

BAR*briefs*

Louisville Bar Association

January 2026

Meet the LBA's 2026 President

SAM WARDLE



VOLUME 26, NO. 01

Editorial Offices:
600 W. Main Street, Ste. 110
Louisville, KY 40202-4917
Phone: (502) 583-5314
admin@loubar.org
www.loubar.org

Kristen Miller
Managing Editor

Kimberly E. Kasey
Graphic Designer

Editorial Board

Bruce A. Brightwell, *chair* Steve Rush
Dorothy J. Chambers Samuel W. Wardle
Erran Huber

Louisville Bar Association Board of Directors

Samuel W. Wardle — *President*
Jennifer Ward Kleier — *President-Elect*
Sean Deskins — *Vice President & Treasurer*
William H. Brammell — *Secretary*
Maria A. Fernandez — *Past President*

Brian Bennett Bruce Paul
Megan Cleveland Heend Sheth
Elisabeth Gray Jason Vaughn
Tricia Lister

Ben Barberie — *UofL Brandeis School of Law Student Rep.*
Michelle L. Duncan — *Charles W. Anderson Bar Association*
Hon. Eric J. Haner — *Chief Judge, Jefferson Circuit Court*
Amy I. Hannah — *DPA Louisville Trial Office*
Shelia Hiestand — *KBA Governor*
Katherine Ison — *LBA Young Lawyers Section*
Melanie B. Jacobs — *Dean, UofL School of Law*
Hon. Rebecca Grady Jennings — *U.S. District Court*
Sara V. Judd — *LBF President*
Megan P. Keane — *ABA House of Delegates*
Hon. Megan McDonald — *Jefferson District Court*
Michael J. O'Connell — *Jefferson County Attorney*
J. Tanner Watkins — *KBA Board of Governors*
Hon. Derwin L. Webb — *Chief Judge, Jefferson Family Court*
Gerina D. Whethers — *Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney*

Kent Wicker — *Counsel*
James B. Martin Jr. — *Tax Counsel*
Kristen L. Miller — *Executive Director*

Louisville Bar Foundation Board of Directors

Gregory T. Dutton — *President*
Joseph C. Ventura — *President-Elect*
Nicole T. Cook — *Vice President and Treasurer*
Jennifer M. Barbour — *Secretary*
Sara V. Judd — *Past President*

Samuel W. Wardle — *LBA President*
Jennifer Ward Kleier — *LBA President-Elect*
Maria A. Fernandez — *LBA Past President*

Garry R. Adams Dean Melanie B. Jacobs
Bruce A. Brightwell Janet P. Jakubowicz
Thomas R. Coffey Jessica R.C. Malloy
Hon. Yvette De La Guardia Sarah J. Martin
Chantell C. Foley Beth H. McMasters
C. Dean Furman Jeffrey S. Moad
Jameson L. Gay Ozair M. Shariff
Dwight L. Haygood Michelle D. Wyrick
Sherry L. Hurley

Samuel G. Graber — *Tax Counsel*
Jeffrey A. Been — *Executive Director*

BAR BRIEFS is a monthly paper published by the Louisville Bar Association. The LBA does not necessarily share or endorse any particular views expressed in this paper by contributors thereto. The views are those of thoughtful contributors. Advertising does not imply endorsement by the LBA of products or services or any statements made concerning them.

Louisville Bar Association Mission:
Promote justice, professional excellence and respect for the law; improve public access to the judicial system; provide law-related services to the community; and serve our members.



Meet the 2026 LBA President, Sam Wardle! See page 10.



Thank you for celebrating our 125th anniversary! See page 12 for a glimpse of the fun we had.



Our toy drive was quite the success thanks to your generosity. See page 16.



Ready to renew your LBA membership for 2026?

It's fast and easy – turn to page 5 for a step-by-step tutorial on how to renew online.

- Guarantee uninterrupted access to exclusive LBA benefits without the hassle of remembering to renew each year. Sign up for auto-pay and you'll receive a \$5 gift card that can be applied to purchases made through the LBA website. Some exclusions may apply.
- When you renew, don't forget to become an LBA Sustaining Member and contribute to the Louisville Bar Foundation. Just click on the "Donations" tab in your profile and add these important contributions to your cart before checking out.

Sustaining Members receive:

- o One hour of free conference room rental in the Bar Center;
- o Additional 10% discount on CLEs (excludes cosponsored events);
- o Limited-time access to enhanced member profiles in our online directory;
- o Special recognition in LBA publications.

Louisville Bar Foundation donors support charitable law-related projects across our community. The LBF awarded more than \$135,000 in grants to local non-profits in 2025. Learn more at <https://www.loubar.org/grants/>.

Questions? Contact Marisa Motley, LBA Chief Outreach Officer, at mmotley@loubar.org.

Professional Excellence

6
Happy New Year!
By Kurt Metzmeier

Events

9
Continuing Legal Education

17
Meeting Announcements

In this issue

4
A Call to Action
Meet the 2026 LBA Section Leadership

6
Monthly Diversity and Inclusion Committee Corner

8
Legal Aid Society: Real Kentuckians, Real Justice.
Stand with LAS: Become a Member

14
Louisville Bar Foundation

- *New Officers for 2026*
- *2025 By The Numbers*

16
Santa's Court Toy Drive Success

17
Members on the Move

17
Classifieds

17
Monthly Health and Wellness Committee Corner

New Year, New Beginnings, Same Mission

As we begin a new year, I am deeply honored to serve as president of the Louisville Bar Association. Over the past decade, I've been privileged to serve as an LBA volunteer in many different capacities, from the Santa's Court Toy Drive to hosting CLEs to serving the Litigation Section to the Board of Directors. In that time, this organization weathered major changes. The pandemic caused a fundamental and apparently permanent shift in how people work and socialize—more is online, less in-person. Meanwhile, we saw the retirement of long-time (and much-loved) executive director Scott Furkin and the hiring of Kristen Miller to take the helm.

There is no doubt these changes created challenges. The pandemic changed not only how we work, but how we connect with one another. Many lawyers now work remotely, attend meetings online and have fewer informal opportunities to build relationships across the profession. In this environment, maintaining engagement—and creating meaningful opportunities for connection—has required creativity, flexibility and sustained effort.

To that end, we're very fortunate to have a dynamic executive director in Kristen Miller and a dedicated staff including Marisa Motley, Kim Kasey, Lisa Murray, John Hardin, Debby Dye and Sonja Brent. I have been privileged these past years to see how hard these individuals have worked—often without any real recognition or thanks—to support LBA members and foster the LBA's mission of promoting justice and excellence in the practice of law. The next time you bump into an LBA staffer, please thank them for their hard work. They deserve it.

I'm also fortunate to have followed in the footsteps of some truly exceptional leaders. My immediate predecessor is Maria Fernandez, who practically embodies the ideal of an engaged lawyer—Maria not only runs her own thriving practice, she devotes countless hours every year to the LBA, Legal Aid (where she also serves on the Board) and many other organizations. Maria was preceded by Bryan Armstrong, Kate Crosby and Seth Gladstein, each of whom gave their heart and soul to supporting the LBA and its membership. I'm humbled to follow in their footsteps.

Without these dedicated staff and leaders, I have no doubt the LBA would be going the same direction as many membership organizations—down. Instead, we concluded 2025—the LBA's 125th year—stronger than ever. Under Kristen's leadership, the LBA has risen to meet the challenges of this new era, including by completely renovating the downtown LBA office space and by engaging in a host of creative and dynamic new initiatives. These have included developing new forms of legal education and programming, as well as improving the LBA's connections with the Brandeis School of Law at UofL. Just recently, I attended a packed event that gave current law students the chance to meet and network

with many local, small and mid-sized firms. Events like these are central to the LBA's relevance and fulfillment of its mission looking forward.

Still, we have a lot of work to do to stay relevant and to remain engaged with our mission. The forms and formats of legal education are changing. The needs of local legal employers are shifting as well. And new law school graduates are entering a legal world and job market that many of us more experienced (i.e., old) attorneys would scarcely recognize, if we saw it from their perspective. So, I want to hear from you. The LBA is strongest when it reflects the ideas, energy and perspectives of its members. If you have suggestions about what the Association could be doing better, new initiatives we should explore or ways we can better serve both our members and the Louisville community, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at wardle@fbtlaw.com.

Of course, I firmly believe that the best way to get the most out of the LBA is to give back to the organization. I can say from experience that any time you spend volunteering will pay dividends in new relationships formed and competencies gained. So please consider stepping up to chair one of our many sections. Heading into 2026, we are still looking for chairs and/or vice-chairs for the following sections:

Administrative Law: chair and vice-chair; **AI/IP/Privacy Law:** vice-chair; **Criminal Law:** vice-chair; **Environmental Law:** chair and vice-chair; **Health Law:** vice-chair; **Public Interest Law:** chair and vice-chair; **Solo/Small Practice:** chair and vice-chair; **Tort and Insurance Law:** chair and vice-chair.

Section leadership comes with commitments, including drafting a *Bar Briefs* article and hosting a CLE. But these are easy lifts compared to the benefits you'll get from doing them. I hope you'll consider joining and supporting us. If you have questions or are ready to sign up, please contact the LBA's Professional Development and Leadership Director, Lisa Murray, at lmurray@loubar.org.

Additionally, one of the LBA's core purposes is to recognize and support leaders in our community. And right now, the Association is still accepting submissions for the Justice William E. McAnulty Jr. Trailblazer Award, given annually to an individual who has made "a lasting impact on racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession." If you know someone who deserves this recognition, please take five minutes and nominate them—you can do so on the LBA's website, by clicking the "Explore Membership" tab and navigating to the "LBA Annual Awards" page (www.loubar.org/lba-annual-awards/).

Thank you for your commitment to the Louisville Bar Association and to our profession. I am excited for the year ahead and for what we can accomplish together.



“

In this environment, maintaining engagement—and creating meaningful opportunities for connection—has required creativity, flexibility and sustained effort.

Samuel W. Wardle
LBA President

INTRODUCING THE 2026 LBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jennifer Kleier



Assuming the role of president-elect is Jennifer Kleier, a partner at Karem & Kleier Law. She has worked in private practice since 2015 as a litigator and practices in the areas of family law, criminal law, guardianship and estate/probate. Prior to working in private practice, she served as a public defender

for the Louisville Metro Public Defender's Office for five years.

Jennifer received her undergraduate degree from Murray State University and her Masters in Sports Administration from UofL before graduating from Brandeis School of Law in 2010. She is chair of both the LBA's Gender Equity and Health & Wellness Committees. She has been honored as the WLA 2023 Member of the Year and previously honored by the LBA as chair of the Committee of the Year for the Gender Equity Committee. She is a graduate of the LBA's Leadership Academy and was honored to be an associate member of the Louis D. Brandeis Inn of Court from 2016-19. She currently serves as Immediate Past Chair of the Board for UP for Women and Children, a drop-in day shelter in Louisville serving unhoused women, children and marginalized genders. ■

Sean Deskins



Moving up to vice-president/ treasurer is Sean Deskins. Sean is an attorney with the Oldfather Law Firm, concentrating in plaintiffs' litigation including medical malpractice, products liability, employment law and legal malpractice. His practice also includes complex business and trusts and estates litigation. Following law

school, Sean spent a year serving as a Fulbright Scholar in the Slovak Republic where he taught courses on the American legal system and human rights law. Upon returning to Kentucky, Sean worked as a law clerk to the Honorable Jennifer B. Coffman, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky. Sean received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Louisville and is an active UofL alumnus. He previously served as president of the UofL Law Alumni Council and as chair of the LBA's Young Lawyers Section, which was honored as a Co-Section of the Year during his term. Sean also recently wrapped up a two-year term as the LBA's representative to the American Bar Association's House of Delegates and continues to serve as a member of the ABA's Commission on Disability Rights. Sean and his wife, Ashley, live in Louisville with their dog, Forrest. ■

Bill Brammell



Bill Brammell is LBA's incoming Secretary. Bill is the managing partner of Wicker / Brammell, PLLC, a boutique law firm that represents individuals and organizations in federal criminal proceedings, public servants in Section 1983 litigation and businesses facing legal challenges.

Prior to private practice, Bill clerked for the Hon. Gregory F. Van Tatenhove of the U.S. District Court for the EDKY. He also lived and worked in D.C. where he served the Department of State, the Department of Justice, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Agency for International Development as a Presidential Management Fellow. He earned his J.D. from UK College of Law, a master's degree in Democracy and Democratization from University College London and a B.A. from UofL where he served as Student Body President.

Outside the 9-5, Bill serves on the Board of the Home of the Innocents and the Bluegrass Center for Autism. In his free time, Bill likes spending time outdoors with his kids, reading and tinkering in his woodshop. ■



A Call to Action

Meet the 2026 LBA Section Leadership

LBA sections offer our members quality professional development opportunities through training, conferences, publications and meetings. Each section's goal is to enhance your practice and foster your legal and management skills. To join a section or to serve as section chairs in 2026, contact Lisa Murray at lmurray@loubar.org.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Chair and Vice-Chair
Positions available
Contact Lisa Murray
lmurray@loubar.org

CRIMINAL LAW



Chair
Jennifer Jackson
Stites & Harbison

Vice-Chair
Position Available
lmurray@loubar.org

HUMAN RIGHTS



Chair
A. Holland Houston
Attorney at Law



Vice-Chair
Ethan Chase
Reczek Chase Law

REAL ESTATE LAW



Chair
Ashley Russell
Stites & Harbison



Vice-Chair
Shawn Spalding
Stoll Keenon Ogden

ADR / MEDIATION



Chair
Dana Eberle
Church, Langdon,
Lopp, Banet Law



Vice-Chair
Larry Church
Church, Langdon,
Lopp, Banet Law

ENVIRONMENTAL

Chair and Vice-Chair
Positions available
Contact Lisa Murray
lmurray@loubar.org

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL



Co-Chair
Michael Farley
RiverStone Group



Co-Chair
Allyson Sturgeon
PPL Services Corp.

SOLO/SMALL PRACTICE

Chair and Vice-Chair
Positions available
Contact Lisa Murray
lmurray@loubar.org

AI / IP / PRIVACY LAW



Chair
Dalton Cline
Dentons Bingham
Greenebaum



Vice-Chair
Position Available
lmurray@loubar.org

FAMILY LAW



Chair
Emily Logan
Legal Aid Society



Vice-Chair
Kylie King
Jenkins & Wheatley
Family Law

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT



Chair
Catie Wheatley
Faegre Drinker



Vice-Chair
Hannah Wilson
Adams Landenwich
& Lay

TAXATION LAW



Chair
Caitlin Rieser
Dentons Bingham
Greenebaum



Vice-Chair
Lucy McAfee
Dentons Bingham
Greenebaum

APPELLATE LAW



Chair
Brandon Girdley
Bricker Graydon Wyatt



Vice-Chair
Michelle Fox
FBT Gibbons

FEDERAL PRACTICE



Chair
Kayla Campbell
Wicker / Brammell



Vice-Chair
Matt Weyand
AUSA, WDKY

LITIGATION



Chair
Jacob Robbins
FBT Gibbons



Vice-Chair
A. Riley Grant
FBT Gibbons

TORT & INSURANCE

Chair and Vice-Chair
Positions available
Contact Lisa Murray
lmurray@loubar.org

BANKRUPTCY LAW



Chair
J. Gabe Dennerly
Kaplan Johnson Abate
& Bird LLP



Vice-Chair
Keith Larson
Morgan Pottinger
McGarvey

FEDERAL PRACTICE



Vice-Chair
Jessica R.C. Malloy
U.S. Attorney's Office

PROBATE & ESTATE



Chair
Kathryn Beck
Stoll Keenon Ogden



Vice-Chair
Joe Zurschmiede
Cerity Partners

YOUNG LAWYERS



Chair
Katherine Ison
Gray Ice Higdon



Co-Vice-Chair
Brianna Berry
DBL Law

CORPORATE LAW



Chair
Maci Followell
Dinsmore & Shohl



Vice-Chair
Drew Teague
FBT Gibbons

HEALTH LAW



Chair
Leigh Schell
Stoll Keenon Ogden



Vice-Chair
Position Available
lmurray@loubar.org

PUBLIC INTEREST

Chair and Vice-Chair
Positions available
Contact Lisa Murray
lmurray@loubar.org



Co-Vice-Chair
Tess Hardesty
Gray Ice Higdon

Renewing Your Membership

Below is a brief guide for paying your 2026 LBA Membership Dues.

Questions?
Please call our office at (502) 548-5314 or email motley@loubar.org.

Your 2026 LBA renewal invoice was emailed to your email address we have on file on Wednesday, December 10.

⚠️ DIDN'T RECEIVE AN EMAIL?

1. We no longer mail paper statements, so please be sure to log in to your account if you didn't receive an email notice. We may not have your most up-to-date contact information.
2. Some firms have indicated that they prefer to pay all members' dues at one time. Those firms were excluded from the initial email and the LBA is working directly with the firm administrator.



Step 1

- Login to the LBA website at www.loubar.org to access your account.
- Under your "Membership" tab you will find this year's invoice by clicking "PAY NOW"

Step 2

- Choose invoice with Jan 01, 2026 date and click "PAY NOW"
- ★ Go Autopay! To simplify your yearly renewal be sure to enable "Automatic Payments." As a thank you for enabling autopay you will receive a \$5 gift card to be used on a future purchase for 2026.

Step 3

- Next, review before you add to cart.
- 🔔 Donations! Don't forget to add your donations to become a Sustaining Member and give to the LBF. Click on "DONATIONS" to add them to your cart. Donations are voluntary but help support your local legal community and include some additional benefits.
- Once you've added your dues, sections and voluntary contributions you may "Proceed to Checkout."

If you have any questions regarding the renewal process, please contact Marisa Motley at mmotley@loubar.org or call (502) 583-5314 ext. 124. We are excited to usher in another year with the best legal community!

FREE FOR
LBA MEMBERS

Coworking Space

Did you know that LBA members can use the co-working space in the Bar Center for free? There are plenty of quiet places to work, charge your phone or computer and connect to your email using our free Wi-Fi. Need some peace and quiet to make a call?

Use our soundproof phone booth just outside the Seminar Room. Plus, members get free coffee, sodas and bottled water. Swing by and check it out – make the LBA's Bar Center your new landing space.



Bowles & Byer

• Listen • Resolve •

Family Law Mediation

Over 40 years of
Judicial experience
and 20 years of
Mediation experience
combined.

Judge Joan Byer
Ret.

Judge Jerry Bowles
Ret.

✉ judgebyer@gmail.com

✉ judgejerrybowles@gmail.com

☎ 502-216-9030

☎ 502-558-6142



Happy New Year!

Kurt X. Metzmeier

Happy New Year! Well, at least for those of you who use the Gregorian year. And I don't want to mandate happiness on you—toxic positivity is presumptuous, if not, well, toxic.

But it is true that there are other New Years besides our year of 2026, a solar year devised by Julius Caesar but later updated by Pope Gregory VIII. The Jewish year of 5787 will start after sundown on Friday, September 11 on Rosh Hashanah. Depending on the sighting of the moon, June 17 is the presumed start of the Islamic year of 1448 in America. The start of the Chinese Year of the Horse will be celebrated on February 17, as will be the Vietnamese New Year.

However, even in the United States, January 1 is only one of many annual beginnings. State and federal laws describe or mandate the setting of many other types of years such as fiscal years, tax years and public-school years. Common law understands the concept of the year in many ways, with most legal documents setting temporal terms in precise language. When they don't, they create legal controversies that often end up in the courts. And even the U.S. Supreme Court has its own year which starts on the first Monday of

October—but hasn't always.

Kentucky Years, Legally Defined

In Kentucky, the general definitions statute, KRS 446.010, defines a simple reference to “year” as a calendar year, which it presumes we know starts on January 1. (That's a reasonable assumption because KRS 2.110(1) listing public holidays, designates the first day of January as “New Year's Day.”) In addition to this comprehensive general definitions list, Chapter 446 of the KRS has a number of tools for interpreting Kentucky statutes, including rules of construction and guides for understanding the codification process.

But that is not the only year in the state. KRS 177.820 defines the “fiscal year of the Commonwealth [as] commencing on the first

day of July and ending on the next ensuing thirtieth day of June.” And, for corporate taxation under KRS 67.750, the “fiscal year” is defined as it is defined in the federal Internal

Revenue Code, which “means an accounting period of 12 months ending on the last day of any month other than December.” IRC 7701(a)(24).

Of course, while most people think of a year as being 12 months, the drafters of Kentucky's current constitution were more expansive, creating a 24-month “biennium” that commences on July 1 each even-numbered year and ends on June 30 “in the ensuing even-numbered year.” KRS 446.010(53). The “even-numbered year” calendar unit is an artifact of the 1890-91 Kentucky Constitutional Convention's attempt to confine the legislature to a 60-day session every even-numbered

“*But it is true that there are other New Years besides our year of 2026, a solar year devised by Julius Caesar but later updated by Pope Gregory VIII.*”

year. A 2004 amendment added a 30-day odd-year session, but the biennial budget is still passed in the even-numbered year. The legislative year begins on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January, according to the Kentucky Constitution, Section 36.

Researchers into any statutory ambiguity as to what is meant by a year in a statute are best advised to consult Thomson Reuters' much-cited treatise *Statutes and Statutory Construction* often referred to informally as “Sutherland's Statutory Construction,” even though its author Jabez Sutherland has been resting in peace since 1902.

Federal Fiscal Year

Speaking of the federal government, it is generally accepted that the traditional fiscal year from July 1 to June 30 used by Kentucky and 47 other states, is in imitation of the federal fiscal year adopted in 1842. Early on, Congress had operated on the idea that the fiscal year was a calendar year but because of the slow resolution of elections, difficult travel conditions, and the blazing hot D.C. summers, Congress was typically only in session from December to May. That meant

(Continued on next page)



CALL FOR Nominations



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

For information and to submit a nomination
visit www.loubar.org

QUESTIONS? CONTACT
LISA M. MURRAY AT
LMURRAY@LOUBAR.ORG

JANUARY 2026 AWARENESS CALENDAR

- National Mentoring Month
- Poverty in America Awareness Month
- Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month
- National Braille Literacy Month
- 1/4: World Braille Day
- 1/18: World Religion Day
- 1/19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 1/27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

January DEI Awareness Tips:

- Honor MLK Day: Seek ways to serve and support equity in your practice.
- Be mindful of economic hardship: Learn how to support Poverty Awareness Month efforts.
- Know the signs of trafficking: January highlights Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness.
- Respect cultural observances: January includes several faith and cultural holidays.
- Support mentorship: Use National Mentoring Month to help grow future leaders.
- Set inclusive goals: Start the year with intentions that support equity and belonging.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Have a recommendation?
Join the Committee! Contact Lisa M. Murray

(Continued from previous page)

appropriations bills weren't passed until after Easter and the government operated on "temporary" continuing resolutions for months. Congress paused its squabbles with President John Tyler to fix this problem and Tyler, surprisingly, didn't veto it.

The new fiscal year beginning on July 1 resolved that issue for more than a century until the air-conditioned, jet-flying members of the 93rd Congress passed the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. One provision of the law changed the federal fiscal year to start on October 1. Theoretically, failing to pass an appropriation bill by that date means a government shutdown, but Congress would never let that happen, or at least never let it happen a dozen times since 1974. Maybe 11, but never 12.

Contract Years

Among the terms that lawyers need to watch for ambiguity is the contract year. Drafters who define it simply as a year can run into complications over what the specific anniversary date is when the effective date isn't clear. If the year is carefully set out—"the

period from 12:00:01 a.m., Eastern Time, January 1, 2026, to 12:00 midnight, Eastern Time, December 31, 2026 (the "Contract Year")"—it will solve most problems, but life and ambiguity always finds a way. When uncertainty arises, sometimes the principles of statutory construction laid out in Sutherland can be applied, but a drafting guide like Lenne Espenschied's *Contract Drafting: Powerful Prose in Transactional Practice*, 3d (ABA 2019) can also be useful.

Court Years

The year of the United States Supreme Court famously (and infamously) begins on the first Monday of October. I say "infamously" because "First Monday" was the name of a hilariously awful TV drama about the Supreme Court that CBS aired briefly in 2002 before pulling the plug. This utterly clueless show had a painfully bad scene where a justice played by an overacting Charles Durning in a Foghorn Leghorn accent ignored the lawyers and decided to probingly interrogate a party about the facts of the case. Another scene—my favorite—had two law clerks researching a case by randomly pulling law books off the shelves. No digests, Westlaw or Lexis needed.

Most U.S. courts are in continuous session and don't have year beginnings, but the U.S. Supreme Court, which first sat in 1790, retains the rhythm and pace of a "term of court commencing on the first Monday in October of each year," as codified by 28 U.S. Code § 2. The date resembles the start of the British legal year, which begins its Michaelmas term on September 29, St. Michaels Day. And, indeed, a search of statutes of the colonial Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maryland indicates that pre-revolutionary America was aligned with the four English terms of Michaelmas, Hilary (January), Easter (March) and Trinity (June).

However, that is likely a coincidence. The Federal Judiciary Act of 1789, which established the U.S. court system, created two Supreme Court terms, one held in February and one in August. Congress in its 1802 Judiciary Act cut it to a term that began on the first Monday of February, which was fortunate as the Court had moved from Philadelphia to the new District of Columbia. See, *supra*, "blazing hot D.C. summers."

It was not until a 1873 law reorganizing the federal circuit courts and adding a seventh

Supreme Court justice that Congress moved the start of the U.S. Supreme Court to October (the second Monday), and then in 1949 that the date was set as the first Monday of October. If the members of Congress were influenced by the English judicial calendar, it was because they read references to it in Charles Dickens's novel *Bleak House*.

Happy New Years!

So Happy New Year—by Gregorian, Jewish, Islamic, Chinese or other calendars. May your fiscal years—Kentucky and federal—balance. And may this year's Supreme Court term begin in October without any further attempt by network programmers to dramatize it.

Kurt X. Metzmeier is the interim director of the law library and professor of legal bibliography at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, but he does not purport to represent the university or the law school. He is the author of *Writing the Legal Record: Law Reporters in Nineteenth Century Kentucky* and coauthor of *Legal Research in a Nutshell*, 15th ed. ■



PRINT, CONNECT, SUCCEED

Tailoring your Office Technology Solutions since 1959.



Network Printers and Copiers
Fleet and Managed Print Solutions
Corporate Mailing Systems

Computer Systems and Managed IT
Document Management
Professional Print



RICOH Lexmark DocuWare Microsoft EPSON DELL HP

d derbycitylitho.com • D duplicatorsales.net
1-800-633-8921 • 831 E. Broadway, Louisville, KY 40204



**Don't roll the dice
on your practice's future.**

Sure, there is a chance you'll never need us. But why take that chance? Lawyers Mutual is dedicated to Kentucky lawyers and makes your work our priority. Call (502) 568-6100 or visit LMICK.com for more information on how you can cover and protect your practice. We want you to focus on what matters.



Real Kentuckians, Real Justice.

STAND WITH LAS: BECOME A MEMBER

When 76-year-old **Dwight Beal** received an eviction notice from the Louisville Metro Housing Authority, he wasn't surprised he was being punished for speaking up.

After a power outage spoiled food in his building, LMHA promised residents grocery gift cards but failed to deliver. When Dwight pushed for answers, he was labeled "threatening and disorderly." Soon, he was facing eviction and the loss of his home.

That's when Dwight called **Legal Aid Society**. Attorney Andrew Chandler listened, investigated, and refused to let intimidation pass as justice. He took Dwight's case to a jury trial (something almost unheard of in eviction court). After seven hours in court, the jury ruled in Dwight's favor. Dwight **kept his home, and his dignity**.

"What we did," Andrew said, "was an organized resistance to injustice. Expressing frustration isn't a crime — it's a right."

Your support makes victories like Dwight's possible. Contributions help Kentuckians stand up to unlawful evictions, unsafe housing, and unfair denials of benefits. As we face a **\$541,664 federal funding cut**, your continued partnership is vital to keep justice within reach for those who can't afford an attorney.

**WHEN YOU STAND WITH LEGAL AID SOCIETY,
KENTUCKIANS LIKE DWIGHT CAN STAND FOR JUSTICE.**

LEARN MORE — [YOURLEGALAID.ORG/STANDWITH](https://yourlegalaid.org/standwith)



Client Impact

- **4,473 Kentuckians** served last year facing civil legal crises.
- **1,052 households** helped with housing issues — including evictions, unsafe conditions, and homelessness prevention.
- **4,580 children** indirectly supported through legal advocacy for their caregivers.
- **861 clients** at risk of losing services if federal funding is cut.

Return on Investment

- For every **\$1 invested**, Legal Aid Society delivers approximately **\$7 in economic benefits** to the community.
- Legal Aid Society's **\$541,664 federal funding** cut would result in over **\$3.7 million in lost economic impact**.

Program Highlights

- **1,229 individuals** received representation through the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program.
- **\$1,638,259** in confirmed benefits **recovered or avoided** by our advocacy.
- **465 clients** removed legal barriers to employment and housing through criminal record expungement.
- **355 veterans** served so far this year through the Veterans Legal Assistance Program.

What's at Risk

- Loss of **6 staff positions**, each tied to specialized legal services.
- Reduction in **critical services for housing, benefits, family safety, and reentry** programs.
- Hundreds of Kentuckians left without representation in eviction court.

Data reported above is for the time period January 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025



416 W. MUHAMMAD ALI BLVD., STE. 300 • LOUISVILLE, KY 40202 • (502) 584-1254 • [YOURLEGALAID.ORG](https://yourlegalaid.org)

INAUGURAL PRIVACY AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SUMMIT CO-HOSTED BY THE LBA AI/IP/PRIVACY LAW SECTION AND THE UoL TECH LAW SOCIETY

Navigating the Intersection of Privacy, Data Protection and Intellectual Property: Legal and Practical Insights for 2026

Thursday, February 19 (Date tentative)

This inaugural program brings together leaders in privacy, data protection and intellectual property to explore the legal and operational challenges that will shape the year ahead. This seminar offers insight into the growing overlap between consumer privacy, technology and brand protection. Keynote speaker Douglas Swetnam, Section Chief of the Data Privacy and Identity Theft Unit in the Office of the Indiana Attorney General, will open the program with an in-depth look at the upcoming enforcement of the Indiana Consumer Data Protection Act and the compliance expectations that accompany it.

The seminar will also feature Julia McGuffey, Senior Director and Global Marketing Counsel at Papa John's International, Inc., who will address current intellectual property issues in marketing and advertising. Jonathan Sullivan of Texas Roadhouse will discuss the real-world difficulties of implementing comprehensive consumer privacy laws across large organizations, including operational constraints and coordination challenges. Additional sessions will be presented by Nicholas Godlove, Lead Global for Privacy, AI and Cybersecurity at Yum! Brands, Inc., and Kyle Miller, Partner at Dentons Bingham Greenebaum.

Speakers include: **Nicholas Godlove**, Yum! Brands, Inc.; **Ben Grissom**, **Julia R. McGuffey**, Papa John's International, Inc.; **Kyle W. Miller**, Dentons Bingham Greenebaum LLP; **Jonathan Sullivan**, Texas Roadhouse, Inc.; and **Douglas S. Swetnam**, Office of the Indiana Attorney General and more to be announced.

Time: 9 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. — Program
Place: Bar Center
Price: \$225 LBA Member | \$202.50 Sustaining Member | \$25 Paralegal Member | \$15 for qualifying YLS Member | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Member | \$112.50 Government or Non-Profit Member | \$300 Non-member
Credits: 5.0 CLE Hours — Pending with KBA; IAPP CPE Hours: 5 (eligible)

35TH ANNUAL SKAGGS SLYN REVELL DOMESTIC RELATIONS UPDATE


Friday, February 6

Speakers will address decisions the Kentucky Supreme Court and the Kentucky Court of Appeals handed down during the 2025 calendar year. A panel discussion will follow the presentations, as time permits.

Speakers: Lynch, Cox, Gilman & Goodman attorneys **Emily T. Cecconi**, **Nathan R. Hardymon** and **Elizabeth M. Howell**


Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Hybrid – Bar Center or Zoom
Price: \$90 LBA Member
 \$81 Sustaining Member
 \$15 Paralegal Member or qualifying YLS Member
 \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Member
 \$45 Government or Non-Profit Member
 \$180 Non-member
 (Add \$18 for lunch)
Credits: 2.0 CLE Hours — Pending with the KBA

Cancellations: Must be received by LBA at least 24 hours in advance for a refund (minus \$10 processing fee). Substitutes allowed (except special events). Technology issues: User error does not qualify for a refund for LIVE webinars. Recordings are NOT included with registration. Separate fees apply for accessing past recordings through the LBA On-Demand Catalog. Please note: Live and on-demand CLE programs have different KBA accreditation requirements. All credit card payments are subject to a 3% processing fee.




LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION
AI/IP/PRIVACY LAW SECTION

co-hosted with



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
BRANDEIS SCHOOL OF LAW
TECHNOLOGY LAW SOCIETY




INAUGURAL PRIVACY AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SUMMIT

“Navigating the Intersection of Privacy, Data Protection and Intellectual Property: Legal and Practical Insights for 2026”

Thursday
February 19

9:00 am - 3:15 pm

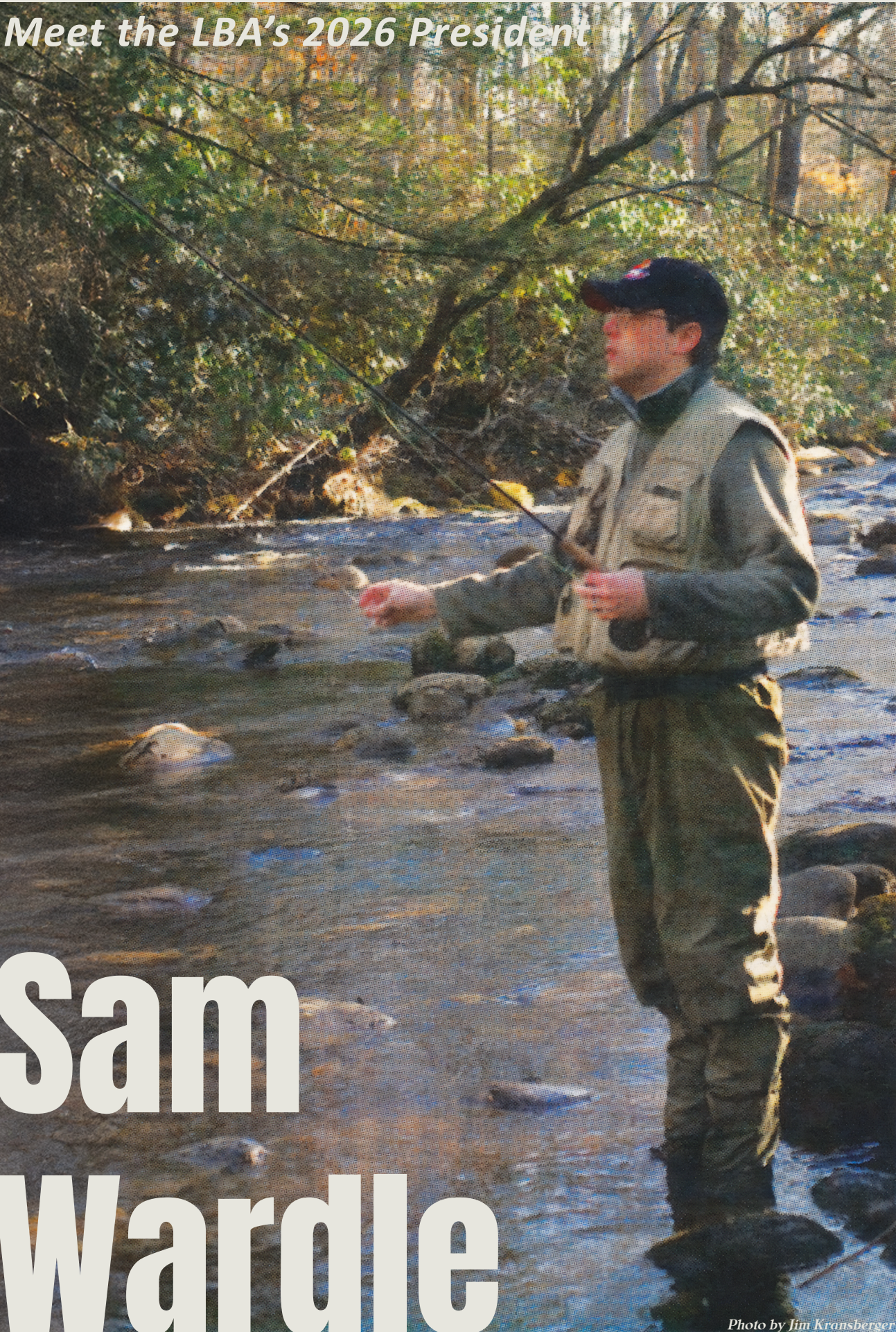
Register Now!



www.loubar.org

Location
600 W. Main St., Ste. 110
Louisville, KY 40202

Featuring keynote speaker Douglas Swetnam, Section Chief of the Data Privacy and Identity Theft Unit in the Office of the Indiana Attorney General, this inaugural program brings privacy, data protection and intellectual property leaders together for a practical look at the issues that will define 2026.



Meet the LBA's 2026 President

Sam Wardle

Photo by Jim Kronsberger

Early Years

Tell me about your childhood – where did you grow up?

I grew up in Wilmore, Kentucky, the “holy city,” known for being the home of Asbury College and Seminary and having the most churches per capita in the state.

Do you have siblings?

I have three sisters, two older and one younger.

Did you have any childhood interests or hobbies?

My main lifelong hobbies have been reading and fishing, since early childhood. I took up fly fishing when I was 18 and have been doing it obsessively ever since. As a reader, I’ve always loved noir mysteries, and my favorite writers are Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett.

What was appealing to you about your school, and what was your college experience like?

I graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill’s School of Journalism and Media. UNC is an amazing school academically, and I had some incredible teachers there. Louisville and Kentucky basketball fans may not appreciate it, but I loved the UNC/Duke basketball rivalry and the atmosphere of those games.

(Continued on next page)

Legal Beginnings

Did you always know you wanted to be a lawyer? If so, what brought you to that conclusion? If not, when and why did you decide to pursue a career in law?

Absolutely not. I wanted to be a writer, so I pursued a career in journalism. I only began encountering lawyers as a local newspaper reporter—it seemed like every city council, zoning board or nonprofit had at least a few attorneys hanging around. I became intrigued by the leadership role that lawyers played in all kinds of governmental agencies, nonprofits and businesses. Meanwhile, the newspaper industry was collapsing. So, it just seemed like a no-brainer to try out the law.

What was your law school experience like?

I went to law school at the University of Miami in Florida, and I had a phenomenal experience there. My professors were excellent and I made a ton of lasting friendships with classmates. I found the subject matter fascinating. And of course, it was fun studying in a place where the coldest “winter” days are in the mid-70s.

Career Today

Who would you consider to be some of your mentors in the Louisville legal community?

I didn’t attend college or law school in Louisville, and I moved back here with my wife in 2016 after working several years in Miami, Florida. Since then, I have been incredibly fortunate to have worked at two great Louisville firms, Middleton Reutlinger and Frost Brown Todd, with some of the best lawyers in the state. At Middleton, I learned a lot from working with Rebecca Jennings and Libby Gray, and at Frost Brown Todd, I have a huge list of mentors who’ve invested in me and my career: Steve Crawford, John Crockett, Chris Johnson, Chris Robinson, Chris Burnside, Kendrick Wells, Casey Hensely, Corey Skolnick, Tom O’Brien, Peter Cummins, Doug Langdon, Theresa Canaday and many others have all helped me grow and improve as a lawyer.

What do you think most people misunderstand about being an attorney?

Lawyers are often portrayed in the media as being unscrupulous and dishonest—I think of one of the opening scenes of the show “Suits,” where Harvey Specter bullies a client into accepting a settlement by lying about the terms of his firm’s engagement letter. This is probably how a lot of people think of lawyers behaving, but the huge majority of lawyers I’ve encountered are extremely careful to be honest and forthright.

Bar Association

Why did you decide to get involved in the LBA?

Initially, I got involved with the LBA because I didn’t go to law school here and wanted to get plugged in with the legal community. I’ve stayed involved because of the people I’ve met and because I’ve seen how important the LBA is to Louisville and to attorneys in Louisville.

What do you think are the top benefits of being an LBA member?

Hands down, it’s the community. There are a lot of great nonprofit organizations in town, but the LBA is the only one that regularly brings together attorneys from across the spectrum, from criminal defense, civil, corporate, in-house, judicial, government agencies and any other practice area you can imagine. The LBA is where lawyers can come and make lasting, meaningful relationships with attorneys they might otherwise never meet—or that they might only meet as adversaries.

What are some of your goals for your year as President of the LBA?

I’m fortunate that the LBA is already strong due to a series of excellent presidents including Maria Fernandez, Bryan Armstrong, Kate Crosby and Seth Gladstein, who have all worked tirelessly to move the LBA forward. We’ve also benefited in recent years from the hard work of an excellent and committed staff as well as a dynamic executive director in Kristen Miller. The pandemic created many new challenges for membership organizations like the LBA, and I’ve witnessed Kristen, the LBA staff and past leaders shepherd us through those and position the LBA to be even stronger than it was before. My primary goal is simply to keep us moving on the right track, providing meaningful and impactful support for our members and continuing to promote the LBA’s core mission of promoting justice in Jefferson County.

What are you most excited about as you begin your year as the LBA’s leader?

I’m most excited to just have the chance to keep engaging in and supporting the local legal community. That’s what the LBA is all about.

What do you think are the LBA’s greatest strengths?

What are our biggest challenges?

The LBA’s greatest strengths are its members and the dedicated staff who work day in, day out to support the members. Our biggest challenge in the year ahead is continuing to foster and develop the Louisville legal community in the era of remote work and Zoom meetings.

Personal Interests

Tell me more about your family.

I’m the least interesting person in my family. Before we had kids, my wife, Janna, was a pastry chef and worked at some of the best restaurants and hotel properties in the world, including the Four Seasons, Blackberry Farms and BLT Steak on South Beach. Now she’s an artist who makes intricate paintings and multimedia pieces. My son, Henry, is 12 years old and loves science fiction and weird facts. My daughter, Clara May, is a 9-year-old budding fashion designer and musician.

What do you like to do in your free time?

My lifelong passion is fly-fishing, but I don’t have as much time to do it as I’d like. These days, if I’m not fishing, I’m spending time with my kids, reading mysteries or playing guitar.

What community organizations do you support or volunteer with?

Why are they important to you?

In recent years, I’ve devoted a lot of time to pro bono representation of petitioners for asylum in the United States. Our immigration system is utterly broken, and one consequence of that is a completely dysfunctional asylum system that does not always recognize people who have a real, viable basis to claim asylum in the United States. My proudest moment in this field came in 2024, when a team of us at Frost Brown Todd won a precedent-setting Sixth Circuit appeal on behalf of our Honduran client. The resulting Sixth Circuit order was the first in the Sixth Circuit that recognized single mothers as a potentially protected class of people.

If you weren’t an attorney, what other career path do you think you might have pursued?

Journalism. I worked as a newspaper reporter for several years before going to law school, and I would still be doing that if it wasn’t for the unfortunate collapse of the local news industry. I loved the fast-paced, intense environment of working at a paper, and I loved the sense of doing something different every day, and of doing work that felt directly impactful.

What’s something not a lot of people know about you?

I was born in Mexico. My parents were Bible translators for Wycliffe, a missionary organization, and spent a number of years in Mexico working to translate the New Testament into an indigenous language. We moved back to Kentucky when I was a toddler.

What’s your favorite movie – and your favorite guilty pleasure movie?

Same answer for both – “The Big Lebowski.” It’s the only movie I never tire of re-watching.

Are you a music fan? If so, what’s your favorite performer or band?

I mostly listen to jazz, and my very unoriginal favorite musician is Miles Davis.

What is your favorite restaurant in Louisville?

Wherever my kids want to eat.



125TH

We loved celebrating our 125th anniversary with you!

To the members of the Louisville legal community, thank you for joining us as we commemorated the Louisville Bar Association's 125th anniversary in 2025. This remarkable milestone stands as a testament to the strength of our shared history, the dedication and professionalism of generations of attorneys, judges and legal leaders, and the collective efforts that have shaped the practice of law in our city. For 125 years, the Louisville Bar Association has upheld the highest standards of excellence, integrity and service, fostering a legal community grounded in respect for the rule of law and a commitment to justice. As we celebrate this historic occasion, we honor those who came before us, recognize those who serve today and reaffirm our enduring commitment to supporting our members and strengthening the legal profession for future generations.





Thursday March 5th 2026

Bench & Bar Social

Join us for the LBA's signature event—enjoy great music, delicious food, refreshing beverages and the company of friends and colleagues.

Details to follow.



THE LOUISVILLE BAR FOUNDATION



LBF ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2026

Gregory T. Dutton is the incoming president for the Louisville Bar Foundation for 2026. Greg is an environmental and energy lawyer with FBT Gibbons LLP and co-leads the firm's Renewables Energy Industry Team. Greg has represented heavy manufacturers and developers on environmental permitting and complex transactions involving contaminated property. His energy experience includes securing approval for Kentucky's first solar and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project sited on a reclaimed coal mine, which was discussed at length in a *New York Times* cover story, development and permitting strategy for numerous data centers, state and local permitting of Kentucky's first utility-scale wind project and permitting of Kentucky's first two standalone BESS projects. Greg was recently shortlisted by the Financial Times for Innovative Lawyers North America 2025 as an Innovative Lawyer in Infrastructure.

Other LBF Officers for 2026 include: Joseph C. Ventura, President-Elect; Nicole T. Cook, Vice President and Treasurer; Jennifer M. Barbour, Secretary; Sara V. Judd, Past President. In addition, three individuals will join the LBF Board of Directors: Hon. Yvette De La Guardia, Thomas R. Coffey and Chantell C. Foley.

2025: BY THE NUMBERS

2025 showed a record-breaking amount of grant funds awarded by the LBF in a single year:

\$203,794

Total funds awarded in 2025
(previous record was \$201,535 in 2024)

17

Number of grants awarded to non-profits

\$15,994

Amount of grant funds awarded to LBA for
programmatic activities

24

Number of firms and law departments that join
as Foundation Partners with 100% participation.

\$30K +

Amount in contributions to the endowment in
2025 made by Fellows' Pledges and gifts from
supportive lawyers and law firms.

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who have made this year a success. From our generous donors and dedicated Board of Directors to the grantees who do such inspiring work in the community — your contributions drive our accomplishments and show what an investment in justice can do. Thank you.

Please support the LBF in 2026! When you renew your LBA dues, please click the Donations Button to contribute \$45 as your investment in justice. Or visit <https://www.loubar.org/lbf-charitable-donations/> today.

DONATE



2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Foundation's grant awards in 2025 reach all corners of the community

The Louisville Bar Foundation awarded five additional grants in the final quarter of 2025, bringing the total amount of funds awarded this year to \$203,794. The Louisville Bar Foundation is the charitable giving arm of the Louisville Bar Association, and it makes grants to local not-for profit organizations for the delivery of legal services to the poor, improvement of the judiciary and law-related public education. Since its founding in 1982, the Foundation has distributed more than \$3.9 million in grant funds. The Foundation is supported by charitable contributions from individual attorneys and law firms.

KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES

Immigration Legal Services – \$15,000

Kentucky Refugee Ministries provides legal services to immigrants who have resettled in the Louisville area. Many of these immigrants need to file applications with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for permanent residence status or for necessary identity and background documents. The grant provides partial fee subsidies for immigrants who cannot afford to pay the entire cost of preparing and filing these documents. The fee subsidies will also be used to assist refugees and asylees filing to bring spouses and children to the United States, or applying for employment authorization or travel documents. Additional grant funds will help with interpretation services.

LA CASITA CENTER

Legal Outreach and Clinic Services – \$30,000

In addition to the numerous social, nutritional and cultural programs La Casita Center provides in the Latino immigrant community, it specifically conducts outreach to Latina women and families in need of legal services. Through its targeted outreach and legal clinics, participants receive help understanding the legal system, immigration issues, family law matters and other legal problems. LBF funds will support the Center's targeted outreach to the Latino community and the development of a pro bono attorney panel to assist program participants in understanding legal problems and how to resolve them.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Bright Futures Legal Project – \$10,000

Legal Aid Society's Bright Futures Legal Project (BFLP) helps children in our service area living in poverty. By resolving legal problems that threaten a family's housing, personal safety, job readiness and financial stability, Legal Aid Society ensures Kentucky's children have the energy and room to prosper. A safe, stable, secure environment free of adverse childhood experiences ensures all children can thrive. Legal Aid's attorneys and paralegals serve more than 2,000 families with children each year. In 2024, the Brighter Futures Legal Project provided legal help to 2,153 Kentucky families, including 4,439 children.

(Continued on next page)



(Continued from previous page)

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Greenwald Family Legal Aid Internship Program – \$2,000

The Greenwald Family Legal Aid Internship Fund at the LBF is a memorial fund to honor Murray J. Greenwald, Peggy Hirsch Greenwald, and Brooke Greenwald Cohen. Each year the Fund provides a stipend for a University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law student to work at the Legal Aid Society and to be educated on the practical aspects of the law. The goal of the internship is not only to provide needed support for the program, but is a meaningful way that the Greenwald family can pass on their passion for public service to the next generation of lawyers.

LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Leadership Academy Program – \$10,994

The LBA's Leadership Academy equips mid-career attorneys with tools to strengthen their leadership and communication skills, build professional networks and increase their involvement in community service. Over six months, participants take part in structured learning sessions that focus on measurable growth in leadership and collaboration. Graduates give back through volunteer work with bar committees, pro bono service and nonprofit boards. Many step into leadership roles within their firm, organizations, the LBA or the community, extending the reach and impact of the program. The LBA's Leadership Academy creates a lasting pipeline of ethical, inclusive and community-minded leaders who will strengthen the legal profession and contribute to Louisville's vitality. The grant from the LBF will fund scholarships for practitioners or others who otherwise cannot afford the full tuition. The LBF's grant also provides in-kind donations of professional speakers and facilities.



RETIRED JUDGE
TARA HAGERTY
FAMILY LAW MEDIATION

JUDGETARAHAGERTY@GMAIL.COM
TARAHAGERTY.COM • 502.558.7991



Judge Hugh
Smith Haynie
(ret.)

HAYNIE & REYNOLDS

FAMILY LAW MEDIATION

- ✓ *Co-mediators specializing in the most complex divorce and custody cases*
- ✓ *No charge for preparation of your case*
- ✓ *We will simultaneously draft the agreement for you, saving you and your clients time and money*



Rebecca C.
Reynolds

FOR SCHEDULING, PLEASE CONTACT HAYNIEMEDIATION@GMAIL.COM,
OR CALL (502) 354-5049.

Raising the Bar in Real Estate Performance.

Excellence You Can See. Results You Can Feel.



SCAN FOR LISTINGS

Laura Rice & Associates
502.595.8450
lra@lsir.com
lauramovesyou.com

Lenihan | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

©2025 Lenihan Real Estate, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Sotheby's International Realty® and the Sotheby's International Realty Logo are service marks licensed to Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC and used with permission. Lenihan Real Estate, LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each franchise is independently owned and operated. Any services or products provided by independently owned and operated franchisees are not provided by, affiliated with or related to Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC nor any of its affiliated companies.



BOX OF THANKS

Barnes Maloney

Tricia Lister

Blackburn Domene & Burchett

Louisville Paralegal Association

Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

Kristen Miller

DBL Law

Moore Law Group

Dinsmore & Shohl

Elizabeth Mosley

Don K. Brown, PSC

O'Bryan Brown Toner

DPA Louisville Trial Office

Michael O'Connell

Deborah Dye

Phillips Parker Orberon & Arnett

Maria Fernandez

Satterley & Kelley

Frost Brown Todd

Seiller Waterman

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani

Sparks Integrative Family Law

Melanie Jacobs

LaQuita Wornor



SUCH AN INCREDIBLE DISPLAY OF GENEROSITY!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Santa's Court Toy Drive. You truly embodied our organization's commitment to community service!

Because of your efforts, we have achieved a significant, measurable impact. Your donations helped The Salvation Army close a critical gap to ensure the holidays were bright for approximately 500 "unadopted" angels whose wishes risked going unanswered.

Throughout November, our office was flooded with Amazon packages. Staff had a blast opening the boxes, many which were tailored for older children. It was awesome seeing your thoughtful contributions fill a specific and vital community need.

The Power of Giving: More than \$2,400 Raised!

Beyond the hundreds of fantastic toys collected, your financial support was outstanding. We raised more than \$2,400 this year! This funding ensures The Salvation Army has maximum flexibility to purchase any remaining items and truly complete every child's wish list.

This drive is a powerful example of what our professional organization can achieve when we focus our collective energy on service.

Thank you for making our public service programs thrive!



Real Estate & Auction Specialist

Providing Real Estate & Auction Services:

- Estate Liquidation
- Senior Living Transitions
- Divorce Property Settlements
- Business Liquidation
- Real and Personal Property Evaluation

Serving all of Kentucky and Indiana



Elizabeth Monarch
MBA, CAI, CRI
Auctioneer/Realtor
2023 KYR Realtor State President

Lonnie Gann
GRI, CAI
Auctioneer/Realtor



502.551.1286
auctionsolutionsllc.com

Talk to us about LEGAL MALPRACTICE

And learn why lawyers throughout Kentucky
refer their legal malpractice cases to
William F. McMurry & Associates, PLLC

Building referral relationships based on
confidence and trust.



William F. McMurry is **Board Certified as a Legal Malpractice Trial Specialists** by the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys (ABPLA.org).

The ABPLA is accredited by the ABA to certify specialist in the field of Legal Malpractice – SCR 3.130(7.40).

Email Bill@CourtroomLaw.com
Call 502-326-9000

William F. McMurry will personally handle each case while some services may be provided by others.

CLASSIFIEDS

Office Space

Attorney Office Space for Rent:
3339 Taylorsville Road at the Watterson Expressway near Bowman Field. Multiple large furnished offices and paralegal station. Access to large conference rooms, phone system, copy, fax, postage machine, and kitchen. Includes receptionist to receive clients, signage, and free parking in large lot. Call Rand Kruger @ 502-767-8882.

Services

QDRO Preparation and Processing for:
Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Plans. Military, Municipal, State and Federal Employee Plans. Qualified Medical Child Support Orders. Collection of past due Child Support and Maintenance. Charles R. Meers, 2300 Hurstbourne Village Drive, Suite 600, Louisville, KY 40299 Phone: 502-581-9700, Fax: 502-584-0439. E-mail: Charles@MeersLaw.com.
THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT

Advertising copy is carefully reviewed, but publication herein does not imply LBA endorsement of any product or service. The publisher reserves the right to reject any advertisement of questionable taste or exaggerated claims or which competes with LBA products, services or educational offerings.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Association of Legal Administrators

The monthly chapter meeting of the Kentucky Association of Legal Administrators will be held in person on Thursday, January 8, 2026, beginning at 11:45 am at FBT Gibbons LLP (400 W. Market St., Ste. 3200, Louisville, KY 40202.) Please RSVP by registering online at www.ky-ala.org. Any questions, please contact the Kentucky ALA Board at board@ky-ala.org. ■

MEMBERS
on the move



Roberts

Gwin Steinmetz & Baird, PLLC is very pleased to announce that **Savanna Roberts** has joined the firm's Long Term Care Practice Group. Roberts is a native of Louisville, Kentucky and a 2023 graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School. She is admitted to practice in Kentucky.



Jelsma

Bricker Graydon LLP and **Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP**, two leading regional law firms with deep roots in Ohio and Kentucky, have merged effective January 1, 2026. The combined firm, now known as **Bricker Graydon Wyatt LLP**, will unite more than 325 attorneys across 14 offices in four states, creating one of the largest and most comprehensive legal service providers in the region. **Franklin Jelsma**, Managing Partner of Wyatt, and **Chris McCloskey**, Managing Partner of Bricker Graydon, will remain in their roles once the firms merge. Both firms considered it critical to find a merger partner committed to maintaining a positive culture based on mutual respect and teamwork. Bricker Graydon and Wyatt have been fixtures in their respective communities for generations, filling leadership roles in the business community, making significant contributions in civic initiatives and providing meaningful pro bono legal services. The merger will broaden the firm's product offerings in key industries such as real estate, health care, energy, education and construction, while strengthening existing capabilities in litigation, M&A, estate planning and complex public sector representations. The combined firm will maintain all existing offices, spanning major markets including Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lexington, Louisville, Nashville, Memphis, Southeast Ohio and Southern Indiana. ■

McCloskey

What have you been up to lately?

Did you know that **Members on the Move** announcements are a member perk and free of charge? Let us know what you've been up to! Send announcements to Kim Kasey, kkasey@loubar.org.



LOUISVILLE BAR
ASSOCIATION
HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

WINTER WELLNESS
QUICK TIPS

- Go outside for 10 minutes of daylight each day
- Keep up with your main sleep schedule as much as possible
- Stay hydrated and include color fruits and vegetables
- Block time for movement
- Practice one act of gratitude each week

Feeling "off" in mood or energy? You are not alone! Seasonal changes affect many. Light exposure, routine and out-of-office time help.

JANUARY 2026

AWARENESS CALENDAR



- Mental Wellness Month
- National Mentoring Month
- No Name-Calling Week (Jan 20-24)
- International Mind-Body Wellness Day (1/3)
- Blue Monday (1/19)
- National Compliment Day (1/24)

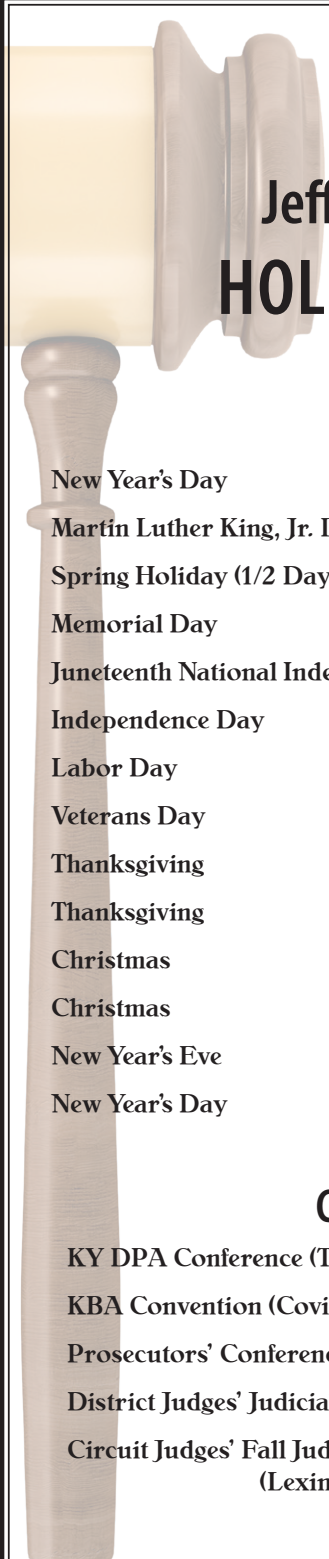
H
E
A
L
T
H
&
W
E
L
L
N
E
S
S

C
O
R
N
E
R



We're thrilled to continue our partnership with Elevate Fitness as an LBA Member Benefit!

Elevate Fitness offers LBA Members a 25% discount on bi-weekly rates.
Contact us at (502) 468-3059 or Chris@ElevateFitness502.com.



**Jefferson Trial Courts
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
2026**

New Year's Day	Thursday, January 1, 2026
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 19, 2026
Spring Holiday (1/2 Day)	Friday, April 3, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25, 2026
Juneteenth National Independence Day	Friday, June 19, 2026
Independence Day	Friday, July 3, 2026
Labor Day	Monday, September 7, 2026
Veterans Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 26, 2026
Thanksgiving	Friday, November 27, 2026
Christmas	Thursday, December 24, 2026
Christmas	Friday, December 25, 2026
New Year's Eve	Thursday, December 31, 2026
New Year's Day	Friday, January 1, 2027

Conference Schedule

KY DPA Conference (TBD)	(Tentative June 8 - 10, 2026)
KBA Convention (Covington, KY)	June 11 - 12, 2026
Prosecutors' Conference (Lexington, KY)	August 19 - 21, 2026
District Judges' Judicial College (TBD)	September 13 - 16, 2026
Circuit Judges' Fall Judicial College (Lexington, KY)	October 18 - 21, 2026

Retired Judges Mediation & Arbitration Services

Over A Century of Judicial Experience!

Let us put Judicial Experience to work for YOU
full mediation & arbitration service • reasonable hourly rates no administrative or advance fees

**AVAILABLE FOR VIDEO CONFERENCE
MEDIATIONS STATEWIDE**

P.O. Box 32274 • Louisville, KY 40232
(502) 721-9900 • Fax (888) 389-3559

Email: retiredjudges@twc.com

www.retiredjudgesmediation.com



Judge
Tom Knopf
(Ret)



Judge
Steve Ryan
(Ret)



Judge
Ann Shake
(Ret)



Judge
James M.
Shake (Ret)



Judge
Barry Willett
(Ret)



Judge
Charles L.
Cunningham,
Jr. (Ret)



Judge
Denise G.
Clayton (Ret)

This is an advertisement.