

President's Message

A Time for Giving: Support Children's Legal Services

By Judge (Ret.) John C. Davidson, 2024-25 LBF President

As the year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the tremendous impact the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) has made this year. Thanks to your generous support, we have been able to make a significant difference in advancing our mission to increase access to justice for everyone, particularly for our state's most vulnerable populations.

Your commitment has allowed us to increase grant funding to organizations providing direct legal representation of children, in matters ranging from delinquency to access to special education, mental health and foster care services; organizations engaging in impact litigation and/or systemic legal reform efforts on behalf of children; organizations that provide lay advocacy for children in legal proceedings; and organizations that assist with the administration of justice with respect to

children. Every contribution, no matter the size, has played a crucial role in transforming lives and ensuring that justice is not a privilege reserved for a few but a right accessible to all.

While many of us will be caught up in celebrations soon, there are children facing serious legal and personal challenges. These vulnerable and disadvantaged children often find themselves entangled in legal issues through no fault of their own, whether it's about their care, education, welfare or housing. Many need protection and advocacy, which can be overwhelming without the right support. The LBF supports children's legal service programs that provide assistance to needy children in areas of law which affect their safety,



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well-being and future development.

At this time of year, our personal and professional to-do lists grow increasingly long. Take the time to reflect on the blessings in your life and consider a tax-deductible gift to the LBF. Make your gift online at <https://give.raisingthebar.org/a/yearend> or mail directly to the LBF, Ste. 1000, 1615 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112. If you have any questions, contact our Development Team, Bri Foster or Uyen Dinh, at (504)561-1046 or email give@raisingthebar.org.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to justice. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of Louisiana's children and continue building a more just future for all.

LBF Seeking Nominations for 2025 Boisfontaine Award

The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) is seeking nominations for the 2025 Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award. Nominations must be received in the LBF office by Monday, Feb. 10, 2025. The award will be presented at the Louisiana State Bar Association's Annual Meeting in Destin, Fla. The recipient will receive a plaque and \$1,000 will be donated in the recipient's name to a non-profit, law-related program or association of the recipient's choice that provides services in Louisiana.

Nominations should include the nominee's name, contact information, a brief written statement on the background of the nominee, and reasons why the nominee is proposed as the award recipient. Nominations should be forwarded to Dennette Young at the Louisiana Bar

Foundation, Ste. 1000, 1615 Poydras St., New Orleans, LA 70112, or email to dennette@raisingthebar.org by the deadline.

This trial advocacy award was established through an endowment to the Louisiana Bar Foundation in memory of Curtis R. Boisfontaine, who served as president of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel. Donations from Sessions, Fishman, Nathan & Israel, LLP, the Boisfontaine Family and friends established the fund.

The award is given to a Louisiana attorney who exhibits longstanding devotion to and excellence in trial practice and upholds the standards of ethics and consideration for the court, litigants and all counsel.

LBF's 39th Annual Fellows Gala Set for April 2025 at New Venue

The Louisiana Bar Foundation's (LBF) 39th Annual Fellows Gala will be Friday, April 11, 2025, at the Four Seasons Hotel in New Orleans. During the Gala, the 2024 Distinguished Honorees and the recipient of the Calogero Justice Award will be recognized:

- ▶ 2024 Distinguished Jurist Cynthia T. Woodard (Ret.), 3rd Judicial District Court.
- ▶ 2024 Distinguished Attorney Glenn J. Armentor, Glenn Armentor Law Corporation.
- ▶ 2024 Distinguished Professor Madeleine M. Landrieu, Loyola University College of Law.
- ▶ 2024 Calogero Justice Award recipient Frank X. Neuner, Jr., Neuner Pate.

The Gala, the largest fundraiser hosted by the LBF, will begin with the Patron Party at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Gala.

For more information, go to: <https://us.givergy.com/LouisianaBarFoundation/>. Contact the LBF at (504)561-1046 or email gala@raisingthebar.org.