

THE BAR REVIEW

PUBLICATION OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION

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From The President

by Elizabeth M. Carmody, elizabeth.carmody@cookyancey.com

A Tribute to Fathers



I have written about many of my family members, but I have yet to write about my father, John Lawrence Mendell. In honor of celebrating fathers this month, I thought it was only appropriate to take a moment to honor him. My father was raised in Houston, Texas, and was the oldest of five children. As a petroleum engineer, he moved to Lafayette to work for an oil and gas company. He traded that career to be a nurseryman when he bought a wholesale nursery after he and my mother married. Rumor has it that he and my mother met when she was his closing attorney on a piece of property in Lafayette. He asked her if she wanted to see the property. The rest is history.



My dad was 6'2" with blond hair and blue eyes. He had an infectious personality and a booming deep laugh that could be heard anywhere. Some say I inherited that laugh. I will gladly claim it! Many thought of him as a gentle giant. He was an avid golfer who attempted to instill a love of that sport in me. He was the adventure-seeker in our family who encouraged my love of adventure. I remember waiting for him outside of Space Mountain at Walt Disney World when my brother and I were not tall enough yet to ride. I also fondly remember his utter joy when he was able to take me on that same ride for the first time. He taught me to waterski and enjoyed horseback rides with us on family trips to the mountains. One of his favorite ways to tease my mother on those trips was to nudge me and say, "Next time, we'll take a ride down the Grand Canyon on a donkey!"

While he could be fun, playful and silly, as many fathers can, he also enjoyed sitting quietly to read a book, never more so than when sitting by the lake. Animals were drawn to my father in a way that always made me think of St. Francis of Assisi — he had a natural, gentle connection with them that was impossible to miss. My father was also willing to be the shoulder I could lean on when I needed it. He helped me care for my knee following ACL reconstruction after having recently undergone an extensive surgery himself. He offered sage advice not only to me and my brother but also to many of my friends.

It is hard to believe that this November will mark 30 years since he has been gone. He passed away in November 1995 at the age of 53 after a two-year bout with melanoma that had metastasized. He was way too young. My mother was 50. I was 22 and my brother was 19.

Interestingly, the following poem hung in my parents' room. I have unsuccessfully tried to identify the correct author. I believe the poem is an abridged version of a poem by Robert H. Smith. It, like others I have quoted in my articles this year, is one that sticks with me.

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Continued from page 1

The clock of life is wound but once and no man has the power,
To tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour.
Now is the only time you own so live and love and toil with will,
And place no faith in time, for the clock may soon be still.

It's as if he knew.



Even though I spent less time with my father on earth than I have without him, my memories of him and our time together remain vivid. His impact on me and my life is immeasurable, and, as predicted by a very dear family friend and priest, I have seen him again in my children — his kind nature and senses of adventure and humor, among other traits. I will be forever grateful for the time I had with my father.

Last month, I wrote about work-life balance for women. Men need to remember to strive to achieve that balance as well. For dads in the legal profession, achieving a work-life balance can be especially challenging. The demands of billable hours, court deadlines and client expectations often make it hard to step away from work, let alone switch off mentally. Such is the nature of our practice. But finding that balance is essential — not just for personal wellbeing, but for being the kind of present, engaged father which their children need. It takes conscious effort: setting boundaries, protecting family time and sometimes saying no to extra work in a deliberate effort to say yes to dinner at home or a school event. When lawyers prioritize time with their families, they're not just recharging — they're showing their kids that they matter more than any case file.

Balance does not have to mean cutting corners professionally. Rather, it means working smarter, being intentional with your time and recognizing that your role as a father is just as important as your role in the courtroom or office. You might consider earlier mornings so you can be home for bedtime or blocking off weekends (or even designated hours of weekends) for uninterrupted family time. Whatever works best for you and your family.

So, here's to the dads — the bedtime storytellers, the pancake flippers, the sideline cheerleaders, the part-time coaches, the homework helpers and the late-night advice-givers. Whether you're juggling court cases or carpools, spreadsheets or soccer games, your presence matters more than you know. You're showing up, doing your best and making memories, not only for yourself but also for your children. Those memories create a personal legacy that will last beyond your lifetime and throughout your children's lifetime. Work will always be there, but the time with your kids? That's something you'll never get back — so it's worth making the most of it. "The clock of life is wound but once...."

Happy Father's Day to all the incredible dads out there! Keep rocking the dad jokes, keep making time for what matters, and never forget — you're someone's hero, just by being you.



2025 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
BY THE JUDICIARY
CLE BY THE HOUR

September 17-18, 2025

*Hilton Garden Inn • Homewood Suites
Bossier City*



*Save the Date
Registration Coming Soon*

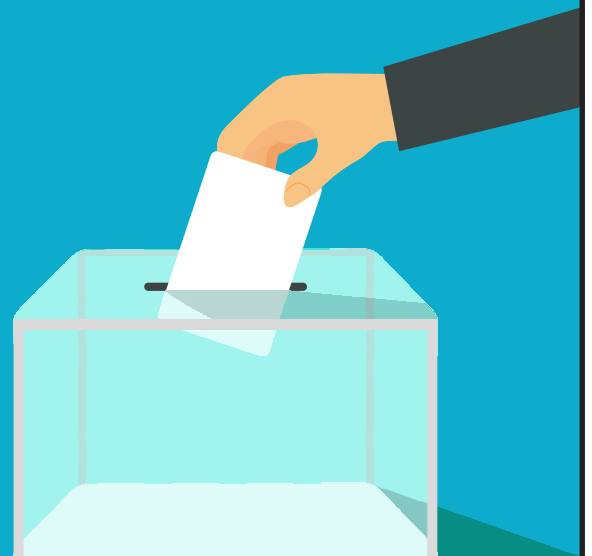
SBA OFFICER ELECTION PROCEDURES

The Officer Nominating Committee, consisting of the five most recent past presidents of the Shreveport Bar Association, will meet this summer to nominate the 2026 SBA Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer Elect. The Officer Nominating Committee will report its nominations to the Elections Committee on or before August 15, 2025, and those nominations will be announced in the September issue of *The Bar Review*. **Nominations for the offices of Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer Elect may be made by any member in good standing of the Shreveport Bar Association who is not on senior status.**

Are you interested in contributing to your SBA Leadership Team? We are actively seeking nominations for the two two-year Member-At-Large positions on the Executive Council. This is a great opportunity to make a difference in your bar association.

All nominations, including any nominations from the general membership for the offices of Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer Elect, **must be in writing and received by the Elections Committee, Shreveport Bar Association, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101, not later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 15, 2025.** The nominations should include a brief biographical sketch, and, if not a self-nomination, must be accompanied by a signed statement of the nominee that the nominee will stand for election and serve if elected.

The Elections Committee will certify the nominations timely received to the Executive Council for all of the offices open. Names of candidates and biographical information will be published in the September issue of *The Bar Review*. **Ballots will be sent to the entire SBA membership only if more than one nomination is received for any or all of the four offices.**





Second Circuit Highlights

by Hal Odom Jr., rhodom@la2nd.org

Don't forget to serve. Like many people, the Franklins had an issue with the local cable provider. In April 2022, apparently trying to install a line at a neighbor's house (the exact circumstances are not clear from the pleadings), Suddenlink entered the Franklins' yard and installed a line; the neighbors, the Wares, placed some stakes over or under the line. This was not to the Franklins' liking, so they went to pull up the stakes; seeing this, the Wares called law enforcement and, when Bossier City Police arrived, the situation got messy: the Franklins were arrested for battery of a police officer, and Bossier Parish deputies allegedly entered the yard and cut a lock off the Franklins' "internet box." The Franklins sued the City of Bossier City, the mayor and the city council alleging vicarious liability for the actions of the police officer; the sheriff, for the actions of the unnamed deputy; and the Wares and Suddenlink, for premises liability. The case took a tortuous procedural path through the 26th JDC, with the district court ordering the Franklins to file an amended petition within 30 days.

On the 30th day, the Franklins fax-filed an amended petition but included no request for service or certification of service by some other method. Unaware that the amended petition had been filed, the defendants filed separate motions for ex parte dismissal, which the district court ultimately granted. The Franklins appealed.

The Second Circuit affirmed, *Franklin v. City of Bossier*, 56,192 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/9/25), in an opinion by Judge Ellender. The gist of the argument was that, under Art. 1201, service of an amended petition is needed only when the amended petition adds a defendant; since the Franklins' amended petition merely renamed all original defendants (in fact, it dropped some), no service was necessary. Not so, the court held: La. C.C.P. art. 1201 A decrees that without citation and service, all proceedings are absolutely null. Here, "Not even a courtesy copy was provided." The court also rejected a claim that the Franklins had good cause, under La. C.C.P. art. 1672, for failing to serve the amended petition timely; allegedly, counsel was sick between December 2023 and February 2024, but, even after she got well, she made no effort to effect service. Finally, the court distinguished the posture of the sheriff and Suddenlink, who won on exceptions of no cause of action and were dismissed with prejudice, and the Wares, who won on a declinatory exception of insufficiency of service and were dismissed *without* prejudice.

It's a sober reminder that if you don't request service, under Art. 1201, you will wind up with an absolute nullity.

You need a lawyer. If you're a corporation, that is. ELA, a commercial construction corporation in Shreveport, entered a contract to perform work on a cemetery in Zachary, in East Baton Rouge Parish; its subcontractor was

Rigid Constructors. Disputes arose, and Rigid sued ELA in the Middle District of La. ELA hired counsel in Shreveport, who filed a general denial and "indicated" he would amend the answer to assert affirmative defenses and a counterclaim. However, the time limit passed with no amended answer, and the MJ refused to let ELA amend its answer. About six months before trial, the lawyer handling the case for ELA retired; ELA retained new counsel, who advised that affirmative defenses and counterclaims could not be filed. Instead, ELA settled the case with Rigid, on terms it felt were unfavorable. Two days later, ELA filed suit, in the First JDC, against the law firm who, it felt, had dropped the ball. Perhaps wary of lawyers, ELA's president, Ed Angel, filed the suit on behalf of his company. Later, Mr. Angel hired a lawyer in Monroe to pursue the case. The defendant law firm, however, responded with an exception of unauthorized practice of law. After a hearing, the district court sustained the exception and dismissed the claim without prejudice: a petition filed "by an individual who is not admitted to practice law * * * had no legal effect." ELA appealed.

The Second Circuit affirmed, *ELA Group Inc. v. Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea LLC*, 56,227 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/9/25), in an opinion by Judge Marcotte. The court turned away ELA's argument that the defect was curable and, in fact, cured when new counsel enrolled and amended the original petition. The court quoted La. R.S. 37:213 A: "No natural person, who has not first been duly and regularly licensed and admitted to the practice of law by the supreme court of a state, * * * shall: (1) Practice law." Crucially, a corporation must be represented by counsel and cannot bring an action on its own behalf; ELA's petition had no legal effect because it was filed by a non-attorney on its behalf. The court distinguished two cases on which ELA relied, *Citadel Bldrs. LLC v. Dirt Worx of La. LLC*, 14-2700 (La. 5/1/15), 165 So. 3d 908, and *Seelig v. Kit World Super Store*, 97-1592 (La. App. 4 Cir. 1/21/98), 705 So. 2d 806. "The well settled law of this state prohibits nonlawyers from filing pleadings in a representative way." Finally, the court declined to address whether ELA's claim was preempted.

After Mr. Angel's experience with his counsel in the case against Rigid in the Middle District, it is perhaps understandable that he was apprehensive about hiring another lawyer, one who would sue his first lawyer. He was probably ready to take matters into his own hands and sue the so-and-sos. Unfortunately, he stepped in deeper than he expected.

A tort, continuing or otherwise. The Nobles placed their father, Clarence, in the Northwest La. Veterans Home in January 2018, but he did not do well there. According to the pleadings, he developed a bedsore, which progressed into a decubitus ulcer, and started receiving treatment for this in June 2018; the Nobles didn't hear about it until August 6; the Vets Home transferred him, temporarily, to Promise Hospital for medical treatment, later in August; back at the

Vets Home, he continued receiving treatment through April 18, 2019; and the Nobles finally took him out on May 8, 2020. Feeling his treatment had been substandard, they filed a request for Medical Review Panel on February 10, 2020.

The Vets Home responded with the exception of prescription urging the Nobles knew about their dad's situation in August 2018 but didn't file until February 2020, over one year later. The Nobles countered that the Vets Home continuously breached its standard of care during the period of treatment, suspending prescription until the harmful conduct ended, April 18, 2019, or, alternatively, until the doctor-patient relationship ended, on May 8, 2020; under either of these theories, the complaint was timely. After a hearing, the district court found prescription started when the Vets Home transferred Clarence to Promise Hospital, in August 2018, so the MRP request, filed in February 2020, was too late. The Nobles appealed.

The Second Circuit affirmed, *In re: Med. Review Panel of Noble*, 56,213 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/23/25), in an opinion by Judge Robinson. After addressing an evidentiary issue, the court outlined the "continuing tort" theory, especially *Crumpp v. Sabine River Auth.*, 98-2326 (La. 6/29/99), 737 So. 2d 720. Notably, a "continuing tort is occasioned by unlawful acts, not the continuation of the ill effects of an original wrongful act," and the Vets Home abated its breach by sending Clarence to Promise Hospital in August 2018. The court then turned to the "termination rule," a form of *contra non* that suspends prescription while a special relationship in providing services continues or the plaintiff continues to rely on that relationship, *Jimerson v. Majors*, 51,097 (La. App. 2 Cir. 1/11/17), 211 So. 3d 651. The record showed the Nobles had "interactions" with Vets Home staff in August and September 2018 of a nature proving they knew the ulcers were related to the healthcare he received there; this essentially negated the element of reliance.

Other considerations surely went into the Nobles' decision to leave their dad at the Vets Home after they saw a bedsore advance to a high-stage decubitus ulcer. However, they learned the hard way that leaving the patient in the hospital after the alleged malpractice is discovered will not suspend prescription for the duration.

This will negate coverage. In early 2018, Carroll was driving a 2004 Toyota Camry, waiting at a stop sign on Southern Loop at Linwood Avenue, when he was rear-ended by a 2011 Ford F-350 truck owned by Aquatech Industries, a tilapia farm in Webster Parish. Aquatech was an LLC owned by Dr. Chumley and his wife, Mary; the truck was being driven by their adult son, Ethan, who worked for Aquatech but had a terrible driving record, no valid driver's license and was charged with DWI-4th for this collision. However, Aquatech had a general auto liability policy issued by Houston Specialty Insurance ("HSIC"). Alleging serious personal injury and property damage, Carroll made a claim with HSIC; HSIC refused, asserting the Chumleys made material misrepresentations in their original application and renewal, negating coverage. Carroll's own insurer, State Farm, paid him the value of the Camry and related expenses; as Carroll's subrogee, it filed suit against Ethan and HSIC

to recoup its payments. Carroll filed a separate suit against Ethan, Aquatech, HSIC and two of the Chumleys' other businesses. The cases were consolidated.

HSIC conceded it had issued the policy and that Ethan was driving the truck, but asserted the Chumleys had made material misrepresentations or fraudulent statements with the intent to deceive HSIC: they concealed the fact that Ethan, with his terrible driving record and no driver's license, was regularly allowed to drive Aquatech vehicles. HSIC moved for summary judgment on grounds that the misrepresentations made the policy void ab initio. The other parties (Carroll, Ethan, Aquatech and the Chumleys) countered that genuine issues existed: Aquatech's insurance agent, Integra Insurance, and its employee, Stein, actually entered the info on the applications and handed them to Mary Chumley for her to sign, and Stein might have made the mistake on the forms, without any intent to deceive; moreover, it was unclear whether Integra actually worked for Aquatech or for HSIC. They also argued the genuine issue whether HSIC actually knew that Ethan was driving Aquatech vehicles and failed to cancel coverage or exclude him from the policy. After a hearing, the district court granted MSJ, finding the policy void ab initio because of the material misrepresentations made by Aquatech with the intent to deceive HSIC into providing coverage. It dismissed all claims against HSIC, and the affected parties appealed.

The Second Circuit affirmed, *State Farm v. Chumley*, 56,157 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/9/25), in an opinion by Judge Hunter. The basic principle is stated in R.S. 22:860: a misrepresentation made in the negotiation of an insurance policy, if made with the intent to deceive, will defeat or void the contract; HSIC's policy contained similar language; and strict proof is required to prove such intent, *Willis v. Safeway Ins. Co. of La.*, 42,028 (La. App. 2 Cir. 10/24/07), 968 So. 2d 346. The court then quoted Aquatech's initial application, which stated that only Dr. and Mrs. Chumley would be driving company vehicles; emails between Stein and Gore, the Chumleys' accountant; and everybody's depositions. At some point, Aquatech had requested adding Ethan to the policy, but then withdrawn the request; the Chumleys both admitted that Ethan was driving the truck but could not explain why the applications didn't say so. Even though questions of intent are rarely suitable for disposition by MSJ, "it is evident the Chumleys intentionally failed to disclose Ethan's status as a driver, whether frequent or occasional, and directed Gore to cancel the request to add Ethan to the insurance policy." The court found this excluded any genuine issue as to intent. The court also found no issue whether Stein perhaps worked for HSIC (all evidence showed she worked for Aquatech's agent, Integra), and affirmed some evidentiary rulings.

The court readily admitted that questions of intent are usually off-limits on MSJ, but when the policyholders initially ask to add a driver to the policy, then withdraw that request, and later admit the person was indeed driving the covered vehicles, there is only one rational conclusion. Discovering the misrepresentation saved the insurer a potentially expensive claim; discovering it sooner might have saved everyone.



Federal Update

by Chris Slatten, Chris_Slatten@lawd.uscourts.gov

Discovery Objections: Many discovery responses will say something like, “Party objects to Interrogatory No. 1 on the basis of work product privilege and that the request is overly broad. *Subject to those objections*, Party produces the attached documents.” The immediate question is whether Party withheld any documents based on the objections. Party has an obligation to say so; failing that obligation can be expensive.

“An objection must state whether any responsive materials are being withheld on the basis of that objection.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 34(b)(2)(C). If a party fails to respond fully to discovery requests made pursuant to Rule 34 in the time allowed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the party seeking discovery may move to compel responses and for appropriate sanctions under Rule 37. Also, an “evasive or incomplete disclosure, answer, or response must be treated as a failure to disclose, answer, or respond.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(a)(4). A party in a local case threw up a bunch of objections to relevant requests and did not say whether any materials were withheld. The sanction was \$3,500.

Citizenship Contest: In a diversity case, an individual is a citizen of the state where he is *domiciled*. Mere *residency* is not enough; folks may have residences in multiple states, but they have only one domicile at a time. The relevant time for assessing citizenship/domicile is when the complaint is filed or—for removed cases—both (1) when the petition was filed in state court and (2) at the time of removal. *Coury v. Prot*, 85 F.3d 244, 248 (5th Cir. 1996).

The domicile of an individual is not often contested, but a recent case required discovery to sort it out. Mr. LeGrande lived for decades in Louisiana but moved just across the Texas border a couple of years before suit was filed. He had significant farmland in Louisiana, and he came to Louisiana weekly to see family, doctors, accountants, etc. He had recently moved his voter registration and driver’s license to Texas; he had some cars registered in Louisiana and others in Texas. He was a registered agent for a Louisiana LLC, and state law required an individual agent to be a “citizen of the state who resides in the state.”

The court ruled that LeGrande changed his domicile to Texas before suit was filed. The most compelling evidence, among the competing factors, was that he had one residence (in Texas), and he slept there every night for two years before suit was filed. *LeGrande Services LLC v. S W N Production (Louisiana) LLC*, 25 CV 1545 (W.D. LA).

Practice Tip: To establish a new domicile, a person must both (1) move to a new state and (2) intend to remain there “indefinitely.” If you are in one of these contests, prep your witnesses on the meaning of intent to remain *indefinitely*. It does not necessarily mean the person plans to live there *forever*; it means they do not currently intend

to move elsewhere. Mr. LeGrande testified that he did not meet with his lawyers before his deposition, and it showed when he equated indefinitely with permanently, as many lay persons might do. The result was that he gave testimony that undermined his claim of Texas domicile. Fortunately for him, the court could tell from the context that he did not understand the legal meaning of indefinitely and bailed him out.

Motions to Strike: I recall Professor Howard L’Enfant telling our class about 35 years ago, “If you want to piss off a federal judge, file a motion to strike or motion for more definite statement.” Still good advice. I would add sur-reply to that list, but that’s another topic.

Despite the professor’s warning, some lawyers love to file a motion to strike. A motion to strike is occasionally legitimate under FRCP 12(f) (“The court may strike from a pleading an insufficient defense or any redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous matter”), but I’ve twice seen them lately when they served only to add paper to the case.

The setting: A files a motion to compel. B files a memorandum in opposition that urges denial because A did not confer in person or by telephone, as required by LR 37.1, before filing the motion to compel. Then B *also* files a motion to strike the motion to compel for the same reasons argued in his memorandum in opposition.

If the judge agrees with B’s opposition and denies the motion to compel, what can be gained from granting B’s motion to strike the motion to compel? Nothing, except another round of briefing. You can only kill a horse once. In both of the recent cases, the court entered an order that halted repetitive briefing on the motion to strike and told the filer of the motion to compel to file a single reply and address the issues presented in the opposition and the twin motion to strike.

Perhaps there are jurisdictions out there where superfluous motions to strike are welcome, but your local federal court is not one of them. If you find yourself tempted to file a motion to strike, recall the advice of Professor L’Enfant and proceed accordingly.

Flood Policy Proof of Loss: The Standard Flood Insurance Policy’s proof-of-loss requirement directs an insured to “send [the insurer] a proof of loss...signed and sworn to by you[.]” Claimant’s architect submitted a report that bore his seal and was captioned, in part, “SWORN STATEMENT IN PROOF OF LOSS.” Not good enough. To be sworn, a proof of loss must be sworn before a notary or include a declaration in compliance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the insured guarantees the truth of his submissions as “true under the penalty of perjury.” *Woodland Villas v. Wright National*, 2025 WL 1260440 (5th Cir. 2025).

How Write You Are

by Hal Odom Jr., rhodom@la2nd.org

Illegal entry. Legal writers occasionally confuse two similar words, one meaning *gain entry*, the other meaning *evaluate*. An internal document in our office stated the standard rule of appellate review: “To access a claim that a sentence violates La. Const. art. I, § 20, the appellate court must * * *”

The confusion – perhaps a simple typo, perhaps a conceptual error – used to be more common. “As the majority notes, Judge McDonald dissented and would award no damages. He also disagreed with the majority regarding how to access damages.” *Terrebonne Parish Sch. Bd. v. Castex Energy Inc.*, 04-0968 (La. 1/19/05), 893 So. 2d 789 (Weimer, J, dissenting). “As in the case of lost wages and loss of earning capacity, in accessing general damages, the trier of fact is given much discretion.” *Pertuit v. State Farm*, 04-176 (La. App. 5 Cir. 6/29/04), 877 So. 2d 1101. “Ms. Murphy indicated that the staff was permitted access to the laboratory three (3) days after Katrina to access the damage, which was minimal.” *State v. Warner*, 18-0739 (La. App. 4 Cir. 5/29/19), 274 So. 3d 72.

These writers all meant *assess*, meaning to *evaluate* damages or a claim of excessiveness. That other word means *gain entry* to. This is a malaprop that Spell Check won’t tag, so basic proof-reading will be required.

Redundancy, revisited. One of those clever websites that send me periodic writing tips, Word Smarts, recently published a list that corresponds to a pet topic of mine: “10 Redundant Acronyms You Can Drop From Your Vocabulary.” This kind of redundancy appears often in legal writing.

“Fortunately, no funds were withdrawn from Ms. Liberator’s account due to the insertion of the incorrect PIN number.” PIN stands for *personal identification number*; reiterating *number* adds nothing to the sentence. (I also would fix the ambiguity of *due to* – does it refer to “no funds were withdrawn” or to “insertion”?) *State v. Brown*, 24-201 (La. App. 3 Cir. 10/23/24), 396 So. 3d 109.

“The *Pinsonneault* Court found no duty on the part of a bank to provide security at its ATM machine where a victim was killed during a robbery[.]” *Campbell v. Orient-Express Hotels La. Inc.*, 24-00840 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So. 3d 573. Is there anybody left who does not know that an ATM is a machine?

“It has been verified that the disposition in the instant case is posted in PDF format on the official website of the Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit.” When Adobe first developed this system, it was called *portable document file*, or PDF, but by 1996 it revised the name to the more accurate *portable document format*. For nearly 30 years, PDF format has been a redundancy. *Brown v. Walmart Inc.*, 24-00138 (La. 4/9/24), 382 So. 3d 818.

“The Valisure report provides results of its benzene analyses * * * tested by both Universal Product Code (‘UPC’) and lot number. The UPC code identifies a specific product[.]” After just



telling us *UPC* includes the word *code*, it seems pointless to reiterate it in the next sentence. *Rooney v. Unilever United States Inc.*, 22-716 (E.D. La. 4/28/23), 2023 WL 3167389.

The Word Smarts article covers other redundant acronyms, ones that may not pop up often in legal writing, like *MLB Baseball* and *AC/DC current*. The document, by Bennett Kleinman, can be viewed at <https://wordsmarts.com/redundant-acronyms> (published 4/19/25).

What would “ruly” writing look like? Last month I wrote about words that appear negative because of a prefix but cannot be made positive by removing the prefix. *Nonplussed*, *nonchalant* and *indifferent* were the leading examples. Another example, *unruly*, sent me down an interesting rabbit trail.

In the early days of the computer era, legal writers were speculating about the interaction between computers and the law. One early foray into the field was John R. Brown, *Electronic Brains and the Legal Mind: Computing the Data Computer’s Collision with Law*, 71 Yale L. J. 239 (Dec. 1961). This lucid, lively and perceptive article speculated about the problems of translating “normal words and numbers into machine language” and quotes a 1959 report to the Commissioner of Patents: “This metalanguage is called *Ruly English* after the terminology of Professor Stuart C. Dodd, who pointed out that English is quite ‘unruly.’ By the use of Ruly English, it will be possible to convert the many complex and interrelated notions in technical documents into unique forms.” What, you may ask, ever happened to “Ruly English”?

The seminal document was a paper given at MIT, Stuart C. Dodd, *Model English for Mechanical Translation, an example of a national language regularized for electronic translators* (Conf. on Mechanical Translation, 6/18/52). Beneath the title: “This paper be entirely written in Model English.” Prof. Dodd expounded 10 rules, including Rule 6, “One form for each word – no inflections.” All past tense words are formed by adding *-ed*. “The two kinds of rules will be *kept* in balance.” These and other jarring usages may have inhibited wide acceptance of the Dodd method. And I suspect Prof. Dodd could never have guessed how clever at translation AI would become 73 years later!

One more rabbit trail. Many years ago (2003) I adapted an Inn of Court program about the challenges of discovery of electronic media, and I posited a fictional judge, “C. Howie Slumbers, the last of the Eisenhower appointees.” The author of the Yale Law Journal article, Hon. John R. Brown, was at the time a judge on the U.S. Fifth Circuit; he became chief judge in 1967, took senior status in 1979 and served until his death in 1993. He was, in point of fact, the *last of the Eisenhower appointees* on any circuit court. However, judging by this law review article, he was no slumbering irrelevancy. Quite the contrary; he probably would have taken as keen an interest in electronic discovery as he did in machine translation!



The Captain Speaks

by Jimmy Franklin, jimmy@jimmyfranklin.net

Laissez les bons temps rouler!

We're thrilled to announce that I've officially accepted the role of Captain XXXII, and the fabulous Sandra Monroe is joining me as our first Co-Captain! We're both very excited and hope to get you just as excited about what's ahead!

This year's theme is "A New Orleans State of Mind," think vibrant, jazzy and full of spirit. We've been working behind the scenes for weeks to line up the best venues and the hottest bands, and we can't wait to celebrate with you!

Mark your calendars!

Coronation Bal – Friday, September 12, 2025, at the Horseshoe Riverdome, featuring The Caravan Band.

Grand Bal – Friday, January 16, 2026, also at the Horseshoe Riverdome, with music by Downtown Fever.

We're pulling out all the stops to make Justinian XXXII unforgettable, but we can't do it alone. We're looking for a few amazing people to help bring the magic to life:

Open roles:

- Consul of Administration
- Membership Chair
- Publicity Chair
- Silent Auction & Fundraising Helpers

Whether you're a longtime member, brand new or considering joining, we need you. The most essential ingredients for success are members and momentum! Join us today!

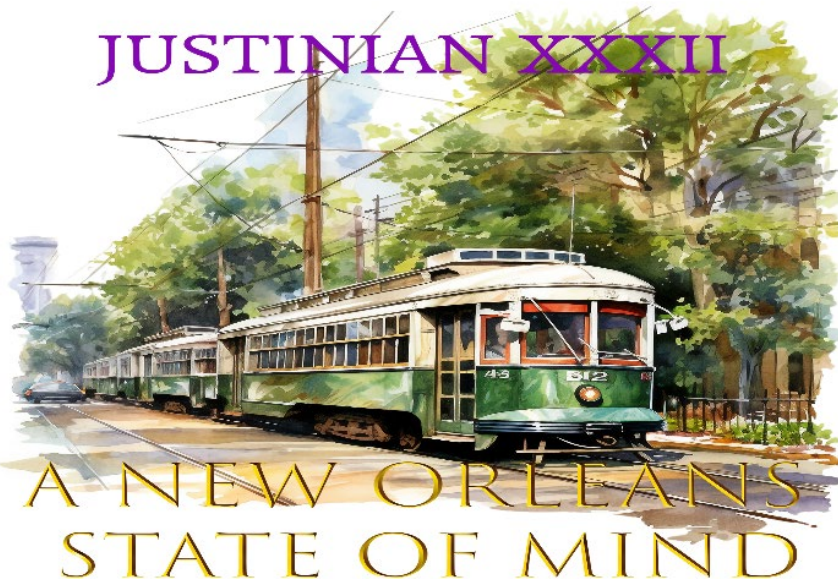
Please complete your application and send it back as soon as possible. Would you prefer to join online? That option should be live next week! In the meantime, spread the word, invite your friends, family and past members to join the fun.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates coming soon. Let's make this year legendary!

Justinian XXXII, "A New Orleans State of Mind"



JUSTINIAN XXXII



2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Coronation Bal - - - - - September 12, 2025
Grand Bal - - - - - January 16, 2026
Royalty Brunch - - - - - (TBD)

Your membership includes tickets for you and your spouse/guest to attend each event above at no additional charge.

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Do Good Work

Hon. Henry A. Politz



This year's Give for Good campaign generated approximately \$7,000 for our programs. We partnered with Lowder Baking Company and Superior Grill. On Give for Good Day, both eateries generously donated a portion of their proceeds directly to the Shreveport Bar Foundation. Thank you to everyone who gave to the Shreveport Bar Foundation during the annual Give for Good on May 6. We are thankful for your generosity. Funds raised will be used to help fund the SBF domestic violence program and the Pro Bono Project. Donors are listed below:

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Nyle Politz)

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GIVE *for* GOOD

powered by
Community Foundation

May 6, 2025



Thank You for Making Our Open House a Success!

We're excited to share that our recent Open House was a fantastic success! It was a joy to open our doors and celebrate the meaningful legal work in our community alongside many of our valued partners, supporters and colleagues.

We are especially grateful to our board members, Nikki Buckle and Valerie Delatte Gilmore, for their help decorating for the event. Valerie is a balloon arch wizard, and Nikki did a fabulous job making the flower centerpieces. Their support and the support of all who attended made the day truly memorable.

We were honored to welcome representatives from several of our incredible community partners, including:

- The Gingerbread House
- Black Lawyers Association of Shreveport-Bossier
- Catholic Charities of North Louisiana
- Louisiana Bar Foundation
- The Highland Center
- Volunteers for Youth Justice

Your presence and continued partnership strengthen our shared mission and remind us of the power of collaboration in the pursuit of justice. Thank you for celebrating with us





Katherine Gilmer

Pro Bono Hero Spotlight: KATHERINE GILMER

Gilmer & Giglio, LLC

A Fresh Start: Launching Our First Expungement Program with Help from the Louisiana Bar Foundation and Katherine Gilmer

This past year marked an exciting milestone for our organization. Thanks to a \$3,000 grant from the Louisiana Bar Foundation CPP, we launched a new initiative, our first expungement program.

With these funds, we were able to offer free expungement services to clients who otherwise may not have had access to the legal support they needed. Starting a new legal service is no small task, and we could not have done it without the incredible partnership of Katherine Gilmer of Gilmer & Giglio. Katherine has been instrumental in helping us build this program from the ground up, creating a straightforward process, providing expert legal guidance and representing our clients with professionalism and care.

Expungements are complex and time-consuming, yet with this grant, Katherine will have successfully handled expungements for four clients by the end of the program year. That's four lives given a fresh start, and four stories that will now have a brighter future thanks to her efforts.

We are deeply grateful to Katherine and the team at Gilmer & Giglio for believing in this mission and working alongside us to make it a success. This is just the beginning, and we're proud of what we've accomplished in our first year.

Katherine Gilmer is a dedicated criminal defense attorney and cofounder of Gilmer & Giglio. A graduate of the University of Tampa with a degree in criminology, Katherine earned her law degree from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar the same year.

With a strong foundation built through internships at the Hillsborough Public Defender's Office and the East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office, Katherine has always been drawn to the criminal justice system. She began her legal career at the Louisiana Second Circuit Court of Appeal, followed by four impactful years as an assistant city prosecutor in Shreveport, where she handled thousands of cases ranging from traffic offenses to domestic violence and DWI.

In 2013, she transitioned to criminal defense, practicing at Elton Richey & Associates before cofounding her own firm in 2017. At Gilmer & Giglio, she continues to advocate for individuals facing criminal charges, combining deep experience with a passion for justice. Katherine is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Shreveport Bar Association and the Booth-Politz Inn of Court. She also served on the Louisiana Public Defender Board from 2016 to 2020 and was named to the Young Professionals Initiative 40 Under 40 in 2020.

Outside the courtroom, Katherine enjoys reading (and trying to tackle her ever-growing book list), spending time with her husband and daughter, and strategically avoiding debates about Texas A&M football with her law partner.

This series is aimed at bringing attention to pro bono volunteers who are committed to pro bono work. See how they made a difference through pro bono. We would love to feature you in a future Pro Bono Hero Spotlight. Email lespree@shreveportbar.com today to find out how you can volunteer!

CALL TO ACTION! The Pro Bono Project is a great volunteer opportunity for lawyers to give back to their community. No one can provide legal advice or legal representation except lawyers. If you want more information about volunteering or have any questions about our current open pro bono cases, please get in touch with Lucy Espree at 318-703-8381 or lespree@shreveportbar.com.

The Shreveport Bar Foundation is able to do all that we do because of the support we receive from our grantors, Louisiana Bar Foundation, Acadiana Legal Services Corporation, The Community Foundation of North Louisiana, Carolyn W. and Charles T. Beaird Family Foundation, First Methodist Church, Grayson Foundation and the SBA Krewe of Justinian.





2025 Professionalism Award Nominations

Nominate Someone Who Deserves to Be Honored

The Shreveport Bar Association Professionalism Award will be presented at the October luncheon meeting, and the recipient’s name will be added to the permanent plaque that hangs in the Shreveport Bar Center. Prior recipients of this prestigious award are Frank M. Walker Jr., Kenneth Rigby, Justice Pike Hall Jr., Judge Henry Politz, Harry Nelson, Roland Achee, Edwin Blewer Jr., Judge Tom Stagg, Jackson B. Davis, Glenn Walker, John Frazier, Michael S. Hubley, Vicki C. Warner, Reginald W. Abrams, A. M. “Marty” Stroud III, Samuel W. Caverlee, Charles C. Grubb, Zelda W. Tucker, James Stewart, Don Weir Jr., William J. Flanagan, James C. McMichael Jr. and Judge Mark Hornsby, Lawrence W. Pettiette Jr., Ben Marshall Jr., Allison Anne Jones and Tommy Johnson.

The SBA Professionalism Award may be presented to any member of the Shreveport Bar Association who has remained in good standing during their practice of law, and he or she must have practiced law for a period not less than 15 years. The award may be given posthumously, but should not be limited to attorneys who have died. This award should be reserved for individuals who, during their practice of law, exemplify the high ideals and standards set forth by the Louisiana Bar Association’s Rules of Professional Conduct, as well as the aspired goals for attorney conduct adopted by the Shreveport Bar Association.

Any attorney who meets the above criteria may be nominated by any other member of the Shreveport Bar Association. All nominations should be submitted in writing by **Friday, August 29, 2025**, and mailed to:

Chairman, Professionalism Committee
625 Texas Street
Shreveport, LA 71101

When submitting your nominations, please include why you think the attorney you are nominating should receive this award and any additional information that would help the committee in its selection process.

SBA Professionalism Award Nomination Form

DEADLINE: Friday, August 29, 2025

The award is reserved for individuals who exemplify the highest standards of professionalism while practicing law. Nominations may be hand-delivered to SBA staff or mailed to Chairman, Professionalism Committee, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101. Electronic submissions are acceptable, and use of this form is optional.

Name of nominee and reason the attorney should receive the award (you may attach additional information)

Signature_____

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Name (printed) | |
| Signature | |
| Date | |



Cassie Hammett

2025 SBA Liberty Bell Award Recipient, The Hub: Urban Ministries

by Jason Nichols, jnichols@ricekendig.com

For those who work in the legal system, our hope is that our efforts will support and advance our society, particularly the American ideals of freedom under law and individual rights and responsibilities. Since 1965, the SBA has presented the Liberty Bell Award. In presenting this award, we recognize exceptional individuals and organizations who work to advance the same goals: individual freedom and happiness, coupled with responsibility and a peaceful, just society. On Wednesday, April 30, the

Shreveport Bar Association presented the 2025 Liberty Bell Award to The Hub: Urban Ministries.

This award honors nonlawyers and organizations that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to selfless community service in ways that strengthen the foundation of our freedom under law. Few embody that spirit more fully than The Hub.

Since its inception, The Hub has led efforts to serve some of the most vulnerable members of our community, including those experiencing homelessness, poverty, addiction and human trafficking.

The Hub was founded in 2007 by Shreveport native Cassie Hammett. At that time, serving with The Hub often meant preparing and distributing food from the trunk of Cassie's car or the bed of her husband's truck. Through the blood, sweat and tears of Cassie, her family, the Hub staff and countless volunteers, The Hub has grown into a thriving nonprofit with two flagship ministries: The Lovewell Center and Purchased: Not for Sale.

At The Lovewell Center, individuals facing homelessness or poverty gain access to food, clothing and support through a membership-based system that rewards participation in education and community engagement. It's a model rooted in dignity and personal responsibility, empowering people to change their circumstances rather than be defined by them.



Through Purchased, The Hub reaches women and girls caught in the cycle of exploitation and sex trafficking. The ministry offers a path to safety, healing and independence. It serves adult and child victims of trafficking, women in prostitution and those deemed at high risk. This is accomplished through deeply relational outreach, advocacy and trauma-informed care.

As the founder of Purchased, Cassie became the first and only nongovernmental member of the FBI New Orleans Division's Shreveport Child Exploitation Task Force in 2014. She was



awarded the 2019 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award, with the Bureau calling her "one of the single most valuable resources to its child exploitation task force."

Cassie has also served on the Louisiana Governor's Commission for Human Trafficking Prevention, and The Hub partners regularly with the Caddo Parish District Attorney's Office and other local and state law enforcement agencies to offer diversion programs and other services.

Through these ministries, The Hub has built a restorative model of care that offers not only rescue and relief but also dignity, structure and long-term healing. In doing so, it promotes a deeper understanding of the rights and responsibilities we share as citizens, especially for those whose voices are too often silenced. The Hub's mission helps us grasp the foundations of our democracy: dignity, accountability, freedom and justice, and calls us to honor the humanity in others.

The effectiveness of The Hub's model has drawn national attention. Organizations in cities such as Las Vegas, Nevada, and Fort Worth, Texas, have invited The Hub to help replicate its programs and ministries.

At both The Lovewell Center and Purchased, the mission is built on the goals of rescue, relationships, resources and recovery.

Please join us in honoring the 2025 Liberty Bell Award recipient, The Hub: Urban Ministries.



2025 SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION TRIAL ACADEMY

October 23-24, 2025



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BAR BRIEFS

Externs begin summer program: Participants in the Second Circuit's 2025 Summer Internship Program began their schedule by attending oral arguments May 19. Pictured in the library, from left to right: **Allen England**, 2L Mississippi College School of Law, native of Shreveport and graduate of Byrd H.S. and MC (BA Finance, 2022); **Sierra Charles**, 3L at Southern University Law Center, native of Baton Rouge, graduate of Parkview Baptist H.S. and Centenary College (BA Poli Sci, MBA); **Ethan Jeffus**, 2L Loyola University Law, New Orleans, native of Minden, homeschooled and graduate of La. Tech (BA Poli Sci, 2023); **Luke Montgomery**, 2L LSU Law Center, native of Benton, graduate of Benton H.S. and La. Tech (BA Poli Sci, 2024); **LaDavia Pierson**, 2L SULC, native of Tallulah, La., graduate of El Dorado H.S., Las Vegas, Nev., and Southern U. (BS Crim Justice 2024); **Raleigh McCulloch**, 2L LSU Law Center, native of Ruston, graduate of Ruston H.S. and LSU (Bach. Int'l Studies); **Macie Spell**, 3L MC School of Law, native of DeRidder, graduate of DeRidder H.S. and McNeese State (BS, Crim Justice); and **Mary Hargis**, 3L MC School of Law, native of Effie, La., graduate of Avoyelles Public Charter School and La. Tech (BS Bus Mgmt.).



Allen England, Sierra Charles, Ethan Jeffus, Luke Montgomery, LaDavia Pierson, Raleigh McCulloch, Macie Spell, and Mary Hargis.JPG

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**SBA Membership
Luncheon price will
increase to \$35 for SBA
Members with advance
reservation.**



New pricing applies effective September 24



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April 11, 2025

President John Adams once remarked, *"Now to what higher object, to what greater character, can any mortal aspire than to be possessed of all this knowledge, well-digested and ready at command, to assist the feeble and friendless, to discountenance the haughty and lawless, to procure redress to wrongs, the advancement of right, to assert and maintain liberty and virtue, to discourage and abolish tyranny and vice?"*

As lawyers, we are blessed with the good fortune, the ability, and the opportunity to help others in need. As we advance in years and our careers, it is natural that our interests and responsibilities, both professional and personal, grow. It is easy to lose sight of the responsibility that we as lawyers have to our community especially those most vulnerable. One way to serve our community is by supporting *pro bono* activities.

Rule 6.1 of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct suggests that every attorney in Louisiana should "aspire to render at least (50) hours of *pro bono publico* legal services per year."

This year, *pro bono* organizations throughout the state with the support of the Louisiana State Bar Association are asking attorneys to join them in serving our community by committing to volunteer at least 25 hours as part of the "25 in 2025" campaign. If only 10% of Louisiana attorneys meet this challenge it would produce an additional 57,500 hours of *pro bono* legal work and help bridge the rapidly growing gap between the legal needs of those who cannot afford civil legal services and the resources available to meet those needs.

Your local *pro bono* organizations can support your efforts, and we recommend you contact them. You can also find a listing of current *pro bono* opportunities [here](#). *Pro bono* organizations can customize opportunities that match your availability and commitment, whether you wish to volunteer one hour or ten hours per week.

Should you need more information on how you can become involved, please contact your local *pro bono* organizations or Rachael Mills (rachael.mills@lsba.org) (800) 421-5722 or (504) 619-0104 at the Louisiana State Bar Association's Access to Justice Department.



6th North Louisiana Appellate Conference Presented by The Shreveport Bar Association and Second Circuit Court of Appeal

August 15, 2025

**Second Circuit Court of Appeal
430 Fannin Street**

**Approved by the MCLE Committee of the LSBA for 6 hours credit
Including Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization
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| | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. | Registration | 11:45 a.m. | Lunch with the Second Circuit Court of Appeal Judges |
| | | 75 Minutes | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Preparing and Presenting a Case for Appeal from the Prosecution and from the Defense | 1:00 p.m. | First 100 Days as Supreme Court Justice |
| 60 Minutes | <i>Alexandra Porubsky - Caddo Parish District Attorney's Office and D. Lee Harville, Board Certified Appellate Specialist, Certified by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization - The Harville Law Firm, LLC</i> | 60 Minutes | <i>Hon. Cade Cole - Associate Justice Louisiana Supreme Court</i> |
| 9:30 a.m. | Break | 2:00 p.m. | Break |
| 9:35 a.m. | What's Afoot at the Second Circuit Court of Appeal | 2:10 p.m. | Ethics |
| 60 Minutes | <i>Robin N. Jones, Clerk of Court and Jenny Segner, Director of Central Staff - Second Circuit Court of Appeal</i> | 60 Minutes | <i>Mary Watson Smith - Law Office of Mary Watson Smith LLC and Hon. (Ret) Scott Crichton - Retired Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justice</i> |
| 10:35 a.m. | Break | 3:10 p.m. | Break |
| 10:45 a.m. | Tips from the Trial Bench and Tips from the Appellate Bench | 3:20 p.m. | Professionalism |
| 60 Minutes | <i>Hon. Danny Ellender, Appellate Judge Louisiana Court of Appeal, Second Circuit and Hon. Charles G. Fitzgerald, Appellate Judge Louisiana Court of Appeal, Third Circuit</i> | 60 Minutes | <i>Hon. Jay B. McCallum - Associate Justice Louisiana Supreme Court</i> |

Registration Fees: Complete this form and submit with payment or register online at www.shreveportbar.com

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Registration:

Refund until August 1, 2025, less a \$25.00 admin. fee. After August 1, 2025, credit less a \$25.00 admin. fee may be applied to future SBA-sponsored CLE for up to one year. Cancellations on the day of the seminar and "no shows" will not receive credit.

Important Note:

A link to the seminar materials will be sent to you via email prior to the seminar. Neither internet access nor electrical outlets are provided, so 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.

Please remit with payment to:

Shreveport Bar Association
625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101



(318)222-3643

dsouthern@shreveportbar.com



Law Day Luncheon

by Luke Whetstone, luke.whetstone@cookyancey.com

The banquet room of the Petroleum Club was packed on April 30. Attorneys, judges and even a few students had gathered there for the Shreveport Bar Association's Law Week Luncheon. As one of the largest gatherings of local lawyers, the room had the feel of a reunion as everyone mingled and settled in for the presentations.

Luke Whetstone

The theme for this year's Law Week was "The Constitution's Promise: Out of Many, One." That theme was on display in the honorees that day. Each of them was different, but all of them play a part in the larger legal community. First, the Bar honored local students. Caddo Magnet High School's mock trial team, as well as the winners of the Bar's high school essay contest, were celebrated for their recent accomplishments, as well as for their early-in-life engagement with the legal world.

The next honoree was The Hub Ministry, represented by its founder, Cassie Hammett. The Hub's impact in the community cannot be fully expressed in this short article (fortunately, Jason Nichols is providing a detailed article on The Hub, Ms. Hammett and the Liberty Bell Award elsewhere in this issue of *The Bar Review*). Suffice it to say that Ms. Hammett received an enthusiastic ovation upon receiving the 2025 Liberty Bell Award, after which she provided a few remarks. She reminded the attendees that the law can, and does, work toward the good. She implored everyone to continue the work in their respective areas of the law and to see that such work helps uphold the rule of law and the justice that flows from it.

Last but not least was the keynote speaker, U.S. District Judge Jerry Edwards. Judge Edwards was a fixture for two decades in the Shreveport Bar and is now a federal judge in the Alexandria Division. During his presentation, Judge Edwards pressed the attendees to always be concerned about the rule of law. In particular, he noted that trust in the rule of law is essential to the legal system, and people do not trust a system that they do not understand. Judge Edwards encouraged the lawyers of the Bar to use their understanding of the legal system and engage with everyone, especially nonlawyers, in the ongoing conversations on the rule of law and its virtues.

Once the presentations were done and the benediction given, the room again turned into a reunion. Everyone who had not seen each other before lunch shook hands and exchanged stories before filing out to return to work, just a bit more encouraged than they had arrived.



Save the Dates

2025 SBA CLE

15

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***2025 SBA MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**

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

AUGUST 15

6th North Louisiana Appellate Conference
Second Circuit Court of Appeal
430 Fannin Street

SEPTEMBER 12

Krewe of Justinian XXXII
Coronation Bal
Horseshoe Casino

SEPTEMBER 17-18

Recent Developments by the
Judiciary CLE
Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City

***SEPTEMBER 24 SBA MEMBER LUNCHEON**

Speaker: LSBA President
Edward Walters Jr.

***OCTOBER 22 SBA MEMBER LUNCHEON/CLE**

Speaker: H. Alston Johnson

OCTOBER 23-24

SBA Trial Academy
Tom Stagg Courthouse and
Caddo Parish Courthouse

NOVEMBER 6

SBA Memorial & Recognition Ceremony
Tom Stagg Courthouse and
2:00 p.m. at Caddo Parish Courthouse

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)

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3EW9JTZSJNVEZ?ref=wl_share

Or scan the QR code.



SBA Luncheon Meeting – September 24

Petroleum Club (15th Floor) Buffet opens at 11:30 a.m. Program and Speaker from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm.

\$55.00 for SBA members and \$65.00 for non-SBA members. Advance reservations are required by 5 p.m. Monday, September 22



Edward Walters Jr.

When: 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, September 24

Where: Petroleum Club (15th floor)

Featuring: Edward Walters Jr., LSBA President-Elect

*We will honor all past presidents of our
Shreveport Bar Association and
Shreveport Bar Foundation*

This presentation is eligible for 1 hour CLE credit.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Edward J. Walters Jr. is a partner in the Baton Rouge firm of Walters, Thomas, Cullens, LLC. He received a BS degree in accounting in 1969 from Louisiana State University and his JD degree in 1975 from LSU Law Center. Walters served as the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) secretary and editor-in-chief of the *Louisiana Bar Journal* in 2012-13. He continues to serve on the *Louisiana Bar Journal* Editorial Board. He and Michael A. (Mike) Patterson have taught a course titled "Advanced Trial and Evidence" at LSU Law Center for more than 30 years, and he has been a member of the faculty of the Law Center's yearly Trial Advocacy Program

since its inception 25 years ago. He was appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court to serve as a member of the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana from 2017-21. He was the chair of the Commission for 2020. Walters received the LSU Law Center's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2015, the LSBA's President's Award in 2011, the Louisiana Bar Foundation's Distinguished Attorney Award in 2008 and the Baton Rouge Bar Association's President's Award in 1995, 1998 and 2014. He is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and the LSU Law Center Board of Trustees. He is board certified in Civil Trial Advocacy by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. He is the author of the book *Ipse Dixit: Ruminations on a Career at Law*. Walters and his wife, Norma, have been married for 55 years and are the parents of two children. They have four grandchildren. Please join in welcoming Ed Walters as our guest keynote speaker.

**JOIN US IN
HONORING ALL
PAST PRESIDENTS
OF THE**

**SHREVEPORT
BAR ASSOCIATION
AND
BAR FOUNDATION**

SEPTEMBER 24

Confirm your reservation(s) by email at dsouthern@shreveportbar.com or by phone at 703-8372.

Please remember to call and cancel if you can't attend.

The SBA pays for each reservation made. No-shows will be invoiced.