

ANNUAL UAC SEMINAR
LOUISIANA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION



***August 27 - 28, 2026
Covington, LA***

AGENDA
Subject to Change

Day 1 (Thursday, August 27)

8:00 – 4:00 REGISTRATION

8:30 -8:45 WELCOME

Ms. Leone Fitzgerald, 2025-2026 President of the LDAA Victims Assistance Coordinators Board
Director, Victims Assistance Program, 1st Judicial District, Shreveport, LA
Ms. Wanjennia Atkins, Administrative Director/Victim Services Coordinator
Louisiana District Attorneys Association; Baton Rouge, LA
Ms. Katie LeLeux, Victim Services Attorney
Louisiana District Attorneys Association; Baton Rouge, LA

8:45 – 9:50 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Join us as we discuss the eventful 2026 Legislative Session. This session will update you on relevant changes in the law and give a preview of what is in store for next year.
Ms. Katie LeLeux, Victim Services Attorney
Louisiana District Attorneys Association; Baton Rouge, LA
Ms. Jacqueline Sanchez, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor
Louisiana District Attorneys Association; Baton Rouge, LA

9:50 – 10:00 BREAK

10:00 – 11:00 PARDON & PAROLE BOARD

This session will provide an update on several laws surrounding the composition of the Board and how those laws are being implemented.
Mr. Francis Abbott, Executive Director
Louisiana Board of Pardons & Committee on Parole; Baton Rouge, LA

11:00 – 11:15 BREAK

11:15 – 12:15 HOSPITAL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION: THE PROTECT AND VITALS PROGRAMS

This presentation will highlight Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport's PROTECT and VITALS hospital-based violence intervention programs. Attendees will learn how these programs provide trauma-informed support and resources to patients affected

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by violence while also engaging at-risk communities through outreach, education, and prevention efforts before violence occurs.

Ms. Amy Reeves, Injury Prevention Coordinator – Trauma Services
Ochsner/LSU Health Shreveport; Shreveport, LA

Dr. Sanaz Niknam Leilabadi, MD FACS
Ochsner/LSU Health Shreveport; Shreveport, LA

12:15 – 1:30

LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:30 – 3:00

IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO STALKING

Stalking is a prevalent, dangerous, and often misunderstood crime. This session explores the dynamics of stalking, focusing on the highly contextual nature of the crime by discussing common tactics used by perpetrators and the co-occurrence of stalking with domestic and sexual violence, as well as tools to plan for victim safety and hold offenders accountable.

Ms. Natalie Ivey, Training and Criminal Justice Specialist
Stalking Prevention, Awareness, and Resource Center (SPARC);
Washington, DC

3:00 – 3:15

BREAK

3:15 – 4:15

COMINGS AND GOINGS; UNDERSTANDING VICTIMS AND BATTERERS

This session will provide a better understanding of why women might choose to remain in or return to an abusive relationship, the complexities of battering relationships, and the court's role in providing needed resources to victims and their children.

Honorable Amanda C. Calogero, Juvenile Judge
Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court, LA

Ms. Mary Claire Landry, CEO of the New Orleans Family Justice Center &
HOPE Community Health Center; New Orleans, LA

4:15 – 5:00

VAC BOARD GENERAL MEETING

5:00

ADJOURN – *Enjoy your Evening!*

Day 2 (Friday, August 28)

8:30 – 9:30

**TRAFFICK JAM: UNDERSTANDING & PREVENTING
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

An updated look at human trafficking “trends” and what can be done to prevent it and to assist those who have fallen victim to the crime.

Ms. Laurie McGehee, Executive Director

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The FREE Coalition to End Human Trafficking in Louisiana;
Shreveport, LA

9:30 – 9:45

BREAK

9:45 – 10:45

Beyond the Images: Understanding CSAM Offending and Contact Sexual Abuse

This session explores the relationship between Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) offending and contact sexual abuse. Participants will examine child development, offender typologies, grooming strategies, and the lifelong impact of exploitation on victims, whether online or in person. This session emphasizes trauma-informed advocacy, effective collaboration with multidisciplinary partners, and strategies for supporting children and families throughout the investigative and recovery process.

Ms. Rachael Johnson, Child Youth Trafficking Care Coordinator

Gingerbread House Children's Advocacy Center; Shreveport, LA

Ms. Holly Tony, Director of Education

Gingerbread House Children's Advocacy Center; Shreveport, LA

10:45 – 11:00

BREAK

11:00 – 12:00

COMPASSION-LED MANAGEMENT

Explore how empathy and accountability can work hand in hand to create healthier, more resilient teams. This session will highlight practical strategies for fostering trust, psychological safety, and stronger collaboration through compassionate leadership.

Ms. Heidi Irwin, Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Lafourche Parish District Attorney's Office; Thibodaux, LA

ADJOURN – SAFE TRAVELS!