

President's Message

Variety of Ways to Become Involved with the LBF

By Deidre Deculus Robert, 2023-24 President

"Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time."

—Marian Wright Edelman

The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is the visible public service organization of Louisiana attorneys and brings members of our profession together, maximizing our efforts to better the profession, our communities and ourselves. As Shayna Sonnier, president of the Louisiana State Bar Association, so eloquently stated, together our volunteers work to ensure that all Louisiana citizens, especially those who cannot afford it, have equal access to our legal system.

There are many ways you can get involved with the LBF and serve. You can become a member and volunteer your talent and time on a committee. There is something for everyone:

► **Communications** works to educate the public, lawyers, judges and the philanthropic community about the LBF and civil legal aid.

► **Development** works to identify and provide new funding sources for civil legal aid. The annual gala subcommittee coordinates the planning and implementation of the annual gala and auction and the membership subcommittee recruits and retains members.

► **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** works to build capacity and identify strategy through research, learning and analyses.

► **Education** promotes study and research in the field of law and continuing education of lawyers.

► **Grants** reviews grant applications and make funding recommendations.

► **Grantee Audit and Training** works with grantees to help train their staff and boards.

► **Finance** oversees LBF financial operations including the annual operating

budget, the annual audit and Internal Revenue Service 990 Filing.

► **Investment** reviews quarterly and annual reports for managed funds to ensure compliance with the investment policy.

Another great way to get involved is to attend our Pop Up Tour. We are bringing together local leaders and organizations with firsthand knowledge and experience with civil legal aid issues and will offer one hour of professionalism CLE credit. The 2023 Pop Up Tour Schedule is Nov. 1 in Lake Charles; Nov. 2 in Lafayette; Nov. 2 in Baton Rouge; Nov. 8 in Covington; Nov. 8 in New Orleans; Nov. 9 in Thibodaux; Nov. 15 in Alexandria; Nov. 16 in Shreveport; and Nov. 16 in Monroe. Be on the lookout for invitations.

If you are not already doing so, you can also make a difference by banking at a Prime Partner Bank. These financial institutions are committed to ensuring the



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success of the IOLTA Program and increased funding for legal aid. The IOLTA Program is the partnership between the banking and legal communities that enhances our ability to meet the growing need for free civil legal services to those who need it most. Our statewide Prime Partner Banks are Chase, First Horizon, Hancock Whitney and Regions Bank. Visit our website for a complete list of Prime Partner Banks in your area.

Some other ways to serve and make a difference: donate, recruit a Fellow, become a gala sponsor, present our Professionalism CLE "Why the LBF is Good for the Profession," and be an ambassador for civil legal aid. We appreciate your time, talent and treasure no matter how big or small. It all serves toward the common mission of access to equal and fair representation for everyone in Louisiana.

I serve because I care. I serve because I can. I serve because I am needed. Serve with me! Contact the LBF at (504)561-1046 or visit www.RaisingTheBar.org and find out how you can serve today.

LBF Recognizes Fellows from May 1-Aug. 31

The Louisiana Bar Foundation is recognizing all the Fellows who joined or renewed their membership between May 1-Aug. 31, 2023.

If you need to renew or are interested in joining, contact LBF Development Coordinator Joe Berghausen at (504)561-7314 or email joe@raisingthebar.org. Also visit the newly designed website at: <https://raisingthebar.org/membership-giving/>.

The Fellows include:

Dustan J. Abshire, Lake Charles; Joseph Accardo, Jr., LaPlace; Glenn Brozman Adams, New Orleans; Maria Nan Alessandra, New Orleans; Robert S. Angelico, New Orleans; Edward H. Arnold III, Metairie; Hon. Connie M. Aucoin, Hahnville; Stacy Christopher Auzenne, Alexandria; John E.W. Baay II, New Orleans; Barbara G. Baier, Baton Rouge; Hon. Monique E. Barial, New Orleans; Theresa

Barnatt, Lake Charles; Robert W. Barton, Baton Rouge; Hon. Candice Bates Anderson, New Orleans; Travis Alexander Beaton, New Orleans; Hon. Shayna Beevers Morvant, Gretna; Lauren Bennett, New Orleans; Edward H. Bergin, Jr., New Orleans; Gary Bezet, Mandeville; Briana L. Bianca, Shreveport; Hon. Paul A. Bonin, New Orleans; Virginia Boulet, New Orleans; Hon. Guy E. Bradberry, Lake Charles; Jeff Bratton, Covington; Hon. Frank A. Brindisi, Gretna; Kathryn Briuglio, New Orleans; Matthew K. Brown, New Orleans; Danielle Brown, Shreveport; Willard James Brown, Sr., New Orleans; Marcus Brown, New Orleans; James A. Brown, New Orleans; Hon. Millicent Burford McCartney, Mansfield; Laura Butler, Denver, CO; Douglas C. Caldwell, West Monroe; Kordell Caldwell, New Orleans; Michael G. Calogero, Metairie; Hon. Nandi Falade Campbell, New Orleans; Hon. George Michael Canaday, Lake Charles; Jamie Cangelosi, Baton Rouge; Douglas

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