

THE PROMULGATOR

The Official Magazine of the Lafayette Bar Association



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FATHERS AND SONS IN LAW
JUNE 2026 | VOLUME 39 | ISSUE 3



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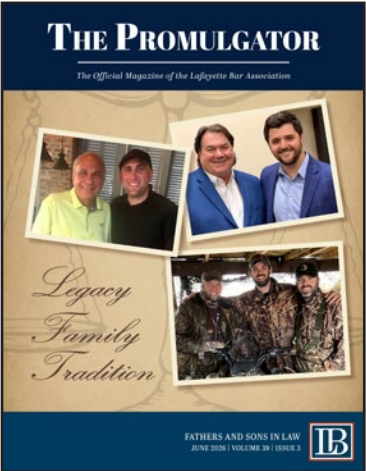
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LAFAYETTE BAR
ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION

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 June issue of The Promulgator, we celebrate Father's Day. Pictured on the cover are just a few of our local fathers and sons who have a shared calling to practice law in Lafayette's legal community: Tommy, Trey and Tad Hightower; Jimmy and James Domengeaux, and Alfred and Freddy Boustany. There are many more esteemed father and son duos whom we cherish! The LBA wants to wish all dads out there a Happy Father's Day!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BIRDIE WITH THE BAR
GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Wetlands
June 12

BENCH BAR

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August 20-22

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One thing that has always defined this Bar Association is our willingness to stay on offense: to lead and meet the challenges facing our profession head-on rather than waiting to react to them. That mindset carries special meaning for me this year following the passing of one of my mentors, who taught me early in my career that the best lawyers and organizations never sit back on defense. They prepare, anticipate, and attack problems before problems attack them.

This spring has been filled with outstanding programs and successful events that reflect the strength, service, and engagement of our membership, as our Bar leadership continues to push this Association forward with energy, purpose, and unity.

We hosted another excellent Bench Bar Quarterly featuring Judge Susan Theall, providing valuable insight and meaningful dialogue between the bench and Bar.

Our annual Running in Heels CLE was once again a tremendous success, bringing together many of the outstanding women in our legal community to discuss the unique opportunities and challenges they face in the profession.

The LBA's commitment to service and education was also on full display through our Expungement Clinic, Estate Planning CLE, and the YLS CINC Basics 101 Clinic.

In addition, the Family Law Section's Crawfish Boil was another fantastic event that brought members together for fellowship and camaraderie outside the courtroom.

These successful programs do not happen without our generous sponsors, as well as the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers, Section leaders, and our wonderful LBA staff. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and energy to making this spring such a success for the LBA.

I would also like to extend special congratulations to the Lafayette Bar Foundation for receiving the Louisiana State Bar Association's 2026 Horn Blower Award. Additionally, congratulations to Dave Ernest on receiving the President's Award from the Louisiana Bar Foundation, a well-deserved honor recognizing his leadership and contributions to the profession.

We have an exciting summer on the horizon. One event I especially encourage everyone to support is the 2026 Birdie with the Bar Golf Tournament on June 12. Whether you are an experienced golfer or simply looking for an excuse to get out of the office on a Friday afternoon, I encourage you to participate, sponsor a team, or join us for the day.

We are also eagerly anticipating the return of Bench Bar at the Grand Hotel from August 20–22, and it promises to be another outstanding gathering for panel discussion and fellowship. The committee has been working tirelessly to deliver an exceptional experience, and I have no doubt it will once again be one of the highlights of the year.

Thank you all for your continued support of the LBA and its mission. Together, we will continue to stay on offense: advancing our profession, supporting one another, and building a stronger Bar for the next generation of lawyers.

I look forward to seeing you on June 12 at Birdie with the Bar and at Bench Bar in August.



Trey Hightower

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

How is it already summertime? I continue to be energized by the momentum and engagement we are experiencing here!

Our "Running in Heels" event on May 15 was an incredible success and reflected the strong interest in our programming that focuses on professional growth, leadership, and quality of life in the legal profession. The conversations and relationships built throughout the day were priceless, as were the speakers and sponsors. Bailey Moyer, our Events Coordinator, did an outstanding job organizing the event and made it a huge success. I am very proud of all of our staff, who lift me up each and every day. We are also grateful to Reed Ellis and Steven Ramos for chairing our CLE programming this year.

The Real Estate and Transactional Section is now officially up and running again after a few years of dormancy. You can read more about it on page 10. I want to give a shout-out to Kyle Bacon, managing partner at Jones Walker, for chairing this Section and helping me get this group off the ground again. When

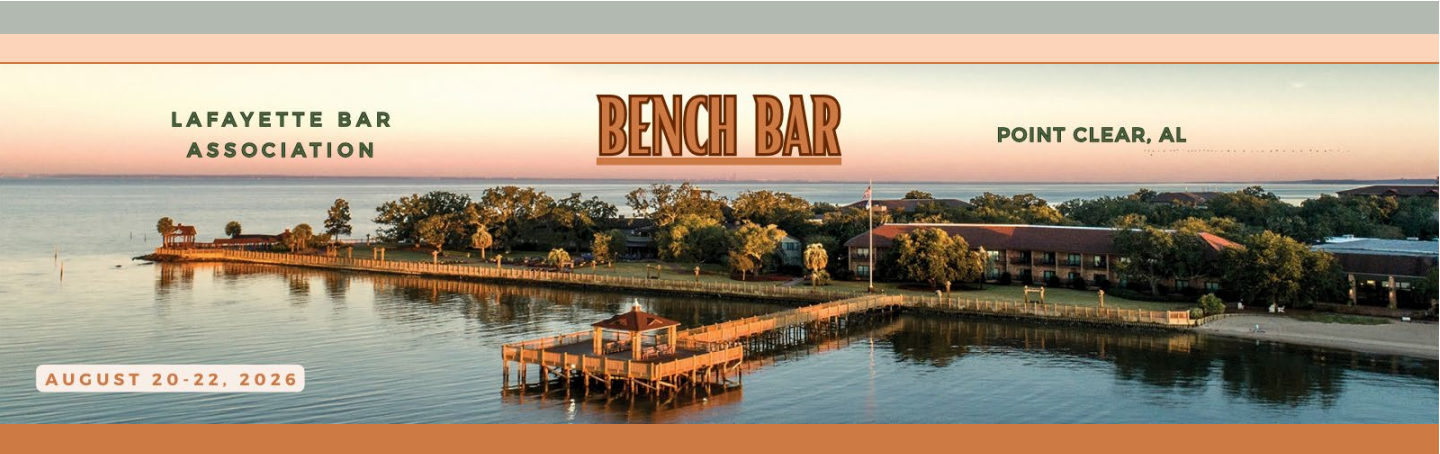
I actively practiced, transactional law was my primary focus, so this makes my heart sing!

I want to remind our members that the Bar office remains an active resource for the community. Whether you need access to the law library to conduct research or need a space to conduct a deposition or mediation, please reach out to us!

Thank you for your continued support of the Lafayette Bar Association and Lafayette Bar Foundation. The good work happening across our organization is only possible because of the dedication, participation, and generosity of members like you.



Jan Swift



The LBA Bench Bar Conference will be held at the Grand Hotel Resort in Point Clear, Alabama, August 20–22, 2026.

Attendees represent every facet of the legal community alongside members of the judiciary from the 15th, 16th, and 24th Judicial District Courts, the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal, the Louisiana Supreme Court, and the U.S. District Court. This conference combines high-quality CLE hours with exceptional networking opportunities in a relaxed and collegial environment. Through meaningful interaction in a setting designed to foster conversation and collaboration, participants build lasting relationships, enhance professional visibility, and engage in substantive dialogue with members of the bench and Bar.

We kick off Bench Bar at 4 p.m. Thursday, August 20, with a presentation by 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal

Judge Jonathan Perry, followed by a CLE on Whiskey Law with a whiskey tasting. A reception will follow on-site, offering an open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres, including an oyster bar.

The program on Friday will include 6.5 hours of CLE, culminating with a two-hour judicial roundtable with all judges in attendance. Following free time in the afternoon, Bench Bar will continue with dinner off-site at The Wash House Restaurant, with transportation provided. The conference will conclude on Saturday morning, offering one additional CLE hour with a breakfast buffet to allow for additional networking with lawyers and judges.

We sincerely hope to see you there! To register for the conference, please visit lafayettebar.org and click on Events.



ACCESS TO JUSTICE

A report of the Lafayette Bar Foundation,
provided by Foundation Chair Dean Cole



It is my pleasure to announce that our Lafayette Bar Foundation was chosen by President Edmund Giering of the Louisiana Bar Foundation to receive the prestigious Horn Blower Award. The Horn Blower Award is presented to the organization that most exemplifies support for and dedication to advancing the mission of the Louisiana Bar Foundation. This is a testament to the outstanding volunteer spirit exhibited by our Bar community, and it was my privilege to accept the award on everyone's behalf in New Orleans. I encourage all of you to come by the Bar office and take a photograph with the award, because it is through your hard work that the Foundation was recognized.

It is also my pleasure to congratulate our own

Dave Ernest on his selection by the Louisiana Bar Foundation to receive the 2026 President's Award. Dave has earned the award by providing invaluable assistance to the president and serving in a leadership role in the LBF, where he will be stepping in as secretary of the organization this year. Congratulations, Dave!

I would also like to encourage all of you to sign up for the expungement clinic on June 25 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Bar office. This clinic will provide invaluable assistance to community members who desperately need expungements to pursue employment opportunities and government assistance. Thank you in advance to all of you for your support.

Have a great summer!



FAMILY LAW SECTION

AN UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT

LOGAN ISTRE

As we approach the summer months, the Family Law Section typically takes a hiatus from our formal meetings. Before our hiatus, however, we had our Section crawfish boil on May 9, which was a success despite the rain trying to interfere with our festivities. We would like to extend our thanks to Lesley Beam for allowing the Section to use her home for our event, to Maggie Simar and Rachel Godley for helping with all things party-setup related, and to Crowdaddy's for catering our event and making it as stress-free as possible.

While we may be on hiatus during the summer months, we are excited for our upcoming three-hour CLE opportunity taking place on September 18, 2026. We will have Dr. David Landry presenting on court-ordered mental health services, Brad Felder presenting on classifications and valuations in the community property realm, and Hearing Officer Maggie Simar and Kade Simar speaking on sexually transmitted infections and potential legal

issues that may arise from their transmission.

In addition to the September three-hour CLE, our vice president, Brittany LaCombe, is in the process of arranging a joint CLE opportunity with the Young Lawyers Section when we return from the summer hiatus. As the details surrounding the joint CLE are solidified, we will send out the information so that our members can mark their calendars accordingly.

We hope that everyone enjoys the summer break with friends and family, and we look forward to seeing everyone when we return for our September meeting. Until then, if any Section members have anything they find relevant to family law practitioners that they would like disseminated among the Section, please feel free to reach out to our executive committee members, and we will pass along the information.



YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

AN UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT

J.P. GRAF

I've always liked the movie *Yes Man*.

Now, I am not suggesting that lawyers adopt a blanket policy of saying yes to absolutely everything. But the movie gets one important idea right: good things tend to happen when you show up and say yes.

That can be easy to forget in our profession. We are busy, overcommitted, and rarely looking for more things to put on the calendar. It is very easy to say no—to the lunch, CLE, the social, the conference, or the event that sounds worthwhile but lands on the one evening you were planning to do absolutely nothing.

And sometimes, "no" is the right answer. But more often than we expect, the things we almost talked ourselves out of attending end up being the things we're glad we made time for.

Showing up matters. Saying yes matters.

In our profession, much of what makes practice enjoyable—and often successful—happens outside the four corners of a pleading. It happens at lunch tables, in hallways, before and after the CLE, or while riding in a golf cart with someone you barely knew an hour earlier. If you keep showing up and keep saying yes, good things have a way of finding you.

Sometimes that means resolving an issue—or even a case. Sometimes it means meeting a new friend.

And occasionally, it means something a little less expected. In my own experience, showing up and saying yes has helped me find a new house and sell my old one. I don't necessarily recommend the Bar as your primary real estate strategy, but I can confirm it has a 100 percent success rate in at least one case.

That is one of the things I value most about the Young Lawyers Section and the Lafayette Bar as a whole. These events are not just dates on a calendar. They are opportunities—opportunities to learn something useful, meet someone new, build relationships, and stay connected to the kind of legal community we all want to be part of. We have a few good chances to do exactly that in the coming months.

On June 4, we will have a CLE and Social at Superior Grill. That is an easy yes—get out of the office, catch

up with colleagues, learn something, and enjoy a good evening with the Bar.

On June 12, we will have Birdie with the Bar at The Wetlands. Whether you are a serious golfer, an occasional golfer, or just someone who hopes to produce one respectable shot per nine holes like Chris Ortte, it is another great opportunity to show up and have some fun.

And beginning August 20, we will have the Lafayette Bench Bar Conference at the beautiful Grand Hotel Resort & Spa in Point Clear, Alabama. That is one of the best opportunities all year to say yes. It gives lawyers and judges the chance to spend real time together, learn together, and build the relationships that make our Bar better. It is hard to overstate the value of that.

So that is my pitch for this month: show up and say yes.

Say yes to the CLE.

Say yes to the social.

Say yes to the golf tournament.

Say yes to the Bench Bar Conference.

Not every "yes" will change your life. Some yeses will simply get you a margarita or a day on the golf course—which, frankly, is already a pretty good return.

But every now and then, one yes turns into something more: a new connection, a solved problem, a friendship, or an unexpected opportunity.

The only way to find out is to be there.

I'll see you there.

THERESA DE BÊCHE & ASSOCIATES



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2026 HORN BLOWER AWARD

April 17, 2026, was a momentous day for the Lafayette Bar Foundation when we were awarded the Louisiana Bar Foundation's 2026 Horn Blower Award at the annual Fellows Luncheon! This honor is given to a partner organization in recognition of outstanding support and leadership in assisting the

Louisiana Bar Foundation in advancing an initiative, project, or program.

We also want to congratulate Dave Ernest on receiving the President's Award at the luncheon. This award couldn't have gone to a finer fellow or a harder worker.



The Lafayette Bar Foundation is pleased to announce that our Foundation Chair, Dean Cole, has been awarded the Louisiana Bar Association 2026 Friend of Pro Bono Award. Please join us in congratulating Dean on this outstanding achievement! This esteemed recognition honors members of the legal community who are committed to providing access to justice for all Louisianans through

their exemplary pro bono contributions.

The awards ceremony is scheduled to take place at the Louisiana Supreme Court on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. This occasion highlights the vital role that pro bono efforts play in addressing the significant disparity between the number of individuals eligible for free legal services and the limited availability of legal aid attorneys to assist them.



REAL ESTATE AND TRANSACTIONAL SECTION



After a few years of dormancy, the Real Estate and Transactional Section is back up and running! Chaired by Kyle Bacon, head of Jones Walker's Lafayette office, the group has held three complimentary CLEs so far this year. For just \$35 in Section dues, members receive the opportunity to network with their peers, earn CLE credits, and keep up to date on industry-specific topics. These luncheons have been generously sponsored by Jones Walker, Prime Title, and Andrus Boudreaux. For more information, reach out to Jan Swift at jan@lafayettebar.org.



BENCH BAR QUARTERLY LUNCHEON SERIES

The Bench Bar Quarterly Luncheon Series is a wonderful perk offered to members of the LBA. Attendees receive one free CLE professionalism credit.

Each quarter, we host a free luncheon and invite a judge to visit and share insight into their courtroom and preferred courtroom procedure.

On February 25, 15th JDC Judge Michelle Breaux fielded questions and shared practical insights on courtroom best practices, judicial pet peeves, challenges facing the bench, and the incredible rise in pro se filings.

Neuner Pate generously sponsored the lunch.

On April 30, we welcomed 15th JDC Chief Judge Susan Theall, who spoke on the operations of Family Court and the sensitive nature of family matters involving custody and divorce, especially when pro se litigants are involved. Liskow served as sponsor of the luncheon.

We are grateful to Jamie Rhymes and Lesley Beam for chairing this committee. If you are interested in attending a future Bench Bar Quarterly luncheon, reach out to Jan Swift at jan@lafayettebar.org.



Our annual Running in Heels was held on May 15. This full day of CLEs brought together incredible attorneys, judges, and professionals for meaningful conversations focused on the unique challenges and opportunities women face in the legal profession. From leadership and advocacy to wellness, negotiation, and community impact, the day was filled with insight,

encouragement, and connection.

A special thank you to our outstanding speakers for sharing your time, experience, and wisdom with us. Your voices made this event truly impactful.

We are grateful to our generous sponsors for making this event possible: Kean Miller, b1BANK, LB Legal Nurse Consultants, and McGee Plastic Surgery.



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Emile Joseph

Raised Around the Law: *Fathers, Sons, and the Lives Built Inside the Profession*

For children of lawyers, the profession rarely stays at the office. It shows up at the dinner table, late-night phone calls, and in conversations about judges, clients, and impossible deadlines. Long before they understand the law itself, they absorb the rhythm of the work and the relationships surrounding it.

For the fathers and sons featured in this issue, the law was never simply a profession passed from one generation to the next. It was a way of life they observed long before they chose it for themselves. And while each family followed a different path, the same themes surfaced repeatedly: independence, authenticity, reputation, family, and the realization, often much later, of just how hard their fathers had worked all along.

Jimmy and James Domengeaux



Long before James Domengeaux became a lawyer, he understood what the profession looked like from the outside. He saw the late nights, the phone calls, and the demands that came with practicing law in a family whose name already carried weight in Acadiana.

Still, law was not inevitable.

"I was a science major in college," James said. "I kind of was going down the financial route."

He explored other possibilities before eventually feeling drawn back toward the law. Even then, immediately joining the family firm was not the plan. During his final semester at Loyola Law School, James suggested returning home to practice with his father at Domengeaux Wright Roy & Edwards. Jimmy's response surprised him.

"The best advice he gave me was, no, no, no, you're not ready for this," James recalled. "You gotta go do something else."

So he did. James clerked, practiced defense work, and learned from other lawyers before eventually returning home.

For Jimmy, that independence mattered.

"I realized how complex the practice is," he said. "That's one of the reasons I thought he needed some different experiences before jumping into plaintiff practice."

Today, father and son practice side-by-side, though not in the way many people imagine. They each have their own clients, files, and styles as lawyers, but they constantly bounce ideas off one another and discuss cases throughout the day. James now works from the same office once occupied by his grandfather, Judge Jerome Domengeaux — a quiet reminder of the family's legal history.

But listening to them talk, the story feels less about legacy and more about admiration.

Jimmy joked that he once wondered what it would really be like to work together every day.

"You know, father, son," he laughed. "He would see some of my bad habits."

James immediately brushed the comment aside.

"When you put him in front of a room of twelve strangers," he said, "I don't think there's any lawyer that can relate to a jury more than Jimmy. He's authentic to the core."

That word — authentic — surfaced repeatedly. For James, one of the biggest shifts moving from defense work into plaintiff practice was realizing how personal the work becomes.

"You are dealing with people who sometimes are facing the worst thing that could happen to them," he said.

Watching his father handle those conversations shaped how he viewed the profession itself.

"He can relate to so many different types of people regardless of their background," James said. "That's something I admire a lot."

Jimmy's pride in his son extended beyond the practice of law. At one point, he stopped talking about James as a lawyer and started talking about him as a husband and father.

"The way not only as a lawyer, but as a father and a husband," Jimmy said, "that's been something that really has inspired me."

For all the conversation about generations of lawyers and respected family names, the most revealing moments were often the simplest: a father genuinely proud of the man his son became, and a son who still speaks about his father with unmistakable admiration.

"We're also friends," James said. "Not everyone gets to do that."



Freddy and Alfred Boustany

For nearly fifty years, Alfred “Freddy” Boustany has gone to the same office in downtown Lafayette.

When he first opened his practice, there were no guarantees.

“I put out a shingle and didn’t have any clients,” he laughed.

The son of Lebanese immigrants, Freddy grew up watching his own father work tirelessly in a clothing store six days a week. Work was simply part of life.



“You work hard. You talk about work,” he said.

Now, decades later, his son Alfred walks into that same office every day as his law partner.

For Alfred, law was not an immediate certainty. He initially studied business before realizing that practicing law also meant building and running something of your own.

“I think I always liked the business aspect of it,” he said. “It took me a while to figure out that being a lawyer is a business.”

Even so, Freddy never seemed uncertain about where things would eventually land.

“I never doubted that Alfred and I were gonna work together,” he said. “I’m glad I did.”

Like several of the fathers in this issue, Freddy encouraged his son to explore other opportunities first. While in law school, Alfred interned at the District Attorney’s Office and seriously considered staying there. Freddy fully supported the idea.

“If I was gonna stay at the DA’s office,” Alfred said, “I was gonna get a job there, but then want to be the DA.”

Eventually, though, he returned home to practice with his father.

Once he did, he realized something he had never fully understood growing up: how hard his father

had worked all those years.

“To me, he was just Dad for a long time,” Alfred said. Only after becoming a lawyer himself did he fully appreciate the stress and responsibility required to sustain both a practice and a family.

Their relationship today feels less like hierarchy and more like collaboration. They strategize together, discuss cases daily, and continue learning from one another. But throughout the conversation, the focus repeatedly returned to family.

Every Sunday, the entire family gathers together — children, grandchildren, siblings, spouses. And while the lawyers inevitably drift toward discussing cases, the women in the family are quick to redirect the conversation.

“My mom and Roya are both really good at saying, ‘Hey, let’s talk about something else,’” Alfred laughed.

Both men understand how consuming the profession can become if you let it.

Asked what he most admired about his father, Alfred answered immediately: “The love of the game. He is a lawyer, and he is the best at it.”

Freddy’s answer about his son focused less on legal skill and more on character: “Determination.”

Toward the end of the conversation, Freddy referenced a quote he keeps nearby about planting



trees under whose shade you may never personally sit — building something for the next generation.

That idea seems to define their partnership.

Not simply a father handing down a law practice, but a father watching his son become fully capable of carrying it forward.

Tommy, Trey, and Tad Hightower

Long before they became lawyers, Tommy Hightower suspected Trey would eventually end up in the profession.

“Whether discussions or negotiations with his siblings,” Tommy laughed, “he always articulated his position very clearly and passionately.”

Trey remembers being tagged as the future lawyer sometime around high school.

“I would argue quite a bit,” he admitted.

Tad’s path looked somewhat different. He studied accounting and initially leaned more toward business before deciding on law school later in college. Still, both sons describe the law less as something they inherited and more as something they absorbed over time — not through pressure, but through proximity.

They watched Tommy build a successful practice while also coaching ball teams, taking family trips, hunting, fishing, and remaining deeply involved at home.

“One of the things that always drew me to that work,” Trey said, “was watching dad’s ability to seamlessly transition from the rat race of the law practice into the role of dad.”

Now fathers themselves, both sons see that differently. “I’ve got a whole new appreciation for that now,” Trey said quietly.

The Hightowers speak with the easy familiarity of people who genuinely enjoy each other. Their conversation is full of teasing and stories that have clearly been told many times before.



At one point, Trey laughed about trying to use Tad as a tackling dummy growing up.

“After the first couple times,” Trey joked, “he learned how to hold out for better terms.”

The story neatly captured their personalities: Trey the litigator and Tad the transactional lawyer already negotiating the deal.

Outside the office, many traditions have remained unchanged. Tommy, Trey, and Tad have hunted together on opening morning of duck season every year for at least two decades. Tommy also served as best man in both of his sons’ weddings.



Those details reveal something important about the Hightowers. Their relationships were never built solely around practicing law. Long before they became colleagues, they were fathers and sons, brothers, hunting partners, and fixtures in one another’s lives.

Today, Trey practices litigation alongside Tommy while Tad focuses largely on transactional work.

“It’s complementary,” Tad explained. “We’re able to cover a lot of different bases.”

More importantly, he said, there is always someone to call.

“With dad, I’ve called him early in the morning, late at night ... whatever the practice of law hits you with,” Tad said. “He’s always there to pick up the phone. It’s kind of like a dad and a colleague and a role model wrapped up in one.”

For Trey, practicing alongside his father also brought pressure.

“There’s a pretty big shadow,” he admitted. But Tommy never treated the family name like something his sons were obligated to preserve perfectly. Instead, like the other fathers featured here, he encouraged independence first.

“I always encouraged them to go out and experience different firms,” Tommy said.

By the end of the conversation, Tommy stopped talking almost entirely about legal accomplishments and focused instead on family.

“They coach little league, they’re involved in their children’s schools,” he said proudly. “As busy as they are with their practice, they do just as well, if not better, with their families.”

And maybe that is the real story behind all three families featured in this issue.

Not simply that multiple generations became lawyers. But that somewhere between the courtrooms and the dinners, the deadlines and the duck blinds, they built lives where the law mattered deeply — but never more than the people waiting for them at home.

North Meets South: Spotlight on Bill Stubbs

How does a small-town north Louisiana farmer's boy grow up to build a thriving law practice and devoted family in the heart of south Louisiana's Cajun Country? As he sets his sights on retirement, Bill Stubbs can tell you how, because that was his journey. He meandered through the state as a young man, but Bill and his wife, Carol, found Lafayette to be a great fit and settled here to raise their children in 1989.

It all began in Sicily Island, Louisiana, a place located south of Monroe and northeast of Alexandria in Catahoula Parish. The town once had three schools, three grocery stores, and three bars; now it has none. Though educated only through the sixth grade, Bill's father was quite a big man in the community. He was a plumber and an electrician. He drilled water wells. He was a soybean farmer and also raised cattle. He worked weekends as a deputy sheriff, then became the town marshal. When Bill was 12 years old, his father had a massive heart attack. In the hours following the tragic event, Bill was told his father would probably not survive. He was told his mother would not be able to care for him and he would have to live with a different family. Bill responded by praying, and in that moment, he was assured that his father would survive and all would be well. And so it was. His father soon returned to work, and his mother took on a job as the town clerk. Bill described his childhood as idyllic, a time and place where "you had nothing, but you had everything."

As a high school student, Bill loved sports. He sustained a football injury to his knee so severe that it required immediate surgery. His surgeon was Dr. Alfons Altenberg, a renowned orthopedic surgeon in Monroe, and later at Ochsner in New Orleans. The surgery took place on the day President John F.

Kennedy was assassinated. Bill then began to hone his skills as a lawyer—asking incessant questions and calling attention to things that just weren't right. He took early-admission classes at Louisiana Tech, then graduated second in his class of 22 students at Sicily Island High School.

The knee injury turned out to be a life-altering event. Louisiana's vocational rehabilitation program provided funds for teens injured in high school sports and disabled from



manual labor to get a college education. Bill was promised tuition and all expenses for the entirety of his education, undergraduate and law school. "I just had to commit to a certain career path and stay the course." He started in accounting at Louisiana Tech, then transferred to LSU, where he "had a great time." But in his senior year, he decided it was time to get serious about the future; it was time "to find a wife." As fate would have it, he soon met Carol. She was a smart, beautiful, and creative girl from Baytown, Texas, "way smarter than me." They were married within a year.

*"You had nothing,
but you had everything."*

Bill stayed at LSU for law school, graduating in 1973. His interest was always in accounting, tax, and financial transactions. After graduation, he considered the different ways he could develop expertise in tax law. He did not want to work for the IRS; he also was not particularly interested in pursuing an



Law school graduation, 1973



Bill Stubbs, circa 1976

Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young (EY)) in Houston.

It was soon time to return to Louisiana and begin the practice of law. Bill and Carol moved to Ruston, where they had the first of three boys, and Bill focused on wills and estates, trusts, and tax law. It was an interesting time to build such a practice in Louisiana. In the 1970s and '80s, the state experienced wild economic and demographic swings; the oil business boomed, then crashed; businesses thrived, then failed, then started up once again. Bill's practice followed along. He moved to Alexandria, then to Lafayette, then to a large firm in Monroe. During these years, Bill and Carol had two more children. Finally, in 1989, they returned to Lafayette for good. "New Orleans and Baton Rouge had all the lawyers, but Lafayette was wide open." His practice flourished, and he became a board-certified tax specialist.

Bill and Carol found Lafayette to be not only a good place to practice law but also a great place to raise their family. They were active in their church, contributing both time and treasure regularly. Bill attests to the value of showing up and contributing regularly, in good times and in bad. "It gives your life consistency and discipline and ultimately relieves stress." Bill also joined the Kiwanis Club of Lafayette, a service organization that focuses on helping local youth. He remains an active member today, always enjoying the fellowship at weekly lunches, participating in service projects, and working at the annual Kiwanis High School Football Jamboree.

In the 1990s, Bill and Carol served as a host family for the Ulster Project. The program was established to foster friendship and understanding between Catholic and Protestant teenagers from Northern Ireland and teenagers in Louisiana. Each student would spend a month with a host family of their own faith, but the

LL.M. at the few schools offering the degree at the time. Instead, he chose to work for a large accounting firm. So he and Carol moved near her family, and Bill began a two-year stint at

entire group of teens and host families gathered daily at social and peacemaking activities. The goal was to break down deep-seated prejudices and highlight commonalities. Many years after hosting, Bill and Carol traveled to Northern Ireland to visit the families of some of their guest students.

As he nears retirement, Bill has nothing but good memories of his legal practice. He hasn't had the stress and contentiousness of a litigation practice. Instead, he handles transactions that all the parties generally want: "no winners and losers; everyone pretty much goes away happy." His practice is the type where he "never had to send someone a big bill without also giving them the means to pay it."

On the home front, Bill is looking forward to spending more time with his children and grandchildren. But first, that old football injury has to be addressed. The knee injury that set him on his career path, the one that led to his success in the law, is now threatening to sideline an active retirement. Once that's fixed, Bill and Carol are looking forward to traveling, as two sons live in New Orleans and one is in the Pacific Northwest.

Just as he described his law practice, Bill is hopeful that retirement will also be "all good, and entirely positive."



At the U.S. Supreme Court, 1986



Carol and Bill in D.C.



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THE GRAPEVINE

Anderson Blanda & Saltzman welcomes attorneys **Justin J. Anderson** and **Jacob H. Thomas**. Justin recently graduated from LSU Law School and passed the Louisiana Bar Exam. Jacob recently moved to Lafayette from Baton Rouge and joined the firm, which exclusively practices plaintiff personal injury law. Welcome to Anderson Blanda & Saltzman, Justin and Jake.



Justin J. Anderson



Jacob H. Thomas

Allen & Gooch is pleased to announce that Associate Attorney **McKenzi Marler** has joined our firm. She brings a broad range of litigation experience and a strong commitment to client service. We look forward to the contributions McKenzie will make to our team and our clients.



McKenzi Marler

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As we put together this June issue of The Promulgator, one of the things I continue to enjoy most is getting to tell the stories behind the practice of law in Acadiana.

Not just the cases or the résumés—but the people. The lawyers mentoring younger lawyers, serving their communities, building businesses, coaching ball teams, advocating for clients,

raising families, creating change, and quietly making an impact every day.

If that sounds like someone you know—or if there is a story, practice, project, organization, or lawyer we should feature—I want to hear about it.

The best parts of our legal community are often the things happening outside the spotlight. Help us shine a light on them.

Warm regards,
Clare Roubion
clareroubion@roubionlawfirm.com
337-258-0101
Editor, The Promulgator



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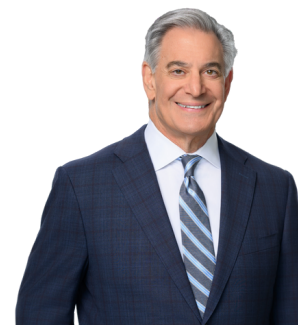
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An Update from the Lafayette Bar Foundation

PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

The following attorneys have volunteered with the Lafayette Bar Foundation in the past two months through various pro bono programs.

Joshua Barnhill
Law Office of Joshua S Barnhill

Brandon Bradley
Bradley Moreau Title

Chris Castro
Castro Law Firm

Katelyn B. Courville
NeunerPate

Kayla Fontenot David
Fontenot David Law Office

Tyler Frederick
Dudley DeBosier

Corrie Gallien
Gallien Law

Ryan Godelocke
Godelocke Law

Jonathan Jarrett
The Jarrett Firm

David Kaufman
Attorney at Law

Brittany D. LaCombe
Domengeaux Wright Roy & Edwards

Gregory Landry
Attorney at Law

Dyan Schnaars
Schnaars Law Firm

Maggie Simar
16th JDC Hearing Officer

Jonathan Woods
Randazzo Giglio Bailey LLC.



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Did You Know?



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Rule 6.1

Louisiana attorneys are encouraged to fulfill their professional obligations established by Rule 6.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, which set an aspirational goal of 50 hours of pro bono services per year.

CLE

CLE credits are available by providing pro bono legal services. **You can obtain 1 hour of CLE per 5 hours of pro bono representation** up to a maximum of 3 hours CLE for each calendar year.

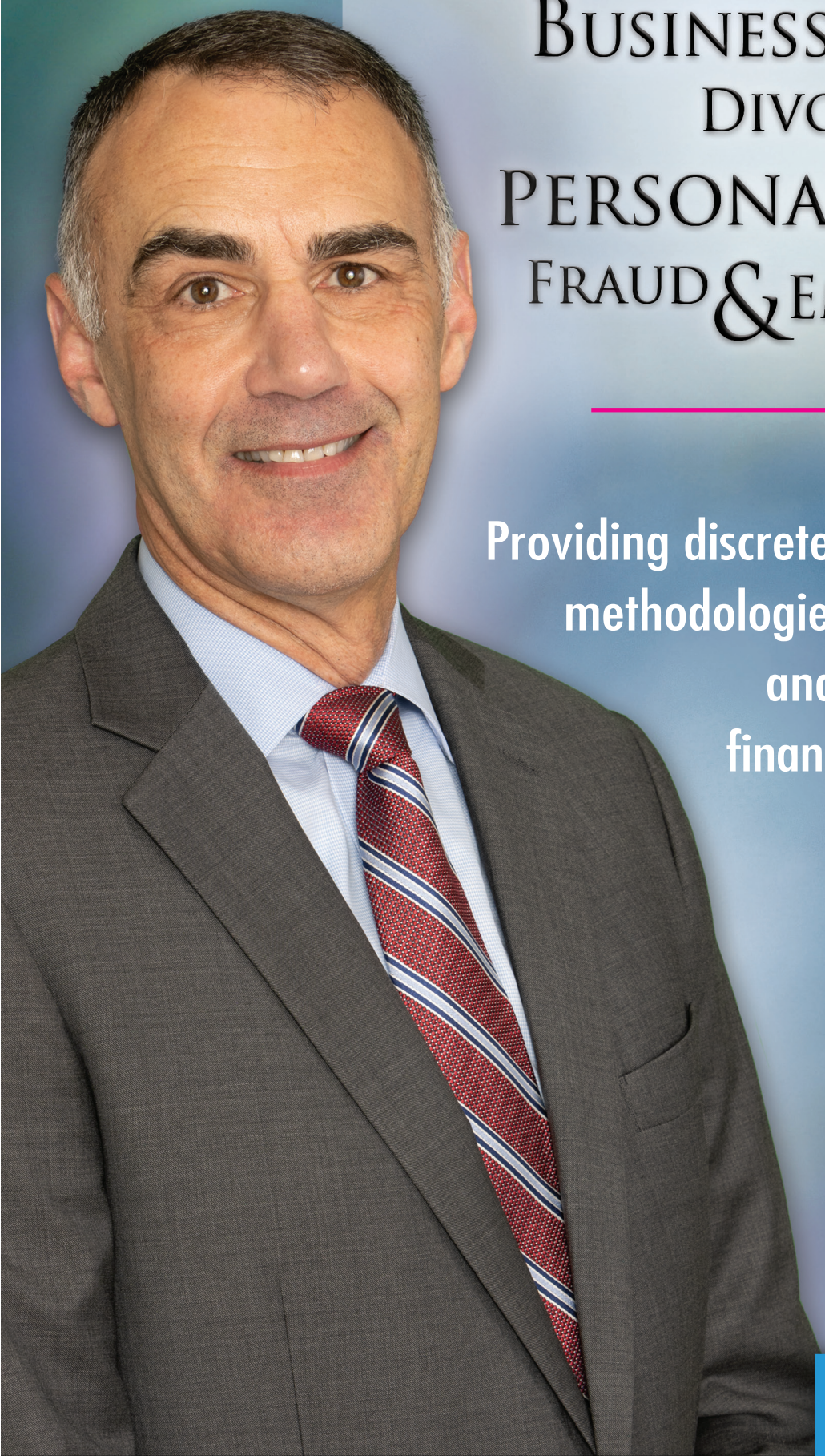
Career Development

Taking pro bono cases provides career development & trial experience. It 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.

- ✓ Pro bono attorneys are generally elevated to the top of the docket at hearings.
- ✓ You can use the Lafayette Bar Association meeting rooms to meet with your pro bono client.
- ✓ Support and guidance are offered to novice volunteer attorneys. Acadiana Legal Service Corporation (ALSC) will co-counsel on cases when needed.
- ✓ You can receive awards based on the number of cases and hours you volunteer.
- ✓ All cases are covered by the Professional Liability Insurance of either ALSC or the Lafayette Bar Foundation.
- ✓ You are providing a valuable service to the community and helping someone less fortunate.

For more information, contact:
Marilyn Lopez, Director of Pro Bono Services
337-237-4700 ext 102 marilyn@lafayettebar.org

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