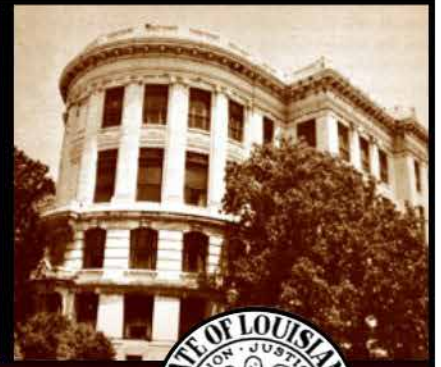




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The Newsletter of
The Law Library of Louisiana



Volume 15, Issue 3

Serving Louisiana Since 1838

GOVERNOR'S FELLOWS TOUR THE LASC



Front row, left to right: Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Weimer, Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, and Louisiana Supreme Court Justice James Genovese gather with participants in the 2018 Governor's Fellows Program in Louisiana Government.

by Miriam Childs

Governor John Bel Edwards joined the inaugural Governor's Fellows Program participants to tour the Louisiana Supreme Court on July 11, 2018. The Governor and the Fellows were accompanied by staffers from the Governor's Office.

The Governor's Fellows Program gives participants the opportunity to gain

first-hand knowledge of the development and implementation of public policy, as well as a better understanding of Louisiana government and current affairs directly from state leaders. The Fellows Program is made possible through a partnership with the Office of the Governor, Louisiana State University, Southern University, and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

Each Fellow is a student from Louisiana or enrolled in a Louisiana college or university with a genuine interest in becoming a future leader of Louisiana. Once selected, Fellows are assigned to work in an executive agency in Baton Rouge aligned with his or her personal and professional interests. Fellows also participate in a weekly speaker series and

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ANGELA WHITE-BAZILE NAMED 2018 SULC ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

by Miriam Childs



Angela White-Bazile, the Louisiana Supreme Court's Executive Counsel under Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, has been named the 2018 Southern University Law Center's (SULC) Alumna of the Year. The award was presented to Ms. White-Bazile by SULC Chancellor John Pierre during the SULC Breakfast at the National Bar Association's 93rd Annual Convention in New Orleans on August 1.

Angela White-Bazile received her J.D. from Southern University Law Center in 1996 and has over twenty years of experience as an attorney. In private practice, Ms. White-Bazile held associate attorney positions with Dr. Kevin U. Stephens & Associates and Thornhill Law Firm, and an in-house counsel position with Prudential Life Insurance. Prior to serving as Executive Counsel, Ms. White-Bazile was a research attorney for Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson. She

has held law clerk positions with 4th Circuit Court of Appeal Judges Robert Katz and Rosemary Ledet, as well as *pro tempore* Civil District Court Judge Mickey P. Landry.

Ms. White-Bazile is an active and visible member of the LSBA, serving on the Diversity Committee and the Governance Committee, among others. She holds memberships in several professional organizations, including the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc. Last year, Ms. White-Bazile received the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) President's Award in recognition of her exemplary service to the LSBA.

Please join us in congratulating Ms. White-Bazile for her well-deserved honor and recognition and continued service to the legal profession.

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GOVERNOR'S FELLOWS TOUR THE LASC (CONT.)

continued from page 1

attend field trips designed to enhance their overall experience and understanding of Louisiana government. During their visit to the Court, Fellows toured the Louisiana Supreme Court Museum and joined a panel discussion with Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Justice John Weimer, and Justice James Genovese to have their

questions about the state's judicial system answered. Miriam Childs, Law Library Director, selected books from the Rare Book Room to bring up to the courtroom, the last stop on the tour prior to the panel discussion. She took the opportunity to show Governor John Bel Edwards a unique volume from the collection entitled *Journal of the Official*

Acts and Proceedings of the Governor, (also known as the "Governor's Order Book"), a record of the official acts of the Louisiana Governor's office from 1819-1828.

"It was a pleasure to welcome the first Governor's Fellows in the history of the state of Louisiana to the Supreme Court," said Chief Justice Johnson. "We are always

encouraged by the interest shown by the next generation in learning how our state government operates." By all accounts, the Fellows appreciated that the justices took time to meet with them and gained a better understanding of the judicial branch of state government.

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LAW LIBRARY JOINS THE LOUISIANA DIGITAL LIBRARY

by Sara Pic

The Law Library of Louisiana is excited to announce its recent acceptance into the Louisiana Digital Consortium (LDC) and subsequent introduction of many unique and important items into the Louisiana Digital Library (LDL).

The LDL is an online library of more than 144,000 digital items from Louisiana archives, libraries, museums, and other repositories, making unique historical treasures accessible to students, researchers, and the general public in Louisiana and across the globe. According to the website, "The items in the Louisiana Digital Library are as diverse and interesting as the people and places in Louisiana, with photographs, maps, manuscript materials, books, oral histories, and more documenting the state's history and culture."

The LDL is governed by the LDC, which provides governance and leadership to ensure the effective operation, orderly growth, and fiscal sustainability of the LDL and other cooperative programs. There are currently 22 libraries, archives, museums, and historical centers participating in the LDC.

Each institution contributes the digital items and the descriptive text for their collections to the LDL. The Law Library recently contributed 4 new



Law Library of Louisiana Director Miriam Childs displays the Journal of the Official Acts and Proceedings of the Governor, also known as the "Governor's Order Book", to Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards and Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Weimer. The Governor's Order Book is a unique document of handwritten orders from Louisiana governors, from 1819 to 1824, now available for viewing digitally in the Louisiana Digital Library.

collections:

- *Celebrations at the Louisiana Supreme Court*, consisting of publications and videos from various Court celebrations, such as the address from the laying of the cornerstone at 400 Royal from 1908, video from the Court's bicentennial celebrations in 2013, portrait unveilings, and more;
- *Early Louisiana Laws*, consisting of codes and court opinions from territorial and early statehood, such as the 1825 Civil Code and *Martin's Reports*;
- *Law Library of Louisiana Publications*, consisting of original publications by library staff, primarily on Court history; and
- *Original and Unique Government Records*, consisting of an early governor's order book (pictured above); the first Louisiana Supreme Court minute books from 1813-1823; minutes from the 400 Royal Street Courthouse Commission; and the first attorney roll book, with entries dating from the mid-1800s.

"Let's Discover Louisiana Together." The Law Library is proud to be a part of the efforts of the LDL in its efforts to ensure that all Louisianans and other interested people have access to materials they would otherwise have to travel to 400 Royal Street in New Orleans to view.

Please visit the Law Library's collections online at <http://www.louisiana-digitallibrary.org/lasc>. And please check back often, as we are frequently adding new items!

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The LDL's slogan is

COLONIAL DOCUMENTS CLE WITH HOWARD MARGOT

by Cynthia Jones



Howard Margot discusses colonial Louisiana documents to a packed house in the Louisiana Supreme Court courtroom.

On June 12, the Law Library of Louisiana and the Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society co-sponsored a one-hour CLE, *The Louisiana Colonial Documents Digitization Project*. Howard Margot spoke to a capacity crowd. Mr. Margot, a curator at the Historic New Orleans Collection, is an aficionado of the 18th century and an expert in French literature, linguistics, and fine arts. Since 2001, he has applied his expertise to the preservation and digitization of the French and Spanish colonial archives. These colonial records are a treasure trove for the academic and layman alike.

The speaker provided a broad overview of colonial governance both under French and Spanish rule. With the French, the colony was governed by a succes-

sion of crown-appointed governors and the Superior Council. The Superior Council was intimately involved in daily governance. Its members also served as the High Court in the colony. When France ceded the colony to Spain, official and crown-related documents returned to France. However, the majority of criminal and civil judicial records – as many as 10,000 notarial acts – remained in the colony. Once the colony was under Spanish rule, the Spanish *cabildo*, or city council, replaced the French Superior Council.

Margot provided a brief history of the archive collection. The Louisiana Historical Society took custody of the documents in the late 19th century. In 1906, the curation and protection of the document collection

transferred to the Louisiana State Museum. Over the years, many hands worked to make the archives accessible and comprehensible. Archivists, translators, librarians, and scholars toiled over translations and created abstracts. In the 1930s and 1940s, the Works Progress Administration played a role in preserving the collections. Archivists and museum experts soon recognized preservation was as important as translation and documentation. These professionals realized advances in technology – specifically digitization – could provide a solution to the preservation problem. Through a combination of fundraising and grants, the digitization project took shape. The work continues today and has borne rich fruit. Local, national, and international researchers can use the keyword indexes and view high quality digital images of original documents.

Margot used a series of images and his own experiences to demonstrate how the digitization project lends itself to scholarly discovery. Placing the examples in an historical context, he reminded the audience of the political machinations and litigious nature of the Louisiana colony. The judicial records of the Superior Council demonstrated his point. Further, Margot showed how the abundant collection of notarial documents chronicled everyday life in the colony – both the high and the low. The

importance of the notary in Louisiana's colonial period cannot be underestimated. At its founding, the majority of the population was illiterate. Inhabitants had to entrust a notary to draft and execute all matters of commercial and personal legal matters. Further, royal notaries served as clerks in the local courts, chronicling judicial cases and administrative action. The influence of the notary in colonial Louisiana increased under the Spanish. The output for each notarial office grew significantly due to the prodigious Spanish bureaucracy. As example after example showed, colonial Louisianans fought with each other over familial estates and inheritance; were subject to failed marriages and divorce settlements; enjoyed the gains of commercial and real estate successes; and endured the loss of wealth and status when enterprises were unsuccessful. Using representative notarial acts and judicial documents, Margot revealed glimpses of real-life social and economic disputes among family members and others, including the region's Native American inhabitants, the enslaved population, and free people of color.

These historical events have been brought to life and made accessible as a result of the ongoing work of archivists, curators, historians, librarians, and many others who work on the digitization of Louisiana's colonial documents collections.

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LAW LIBRARY CELEBRATES 180TH ANNIVERSARY

by Sara Pic

The Law Library of Louisiana celebrates in 2018 its 180th anniversary. The historical roots of the Law Library go back to 1838, when Act No. 93 of the state legislature called for the creation of a State Library to be housed in the State House, located in New Orleans. The Secretary of State was appointed to be in charge of the library, which was open to all state residents, but books only circulated to legislators. One of the duties of the Secretary of State was to print and distribute Louisiana law materials, such as the Civil Code and state acts. Eventually the Law Library became associated with the Louisiana Supreme Court and was housed with the Court.

Governor E. D. White, who signed the act creating the

law library, sent a written communication to the state legislature, stating, "We already have some of the elements of a library; our own salutary laws and generals; the laws of the different States and of Congress; the various public documents and works illustrated of the political history of the country, copies of which are usually furnished to the State. These volumes are constantly accumulating; they are very useful sources of reference and ought to be carefully preserved."

180 years later, the Law Library successfully preserved many of these volumes Governor White referenced, and has acquired much more. Currently, the Law Library houses 200,000 volumes in print and microform. The Law Library not only has the most current legal materials, with an



emphasis on Louisiana law, but it also has a rich collection of historical and international law materials. Most of these treasures are stored in the library's Rare Book Room, which is unparalleled in its scope of early Louisiana law and legal history. Historical documents such as the *Siete Partidas* from 1587, the French *Code Civil* from 1804, a full set of the Diderot Encyclopedia from the 1760s, a first edition of *Blackstone's Commentaries*, and early codes used by Louisiana lawyers are but

a few highlights. The Law Library also has extensive subscriptions to digital databases, all available for free to the public.

The Law Library celebrated its 180th anniversary, along with the opening of the new exhibit for the New Orleans tricentennial, at a reception on June 12, after the CLE with Howard Margot on colonial documents. Guests were treated to lunch with a delicious cake.

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FRANCIS NORTON RECIPIENT OF SERVICE TO SEAALL AWARD

by Miriam Childs



Law Library Director Miriam Childs (left) with Research Lawyer/Librarian Fran Norton (right).

Fran Norton, Research Lawyer/Librarian and Government Documents Librarian at the Law Library of Louisiana, received the Service to SEAALL Award at the 2018 American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting and Conference in Baltimore, MD. The Service to SEAALL (Southeastern Association of Law Librarians, a chapter of AALL) Award is given to a chapter member who has made special, significant, and sustained contributions

to SEAALL. Fran served as SEAALL Member At Large from 2010-2012, and then as Vice-President/President-Elect in 2013-2014, President in 2014-2015, and Immediate Past-President in 2015-2016. Fran began his tenure at the Law Library of Louisiana in 2013 after 12 years as a Reference Librarian and Associate Professor at Loyola University New Orleans School of Law Library. Join us in congratulating Fran for his outstanding achievement!

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ENHANCED WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: WESTLAW EDGE

by Fran Norton and Miriam Childs



With the introduction of Westlaw Edge, Thomson Reuters is no longer just inching along towards Artificial Intelligence (AI); they have jumped right in. Thomson Reuters has applied AI to its 100 years of attorney-edited annotations and produced several creative features.

Thomson Reuters held a vendor showcase at the 2018 American Association of Law Libraries conference to formally introduce Westlaw Edge to law librarians. Mike Dahn, Thomson Reuters (Legal) Westlaw Product

Management Senior Vice President and Khalid Al-Kofahi, Thomson Reuters (Legal) Head, Cognitive Computing Centre, gave a presentation that traced how Westlaw Edge was developed. After Dahn provided an overview, Al-Kofahi explained the Cognitive Computing Centre's process to structure the AI architecture behind Westlaw Edge using the deep taxonomies represented by West's Key Number system, and how AI continually "learns" from user input. After the presentation, attendees had the opportunity for hands-on testing of Westlaw Edge,

with Westlaw representatives available for questions and guided demonstrations.

A user can now get predictive research suggestions as she types with advanced "type ahead" suggestions. Many people are familiar with this process from when they begin typing a query into the box at Google. It should work better than that, since law has a controlled vocabulary.

Thomson Reuters has also introduced a new color: orange. The orange alert signifies when a case may be implicitly overruled, even though a court has not directly ruled on it. It does this by identifying when a case bases its decision upon reliance on an overruled or otherwise invalid prior decision.

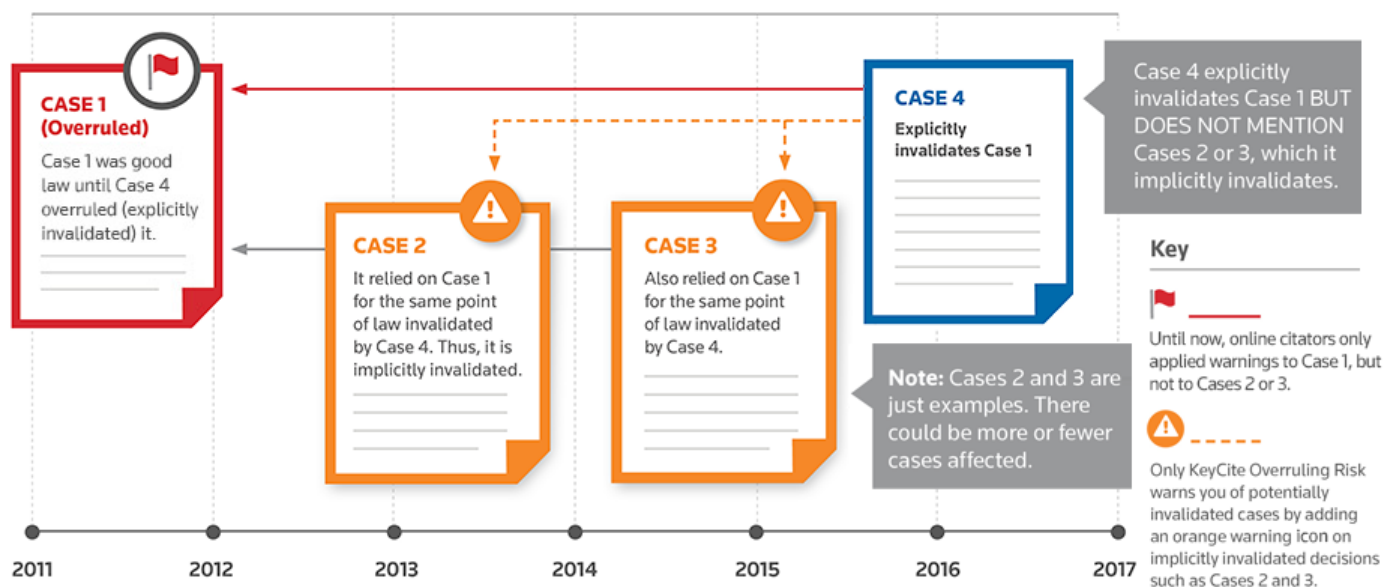
With "Statutes Compare," a user can compare the text at the time of the cause of action to the current version.

Language that was deleted is shown in red with a line in ~~strikethrough~~. New language is shown in highlight. This feature eliminates the need to manually look at two versions of the same statute.

Possibly the best new feature is Litigation Analytics. This tool is for the federal courts and select state courts (not yet Louisiana). Colorful graphs demonstrate how courts and individual judges rule on up to thirteen main types of motions and orders.

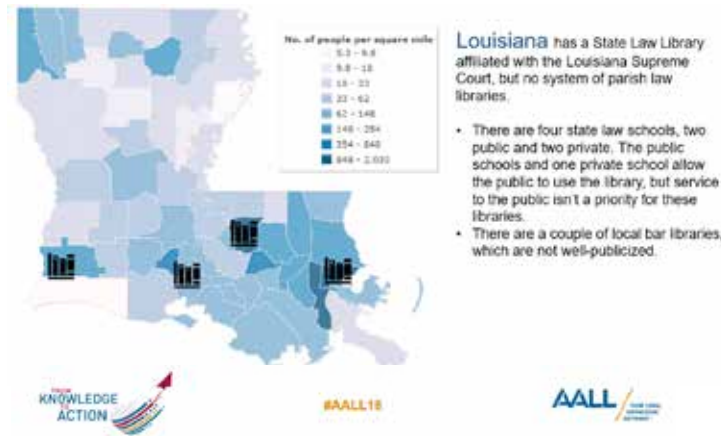
Westlaw Edge is a new, separate product. Thomson Reuters has not stated that it is a replacement for Westlaw. Interested in learning more? Thomson Reuters is offering a free demo of this product at their website: <http://legal.thomsonreuters.com/en/products/westlaw/edge>.

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ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM AT AALL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

by Miriam Childs



Miriam Childs, Law Library Director, coordinated, moderated, and participated in a panel discussion entitled “...And Justice For All: Three States and Three Approaches to A2J” at the 2018 American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference in Baltimore, this past July. She collaborated with Catherine McGuire, Head of Reference and Research at the Maryland State Law Library, and Terrye Conroy, Assistant Director of Legal Research Instruction at the University of South Carolina School of Law, on the panel discussion comparing their three home states.

The panel discussion divided into three parts: see the gap; find your partners; and close the gap. Like Louisiana, the demand for legal representation in Maryland and South Carolina far outstrips the supply. The panelists discussed the ratio of *pro bono* hours to residents in their states. Maps of each state compared population density to areas where legal resources are more plenti-

ful, and each state contained underserved areas.

The panelists discussed law library partnerships with local bar associations, access to justice organizations, public libraries, and legal service providers as the best way for law libraries to become visible as critical links in the effort to close the access to justice gap.

Ms. Conroy started the Circuit Riders program in South Carolina in 2007. At first, librarians drove around the state providing legal reference training to public librarians. A lack of funding led her law library to utilize online LibGuides to provide the same information, eliminating the need to travel. Ms. Conroy’s Circuit Riders LibGuide inspired other libraries, such as the Maryland State Law Library and the Law Library of Louisiana, to create similar online resources for their states.

The Maryland State Law Library hosts the People’s Law Library of Maryland, an extremely thorough website targeting self-repre-

sented litigants. The People’s Law Library is maintained by attorneys. Of the three states, Maryland has the most resources for self-represented litigants (SRLs), with a very active bar and Access to Justice Commission, and *pro bono* partnerships.

In addition to the Law Library of Louisiana’s SRL LibGuide, the library has formed a close partnership with the Louisiana State Bar Association’s Access to Justice Committee, the Louisiana Library Association, and LSU Law Library called LEAP – Legal Education and Assistance Program. Volunteer attorneys authored a set of LEAP LibGuides that include statewide forms and technologies to assist with procedures like child custody. LEAP also sponsors the statewide Lawyers in Libraries week, during which at least one attorney from each parish is available for a specific time at a local public library for free consultations.

Appreciating the program’s side-by-side comparison and analysis, attendees were inspired to find or strengthen partnerships back home in their local communities. The panel discussion was reviewed by David Lat on Above the Law, which can be accessed at <https://abovethelaw.com/2018/07/3-thoughts-about-closing-the-justice-gap/>.

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 printer copies \$0.25
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LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

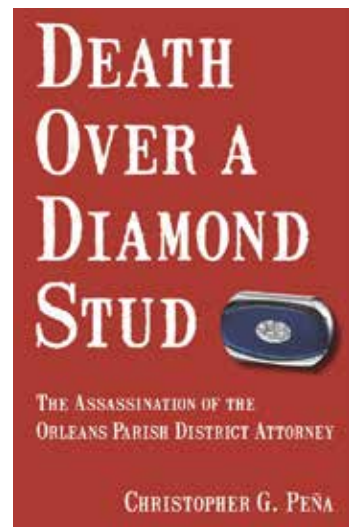
Library Outreach

The library will again staff a table at the annual Fall Judges Conference in New Orleans from September 30 - October 2. Please stop by the table to say hi and drop a card for our raffle of LSU Law Center Professor Olivier Moréteau's new French translation of the Louisiana Civil Code, *Code Civil de Louisiane, Édition Bilingue*.

Upcoming CLEs

The Law Library has a busy fall season of CLEs ahead to finish out the year. In November (date TBD), the Law Library is thrilled to host Professor Moréteau, speaking on Pierre Soulé.

Soulé was a Franco-American attorney, politician, and diplomat, who served as a U.S. Senator from Louisiana from 1849 to 1853. He is likely best known for his role in writing the 1854 Ostend Manifesto, part of an attempt by Southern slaveholders to gain support for the US to annex Cuba to the United States. On November 28, the Law Library is excited to present Chris Peña, speaking on his new book, *Death Over a Diamond Stud: The Assassination of the Orleans Parish District Attorney*. To close out the year, the Law Library is proud to partner with the A.P. Tureaud American Inns of Court for the annual end-of-the-year ethics and professionalism "CLE for



a Cause" on December 6. Stay tuned for more info, including how to RSVP, or subscribe to our e-mail announcements at <http://lasc.libguides.com/content/newsletter>.

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