Jeanmarie L. Nicholson
1st Veterans Justice Fellow of the New Orleans Bar Association and New Orleans Bar Foundation
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- Appellate Practice
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- Civil Rights
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- E-Discovery
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- Healthcare Law
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- Maritime & International Law
- Minorities in the Profession
- Oil & Gas Law
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Contact Liz Daino at (504) 525-7453 or ldaino@neworleansbar.org

Briefly Speaking Editor: Kelsey Meeks

ADVERTISING - ADVERTISING - ADVERTISING

If you are interested, please contact Liz Daino at ldaino@neworleansbar.org for advertising information and rates for 2016-17

Special Masters
THOMAS KEASLER FOUTZ | HON. CAROLYN GILL-JEFFERSON (RET.)
Take advantage of Spring . . .
And your Bar Association!

By this point, Spring is fully underway in New Orle-
ans. It's easy to tell: the days are getting warmer, the
azaleas are in bloom and there is a festival in the City
every single weekend. (In many places, this season
means chilly days or unpleasant weather. Not so in
the Crescent City!) Regardless of which season is
your favorite in New Orleans, Spring offers us a lot.

Spring at the New Orleans Bar Association is no dif-
f erent. We have numerous CLEs, meetings and social
events coming right up. Dive in to one or more — and
better yet bring a friend or colleague who is not yet a
NOBA member.

For starters, buy a ticket to NOBA's annual Game
Night -- Tuesday, April 25th at Tulane’s Turchin Sta-
dium. Join us in our premium seating and take in the
infamous rivalry between the LSU and Tulane base-
ball teams. As always, we will have a hospitality tent
with food, drinks and a great chance to catchup.

Love to cook? Or maybe you prefer to enjoy delicious food someone else makes? Either way, you'll
enjoy NOBA's Young Lawyers Section’s Bar & Grille cooking competition. The event takes place
Saturday, May 20th at the Peristyle in City Park. Consider having your firm enter a team in our
version of “Top Chef.” Nobody goes away hungry. And our judicial bartenders will once again be
staffing the open bar, so be warned! It’s a wonderful event that raises substantial funds for South-
east Louisiana Legal Services.

Want to do something with an immediate impact? Come serve lunch for an hour at the Ozanam
Inn, the homeless shelter downtown in the Central Business District. NOBA groups serve on the
second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Or volunteer at one of our Disaster Relief efforts to
help those in New Orleans East hit by February's tornadoes. And if you prefer to swing a hammer,
watch for the next homebuilding project organized by our younger lawyers through the YLS.

As if the above events are not enough, don’t forget that summer clerk season is just around the
corner! Consider bringing a summer clerk to a NOBA event and introducing them to our Associa-
tion. They will love meeting others in our legal community and you will be helping encourage future
membership in NOBA.

These are just a few of the events NOBA has to offer. Check out our website for more details, and I
look forward to seeing you at one of our gatherings.

Enjoy.
Oil & Gas Committee
Where Do We Go From Here: A Panel Discussion Regarding the Future of Oil & Gas Industry in Louisiana CLE

Join the Oil & Gas committee in March to find out the answers to the following questions:
1. Where does the industry stand post-election (national and local elections)?
2. What is coming up in the 2017 legislative session in Louisiana?
3. What is the economic forecast for the industry in Louisiana?
4. What is the litigation climate like in Louisiana these days?

Date: Friday, April 7, 2017
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505
CLE: 1.5 hours of CLE credit
Cost: NOBA Member Discount: $35; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453 or email Morgan Ellis at mellis@neworleansbar.org

Please note: Cancellations must be received in writing two days in advance in order to receive a refund less an administrative fee. No refunds for no shows.

Complex Litigation Committee
Managing Multi-Jurisdictional Litigation: Opportunities and Challenges in both the State and Federal Systems CLE

Speakers:
Stephen Miles, Barrasso, Usdin, Kupperman, Freeman & Sarver, LLC
Kyle Siegel, Barrasso, Usdin, Kupperman, Freeman & Sarver, LLC

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505
CLE: 1 hour of CLE credit
Cost: NOBA Member Discount: $35; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453 or email Morgan Ellis at mellis@neworleansbar.org

Please note: Cancellations must be received in writing two days in advance in order to receive a refund less a $15 administrative fee. No refunds for no shows.
Family Law Committee  
Domestic Violence from the Perspective of the Judiciary, Attorneys, and Mental Health Professionals CLE

Speakers:
The Hon. Bernadette G. D'souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court  
Daliah Bauer, PH.D., Co-Founder of DBTNOLA  
Kim S. Sport, Attorney at Law

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.  
Location: Orleans Parish Civil District Court  
421 Loyola Avenue, Room 206  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
Cost: NOBA Member Discount: $35; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)

To Register: Contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453 or email Morgan Ellis at mellis@neworleansbar.org

Please note: Cancellations must be received in writing two days in advance in order to receive a refund less an administrative fee. No refunds for no shows.

Personal Injury Law Committee  
Preparing and Trying a Personal Injury Case CLE

This CLE will cover the necessity of obtaining medical records; proof of past and future lost wages; proof of future disability and medical care through life care plans; the necessity of retaining and preparing experts in certain areas of practice; and preparing your evidence to be presented in the most effective manner.

Speaker: The Hon. Kern A. Reese, Orleans Parish Civil District Court

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2017  
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.  
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505  
Cost: NOBA Member Discount: $35; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)

To Register: Contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453 or email Morgan Ellis at mellis@neworleansbar.org

Please note: Cancellations must be received in writing two days in advance in order to receive a refund less an administrative fee. No refunds for no shows.
The Patterson Resolution Group offers dispute resolution services in complex cases to businesses and individuals across Louisiana and the Gulf South. Group members include five former presidents of the Louisiana State Bar Association and a retired district court judge. The members have substantive experience in disputes in areas such as:

Corporate and Business  
Commercial Real Estate  
Oil and Gas  
Maritime  
Construction  
Products Liability

Banking  
Employment  
Insurance  
Healthcare  
Professional Liability  
Governmental

Contact Mike Patterson at 866-367-8620. Or visit the group’s website at www.pattersonresolution.com for more information and the article, “Getting Your Client and Yourself Ready for Mediation.”
After several years serving in the lead law office of the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington, D.C., Jeanmarie L. Nicholson will take the helm of the New Orleans Bar Association and Foundation (NOBA, NOBF) first Veterans Justice Fellowship. This is the first such fellowship sponsored by a local bar association. A native of New Orleans, Jeanmarie has spent over 30 years in a legal career that has been broad, deep and diverse. Helena Henderson, Executive Director of NOBA said, “With her experience in different organizational settings, including the military, her dedication, her problem-solving capabilities, we knew that she was the right person for this fellowship.”

Jeanmarie spent about half of her career in New Orleans, as a federal law clerk to Hon. Charles Schwartz, Jr. and in law firm practice, achieving partnership at Jones Walker. She also taught admiralty and maritime personal injury law as a member of Loyola’s adjunct faculty. For many years, Jeanmarie was counsel to Unisys Corporation, a multi-national IT company in the Washington, D.C. area, working on cutting edge litigation and litigation prevention matters, both domestically and internationally. She was recruited for a civilian position in the U.S. Coast Guard’s lead law office at their headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Office of Maritime and International Law (LMI). Jeanmarie served during two disasters that impacted New Orleans in which the Coast Guard was the lead agency – Hurricane Katrina and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of National Significance. During her tenure, she was responsible for advising on a wide variety of maritime safety and environmental programs and initiatives, both domestically and internationally, working with the federal interagency and international partners, and advising senior leadership on some of the most sensitive matters facing the Service at the time. Throughout her government service, Jeanmarie received award recognition from both the Coast Guard and other agencies. She has a B.A. in Journalism and J.D. from Loyola University, New Orleans, and received an LL.M., focused on environmental law and social justice, from Boalt Hall, University of California at Berkeley.

About 25% of veterans in the New Orleans area are low-income and have a range of unaddressed civil legal needs adversely impacting their lives. A recent survey of veterans found that five of their top ten overall unmet needs had a legal solution in the areas of housing law, consumer issues, discharge upgrades, child support, and removal of legal barriers to employment. The Veterans Justice Fellowship was created to address the civil justice gap confronting area veterans. The Fellow will serve on the team of Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, embedded in the new VA hospital, and will partner with community providers such as the Bastion, a low-income housing complex for veterans. This effort will improve the health, safety, and stability of veterans by providing life changing civil legal help. And, will help make a reality the Soldier’s Creed of: “Leave No Man Behind.”

Jeanmarie commented, “Having returned to New Orleans for family reasons, I am very grateful for this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the military men and women of our community who’ve served and sacrificed for all of us.”

SLLS is so grateful to expand access to justice for vulnerable veterans through the support of NOBA. We are fortunate to have someone of Jeanie’s caliber spearhead our trailblazing new Veterans Justice Fellowship.”
Joe was homeless, desperate and confused. He was a veteran who had proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1977 to 1979. Following his military service, he was employed as a fisherman and cook but had an accident resulting in severe head trauma rendering him unable to maintain stable employment. His injury left him with memory loss and severe health problems, which eventually led to homelessness. Joe had been on the streets for 25 years until a lawyer found him then obtained disability benefits and Medicaid. Joe’s lawyer connected him with a local nonprofit providing housing support to veterans and to the VA for medical treatment. The lawyer obtained a housing voucher to get Joe off the streets. A few months later, Joe’s lawyer won his disability case providing him with steady income to maintain his housing as well as access to healthcare. After decades on the street, it was a lawyer who made the difference to give Joe the resources for a stable home and a healthier life.

Veterans have an alarmingly high suicide rate and in New Orleans, 25% of them are low-income and incapacitated. Lawyers are uniquely qualified to obtain the resources in five of the top ten civil legal needs that make a difference for veterans: housing, VA and other benefits, discharge upgrades, family law, and consumer disputes. Lawyers can fight for veterans by delivering life changing legal help, as veterans once fought for us.

How can you help? Donate to our **Veterans Justice Fellowship** now. New Orleans Bar Association and its Foundation are funding a Fellow at Southeast Louisiana Legal Services that will bring justice to vulnerable veterans in the New Orleans area. Our Fellow will be embedded in the new VA Hospital, providing on site legal services through a medical-legal partnership. With the support from the invincible spirit of lawyers like you, we will “Leave No Veteran Behind”.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND STABILITY FOR VETERANS**

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<th>Ends Homelessness</th>
<th>Access VA Healthcare</th>
<th>Save Home From Foreclosure</th>
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<td>Ends homelessness for 10 veterans by obtaining disability benefits</td>
<td>Stabilizes a veteran’s life by upgrading discharge status to access VA healthcare</td>
<td>Saves a veteran’s home from foreclosure</td>
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<td>Funds a monthly Veterans Legal Clinic</td>
<td>Resolves a consumer dispute threatening the economic stability of a veteran</td>
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**To Make a Donation for the Veterans Justice Fellowship**

Yes, I’ll give the gift of health, safety and stability for a Veteran through a donation in the amount of $_____ to the New Orleans Bar Foundation for the Veterans Justice Fellowship. Donations can be made on behalf of veterans in general, or on behalf of a veteran in your family who has served this great nation.

My donation is made:  
☐ Send an acknowledgement of my donation to:  
In honor of: ____________________________________________  
☐ As a general gift to support the work of the Foundation  
In memory of: ____________________________________________  
☐ Mark my donation as anonymous  
Name or Firm: _______________________________________________________________________________________________  
Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________  
Phone: ____________________________________________  Email: ________________________________________________________  

Send your donation to New Orleans Bar Foundation, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505, New Orleans, LA 70130.
Perrier & Lacoste, LLC is pleased to announce Ralph J. Aucoin, Jr., Nathan M. Gaudet, and Curt L. Rome have become Members of the firm.

Adrienne Ellis is a new associate with Chehardy Sherman Williams handling Healthcare Law, including hospital operational issues, contracts, and HIPAA requirements and restrictions. Meghan E. Ruckman is a new associate with Chehardy Sherman Williams handling medical malpractice defense litigation, ERISA matters and family law.

The Law Office of Robert S. Toale is pleased to announce that Kara Larson has joined the firm as an associate, and Robert Toale has been recognized as a 2017 Louisiana Super Lawyer for criminal defense.

Lewis Brisbois has welcomed Jacqueline Griffith and Meredith Mayberry to its New Orleans office as partners in the Healthcare Practice and Insurance Coverage Practice, respectively. Griffith has more than 20 years of experience dealing with healthcare regulatory law, medical malpractice defense, transactional law, compliance issues, and other healthcare matters, while Mayberry focuses her practice on litigation with an emphasis on complex insurance coverage disputes, construction defect litigation, premises liability, and transportation matters.

Robert M. Steeg, managing partner at Steeg Law Firm, LLC, has been included in Super Lawyers 2017 for Real Estate and New Orleans Magazine 2016 Top Lawyers for Commercial Transactions/LLS Law and Real Estate Law. Charles L. Stern, Jr., a partner at Steeg Law Firm, LLC, has been included in Super Lawyers 2017 for Business Litigation. Ryan M. McCabe, a partner at Steeg Law Firm, LLC, has been selected to the Super Lawyers 2017 Louisiana Rising Stars list for Real Estate. Partner Randy Opotowsky, a partner at Steeg Law Firm, LLC, is now a Board Member and the Secretary of the Board at Regional Loan Corporation, a non-profit certified Small Business Development Company that offers low interest financing for businesses in Louisiana. The 2017 edition of U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers® has ranked Steeg Law Firm as a Metropolitan Tier 1 Law Firm in New Orleans for Real Estate Law, Litigation – Real Estate, and Commercial Transactions/UCC Law.

King, Krebs & Jurgens congratulates our attorneys selected to the 2017 Louisiana Super Lawyers list. The recognized attorneys are Robert Burtvant, Business Litigation; J. Grant Coleman, Estate & Probate; George “Jack” Jurgens III, Energy & Resources; Henry King, Business Litigation; Timothy Madden, Business/Corporate; Douglas Matthews, Transportation/Maritime; and David Strauss, Insurance Coverage. Patricia Krebs, business litigation, is listed as among the Top 50 Lawyers in New Orleans by Louisiana Super Lawyers. She has been once again recognized by the magazine as among the Top 25 Women on the list, a recognition she has received every year since 2012. Reed Coleman, insurance coverage, was named to the magazine’s “Rising Stars” list.

Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea has elected Michael R. Brassert II to equity partnership in the firm’s Baton Rouge office. Mr. Brassert practices in the energy field with specific focuses including oil & gas title examination and environmental regulation and compliance. Bradley Murchison also elected Richard S. Crisler of the New Orleans office to a three-year term as co-managing partner. Mr. Crisler focuses his practice on the defense of health care and medical malpractice claims. He joins Leland G. Horton of Shreveport and Jerry N. Jones of Baton Rouge as managing partners of the firm.

Johnson Gray McNamara, LLC is pleased to announce that Nicole M. Gray has been named a partner in the firm beginning January 1, 2017. She clerked with the firm in 2008, and joined the firm full time as an associate in 2009, immediately displaying tremendous promise as a rising attorney. Ms. Gray received her Juris Doctor from Loyola Law in 2009.
Save the Date!

15th Annual Bar & Grille Cooking Competition
Saturday, May 20, 2017

The Young Lawyers Section will hold the 15th annual New Orleans Bar & Grille. Teams of amateur chefs from local companies and law firms will participate in a cook off at the Peri-style in City Park. The event offers plenty of entertainment, including free drinks and, of course, a sampling of the dishes that are prepared on site. Although teams are not limited in the particular dish they prepare, teams compete for Best Local Favorite, Best Dessert, Most Creative, Best Booth Decoration, Crowd Favorite, and Best Overall.

All proceeds to benefit Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, a nonprofit law firm founded to provide free legal assistance to low-income persons in civil cases.

Team Registration & Sponsorship:

The Bar & Grille is made possible through the generosity of its sponsors and firm teams. Please visit our website {http://www.neworleansbar.org/bar-grille.html} to download the forms. call NOBA at (504) 525-7453, or email Liz Daino at ldaino@neworleansbar.org for more information.

Individual Registration:

Pre-ordered: $30
At the Door: $35
Children under 12 are free.
Celebrate Spring and the Tulane - LSU rivalry on Tuesday, April 25th! There will be a hospitality tent featuring food and drinks before and during the game.

**Date:** April 25, 2017

**Time:** NOBA Hospitality Tent Opens at 5:30 p.m.  
Game Starts at 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Greer Field at Turchin Stadium

**Cost:** $65/ticket - chair back seats, section 209 along third base line.

Contact us today to reserve your tickets!  
Call (504) 525-7453 or email ldaino@neworleansbar.org
PRESIDENTS’ AWARD NOMINATIONS

Deadline: April 30, 2017

Criteria for this award:

• Active commitment to community service
• High moral and spiritual standards
• Concern for the social and cultural well-being of all citizens of New Orleans
• Member of the New Orleans Bar Association

Nominations should include nominee’s organizational affiliations with the positions and services rendered. Other qualifications not connected with organizations should also be mentioned. Attorneys holding or seeking elective office and previous recipients are ineligible.

Send all entries to NOBA Executive Director, Helena Henderson, at hhenderson@neworleansbar.org.