurer’s duty to make a reasonable effort to settle claims was an affirmative duty. The Court reasoned that the phrase “affirmative duty” is a legal term of art, which “requires taking positive action(s) to comply with a legal standard.” Second, the requirement of “a firm settlement offer is not listed anywhere in the statute [and] [t]o impose the requirement of a firm settlement offer would essentially amount to adding words not included in the statute.” Third, as a practical matter, “[t]he insured has no control over whether a firm offer will be submitted”

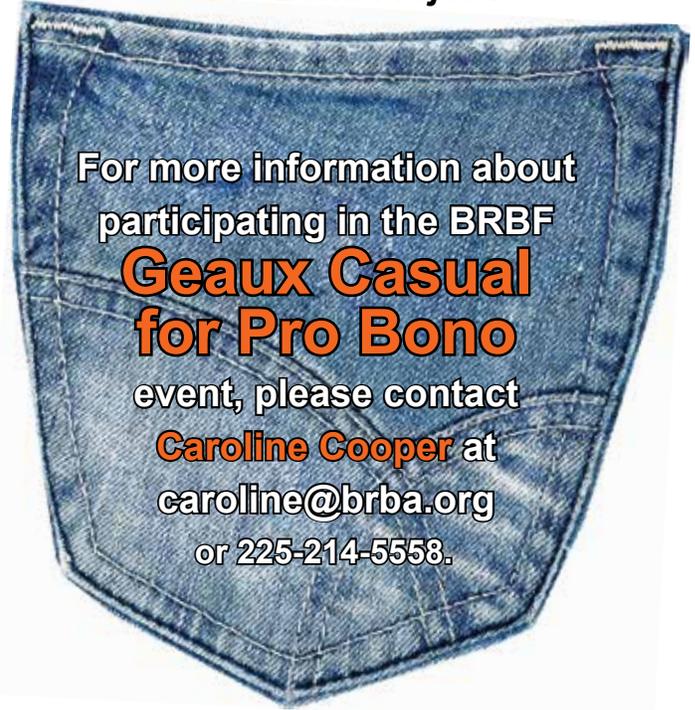
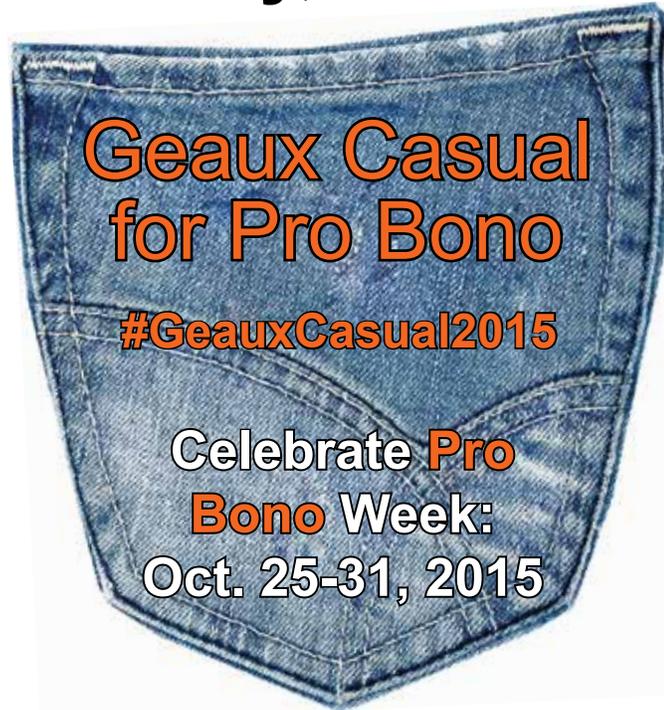
and yet “the insurer has undertaken the obligation to protect the insured.” Thus, there is “no practical reason why the insurer’s obligation to act in good faith should be made subject to the tenuous possibility that an insurer will receive a firm settlement offer.” Accordingly, the Court held that an insurer can be found liable for a bad-faith-failure-to-settle claim under La. R.S. 22:1973(A), notwithstanding that the insurer never received a firm settlement offer.

The second certified question asked the Court to decide whether an insurer can be found liable under La. 22:1973(B)(1) for misrepresenting or failing to disclose facts that are not related to the insurance policy’s coverage (*i.e.*, whether State Farm can be found liable under La. 22:1973(B)(1) for its failure to keep Thomas fully informed of the status of settlement negotiations and other developments affecting his excess liability). The Court again viewed the question as requiring a twofold analysis. First, is a failure to communicate a “misrepresentation”? Second, must the misrepresentation relate to the insurance policy’s coverage? On the first issue, the Court reasoned that because La. R.S. 22:1973(A) requires the insurer to take some positive action, and because La. R.S. 22:1973(B) delineates certain breaches of the insurer’s La. R.S. 22:1973(A) duties, “[a] communication from the insurer that either states an untruth or fails to state the truth is contemplated by La. R.S. 22:1973(B).” On the second issue, the Court gave a disjunctive meaning to the word “or” in La. R.S. 22:1973(B)’s prohibition of “[m]isrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance policy provisions relating to any coverages at issue” (emphasis added). The Court noted that if the word “or” was not given a disjunctive meaning, the first phrase (“pertinent facts”) would be both redundant and meaningless, because misrepresentations about insurance policy provisions are addressed in the second phrase, which follows the word “or.”

While the Court noted that “tight [reins] must be kept on a cause of action for insurer settlement practices,” *Kelly* is a significant win for insureds, and the case serves as a stark reminder that “a liability insurer is the representative of the interests of its insured and the insurer, when handling claims, must carefully consider not only its own [self-interest], but also its insured’s interest so as to protect the insured from exposure to excess liability.” ■

Save the Date! Friday, Oct. 23

Plan to participate in *Geaux Casual for Pro Bono*, a jeans-day fundraiser for the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation Pro Bono Project!



IMPORTANT BRBA REMINDERS:

- 2016 dues invoices will be mailed in September.
- VOTING for the 2016 board of directors will be conducted **ELECTRONICALLY ONLY**. You **MUST** have a valid **EMAIL ADDRESS** to cast your vote.
- **SELF-NOMINATIONS** will be solicited in October for the BRBA delegate to the ABA House of Delegates for a two-year term commencing in August 2016 at the conclusion of the American Bar Association meeting.

Questions? Call the BRBA at 225-344-4803.

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in memoriam

BY EDWARD J. WALTERS JR.

One of my friends, Dennis Whalen, died on June 4, 2015. He was 85 years old. When I first started practicing, his office was directly across the hall from mine in The Attorney's Building. He was always willing to help a young lawyer.



Dennis Whalen

Dennis was often involved in the most interesting cases. If there was a high-visibility case no one else would touch with a 10-foot pole, Dennis would. If someone was being beaten up by the system, Dennis would be their lawyer, most times for free.

Dennis Whalen loved being a lawyer. It was his passion. He was not looked upon with admiration by many because Dennis was very happy to take on the rich, the powerful and the influential.

Dennis graduated from LSU Law School in 1962. He was a practicing attorney in Baton Rouge for 52 years.

Every bar has one . . . or should

Dennis is the only lawyer I know who, when notarizing a document, would ALWAYS ask to see the affiant's driver's license and then make them raise their right hand when getting them to take the oath. It meant something to him.

In his career in the United States Army, he served in combat, 7th Infantry Division, Korean Conflict, 1951-52, and in the Army of Occupation in Germany, 1954-57. He died at the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home in Reserve, La.

To show you what kind of person Dennis was, it was one of his final requests in his obituary that any donations be made to The Innocence Project, Inc., 40 Worth St., Suite 701, New York, NY, 10013, (212) 364-5976, www.innocenceproject.org. That, too, was important to him.

I just didn't want Dennis' passing to go without mention or to go unnoticed.

Every bar should have a Dennis Whalen, uncomfortable as it may be for some of us.

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Book Review

REVIEWED BY GRANT J. GUILLOT

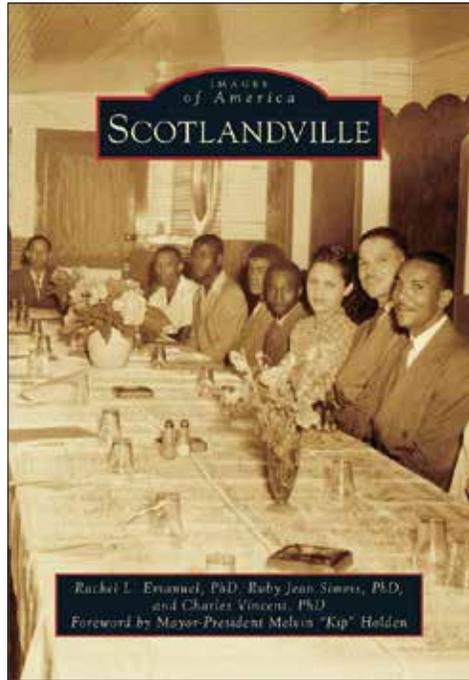
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Images of America: Scotlandville.

The History Press & Arcadia Publishing. Book written by Rachel L. Emanuel, Ph.D., Ruby Jean Simms, Ph.D., and Charles Vincent, Ph.D.

“A picture is worth a thousand words.” This adage undoubtedly holds true when applied to the remarkable collection of photographs presented by the authors of *Images of America: Scotlandville*. The book tells the story of a location that began as a cotton plantation and entry point for the slave trade that later became the largest majority African American town in Louisiana. The authors of this book certainly provide excellent and detailed written accounts of the economic, political, social and cultural developments that resulted in the formation of Scotlandville. It is the authors’ photographic depictions of the town’s history, however, that reveal the unwavering optimism and perseverance its founders and first families were required to maintain in order to excel in a land long plagued by racism, inequality and oppression.

The book begins with a foreword written by Mayor Melvin “Kip” Holden, a lifelong resident of Scotlandville. He praises the book as being a historical and pictorial account of the “cultural, educational, business, religious, social, and political history of the self-determined, dedicated, and resilient people of Scotlandville.” Most notably, Mayor Holden praises the book as demonstrating “everyday folks overcoming challenges and making their way by faith and hard work.” Indeed, perseverance is the overarching theme that echoes throughout the book’s seven chapters in which the written accounts are interlaced with photographic depictions representing each



chapter’s particular topic.

Following Mayor Holden’s remarks is an introduction that recalls the Scotlandville community’s rapid growth following the 1914 relocation of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College from New Orleans to Scott’s Bluff on the western edge of Scotlandville. The move prompted New Orleans residents to file a lawsuit challenging the relocation, and the Louisiana Supreme Court ultimately considered the matter on appeal. However, the residents’ efforts were unsuccessful, and the relocation was allowed to proceed.

The first chapter tells of the first families to establish roots in Scotlandville and the events that resulted in population booms,

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including Southern University's relocation to Scott's Bluff in 1914, and the employment opportunities provided by the Works Progress Administration programs following World War II.

Chapter Two depicts how many of the town's residents were able to become leaders in the business community despite the negative attitudes against African Americans fostered in the Jim Crow era. These first-generation entrepreneurs developed a remarkable work ethic that allowed them, along with the other hardworking residents of Scotlandville, to build a self-sustaining community.

The third chapter recalls the town's development of several churches to accommodate the residents' diverse denomination preferences, while Chapter Four depicts the educational opportunities increasingly made available to the town's residents and to other African Americans who chose to move to Scotlandville to pursue academic endeavors.

The fifth chapter explains how the African-American residents of Scotlandville established social and civic organizations to promote their culture, heritage and

traditions at a time when the Jim Crow laws prohibited them from participating in such organizations founded by white residents. Chapter Six depicts how Scotlandville became inhabited by both African Americans and white people from various economic backgrounds. Finally, Chapter Seven provides an account of the town's increasing involvement in politics after having been long shut out from government.

In conclusion, the authors' essays thoroughly recount the economic, cultural, social, religious, business, and political events and ideologies that resulted in Scotlandville becoming the largest African American town in Louisiana until its incorporation into Baton Rouge in the mid-1980s. However, it is the book's photographs that best depict the residents' perseverance, optimism, and determination to establish a self-efficient community in the face of racial oppression and injustice.

Copies are available at local retailers, bookstores, or through Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com or (888) 313-2665. 



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Interview with Michael L. McConnell, Clerk of Court, U.S. District Court, MDLA

BY JOHN McLINDON

ATB: First, tell us about your background and where you're from.

MLM: I was born in Pittsburg, Penn. I did not stay there long, though. My father was a career Air Force officer, and we moved about every four to five years. We finally settled in Louisiana when I was 17. I graduated from Slidell High School and went on to the University of New Orleans, where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. About five years later I completed my MBA, also from University of New Orleans.

ATB: What was your first job out of college or after graduate school?

MLM: I earned my graduate degree while working full-time in New Orleans at Lockheed Martin. That was on the Space Shuttle external tank project, which was pretty fascinating work. I was working with some of the best engineering minds on the planet, and there was always something interesting going on.

ATB: Were you working during either of the disasters of the space shuttles?

MLM: Yes, I was working during the Challenger disaster. It is a day I will never forget. The announcement came up on the closed circuit monitors in the plant, and it was kind of ironic because we had gotten so accustomed to these magnificent launches that we stopped watching them. All of a sudden something like this happens.

ATB: Was it tough being personally involved?

MLM: Absolutely. The manufacturing facility was about 43 acres under one roof. You could hear a pin drop during that time. It was eerie.

ATB: So, how long did you work for Lockheed Martin?

MLM: I was there for 13 years. I left in 1997 for a better opportunity. The space shuttle program at that point had started its decline. By decline I mean missions were becoming less frequent. We could see the end in sight, so I figured it was time to move on.

ATB: Where did you go from there?

MLM: I went to an opportunity presented by a joint venture of the FMOL (Franciscan Mission of Our Lady)

health system and the Christus Health System, a large Catholic health-care organization based out of Chicago. I was the IT director on the joint venture that they put together. I was there for quite a few years when another opportunity to build a larger IT infrastructure came along. My career has mostly been in information technology.

ATB: Was FMOL in the New Orleans area?

MLM: The position was actually located in Baton Rouge. That's when I moved to the Baton Rouge area, and I've been here ever since. After the network was set up, I was looking for the next challenge. An entrepreneurial nurse-staffing company was looking to hire their first IT director. They hired me to do that.

ATB: Was that in Baton Rouge also?

MLM: That was actually back in New Orleans. I did a lot of commuting. The company basically hired out temporary nursing staff to help health-care facilities from Alaska to Florida.

ATB: And then, you got involved in the federal court system?

MLM: I did. I saw an advertisement, of all things, in the paper. I thought, you know, that looks like a great opportunity, so I'm just going to see what they're all about. At my first interview, I knew I wanted this job.

ATB: Was that for an IT type position?

MLM: Yes, it was for IT director for Louisiana Western District Court. I met with their clerk of court and chief deputy. We hit it off immediately. That was probably one of the very few interviews that I've ever had that I felt 100 percent sure about. Sure enough, a couple of weeks after my second interview, they offered me the job.

ATB: When you came in 2008, PACER had already been implemented?

MLM: Yes, it was already here. Electronic filing in the courts began in the early 2000s.

ATB: Obviously, your IT background was important?

MLM: Yes, I believe it played a significant role. The courts are an interesting mix of technology. We've got 94

district courts across the country. Some of them are very progressive from a technology point of view, and some are using slightly older technologies because they may not have the resources to invest in the latest and greatest. Louisiana Middle District is very much on the progressive side of things. We're doing things here that many courts are only now getting into, and we've been doing them for several years. In fact, one of our lead Automation employees is on a temporary duty assignment to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. He is known throughout the federal court system as one of the leading authorities in infrastructure virtualization technologies. He's helped a number of courts modernize their infrastructure to essentially "do more with less," which has kind of been the operating standard within government and industry for many years.

ATB: When did you come to the MDLA?

MLM: I've been here since about 2010. So, I was in Western District for about two years. I was commuting from Prairieville to Lafayette when the Director of Automation position opened up, and I thought it was a good opportunity. I became Clerk of Court in June 2014.

I've been in management roles for the majority of my career. Over the last 20-plus years, I've dealt with personnel issues. I've dealt with strategic and operational planning and budgeting. I believe I acquired the skills and experience that prepared me for the Clerk's role. I was initially concerned because I'm not an attorney and I don't have that legal foundation, but that is not necessarily a requirement for the Clerk's role because the Clerk's Office is, first and foremost, the business office of the Court. We provide accounting and financial services, IT services, human resources, and operational support, which of course is courtroom support, jury management and case administration. We keep the documents moving through the court system.

ATB: I notice you have Apple computers. Have you always been an Apple guy?

MLM: Not always. I think I made the change when they made their move to the Intel processor around 2006 or 2007.

ATB: I remember at one time the Middle District was considered one of the busiest districts in the country. Do you know where we fall now?

MLM: I think for many courts filings have been on a downward trend. Louisiana Middle has not been immune to that. Our filings have fallen somewhat compared to a few years ago. Although one year we might be up a few cases and the next year we will be down. One thing that is consistent, though, is that our court is always busy with new projects, initiatives and efforts to enhance our services to the public and to the Bar.

ATB: Can you tell us what percentage of your cases are civil versus criminal?

MLM: In very general terms, we're looking at about three to five civil filings for every criminal filing.

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ATB: *What is your wife's name and do you have children?*

MLM: My wife's name is Shannon. We've been married for 15 years. We have four kids, two each from previous marriages, ranging in age from 17 to 31. We also have two grandchildren.

ATB: *If a lawyer wants to take a course on how to file online, is that something that is still available?*

MLM: Yes, in fact, we just reinstated that service. We offer training on a quarterly basis, and the schedules and sign-up form are available on our website (www.lamd.uscourts.gov). We will offer it for beginning filers and also for attorneys who have more CM/ECF experience and may want to learn some of the more advanced topics. So we will offer two different case-filing classes. We also offer training in the use of our courtroom technologies and electronic-evidence-presentation systems. All three courses are CLE eligible.

ATB: *Is there anything general that you think lawyers should or could do a better job in federal court?*

MLM: I cannot think of anything offhand, other than what is already obvious to every attorney who walks through the door, and that is to walk into the courtroom well prepared. As long as you have all your business in order, you should be good. Another obvious suggestion is

to know our Local Rules and procedures.

ATB: *Is your office involved at all in the security that we see around the building?*

MLM: That is handled exclusively by the U.S. Marshals Service. That actually raises another good point. The Clerk's Office serves as primary interface to the U.S. Marshals Service, the General Services Administration, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the local bar associations that we support.

ATB: *Is it true that the air conditioning in this building is controlled in another city?*

MLM: It is regrettably true.

ATB: *Is it in Texas somewhere?*

MLM: Strangely enough it originated in Minnesota, where they don't know what a Louisiana summer is. I think it has since been moved to Houston or some other location in Texas.

ATB: *Any predictions on where the future is going as far as clerks of court and mostly with technology?*

MLM: I think you will find, and this has been emphasized in just about every court-related conference that I have attended recently, that information technology will continue to play a more and more important role in the courts. The effects of sequestration, for example, hit the courts hard. Technology has at least helped to fill the void left by personnel whose positions have not been replaced as they leave the court system. We were fortunate here that we did not have to RIF (reduction in force) anyone as a result of budget cuts, but we also didn't back fill positions when people retired or chose to pursue other opportunities. Leveraging technology to its most effective use has, in part, allowed us to continue to fulfill the responsibilities of the Clerk's Office.

ATB: *And technology played a part in that?*

MLM: Absolutely, and it will continue to do so. ■



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Volunteer writers needed to submit substantive legal articles for publication in future *Around the Bar* issues.

Contact Pamela Labbe at pamela@brba.org or 225-214-5560 for more information.

Nomination Form

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This form is to be returned to the Baton Rouge Bar Association office
at P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821,
or to 544 Main St. no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015.

Please place my name on the ballot for the 2016 Board of Directors election. I understand that I must be a regular member in good standing of the Baton Rouge Bar Association, and my 2016 dues assessment must be paid by Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. I understand that, if elected, I am expected to make a good faith effort to attend board meetings, monthly luncheons, special events and meetings of

the committees to which I am assigned as liaison. Further, I understand that I will bear my pro-rated expense for board meetings, whether I am present or not. I understand that this is a working body and that I will be expected to accept and fulfill designated responsibilities. The Baton Rouge Bar Association Board of Directors also serves as the Board of Directors of the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation.

I wish to run for the position of:

Director at Large (6) _____
Treasurer _____

Secretary _____
President-Elect _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

The November issue of *Around the Bar* will include a listing of all candidates for office. Please complete the following for use in the listing. Use no more than the space allotted. Please submit your photo (as a high resolution .jpg) and this form as a .pdf and email it to: ann@brba.org. You are also welcome to fax your form to 225-344-4805, or mail it to the BRBA office. Your photograph will be used in the pre-election candidate introduction, which will appear in the November issue of *ATB* and on the ballot.

Name _____

Position for which you are running _____

Firm _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Year admitted to practice _____ Law School _____

Email _____ Date of Birth _____

Activity with the Baton Rouge Bar Association _____

Other professional information _____

Nomination Form

2016 YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION COUNCIL

This form is to be returned to the Baton Rouge Bar Association office
at P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821,
or to 544 Main St. no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015.

Please place my name on the ballot for the 2016 Young Lawyers Section Council election. I understand that I must be a regular member in good standing of the Baton Rouge Bar Association, and my 2016 dues assessment must be paid by Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. Further, I understand that I must be eligible for membership in the Baton Rouge Bar Association Young Lawyers Section. Eligibility is limited to all lawyers under the age of 39, or who have been admitted to the first bar less than five years who pay any dues as set and assessed by the Board of the Baton Rouge Bar Association. Membership in this section terminates automatically at the end of the calendar year within which a member attains 39 years of age or five years after admission to his or her first bar, whichever last shall occur. I understand that this is a working body and that any officer or council member failing to attend three successive meetings of the council shall be asked to vacate his or her position. I also understand that I will bear my pro-rated expense for all YLS meetings and Board of Director meetings.

I wish to run for the position of: Chairman-Elect _____ Council Member (5) _____
Secretary / Treasurer _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

The November issue of *Around the Bar* will include a listing of all candidates for office. Please complete the following for use in the listing. Use no more than the space allotted. Please submit your photo (as a high resolution .jpg) and this form as a .pdf and email it to: ann@brba.org. You are also welcome to fax your form to 225-344-4805, or mail it to the BRBA office. Your photograph will be used in the pre-election candidate introduction, which will appear in the November issue of *ATB* and on the ballot.

Name _____

Position for which you are running _____

Firm _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Year admitted to practice _____ Law School _____

Email _____

Activity with the Baton Rouge Bar Association _____

Other professional information _____

Nomination Form

2016-17 FAMILY LAW SECTION SECRETARY-TREASURER

This form is to be returned to the Baton Rouge Bar Association office
at P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821,
or to 544 Main St. no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015.

Please place my name on the ballot for the 2016-17 Family Law Section Executive Committee election. I understand that this is a two-year position and that I must be a regular member in good standing of the Baton Rouge Bar Association and a member of the Family Law Section during my term, and my 2016 dues assessment must be paid by Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. I understand that this is a working body and that any officer or council member failing to attend three successive meetings of the Committee shall be asked to vacate his or her position.

I wish to run for the position of: Secretary _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete the following for use as a bio to provide to section members. Use no more than the space allotted. Please submit your photo (as a high resolution .jpg) and this form as a .pdf and email it to: ann@brba.org. You are also welcome to fax your form to 225-344-4805, or mail it to the BRBA office. Your photograph will be used in the pre-election candidate introduction, which will appear in the November issue of *ATB* and on the ballot.

Name _____

Firm _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Year admitted to practice _____ Law School _____

Email _____

Activity with the Baton Rouge Bar Association _____

Other professional information _____

Nomination Form

2016 PUBLIC LAW PRACTICE SECTION

This form is to be returned to the Baton Rouge Bar Association office at P. O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, or to 544 Main St. no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015.

Please place my name on the ballot for the 2016 Public Law Practice Section. I understand that I must be a regular member in good standing of the Baton Rouge Bar Association, and my 2016 dues assessment must be paid by Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. Further, I must be a member of the Baton Rouge Bar Association's Public Law Practice Section.

I wish to run for the position of:

- Secretary (1)* — Serves as Chair-elect for the subsequent year
- Council Member (1)* — Local government representative
- Council Member (1)* — Attorney General representative
- Council Member (1)* — Private attorney representative
- Council Member (1)* — At Large representative
- Council Member (1)* — Judicial representative
- Council Member (1)* — Executive Branch representative
- Council Member (1)* — Legislative Branch representative

The mission of the Public Law Practice Section is to address the needs of attorneys practicing before, representing or employed by governmental, regulatory, administrative or other public law entities and to promote professionalism and community outreach.

Position for which you are running _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete the following for use as a bio to provide to section members. Use no more than the space allotted. Please submit your photo (as a high resolution .jpg) and this form as a .pdf and email it to: ann@brba.org. You are also welcome to fax your form to 225-344-4805, or mail it to the BRBA office. Your photograph will be used in the pre-election candidate introduction, which will appear in the November issue of *ATB* and on the ballot.

Name _____

Firm/Agency _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Year admitted to practice _____ Law School _____

Email _____

Activity with the Baton Rouge Bar Association _____

Other professional information _____

Several BRBA members honored during LSBA 2015 Pro Bono and Children's Award Ceremony

Gabrielle Rachel Alessi-Friedlander-Bowersox of the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center and **Christopher R. Kubacki** of the Southern University Law Center were the recipients of the Law Student Award May 19, 2015, at the LSBA Pro Bono and Children's Law Awards ceremony. Alessi-Friedlander-Bowersox created LSU Law's first juvenile judicial externship and the first legal externship to serve survivors of sexual assault at the Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response (STAR) Center. Kubacki, a member of Law Review and Moot Court, has clerked for Judge Donald Johnson.

Joseph R. Ballard, **Valerie Briggs Bargas** and **La'Gretta Fortune-Lazard** received the Pro Bono Publico award. Ballard, in his 32-year legal career, has regularly served as a supervising attorney for the Family Court Self Help Resource Center. Bargas is a founding member of Kinchen, Walker, Bienvenu, Bargas, Reed & Helm, LLC. While she was chair of the Young Lawyers Division of the LSBA, Bargas worked to implement the Wills for Heroes Project throughout Louisiana. Fortune-Lazard, a member of the Lazard Law Firm, considers extending her legal services in the area of pro bono a priority, from accepting bankruptcy cases to answering legal questions at a help desk.

A Friend of Pro Bono Award was presented to **Dwayne M. Murray**, a bankruptcy trustee who has worked directly with the BRBA to bring greater awareness to young people that they should become more financially literate.

Jalenak receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Jay M. Jalenak Jr. was honored with the David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award May 19, 2015, at the LSBA 2015 Pro Bono and Children's Law Awards Ceremony. Jalenak is a past president of the BRBA. Jalenak serves as Kean Miller's pro bono coordinator and serves on the board of Southeast Legal Services Corp.

Several LSBA Young Lawyers Division awards were presented to BRBA members by the LSBA in June

Several Young Lawyers Division awards were presented during a June 8, 2015, ceremony in conjunction with the LSBA Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla. **Laranda Moffett Walker** of Pearland, Texas, received the Hon. Michaelle Pitard Wynne Professionalism Award. Walker practices commercial litigation in the Houston office of Susman Godfrey, LLP. Prior to joining Susman in 2014, Walker worked with Phelps Dunbar, LLP. She was a member of the Leadership LSBA 2010-11 Class and is a



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

YLS Chair Scott Levy, LSU Coach Ed Orgeron and Loren Shanklin Fleshman pause for a moment prior to the start of the BRBA June Bar Luncheon, which was held Thursday, June 18, 2015, at Ruffino's Catering at De La Ronde Hall.



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

The 2015 Region III winning high school mock trial team from Zachary High School was honored during the June 18, 2015, bar luncheon. Mock Trial Committee Chairman Tavares Walker (far right) presented the traveling trophy to teacher coach Chris Staggs (far left) and his team.

former chair of the BRBA's Young Lawyers Section.

Rolando R. Urbina received the Pro Bono Award. He is an assistant public defender in Section 5 of the 19th Judicial District Court and the member-manager of the Law Offices of Rolando R. Urbina & Associates, LLC. He currently serves as the president of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc., Greater Baton Rouge Chapter and as a board member of Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. Urbina is an investigator for the Louisiana Commission on Human Rights.

The **BRBA Young Lawyers Section** received the Service to the Public Award for its Self Help Resource Center (SHRC). The SHRC, launched in 2012, received 1,645 requests for assistance in 2014. Located at the East Baton Rouge Parish Family Court, the SHRC is a joint venture of the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation, the East Baton Rouge Parish Family Court, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, Southern University Law Center, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center and the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc.

Several Baton Rouge lawyers were recently installed in leadership positions with the LSBA

Two past BRBA presidents were installed in leadership positions with the state bar in June 2015. **Darrel J. Papillion** was sworn in as LSBA president-elect and

C. Kevin Hayes was sworn in as a member of the Board of Governors. Other BRBA lawyers who were sworn in included Donald North, faculty member of Board of Governors; Kevin C. Curry, Louisiana State Law Institute member of Board of Governors; Julie Baxter, a member of the House of Delegates; Scotty Chabert, chair-elect of the Young Lawyers Division; Kristi W. Richard and Carrie LeBlanc Jones, district 5 representatives of the YLD; and Kellen J. Matthews, at-large representative of the YLD.

Holthaus to serve on LSBA House of Delegates

C. Frank Holthaus was one of five individuals who were elected by the LSBA House of Delegates to serve three-year terms on the Legislation Committee, beginning a term on July 1, 2015, and completing it July 30, 2018.

BRBA members receive LSBA President's Awards

Two BRBA members—Luiz A. Leitzelar and Jack K. Whitehead—received LSBA President's Awards. They were chosen by 2014-15 LSBA President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea Jr. Leitzelar is a partner in the Baton Rouge office of Jones Walker LLP and was recognized for his exemplary assistance to the LSBA's Diversity Committee. Jack K. Whitehead of the Whitehead Law Firm was recognized for his exemplary assistance to the Louisiana Client Assistance Foundation.

Walters named Louisiana State University Law Center Distinguished Alumnus of the Year; Robinson honored for Distinguished Achievement

During an Oct. 11, 2015, awards luncheon at the Lod Cook Conference Center Edward J. Walters Jr. will be named LSU Law Center Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. Walters, a partner with Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, LLC, is editor of *Around the Bar* magazine. He graduated from the LSU Law Center in 1975.

Kimberly Robinson will be honored for Distinguished Achievement. A partner in the Baton Rouge office of Jones Walker LLP, Robinson graduated from the LSU Law Center in 1998. The Distinguished Achievement award recognizes graduates for professional achievement and career distinction, service to and support of LSU Law, and service to the community.

BRBF hosts the second consecutive Summer Youth Legal Institute for youth in the Gardere community

For the second consecutive year, the BRBF hosted the Summer Youth Legal Institute June 22-26, 2015, for teens who reside in the Gardere community. Law student volunteers assisted with this five-day summer camp, which instilled the value of legal education by teaching the youth how to conduct a mock trial. Attorneys gave presentations



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

Scotty Chabert (right), a past chair of the BRBA Young Lawyers Section, is photographed presenting an award to YLS Chair Scott Levy during the BRBA June Bar Luncheon. The BRBA YLS was honored by the LSBA Young Lawyers Division on June 8, 2015, with the Service to the Bar Award for its first-ever Health and Wellness Fair, which was held in January.



BRBF Teen Court Assistant Coordinator Lynn S. Haynes (center) holds the 2015 Children's Award that she accepted May 19, 2015, on behalf of the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation Teen Court Program. The award was presented by Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John L. Weimer and 2015 LSBA President Joseph L. "Larry" Shea Jr. Teen Court is a voluntary diversion program in which teens sentence their peers for first-time misdemeanor offenses.



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

Several law students from the Southern University Law Center volunteered to assist with the Summer Youth Legal Institute. Recent LSU Law Center graduate Dejean Cleggett and LSU Law student (3L) Sheji Laday, assisted with the 2014 Institute, and returned to help with this year's summer camp. Photographed are Alecia Robillard, Kywonna Drake, Jonathan JeanLouis, Antoinette Harris, Dejean Cleggett and Sheji Laday.

on topics ranging from effective public speaking and cyberbullying to financial literacy for teens. Special thanks to the local Big Buddy Program, the Mayor's office, the USDA and the school systems for providing breakfast and lunch daily for the Summer Youth Legal Institute. The Institute was funded by the South Burbank Crime Prevention and Development District. Lynn S. Haynes coordinated the event. ■

foundation footnotes

PRO BONO & TEEN COURT REPORTS — MAY 2015

PRO BONO PROJECT REPORT—We would like to thank all of our Pro Bono Project volunteers for their contributions during May.

Ask-A-Lawyer volunteers: James Austin, *Adams & Reese*; John Hopewell, *Certain Title*; DeVonna Ponthieu and Emily Ziober.

Thirst for Justice volunteers: Scott Gaspard; Hansel Harlan; Byron Kantrow Jr.; Glenn Marcel; Cherita McNeal; NeShira Millender, *Taylor Porter*; Christopher Morris, *Baker Donelson*; and Allen Posey.

Self Help Resource Center attorney volunteers: Joseph Ballard, Todd Manuel, *Entergy*; Caroline Barnes; Frank Brown; Ryan Brown, *Roedel, Parsons*; John Dunlap III, *Dunlap Fiore*; David Handelman, *Southeast Louisiana Legal Services*; Courtney T. Joiner, *Hammonds, Sills, Adkins & Guice*; Judith Martin, *Franciscan Legal Services*; Paula Ouder; and Jennifer Prescott, *deGravelles, Palmintier, Holthaus & Fruge*.

Wills for Heroes volunteers: David Bach; Deborah Berthelot, *Big River Title, LLC*; Dominick Bianca, *Bianca Law Firm*; Terry Bonnie, *Terry L. Bonnie, APLC*; Elena Branzaru, *La. Dept. of Transportation and Development*; Valerie Briggs Bargas, *Kinchen, Walker, Bienvenu, Bargas & Reed, LLC*; Mary Colvin, *Erlingson Banks, PLLC*; James Field, *Field Law, LLC*; Melanie Fields, *EBR District Attorney's Office*; Todd Gaudin, *Fenet Treadway Gaudin Lawyers*; Sheila Hyde, *Paralegal - La. Dept. of Justice*; Joanna Hynes, *Kuehne & Foote, APLC*; Tara Johnston, *Erlingson Banks, PLLC*; Erik Kjeldsen; David Koch, *Koch Law Firm*; Siobhan Leger, *Leger Law Group, LLC*; Michael Melerine; Bobbie Monroe, *Dunlap Fiore, LLC*; Diana Moore, *Diana Beard Moore, APLC*; Wendra Moran; Luke Morris; Latisha Nixon-Jones, *La. Workforce Commission*; Courtney Richardson, *La. Workforce Commission*; Sherlyn Shumpert, *La. Dept. of Justice*; Annie Smith, *Ogwyn Law Firm, LLC*; Elisa Stephens Randall, *East Baton Rouge Clerk of Court*; Craig Stewart, *The Stewart Law Firm*; Sarah Thigpen, *LeClere Law Firm*; Cherish van Mullen, *Phelps Dunbar*; Lesia Warren, *La. Division of Administration*; Jennipher Williams; Rebecca Wisbar, *Akers & Wisbar, LLC*.

The following volunteers accepted Pro Bono cases in May: Arlene Edwards, *Delatte, Edwards & Marcantel*; Rolando Urbina, *Attorney at Law*; Sarah Thigpen, *LeClere Law Firm*; T. Matthew Meek; Jeffrey Wittenbrink, *Rowe Law Firm*;

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.

Durward Casteel, *Casteel & Associates*; Gary McKenzie, *Steffes, Vingiello & McKenzie*; David Cliburn; Jennifer Moisant, *Manasseh, Gill, Knipe & Belanger, APLC*; Natalie Roy Downs, *Saffiotti & Boudreaux*; and Joanna Hynes, *Kuehne & Foote, APLC*.

Law Student Interns: Carolina De La Pena, *LSU Law Center*; Yvonne Henshaw, *Southern University Law Center*; Tiffany Lemons, *Southern University Law Center*; and Jeffery "Beau" Wheeler, *LSU Law Center*.

TEEN COURT REPORT— Jamie Flowers and Monica Vela-Vick served as judges for the May Teen Court hearing.

YOUTH EDUCATION—The Future Legal Eagles along with Teen Court volunteers had a field trip at Southern University Law Center in May. The students were taught a criminal law lesson by *Southern University Law Center Professor Wendy Shea* in the moot court room. ■

Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge is funded by the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice, the South Burbank Crime Prevention and Development District and the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation. The Youth Education Program is financially assisted by the Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) of the Louisiana Bar Foundation. The "Future Legal Eagles Law Club" is funded by a grant from the South Burbank Crime Prevention and Development District.



DOWNS, SAFFIOTTI & BOUDREAUX, LLP

— Attorneys at Law —

welcomes

Natalie C. Roy

as an associate with the law firm.

Karen D. Downs

Lisa L. Boudreaux

Vincent A. Saffiotti

Laurie N. Marien

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September 2015



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

Duty Court Schedule

19TH JDC CIVIL COURT

Aug. 10-Aug. 21	Judge Johnson
Aug. 24-Sept. 4	Judge Caldwell
Sept. 7-Sept. 18	Judge Fields
Sept. 21-Oct. 2	Judge Morvant

19TH JDC CRIMINAL COURT***

Aug. 14-Aug. 21	Judge Higginbotham
Aug. 21-Aug. 28	Judge White
Aug. 28-Sept. 4	Judge Marabella
Sept. 4-Sept. 11	Judge Anderson
Sept. 11-Sept. 18	Judge Erwin
Sept. 18-Sept. 25	Judge Jackson
Sept. 25-Oct. 2	Judge Daniel

BATON ROUGE CITY COURT*

Aug. 17-Aug. 23	Judge Ponder
Aug. 24-Aug. 30	Judge Prosser
Aug. 31-Sept. 6	Judge Temple
Sept. 7-Sept. 13	Judge Wall
Sept. 14-Sept. 20	Judge Alexander
Sept. 21-Sept. 27	Judge Ponder
Sept. 28-Oct. 4	Judge Prosser

FAMILY COURT**

Sept. 1	Judge Baker
Sept. 2	Judge Woodruff-White
Sept. 3	Judge Day
Sept. 4	Judge Baker
Sept. 8	Judge Baker
Sept. 9	Judge Woodruff-White
Sept. 10	Judge Baker
Sept. 11	Judge Woodruff-White
Sept. 14	Judge Greene
Sept. 15	Judge Baker
Sept. 16	Judge Woodruff-White
Sept. 17	Judge Day
Sept. 18	Judge Day
Sept. 21	Judge Greene
Sept. 22	Judge Baker
Sept. 23	Judge Woodruff-White
Sept. 24	Judge Day
Sept. 25	Judge Greene
Sept. 28	Judge Greene
Sept. 29	Judge Baker
Sept. 30	Judge Woodruff-White

JUVENILE COURT

Aug. 1-Aug. 31	Judge Haney
Sept. 1-Sept. 30	Judge Taylor-Johnson

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 is completely different each day, rotating on Fridays ***19th JDC Criminal Court changes each Friday at noon.

COURT HOLIDAY

Monday, Sept. 7 Labor Day

Classifieds

30TH ANNUAL LAW EXPO: Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015 • L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge • 3.0 hours of CLE. Call 225-344-4803 to register or for more info.

OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG ATTORNEYS: Experienced attorney with downtown BR office ready to retire. Major street visibility and walking distance to 19th JDC. Building currently available for lease. Suitable for two attorneys and staff. Conference room, reception area, break room, all furnishings and equipment provided. Potential for referring new clients and turning over existing clients. Please contact: brlawofficeforrent@gmail.com or (225) 573-8359.

STAFF ATTORNEY NEEDED: The Baton Rouge office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz seeks a staff attorney with five or more years of litigation experience. Experience in commercial lending, bankruptcy, foreclosures, commercial collections, construction, lien and public and private works would be particularly valuable. Academically distinguished applicants who have excellent writing and analytical skills and deposition, discovery and motion practice experience are sought to assume responsibility in an active and diverse federal and state court litigation practice. Louisiana law license required or candidate must be able to take the Louisiana Bar and obtain license promptly. We seek a bright, hardworking and responsive candidate with good judgment and attention to detail. For consideration, please submit a cover letter (referencing job posting #563), resume and law school transcript to Helen Beasley, Recruiting Assistant, at lateral@bakerdonelson.com.

Calendar

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.

- 2** Volunteer Committee meeting, 12-1 p.m.
- 3** Finance Committee meeting, Kean Miller, Conference Room 7B, 9 a.m.
- Ask-A-Lawyer, Delmont Service Center, 3535 Riley St., 9-11:30 a.m.
- 7** BRBA Office Closed — Labor Day
- 8** Executive Comm. meeting, Kean Miller, Conference Room 7B, 8 a.m.
- 9** Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12 p.m.
- 10** Family Law Section, Juban's, 12-2 p.m.
- 14** Publications Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, 12345 Perkins Rd., Bldg. 1
- 15** Belly Up with the Bar Committee meeting, 12-1 p.m.
- 16** Ask-A-Lawyer, Catholic Charities, 9-11:30 a.m.;
- YLS Council meeting, 12-1 p.m.;
- Board of Directors meeting, 6-8 p.m., location: TBA.
- 17** Fall Expo & Conference [Law Expo/ September Bar Luncheon], L'Auberge Casino & Hotel, 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m.
- 18** Medicaid CLE, 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- 23** Working with Government Benefits CLE seminar, Flemings, 3-6 p.m.
- 25** Ask-A-Lawyer, Livingston Library, Main Branch, 13986 Florida Blvd., Livingston, La., 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- 26** Ask-A-Lawyer, Delmont Gardens Library, 3351 Lorraine St., 9:30-11:30 a.m.

BRBA Softball Tournament Aug. 14 - 15, 2015 Hartley Vey BallPark

For more information, contact Ann K. Gregorie or Katherine Fremine at 225-344-4803.

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