

THE PROMULGATOR

The Official Magazine of the Lafayette Bar Association



BENCH BAR AT THE BEACH
June 2024 | VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 3



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LAFAYETTE BAR ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION

OUR MISSION is to serve the profession, its members and the community by promoting professional excellence, respect for the rule of law and fellowship among attorneys and the court.

THE PROMULGATOR is the official magazine of the Lafayette Bar Association, and is published six times per year. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Committee.



ON THE COVER

In this 2024 June issue of The Promulgator we cover all things Bench Bar!
Read more on pages 12 - 13.

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lafayettebar.org or call (337) 237-4700.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG 22-24 - BENCH BAR

The Grand Hotel Resort & Spa in
Point Clear, AL

AUG 28 - YLS LUNCH CLE

LBA Office

SEPT 25 - HALL OF FAME GALA

City Club at River Ranch

OCT 18 - CLAY SHOOT

Wilderness Gun Club

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Members of the Lafayette Bar Association:
Welcome to Summer! If you are like me, then you are also ready for school to be out, vacations to begin, and fun to be had.

The Association has many fun events coming up in the next few months and once again, I cannot wait to see each of you there.

On May 30th, we hosted a Bench Bar Quarterly Lunch Series led by 16th Judicial District Court Judge Suzanne de Mahy. These events are always in high demand so I encourage each of you to email the Association and let us know if you want to be added to the quarterly invite list. As we all know, the opportunity to sit and have lunch around a small table with our judiciary can be rare.

Running in Heels, a CLE geared towards women's issues and that addresses the unique issues women face in the legal profession, took place on May 31st at the LBA building. As always, it is a great event for networking and for fun with plenty of door prizes. Topics included Know your rights!, Women Empowering Women, Let's Talk About It!, Lights, Camera, Action – Women in Popular Culture, and How Do You Compare? with a phenomenal group of speakers featuring Madeline

Smith, Barbara Melton, Nancy Degan, Karnina Deane, Clare Roubion, Dwazendra Smith, Florencia Ibanez, LSU Professor Christine Corcos, Catherine Carrier, and Mandy Simon. The committee for this CLE put in so much work and it was a great success.

Last but not least, BENCH BAR! While I could tell you all about this event and why you should go, I won't...instead, I will direct you to the article in this Promulgator by Clare Roubion who fantastically explains the top 5 reasons why you should attend from August 22, 2024 to August 24, 2024 at The Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. I hope to see you (and your families) there! It is sure to be the perfect mix of networking, CLEs, and fun!

Lindsay Meador Young
President, LBA; 2023-2024



Lindsay Meador Young

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Summer is here and coming in strong! Strange storms have hit us recently and the heat is already making a big statement. I hope you are making plans for down time this summer to recharge and have some fun.

LBA recent events include another successful Golf Tournament put on by the Young Lawyers Section and Chair, Chris Ortte. We had almost 30 teams participate and a large number of sponsors. The YLS also recently hosted a social for the membership at the Yard Goat. We had a great turnout of experienced lawyers, young lawyers, judges and sponsors. Thanks to YLS social chair, Mark Owens, for another fantastic event!

I am happy to announce that we have filled the recently vacated staff position of Marketing Coordinator and Events Coordinator. After two-plus fun-filled years, Katie Blanchet, has moved on to another adventure. Shea Barber is still helping out with training our new staff members and finalizing some ongoing projects.



Catherine Vincent has taken over the role of Marketing Coordinator. Catherine's skillset includes creating marketing campaigns, scheduling e-blasts and social media posts, and managing events. At the LBA she is responsible for website updates, marketing all events to our members as well as managing communications, handling CLEs, and designing the Promulgator. Catherine is also serving as the Young Lawyer Section liaison. A UL Lafayette grad, she's not just about work—she loves cooking, sewing, and hiking too!



Pam Landaiche



Event Coordinator Amanda Blanchard coordinates LBA events, ensuring every detail is perfect. One of Amanda's key roles is fostering relationships with our members, sponsors, and event speakers. She also handles membership details and inquiries. Amanda serves as liaison to the Family Law and Criminal Law Sections. Also a graduate from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, she enjoys family time and reading. Amanda is also an active member of Junior League of Lafayette.

Bench Bar planning is in full swing and I hope you will plan on joining us in Point Clear, AL, August 22-24 at the beautiful Grand Hotel Golf Resort and Spa. If you are interested in sponsoring the event or attending, you can register on our website, www.lafayettebar.org. Until next time, peace and love.

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YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

AN UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT
JAMI ISHEE

Bench Bar is the most influential event for a young lawyer's career. I wish I had started attending it sooner. This program provides the opportunity to meet and get to know the judges who you practice before on a daily basis (whether on paper or in person) in a relaxed and casual setting, where friendships flourish. I not only have become acquainted with judges from the district and appellate court benches, but also have had meaningful facetime with Louisiana Supreme Court Justices—an opportunity that is commonly unheard of.

If you are available August 22 – 24 I urge, even beg, you to come to The Grand in Point Clear, Alabama, for an unforgettable experience. During this weekend on the bay, you will enhance your legal career through remarkable CLE programming while building life-long professional and personal relationships. Spend

a few hours unwinding by strolling the gorgeous boardwalk around the bay, sitting on the beach, biking into town, lounging by the pool, watching a game in the bar, playing a round of golf or a tennis match, or relaxing in the spa. Attend a CLE and listen to Judge Edwards make witty jokes from the back of the room, learn the true history of the term “branding” over a wine tasting CLE, form new friends with colleagues turned friends, meet a new expert contact, gain perspective on how not to act in front of a judge from true and entertaining stories, and have an intimate chat with a judge about something unrelated to law. These are just a few of my personal experiences from past Bench Bars and visits to The Grand that I know you will enjoy, and will enhance your legal career like it has done mine. I cannot wait to see all of you on the bay!



ACCESS TO JUSTICE

A report of the Lafayette Bar Foundation, provided by Foundation Chair Gregory Tonore



On behalf of the Lafayette Bar Foundation I would like to thank all who donated, participated, sponsored and worked to make the 16th annual Birdie with the Bar golf tournament an outstanding success. The event was hosted by the Lafayette Bar Association Young lawyers. Their hard work along with the Lafayette Bar Association staff and sponsors made this year's event the best yet. We had a record number of teams register and participate. I can say without reservation it was a blast for all who participated. The live sponsors at each hole made the event a lot of fun. The food provided by the food sponsors was delicious. The weather was spectacular for a day of golf. David Gary and The Wetland staff had the golf course in excellent shape. Unfortunately, my score was not what I had hoped and thought it should be. Although my team did not finish last, we were close. But I digress, I'll try again next year to shoot a better score. The Lafayette Bar Foundation appreciates all donors, sponsors and workers who made this event special.

Did you know rule 6.1 of the rules of professional conduct state that Louisiana attorneys are

encouraged to fulfill their professional obligations with the goal of 50 hours of pro bono service per year? I know this is a lofty aspiration but there are many ways you can of you can reach this ambitious goal. CLE credits are available by providing pro bono legal services. You can obtain one hour of CLE per five hours of pro bono representation and up to three hours of CLE for each calendar year. Taking pro bono cases provides career development and trial experience. They can also show a different side of yourself to potential employers and clients.

The Lafayette Bar Foundation has volunteer opportunities for any level of participation ranging from one hour a week to full civil cases. Judges generally elevate pro bono attorneys to the top of the docket at hearings. Support and guidance are offered to novice volunteer attorneys. You can use the Lafayette Bar Association offices to meet with your pro bono client. We do yearly awards to honor attorneys who volunteer their services. You're providing a valuable service to the community and helping those that are less fortunate. Marilyn Lopez, the director of our pro bono services, stands ready to assist any attorney who would like to volunteer their services to the Lafayette Bar Foundation. She has a wealth of resources and knowledge and can make the volunteer work proceed smoothly throughout each step. Will you volunteer?



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CRIMINAL LAW SECTION

AN UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT
CLARE ROUBION

On April 18, 2024, the Criminal Law Section hosted a free lunchtime CLE focused on educating attendees on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trust Based Relational Intervention. We had a great turnout and would like to thank everyone who helped facilitate this CLE for our members. We look forward to a summer social. Be on the lookout for additional information on the details of our summer social.



FAMILY LAW SECTION

AN UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT
CLAIRE EDWARDS

Reflecting on a Year of Growth and Gratitude:
A Farewell from the Family Law Section
President

As I sit down to reflect on the journey of the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude and a sense of fulfillment. Serving as the president of the Family Law Section has been an honor beyond measure, and it is with great pleasure that I conclude my term.

First and foremost, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every member of our esteemed section. Your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to our shared vision have been the cornerstone of our success. Together, we have navigated through challenges, celebrated triumphs, and worked tirelessly to advance the field of family law.

None of this would have been possible without the exceptional leadership of our executive committee. I am profoundly grateful for the wisdom, guidance, and tireless efforts of Lesley Beam, Rebecca Bayless, Logan Istre, Lana Duhon, David Kobetz, and Wes Galjour. Their collective expertise and passion have been instrumental in driving our section forward and ensuring its continued growth and prosperity. I also hold out a soft spot in my heart for the guidance of Elizabeth Dugal as an ad hoc EC member to help guide me in decision making.

As I bid farewell to my role as president, I am filled with confidence knowing that I am passing the torch to someone as capable and dedicated as Lesley Beam. Lesley's commitment to excellence and her deep understanding of the issues facing our community make her the perfect choice to lead our section into the future. I have no doubt that under her leadership, our section will reach new heights of success and impact.

As we transition into the summer months, I want to take a moment to wish each and every one of you a season filled with joy, relaxation, and rejuvenation. May you find time to recharge and reconnect with loved ones, and return refreshed and ready to continue the important work that lies ahead.

In closing, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for the privilege of serving as your president. It has truly been an honor and a privilege that I will always cherish. I look forward to continuing our journey together as we strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.



The Lafayette Bar Association would like to welcome Lesley Beam as our 2024-2025 Family Law Section President!

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Find the answers later on a different page!


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Fitness Center
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Valet Parking
Jubilee Poolside Grill
Grand Pool Complex
Feature Pool
Cabanas
Splash Pad
- ★ 6. Marina (36 slips)
- ★ 7. Covered Bridge
- ★ 8. Self-Parking
- ★ 9. Main Entrance
- ★ 10. Valet Parking
- ★ 11. Jubilee Poolside Grill
- ★ 12. Grand Pool Complex
Feature Pool
Cabanas
Splash Pad
- ★ 13. North Beach
Beach Hut
Volleyball
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Tether Ball
Bikes
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- ★ 20. South Bay House Lawn
- ★ 21. Fleischer Pier
- ★ 22. Statue of Bucky, Sunset Bell, Firepits & Bay Terrace Lawn
- ★ 23. The Grand Lawn
- ★ 24. Julep Point & Julep Point Lawn
- ★ 25. Activities Lawn
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Tennis & Pickleball

The Lakewood Club's professional-quality tennis facility is designed to be enjoyed by players of all ages and skill levels. Our outstanding Lakewood staff makes improving your game fun with adult and children clinics as well as private lessons. An active schedule featuring league play, USTA tournament play, and social round-robins gives everyone an opportunity to be a part of The Lakewood Club Tennis community. Due to the mild year-round climate, there is simply no setting more naturally beautiful in which to enjoy tennis and pickleball. Pickleball is an excellent opportunity to make friends, move your body, and enjoy the gorgeous Alabama sun. With stunning views and a world-class staff, your expectations are sure to be exceeded.



Croquet

The Grand Hotel started offering croquet in the mid-1940s. Our game has been elevated with the addition of 2 championship 6 Wicket Golf Croquet lawns at our Lakewood Club. Golf croquet is a version of the game that is very popular due to the fact that new players can be introduced to the game rather quickly and can begin playing after learning just a few basic concepts and skills.

Cabanas & Pool

Swimming at the Grand Hotel is no ordinary adventure. Each pool can offer a tranquil experience as well as a fun afternoon in the sun. Enjoy a refreshing escape, complete with stunning views of our resort and the shimmering waters of Mobile Bay. Our easily accessible pools invite relaxation, while our zero-entry feature pool, water slide, and splash pad provide endless excitement for the entire family. Soak up some rays on the expansive pool deck or rent a private beach or pool cabana while savoring an array of refreshments from our Jubilee Poolside Grill.

You can also rent a bicycle, each some beach volleyball, have a friendly game of corn hole or horseshoes, and so much more!



2024 BENCH BAR

BY CLARE ROUBION

It's the most wonderful time of the year! No, I am not talking about the Christmas season. Rather, I am talking about Lafayette Bar Association's yearly Bench Bar Conference. The Bench Bar Conference will be held August 22, 2024, through August 24, 2024, at The Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. If you have not booked your room yet, you should do so now. If, however, you are on the fence about coming, I have put together a list of the top five reasons why you and your family should attend this year's Bench Bar Conference. We hope that you will join us for a family friendly weekend in Point Clear, Alabama, full of outdoor entertainment, CLEs, and fun.

1. Make New Friends and Catch Up With Old Friends

The Bench Bar Conference presents an excellent opportunity for lawyers to spend time with fellow lawyers and judges in a social setting. In the past, our Bench Bar Conference hosted over 15 judges and over 70 local lawyers. The community atmosphere of our Bench Bar Conference facilitates new friendships among lawyers and between lawyers and judges. And, the bar at The Grand Hotel, 1847 Bar, would be a great place to catch up with old friends and reminisce with judges about cases from the past.

2. The Famous Grand Hotel Golf Resort and Spa

Hello, Point Clear! Bench Bar Conference 2024 is saying goodbye to the Windsor Court in New Orleans and saying hello to The Grand Hotel! On the Gulf Coast of Alabama, the Grand is more than a hotel. The Grand is a beautiful hotel set on 550 acres of stunning natural beauty. Do you like to golf? The Grand Hotel has two 18-hole championship golf courses, part of the famed Robert Trent Jones Trail - Dogwood and Azalea both reopened with TifEagle greens. Do you like pickleball? The Grand Hotel has 11 pickleball courts. The Grand even has two championship croquet lawns and swimming pools if pickleball is not your thing.

Are you like me and love a good spa? Then a getaway at The Grand Hotel is for you! The Grand Hotel has a 20,000 square foot spa with 12 treatment rooms, plus four styling, manicure, and pedicure stations in the salon. These activities and amenities are available for the lawyers attending the Bench Bar Conference and their spouses and families. There are even rumors circulating that there will be childcare services offered for parents wanting a night off. You should make this year's Bench Bar Conference a family affair!

3. High Quality and Entertaining CLE Programs

All of your favorite Bench Bar presenters are slated to appear again this year. The agenda for Bench Bar this year features the following speakers and topics: Hot Topics in Ethics from the Bench/Bar; Health and Wellness presented by David Barczyk; Juxtaposition of Choosing Civil and Criminal Juries presented by Tony Clayton; Judicial Roundtable on Professionalism; Artificial Intelligence and its impact on the legal world presented by Steven Bradley; Wine Law presented by Jason Matt and Jonathan Jarret; and Criminal Law for the Civil Lawyer presented by Pat McGee and Patsy Duhon.

4. Earn Up to 9 CLE Credits

All lawyers need their 12.5 hours of CLEs before December 31, 2024. Attending Bench Bar this year would fulfill a large part of your CLE obligation far in advance of the CLE deadline. Bench Bar offers an excellent lineup of CLE topics and speakers. In fact, Bench Bar attendees can earn up to 9 CLE hours, including ethics and professionalism. Come December, you will be so happy that you fulfilled your CLE obligation at The Grand Hotel rather than scrambling at CLE By the Hour at the Bar Association in December.

5. Enhancing Your Legal Community

The Bench Bar Conference is designed to bring lawyers and judges together in a fun, informal environment where we can all work together to discuss and solve challenges facing our legal community. The hope is that Bench Bar facilitates more effective communication among lawyers and judges, and a legal system that works better for all of us and our clients.





2024 BENCH BAR SCHEDULE

This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Thursday, August 22, 2024

- 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Legislative Update
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Welcome Reception and Happy Hour

Friday, August 23, 2024

- 8:00 AM-8:30 AM Continental Breakfast and Registration
- 8:15 AM Welcome and Introductions
- 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Judicial and Speaker Hospitality Suite Open
- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Health & Wellness
Dr. David Barczyk
- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Juxtaposition of Choosing Civil and Criminal Juries
Tony Clayton
- 10:30 AM - 10:45 AM Break
- 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM Judicial Roundtable
- 12:45 PM - 1:15 PM Lunch
- 1:15 PM - 2:15 PM Artificial Intelligence and Its Impact on the Legal World
Steven Bradley
- 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free time for activities: Golf, beach, happy hour, napping.
- 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Wine Law
Jason Matt and Jonathan Jarrett
- 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Dinner On-Site

Saturday, August 24, 2024

- 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast and Registration
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Judicial and Speaker Hospitality Suite Open
- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Topic TBD
Honorable John Guidry
- 9:30 AM-10:30 AM Criminal Law for the Civil Attorney
Pat Magee, Patsy Duhon and Honorable Royale Colbert
- 10:30 AM -10:45 AM Break
- 10:45 AM -11:45 AM Hot Topics in Ethics
Clare Roubion
- 11:45 AM Adjourn



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2. The bottom

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Attorneys at Law

LAWYERS GIVING TIME, TALENTS, AND TREASURES TO THEIR COMMUNITY

By: **Tamiko Chatman**

While the impact of our roles as lawyers/attorneys/counselors is well known, it is important to recognize that our broader community contributions usually go unnoticed. Our fellow attorneys are in the trenches every day, actively enriching their communities by generously donating their time, skills, and resources to worthy causes.

Albert Einstein instructed that one should “try not to become a man of success but rather to become a man of value.” We are shining the spotlight on two successful Lafayette attorneys who are men of value. Not only are they successful, but they also value the importance of their role in the legal profession and the importance of giving back to their communities.

Here are their stories...

Kirk Piccione



Justice and philanthropy have been Kirk Piccione's mission. A proud graduate of LSU (1983) and Tulane Law School (1986), he has carved out a successful legal career while still finding time to serve the Acadiana community outside of the courthouse.

During a 15-year partnership with his father, Joseph James Piccione, he honed his skills at Piccione & Piccione. Following his father's retirement, Kirk's wife, Brenda, joined him in private practice, continuing the Piccione & Piccione legacy. Over his 33-year career, he has gained substantial experience in personal injury, business, and contract litigation. Kirk has successfully litigated everything from multi-million-dollar personal injury cases to capital murder cases.

Despite having had a diverse civil practice for many years, Kirk's recent focus has been on criminal defense, his true calling. When a crime victim asked how he could sleep at night defending the accused, he answered, "someone has to stand with the sinners and tax collectors." He acknowledges that his response is rooted in his strong Catholic faith. Despite the

challenges of being a criminal defense attorney, his unwavering commitment to ensuring that individuals are treated fairly in our justice system is a testament to his dedication and passion. Always championing the underdog, Kirk finds immense satisfaction in upholding the constitutional rights of the accused.

His service to professional legal organizations highlights Kirk's professional stature. A member of our esteemed national, state, and local bar associations, he is also a member of the Louisiana Association for Justice and the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. His extensive pro bono work exemplifies his commitment to justice. He was pivotal in establishing the Lafayette Young Lawyers in 1990 and 1991, serving as its founding president for two one-year terms. He also served on the Board of Governor of the Louisiana Trial Lawyers Association (1989-91) and was a Board Member of the Louisiana Association for Justice. On three occasions, the Louisiana Supreme Court named him Court Appointed Administrator, whose job was to administer the practices of disbarred or suspended attorneys, ensuring their clients were not left hanging. At the request of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, Kirk has volunteered over the past decade as a trainer for the Acadiana Law Enforcement Training Academy, teaching cadets courtroom responsibilities and practices. Kirk also served on the 15th Judicial District Court District Defender Selection Committee. He has given numerous Continuing Legal Education presentations. Kirk has also presented on criminal justice topics to high school, paralegal, and college students.

Kirk's dedication to the legal profession spills over into serving the legal community at large, especially causes that benefit children and youth. As a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Lafayette, he has twice held the prestigious position of Lieutenant Governor of the tri-state District. Over his 35-year volunteer history, he has humbly given of his time, talent, and treasure to causes such as Operation Magi, the Kiwanis Football Jamboree as the play-by-play announcer, and various children's projects and fundraisers reflecting his unwavering dedication to community service. Kirk has been recognized and honored for his service in Kiwanis. He is the recipient of the Kiwanian of the Year award, the Life Member Award, and the Hickson Fellow Award. He has also served as an assistant scout master for the Cub Scouts and worked diligently as a volunteer with BSA Troop 271 for several years. He has coached SLYSI football, girls volleyball, and girls basketball teams. He was a roadie for the St. Thomas Moore High School Band for four years. He regularly volunteered at his four children's schools for twenty-five years in academic, fundraising, athletic, art, and music activities.

The arts, the local culture, and his faith community are beneficiaries of Kirks' time, talent, and treasure. He served on the executive committee of the Acadiana Symphony Association, as a board member of the Acadiana Center for the Arts, where he was also the treasurer, and as a board member of the City-Parish Parks and Recreation Commission. He has also volunteered at Holy Cross Catholic Church, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Festival Internationale, Gulf Brew, I-10 Bowl All-Star Game, and other local events. Kirk organizes and hosts reunion activities for the Cathedral Carmel Class of 1980, helps to produce local theater productions through Stage Backers and serves as campaign treasurer for various political candidates.

Grounded by his strong faith, led by compassion for family and humanity, driven by his deep-seated passion for criminal justice, and inspired by his love of the local culture and the arts, Kirk Piccione is a Lafayette attorney whose philanthropic service extends far beyond the courtroom. His faith and values guide his work, ensuring that he always acts with integrity and compassion, both in his legal practice and in his community service. His dedication to justice and his love for his community are not just professional obligations but deeply held personal beliefs that he lives out every day.

Patrick (Pat) S. Ottinger



As an Acadiana lawyer who serves, Patrick (Pat) S. Ottinger's giving spirit is channeled through his legal practice, academic pursuits, mentorship, and charitable contributions. He humorously jokes that "when you go to a program, [and] it says, 'anonymous,' that's usually me." A graduate of Lafayette High School, Pat was born in Lake Charles; he was raised in Lafayette due to his father relocating the family for work in the oil and gas industry. Following in his father's footsteps, he has carved his niche in the oil and gas industry. While Pat does not care to be in the limelight and usually opts out of participating in civic clubs and organizations, his giving spirit infiltrates his everyday life, making him a beacon of service in the Acadiana area's legal community.

Pat's path to law was not a conventional one. After completing his undergraduate studies at the former University of Southwestern Louisiana (now known as the University of Louisiana at Lafayette), he found

himself in a lackluster job market in the Lafayette area. It was during this time that he and a few friends, in a bold move, decided to try their luck at law school. While his friends did not find their calling in law, Pat did. Graduating from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Louisiana State University, led to a five-decade-long legal career, a testament to Pat's passion and dedication. Reflecting on his 50 years as an attorney, Pat expresses pride in prioritizing his clients, maintaining a professional and ethical practice, and serving as the president of the Lafayette Parish Bar Association and later as president of the Louisiana State Bar Association (1998-99). For his distinguished work and service, he has received a multitude of awards and recognition, such as the Louisiana State Bar Association Friend of Pro Bono Award and the Distinguished Achievement Honoree, and the Lafayette Bar Association Hall of Fame. Receiving the Louisiana Bar Foundation's 2018 Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award is an attestation of Pat's "long-standing devotion to and excellence in trial practice" and "upholding the standards of ethics and consideration for the courts, litigants, and all counsel." Further, he treasures the opportunity to interact with fellow colleagues, professors, and judges in his practice area and is humbled to be among the few individuals who have held such prestigious positions and honors.

Pat's love for the law extends beyond his practice; he remains passionately dedicated to the world of academia. Despite the challenge of commuting from Lafayette to Baton Rouge, he has been sharing his passion with students as an adjunct professor at LSU Law School since 1996. At the law school, he also serves as a reporter for the Mineral Law Committee of the Louisiana State Law Institute and is involved with the John P. Laborde Energy Law Center. He previously served as Chair of the Advisory Council of the Mineral Law Institute. Licensed in Louisiana and Texas, he shares his oil and gas expertise with his colleagues in Texas and throughout Louisiana with CLE presentations. A testament to his commitment

to knowledge dissemination, Pat has published a comprehensive treatise on mineral leases entitled Louisiana Mineral Leases: A Treatise and has authored multiple academic and substantive materials on oil and gas law. His diverse academic portfolio reflects his dedication to professional development within the legal community.

Pat's altruism extends to the mentorship of new lawyers, a testament to his empathy and support for the next generation of attorneys. He proudly shares his participation in the State Bar's Transition Into Practice "TIP" Program, a mentorship program that guides new lawyers through their transition into practice, particularly during the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. He notes that participation was mandatory for new lawyers but not required for senior lawyers, which he found regrettable. Despite this, he engaged in the program and found it highly rewarding. Encouraging attorneys to participate, he underscores the importance of supporting and guiding new lawyers as they navigate the complexities of the legal profession.

Pat expresses concern about the decline in civility in professional relationships over the years. He recalls a time when the legal practice was more collegial, and agreements were often made verbally without requiring written confirmation. This year, Pat shifted his role from an oil and gas attorney to Lafayette City-Parish Attorney, marking his return to a position he had previously held 20 years ago. Now, he takes proactive steps as a City-Parish Attorney, implementing measures to instill professionalism and community service among legal practitioners. In this role, he has implemented measures aligned with his concerns by insisting that newly hired Assistant City-Parish Attorneys re-sign the Oath of Professionalism. Additionally, he strongly encourages participation in the Lafayette Volunteer Lawyers Program and/or donating the equivalent of one hour of their monthly billing rate to the Share the Light Program, which assists individuals in paying their electrical bills. While he does not strictly enforce these requirements, he firmly advocates for their adoption, trusting that attorneys will fulfill these commitments voluntarily. His commitment to highlighting community service and professional conduct in the legal profession is a personal passion Pat recognizes as necessary in fostering a sense of responsibility and service among lawyers.

Privately, his philanthropy knows no bounds, recognizing the importance of contributing to essential efforts within the community. He supports causes dear to his heart, from poverty relief to Alzheimer's research to local cancer services. Pat has supported the Share the Light program for over 20 years. Seeing the horror of hunger, Pat does his part to combat it by supporting food bank initiatives through Second Harvest and our local United Way. Driven by his mother's passing due to Alzheimer's disease, Pat donates 100% of the royalties from the sale of his comprehensive treatise to the Alzheimer's Association. Additionally, he supports Miles Perret Cancer Services, inspired by his wife's experience with the organization five years ago.

Regarding advice for new lawyers entering the oil and gas field or law students aspiring to specialize in this legal realm, Pat emphasizes the importance of finding one's niche. He encourages new lawyers to focus on one or two crucial aspects within the broad scope of their chosen area of the law and dedicate themselves to mastering them. However, he stresses the broader principle of pursuing what one enjoys. While he acknowledges the practicalities young lawyers may face, such as financial obligations and family responsibilities, he ultimately advises following one's passion for the law and striving to advance the legal profession. He emphasizes the significance of upholding the highest ethical and moral standards, believing that success will naturally follow.

THE GRAPEVINE

Congratulations to Phillip Smith with NeunerPate, who has recently welcomed his second son on Saturday, April 27th.

On Tuesday, April 2nd, Dene' Thibeaux from Acadiana Legal Services Corporation won Acadiana Woman of the Year by KLFY. Congratulations Dene'!

On May 21, 2024 LBA Foundation Chair and Attorney, Gregory Tonore received the 2024 Louisiana State Bar Association Friend of Pro Bono Award. Congratulations Gregory!

The LBA would like to offer our deepest condolences to the families, colleagues and friends of Greg Moroux Sr., James Leonard, and Stephen Myers.



James Richard Leonard
February 8, 1945 - March 19, 2024



Gregory K. Moroux Sr.
September 21, 1951 - May 14, 2024



Stephen H. Myers
March 28, 1953 - March 3, 2024

Do you have a new member at your firm, a new edition to your family, or just any life updates that you'd like to share? Submit it for The Grapevine and you'll be featured in our next Promulgator!

Email your submission to marketing@lafayettebar.org

The Verdict



Cajun Sno

- Pam:** Clear Bubblegum
- Cheryl:** Wedding Cake/Chocolate
- Marilyn:** Pina Colada stuffed with Ice Cream
- Catherine:** Cotton Candy
- Amanda:** Chocolate Shake



Lucia | Bakehouse

- Pam:** Chocolate Hazelnut Tart
- Cheryl:** Cinnamon Roll
- Marilyn:** Plain Croissant
- Catherine:** Mushroom Danish
- Amanda:** Plain Croissant

Nothing Bundt Cakes

- Pam:** Strawberries & Cream
- Cheryl:** Red Velvet
- Marilyn:** White Chocolate Raspberry
- Catherine:** Chocolate Chip
- Amanda:** Chocolate Chip

An overall favorite!

Juneteenth

“Juneteenth commemorates an effective end of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops’ arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. On June 17, 2021, it officially became a federal holiday.” - Elizabeth Nix

AN UPDATE FROM THE LAFAYETTE BAR FOUNDATION

PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

THE FOLLOWING ATTORNEYS HAVE VOLUNTEERED WITH THE LAFAYETTE BAR FOUNDATION IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS THROUGH VARIOUS PRO BONO PROGRAMS.

James Kirk Piccione
Piccione & Piccione

Joey Dupuis
S. Joseph Dupuis, Jr.

Ryan Goudelocke
Goudelocke Law

Joshua Barnhill
The Law Office Of Joshua S Barnhill, LLC

Wesley Galjour
Attorney At Law

Justin Cantu
Attorney at Law

Kay Gautreaux
Attorney at Law

McKinley James
The James Firm

Gregory Koury
Koury & Hill

David Kaufman
David M. Kaufman, APLC, Attorney-Mediator

Valerie Guidry
Ottinger Hebert, L.L.C.

ADOPT A MONTH

The Lafayette Bar Foundation is asking firms (solo, small, medium, and large) to adopt a month of service this year. A month of service is a unique opportunity for firms to bring their workforce together to create meaningful impact through employee volunteering with the Lafayette Bar Foundation. As a thank you for your month of service, we will promote the firms on our social media pages, in The Promulgator, and on flyers. Please email Marilyn at marilyn@lafayettebar.org to inform her of which month your firm would like to volunteer.

LWCC, in Baton Rouge, seeks an attorney with 4-6 years' experience in Louisiana and/or federal workers' comp defense. Specialize in state workers' comp and maritime litigation. Contribute to impactful litigation and benefit recovery. Competitive benefits package and friendly company culture.

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Business Economic Losses
Insurance Claims



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