

President's Message

What is the Louisiana Bar Foundation?

By Leo C. Hamilton

As the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) president, I believe it is important that every Louisiana attorney knows exactly who the LBF is and what the LBF does. It amazes me that so many of my colleagues are unaware of this wonderful organization that works tirelessly to secure funding for free civil legal services to Louisiana's disadvantaged. The LBF is the visible public service organization of Louisiana attorneys. It reflects the social conscience and public responsibility of our profession, and our commitment to effective action.

Every member of the Bar is encouraged to join in the joint effort of the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the LBF to ensure that adequate funding is available so that the promise of equal access to justice is a reality. Become a Foundation Fellow! In doing so, your actions will be in line with the Rules of Professional Conduct regarding pro bono work and the Bar's Access to Justice Pro Bono Policy.

The LBF, a non-profit 501(c)(3) entity organized under the laws of the state of Louisiana, is the largest funder of free civil legal services in the state and is working every day to include all Louisiana citizens

in the justice system. We support non-profit organizations throughout the state that provide free, civil legal representation to the indigent, law-related education to the public, and administration of justice projects.

Since 1989, we have distributed \$54.4 million to hundreds of Louisiana non-profit organizations to meet these goals.

We serve as the fiscal administrator for the state of Louisiana Child in Need of Care Program which provides free legal representation to children in foster care. We also serve as fiscal administrator for the Louisiana Supreme Court Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts Program. Most recently, we became an administrator of funding on behalf of the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General for the federal mortgage servicing settlement.

I am proud to be a Fellow of an organization that each year, through grants, assists women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, the newly unemployed, those facing loss of their homes, disaster victims and many others



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by providing services that go to the very heart of the health, safety and security of many of our citizens and their families. Recent interest rate declines, coupled with the significant federal budget cuts and our state's discontinuance of direct appropriation of civil legal aid, make it critical, now more than ever, that every attorney support the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

To find out how to become a Fellow, contact us at (504)561-1046, (504)566-1926 (fax) or visit www.raisingthebar.org. You also can follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube.

Louisiana Bar Foundation Announces New Fellows

The Louisiana Bar Foundation announces new Fellows:

Adreja L. Boutte	New Orleans	Chauntis T. Jenkins	New Orleans
Justin M. Chopin	New Orleans	Keenan K. Kelly	Natchitoches
Susan E. Dinneen	New Orleans	Katy Britton Kennedy	New Orleans
Michael D. Ferachi	Baton Rouge	Hon. Elizabeth C. Lanier	Houma
Julie Kilborn Ferris	Baton Rouge	Hon. Walter I. Lanier, Jr. (Ret.)	Thibodaux
Cristin G. Fitzgerald	New Orleans	Kelsey L. Meeks	New Orleans
Lauren E. Godshall	New Orleans	Andrew Reed	Morgan City
Ethan A. Hunt	Monroe	Sarah E. Stogner	New Orleans

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The *Louisiana Bar Journal* would like to publish news and photos of your activities and accomplishments.

Email your news items and photos to:
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dlabranche@lsba.org.

Or mail press releases to:
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