



2024 LSBA ANNUAL MEETING & LJC / LSBA JOINT SUMMER SCHOOL

JUNE 2-7, 2024 • DESTIN, FLORIDA



Edward J. Walters, Jr., left, is presented with the Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award by Hon. John Davidson (Ret.) during the Annual Meeting. Photos by Matthew Hinton Photography.

Louisiana Bar Foundation's Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award

Edward J. Walters, Jr. of Baton Rouge received the 2024 Louisiana Bar Foundation's Curtis R. Boisfontaine Trial Advocacy Award.

Walters is a partner in the Baton Rouge firm of Walters, Thomas, Cullens, LLC. He has been an active courtroom lawyer for more than 45 years. He received a BS degree in 1969 from Louisiana State University and his JD degree in 1975 from LSU Law Center, where he is a member of its Hall of Fame. He is board certified in Civil Trial Advocacy by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. As an adjunct professor of law at LSU Law Center, he has taught a trial skills course for more than 30 years. He has been a member of the faculty of the Law Center's yearly Trial Advocacy Program since its inception 25 years ago. He will serve as the LSBA's president-elect for the 2024-25 term and will become the LSBA president in 2025-26. He is the recipient of the Louisiana Bar Foundation's Distinguished Attorney Award.

Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education's Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award

Judge Karelia R. Stewart of Shreveport received the 2024 Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education's Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award.

Judge Stewart was elected, without opposition, to Section 1, Division D of 1st Judicial District Court in August 2014 and took the bench in October 2014. She is currently serving in the Family Court Division. She is a 2001, *cum laude*, graduate of Dillard University and a merit scholar and 2004 honor graduate of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. Prior to serving on the bench, she was an assistant district attorney for Caddo Parish and maintained a civil practice. At the time of her departure, she was section chief of the Drug Division and was instrumental in reviving the rehabilitation program of Drug Court and in implementing a Veterans Court. She is an active member and officer on the National Bar Association's Judicial Council and is an executive committee member for the Louisiana Judicial College. She is a member of the National Association of Women Judges and the American Judges Association, and is a Master of the Bench in the Harry V. Booth/Judge Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court. She is a mentor judge and works with New Judge Training as a member of the Louisiana Judicial College. She also teaches real estate



Hon. Karelia R. Stewart presented with the LCLCE Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award by Lawrence J. (Larry) Centola III, LCLCE Board member, during the General Assembly.

law as an adjunct professor for the paralegal program at LSU-Shreveport. She was recognized by Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer in his address to the Louisiana Legislature about the hours she has contributed to the Judges in the Classroom Program in Caddo and Bossier Parish Schools.

