So far, 2017 has certainly been quite a ride for our country. Confronted with a lot of change, it is comforting that one thing stays the same in New Orleans: our judiciary and attorneys find common ground each and every day for the good of our community.

One of the ways we’ve created such strong rapport between the bench and the bar is that we get to know each other. The New Orleans Bar Association is at the heart of this – providing joint CLEs, networking events, and task forces to address many of our most pressing issues. But one event stands out for me. It is our annual Bench Bar Conference, this year at the Grand Hotel at Point Clear, Alabama on March 30-April 2.

Why is this such an invaluable few days? Yes, it helps all of us to meet our annual CLE requirements. We learn about legal trends both in Louisiana and across the country. We address problems and brainstorm solutions. But more important, the relaxed atmosphere enables us to get to know each other and to hear viewpoints outside the context of a specific case or matter. I believe this respectful, two-way dialogue in a very casual setting is why we are able to address issues more swiftly and work better – together – for the benefit of New Orleans.

If you’ve never joined us, please consider doing so this year. It is our 20th anniversary, and we promise to make it memorable – from champagne tastings to the annual "NOBA’s Got Talent" event. (Yes, Judges Reese and Belsome, we are looking forward to your encore!) Our program this year promises to run the gamut of offering substantive legal topics and discourse, as well as discussions and activities focused on lawyer wellness and stress management, to a discussion on the ways in which we communicate with each other with our intergenerational professionalism panel.

You can find more details about the conference in this issue of Briefly Speaking.

Hope to see you there.

**Pop! Fizz! Clink! A Champagne & Sparkling Wine Tasting**

You’re invited to raise a glass with Chris Ralston, NOBA President, Dana Douglas, President-Elect, and Angie Christina, Chair, *Pop! Fizz! Clink!* Experience the beauty of the bubbles, the subtle nuances of the colors, and the complexity of champagne and sparkling wines. After all, a party without champagne would just be a meeting. And a party without a party favor wouldn’t be New Orleans Bar Association! Join us for the Bench Bar Conference at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama.
New Orleans Bar Association

20th Anniversary Bench Bar Conference
March 30-April 2, 2017
The Grand Hotel
Point Clear, AL

recharge. rethink. reconnect.
Friday, March 31, 2017
recharge. rethink. reconnect.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Registration
2:55 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Welcoming Remarks
   Christopher K. Ralston, President
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Meet the Judges
   What do judges expect in their courtrooms? What won’t judges tolerate? Are there special rules that exist particular to each judge’s court? Do you want to know special practice pointers?
   Moderator: The Hon. Jay C. Zainey, United States District Court Eastern District of Louisiana
   Get the answers and more at “Meet the Judges.” “Meet the Judges” is a rapid-fire, round-robin session where lawyers will be given the opportunity to meet and interact with members of the judiciary.
4:40 p.m. - 6:10 p.m.  Federal State Pitfalls
   The distinguished panelists will discuss important distinctions between practice in Louisiana state and federal courts. Topics include the following:
   • Motion practice and hearing dates
   • Scheduling orders and pre-trial deadlines
   • The role of magistrate judges
   • Trial and voir dire
   • Appeal process
   Moderator: Albert J. Derbes IV, The Derbes Law Firm, LLC
   Speakers:
   The Hon. Piper D. Griffin, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
   The Hon. Jane M. Triche-Milazzo, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
   The Hon. Michael B. North, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
   Sharonda R. Williams, Fishman Haygood Phelps Walmsley Willis & Swanson, LLP

7:00 p.m.  Talent Competition at Dinner with Open Bar

   NOBA’s Got Talent! Come See Lawyers & Judges Perform!

   Back by popular demand, the YLS Bench Bar Conference Committee will host the NOBA’s Got Talent competition at a dinner with open bar and music. Laughter and smiles will be around with karaoke singing, lip-syncing and dancing. Acts from the audience are encouraged too! Karaoke features DJ Beignet a.k.a Lee Reid, Adams and Reese & Powdered Sugar, the celebrity legal community DJ. We provide an enthusiastic audience and a panel of judges. NOBA’s performers will showcase their special talents in hopes of being able to take the stage in front of our esteemed panel of judges, take home the winning trophy, and of course bragging rights!

With special thanks to our sponsor HSSK

Leave the suit behind. Dress is casual.
10:10 a.m. - 11:10 a.m. What Lawyers & Firms Need to Know About Employment Law/Title VII

This panel will provide information about:

- How the new rules concerning wages, vacation, sick and leave time impact your law firm and your clients
- Updated LGBT Rights in the Workplace
- The application of new rules on summary judgment and discovery within the scope of employment law cases

**Moderator:** The Hon. Ivan L. R. Lemelle, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana

**Speakers:**
The Hon. Kern A. Reese, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
Kim M. Boyle, Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Christina L. Carroll, Robein, Urann, Spencer, Picard & Cangemi, APLC

*Leave the suit behind. Dress is casual.*
Saturday, April 1, 2017

11:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.  **Close Encounters of the Third Kind: Criminal Law for Civil Lawyer**

This panel will answer the following:

- Should you refrain from using certain hand signals while driving?
- Marijuana 101—Drug Dealing or Entrepreneurship?
- The unknown Consequences of Domestic Abuse
- And more...

**Moderator:** Harry Rosenberg, Phelps Dunbar LLP

**Speakers:**
- The Hon. Leon A. Cannizzaro, Jr., Orleans Parish District Attorney
- The Hon. Desiree M. Charbonnet, Orleans Parish Municipal Court
- The Hon. Camille G. Buras, Orleans Parish Criminal District Court
- John T. Fuller, John T. Fuller & Associates

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  **Wellness & Stress Management Lunch eon & CLE: “Unplugged”**

This interactive panel will discuss workable techniques and strategies for effectively managing the stresses and pressures facing judges and lawyers in the legal profession.

Topics include:

- Stress triggers and the health-stress connection
- The role of nutrition and meditation in helping to create balance
- How to increase your capacity to handle stress by increasing your mental and physical robustness and excel in a stressful legal environment
- Information on medical care, exercise, nutrition, relaxation, and sleep habits to help create a realistic stress management routine

**Moderator:** The Hon. Tiffany G. Chase, Orleans Parish Civil District Court

**Speakers:**
- The Hon. Karen Wells Roby, Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
- John A. Braymer, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Rachel E. Reitan, M.D., LSUHSC School of Medicine

*With special thanks to our sponsor*

*Leave the suit behind. Dress is casual.*
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  **Special Wellness Program: Yoglates** *(Optional. No CLE Credit .)*

No matter the shape you’re in or may not be in, this is for you! Often times, people think they need to get in shape first before trying Yoglates. This is not true! Everyone starts from the beginning no matter what shape you’re in. We never master this; the body will always continue to challenge us. You will experience numerous benefits once you start practicing: stress relief, increase in core strength, and a longer and leaner body, just to name a few!

We are thrilled to have Lorilin Braymer, certified Yoglates instructor, group fitness instructor and personal trainer lead the class.

You’ll want to bring a yoga mat, water bottle, towel and an open mind! Dress in something you feel good in and will be comfortable moving the body in many different positions.

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  **Pop! Fizz! Clink! A Champagne & Sparkling Wine Tasting**

*Pop! Fizz! Clink!*

Experience the beauty of the bubbles, the subtle nuances of the colors and the complexity of champagne and sparkling wines. Learn why there is no way to be unhappy when you have bubbly. Do you know what French monks discovered that we need to know? Come taste the stars with NOBA!

You’re invited to raise a glass with Chris Ralston, NOBA President, Dana Douglas, President-Elect, and Angie Christina, Chair of Pop! Fizz! Clink! After all, a party without champagne would just be a meeting. And a party without a party favor, wouldn’t be New Orleans Bar Association!

*With special thanks to our sponsor*

**TRUSTPOINT**

**INTERNATIONAL**

After 7:00 p.m.  **Dinner on your own, then we’ll see you in Bucky’s Birdcage Lounge**

*Leave the suit behind. Dress is casual.*
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast

8:55 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Welcoming Remarks

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  Ethics: Left to Our Own Devices

This panel will discuss:

• Technological incompetence: more than a competitive disadvantage
• When lawyer blogging goes wrong
• To Hashtag or Not to Hashtag—Lawyer Advertising in the Digital World
• How far does an attorney have to go to maintain client confidences?
• Inadvertent disclosure takes on new meaning in the digital age

Moderator: The Hon. Carl J. Barbier
United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana

Speakers:
The Hon. Lance M. Africk, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
The Hon. Paula A. Brown, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
The Hon. Bernadette G. D’Souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
Vicki A. Elmer, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC

10:10 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.  Professionalism: Intergenerational Relations

This panel will discuss:

• Moving from in-person meetings, to formal correspondence, to e-mail
• Changes in the ways that depositions are taken and defended
• Changes in the types and tone of motions and briefs that are filed
• Changes in the way that motions are argued to the Court and cases are tried

Moderator: R. Keith Jarrett, Liskow & Lewis, APLC

Speakers:
The Hon. Bernette J. Johnson, Chief Justice, Louisiana Supreme Court
The Hon. Robin M. Giarrusso, Orleans Parish Civil District Court
Joseph I. Giarrusso III, Liskow & Lewis, APLC
Rachael D. Johnson, Law Office of Julie E Vaicius
Russ M. Herman, Herman, Herman & Katz, LLP
Steve J. Herman, Herman, Herman & Katz, LLP

Leave the suit behind. Dress is casual.
Hotel Reservations for the Conference

Reservations for the Grand Hotel for Friday, March 31, 2017 - Sunday, April 2, 2017

**Marriott’s Grand Hotel Room Options**

1. **Spa Building Bay View**
   - Marriott’s Grand Hotel offers a special group rate for 269.00 USD per night (not including tax & fees)
   - To make your reservation, call (800) 544-9933.

2. **Spa Building Resort View**
   - Marriott’s Grand Hotel offers a special group rate for 239.00 USD per night (not including tax & fees)
   - To make your reservation, call (800) 544-9933.

3. **Bay View Room**
   - Marriott’s Grand Hotel offers a special group rate for 239.00 USD per night (not including tax & fees)
   - To make your reservation, call (800) 544-9933.

4. **Resort View Room**
   - Marriott’s Grand Hotel offers a special group rate for 199.00 USD per night (not including tax & fees)
   - To make your reservation, call (800) 544-9933.

**Hotel Reservations for Judges**

- NOBA is pleased to underwrite the cost of the 2-night stay at the hotel for our honorary members. Judges attending the conference should contact Liz Daino at 525-7453 or ldaino@neworleansbar.org for both the hotel registration instructions and NOBA’s discounted conference registration for judges.

**Hotel Reservation Policies**

- **Limited availability:** there are a limited number of rooms reserved so please don’t delay registration. The room block expires on **March 10, 2017**.
- **Cancellation Policy:** there is a one night nonrefundable cancellation fee plus taxes, if your room is cancelled within 5 days of stay.
- **Early Departure Fee:** there is a one night early departure fee (plus taxes) if checking out before scheduled departure, unless the Hotel is notified by 12 midnight of the first day guest is checked in the hotel.

**Spa Day on March 30th or Extended Hotel Stay on April 2nd**

- To reserve hotel rooms for Spa Day on March 30th only, call (800) 544-9933.
- If you know that you’re going to have a wonderful time at the Grand Hotel and wish to extend your stay after the conference ends, please call (800) 544-9933 to reserve a room for Sunday, April 2, 2017.

Visit the NOBA website for online registration instructions or call (800) 544-9933 for your accommodations in the NOBA Room Block at the Grand Hotel. The Room Block expires on March 10, 2017.
# 2017 Bench Bar Registration Form

Name ________________________________________________________________
Firm ____________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________________________
City ___________________ State ______ Zip ________ Phone ________________________________
Email Address ________________________________________________________________________________

Payment Information
(please note: All credit card transactions will be charged a 3% convenience fee)
☐ Check Made Payable to the New Orleans Bar Association
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover
Credit Card # _____________________________  Exp. Date ______ 3 Digit Code _______________

## NOBA Conference Registration Fees (March 31 - April 2, 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bench Bar CLE Priority Early Registration (Before March 10, 2017)</td>
<td>¥350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bench Bar CLE Registration (After March 10, 2017)</td>
<td>¥400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 9 Hours of CLE including Ethics and Professionalism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday and Sunday Breakfasts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday Wellness Luncheon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday Yoglates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday Evening Champagne &amp; Sparkling Wine Tasting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bench Bar Young Lawyer CLE Priority Registration (March 10, 2017)</td>
<td>¥185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bench Bar Young Lawyer CLE Registration (March 10, 2017)</td>
<td>¥235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Plus Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday Night Dinner at The Grand Hotel for NOBA’s Got Talent</td>
<td>¥125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dinner with open bar and entertaining talent competition featuring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>karaoke singing, lip-synching, dancing, and other acts. Music provided</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by D.J. Beignet, a/k/a Lee Reid, the celebrity legal community D.J.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Registration for _______________________________________________</td>
<td>¥150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Friday Night Dinner at the Grand Hotel for NOBA’s Got Talent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday Evening Champagne &amp; Sparkling Wine Tasting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday and Sunday Breakfasts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Saturday Yoglates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $_________

Please mail completed form to New Orleans Bar Association, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1505, New Orleans, LA 70130 or fax to (504) 525-6549. Please contact NOBA at (504) 525-7453 if you have any questions or if you have a disability which may require a special accommodation at this conference. NOBA is committed to providing full accessibility for all registrants.

## Conference Refund Policy

Written cancellation must be received by March 24, 2017 for a full refund less a $30 administrative fee.
2017 Bench Bar Conference Committee

Dana M. Douglas, Liskow & Lewis APLC, Chair

The Hon. Terri F. Love, Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal
The Hon. Jane M. Triche-Milazzo, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
The Hon. Jay C. Zainey, United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
Angelina Christina, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC
Albert J. Derbes IV, The Derbes Law Firm, LLC
Sandra Diggs-Miller, Entergy Services, Inc.
Jan M. Hayden, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
Stephen J. Herman, Herman, Herman & Katz, LLP
Kelly G. Juneau-Rookard, Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore, LLC
Christopher K. Ralston, Phelps Dunbar, LLP

2017 YLS Bench Bar Conference Committee

Kelly E. Brilleaux, Irwin Fritchie, Co-Chair
Cassie E. Preston, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, Co-Chair

Jessica E. Coalter, Bureau of General Counsel
Marshall T. Cox, McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC
Philip R. Dore, Liskow & Lewis, APLC
Rachel E. Ferrante, Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Rowen A. Fricker, Pusateri, Barrios, Guillot and Greenbaum, LLC
Gerard J. Gaudet, Adams and Reese, LLP
Ashley J. Heilprin, Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Gary W. Johnson, Louisiana Supreme Court - 4th Circuit
Jennifer Gordon Lampton, Civil District Court Parish of Orleans
Skylar B. Rudin, Kuchler Polk Schell Weiner & Richeson, L.L.C.
Eric W. Sella, Mouledoux, Bland, Legrand & Brackett
Kimberly Silas, Barrasso, Usdin, Kupperman, Freeman & Sarver, LLC
Taylor C. Stone, The Law Office of Taylor C Stone, LLC
Katherine L. Swartout, Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, LLP
R. Ethan Zubic, Montgomery, Barnett, Brown, Read, Hammond & Mintz, LLP
Workers’ Compensation Law Committee

Recent Issues With The Medical Treatment Guidelines Process CLE

Date: Friday, March 10, 2017
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras St., Ste. 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.

Business Transactions Committee

Identifying Fraud in Financial Statements

Speaker: Ralph Litolff, Jr., RAL Forensics, LLC
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Time: Noon - 1 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras St., Ste. 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.
Complex Litigation Committee

A Conversation with Magistrate Judge Janis van Meerveld CLE

Judge Janis van Meerveld, formerly a partner with Adams & Reese, was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge in August 2016. Join us for an interactive discussion about the practice of law in her court, including discovery disputes, oral and written advocacy, best practices for settlement conferences, procedures unique to her division of court, and a host of other matters.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017

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

**Location:** Eastern District of Louisiana
500 Poydras Street, Courtroom B 309
New Orleans, LA 70130

**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.

Maritime Law Committee

Policies and Procedures of the US Marshal for In Rem Arrests and Attachments

**Speaker:** Milton N. Ramirez, Deputy U.S. Marshal, Eastern District of Louisiana

**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017

**Time:** Noon - 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** NOBA Office, 650 Poydras St., Ste. 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.
Personal Injury Law Committee
Introductory Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2017
Time: Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Location: NOBA Office, 650 Poydras St., Ste. 1505
CLE: 1 hour of CLE credit
Cost: $14 (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.

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.”
Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP is pleased to announce that three of its New Orleans attorneys have been named to the 2017 edition of Louisiana Super Lawyers: Thomas M. Benjamin, Alan H. Goodman, Eve B. Masinter and three of its New Orleans attorneys have been named Rising Stars: Joseph R. Hugg, Rachael Jeanfreau, and Wesley M. Plaisance.

Layne Hilton and Marshall Perkins have joined Kanner & Whiteley, L.L.C., a litigation boutique headquartered in New Orleans, as associate attorneys and will focus on consumer fraud, antitrust, pharmaceutical and other complex litigation.

Leake & Andersson, L.L.P. is pleased to announce that Ryan M. Casteix and Vallie S. Dugas have been named Partners of the Firm.

E. Fredrick Preis, Jr., is pleased to announce that fifteen attorneys have been listed in the 2017 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business for Louisiana. The BSW attorneys listed in the 2017 edition of Chambers USA include: John T. Andrishok, Robert L. Atkinson, Thomas M. Benjamin, David R. Cassidy, Clay J. Countryman, Alan H. Goodman, Emily Black Grey, Murphy J. Foster, III, Gregory D. Frost, Richard D. Leibowitz, Steven B. Loeb, Eve B. Masinter, Van R. Mayhall, Jr., Fredrick Preis, Jr., and Claude F. Reynaud, Jr.

Scott Sternberg, Keith Naccari and Clayton White have announced the formation of their new Firm, Sternberg, Naccari & White, LLC, practicing in the areas of business transactions, general litigation, media and public affairs matters and conversation strategies. Joseph Marriott will also join the firm as an Attorney. To learn more about the Firm, visit www.snw.law.
Kay E. Donnelly & Associates Sponsors NOBA’s Bench Bar Conference for 20th Year

The New Orleans Bar Association thanks Kay E. Donnelly & Associates Certified Court Reporters for its long support of NOBA’s programs. Specifically, Kay Donnelly has been a loyal sponsor of NOBA’s Bench Bar Conference, with this year being the 20th year that Kay Donnelly has had her firm serve as a sponsor of the Bench Bar Conference. For that enduring commitment to NOBA, we feature her here this month.

Kay Donnelly has more than 30 years of experience in the court reporting industry and services clients throughout Louisiana. Located in downtown New Orleans since 2003, Kay E. Donnelly & Associates is active in the legal community. In addition to serving law firms and attorneys in virtually every type of litigation, Kay sees to it that her company “gives back” by providing free court reporting services for cases referred through The Pro Bono Project and Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. In 2015, Kay E Donnelly & Associates received the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Friend of Pro Bono Award in recognition of the company’s “major contribution to the enhancement and promotion of pro bono legal services to the poor.” Similarly, both Southeast Louisiana Legal Services and The Pro Bono Project have recognized the company with awards for the substantial commitment and contributions both Kay and her company have provided over the years. Laura Tuggle, Executive Director of Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, states that “Kay is dedicated to increasing access to justice for people in need. Last year, she performed a ‘Mardi Gras Miracle’ for Southeast Louisiana Legal Services through the donation of her firm’s pro bono court reporting. We could not have won the case without her quick turnaround -- the day before Mardi Gras, no less.” In addition to the company’s support for and donations to the legal community, Kay E. Donnelly & Associates is a corporate sponsor of numerous local nonprofits, councils and community service associations.

As for Kay, she is a past president of the Louisiana State Court Reporters Association. She is an active member and supporter of numerous local charitable societies and organizations, such as Greyhound Pets of America (Louisiana Chapter) and Lighthouse for the Blind. When she is not working or donating her time to pro bono work, she enjoys working on crossword puzzles, preferably with a (Starbucks Venti) nonfat latte (her favorite).

Another thing about Kay: she personally attends NOBA’s Bench Bar Conference and is a warm and friendly face at the annual gathering. We hope you will attend this year’s Bench Bar Conference at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. While there, you might want to thank Kay for her company’s long support of NOBA and for her 20 years of sponsorship of that signature NOBA event.

Thank you, Kay!