THE BAR REVIEW

PUBLICATION OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION Volume XXV, Number 6 • June 2018

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EVENTS AT A GLANCE

6/27	SBA Membership Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. - Petroleum Club
9/26	SBA Membership Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. - Petroleum Club
10/11-12	Recent Developments by the Judiciary Seminar - Hilton Garden Inn / Homewood Suites
10/24	SBA Membership Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. - Petroleum Club
10/30	SBA Memorial & Recognition Ceremony - First Judicial District Court

From The President

by Jim McMichael, President, jmcmichael@mmw-law.com

OUR PATRON SAINT – AND THE BUTT OF THE FIRST LAWYER JOKE?

It was recently pointed out to me that May 19 is celebrated as St. Yves Day.

Why does that matter to us? Because Saint Yves is the patron saint of lawyers. Born in the Brittany region in northwest France, he was sent at age 14 to the University of Paris, where he graduated in civil law. Legend is that while other students partied, Yves studied, prayed and visited the sick – and refused to eat meat or drink wine. (One has to think he would have had a difficult time keeping such strict habits had he attended law school in Louisiana.) Upon his return to Brittany, he was appointed as an ecclesiastical judge by the Catholic Church where he became known for protecting orphans and widows, defending the poor, and rendering fair and impartial verdicts. It is said that even those on the losing side respected his decisions.

Yves earned the title "Advocate of the Poor" by representing the helpless and poor in other courts, and by often paying their expenses and visiting them in prison. Although it was common in the day to give judges "gifts," Yves steadfastly refused bribes. He often encouraged and helped disputing parties settle out of court so they could save money.

He first gained fame as an advocate in the Bishop's Court near Orléans. While visiting the court, Yves rented a room at the home of a certain widow, and one day he found his widow-landlady in tears. She told him that she had to go to court the next day to answer the lawsuit of a traveling merchant (named Doe), who, with the help of a companion merchant (named Roe), had tricked her by leaving her in charge of a trunk they claimed was full of valuables. Doe and Roe went off on their business, with strict instructions that she was to deliver the trunk only to the two of them and only according to their joint demand. Later that day, Doe came back and called for the trunk, saying that his partner Roe had been detained elsewhere. Believing Doe's story, the widow delivered the trunk to him. Predictably, Roe came later and also demanded the trunk, claiming that his partner Doe had wronged him, and seeking to hold the widow responsible for delivering up the trunk to Doe contrary to the terms of their instructions. The widow tearfully told Yves that if she had to pay for the trunk and its valuables it would ruin her. "Have no fear," said young Yves, "I will go to court tomorrow for you."

When the case was called before the judge, Roe charged the widow with breach of trust. "Not so," pleaded Yves, "My client need not yet make answer to this claim. The plaintiff has not proved his case. The terms of the bailment were that the trunk should be demanded by both Doe and Roe coming together. But here is only one of them making the demand. Where is the other? Let the plaintiff produce his partner." The judge promptly approved Yves's plea, whereupon Roe, being required to produce his fellow merchant, turned pale, and sought to dismiss his claim. But instead, the judge, suspecting something was up, ordered him to be arrested and questioned. Doe was also found and brought in, and the trunk was recovered. When opened, it was found to contain nothing but old junk. In short, they had conspired to plant the trunk with the widow, and then coerce her to pay the value of the alleged contents. Thus, the young advocate Yves saved the widow from ruin, and the fame of his clever defense of the widow was soon known far and wide.

Yves died on May 19, 1303, at age 49. He was buried in the northwest of France in the church he founded. He was canonized in 1347 by Pope Clement VI.

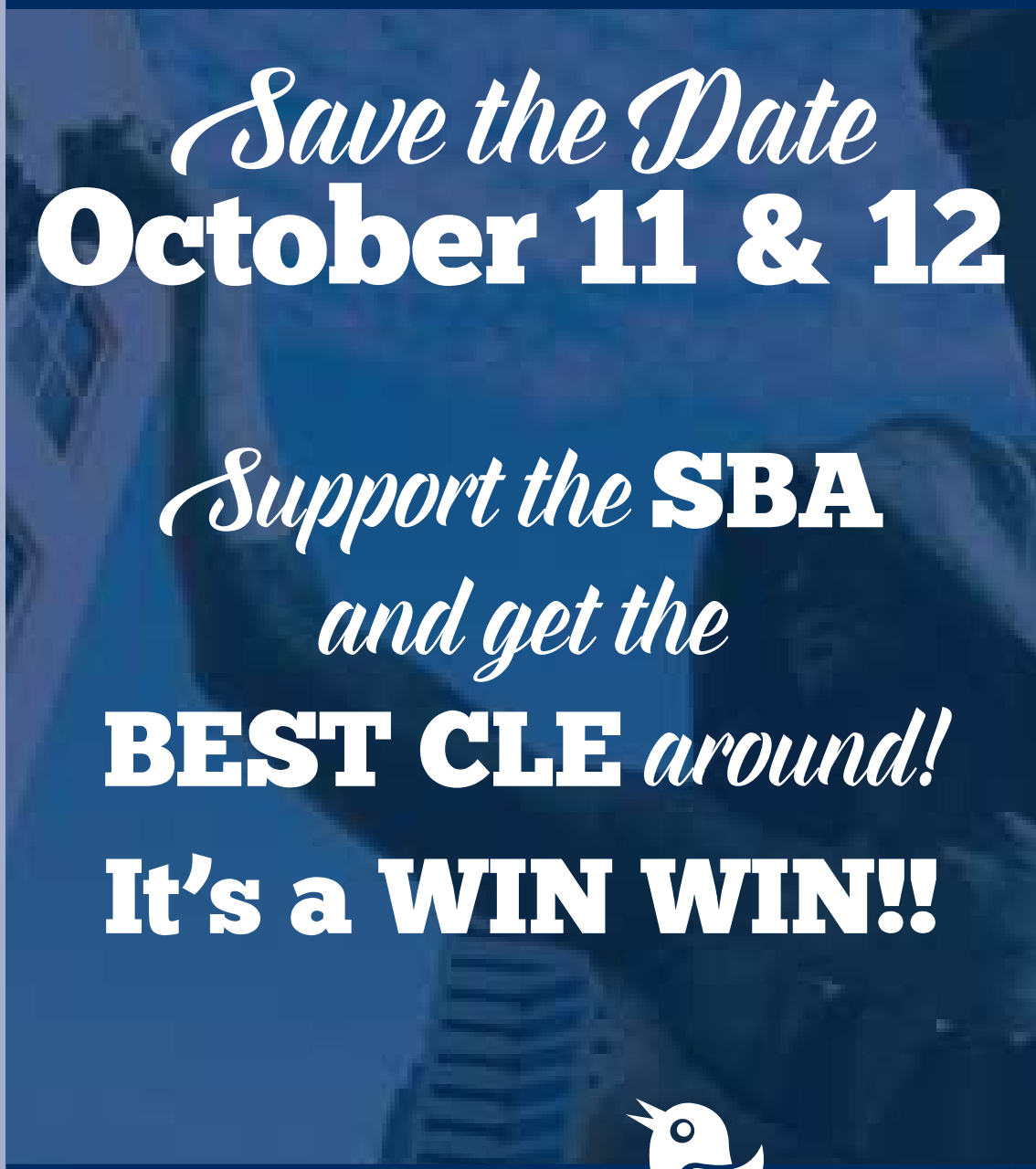
The Society of St. Yves is a Catholic human rights organization founded in 1991 by the former Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Holy Land to help "the poor and the oppressed" according to the social doctrine of the Catholic Church. The society provides pro bono legal assistance, counsel and advocacy to members of the community

On his tomb in the cathedral, there is inscribed in Latin: *Sanctus Ivo erat Brito / Advocatus et non latro / Res miranda populo.* Roughly translated, this means:

"Saint Yves was a Breton/A lawyer and not a thief/A marvelous thing to the people."

Our Patron Saint clearly set an example for modern lawyers to aspire to. Was he – in death – the butt of the first lawyer joke, as well?

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BY THE JUDICIARY



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SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

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Look for full class schedule in the mail soon!

Second Circuit Highlights

by Hal Odom Jr., rhodom@la2nd.org

When the trial court denies summary judgment ... Ms. Lewis loaned her SUV to her daughter, Ms. Johnson, who wrecked it in a one-vehicle accident. Ms. Lewis had not bought collision or comprehensive coverage, but she was looking for a way to repair her SUV. Ms. Johnson, it turned out, owned another vehicle, and had bought an automobile policy with GEICO. The GEICO policy covered "damage to property * * * arising out of the * * * use of the owned auto or a non-owned auto." Ms. Lewis sued GEICO to recover under this provision of her daughter's policy.

GEICO moved for summary judgment, citing the exclusion for damage to "property rented to or in charge of an insured." It argued that Ms. Johnson damaged property she was in charge of; hence, no coverage. The district court denied summary judgment, and GEICO took a writ.

The Second Circuit granted the writ and made it peremptory, ***Lewis v. GEICO Casualty Co.,*** 51,864 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/27/18), in an opinion by Judge Stone. The general rule is that every liability policy must provide the coverage required by statute, La. R.S. 32:900, but the policy may limit coverage in any manner that does not violate the statute. The court found that GEICO's exclusion for damage to property "in charge of an insured" did not violate the mandate of § 900. The court noted how the core purpose of the statute was served: "If Johnson had caused a two-vehicle accident while driving Lewis's vehicle and was found liable for damage to the other vehicle, GEICO would be obligated to pay for the damage." The court granted GEICO's MSJ and dismissed Ms. Lewis's suit.

… and the court of appeal grants a writ … Hillie Cox took out a whole-life insurance policy with Southern Farm Bureau in 1989, naming "Ruby G. Cox (mother)" as beneficiary. In 1992, after getting married, he executed a change of beneficiary form to name "Connie Gonzales Cox (wife)" as beneficiary. The couple got divorced in 1999, but Hillie never changed beneficiaries again. He died in 2013, and both Ruby and Connie made claims for the proceeds. Southern Farm Bureau filed a suit for concursus against the two claimants. Connie moved for summary judgment, urging that she was the named beneficiary and should get the proceeds. Ruby opposed, offering affidavits swearing that the divorce had been bitter and that Hillie told many people Connie would not get his insurance. She also argued that because the policy referred to "wife" as beneficiary, this created a genuine issue for trial, as the court would have to go outside the policy itself to interpret it. The district court denied MSJ, and Connie took a writ.

The Second Circuit granted the writ and made it peremptory, ***Southern Farm Bureau Life Ins. Co. v. Cox,*** 51,930 (La. App. 2 Cir. 2/11/18), in an opinion by Judge Moore. The court began by noting that the person named as beneficiary on the policy is entitled to the proceeds, La. R.S. 22:912 A(1), and that when the policy unambiguously names a beneficiary, courts cannot question whether the insured "desired" to make a change, *Fowler v. Fowler,* 2003-0590 (La. 12/12/03), 861 So. 2d 181. The court then found no ambiguity in Hillie's decision to name his beneficiary and to qualify it with "(wife)," and no absurd consequence in awarding proceeds to the ex: essentially the same set of facts had arisen in *American Health & Life Ins. Co. v. Binford*, 511 So. 2d 1250 (La. App. 2 Cir. 1987), with the same result. The court granted summary judgment, awarded the proceeds to Connie, and dismissed the concursus. Chief Judge Brown dissented.

… the likely outcome is: These two cases illustrate that when the trial court denies summary judgment, and the court of appeal grants a writ, there's probably relief in the offing for the applicant.

It's harder to prove than to do. What we used to call alimony *pendente lite* is now called, under C.C. art. 113, *interim periodic support*, and it is normally limited to 180 days. However, even this short-term obligation is extinguished "upon the remarriage of the obligee, the death of either party, or a judicial determination that the obligee has cohabited with another person of either sex in the manner of married persons." La. C.C. art. 115. Well, remarriage and death are pretty simple to prove; what about cohabitation? This was the issue in ***King v. King***, 51,942 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/11/18).

Amber and Kiley got married in 1999, and had two kids, but in January 2016 Amber filed for Art. 102 divorce, alleging that the couple separated on January 22, 2016, and demanding interim periodic support. Kiley reconvened for Art. 103 divorce, alleging adultery, and that Amber's cohabitation with another man absolved him (Kiley) of paying support, under Art. 115. At the divorce hearing, on May 24, Amber admitted she had been living with the other man since January 27, and the other man admitted it was since "early February." The district judge granted a divorce, and declared from the bench that Amber and the paramour had been cohabiting. At a support hearing, in September, the court considered Amber's claim for interim periodic support, and rejected her list of $16,000 in claimed monthly expenses. The court ultimately awarded her $3,950 a month, offset by her income and certain payments Kiley had already made, for the period from January 26 (date of filing) through May 24 (date of judgment of divorce).

Kiley appealed, urging that with the finding of cohabitation "in the manner of married persons," the support obligation

was negated, period. The Second Circuit, in an opinion by Judge Stephens, affirmed. Interpreting Art. 115, and finding no need to go any further than plain reading, the court held that a "judicial determination" of cohabitation is necessary to extinguish the obligation. The mere *fact of* cohabitation would not suffice. The trial court made its judicial determination on May 24, and halted the obligation as of that date. The Second Circuit held this was not wrong.

An ex-spouse looking to benefit from Art. 115 will need to move fast to get the issue of cohabitation in front of the judge. The other spouse would do well to defer any hearings on Art. 103 divorce until the 180-day period has expired. In litigation, delay usually wins.

Court rules: form or substance? In many judicial districts, a case involving spousal or child support must go to a Hearing Officer Conference ("HOC") in an effort to resolve the case. Failing a resolution, the hearing officer makes specific recommendations for disposition (often called "HOCR") of the claims. Parties may dispute the recommendations. Rule 32.0 I of the Fifth Judicial District gave the parties seven days to file written objections to the HOCR; if no objections were filed, the HOCR "may be adopted by the court."

In ***Lingo v. Lingo***, 52,105 (La. App. 2 Cir. 4/11/18), the HOCR was issued on November 17, 2015, recommending child support of $600 a month. Two days later, the father's attorney notified the hearing officer and opposing counsel that he wanted to object, but he could not make formal objections because he had to hit the road for a CLE seminar in Baton Rouge; he asked for a seven-day extension. On November 30, hearing nothing from counsel, the district court adopted the HOCR as the interim order of the court. Counsel finally filed his objections on December 9; the matter was reset several times. Over a year later, on January 1, 2017, the trial judge retired, and a successor judge assumed the case. In a phone conference in March 2017, the new judge told everybody that the father's objections were not filed until *20 days* after the HOCR. The mother promptly filed a motion to strike the objections, and an exception of no right of action, which the trial court granted. The father appealed.

The Second Circuit reversed, in an opinion by Judge McCallum. Procedural rules exist for the sake of substantive law and to implement substantive rights, and not as an end in and of themselves. The court considered that the father's lawyer timely notified the hearing officer and opposing counsel that he intended to object; opposing counsel did not challenge the requested extension; the hearing officer has inherent power to grant extensions, La. R.S. 46:236.5 C(4)(j); and the mother took no action to dismiss the objections until the trial judge suggested it in a phone conference. On these facts, the court found, dismissing the objections would deprive the parties of the right to a judicial determination of the issues. The court had reached the same conclusion in the recent cases of *Devereux v. Atkins,* 51,473 (La. App. 2 Cir. 6/21/17), 224 So. 3d 1160, and *Rodgers v. Rodgers*, 50,044 (La. App. 2 Cir. 6/10/15), 170 So. 3d 382, both arising out of the Fourth JDC and involving successor judges apparently trying to clear their old dockets.

Don't treat these rules lightly; Uniform Rule 35.5 now gives parties only five days to object. However, the Second Circuit has found a way to bring some flexibility, especially when there is no contemporaneous complaint from the other side.

You can't say discretion too loud. Most domestic cases coming to the Second Circuit are about the district court's exercise of discretion. In ***Salter v. Salter,*** 51,892 (La. App. 2 Cir. 2/28/18), Kara filed a petition to modify child support for the couple's two daughters. The court appointed an expert CPA, Susan Whitelaw, to examine the parties' finances. She reported that Mike's income, mostly real estate commissions from his family's real estate agency, Century 21, was $169,183 for 2014, $209,113 for 2015 and "at least $92,251" for 2016. Ms. Whitelaw was the only live witness at the hearing, but Mike offered an affidavit from his father saying that he had loaned Mike over $59,000.

The district court subtracted significant amounts from Ms. Whitelaw's estimates: $12,500 from the 2014 income, and $5,580 from the 2015 income, for attorney fees that Century 21 had paid on Mike's behalf and then deducted from his commissions, and $24,412 as a loan or gift from Mike's dad. These calculations obviously reduced Mike's final support obligation, and Kara appealed. She contested the court's decision to deviate from the CPA's report.

The Second Circuit affirmed, in an opinion by Judge Stephens, citing the trial court's vast discretion in deciding what to include in a parent's gross income, *Brossett v. Brossett,* 49,883 (La. App. 2 Cir. 6/24/15), 195 So. 3d 471. It was no abuse of that discretion to reduce Mike's income by the amount of attorney fees that were "later deducted from" his commissions or to accept the dad's affidavit that part of Mike's 2016 income was actually a loan.

The opinion does not state how much Mike's final support obligation was, but for someone in his income range, it must have been substantial. No doubt equity entered the district court's analysis. The average work-a-day, wage-earning dad can't "adjust" his income like somebody on professional fees, commissions or dividends. But discretion is always there to level the field.

Pro Bono Project

by: Kelli Sanders, Coordinator, ksanders@shreveportbar.com

Give for Good 2018 was a success! We not only exceeded our goals but came close to raising double the amount from last year. The Pro Bono Project partnered with the SBA Young Lawyers Section, Women's Section and Rhino Coffee and hosted an online giving event at the downtown Rhino Coffee. With your generous donations, we managed to raise $5,001.00! Your donations will be used to help fund our domestic violence program. Thank you to all of our donors!

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Trina Chu
James Davis
Valerie DeLatte
Cheryl Duncan
Jerry Edwards
Rebecca Edwards
Katherine Gilmer
Elizabeth Hancock
Natalie Howell
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Bernard Johnson
Judge (Ret) Charles Kelly
Julie Lafargue
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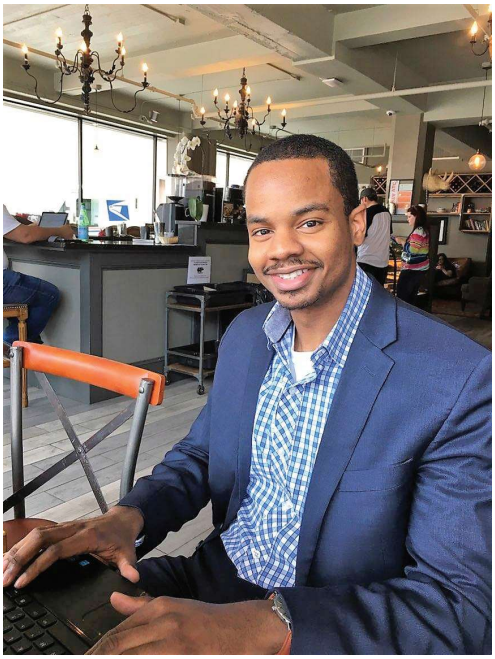
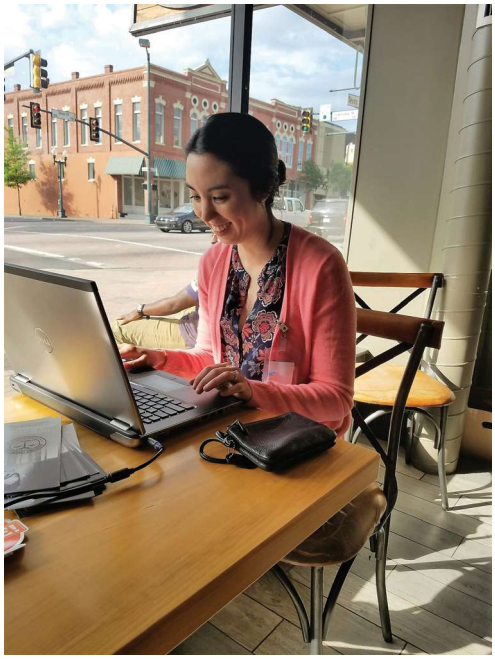
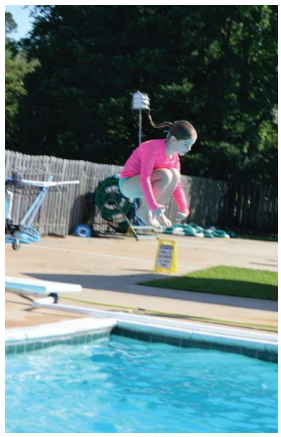




Member Sunday Fun Day Crawfish Boil



SUNDAY FUN DAY
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BAR BRIEFS

STATEWIDE PRO BONO SUMMIT

The Statewide Pro Bono Summit was hosted at the Louisiana Supreme Court on Tuesday, May 22.

Pictured above are Monte Mollere, Access to Justice Director; Dona Renegar, LSBA President; and Luke Thaxton,Shreveport Bar Foundation Vice President

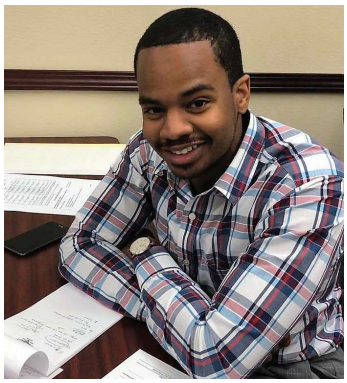
MAY ASK A LAWYER EVENT

On Monday, May 21, the SBF Pro Bono Project hosted their monthly Ask A Lawyer event at the Shreveport Bar Center.

Earlnisha Williams

Luke Whetstone and Lauren Lock

Laura Butler



Daniel Farris

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 2019 SBA Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer Elect. The Officer Nominating Committee will report its nominations to the Elections Committee on or before August 15, 2018, 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.**

Nominations are sought **from the membership** for the two Member-At-Large positions on the Executive Council. These positions are for a two-year term.

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 Wednesday, August 15, 2018.** 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.**

2018 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 which 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 and Don Weir Jr.

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 31, 2018**, 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 31, 2018

The award is reserved for individuals who exemplify the highest standards of professionalism while practicing law. Any eligible attorney may be nominated by another SBA member. Written 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.

I would like to nominate the following SBA member to receive the 2018 Professionalism Award **(please complete as much as possible)**

Name	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
Email	

Reason the attorney should receive the award **(you may attach additional information)**

Signature

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

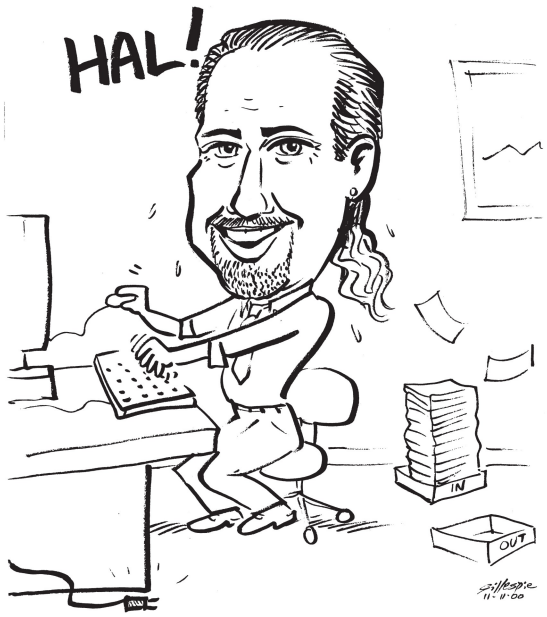
How Write You Are

by Hal Odom Jr., rhodom@la2nd.org

A tall error. When we say someone is *statuesque*, we mean she is *tall and graceful*. However, our writing can also be statuesque, and in a less complimentary way. Consider:

"Louisiana Revised *Statues* 11:2259A(1) provides four optional allowances to choose from *in lieu* of the regular retirement benefit[.]" *Langsford v. Firefighters Retirement Sys.*, 2017-0719 (La. App. 1 Cir. 3/29/18), 239 So. 3d 920.

"[La. R.S. 14:30] provides for a sentence of death or life imprisonment without the possibility of parole while La. R.S. 14:30.1 mandates a life sentence without the possibility of parole, and neither *statue* references the age of the offender." *State v. Comeaux*, 2017-682 (La. App. 3 Cir. 2/15/18), __ So. 3d __.



"The applicable sentencing *statue*, La. R.S. 40:966 (A), does not provide any restriction on parole." *State v. Julien*, 17-57 (La. App. 5 Cir. 9/13/17), 225 So. 3d 1197.

In each instance, the writer meant to use *statute*, and it should be monumentally obvious that Spell Check will not flag a legitimate word like *statue*. The error is correctly handled in other places, quoting an inmate's petition: "[A]fter sentencing November 27, 2007 [Louisiana State Law Annotated Revised Statue [*sic*] 15:566(C)] and all subsequent custody and transport/ transfer of said custody, thereafter was/is 'illegal.'" *Lewis v. Richland Parish*, 51,064 (La. App. 2 Cir. 1/11/17), 212 So. 3d 1186. And it's not always an error: "Shortly after the removal ordinance's passage, the Monumental Task Committee, Inc., the Louisiana Landmarks Society, and Beauregard Camp No. 130, Inc., brought suit in federal court against the City and several federal agencies in an attempt to halt the removal of the *statues*." *McGraw v. City of New Orleans*, 2016-0446 (La. App. 4 Cir. 3/29/17), 215 So. 3d 319. In the first instance, the court inserted "[sic]" after the inmate's garbled citation; in the second, actual statues were involved!

Dangler clearance. Don't forget to put modifiers – adjectives, adverbs, prepositional phrases – close to the words they modify. Failure to do so can cause confusion, even amusement.

"She is accused of hitting the officer who was working as a security officer after attempting to shoplift." This sounds a bit like the *officer attempted to shoplift*. Better phrasing: "She is accused of hitting the officer, who was working a security detail and trying to stop her after she attempted to shoplift."

"After hearing testimony and receiving evidence, the case was submitted." This suggests that the *case heard testimony*, which is impossible; the judge heard it. Better phrasing: "After hearing testimony and receiving evidence, the court took the case under advisement." Or: "After presenting testimony and other evidence, counsel submitted their case."

"She also missed work at the cleaning service she operated with her husband for approximately three months." Now, did she *operate the cleaning service for three months*, or *miss work for three months*? Better phrasing: "She also missed work for three months at the cleaning service she operated with her husband."

Rest easy. It's mostly a preference. Most of what we talk about as good legal writing, or good writing in general, is a matter of style, clarity, conciseness, or lightening the reader's burden. It's seldom about breaking a rule of grammar. Split infinitives and Oxford commas are not rules of grammar. Here's a rule of grammar:

An independent declarative clause beginning with a preposed negative adjunct must have a tensed auxiliary before the subject.

Translation: it is grammatically wrong to write, "Never I have seen such a display of temper" or "Never the defendant did object to the hearsay." This is in spite of the fact that normal word order is subject before verb. You would naturally write *never have I* or *never did the defendant*. See how easy that is?

In other contexts, an inversion is discretionary and can cause confusion. Consider: "With no job is Robert happy" and "With no job Robert is happy." The first means Robert is unhappy no matter what job he has; the second, Roberts is unhappy unless he's unemployed. Pretty close, but still a difference.

The goal of legal writing is ease of comprehension. Keep that in mind, and you are likely to do well.

My preference is brevity. Many spoken expressions are very useful: they fill the air with our lovely voice, they sound erudite, and they let the mouth run on autopilot while the brain figures out what to say next. In writing, however, they are often superfluous, rhetorical, and add nothing to the argument. A considerate writer does not make the reader slog through pointless words.

Consider some of these (and their antidotes):

- At this point in time / at the present time (now)
- At that particular point in time (then) – I had a law school professor, a courtly, older gentleman originally from north central Louisiana, who seemed to end every other sentence with this redundant phrase. To this day, hearing it is to me a source of mild irritation commingled with amusement.
- For the purpose of / in order to (to)
- Due to the fact that / on account of / on the basis of (because)
- A review of the facts of the instant case reveals that ( ) – Completely excise this gaseous monstrosity.
- Prior to / subsequent to (before, after)
- It is not an unjustifiable assumption that ( ) – Completely excise.
- On a monthly basis (monthly)
- Literally ( ) – Use only in the context of plain reading of a statute. Elsewhere, this word is a signal that the idea expressed is figurative or exaggerated, and not literal at all!

Red Mass 2018

SBA
SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION
625 Texas Street
Shreveport, LA 71101
www.shreveportbar.com

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE: AUGUST 15, 2018

SBA LUNCHEON MEETING – JUNE 27

Petroleum Club (15th Floor) – Buffet opens at 11:30 a.m. Program and Speaker begins at 12:00 Noon
$25.00 for SBA members includes lunch with advance reservation
$30.00 for Late Reservations (after 5:00 pm the Monday prior to the luncheon)

Paul Pratt

Mike McSwain

CROSS BAYOU POINT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

When: Wednesday, June 27 from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Petroleum Club (15th floor)

Featuring: Paul Pratt, Pratt & Associates Lobbying and Consulting, and Mike McSwain, Mike McSwain Architect, LLC

Join us on June 27 to hear about the Cross Bayou Point Development Project that recently was endorsed by the Shreveport City Council. Our featured speakers, Paul Pratt and Mike McSwain, will give a presentation on this project.

Paul Pratt recently launched a full-service lobbying firm, Pratt & Associates. As CEO of Pratt & Associates, he will utilize his decades of experience in corporate, community and government to help companies such as GDC through local and state approval. "Success for my clients is rooted in my longstanding relationships with community stakeholders and elected officials as well as my ability to look beyond traditional lobbying," said Pratt. "Pratt & Associates will utilize modern solutions and the evolution of technology to achieve favorable outcomes." A graduate of Louisiana State University and Southern University-Shreveport, Pratt serves on the board of directors for the Public Affairs Research Council, and he served as the 2014-2015 chairman of the Duck Commander Independence Bowl.

Mike McSwain is the principal and creative design team of Mike McSwain Architect, LLC, in charge of overall project management and project delivery. With over 20 years' experience in the practice of architecture, Mike has proven ability in delivering high-quality projects in a variety of project types. Mike and his team have collaborated locally with Louisiana Economic Development (LED), Bossier City, Shreveport, Caddo Bossier Port Commission and Bossier Parish recently for the delivery of many community assets. Prior to founding Mike McSwain Architect, LLC, Mike was managing partner at Slack, Alost, McSwain Architects; division manager for the Multi-Family Housing Division of Page Southerland Page; and architectural designer for international projects at Three Architecture and HKS, Inc.

NOTE: The Cost of the Monthly Luncheons Has Increased to $25 per person for Advance Reservation

YES, I'M ATTENDING

You may confirm your reservation(s) by email, telephone, or fax.
Email: mfarrar@shreveportbar.com Phone: 222-3643 Ext 2 Fax: 222-9272

I plan to attend the June luncheon. Attorney:_____

Please remember to call and cancel if you're unable to attend. The SBA pays for each reservation made. Thank You!