

## LOUISIANA

The federal court for the Territory of Orleans was unique in that it was designated a separate judicial district in 1804, the only time this was done in a territory of the continental U.S.<sup>1</sup> Louisiana was admitted to the Union in 1812 with its judiciary organized as a single district with complete federal jurisdiction.<sup>2</sup> The state was reorganized into two districts on three separate occasions. In 1823, it was divided into the Eastern and Western Districts (though with one judgeship serving both).<sup>3</sup> Reunification occurred in 1845,<sup>4</sup> followed by an Eastern–Western division four years later.<sup>5</sup> The final iteration began with unification in 1866,<sup>6</sup> followed by reorganization into the Eastern and Western Districts in 1881.<sup>7</sup>

LA.ED.01 is the original district judgeship (see Judge Hall’s succession line). During all three instances when the state’s district bench was unified, this was the extant seat. After the first reorganization from Eastern and Western Districts to single district, no positions were affected because one judgeship served both. In the second unification, LA.WD.01 was abolished, and recreated as LA.WD.02 when the state was divided in 1881.

When the Middle District was created in 1971,<sup>8</sup> LA.ED.04 was transferred and became LA.MD.01. In 1997, Congress transferred LA.ED.03 to the Middle District (LA.MD.03).<sup>9</sup> Louisiana has been lodged in the Fifth Circuit since 1842.<sup>10</sup> The state has twenty-two judges: twelve in the Eastern District, three in the Middle District, and seven in the Western District.

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<sup>1</sup>Act of March 26, 1804, 2 STAT. 284.

<sup>2</sup>Act of April 8, 1812, 2 STAT. 701.

<sup>3</sup>Act of March 3, 1823, 3 STAT. 774.

<sup>4</sup>Act of February 13, 1845, 5 STAT. 722.

<sup>5</sup>Act of March 3, 1849, 9 STAT. 401.

<sup>6</sup>Act of July 27, 1866, 14 STAT. 300.

<sup>7</sup>Act of March 3, 1881, 21 STAT. 507.

<sup>8</sup>Act of December 18, 1971, 85 STAT. 741.

<sup>9</sup>Act of October 6, 1997, 111 STAT. 1174. With the retirement of Judge Livaudais (LA.ED.07.03) in 1996, the seat actually was vacant until the confirmation of Judge Tyson (LA.MD.03.01), which by then had been transferred from the Eastern to the Middle District.

<sup>10</sup>Act of August 16, 1842, 5 STAT. 507, 3 STAT. 775. For more on the Fifth Circuit, see Harvey C. Couch, *A History of the Fifth Circuit 1891-1981* (Washington: Judicial Conference of the United States, 1984); Deborah J. Barrow and Thomas G. Walker, *A Court Divided: The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Politics of Judicial Reform* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988).

<b>Statutory History</b>		
<i>Seat</i>	<i>Legislation</i>	<i>Authority</i>
LA.ED.01	Act of April 8, 1812	2 STAT. 701
LA.ED.02	Act of March 18, 1938	52 STAT. 110
LA.ED.03	Act of May 19, 1961	75 STAT. 80
LA.ED.04	Act of May 19, 1961	75 STAT. 80
LA.ED.05	Act of March 18, 1966	80 STAT. 75
LA.ED.06	Act of March 18, 1966	80 STAT. 75
LA.ED.07	Act of March 18, 1966	80 STAT. 75
LA.ED.08	Act of March 18, 1966	80 STAT. 75
LA.ED.09	Act of June 2, 1970	84 STAT. 294
LA.ED.10	Act of June 2, 1970	84 STAT. 294
LA.ED.11	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.ED.12	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.ED.13	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.ED.14	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.MD.02	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.WD.01	Act of March 3, 1849	9 STAT. 401
LA.WD.02	Act of March 3, 1881	21 STAT. 507
LA.WD.03	Act of May 31, 1938	52 STAT. 585
LA.WD.04	Act of May 19, 1961	75 STAT. 80
LA.WD.05	Act of June 2, 1970	84 STAT. 294
LA.WD.06	Act of October 20, 1978	92 STAT. 1629
LA.WD.07	Act of July 10, 1984	98 STAT. 333
LA.WD.08	Act of December 1, 1990	104 STAT. 5089

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.ED.01.01	Hall, Dominic Augustin	May 28, 1812	January 1, 1813	Resigned	Jeffersonian Democrat
LA.ED.01.02	Hall, Dominic Augustin	June 1, 1813	December 19, 1820	Deceased	Jeffersonian Democrat
LA.ED.01.03	Dick, John McClintock	March 2, 1821	January 1, 1824	Resigned	Jeffersonian Democrat
LA.ED.01.04	Robertson, Thomas Bolling	May 26, 1824	November 5, 1828	Deceased	Jeffersonian Democrat
LA.ED.01.05	Harper, Samuel Hadden	March 7, 1829	July 19, 1837	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.01.06	Lawrence, Philip Kissick	September 12, 1837	May 19, 1841	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.01.07	McCaleb, Theodore Howard	September 3, 1841	January 28, 1861	Resigned	Whig
LA.ED.01.08	Durell, Edward Henry	February 17, 1864 <sup>11</sup>	December 4, 1874	Resigned	Republican
LA.ED.01.09	Billings, Edward Coke	February 10, 1876	December 1, 1893	Deceased	Republican
LA.ED.01.10	Parlange, Charles	January 15, 1894	February 4, 1907	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.01.11	Saunders, Eugene Davis	February 20, 1907	February 2, 1909	Resigned	Democrat
LA.ED.01.12	Foster, Rufus Edward	February 2, 1909	January 13, 1925	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Republican
LA.ED.01.13	Beattie, Charlton Reid	January 19, 1925	August 23, 1925	Deceased	Republican

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<sup>11</sup>Recess appointment, May 20, 1863.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.ED.01.14	Burns, Louis Henry	December 21, 1925 <sup>12</sup>	June 9, 1928	Deceased	Progressive
LA.ED.01.15	Borah, Wayne G.	December 17, 1928 <sup>13</sup>	October 21, 1949	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Republican
LA.ED.01.16	Wright, James Skelly	March 8, 1950 <sup>14</sup>	March 30, 1962	Elevated to D.C. Circuit	Democrat
LA.ED.01.17	Ellis, Frank B.	April 3, 1962	November 16, 1965	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.01.18	Heebe, Frederick J.R.	March 25, 1966	August 25, 1992	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.01.19	Jones, Okla, II	October 7, 1994	January 8, 1996	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.01.20	Barbier, Carl J.	September 28, 1998	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.02.01	Caillouet, Adrian Joseph	April 9, 1940	December 19, 1946	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.02.02	Christenberry, Herbert W.	December 18, 1947	October 5, 1975	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.02.03	Schwartz, Charles, Jr.	May 6, 1976	February 28, 1991	Retired	Republican

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<sup>12</sup>Recess appointment, October 3, 1925.

<sup>13</sup>Recess appointment, October 3, 1928.

<sup>14</sup>Recess appointment, October 21, 1949.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.ED.02.04	Clement, Edith Brown	November 21, 1991	November 27, 2001	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Republican
LA.ED.02.05	Africk, Lance M.	April 17, 2002	Active	Active	Republican
LA.ED.03.01	Ainsworth, Robert A., Jr.	September 21, 1961	July 22, 1966	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Democrat
LA.ED.03.02	Boyle, Edward J., Sr.	October 20, 1966	December 1, 1981	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.03.03	McNamara, A.J. "Buddy"	June 18, 1982	June 9, 2001	Retired	Republican
LA.ED.03.04	Zainey, Jay C.	February 11, 2002	Active	Active	Republican
LA.ED.04.01 <sup>15</sup>	West, Elmer Gordon	September 14, 1961	November 27, 1979	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.05.01	Comiskey, James A.	March 2, 1967	June 15, 1975	Resigned	Democrat
LA.ED.05.02	Sear, Morey L.	May 6, 1976	October 31, 2000	Retired	Republican
LA.ED.05.03	Engelhardt, Kurt D.	December 11, 2001	Active	Active	Republican

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<sup>15</sup>Transferred to LA.MD.01.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.ED.06.01	Rubin, Alvin B.	October 20, 1966	September 19, 1977	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Democrat
LA.ED.06.02	Collins, Robert F. <sup>16</sup>	May 17, 1978	August 6, 1993	Resigned	Democrat
LA.ED.06.03	Porteous, G. Thomas, Jr.	October 7, 1994	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.07.01	Cassibry, Fred J.	October 20, 1966	March 15, 1984	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.07.02 <sup>17</sup>	Livaudais, Marcel, Jr.	September 17, 1984	December 31, 1996	Retired	Republican
LA.ED.08.01	Mitchell, Lansing Leroy	October 20, 1966	November 3, 1981	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.08.02	Mentz, Henry A., Jr.	June 24, 1982	June 30, 1992	Retired	Republican
LA.ED.08.03	Vance, Sarah Savoia	September 28, 1994	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.09.01	Gordon, Jack M.	June 18, 1971	March 4, 1982	Deceased	Republican
LA.ED.09.02	Feldman, Martin L.C.	October 4, 1983	Active	Active	Republican

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<sup>16</sup>First African American judge appointed from Louisiana.

<sup>17</sup>Transferred to LA.MD.03.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.ED.10.01	West, R. Blake	June 18, 1971	January 24, 1978	Deceased	Republican
LA.ED.10.02	Duplantier, Adrian G.	May 26, 1978	March 6, 1994	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.10.03	Fallon, Eldon E.	May 8, 1995	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.11.01	Carr, Patrick Eugene	September 25, 1979	October 1, 1991	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.11.02	Berrigan, Helen G.	March 10, 1994	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.12.01	Arceneaux, George, Jr.	September 25, 1979	April 6, 1993	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.12.02	Duval, Stanwood R., Jr.	September 28, 1994	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.13.01	Wicker, Veronica D. <sup>18</sup>	September 25, 1979	December 10, 1994	Deceased	Democrat
LA.ED.13.02	Lemelle, Ivan L.R.	April 3, 1998	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.ED.14.01	Beer, Peter H.	November 26, 1979	April 12, 1994	Retired	Democrat
LA.ED.14.02	Lemmon, Mary Ann Vial	July 10, 1996	Active	Active	Democrat

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<sup>18</sup>First female district judge appointed from Louisiana.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.MD.01.02 <sup>1</sup>	Polozola, Frank J.	May 21, 1980	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.MD.02.01	Parker, John V.	September 25, 1979	October 31, 1998	Retired	Democrat
LA.MD.02.02	Brady, James L.	May 24, 2000	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.MD.03.01 <sup>2</sup>	Tyson, Ralph E.	July 31, 1998	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.WD.01.01	Boyce, Henry	August 2, 1850 <sup>21</sup>	January 1, 1861	Resigned	Whig
LA.WD.02.01	Boarman, Alec	May 18, 1881	August 30, 1916	Deceased	Republican
LA.WD.02.02	Jack, George Whitfield	March 16, 1917	March 15, 1924	Deceased	Democrat
LA.WD.02.03	Dawkins, Benjamin Cornwell, I	May 5, 1924	May 17, 1953	Retired	Democrat

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<sup>19</sup>Transferred from LA.ED.04.

<sup>20</sup>Transferred from LA.ED.07. Judge Tyson actually was appointed to the Middle District. See note 9.

<sup>21</sup>Recess appointment, May 9, 1849.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.WD.02.04	Dawkins, Benjamin C., Jr.	July 31, 1953	August 6, 1973	Retired	Democrat
LA.WD.02.05	Stagg, Thomas E., Jr.	March 7, 1974	February 29, 1992	Retired	Republican
LA.WD.02.06	Melancon, Tucker L.	February 10, 1994	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.WD.03.01	Porterie, Gaston Louis N.	February 1, 1939	March 24, 1953	Deceased	Democrat
LA.WD.03.02	Hunter, Edwin F., Jr.	February 9, 1954 <sup>22</sup>	February 19, 1976	Retired	Democrat
LA.WD.03.03	Veron, Earl E.	August 4, 1977	February 13, 1990	Retired	Democrat
LA.WD.03.04	Trimble, James T., Jr.	September 12, 1991	September 13, 2002	Retired	Republican
LA.WD.03.05	Minaldi, Patricia Head	May 6, 2003	Active	Active	Republican
LA.WD.04.01	Putnam, Richard J.	September 14, 1961	December 19, 1975	Retired	Democrat
LA.WD.04.02	Davis, W. Eugene	September 17, 1976	November 6, 1983	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Republican
LA.WD.04.03	Duhe, John M., Jr.	June 8, 1984	October 17, 1988	Elevated to Fifth Circuit	Republican

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<sup>22</sup>Recess appointment, October 3, 1953.

<b>Seat Histories</b>					
<i>Position #</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>	<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Party</i>
LA.WD.04.04	Haik, Richard T., Sr.	May 24, 1991	Active	Active	Republican
LA.WD.05.01	Scott, Nauman S.	October 13, 1970	December 4, 1984	Retired	Republican
LA.WD.05.02	Little, F.A., Jr.	October 11, 1984	May 30, 2002	Retired	Republican
LA.WD.05.03	Drell, Dee D.	April 9, 2003	Active	Active	Republican
LA.WD.06.01	Shaw, John M.	September 25, 1979	November 15, 1996	Retired	Democrat
LA.WD.06.02	James, Robert G.	July 31, 1998	Active	Active	Democrat
LA.WD.07.01	Walter, Donald E.	July 10, 1985	November 30, 2001	Retired	Republican
LA.WD.07.02	Hicks, S. Maurice, Jr.	May 19, 2003	Active	Active	Republican
LA.WD.08.01	Doherty, Rebecca Feeney	October 31, 1991	Active	Active	Republican