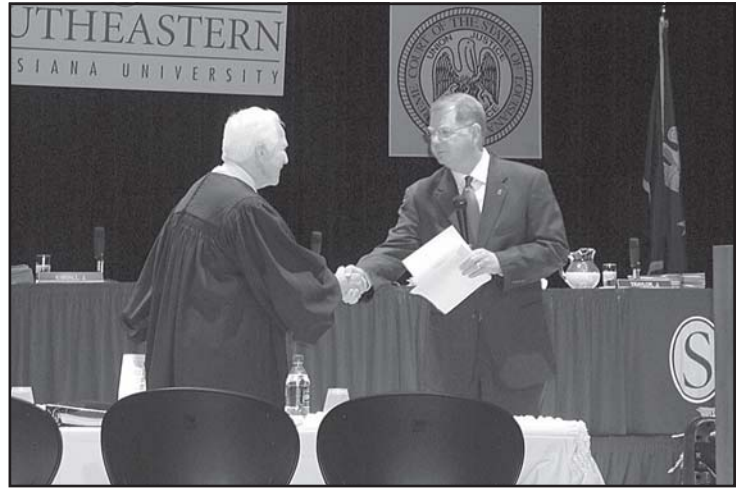


Supreme Court Sits at Southeastern

Southeastern Louisiana University was the site March 3 where the Louisiana Supreme Court held court in Hammond as part of an ongoing effort to educate and inform students and the general public about the work of the Court. The Court convened for two sessions in the Vonnie Borden Theater auditorium located in D Vickers Hall, hearing arguments on three pending cases.



Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. was welcomed by Southeastern Louisiana University President Dr. Randy Moffett.

The sessions were open to groups of area high schools, Southeastern faculty and students, and to the general public. Closed circuit viewing was also available in classroom locations in the building for any audience exceeding the seating available in the theater.

Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. and Southeastern President Dr. Randy Moffett jointly announced the convening of the Louisiana Supreme Court at Southeastern.

Chief Justice Calogero said, "For several years, the Supreme Court has been periodically holding court in parishes other than Orleans Parish, where the Court is located in the historic French Quarter. The goal is to provide area citizens with a snapshot of the volume, variety and complexity of the Court's caseload by bringing the Louisiana Supreme Court to them."

"This is a wonderful educational opportunity for area high school students—as well as Southeastern students and faculty—to witness our state's highest court in action," Moffett said. "At Southeastern we emphasize and involve our students in as many real-world experiences as possible, and we have hosted the First Circuit Court of Appeal on several occasions. The work of the Supreme Court, however, is something few people get to see. We applaud Chief Justice Calogero and his fellow justices for bringing the Court's work to the public sector and especially for making this available for our students."



Following the sitting, area high school students visited with Chief Justice Pascal Calogero, Justice John L. Weimer and the other justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court.



C O R N E R

C O L L I N S



*Hugh M. Collins, Ph.D.
Judicial Administrator*

Established in 1982, the Louisiana Court Administrators Association's (LCAA) membership consists of Judicial Administrators and Deputy Judicial Administrators of the Louisiana Supreme Court, and the Court Administrator and Deputy Court Administrators of the Appellate, District, Juvenile, Family, City and Parish Courts of Louisiana.

The mission of the association is to promote the interests of justice through continued development of personal skills and through a continuing effort to keep abreast of the latest developments in the field of court administration. To this end the members participate in educational programs, encourage and maintain effective communication channels with fellow court administrators and with national, state and local justice agencies and programs, and undertake activities to further the law, the legal system and the administration of justice.

Recent endeavors of the LCAA have resulted in the preparation of trial court and city court model policies regarding federal and state personnel laws, as well as best practices. Information provided in this guide related to the American Disabilities Act (jury, court reporting, interpreters, reasonable accommodation, etc.) has helped our state courts make great strides toward compliance with the Act. Additionally, the association maintains an extensive video library including training videos as well as relevant informational videos addressing topics such as employment law and customer service.

For more information on the Louisiana Court Administrators Association contact LCAA President Ted Cox, Court Administrator, Caddo Parish Juvenile Court at (318) 226-6759.

Supreme Court Drug Court Program and Legislative Black Caucus sponsor CLE

The Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Program and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus co-sponsored a Drug Court/Professionalism CLE at the Louisiana Supreme Court. The CLE program was attended by attorney members of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, members of the Orleans and Jefferson Parish area judiciary, and members of the local Martinet Society.



Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Office Program Director Scott Griffith, Justice Bernette J. Johnson, Orleans Criminal District Court Chief Judge and Adult Drug Court Judge Calvin Johnson; 5th Circuit Court of Appeal Judge and Drug Court Judge for the Jefferson Parish Adult Drug Court Marion F. Edwards; and Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Executive Director of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus.

The Program commenced with a welcome address by the **Honorable Bernette Johnson**, Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court. Mr. Scott Griffith, Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Program Director, conducted a session on drug courts, with Drug Court Judges Marion Edwards of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal and Calvin Johnson of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court participating as guest speakers.

The Drug Court presentation was followed by a professionalism session presented by Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Executive Director of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, who spoke on the topic of "Unintended & Inadvertent Disclosure of Confidential Client Communication Via Email & Fax."

Foti Educational Foundation Produces "Guardian of Our Rights"

The Attorney General Charles C. Foti Educational Foundation has produced an hour-long documentary on the history, programs and services of the **Louisiana Supreme Court**, "Guardian Of Our Rights." The documentary was premiered at the Louisiana Supreme Court Building on March 22.

The documentary includes interviews with the current Supreme Court Justices, a history of the Supreme Court, a brief description of the work of the Court and the Court's most outstanding cases. The documentary features information on the Court's services including the Judicial Administrator, the Clerk of Court, the Louisiana Law Library, Families In Need of Services (FINS), the Drug Court Program and the Louisiana Protective Order Registry (LPOR).

The documentary will air on selected cable television channels across the state and will be distributed to selected schools and libraries. A study guide has been created for classroom use.



15th JDC Juvenile Drug Court Uses Therapy in Treatment

15th JDC Judge Thomas Duplantier and participants of the 15th Judicial District Court's Juvenile Drug Court Program recently took part in recreational therapy, which utilizes a variety of techniques, including arts and crafts, sports, games and other guided activities to teach life skills.

However, the recreational therapy for this particular group was a bit different, as the Juvenile Drug Court participants, under the direction of Matt Coussan, recreation therapist, constructed duck boxes and learned how their efforts will help preserve wildlife in South Louisiana.

Timmy Vincent, manager of the National Audubon's Paul J. Rainey Wildlife Sanctuary, invited Judge Duplantier and the juvenile participants to install boxes at the Sanctuary. The juveniles learned how the duck boxes would be used for preservation and research efforts to ensure future populations of wild ducks in Louisiana.



Right: Timmy Vincent of the National Audubon's Paul Rainey Wildlife Sanctuary helps a participant of the Juvenile Drug Court install a duck box.

Left: 15th JDC Judge Thomas Duplantier with participants of the 15th JDC's Juvenile Drug Court Program.



CHARM School Presented in 40th JDC

A new program taking place as a joint project of 40th JDC Judge Mary Hotard Becnel, Families In Need of Services (FINS) Coordinator Maggie Roberts, and the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board is expected to yield many positive results.

The program, named **CHARM**, is aimed at helping female juvenile offenders avoid inappropriate behavior and increase their awareness of good behavior and good manners so that they may benefit in their daily encounters with peers and authority, at home and at school, and prepare them for acting appropriately in the "real world" after graduation.

What is CHARM?

- C** Character - development of good character, traits that define it
- H** Health - good mental and physical well-being
- A** Attitude - Presentation of self and outlook
- R** Respect - pride of person and place and regard for others
- M** Manners - Proper social interaction and etiquette

CYBER COURTS

Law Day 2005

www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/home.html

Ninth National Court Technology Conference (CTC 9)

www.ctc9.org

Louisiana's Online Guide to Free Legal Help

www.lawhelp.org/la

Orleans Parish Juvenile Court

www.opjc.com



African-American Judges Honored at “A Great Day in Black”

Louisiana State Supreme Court Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, retired Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Revius O. Ortique, Jr., and Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal Chief Judge Joan Bernard Armstrong were special honorees at the February 12, 2005, gala opening of a new exhibit on African-American jurists in New Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.

The exhibit, entitled “A Great Day in Black: A Tribute to the New Orleans African-American Judiciary,” used photographs, video, text, personal papers and other items to provide an intriguing view of the 56 individuals who have been part of a monumental chapter in Louisiana history – the integration of the judiciary over the past 35 years.

“A Great Day in Black” was installed in the Atrium, Hall C of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The exhibit was open to the public, free of charge, for daily viewing through March 10, 2005.

Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. provided the welcome to the crowd of more than 400 who gathered to pay tribute to the jurists at the opening ceremony, which also featured a procession of the judges, musical selections and speeches and proclamations by government officials and civic leaders.

Retired Justice Ortique was cited for his achievements as the first African-American elected to the Orleans Civil District Court and as the first African-American elected to serve on the Louisiana Supreme Court. Judge Armstrong was honored for being the first African-American woman elected to any judgeship in the state. Justice Johnson was singled out for being the first African-American elected to the Louisiana Supreme Court.



Visitors to the Convention Center were able to view the exhibit during its stay at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.



The exhibit featured an assemblage of many interesting and historical images of African-American judges.





Included in the exhibit was Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson (left), the first African-American elected to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

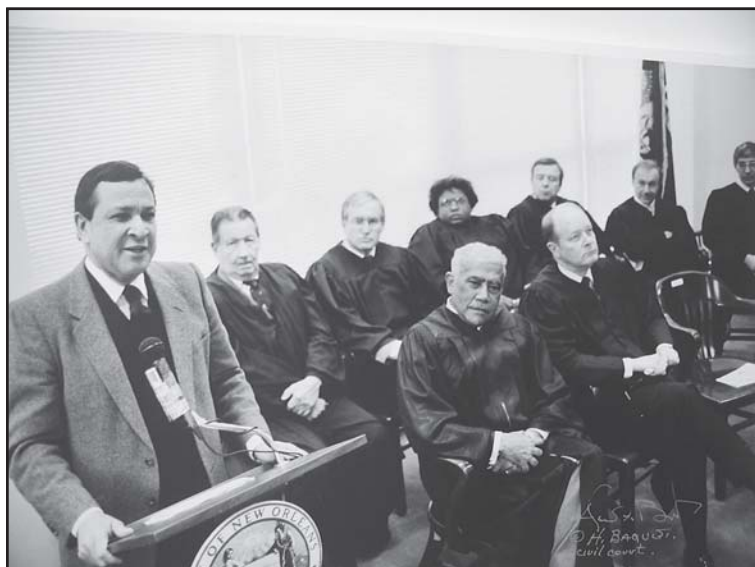


Justices Calogero, Ortique and two Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal judges also participated in a special symposium on Friday, February 11, 2005, at Southern University at New Orleans, produced in conjunction with “A Great Day in Black”. **Judges Edwin Lombard and Charles R. Jones, III** were among the panelists discussing “Race and Gender in the Judicial System” and “Blazing the Trail to Justice”, a review of the Chisom v. Louisiana case.

“A Great Day in Black” is an educational project of the Liberty Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Liberty Bank & Trust Company. The executive producer of the project was Jimmie Thorns, Jr., an entrepreneur, civic leader and photographer who co-produced the 2001 exhibition, “Souls of Valor: A Photographic Tribute to African American Veterans of WW II”.

In addition to the Liberty Foundation, project sponsors include the Goldring Family Foundation, the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, the Edward Wisner Educational Trust, Entergy, the Center for African and African American Studies at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO), the Criminal Justice Graduate Program at SUNO, the Links, Inc., the New Orleans Tribune, The Louisiana Weekly, Data News Weekly, WDSU-TV Channel 6, GmC+Company Advertising, the New Orleans Museum of Art and many others.

For additional information about “A Great Day in Black”, please contact Jim Thorns or Sharon Martin at (504) 949-5300.



Ernest N. “Dutch” Morial, who served as judge at both Orleans Parish Juvenile Court and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal prior to serving as Mayor of New Orleans, was among those honored by the exhibit.



19th JDC Holds Drug Court Graduation & Ride-Along

State Representatives Tom McVea and Donald Ray Kennard joined 19th Judicial District Court Judge Anthony J. Marabella, Jr. for a graduation ceremony of 12 participants of the 19th Judicial District Drug Court Treatment Program. The ceremony took place in Judge Marabella's courtroom in the 19th JDC courthouse where Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Catherine D. "Kitty" Kimball addressed the graduates and their families.

In addition to commending the graduates for their diligence and dedication to the Drug Court Program, Justice Kimball said, "Drug courts are doing great things for the people of the State of Louisiana. These programs provide beneficial treatment to those offenders with substance abuse problems while, at the same time, providing tax payers with a less expensive method of treating these offenders. Statistics indicate that the cost of drug court treatment is less than half the cost of incarceration of those same offenders for the same period of time. The Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Office is proud to take part in this growing and successful force in modern jurisprudence which means a new beginning for so many."

Judge Marabella added, "Since our program began operations in 1999, there have been a total of 177 Drug Court Program graduates. We are proud of our 63% retention rate and our low recidivism numbers. Our graduates complete a comprehensive four-phase program which includes (1) pretreatment stabilization and engagement, (2) cognitive restructuring, (3) relapse prevention, and (4) transition/aftercare. Additionally, they must meet stiff graduation criteria in order to get to where these graduates are today."

Graduation criteria includes:

- Obtaining gainful, consistent employment or sufficient involvement in a vocational/academic program
- Attaining an acceptable level of sobriety with no positive drug test for six consecutive months
- Completing required number of community service hours
- Paying all program fees and fines in full
- Maintaining consistent attendance at all court appearances and treatment appointments
- Demonstrating an understanding of personal problems of addiction, criminal behavior and relapse prevention in a written graduation application
- Maintaining a stable living arrangement and healthy interpersonal relationships
- Possessing a definitive aftercare plan which may include 12-step meetings, mental health, outpatient counseling or group attendance at a former contract residential program
- Fulfilling goals as stated in the individual treatment plan
- Fulfilling conditions of Deferred Prosecution Agreement.

Prior to the Drug Court Program graduation ceremony, Representatives McVea and Kennard participated in a Drug Court Ride-Along at the 19th JDC. The Drug Court Ride-Along Program gives legislators a chance to "sit on the bench" with the drug court judge to see firsthand the volume and complexity of the work performed by courts in their district. More than 80 Drug Court Ride-Alongs are scheduled to take place throughout the State between February and May 2005.

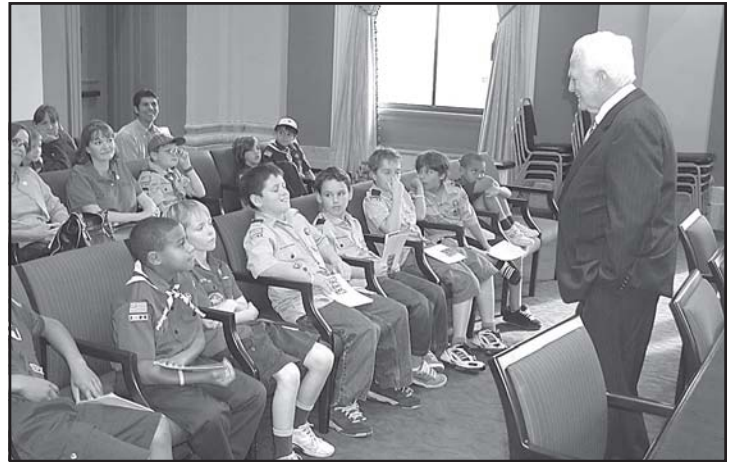


State Representatives Tom McVea (l) and Donald Ray Kennard (r) join Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Catherine D. "Kitty" Kimball and 19th JDC Judge Anthony Marabella for the Drug Court Graduation Ceremony and Ride-Along.



Louisiana Supreme Court Building Plays Host to Diverse Groups

Since reopening its doors in May of 2004, the Louisiana Supreme Court Building has played host to a diverse range of groups interested in the law and the building's history. Clockwise from right: **Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr.** speaks to a group of Boy Scouts from Hines Elementary in St. Mary Parish; **4th Circuit Court of Appeal Judge James McKay** speaks to the 8th-grade class of St. Dominic's School in Orleans Parish, which features a class on the law taught by **Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge Madeleine Landrieu** (third from left); and **Justice Jeffrey P. Victory** with a group of TeenPact students who, like the other groups pictured, attended a session of court.



Judge Foote Honored

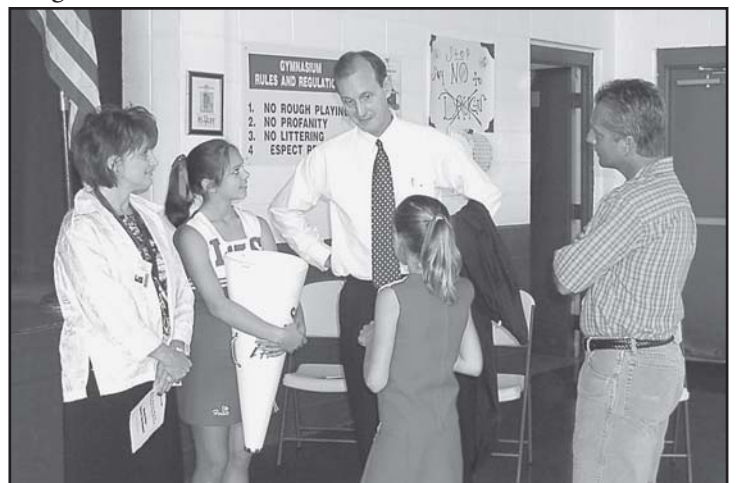
Retired 9th JDC Judge W. Ross Foote was presented with the State Distinguished Partner in Education Award by the Board of Secondary and Elementary Education (BESE) at their meeting.



(From left) Bolton High School Assistant Principal Clarence Goff, Rapides Parish School Board Assistant Superintendent for Administration Tommy Roque, Bolton High School Principal Penny Toney, 5th District BESE Board member Dr. James Stafford, Judge Foote, Bolton High Social Studies instructor Barbara Gourgues.

Justice Weimer Speaks to Students During Red Ribbon Week

Justice John L. Weimer spoke to students and parents at Labadieville Middle School during the Dare Program's Red Ribbon Week at Labadieville Middle School, located in Assumption Parish. Justice Weimer spoke to the students about respect for the law, peer pressure, and the avoidance of drugs.





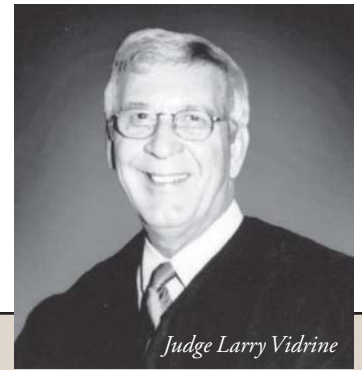
IPSO FACTO... Jury Duty Calls

There are two judges for the 13th Judicial District in Evangeline Parish and one of them, **Judge Larry Vidrine**, presided over the "boxed bodies" case. A gruesome case wherein Larry Surratt and Cynthia Anderson were accused of shooting, dismembering and stuffing a Texas pair into plastic boxes. The boxes were found floating in Bayou Cocodrie in January 2003. Surratt and Anderson, who maintained their innocence, faced charges of first-degree murder. Seventy-five people were called for the first jury selection but 50 showed up. Twelve jurors were required for the trial which could last four to five days.

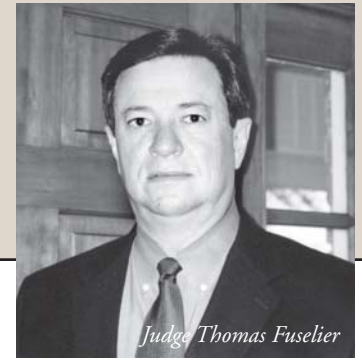
IT'S A FACT:

Judge Thomas Fuselier, the other 13th Judicial District Court judge, sat among the 50 other potential jurors called for jury selection. When he walked into the courtroom several potential jurors stared in amazement. Judge Vidrine offered to excuse his fellow judge but Fuselier refused. "I ask people to show up for jury duty, and I will do the same." He was dismissed at the end of the day.

*credit Mandy M. Goodnight/Alexandria Town Talk



Judge Larry Vidrine



Judge Thomas Fuselier

received a Community Safety Award for journalistic excellence focusing on transportation safety from the National Safety Council's South Louisiana Chapter. *TrafficWise* is published by **Traffic Court Judges Dennis Dannel, Robert Jones, Ron Sholes and Paul Bonin**.



■ **Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal Chief Judge Edward Dufresne, Jr.** has been inducted into the Hall of Fame at St. Stanislaus College. Judge Dufresne, a 1956 graduate of St. Stanislaus, attended Loyola University in New Orleans, where he earned

his undergraduate degree in 1960 and a juris doctorate from Loyola Law School in 1963. Later that year he was elected as the St. Charles Parish Clerk of Court where he served four consecutive terms. He was elected as District Judge for the 29th JDC in 1978 and was elected to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal in 1981.

■ **City Court of Hammond Deputy Clerk Reginald Sanders** received the Distinguished Mentor Award from the Louisiana National Guard, Youth Challenge Program for his work in mentoring the cadets, which dates to 1999.

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(504) 310-2588

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■ **Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr.** received the Beacon of Justice Award from the American Board of

Trial Advocates' Southeast Chapter, recognizing Chief Justice Calogero as jurist of the year.

■ **19th JDC Judge Don Johnson** has earned his Certificate of Judicial Development in General Jurisdiction Trial Skills from The National Judicial College.



■ The judges of Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court announced that **Judge Andrea Price Janzen** will serve as Chief Judge effective January 1,

2005 through December 31, 2006. Judge Janzen was elected to Section "B" of Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court in 1996 and has served as President of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, President of the 5th Circuit Judges Association, and Vice President of the Fourth and Fifth Circuit Judges Association.

■ *TrafficWise*, the official publication of the New Orleans Traffic Court,

YOUR HONORS