

September 24-25, 2025

Pineville/Main Street Community Center
708 Main Street
Pineville, LA 71360

2025 Parish Legal Horizons

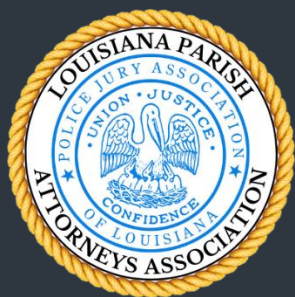
A Two-Day Workshop on Critical Legal Issues in Parish Governance
Sponsored by the Police Jury Association of Louisiana
and the Louisiana District Attorneys Association

A Workshop for Attorneys, Officials, and Employees of Parish Governing Bodies

This workshop will offer 14 hours of CLE for parish attorneys and education for officials and employees of parish governing bodies—all of those working on the front lines to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of parish governance.

Cost: \$150.00

**Includes
breakfast and
lunch on both
days!**



Louisiana District
Attorneys Association



Wednesday 9/24

7:30 – 8:15 a.m. Registration/Breakfast

8:15 – 8:30 a.m. Introductory Remarks

- Mayor Joe Bishop, Pineville
- Andy Shealy, LDAA
- Guy Cormier, PJAL

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Solar Facilities: Parish Regulation by Permitting, Planning, & Zoning

- The Hon. Robby Miller, President, Tangipahoa Parish Government
- The Hon. Chester Cedars, former Parish President, ADA Counsel for St. Martin Parish Government
- Dr. Terrence Chambers, Professor, ULL

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Mining for Success: Navigating Cryptocurrency and Data Center Regulations for Sustainable Parish Development

- Matt Kappel, Kappel Law Firm

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Property Tax Limbo: Understanding Louisiana's 2024 Overhaul of Adjudicated Property and Tax Law

- Wesley Johnson, E&P Consulting, LLC

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Taming the Blight: Authority to Enact and Enforcement of Nuisance Ordinances

- Jean-Paul Robert, ADA representing Ascension Parish Government

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Public Bid Law and Other Procurement Strategies for Parishes: Defensible Positions

- Angel L. Byrum, ADA representing St. Tammany Parish Government
- Director of STPG Department of Procurement

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 – 4:15 p.m. The Law and Process Regarding Boards of Review to Appeal a Property Tax Assessment

- Brian Eddington, Executive Counsel, Assessor's Association
- The Honorable Wendy Curphy Aguillard, Assessor, Calcasieu Parish

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. AI in Action: Optimization of Your Work Balanced with the Public Records Law and Other Public Entity Issues

- Karen Day White Drago

Where to Stay

Country Inn & Suites
2727 Monroe Highway
#165
Pineville, LA 71360
318-641-8332

Group No. MG86T6
Group Name: Parish Legal
Horizons Workshop –
LDAA & PJAL

Room Rates: \$80/\$100
Arrival Date Tuesday, 9/23
Departure Date Thursday, 9/25

Many thanks to **Mayor Joe
Bishop and the City of
Pineville** for providing such
an excellent venue!



A huge shoutout to the
amazing staff (Guy, Melanie,
Cobi, Candace, Sunny, &
Lily) at the Police Jury
Association—you're basically
the duct tape of parish
governance advocacy:
Thanks for keeping us all
stuck—I mean, connected—
in the best way possible!



Thursday 9/25

7:30 – 8:00 Breakfast

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Mechanics of Attorney General Opinion Requests

- Office of the Louisiana Attorney General

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Ethical and Practical Conflicts of ADA Representation of Parishes

- The Hon. Chester Cedars, former Parish President, former ADA Counsel for St. Martin Parish Government

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. City Limits: Legal Ramifications to Parishes of Expanding, Contracting, and Dissolving Municipal Boundaries

- Michael D. Hebert, Attorney, Lafayette Consolidated Government

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Mastering Dispositive Motions: Strategies for Winning Before Trial

- Chief Judge Laurie Reis Brister, 6th JDC (pending)
- Judge Loren Lampert, 9th JDC
- Judge Jason M. Verdigets, 23rd JDC
- Judge William H. Burris, 22nd JDC (pending)

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 – 2:15 p.m. Clearing the Path: Demystifying Utilities in the Public Right of Way and Franchise Agreements

- Commissioner Jean-Paul Coussan, Public Service Commission

2:15: – 3:15 p.m. From Illegal to Legal: The Court Ruling that Rewards Illegal Lot Owners and Undermines Local Power

- Patrick Jackson, Parish Attorney for

Bossier Parish Police Jury/ADA

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Roundtable Discussion: Bring Your Current Burning Issues for the Group to Discuss

- If you can, please submit your burning issues by September 17, 2025 so that a list can be compiled and disseminated to attendees.

FAREWELL, AND THANK YOU FOR
WORKING TO MAKE PARISH GOVERNING
BODIES BETTER

Click [HERE](#) to
Register for
LDAA/PJAL
CLE/Workshop
Or Scan the QR
Code Below



Rapides Parish
Police Jury Offices
& Courthouse

The Honorable Wendy Curphy Aquillard, CLA,

started working at the Calcasieu Parish Assessor's office in 1996 and has served as Assessor since 2011. She has served on the Louisiana Assessor's Association Board, and was named Assessor of the Year in 2015. [Calcasieu Assessor Website](#).

Chief Judge Laurie Reis

Brister was sworn in March 8, 2019 to the 6th JDC. Her myriad activities and accomplishments show her commitment to public service. [Judge Brister's Bio](#).

Judge William H. Burris is a District Judge for the 22nd Judicial District Court. He's a Franklinton native, former attorney, community leader, Eagle Scout, and ordained deacon at First Baptist Church. [Judge Burris Bio](#).

Angel Byrum has represented St. Tammany Parish Government for 10 years as a public servant either as an ADA or as a Parish Attorney. Prior to that, she represented public entities in her private practice.

Chester Cedars has 48+ years of legal experience, representing public entities, serving as Assistant District Attorney, Parish President, and holding key state roles. He has an AV Rating with Martindale-Hubbell. [Chester Cedars Bio](#).

Dr. Terrence L. Chambers, expert in solar and renewable energy and Professor at ULL, leads research on energy efficiency, optimization, and sustainable engineering solutions. [Dr. Chambers Bio](#).

OUR SPEAKERS

Commissioner Jean-Paul

Coussan is a partner with Andrus Boudreaux-Complete Title and a Commissioner with the Public Service Commission (2025). He has practiced law since 2004. He served two terms in the State House of Representatives and a partial term in the State Senate. He was elected to the PSC. [Comm. Coussan Bio](#).

Brian Eddington is General Counsel for the Assessor's Association. He has practiced law for more than 30 years and is AV rated with Martindale-Hubbell. He represents myriad assessors in litigation before the Louisiana Tax Commission and our courts. [LA Assessors Association](#).

Michael D. Hebert, co-managing member of Becker & Hebert, has over 30 years of experience in business, government, and litigation. [Michael Hebert Bio](#).

Patrick R. Jackson serves as the chief legal advisor to the Bossier Parish Police Jury, the Parish Administrator and all offices, departments and agencies of the Parish of Bossier, including Bossier Parish fire districts, libraries, public health, Section 8, EMS, and is an ADA with the 26th Judicial District Attorney's Office. [Patrick Jackson Bio](#).

Wesley Eby Johnson, owner of E & P Consulting, specializes in adjudicated property sales, community engagement, and educational programs addressing blighted properties statewide. [E&P Consulting Website](#).

Matt Kappell is a highly rated South Carolina attorney with 18+ years of experience, is extremely knowledgeable in cryptocurrency and data mining regulations for local government. [Matt Kappell Bio](#).

Judge Loren Lampert was elected to the 9th JDC in March 2024. Before then, he was the Executive Director of the LDAA, and has been a prosecutor since 1997. [Judge Lampert Bio](#).

President Robby Miller, Tangipahoa Parish President since 2016, is a business owner and leader focused on government efficiency, regional development, and community service. [Robby Miller TPG Webpage](#).

Jean-Paul Robert is an ADA and In-House Counsel for Ascension Parish Government. He has practiced law for more than 20 years. [APG Legal Department](#).

Judge Jason M. Verdigets a Gonzales resident, LSU graduate, former prosecutor, and elected judge to the 23rd JDC since 2015, actively participates in legal education and community organizations. [Judge Verdigets' Bio](#).

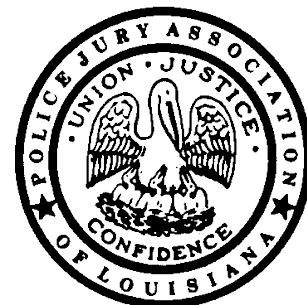
Karen White has practiced law since 1998. She worked for the LMA from 2004-2023. She was an Assistant AG prior to that; currently, she is a consultant, offering her lobbying and legal consulting expertise to local government.

Join the LPAA!

Any attorney who represents parish governing bodies is eligible to become a member of the LPAA.

Go to [THIS LINK](#) and create a profile on the Police Jury Association's membership page using the registration information (social profile information is unnecessary). There is no cost to register as a member.

*****In the "Parish Government Title" section, please click "Parish Attorney." Under the "Groups" tab, please Request an Invite from the Louisiana Parish Attorneys Association. ****



2025 PJAL Annual Convention CLE

February 13, 2025