

Around

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
BATON ROUGE BAR ASSOCIATION

No. 315, March 2017

the Bar



Inside:
Logistical and legal
complexities of the
Great Flood of 2016
Beating stress
with mindfulness
A matter of mental health
In memoriam:
Louis D. Curet
Attorney spotlight:
Erik E. Kjeldsen

Easter Eggstravaganza
Project & Volunteer
Committee 2017



On the cover:

March is a month that introduces spring flowers and pastel colors. Also in March, the Easter Eggstravaganza and Volunteer committees will hold a collection drive to prepare for its Easter egg hunts, which are held in early April. Drop off plastic Easter eggs stuffed with individually wrapped candies for use during Easter egg hunts with several elementary schools and pre-K programs in Baton Rouge.

Photographed outside of the Middleton Bar Center are members of the Easter Eggstravaganza and Volunteer committees, including (L to R) Lori Palmintier, Lauren Temento, Drew Nordgren, Erik E. Kjeldsen (back), Erin Kenny, Bridget Denicola, Anne Smith and Tayla Bergeron.

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DISPUTE SOLUTIONS

is pleased to announce that

Melvin L. "Kip" Holden

*Former Mayor-President
City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge
has joined its mediation and arbitration panel*

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Bar leader installation held Wednesday, Jan. 11

Karli Glascock Johnson was sworn in as the 88th president of the Baton Rouge Bar Association Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, in a ceremony that was presided over by Chief U.S. District Judge Brian A. Jackson.

During the ceremony, which was held at the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana, past president Jeanne C. Comeaux presented President's Awards, and outgoing section chairs were recognized with plaques. A brief reception was held following the ceremony.

Odinet honored with Judge Joseph Keogh Award

The BRBA Young Lawyers Section Council selected Christopher K. Odinet as the recipient of the 2017 Judge Joseph Keogh Memorial Award, presenting him with a plaque Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, during the BRBA Bar Leader Installation Ceremony.

Odinet is the Horatio C. Thompson Endowed Professor of Law at the Southern University Law Center. He is also the Louisiana Bar Foundation Scholar-in-Residence for 2016-2018. Additionally, Odinet is an active BRBA member, serving on several sections and committees, including the Publications Committee.

A 2010 graduate of the LSU Law Center, Odinet served as editor-in-chief of the Louisiana Law Review and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. As an undergraduate at LSU, Odinet served as student body president during his senior year. He graduated in 2007.

He has leadership positions on several boards, including the East Baton Rouge Parish Housing Authority (chair) and the Emerge Center for Communication, Behavior and Development (vice-chair). He serves on several committees/boards of the American Bar Association and the American Association of Law Schools. Odinet has authored several books, casebooks and articles. Additionally, he served on the transition committees of both Gov. Edwards and Mayor-President Broome.

BRBA Volunteer Committee to collect candy and plastic eggs for Easter egg hunts for local elementary children

Individually wrapped candy and plastic Easter eggs will be collected by the BRBA Volunteer Committee March 25-April 5. Donations may be dropped off at the Middleton Bar Center, 544 Main St., 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Easter egg hunts will be held April 10-13, 2017,



PHOTO BY SUSAN KELLEY

Chief U.S. District Judge Brian A. Jackson presided over the installation of the 2017 BRBA President Karli Glascock Johnson during a ceremony that took place Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, at the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana.



PHOTO BY SUSAN KELLEY

Judge Shelly D. Dick, Judge John W. deGravelles, 2017 BRBA President Karli Glascock Johnson, Chief U.S. District Judge Brian A. Jackson and Judge James Brady were photographed following the Bar Leader Installation Ceremony.



PHOTO BY SUSAN KELLEY

Young Lawyers Section Chair-Elect Francisca M. M. Comeaux, Christopher K. Odinet and Loren Shanklin Fleshman are photographed above. Odinet was selected as the recipient of the 2017 Judge Joseph Keogh Memorial Award by the YLS Council.

at four local elementary schools. Erik Kjeldsen is the chair of this year's Easter Eggstravaganza, a project of the Volunteer Committee.

For more information, contact Carole McGehee at 225-214-5557 or carole@brba.org.

Moore to be honored as a Champion of Change

Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response will host its Third Annual Champions of Change Breakfast fundraiser and awareness event Thursday, April 6, 2017, at the Renaissance Hotel and will recognize this year's Champion of Change Honoree, East Baton Rouge District Attorney Hillar C. Moore III. With Moore's vision and forethought, STAR was able to become a standalone agency focusing on sexual assault survivors in East Baton Rouge Parish and statewide. Through his support in this transition over the past five years, STAR has provided services to over 10,000 clients and community members.

Calloway appointed to the Louisiana Court of Appeal for the First Circuit

The Louisiana Supreme Court appointed Judge Curtis A. Calloway as a supernumerary judge pro tempore to assist with the docket of the Louisiana Court of Appeal for the First Circuit, effective Nov. 11, 2016, to April 30, 2017. Calloway, a past judge for Baton Rouge City Court and the 19th Judicial District Court, has served as an ad hoc and pro tempore judge as assigned by the Supreme Court since his retirement in 2009. Calloway served as a supernumerary judge pro tempore to assist with the docket of the Louisiana Court of Appeal for the Second Circuit, effective Aug. 10, 2015, to Feb. 28, 2016.

Cocktail reception scheduled for March 30 to kickoff the newest Bar Foundation event

The Arts Judicata planning committee will host a cocktail reception Thursday, March 30, 2017, to kick off the newest fundraising event for the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation. The reception will be held on the 8th floor of the Chase Building on the award-winning "Taylor Porter Rooftop Garden."

All BRBA members are invited to attend this kickoff of Arts Judicata; however, if you are an artist of any kind — musical, literary, culinary, performance, visual — we encourage you to especially attend this reception and to find out more about our upcoming September event. Renee Chatelain and Richard Williams are co-chairs of the Arts Judicata Committee. Proceeds will support the BRBF. Contact Donna Buuck for more information about the cocktail reception or to join the Arts Judicata Committee at 225-214-5556 or donna@brba.org.

Taylor Porter's renovations on the Chase North Tower 8th Floor River Terrace, designed by Joseph Furr Design Studio Landscape Architecture and Coleman Partners Architects LLC, received a 2016 "Good Growth Award" from the Baton Rouge Growth Coalition at the organization's 20th Annual Awards Gala.



Robin L. Krumholtz and Judge Pamela Moses-Laramore were honored with President's Awards for their work with the Workers' Compensation Section. Immediate Past President Jeanne C. Comeaux is photographed on the right.



Judge Guy Holdridge and Carroll Devillier were honored with President's Awards by BRBA Past President Jeanne C. Comeaux for their work with the 2016 Bench Bar Conference.



Jeanne C. Comeaux presented a President's Award to Linda Law Clark, for her service to the board during 2016 during the Bar Leader Installation Ceremony.

Volunteer writers needed to submit substantive legal articles for publication in future **Around the Bar** issues. Contact Pamela Labbe at pamela@brba.org or 225-214-5560.



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

Photographed (above, L to R) after the Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony are 19th Judicial District Court Commissioner Quintillis K. Lawrence, YLS Chair Loren Shanklin Fleshman, LSBA President-Elect Dona Renegar and BRBA President Karli Glascock Johnson.



PHOTO BY PAMELA LABBE

(L to R) James R. Bullman, Elisabeth Baringer, Dale R. Baringer and Jarred W. Schick attended the Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony on behalf of the Baringer Law Firm to honor Mike Perry, who died in 2016.

KEEGAN, DENICOLA, KIESEL, BAGWELL, JUBAN & LOWE, LLC

is very pleased to announce that
AMBER N. ROBICHAUX
has become a Partner in the Firm



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Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony held Wednesday, Jan. 25

A ceremony honoring those members of the bar who died in 2016 while introducing new members of the bar took place at the 19th Judicial District Courthouse Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017.

BRBA President Karli Glascock Johnson opened the ceremony, welcoming members of the judiciary as well as all other attendees. Judge William Morvant presided over the courtroom ceremony.

The presidents of the Baton Rouge Association of Women Attorneys (Jan Reeves) and the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society (Ashley Greenhouse) introduced the families or representatives who honored the deceased.

Also recognized during the ceremony were BRBA members who have practiced law for 50, 55 and 60 years. Amy C. Lambert presented each attending honoree with a certificate. YLS Council Chair Loren Shanklin Fleshman lit the ceremonial candle prior to the introduction of new lawyers. The ceremony was followed by a brief reception, which was sponsored by the Louisiana State Bar Association.

BRBF Law Day program to take place May 1

Speaking at this year's Law Day event, which is Monday, May 1, is East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome. Approximately 800 middle and high school students and their teachers are expected to attend the event, which will be held at the Raising Cane's River Center Theatre in downtown Baton Rouge.

Hana Thomas is the chair of this year's Baton Rouge Bar Foundation Law Day Committee. Donna Buuck is the staff liaison of the committee.

BRBA members serve on CASA board

Robert Woosley is the new chair of the Capital Area CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Association's executive committee. Woosley, who is with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, is a BRBA member.


Newly elected to the CASA board are BRBA members Jeff Calmes; Carlon Jones III of Roedel, Parsons, Koch, Blache, Balhoff & McCollister; and Robin Toups of Taylor Porter.

CASA volunteers speak up for abused and neglected children in need of safe, permanent homes. For more information, call 225-379-8598.



Taylor Porter hosted the LSU National Environmental Moot Court Team for a practice on Feb. 8, 2017, to help them prepare for the Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Moot Court Competition later that month in White Plains, New York. Taylor Porter lawyers attending were Ann Crochet, Robin Toups, Juan Miranda and Ryan French.

Joseph J. Cefalu III named distinguished graduate

Joseph J. Cefalu III of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP, was named St. Michael's 2017 Distinguished Graduate. He was honored along with the other distinguished graduates at a dinner Jan. 30, 2017. Every year, each of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge select a single alumni who has exemplified the moral values, academic accomplishments and community service that are the guiding principal in a Catholic school education. 



Kristian B. Dobard, Danielle Barringer and Miah Hill attended the Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony Jan. 25, 2017.



The 2017 Young Lawyers Section Council of the Baton Rouge Bar Association is photographed above after the Bar Leader Installation Ceremony, which was held Jan. 11, 2017, at the United State District Court of the Middle District of Louisiana.



Seated in the front row are a group of Baton Rouge lawyers who have practiced law for more than 50 years, including Terry Miller, Charles McCowan, Emile Rolfs, Pat Pendley and Michael McKay.



Jim George was honored for having practiced 55 years of law during the 2017 Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony. Photographed above are Jim George and Amy C. Lambert.



Brent Lancaster, Family Court Judge Pamela Baker and BRBA Board Member Kelly Balfour attended the Opening of Court, Memorial & New Member Ceremony as well as the reception that followed.



The 2017 BRBA Officers and Board members were installed Jan. 11, 2017. Photographed are (L to R) Past President Jeanne C. Comeaux, 2017 BRBA President Karli Glascock Johnson, President-Elect Linda Law Clark and Treasurer Amy C. Lambert. BRBA Secretary Shelton Dennis Blunt is not photographed.

foundation footnotes

PRO BONO & TEEN COURT REPORTS — DECEMBER 2016

The Pro Bono Project is financially assisted by the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program of the Louisiana Bar Foundation; Southeast Louisiana Legal Services; Franciscan Ministry Fund; Family, District and City Court Filing Fees; W. K. Kellogg Foundation; Baton Rouge Area Foundation; and the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation. Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge is funded by the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program for the Louisiana Bar Foundation, a LANO Change Fund Grant and the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation. The Youth Education Program is financially assisted by the Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) of the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

The Baton Rouge Bar Foundation would like to thank all who volunteered in December.

ASK-A-LAWYER VOLUNTEER — Lauren Rivera, Taylor Porter.

THIRST FOR JUSTICE VOLUNTEERS — Trey Dominique, Dudley DeBosier, APLC; Scott Gaspard and Allen Posey.

ACCEPTING PRO BONO CASES — Paul West, *Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC*; George Lato, *Gulf South Disability Lawyers, LLC*; Luis Leitzelar, *Jones Walker*; Kim Landry, *Kim Segura Landry, APLC*; D. Lance White, *Lance White Legal, LLC*; Jennifer Moisant, *Manasseh, Gill, Knipe & Belanger, APLC*; Melissa Broussard and Rachal Cox, *McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC*; Brett Sandifer, *Sandifer Law Firm LLC*; Arthur Vinigello, *Steffes, Vingiello & McKenzie*; **T. MacDougall Womack, Taylor Porter**; Eric Miller, *The Kullman Firm*; Michael Betts; Julie Distefano; J. Keith Friley; Tyler Gray; Rena Hester; Barrington Neil; Adrian Ross; Sarah Margaret Smith; and James Zito.



ACCEPTING MEDICAL LEGAL PRO BONO CASES — Kellen Mathews, *Adams and Reese, LLP*; George Lato, *Gulf South Disability Lawyers, LLC*; Brett Sandifer, *Sandifer Law Firm LLC*; Eric Miller, *The Kullman Firm*; Richard Whitworth, *Whitworth Law Firm, LLC*; and Adrian Ross.

SELF HELP RESOURCE CENTER VOLUNTEERS — Kellen Mathews, *Adams & Reese*; Steven Adams, *Adams Law Office APLC*; John Obebe, *EBR Office of Public Defender*; Joseph Ballard, *Entergy Services, Inc.*; Janeane Gorcyca and Jennifer Prescott, *Joubert Law Firm*; Sharon Florence, *Law Office of Sharon Y. Florence, LLC*; and Ryan Brown, *Roedel, Parson, Koch, Blache, Balhoff & McCollister*.

TEEN COURT — Jamie Flowers, Paul Guidry Brittany Tassin and Monica Vela-Vick served as judges and jury monitors for the December Teen Court hearing.

JUNIOR PARTNERS ACADEMY — Professor Wendy Shea, *Southern University Law Center*, taught the second graders at Southern Lab School about contracts, using the "Candy Bar Contract" lesson plan and treats. 🍬

Family Law Section Meeting & CLE Thursday, May 18 / Earn 4.0 hours of CLE

@ JUBAN'S RESTAURANT, 3739 PERKINS RD.

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST BEGIN AT 8:45 A.M.

SEMINARS INCLUDE:

2 hours of Judges' Panel:

Family Court Judges, District Court Judges and Hearing Officers are to sit on the panel to discuss best practice tips for their courts.

1 hour of Ethics

1 hour of Limitations of Evaluations

CONTACT CAROLINE@BRBA.ORG FOR MORE INFO.