New Orleans Bar Association

Briefly Speaking

August 2017

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Contact Liz Daino at (504) 525-7453 or ldaino@neworleansbar.org

Briefly Speaking Editor: Kelsey Meeks

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Special Masters
THOMAS KEASLER FOUTZ | HON. CAROLYN GILL-JEFFERSON (RET.)
After the Summer Solstice, New Orleans gets hot, school lets out, and many of us travel -- often to cooler places for a break from the heat. With that heat, we all seem to move a little more slowly. But while our city slows down this season, our bar association does not. I thought I would take this chance to mention some of what NOBA has been doing and what's on the horizon this Summer.

Our committees have been active with programming, social events and other activities to bring us together. Just to name a few, our Bankruptcy Law Committee held a great program on Bankruptcy Crimes and Ethical Considerations. Our very active Property Law Committee has had a series of well-attended CLE meetings and programs on recent developments in the law. NOBA also hosted its ever-popular 2017 Legislative Review CLE, when Representatives Walt Leger III and Joseph Marino III, moderated by Clancy DuBos III, discussed the 2017 Legislative Session and the resulting legislative changes in Louisiana’s laws. Our Oil and Gas Law Committee and Personal Injury Law Committees hosted Summer Socials so that members could mingle, relax and visit fun new rooftop venues together.

Of course, our Young Lawyers Section -- always active -- has been busy with its own fundraisers and programs. After a successful Bar and Grille cooking competition to benefit Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, our young lawyers organized and ran the annual Do’s and Don’ts of Summer Clerkships to share a little with summer clerks about how to get the most out of their experiences and how to perform well. They next held the fun Pro-Bowl-O Tournament to benefit the Pro Bono Project in New Orleans.

Coming up, the YLS will present the Big Easy Bootcamp CLE, designed especially for young and developing lawyers, which is receiving a national award from the American Bar Association in August.

Even in the Summer, our Judges remain accessible and very generous with their time. Judge Regina Bartholomew-Woods recently hosted an Approach the Bench program, with a special visit from Judge Terri Love, at the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. Magistrate Judge Michael B. North shared his insight and perspectives from federal district court in July. Judge Paul A. Bonin, of Criminal District Court, held an informal and informative CLE in his court. Newly-elected Civil District Court Judge Rachael D. Johnson will share her goals and views on August 4th at her Approach the Bench program. Join us for that, if you can. This is a great program to invite Law Clerks to, as they wrap up their last week. This program is free for NOBA members, so don’t hesitate to take advantage of this member benefit while you can!
Speaking of NOBA member perks, up ahead we have our Free on Fridays technology CLE series that will take place every Friday in August. Join us for a lunchtime CLE on August 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th to get a free hour Law Practice Management continuing legal education credit that will address the latest technology issues and cutting edge topics relevant to lawyers. We value each member’s support and this is just one way to thank everyone.

As we move forward in Summer and head into Fall, we will continue to offer a variety of CLE programs that will appeal to several practice areas. Some of those include Construction, Tax, Business Litigation, Maritime, and Intellectual Property Law. Be on the lookout for further details about each program and spread the word to both current members and non members that might be interested in attending or being involved in the NOBA. Finally, don’t forget to mark your calendars for the Young Lawyers Section’s Legalpalooza on September 22nd, and Golf Tournament on October 12th. These are both funraising events that support Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, which provides free legal help to people in danger of losing the most fundamental of human needs. Help us help them!

We may be in the Dog Days, but NOBA has a lot on the calendar for the remaining weeks of Summer. I encourage you to attend a committee meeting, an Approach the Bench or one of our Summer Socials. As always, bring a friend or a colleague with you!

Chris
Approach the Bench CLE
Featuring The Hon. Rachael D. Johnson

The Approach the Bench program provides a forum for lawyers to get to know the local, state, and federal court judges. Judges speak about general topics including practice and procedures, trial practice, motions practice, and more!

**Speaker:** The Hon. Rachel D. Johnson, Civil District Court

**Date:** Friday, August 4, 2017

**Time:** Noon - 1 p.m.

**Location:** 421 Loyola Avenue, Suite 303, New Orleans, LA 70130

**CLE:** 1 hour of CLE credit

**Cost:** FREE for NOBA Members; Non-Member: $25 (lunch is not included for this program)

**To Register:** Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Liz Daino at ldaino@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.

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Tax Law Committee

Meet the Orleans Parish Property Assessor

Assessor Errol Williams will provide valuable information on the role of the tax assessors in the City of New Orleans, assessment methods and recent developments, and answered questions regarding property taxation as it impacts the hospitality industry and other businesses.

**Speakers:**
Eroll G. Williams, Orleans Parish Property Assessor

**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 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 the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Liz Daino at ldaino@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.
Free On Fridays Technology CLE Series

August 4th: Finding Needles In The Haystack: E-Discovery Search Technologies and How To Use Them Pt. 1

w/ Charles-Theodore Zerner, Flanagan Partners LLP

August 11th: 9 Tech Skills Every Attorney Needs to Have

w/ Tom O’Connor, Gulf Coast Legal Technology Center

August 18th: Cybersecurity, Laws and Litigation Trends

w/ Christopher K. Ralston, Phelps Dunbar LLP

August 25th: Finding Needles In The Haystack: E-Discovery Search Technologies and How To Use Them Pt. 2

w/ Andrew R. Lee, Jones Walker LLP

Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505

Cost: FREE for NOBA Member ; Non-Member: $35

To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Liz Daino at ldaino@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.
Chambers & Partners released its annual guide to lawyers practicing in the United States—Chambers USA 2017. **Thomas Flanagan**, an attorney at Flanagan Partners LLP in New Orleans was one of a select group of commercial litigators to be profiled. Mr. Flanagan "is a steady hand, very attentive to legal matters and thinks things through," according to interviewees. He handles business litigation, including matters such as unfair trade practice cases and contract disputes, in state and federal courts.

**Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver, L.L.C.** is pleased to announce that five partners were named to Benchmark Litigation's Under 40 Hot List: Michael Balascio, Kristin Beckman, Jamie Berger, David Luder, and Stephen Miles, and that Judy Barrasso was named to Benchmark Litigation's Top 250 Women in Litigation.

**Gordon, Arata, Montgomery, Barnett, McCollam, Duplantis & Eagan, LLC** is pleased to announce that Edward “Ted” L. Fenasci has been elected a member of the Firm. A mainstay of his practice has been business litigation, covering an array of subjects including lease and contract disputes, business torts, business entity litigation, and banking and lending litigation. Mr. Fenasci’s practice also includes oil-and-gas and environmental litigation throughout Louisiana.

**Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard** is proud to announce that shareholder **Elia Diaz-Yaeger** was selected as the Chambers USA 2017 Women in Law Future Leader – Gender Diversity award winner in the private practice category, recognizing her extensive work in the advancement of women and minorities in the legal profession.

**Do you have an announcement you would like to place in Briefly Speaking? If so, please email Liz Daino at ldaino@neworleansbar.org for pricing information.**
The YLS Bar Ambassadors are a select group of young lawyers recognized as leaders with a wide circle of influence. They make a difference and use their influence to get others to do so as well. The YLS Bar Ambassadors are charged with actively representing NOBA in all that they do, and by doing so, create NOBA's future. It's not just the President and Board of Directors who set the tone for NOBA. Our members, our partners in the profession, our donors and community leaders are all influenced by the engagement demonstrated by the Young Lawyers Section. So what makes a great ambassador? People who have interest in your professional development as well as the commitment to serve your profession.

Kelly Brilleaux is an associate at Irwin Fritchie, Irquart & Moore LLC. She has worked with major pharmaceutical clients in mass-tort multidistrict litigation in all phases of the litigation process, including discovery, motion practice, expert workup, and trial preparation. In the context of railroad and transportation litigation, she has defended employee lawsuits arising under the Federal Employers' Liability Act as well as passenger claims. Kelly has also defended numerous premises liability actions. In handling these matters, Kelly has drafted and argued motions, participated in settlement conferences and mediations, deposed fact witnesses and physicians, facilitated the settlement of cases, and prepared cases for trial.

Marshall Cox is an associate at McGlinchey Stafford. His practice focuses on products liability, including representing clients in the automotive and industrial equipment industries. Marshall received his J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School in 2015. At Vanderbilt, he served as the Senior Managing Editor of the Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law and was a Chancellor’s Law Scholar. During law school, Marshall served as a judicial extern for Judge Susie Morgan in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Marshall has participated on YLS’s Bar & Grille and Bench Bar Conference planning committees and is a YLS Ambassador to NOBA's Products Liability Committee.

Philip Dore graduated from LSU Law in 2012. After serving as a judicial law clerk for two federal judges, Philip joined the New Orleans office of Liskow & Lewis. His practice focuses on mass torts, energy litigation, and other types of litigation. Philip is an active member of YLS. He has served on the 2017 YLS Bench Bar Committee and is currently NOBA's young lawyer liaison for both the Class Action Committee and the Labor & Employment Committee.

Rowen Fricker is an associate with the firm, Pusateri, Johnston, Guillot and Greenbaum, LLC, practicing in the area of admiralty and maritime litigation. She has assisted in representing offshore and marine service contractors in a variety of matters involving Jones Act defense, maintenance and cure issues, § 905(b) longshore claims, personal injury, death, vessel collisions and allisions, prosecution and defense of maritime liens and vessel arrest actions, defense and indemnity issues, property damage, as well as products liability and environmental/toxic tort defense. Ms. Fricker has been recognized as a Rising Star in Louisiana Super Lawyers for the years 2014, 2015, and 2016. Ms. Fricker is actively involved in several community and professional organizations throughout the city.

Gerard Gaudet has been an associate at Adams and Reese since 2013. Gerard has experience in various forms of litigation, including insurance defense, commercial litigation, class action/complex litigation, and maritime/offshore litigation. Gerard earned his J.D. and International Law Certificate from Loyola University of New Orleans Law School in 2013, and received his B.S. in Business Administration from LSU in 2009. Gerard has served on the NOBA YLS Executive Committee the past two years and has chaired the annual NOBA Golf Tournament the past three years.
Aaron Greenbaum is a founding member of the firm Pusateri, Johnston, Guillot & Greenbaum, LLC, where his practice focuses on admiralty and maritime law, as well as commercial litigation. Aaron currently serves as chair of the New Orleans Bar Association Young Lawyers Section. He was previously chair of the NOBA Young Lawyers Public Service Committee and the Pro-Bowl-O tournament. Aaron is a vice-chair of the American Bar Association Tort Trial and Insurance Section, Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee, and lead author of its yearly survey article for the years 2015 to 2017. He also serves as secretary for the Website and Technology Committee of the Maritime Law Association of the United States.

Ashley Heilprin is a litigation associate at Phelps Dunbar, LLP, where she concentrates her practice in the areas of commercial litigation, First Amendment and media law, construction litigation, and professional liability. She is a member of the YLS Executive Council and an active member of NOBA. Ashley has served on the Women in the Profession Committee in the past, and currently serves on the Minorities in the Profession Committee, YLS Bench Bar Committee, and co-chaired the 2015 and 2016 YLS Procrastinator’s CLE Program, as well as the 2017 YLS Approach the Bench Program. As an YLS Ambassador, Ashley also joined the newly-created eDiscovery committee. In addition to her active service in NOBA, Ashley is the President-Elect for the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society.

Kelsey Jarrett is an associate attorney at Porteous, Hainkel, & Johnson, LLP in New Orleans. As a litigation attorney, she defends insurance companies from personal injury claims brought against their policy holders. She also handles cases involving insurance coverage and bad faith or extra-contractual issues. Ms. Jarrett has obtained defense verdicts at trial, and has been successful on appeal before the Louisiana Supreme Court and circuit courts. She earned her J.D. from Tulane University Law School, where she was named to the Order of the Barristers. Prior to joining Porteous, Hainkel, & Johnson, she served as a law clerk in the 22nd Judicial District Court of Louisiana to the Honorable Dawn Amacker.

Gary Johnson is a native of New Orleans, LA. After graduating from Morehouse College in Business and Economics, he served as the Director of Research for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Rules. Mr. Johnson currently has the privilege of clerking at the Louisiana Supreme Court for the Honorable Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson. As a member of the New Orleans Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Section, Mr. Johnson actively volunteers on several committees, chairs the Mayoral Luncheon, and co-chairs the Big Easy Bootcamp & New Admittee Reception, which has recently been selected to receive the prestigious American Bar Association’s E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award at the National Conference of Bar Presidents’ Annual Meeting in New York this August.

Jennifer Gordon Lampton is a law clerk for the Honorable Nakisha Ervin-Knott of Orleans Parish Civil District Court, Division D. She received her Bachelor of Science in Management from the A. B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, and obtained her Juris Doctor from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. Mrs. Lampton is a member of the Young Lawyers Section (YLS) of the New Orleans Bar Association. As a member of YLS, she has served on the Young Lawyers Section Committee for the Bench Bar Conference and volunteered for the Legal Fair at AARP. At the 2017 Bench Bar Conference, Mrs. Lampton was the recipient of the “Best Vocals” award in the NOBA’s Got Talent competition.
YLS Bar Ambassadors

**Andrew “Drew” Respess** is an associate at Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr, and Smith where his areas of practice include Corporate Transactions, Insurance Defense, and Maritime and Admiralty law. Drew is a member of the New Orleans Bar Association’s YLS Bench Bar Committee. Drew attended Tulane University School of Law and earned his Juris Doctor with a certificate in Sports Law. While at Tulane, Drew clerked for the New Orleans Saints and National Basketball Retired Players Association. Drew also spent a summer in Los Angeles, California, as a legal intern for the Los Angeles Angels.

**Patrick Reagin** is an associate at Liskow & Lewis where his practice focuses on litigation of maritime casualty, toxic exposure, and environmental contamination matters in state and federal courts. Patrick previously served on the YLS Bench Bar Committee and currently serves as the YLS Ambassador to the Complex Litigation and Maritime Law Committees of the bar association. He looks forward to engaging YLS members to become active participants in NOBA events and working to ensure NOBA gears its programming to serve YLS members.

**Skylar Rudin** is an Associate Attorney with Kuchler Polk Weiner, LLC, where she practices toxic tort, oil and gas, and environmental litigation, focusing on the defense of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), hearing loss, personal injury, employment, and general civil litigation. Skylar is currently on a secondment with a major oil and gas company where she is working directly with its in-house attorneys. Skylar serves on the Board of Directors for the invitation-only Women’s Energy Network ("WEN"). She has also been elected as the Networking/Business Development Committee Co-Chair of the NAMWOLF Emerging Leaders Initiative. In addition to serving on the 2016 New Orleans Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section Procrastinators’ Program Committee, Skylar was a speaker at the Procrastinators’ CLE on work/life balance.

**Eric Winder Sella** is employed as an associate attorney at Mouledoux, Bland, Legrand & Brackett, primarily in its transportation practice group. Originally from Shreveport, Eric moved to New Orleans to attend Tulane University, from which he holds undergraduate and law degrees. In addition to maintaining an active litigation practice, Eric has also handled international and domestic transactions and immigration matters for local film talent and production companies.

**Kimberly Silas** is an associate at Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver L.L.C. Her primary practice is in the areas of insurance coverage and bad faith as well as commercial litigation. Ms. Silas is a member of many professional organizations including the Louisiana, New Orleans, and American Bar Associations, and the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Society. She currently serves as Secretary of the New Orleans Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Section, and as chair of the New Orleans Bar Association’s Minorities in the Profession Committee. She is also a graduate of the 2015-2016 LSBA Leadership Class and was named as a 2016 finalist for the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel Frank L. Maraist award. Ms. Silas received her J.D. from Southern University Law Center where she was on law review and the moot court board.

**Taylor C. Stone** moved to New Orleans in the fall of 2004 to attend Tulane University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and minored in Political Philosophy. After graduation, Taylor attended the Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, earning his Juris Doctor from the Civil Law Division as well as a Certificate in Common Law. Taylor focuses his practice in the areas of Commercial Litigation and Transactions, Real Estate Litigation and Transactions, Estate Planning and Probate, and Personal Injury, and is admitted to practice before all Louisiana state courts and the federal Eastern District of Louisiana. Taylor is the chair of the New Orleans Bar Association’s Law Day Event and co-chairs the Young Lawyer Section’s annual Golf Tournament.
Ethan Zubic is an associate in Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett’s New Orleans office. Ethan is a member of the New Orleans Bar Association and serves on the Executive Council of the Young Lawyers Section and is chair of the NOBA YLS Pro-Bowl-O Tournament. Ethan is also a member of NOBA Inn of Court and is a New Orleans Port Director for the Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute. He focuses his practice on admiralty and maritime law, insurance defense, real estate, and commercial litigation and transactions and has handled cases involving ocean marine and commercial general liability insurance coverage, cargo subrogation claims, marine pollution insurance defense, and general litigation.

Katie Swartout is an associate with Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, LLP, focusing her practice on matters involving maritime law, interstate carrier defense and commercial litigation as well as general civil litigation ranging from worker’s compensation claims to complex construction defect cases and professional liability claims. Although early in her legal career, Katie has several years of experience working in the maritime industry with carriers, shippers, terminals and government authorities on contract negotiations, labor issues, and international logistics/compliance/documentation.
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:

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- Oil and Gas
- Maritime
- Construction
- Products Liability
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- 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.”