



# THE BAR REVIEW

PUBLICATION OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION Volume XXX, Number 10 • December 2023



## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS





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## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

12/10	SBA Christmas Party
12/13-14	December CLE by the Hour
1/24	SBA Membership Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. - Petroleum Club

# DECEMBER 2023



## From The President

by Nancy Cooper, [ngcoop23@gmail.com](mailto:ngcoop23@gmail.com)

In the legendary comedy *My Cousin Vinny*, Joe Pesci’s character, Vinny Gambini, is a stubbornly proud but inexperienced lawyer who realizes, during the movie’s climactic trial scene, that he needs expert testimony from his fiancée, mechanic-turned-hairdresser Mona Lisa Vito (hilariously played by Marisa Tomei) in order to debunk the theory that his nephew’s 1964 Buick Skylark Convertible was the getaway car in a robbery-murder.

The problem, however, is that throughout the movie, up until the trial, Vinny has been lashing out at Mona Lisa, condescendingly dismissing her wisdom and rebuffing her efforts to correct his many mistakes. Finally, after realizing he cannot win without her, Vinny drags an angry Mona Lisa to the stand where she effectively, if not heroically, exonerates Vinny’s nephew by testifying that only a car with an independent rear suspension and Positraction could have made the incriminating tire marks, thereby ruling out his nephew’s 1964 Buick Skylark.

Afterwards, Vinny is moping around, unsatisfied, and Mona Lisa realizes he’s unable to fully embrace his big win. “So what’s your problem?” she asks him, irritated.

“My problem is, I wanted to win my first case without any help from anybody,” Vinny says.

“Well, I guess that plan’s moot,” Mona Lisa argues in her thick Brooklyn accent. “You know, this could be a sign of things to come. You win all your cases, but with somebody else’s help, right? You win case after case, and then afterwards you have to go up to somebody and you have to say, ‘thank you.’” .... “Oh my God! What a f\*\*\*ing nightmare!”

As the busy, brilliant, know-it-all lawyers we are, it’s easy to fall into Vinny’s self-reliant, antisocial, Lone Ranger frame of mind – especially nowadays, with texting, email and social media allowing us to engage without engaging. We no longer need to show up in person. Why bother with monthly bar luncheons or in-person CLEs when we can get everything we need online?

The answer, of course, is that we can’t. Engaging with other lawyers and community stakeholders over time, face to face, beyond the walls of our offices, builds trust. And trust is the foundation of a currency known as “relationship capital.”

According to Debra Bolton, Ph.D., Family and Consumer Sciences Specialist with Kansas State University: “Personal relationships, much like money, can be used for personal gain.” In her article *Relationships Matter: You and Social Capital*, she explains that “social capital” derives its value from individual connections and human relationships that, over time, generate the currencies of trust, reciprocity and influence. In other words, the connections you nurture, the relationships you foster, and the web of support you construct for yourself will lead to opportunities, collaborations and personal growth that might otherwise remain untapped. Or, as Yogi Berra put it: “If you don’t go to someone’s funeral, they won’t come to yours.”

Building relationships has broader, community-wide value as well. As Dr. Bolton explains: “A community where residents enjoy well-developed interpersonal relationships has better health outcomes, lower crime rates, and more unity in

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIP CAPITAL

business dealings.” And “communities that have well-connected individuals – that is, are high in social capital – are better places to live and play.”

And guess what? Professional organizations that bring together like-minded people who share common stakes and goals are particularly effective at building relationship capital. We can empower each other by personalizing our relationships and making “warm introductions” for one another.

So, when you ask yourself: *Why should I join the Shreveport Bar Association? What can it do for me?* Perhaps, as President Kennedy wisely advised, you should, instead, ask yourself: *What can I do for our local bar association? How can I contribute?* Because the best way to build relationships is not to think about what other people can do for you, but what you can do for other people.

Right now, as we approach the start of a new year, our Shreveport Bar Association needs you. For example, our young lawyers, in particular, need greater opportunities to connect and engage with older, more seasoned lawyers and judges. They need a more defined reason to attend bar luncheons, professional events and social gatherings, including participation in our Krewe of Justinian. They need “warm introductions.” They need to know that our northwest Louisiana legal community is robust and resourceful and will have their backs. They need to know they are valued, and it’s our job to show them.

In exchange, our older lawyers need our younger lawyers, too. We need to recruit them to our area. We need their families and friends to live and work and play in our neighborhoods. We need their current, updated legal knowledge and practices. Because as a profession of lawyers, it’s part of our job to cultivate a strong northwest Louisiana legal community for generations to come.

Thus, the decision to join the SBA and invite a young lawyer to sit with you at the next monthly bar luncheon is a responsibility we must embrace. Come share your expertise and your wisdom by speaking at local events and teaching at SBA-sponsored CLEs. Be a community ambassador by appearing at local schools and nonprofits and by inspiring and educating area citizens. Join our Krewe of Justinian and socialize with other local Mardi Gras krewees whose members come from a variety of backgrounds and professions.

This is how we truly participate in the profession of law. **Our Shreveport Bar Association enables us to engage in the activities that make the practice of law more than just a job.** As Janet Reno put it: “Being a lawyer is not merely a vocation. It is a public trust.”

Recently, at our October bar luncheon, I had the pleasure of sitting with guest speaker Alston Johnson, senior partner at Phelps Dunbar in Baton Rouge and adjunct professor at LSU’s Paul M. Hebert Law Center. As I was chatting with him that day, before his informative and entertaining legislative update, he kindly remarked that he always enjoys coming to Shreveport to make this presentation – not only because his wife’s family is from here – but that, compared to the Baton Rouge Bar Association, the SBA has such a thriving membership. “We’re no longer able to host monthly luncheons like this in Baton Rouge,” he said. “Not enough interest from our members.”

A few weeks later, at our November bar luncheon, when we

hosted our annual Veterans Day program (THANK YOU, John Odom and Col. Ted Cox!), I was thrilled to sit with guest speaker Major General Jason R. Armagost, Commander, Eighth Air Force, and Commander, Joint-Global Strike Operations Center, Barksdale Air Force Base. Needless to say, I was nervous about meeting him and sitting at the head table together, but when he showed up in his flight suit, all smiles and relaxed charm, we quickly made a connection (I learned that he had recently been working with one of my husband’s West Point classmates). We listened to members of the Centenary Choir sing a spectacular rendition of the Armed Forces Medley before Gen. Armagost gave an entertaining and personal presentation that revolved, in large part, around Winston Churchill quotes.

The very next day, I attended the SBA’s annual Memorial and Recognition Ceremony at the Caddo Parish Courthouse where nine recently deceased lawyers were beautifully eulogized, and 17 bright-eyed, newly admitted lawyers were introduced. If you’ve never attended this ceremony, you are missing out on perhaps the SBA’s most important and historical program. Listening to the emotional, loving words of the presenters, it was clear that as lawyers, we will be remembered, not necessarily for our legal prowess or how many cases we’ve won, but for our professionalism, the relationships we’ve nurtured, and the meaningful experiences we’ve shared with others. (THANK YOU, Judge Michael Pitman, Larry Pettiette and Gemma Zuniga!)

Coming up on **Sunday December 10**, please join us for our annual **SBA Christmas Party** from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at Silver Star Grille on Ellerbe Road. And don’t miss our annual **December CLE By-the-Hour** on Wednesday and Thursday, **December 13-14** at the Petroleum Club (15th Floor). And then, there’s the **Krewe of Justinian XXX Grand Bal, January 13, 2024**, 6:30 pm at the Horseshoe Riverdome in Bossier City.

In the meantime, please start the New Year off right by joining our Shreveport Bar Association (or renewing your membership) here: <https://shreveportbar.com/membership/>. The old adage “it’s not only *what* you know, but *who* you know” rings true for lawyers as well, so please be the person we all want and need to know. Help our area lawyers build their relationship capital. Spend some time at the Shreveport Bar Center at 625 Texas Street. Mingle with our bar foundation lawyers and our executive director, Dana Southern. Take advantage of Dana’s unlimited knowledge and resources and her vast network of connections throughout the state. And join the Krewe of Justinian here: <https://kreweofjustinian.com/join-now/>. There’s no better way to engage with your fellow attorneys and celebrate our Louisiana culture at the same time.

And finally, thank you to all of our current members for allowing me to serve as your 2023 SBA president. It has been a privilege and a tremendous learning and relationship-building opportunity for which I am extraordinarily grateful.

So, on behalf of our outgoing 2023 SBA executive council and incoming 2024 president, Kenny Haines, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season. Cheers to a 2024 full of love, laughter, and valuable new relationships.



# December CLE By The Hour December 13-14, 2023

**Petroleum Club, 15th Floor ▪ 416 Travis Street, Shreveport**  
*13 Louisiana CLE Credits (including 1 Hour Ethics & 1 Hour Professionalism)*  
*13 Texas CLE Credits Approved (including 2 Hours Ethics)*

**(Please Circle Classes Attending)**

### Wednesday, December 13, 2023

### Thursday, December 14, 2023

7:30 A.M. Registration

7:30 A.M. Registration

8:30 A.M. **How to Win or Lose Summary Judgment**  
60 Minutes *Judge Elizabeth Foote - U.S. District Court, Western District of Louisiana and Judge Michael Pitman - First Judicial District Court*

8:30 A.M. **Update on Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure**  
60 Minutes *Judge Mark Hornsby and Robin McCoy- United States District Court, Western District of Louisiana*

9:30 A.M. Break

9:30 A.M. Break

9:35 A.M. **Starting Your Own Law Office (Law Practice Management)** - Ebonee Norris – *The Norris Law Group and Katherine Gilmer - Gilmer & Giglio*

9:35 A.M. **Oil & Gas Update**  
60 Minutes *Andrew Martin and Grant Summers – Davidson, Summers, Hearne, Martin & Powell*

10:35 A.M. Break

10:35 A.M. Break

10:40 A.M. **What To Know About Former Employees and Intellectual Property** - *Meg Frazier and Reid Jones – Wiener, Weiss & Madison*

10:40 A.M. **Perfecting Your Writs and Appeals** - *Robin Jones and Jenny Segner – Second Circuit Court of Appeal*

12:10 P.M. **Lunch (included with all-day registration, or \$30)**

12:10 P.M. **Lunch (included with all-day registration, or \$30)**

1:00 P.M. **Election Law Tips and Traps**  
60 Minutes *William Bradford – Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts*

1:00 P.M. **Ethics**  
60 Minutes *Justice Jay McCallum - Louisiana Supreme Court*

2:00 P.M. Break

2:00 P.M. Break

2:05 P.M. **Premises Liability Update**  
60 Minutes *Alexander Mijalis - Lunn Irion Law Firm and Jason Nichols - Rice & Kendig Injury Lawyers*

2:05 P.M. **Professionalism**  
60 Minutes *Judge Frances Pitman - Second Circuit Court of Appeal*

3:05 P.M. Break

3:05 P.M. Break

3:15 P.M. **DWI Defense**  
60 Minutes *Ronald J. Miciotto - Law Office of Ronald J. Miciotto and Craig Smith - Smith & John*

3:15 P.M. **Family Law: What Every Lawyer Should Know**  
60 Minutes *Judge Edwin Byrd - First Judicial District Court*

#### Registration Fees:

Complete this form or register online at [shreveportbar.com](http://shreveportbar.com)

#### Individual Session Rates

Non-Member - \$75 per session

SBA Member - \$65 per session

All Day Wednesday Non-Members - \$450  
(6.50 hours) SBA Members - \$350

All Day Thursday Non-Members - \$450  
(6.50 hours) SBA Members - \$350

Both Days Non-Members - \$600  
(13 hours) SBA Members - \$500

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please include email for materials to be sent)*

**Materials:** The registration fee includes course materials provided electronically. A link to the seminar materials will be sent to you via email prior to the seminar and posted on the SBA website. Because neither internet access nor electrical outlets are guaranteed, we ask that you either print or save the PDF materials to your laptop, and fully charge your batteries if you wish to review the materials at the seminar. Full registration refund until November 15, 2023, less a \$25 admin. fee. After November 15, full credit less a \$25 admin. fee may be applied to future SBA sponsored CLE for up to one year. No Shows will not receive credit.

#### Please remit with payment to:

Shreveport Bar Association, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101

Questions?(318) 222-3643 or email [dsouthern@shreveportbar.com](mailto:dsouthern@shreveportbar.com)

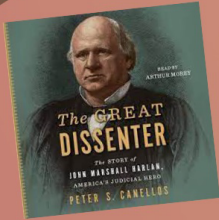
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Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# SBA Luncheon Save the Dates January–March 2024



January 24

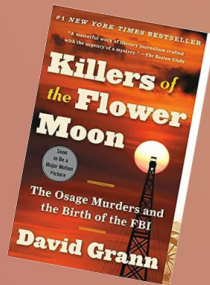
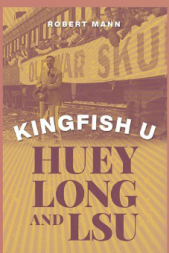
Peter S. Canellos, Author of *The Great Dissenter*

February 28

Robert T. Mann, Author of *Kingfish U: Huey Long and LSU*

March 27

Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, Principal Chief of the Osage Nation and source for the book *Killers of the Flower Moon*



Peter S. Canellos



Robert T. Mann



Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear

*Best Wishes from Your Shreveport Bar Association and Foundation Staff,  
SBA Executive Council and SBF Board Members  
for a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful, Prosperous New Year!*

Donald Armand

Brittany Arvie

Elizabeth Carmody

Nancy Cooper

Ted Cox

Sam Crichton

Amy Gardner Day

Lucy Espree

Chris Forester

Valerie DeLatte Gilmore

Kenny Haines

Judge Donald Hathaway

David Hemken

Callie Jones

Linnae Magyar

Drew Martin

Heidi Martin

Judge Emily Merckle

Holland Miciotto

Larry Pettiette

Anna Priestley

Audrius Reed

Dana Southern

David White

Stacey Williams

Mary Winchell

Gemma Zuniga



# Monroe Inn of Court

by Hal Odom Jr., [rhodom@la2nd.org](mailto:rhodom@la2nd.org)

## Notarial Ethics, Recent Developments Lead Off Monroe Inn's 2023-'24 Season

Ethical duties of notaries and recent developments in Second Circuit cases launched the 2023-'24 year for the Judge Fred Fudickar Jr. American Inn of Court (Monroe, La.).



The October speaker, Wesley Johnson (E&P Consulting, Monroe), reminded everyone of the notary's vital role as a public officer.

On October 9, Wesley Johnson, of E & P Consulting LLC, in Monroe, presented "Ethical Pitfalls of Notarization." She began with an overview of the statutory requirements of R.S. 35:191, our role as public officers, and noted that of *nonlawyer* applicants

who take the La. notary exam, typically under 20% actually pass. How many of us would pass this test?



Ashley Herring (Chapter 13 Trustees Office, Monroe), Shereba Diaz (sole practitioner, West Monroe) and Wesley Johnson (E&P Consulting, Monroe) visited over some catfish.

She then moved to the recent case of *In re Roe*, 22-1803 (La. 5/5/23), 362 So. 3d 381, in which an attorney and former district court judge with a significant disciplinary history agreed to file an interdiction case against a client's mother, and injunctions against two of the client's

sisters; however, he drafted affidavits based solely on what the client told him, gave these to the client, and the client got her siblings to sign them. When the client returned the affidavits, the attorney notarized them without having seen them being executed or asking the affiants about the contents. He then attached them to his petition for interdiction and injunction and soon obtained the requested relief. The two (now enjoined) sisters lodged complaints with the ODC, which charged the attorney with violating Rule 3.3(a) (3) (knowingly offering evidence that the lawyer knows to be false), Rule 8.4(a) (violation of the RPC), Rule 8.4(c) (engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation) and Rule 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). Ultimately, the Supreme Court found three violations – Rules 8.4(a), 8.4(c) and 8.4(d) – but cleared the attorney on Rule 3.3(a)(3), finding the evidence not clear and convincing. The attorney

was suspended for one year. Chief Justice Weimer dissented, and would have found the Rule 3.3(a)(3) violation.

Wesley asked the audience if anybody had ever, as a favor, "notarized" a document that was not executed in their presence; no one admitted to this, but several volunteered stories about when it would have been tempting! Wesley warned how easy it would be with family members involved. "Notaries show up at important transactions," she concluded.



Hal posed with David Verlander (McLeod Verlander, Monroe) after the presentation on Second Circuit highlights in November.

On November 13, this writer (Hal Odom Jr.) presented "Recent Developments in Criminal & Civil Appeals (Second Circuit)." He spent some time describing the latest amendments to summary judgment procedure, La. C.C.P. art. 966 A(4), the new burden of proof in

petitory actions, La. C.C.P. art. 3651 and C.C. art. 531, and the slight changes to the rules of e-signatures, La. C.C.P. art. 1911. He then went through the statistics: for civil opinions rendered since January 1, 61% were to affirm, 11% to affirm in part and 28% to reverse; for criminal opinions, it was 84% to affirm, 11% to amend or affirm in part and only 5% to reverse. Compared to the same time period in 2022, appeals were down slightly (136 in the first 10 months of 2023, 149 in 2022), but writs were up slightly (343 this year versus 325 last year).

He listed the higher-than-usual number of times the Supreme Court had reversed the Second Circuit, notably with the suggestion of putative divorce in *Succession of Burns*, 22-263 (La. 12/9/22), 354 So. 3d 1197. Finally, he ran through the more interesting criminal and civil cases rendered by the Second Circuit since January 1.

Both meetings were held at The Lotus Club, on the eighth floor of the historic Vantage ONB Building in downtown Monroe. The 14 members attending in October received one ethics CLE credit, and the 18 in November received one general CLE credit. The Inn's secretary, Mike Street, announced that the speaker for the December 11 meeting would be Prof. Bill Corbett, of LSU Law Center, and wished everyone a beautiful Thanksgiving.



New Inn members Jacob and Riley Brister (Second Circuit) were seated with Judge Danny Ellender (also of the Second Circuit) before Wesley's presentation in October.

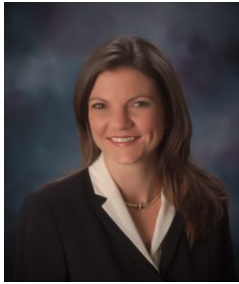


Kenneth P. Haines  
President

## Kenneth P. Haines Will Lead the SBA in 2024

Kenneth Haines will begin his term as president of the Shreveport Bar Association on January 1, 2024, succeeding Nancy Cooper to the one-year post. Kenny is the managing partner and a shareholder at the law firm of Weems, Schimpf, Haines & Moore (APLC). His practice is primarily in the areas of family law, civil litigation and appellate practice. Kenny is the only lawyer in the state of Louisiana certified in both family law and appellate practice by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization. He is an active member of the Harry V. Booth-Judge Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court. Kenny earned his Bachelor of Science in public administration from Louisiana College in 1986. He then received a law degree in 1989 from the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center. He has served as Captain (2013) and fulfilled many other roles in the Krewe of Justinian. He has been happily married to wife, Brenda Haines, for 30 years. They have two sons, Bryan Cox and Kip Haines, and two grandchildren, Jace and Beckham.

Serving with Kenny on the 2024 SBA Executive Council are **Elizabeth M. Carmody**, president-elect; **Nancy G. Cooper**, immediate past president; **J. Marshall Rice**, vice-president; **Valerie DeLatte Gilmore**, secretary-treasurer; **Garrett Hill**, secretary-treasurer-elect; **Sam Crichton**, member-at-large; **Christopher G. Forester**, member-at-large; **Heidi Kemple Martin**, member-at-large; **Judge Emily Merckle**, member-at-large; **Judge Donald E. Hathaway Jr.**, judicial liaison; **Thomas Mayfield**, Young Lawyers' Section president; **Ranee Haynes**, Women's Section President; **Amy Gardner Day**, Krewe of Justinian Captain and beginning March 2024 **Holland Miciotto**, Krewe of Justinian Captain.



Elizabeth M. Carmody  
President-Elect



Nancy G. Cooper  
Immediate Past President



J. Marshall Rice  
Vice-President



Valerie DeLatte Gilmore  
Secretary-Treasurer



Garrett Hill  
Secretary-Treasurer Elect



Sam Crichton  
Member-At-Large



Christopher G. Forester  
Member-At-Large



Heidi Kemple Martin  
Member-At-Large



Judge Emily Merckle  
Member-At-Large



Judge Donald E. Hathaway Jr.  
Judicial Liaison



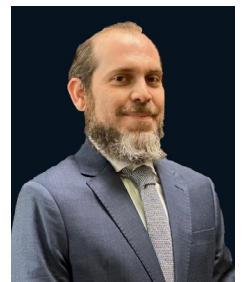
Thomas Mayfield  
Young Lawyers' Section  
President



Ranee Haynes  
Women's Section  
President



Amy Gardner Day  
Captain (2023-2024)  
Krewe of Justinian



Holland Miciotto  
Captain (2024-2025)  
Krewe of Justinian

# Memorial & Recognition Ceremony

The Memorial & Recognition Ceremony is a longstanding tradition in the Shreveport Bar Association – a tradition that has been around for 144 years. This year we paid tribute to nine deceased members of the legal profession at the First Judicial District Court and Shreveport Bar Association sponsored Memorial and Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, November 9, 2023.

Larry Pettiette served as Chairman for this year’s program, Honorable Michael Pitman served as Master of Ceremonies, and Honorable Ramona L. Emanuel, Chief Judge, presided over the ceremony. Larry Pettiette worked with Judge Michael Pitman and Gailyn Dennis from the First Judicial District Court to plan a great memorial program.

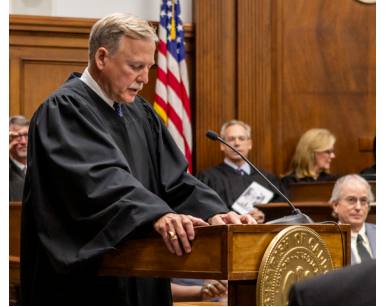
Deceased members were honored and their presenters were **Randall “Randy” Stephen Davidson** presented by Grant Summers; **Major General (USAF Ret) James W. Graves** presented by Jerald Harper; **Hon. (Ret) Gayle Hamilton** presented by Frank Bright; **Wellborn Jack Jr.** presented by Elton Richey; **Rachel Denise King** presented by Pete King; **Joel L. Pearce** presented by Alan Golden; **Billy Ray Pesnell** presented by Larry Shea; **Claire Ellen Porter Sharp** presented by Michelle Brown; and **David Gerald “Jerry” Tyler** presented by Tommy Johnson.

Following the ceremony, Gemma Zuniga, president of the Young Lawyers’ Section of the SBA, introduced 18 new attorneys to the Court: **Calvin Johnathan Combs, Gabrielle Alane Cox, Stephen Durell Cox, Kara Davis, Jeremy Warner Gatz-Miller, Thomas Hathaway, Stephen Magyar, Zachary Mayfield, Amberlee Breanna Nix, A. Brooke Reedy, Silver Rayne Sanders, Codi Setters, Maliyah M. Shavers, Ashlin Thomas, Gregory Trompe, Alex Whittington, Tanner Reed Yeldell and Ryan Wheeler York.**

This annual event holds great importance to the Court, as well as to the family and friends of the departed, the members of the Bench, the Bar and our community.







# Federal Bar Donates \$10,000 to Barksdale Charity

The Federal Bar Association of North Louisiana recently held its 10th Annual Clay Shoot Fundraiser at Los Paloma Gun Club. The beneficiary of the event was Operation Bright Holiday, a project exclusive to Barksdale Air Force Base that helps send first-year airmen home for the holidays.

Chief Judge Maury Hicks, Judge Mark Hornsby and Scott Chafin, on behalf of the FBA, presented a \$10,000 check to the organization. Among the many beneficiaries of the fund have been a young service member who was able to return home for a last visit with an ill grandparent, and a young couple who were able to visit family members they had not seen in many years. Thanks to Operation Bright Holiday, scores of other airmen, chosen by officers based on exemplary work and need, have been able to enjoy a well-deserved holiday with family.

There were 60 shooters at the Clay Shoot, and the staff at Gregorio, Chafin, LLC did a great job with the details and making sure the event was a success. The current officers of the Local FBA chapter are President-Robin McCoy; Vice President-Whitney Howell; Treasurer-Jason Nichols; & Fundraising Chair-Scott Chafin.



Colvin, Smith, McKay & Bays Team



Judge Hornsby's team, with an Air Force volunteer



Wilkinson, Carmody & Gilliam Team



Glenn Langley's winning team, with high shooter Reggie Quillen (far left) and an Air Force volunteer



Marshall Johnston and Michael Davis Team



Boeing team, including Gen. Mike Miller (winner of the pistol raffle)



Bradley Murchison team, with an Air Force volunteer



Gregorio, Chafin Team



United States Attorney Team

Event Sponsors for the 2023 Clay Shoot were Boeing; Judge Maury Hicks and Judge Mark Hornsby; Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea, LLC; Scott J. Chafin, Attorney at Law; James, Hardy & Haley, CPAs; Kean Miller, LLP; Dr. Milan Mody with The Orthopaedic Clinic; Pilant Court Reporting; Rice & Kendig; Poljak Group Wealth Management at Steward Partners; First Horizon Bank; Blanchard Walker O'Quin & Roberts; Colvin & Smith Law Firm; Fischer & Procell, and; Wilkinson, Carmody, & Gilliam.



# Harry V. Booth – Judge Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court

by Jerry Edwards, President, [jerry.edwards.jr@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.edwards.jr@gmail.com)



United States Fifth Circuit Judge Carl E. Stewart presented the 2023 Lewis Powell Jr. Award for Professionalism and Ethics to Eleventh Circuit Judge Susan H. Black at the American Inns of Court annual Celebration of Excellence in Washington, D.C. This award

recognizes exemplary service to the legal profession in the areas of professionalism, civility and ethics. Judge Stewart is a charter member of the Booth-Politz Inn. He also remains active with the Booth-Politz Inn and the American Inns of Court. He served as President of the American Inns of Court from 2014-2018.



Inn members learned about tips and techniques to promote mental and physical health at their monthly meeting on November 16, 2023. The presenters discussed the benefits of exercise, meditation and accessing the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program ([louisianajlap.com](http://louisianajlap.com)). The presentation was conducted by Judge Mike Pitman, Judge Edwin Byrd, Judge Elizabeth Foote, Elizabeth Grozinger, Daniel Ewing, Brittany Arvie, Emmanuel Billy, Donna Frazier, Connor O'Brien and Adrienne White.

On November 9, 2023, members of the Booth-Politz Inn of Court gathered at the Shreveport Yacht Club for Happy Hour. While the Inn typically meets at noon once a month for programs on various topics, social events provide members with opportunities to develop relationships and to share advice and experiences. Having meaningful relationships with attorneys and judges is consistently ranked by Inn members as one of the top benefits of membership.



You can learn more about Inns of Court at [innsofcourt.org](http://innsofcourt.org).

# Veterans Program Luncheon Highlights



# YOUR LEGAL LEGACY

**BE IT BIG OR SMALL, YOUR ACTIONS MATTER!**

Your gift to the Shreveport Bar Association or the Shreveport Bar Foundation can ensure the long-term sustainability of these organizations and allow them to serve the local bar and community for years to come. The SBA is heavily dependent on CLE revenue, and competition from free classes puts that at risk. Your generous donation or bequest will help the SBA and SBF maintain an executive director, publish The Bar Review, and provide pro bono legal services to domestic violence victims and other deserving clients.

Please remember the SBA and SBF in your planned giving to show your support for our organizations and the services they provide. Your generosity is appreciated.

Contact any of us if you would like to discuss ways to best help our organizations.

Dana Southern  
SBA/SBF Executive Director  
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David White  
SBF President  
(318) 747-7023  
dwhite1435@aol.com



# BAR BRIEFS

## SBA AUGUST LUNCH & LEARN

On August 24 Attorneys Patrick Jackson and Larry Pettiette gave an excellent one-hour presentation on the topic Trying a Civil Jury Trial. It was a record attendance and one of the attendees commented it was one of the best CLEs they had attended all year. This session wrapped up our last lunch and learn series in 2023. Thank you to Patrick and Larry for taking time to prepare and doing this presentation. Also, a huge thank you goes to Magistrate Judge Mark Hornsby for his dedication to the Shreveport Bar Association. Judge Hornsby did an outstanding job as Chairman for the SBA Continuing Legal Education over the last several years. Judge Hornsby, thank you.



Larry Pettiette, Patrick Jackson and Judge Mark Hornsby



Lunch and Learn Attendees



Patrick Jackson and Larry Pettiette Speaking on Trying a Civil Jury Trial

### PRO BONO PROJECT DO GOOD WORK GET INVOLVED

Being involved in Pro Bono is a rewarding experience as you give back to the community, gain experience in the court room, and earn CLE credit. Contact the SBF office to get involved.

Lucy Espree, Pro Bono Coordinator,  
lucy@shreveportbar.com | 318.703.8381.

### Interested in Social Justice? Staff Attorneys Needed Now!

We are seeking licensed, full-time Staff Attorneys to represent low-income and elderly people in civil matters.

  
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# ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW DUES STRUCTURE FOR 2024

Friends and Colleagues,

In recognition of the rising costs of goods and services and in an effort to provide for the long-term sustainability of the Shreveport Bar Association, the Executive Council of the SBA voted to approve the following membership dues structure effective January 2024:

## **Regular SBA Membership:**

Members admitted to practice over 10 years	\$ 175.00
Members admitted to practice 6 to 10 years	\$ 145.00
Members admitted to practice 1 to 5 years	\$ 125.00
Members admitted to practice less than 1 year	No charge

## **Government Employee Membership:**

Members admitted to practice over 10 years	\$ 145.00
Members admitted to practice 6 to 10 years	\$ 125.00
Members admitted to practice 1 to 5 years	\$ 110.00
Members admitted to practice less than 1 year	No charge

This new schedule reflects an increase of \$ 35.00 for each category of SBA membership. It is the first time that dues have increased in the last ten years.

The SBA has and will continue to provide its member-attorneys with opportunities to network, connect, learn, and volunteer their time and talents to those in need. In this way this organization strives to benefit both our local and legal communities. The following are some of the programs and projects sponsored by the SBA (current and past) that you as a member have benefited or can receive benefit from:

## **Continuing Legal Education Programs:**

We hold two of the best continuing legal education seminars in the State of Louisiana – the Recent Developments by the Judiciary seminar and the December CLE by the Hour seminar. Other opportunities for CLE credit are also offered at our SBA luncheons during the year. In December of 2022, the SBA hosted a Trial Academy. Trial Academy attendees participated in all phases of a mock trial, which was presided over by state and federal judges. Attendees received feedback from those judges as well as some of the most accomplished trial lawyers in Northwest Louisiana.

All SBA members pay reduced rates for SBA sponsored seminars.

## **Social and Networking Opportunities:**

The SBA provides numerous opportunities for lawyers and judges to gather to socialize and network. Some of these opportunities include the Holiday Reception, SBA Pickleball Tournament, and SBA luncheon meetings. The Young Lawyers and Women's Sections of the SBA provide additional opportunities for networking with monthly meetings, happy hours, and holiday parties.

## **Volunteer Service and Community Outreach:**

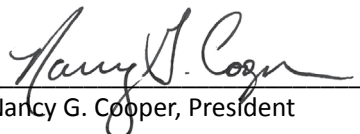
Thousands of dollars have been contributed to worthwhile projects in our local community through the Shreveport Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the SBA. The Shreveport Bar Foundation works with other non-profit organizations such as the Gingerbread House, Providence House, Volunteers for Youth Justice, the NW Louisiana Family Justice Center, and Project Celebration. Additionally, the Shreveport Bar Foundation Domestic Violence Program provides free legal representation for victims of domestic violence. The Community Outreach Program hosts various educational events for members of the public on such legal topics as oil and gas rights, immigration law, domestic violence, expungements, and wills and estate planning. All members of the local bar can volunteer their time by participating in the "Ask a Lawyer" event held at the Bar Center every month.

## **Other Programs and Projects**

All SBA members receive a digital copy of our monthly newsletter, *The Bar Review*, which keeps members informed of what is going on within the SBA and provides members with excellent advertising opportunities, interesting articles, and updates on recent decisions. Other SBA sponsored activities include our Law Week activities, our annual Veterans' recognition luncheon and our annual Memorial and Recognition ceremony, which recognizes deceased members of the Bar and new attorneys being admitted to the Bar. The SBA sponsors a new attorney half day seminar in connection with this event.

The officers and board members of the SBA take very seriously the responsibility of managing members' money and using dollars effectively. The decision to increase membership dues was not arrived at lightly and not without full discussion and majority approval of the Shreveport Bar Association Executive Council. The goal of our Association should be to provide top quality services to the local bar, judiciary and the public, and dues increase at this time will enable us to continue and hopefully expand upon these services while maintaining our reputation as one of the best and most active bar associations in the State of Louisiana.

  
Kenneth P. Haines, President Elect

  
Nancy G. Cooper, President

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Wanted: Staff Attorney for ALSC Disaster Unit

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation (ALSC) seeks a full-time, licensed Staff Attorney to aid survivors of 2020-2021 FEMA-declared disasters. Able to handle civil law matters like title clearing, successions, estate planning, contractor fraud, and landlord/tenant disputes. Join us in making a meaningful impact, providing justice, and supporting vulnerable communities. If you are an attorney eager to assist disaster survivors, apply online today at [www.la-law.org/careers](http://www.la-law.org/careers).

## Brief writing/legal research

Columbia Law School graduate; former U.S. 5th Circuit staff attorney; former U.S. District Court, Western District of Louisiana, law clerk; more than 20 years of legal experience; available for brief writing and legal research; references and résumé available on request. Appellate Practice specialist, certified by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization. Douglas Lee Harville, [lee.harville@theharvillelawfirm.com](mailto:lee.harville@theharvillelawfirm.com), (318)470-9582.

## WE'RE HIRING

# BRIEF WRITER

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## CITY OF SHREVEPORT CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

505 TRAVIS STREE, SUITE 420  
SHREVEPORT, LA 71101

318-673-5200 (OFFICE)  
318-673-5230 (FAX)

## UNCLASSIFIED POSITION ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY SALARY: (depending on experience)

**DUTIES:** Serve as legal advisor to the Mayor, City Council, department heads and division heads of the City of Shreveport. Also provide legal assistance to various boards, commissions and agencies of the City of Shreveport. Duties will include reviewing contracts, agreements and other legal instruments, preparing resolutions and/or ordinances for the consideration by the City Council. Represents the City in litigation to which the City has an interest, prepares legal pleadings, attend court hearings, depositions, trials. Assisting in the formulation of the City policies and procedures and reviewing stated legislation. Supervise assigned employees. May serve as prosecutor for all traffic, municipal ordinance violations, DWI's and state criminal charges in Shreveport City Court.

### Applicants should send resumes to:

City of Shreveport  
City Attorney's Office  
Attention: Marcus Edwards  
P. O. Box 31109  
Shreveport, LA 71130.  
Or email at  
[Marcus.Edwards@shreveportla.gov](mailto:Marcus.Edwards@shreveportla.gov)





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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## \*2023-24 SBA MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEONS

12:00 Noon at the Petroleum Club (15th Floor)

**DECEMBER 10**  
SBA CHRISTMAS PARTY  
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Silver Star Grille

**DECEMBER 13-14**  
DECEMBER CLE BY THE HOUR  
Petroleum Club (15th Floor)

**\*JANUARY 24**  
SBA MEMBER LUNCHEON  
*Speaker: Peter S. Canellos*  
*Author of The Great Dissenter*

## AMAZON WISH LIST

The Shreveport Bar Foundation is excited to announce the launch of its Wish List program for the Pro Bono Project, Legal Representation for Victims of Domestic Violence programs, and the Shreveport Bar Center through Amazon. This new wish list program allows our supporters to purchase supplies and other items needed to run our programs. This can range from pens (for the AAL clinics) to soap and paper products (for the building)! [Check out the full list of options!](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3EW9JTZSJNVEZ?ref=wl_share)

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Or scan the QR code.





*The Shreveport Bar Association*

*Cordially invites SBA Members,  
Spouses or Significant Others  
& Local Law Students to a*

*Christmas Party*

*On Sunday, the tenth of December*

*From three to five o'clock p.m.*

*At*

*Silver Star Grille*

*9462 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport*

*Please bring an unwrapped toy for the Providence House  
or monetary donation designated for the Gingerbread House  
Children's Advocacy Center And The Cara Center*

*R.S.V.P. by 12/8  
dsouthern@shreveportbar.com*

*Dress: Holiday Casual*