Maurice Ruffin, Author of We Cast a Shadow and former YLS Chair, with and Tad Bartlett, former Appellate Law Committee Chair
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- Appellate Practice
- Bankruptcy & Debtor/Creditor Rights
- Business Litigation
- Business Transactions
- Civil Rights
- Class Actions
- Complex Litigation
- Construction Law
- Criminal Law
- Domestic Violence
- E-Discovery
- Entertainment and Intellectual Property Law
- Environmental Law/Toxic Torts
- Family Law
- Healthcare Law
- Immigration Law
- Insurance Law
- Labor & Employment Law
- Maritime & International Law
- Minorities in the Profession
- Oil & Gas Law
- Pharmaceuticals/Medical Devices
- Products Liability
- Property Law
- Solo & Small Firms
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- Tax Law
- Technology
- Wellness & Stress Management
- Wills/Trusts/Successions
- Women in the Profession
- Worker’s Compensation Law

Contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING EDITOR:

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ADVERTISING

If you are interested, please contact NOBA for advertising information and rates for 2019.
My Fellow NOBA Members,

It is amazing that we are already in June – half of the year has already passed! Time does fly when you are busy, as most of us are. The start of summer is a good time to put down the pen, move away from the desk, and take a little time for yourself to relax, spend time with family and friends, and pursue something that interests you. To help with that goal, NOBA has activities scheduled this month that are both educational and entertaining.

To start, on Wednesday, June 5, Nathan Chapman will give a presentation at NOBA’s offices on the topic of law firm marketing and business development. On almost every survey about the current state of the legal industry, the challenges of law firm marketing and business development rank at or near the top. Nathan is an expert in this field and has presented widely acclaimed seminars throughout the United States. NOBA is proud to give its members this opportunity to learn from Nathan’s expertise. I encourage you to come as I think you will find the program incredibly interesting and timely.

Nathan’s educational seminar will be followed the very next day by the fun-filled YLS Pro-Bowl-O tournament, which will be at Fulton Alley on June 6. This is another fundraiser to benefit The Pro Bono Project. This tournament was hugely successful last year and everyone had a great time, so please come out again or join us for the first time. Skill is not required – I will be there and I am definitely not a good bowler.

Our Leadership Luncheons also kick off in June, starting with the Mayoral Luncheon on Friday, June 21, at the Sheraton Hotel from noon until 1:30. Mayor Cantrell will speak to the members of NOBA about the current state of the City. This luncheon easily sold out last year, so be sure to buy a ticket (or a table) early.

Another notable June happening is the Maritime and International Law Committee will open nominations for the distinguished Maritime Lawyer Award beginning on Wednesday, June 12. Last year, Gary A. Hemphill received this award, deserving joining the list of truly exceptional past recipients. We encourage the members of the Maritime and International Law Committee to put forth nominations either through a letter or the NOBA website.

Finally, as always, various committees continue to hold their CLEs, with nine scheduled in June, including an Approach the Bench with Judge Ellen Hazeur, which is free for members. Please check this newsletter or the NOBA website for dates. NOBA is committed to providing the educational and social opportunities to help make lawyers better. The activities we have planned for June show the depth of that commitment. Please join us and take full advantage of your NOBA membership!
Tips for Making (and Surviving) a Daubert Challenge
Co-hosted by the Complex Litigation and Products Liability Committees

Moderator: Cayce Peterson, The Lambert Firm, PLC

Speakers: The Honorable Carl Barbier, USDC-EDLA
         Camille Gauthier, Flanagan Partners, LLP
         Stephen Miles, Barrasso Usdin Kuperman Freeman & Sarver, LLC

Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130

CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit

Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)

To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.

The Nerd Depo: A 30(b) (6) To Discover the Location and Availability of ESI CLE
Hosted by the E-Discovery Committee

Speakers: Tom O’Connor, Gulf Coast Legal Technology Center
         Chris Ralston, Phelps Dunbar LLP

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130

CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit

Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)

To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.
Meet the Orleans Parish Tax Assessor CLE
Hosted by the Tax Law Committee

Speaker: Erroll Williams, Orleans Parish Tax Assessor
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130
CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit, including Tax Law Specialization Credit
Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.

Arbitrating Your Construction Law Claim
Hosted by the Construction Law CLE

Speaker: Gary Giepert, Giepert Law Firm, LLC
Date: Friday, June 14, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130
CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit
Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.
Collaborative Divorce CLE
Hosted by the Family Law Committee

Photos:

Lacy Smith
The Law Office of Lacy M. Smith

Speaker: Lacy Smith, The Law Office of Lacy M. Smith
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130
CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit
Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.

Ethics & Technology CLE
Hosted by the E-Discovery Committee

Photos:

Chris Ralston, Phelps Dunbar LLP

Speakers: Chris Ralston, Phelps Dunbar LLP
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130
CLE: 1 hour of Ethics CLE Credit
Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.
Approach the Bench CLE
Featuring Judge Ellen Hazeur

**Speaker:** The Honorable Ellen Hazeur, Civil District Court

**Date:** Thursday, June 27, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Location:** 421 Loyola Avenue, Room 304, New Orleans, LA 70112

**CLE:** 1 hour of CLE Credit

**Cost:** NOBA Member: FREE; Non-Member: $35.00 (includes light lunch)

**To Register:** Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.*
2019 EVENTS FOR SUMMER LAW CLERKS

APPROACH THE BENCH CLE SERIES*
Tips for court practice & procedures

JUNE 27  THE HON. ELLEN HAZUER  CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
421 Loyola Avenue, Room 304  12 - 1 PM

JULY 18  THE HON. PIPER GRIFFIN  CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
421 Loyola Avenue, Room 405  12 - 1 PM

AUG. 6  THE HON. DANA DOUGLAS  USDC - EDLA
500 Poydras Street, Room B335  12 - 1 PM

*FREE for NOBA Members; $25 for Non-Members

PRO-BOWL-O CHARITY BENEFIT
Benefiting The Pro Bono Project

Come bowl with NOBA and support The Pro Bono Project to help provide legal services in Orleans and surrounding parishes.

JUNE 6  FUNDRAISER  FULTON ALLEY
600 Fulton Street  5:30-8:30 PM

MORE INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL TICKETS, TEAMS AND SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

SUMMER BAR CRAWL
Young Lawyers Section Quarterly Social

Join the YLS Section for a fun Mid-Summer Social to Kickoff Bastille Day Weekend!

JULY 12  SOCIAL  STARTING LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED  4:30 PM-TILL

EMAIL BNELMS@NEWORLEANSBAR.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

LEADERSHIP LUNCHEONS
Lectures that inspire

JUNE 21  MAYORAL LUNCHEON  SHERATON NEW ORLEANS HOTEL
500 Canal Street, Waterbury Ballroom  12-1:30 PM

JULY 2019  GUBERNATORIAL LUNCHEON  RITZ CARLTON HOTEL
921 Canal Street, Grand Ballroom  12-1:30 PM

AUG. 15  SUPREME COURT LUNCHEON  WINDSOR COURT HOTEL
300 Gravier Street  12 - 1:30 PM

For more information or to register, please contact the New Orleans Bar Association at (504) 525-7453 or email bnelms@neworleansbar.org.
A View from the Middle:
An Attorney Chair Describes How to Wow A Medical Review Panel
Hosted by the Healthcare Law Committee

Speaker: Kathryn Caraway, Caraway, LeBlanc LLC
Date: Friday, June 28, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130
CLE: 1 hour of CLE Credit
Cost: NOBA Member: $35.00; Non-Member: $55 (includes lunch)
To Register: Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.
**YLS Committee Meeting**

Get involved with the Young Lawyers Section at their Monthly Meeting!

**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

**Location:** NOBA Office 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130

**Kelly E. Brilleaux,**
YLS Committee Chair

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**Property Law Committee Meeting**

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.

**Property Law Committee Meeting**

**Speaker:** Rebekah Durham, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, New Orleans Branch

**Date:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Cost:** $15.00 Lunch Included

**Location:** NOBA Office 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130

**To Register:** Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@neworleansbar.org

**Robert P. Thibeaux,**
Property Law Committee Chair
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.

**Speakers:** Nathan Chapman, Firmidable

**Date:** Thursday, June 5th, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Location:** NOBA Office, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505 New Orleans, LA 70130

**Cost:** NOBA Member: $20.00; Non-Member: $35.00 (includes lunch)

**To Register:** Contact the NOBA office at (504) 525-7453 or email Briana Nelms at bnelms@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.

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Did you miss the CLE about Maurice Ruffin's award-winning novel, *We Cast a Shadow*? Get the next best thing to being there -

**watch the video online!**

The May 8th NOBA program was not, however, just another stop on Ruffin’s book tour, but was a serious examination of principles of capital-“P” Professionalism and the necessity for attorneys to work those principles into their daily practice. Even a cursory examination of the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Code of Professionalism reveals that many of these aspirational statements about how attorneys should practice the law are grounded in empathy, in a recognition of the mutual humanity of the participants in an otherwise stressful and often combative field, and in the epitome of treating others as you would be treated.

Lawyers tend to compartmentalize their work-lives from their lives outside of work, pitting the two realms against each other even in how they refer to the struggle: “a work-life balance,” as if work is not also life and life is not also work. Attorneys who recognize the fullness of their humanity know that success in the non-work realm, in life, also requires hard work—hard work to do well in their families, their marriages and close friendships, their civic engagements, and their creative pursuits. This suggests as much a “work-work” balance, then, as a “work-life” one.

Still, even a work-work balance implies a compartmentalization of the two aspects of a lawyer’s existence, suggesting that there are times when one is only fully an attorney engaged in attorney work and times when one is only fully outside of that work, and that the time spent as to each must achieve some balance. The goal of Professionalism, however, demands something more. The reason attorneys strive to be in “profession” with one another, as opposed to a mere business or occupation, is that there is a wholeness and a fullness to being a lawyer that requires—at its highest “Professionalism” zenith—being all things at once: to be fully attorney and to be fully non-attorney/human at once, to imbue each sphere with the essence of the other, to bring our humanity to our practice.

Against this backdrop, Ruffin discussed the nuts and bolts of how he has engaged his creative life at the same time as his attorney life—an evolving dual engagement that has lasted as long as he has been an attorney (Ruffin graduated from Loyola Law School in 2003). Ruffin detailed when and how he would fit
writing into his routine, through his time as a defense hourly-billing attorney, a litigator, a plaintiff’s contingency-focused attorney, and in a 9-5 staff attorney’s position—how each practice framework placed different constraints on how he was able to get the writing done.

Ruffin also discussed how writing has imbued his legal work with a sense of narrative that often enables him to focus legal arguments in the most efficient manner; while at the same time the logical rigor of legal argumentation has provided a focused discipline to the stories he writes. Ruffin said that, unequivocally, he would not have been able to write *We Cast a Shadow* without the experiences of his law practice.

At the end of NOBA’s May 8th program, one of the audience members asked what messages the attendees could take back to their firms to advance the themes discussed during the program. Ruffin observed that he had been lucky to work in situations where his partners and colleagues had understood his pursuit of creative writing, but that he was also dedicated to getting the best possible work done for his clients. As a result, there was an atmosphere of reciprocated support for his attempts to pursue writing. The ultimate message and conclusion from a Professionalism angle is that attorneys should all recognize and seek to foster in themselves and in their colleagues the attempt to immerse in our humanity. That, without something more than lip-service to family life, without a true support for engagement in family activities and civic activities and creative activities, attorneys will find it much harder to reach their full professional potential. They will instead always be serving an occupation or a job, and never achieving full-fledged profession.

Tad Bartlett practices in the fields of complex commercial litigation, land damage and property rights, and appellate advocacy at Jones Swanson Huddell & Garrison. Tad joined NOBA in 2001 and has served on various committees including the 2005 YLS Executive Board and then Chair Maurice Ruffom. He graduated from Tulane Law School in 2000 and in 2015 he received his MFA from the University of New Orleans. Tad was named 2019 Environmental Law “Lawyer of the Year” in New Orleans by *Best Lawyers*. 

CLE attendees enjoying the May 8th CLE

Tad Bartlett, Kim Nguyen and Maurice Ruffin
NEW ORLEANS BAR FOUNDATION DONATIONS

The New Orleans Bar Foundation would like to thank the following people for their generous donations to the Foundation’s various funds. Donors can give a variety of funds each designated to serve different programs focused within the Foundation. To learn more about how to donate to the New Orleans Bar Foundation, please visit www.neworleansbar.org/foundation-donations.

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Thomas Flanagan, an attorney at Flanagan Partners LLP was named to Band 1 list for General Commercial Litigation in Louisiana in the Chambers USA 2019 Guide.

Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard is pleased to announce that four firm shareholders, as well as the firm’s Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Creditors’ Rights practice were selected for inclusion in the recently released Chambers USA 2019 Guide:

Delos Flint Jr., Band Three, Transportation, Shipping/Maritime, Litigation (outside New York)
Benjamin Kadden, Band Three, Bankruptcy/Restructuring
Rose LeBreton, Band Three, Real Estate
Stewart Peck, Band Two, Bankruptcy/Restructuring

To place an announcement or advertisement in Briefly Speaking, email Marie Thomas at mthomas@neworleansbar.org or call NOBA at (504) 525-7453 for pricing information.
You’re Cordially Invited!

MAYORAL LUNCHEON

June 21, 2019
12:00—1:30 PM
Waterbury Ballroom, Sheraton Hotel
Individual Tickets and Tables Available

Seats are limited. Call (504) 525-7453 to reserve your spot.