



Louisiana Supreme Court Celebrates 200th Anniversary in March 1 Ceremony

By Miriam Childs, Law Library of Louisiana



Louisiana Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne, Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson and Justice Greg G. Guidry on March 1, 2013, at the Supreme Court. *Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.*

The Louisiana Supreme Court celebrated its 200th anniversary on March 1. To commemorate the Court's two centuries of legal heritage, the justices presided over the Bicentennial Ceremony as a special session of court, conducted in the Court's courtroom in New Orleans. Justice Greg G. Guidry chaired the Court's Bicentennial Committee, which planned the ceremony.



On hand for the Bicentennial Ceremony were three Chief Justices, from left, former Chief Justice Catherine D. Kimball, former Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. and current Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson. Photo provided by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Master of ceremonies Louisiana Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne provided the opening address. The Washington Artillery presented the colors, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Donna D. Fraiche, president of the Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society. Bishop

Shelton J. Fabre gave the invocation, and Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson delivered welcoming remarks.

Four speakers discussed various aspects of the Court's history:

- ▶ "A Walk Through the Streets of New Orleans at the Time of the Court's

Foundation" by Prof. Richard Campanella, Tulane University's School of Architecture;

▶ "The Civilian Aspects of Louisiana Law" by Prof. John Randall Trahan, the Louis B. Porterie Professor at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center;

▶ "The Role of the Louisiana Supreme Court in the Early Civil Rights Movement" by Prof. Emeritus Raphael Cassimere, Jr., University of New Orleans; and

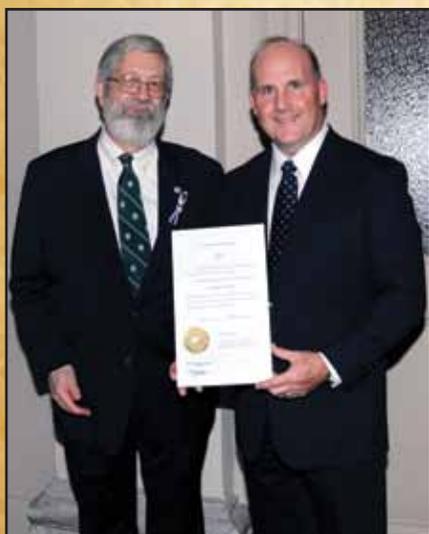
▶ "The History of the Louisiana Supreme Court" by Prof. Emeritus Warren M. Billings, University of New Orleans Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History and Bicentennial Court historian.

Students from the International High School of New Orleans took the stage following the speakers to present a short, trilingual play titled "An Uncommon Birth: Shaping Louisiana's Legal Tradition for Statehood."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Justice Jeannette Theriot Knoll led the audience in a stately rendition of the National Anthem.

The Lusher Charter High School Jazz Band provided lively entertainment at the reception following the ceremony.

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Speaker Prof. Emeritus Warren M. Billings, left, was made the official historian of the Louisiana Supreme Court Bicentennial. He is shown with Justice Greg G. Guidry, chair of the Supreme Court's Bicentennial Committee. Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.



Students from the International High School of New Orleans presented a short, trilingual play titled "An Uncommon Birth: Shaping Louisiana's Legal Tradition for Statehood." Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.



Louisiana Supreme Court Ceremony continued



Justices of the 2013 Louisiana Supreme Court, along with five retired Justices, during the bicentennial ceremonies. From left, Justice John L. Weimer, retired Justice James L. Dennis, Justice Jeffrey P. Victory, retired Justice Chet D. Traylor, Justice Marcus R. Clark, retired Chief Justice Catherine D. Kimball, Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, retired Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr., Justice Greg G. Guidry, Justice Jeannette Theriot Knoll, retired Justice Harry T. Lemmon and Justice Jefferson D. Hughes. *Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.*



Speaker Prof. John Randall Trahan. *Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.*

Attending the ceremony, from left, Judge Daniel L. Dysart, Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeal; Prof. Paul R. Baier; Louisiana State Bar Association President-Elect Designate Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, current President-Elect, Richard K. Leefe; and current Treasurer Steven G. (Buzz) Durio. *Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.*



Speaker Prof. Richard Campanella. Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.



Speaker Prof. Emeritus Raphael Cassimere, Jr. Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.



The event was well-attended. Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.



Justice Jeannette Theriot Knoll led the audience in a stately rendition of the National Anthem. Photo provided by the Louisiana Supreme Court.



The Washington Artillery presented the colors during the Bicentennial Ceremony. Photo by Bernie Saul Photography, Inc.