

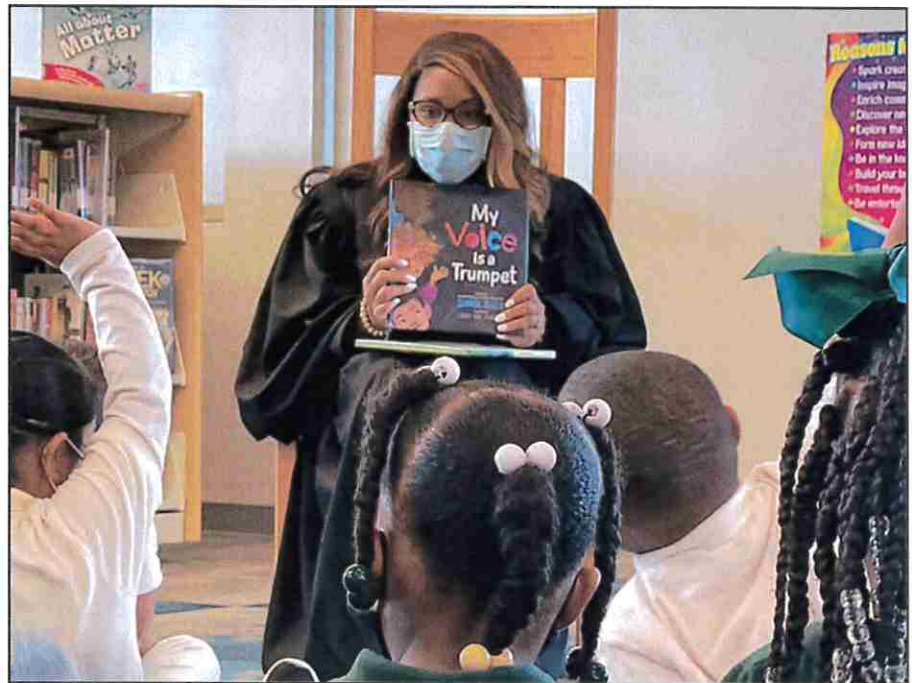


Record-Breaking Number of Students Benefit from LCLCE & LASC 2021 Constitution Day Presentations

To encourage all Americans to learn more about the Constitution, Congress established Constitution Day to be celebrated each year on Sept. 17, commemorating the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. Despite health scares and a hurricane that devastated the southern part of the state, the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE) and the Louisiana Supreme Court’s “Judges in the Classroom/Students in the Courtroom” program coordinated 52 Constitution Day presentations, impacting 6,036 students statewide.

Speakers in this series of presentations included Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer, Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justice Scott J. Crichton, Rep. Pat Moore, Judge Randall L. Bethancourt, Judge Amanda L. Chauvin Calogero, Judge John E. Conery, Judge Jeffrey S. Cox, Judge June Berry Darensburg, Judge Christopher R. Dassau, Judge Daniel J. Ellender, Judge Nakisha Ervin-Knott, Judge Tiffany L. Foxworth-Roberts, Judge Gail Grover, Judge Roger P. Hamilton, Jr., Judge F. Stanton Hardee III, Judge Jefferson B. Joyce, Judge Patricia E. Koch, Judge C. Wendell Manning, Judge Sharon I. Marchman, Judge Walter E. May, Jr., Judge Luke D. Mitchell, Judge Jonathan W. Perry, Judge Scott J. Privat, Judge Eboni Johnson Rose, Judge Anne Lennan Simon (Ret.), Judge M’Elise Trahan, Judge Charles G. Tutt and attorney Angie D. Sturdivant.

Participating schools included Archbishop Chapelle High School,



Judge Tiffany L. Foxworth-Roberts met with kindergarteners and first graders at the Einstein Charter School at Sherwood Forest in New Orleans. *My Voice is a Trumpet* was the reading selection.

Arlington Preparatory Academy, C.E. Byrd High School, Cherokee Elementary School, Walter L. Cohen High School, Coteau Elementary School, Delcambre High School, Haughton High School, J.S. Clark Magnet School, Kaplan Elementary School, Morgan City High School, Neville High School, Ouachita Parish High School, Park Ridge Academic Magnet School, Red River High School, Richwood High School, Einstein Charter School at Sherwood Forest, St. Frederick High School, Sterlington High School, Warren Easton Charter High School, Summerfield High School, Villa del Rey Creative Sciences & Arts Magnet School, West Monroe

High School, Vanderbilt Catholic High School and West St. Mary High School. In addition, a Constitution Day presentation was made to the Ouachita Parish Women’s Republican Club and to all of the ninth graders in Acadia Parish.

The LCLCE partners with the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louisiana District Judges Association to bring lawyers, judges and educators together to deliver interactive, law-related presentations to Louisiana classrooms. For more information, visit the LCLCE website at www.lalce.org.

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Spotlight: Constitution Day in the Aftermath of a Hurricane

In late August, Hurricane Ida devastated Houma, home to the 32nd Judicial District Court. On Constitution Day, much of the city was still without electricity, gas and water. Food was scarce. The schools were closed. Most of the courthouse was unusable. Many of the population had relocated temporarily. Under these conditions, **Judge Randall L. Bethancourt** found seven students who were still in town and made a Constitution Day event like no other.

In his own words, “Yesterday, I gave a group of students a lesson on how government operates in a crisis situation. We started the day in my courtroom (there are only two courtrooms not damaged) with a lecture on government, three branches of government, and how all three branches have to continue to operate even when there is NO PLACE to operate from. I then brought them to the “seat of government” — makeshift jails (cargo containers), a makeshift courtroom for magistrate court (an entrance foyer), a portable cooking



(Above) For Constitution Day, Judge Randall L. Bethancourt and other members of parish government explained to the students how all three branches have to continue to operate even when there is NO PLACE to operate from. He showed them makeshift jails, a makeshift courtroom for magistrate court and other temporary solutions.



(Left) Even though Houma and the 32nd Judicial District Court were devastated by Hurricane Ida, Judge Randall L. Bethancourt found seven students who were still in town and made a Constitution Day event like no other.

operation to cook and feed 1,000+ government workers and law enforcement officers, a makeshift warehouse where

supplies are being accepted and distributed, infirmary, motor pool, barracks, etc. Their eyes were opened wide!”

Spotlight: Charters of Freedom at 6 Schools for 3,750 Students

In honor of Constitution Day, 4th Judicial District Court **Judge C. Wendell Manning** made presentations that impacted more than 3,750 students. He visited six Monroe high schools to present his Charters of Freedom program, which included an oral presentation and an exhibit of replicas of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence from the U.S. National Archives. Several of the schools had their entire student body participate in the program. One school had their JROTC honor guard on hand to watch over the display the entire day. Manning also made a “Judges in the Classroom” presentation to five individual classes and one Student Council. Superintendent of Ouachita Parish Schools Dr. Don Coker and several other School Board members attended, as well as more than 350 parents, faculty and staff.



(Above) In honor of Constitution Day, 4th Judicial District Court Judge C. Wendell Manning made presentations that impacted more than 3,750 students. He visited six Monroe high schools to present his Charters of Freedom program.

(Right) 4th Judicial District Court Judge C. Wendell Manning with his daughter Rosemary Manning, president of St. Frederick High School’s Student Council.



By Trina S. Vincent, Louisiana Supreme Court

NEW JUDGE... APPOINTMENT... IN MEMORIAM

New Judge

Monique Babin Clement was elected 3rd Judicial District Court (JDC) Division A judge, effective Aug. 5, 2021. She earned her bachelor's degree in 1992 from Louisiana Tech University and her JD degree in 1997 from Southern University Law Center. She worked as a probation office assistant and booking officer at Lincoln Parish Detention Center from 1987-88 and as an asset forfeiture assistant at the District Attorney's Office, 3rd Judicial District, from 1992-94. From 1995-97, she worked as a law clerk at Damp and Edwards and the District Attorney's Office, 3rd Judicial District. She worked as an adjunct professor at Louisiana Tech University before working as an associate at the Law Office of Russell A. Woodard from 1997-99. From 2000-21, she was a partner at the Law Offices of Russell A. Woodard and



Monique Babin
Clement

Monique B. Clement and served as a special assistant district attorney, 3rd Judicial District, until her election to the 3rd JDC bench. Judge Clement is married to Keith J. Clement and is mother to one daughter and two stepsons.

Appointment

► John D. Fitzmorris, Jr. was appointed by the Conference of Court of Appeal Judges to the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana for a term of four years, which began on Sept. 1, 2021.

Deaths

► Third Circuit Court of Appeal Judge John D. Saunders, 78, died Sept. 14, 2021. He earned his bachelor's degree in 1965 from Louisiana State University and his JD degree in 1968 from LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center. From 1968-92, he practiced law in Evangeline Parish. He was elected to serve in the Louisiana Senate from 1976-92. He was chair of the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee from 1985-87 and chair of the Judiciary "C"

Committee from 1987-92. He also served on the Louisiana Sentencing Commission and the Louisiana Commission on Criminal Justice. He was elected to serve on the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeal in 1992.

► Retired 13th Judicial District Court (JDC) Judge A. Gaynor Soileau, 87, died Dec. 14, 2020. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (currently University of Louisiana at Lafayette) and his JD degree in 1960 from Louisiana State University Law School. He practiced law in Ville Platte from 1960 until his election to the 13th JDC in 1991, where he served until his retirement in 2002.

► Retired Orleans Municipal Court Judge James Edward Glancey, Jr., 92, died Oct. 4, 2020. He attended Louisiana State University and earned his JD degree from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II. From 1951-68, he was a practicing attorney. He served as a New Orleans Municipal Court judge from 1968 until his retirement in 1996.

Constitution Day Presentations



In observance of Constitution Day 2021, Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Scott J. Crichton, left, visited C.E. Byrd High School in Shreveport to present his "Crime, Consequences and the Power of Choice" program. Justice Crichton was joined by Caddo Parish District Attorney James E. Stewart, Sr., himself a Byrd High School graduate. Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Jay B. McCallum was also in attendance. *Photo courtesy of Caddo Parish Public Schools.*



Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer, in observance of Constitution Day, visited Morgan City High School in St. Mary Parish on Sept. 16, where he met with dual enrollment U.S. history and honors civics students. The presentation was in conjunction with the Judges in the Classroom/Students in the Courtroom program. From left, Morgan City High School Principal Tim Hymel; St. Mary Parish School Board President Kenneth E. Alfred; St. Mary Parish Schools Superintendent Teresa T. Bagwell; Chief Justice Weimer; Sandy L. Holloway, District 3 Representative, BESE president; Rep. Beryl A. Amedée, Louisiana House District 51; and Rep. Vincent J. St. Blanc III, Louisiana House District 50.