

The Power of Fellowship

By Edmund J. Giering IV, 2025–26 LBF President



At the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF), our members — known as Fellows — are more than supporters. They are champions of justice, advocates for fairness, and catalysts for change. Fellows are at the heart of our mission to ensure all Louisianans in need have access to civil legal services.

Through their financial support, community involvement, and volunteer service, our Fellows make a huge impact on the lives of individuals and families who would otherwise face the legal system alone. Fellows are united by a shared conviction, justice should be available to everyone, including those who cannot afford an attorney.

Why Become a Fellow?

Membership in the Louisiana Bar Foundation is more than an affiliation, it is an opportunity to put your skills, influence, and resources to work for the greater good while enriching your own professional journey.

As a Fellow, you will:

- ▶ Join a distinguished network of judges, attorneys, legal scholars, and others committed to advancing justice.
- ▶ Strengthen your career through professional development, recognition, and peer connections.
- ▶ Gain exclusive access to special events and annual meetings.
- ▶ Participate in selecting Louisiana's Distinguished Jurist, Attorney, Professor and Calogero Justice awardees.
- ▶ Shape the future of civil legal aid and access to justice in Louisiana through hands-on involvement in initiatives and committees.

If you believe that:

- ▶ Every Louisianan deserves access to a fair and equal justice system,
- ▶ No one should be abandoned or alone in their time of need, and
- ▶ The power of the law should be wielded to ensure that the vulnerable are protected,

then now is the time to become a Fellow. Stand with us and use your influence for impact. Help shape a Louisiana where justice truly knows no price tag.

Membership Levels

New Bar Admit (Free): We invite newly admitted attorneys to learn more about civil legal aid, access to justice and how to get involved with LBF free of charge during their first year of practice!

General Fellow (\$240 or more): The General Fellowship level is for active attorneys interested in promoting access and equity throughout the local justice system.

Community Supporter Fellow (\$120 or more): This Fellowship option is available to the general public, attorneys working for non-profit organizations or in public service, retired legal professionals, and young attorneys in their first 5 years of practice.

Judicial Fellow (\$150 or more): The Judicial Fellowship is available to full-time federal or state judges, magistrates, commissioners, administrative law judges, and hearing officers. (*In 2015, the Louisiana Supreme Court clarified that dues may be paid through a Judicial Fellow's judicial expense fund.*)

Your Commitment Matters

When you become a Fellow, your membership is more than a title — it is a public statement that you believe justice should belong to everyone, not just those who can afford it.

If you are already a Fellow, we thank you. If not, we hope you take advantage of this opportunity to become part of a network of individuals who share a passion for equal access to justice. As the largest funder of civil legal aid in Louisiana, LBF plays a crucial role in access to civil legal services for those in need. To become a Fellow or make a donation, please visit www.raisingthebar.org, email us at membership@raisingthebar.org or call (504) 561-1046 for more details.