

2026 North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar



September 11, 2026
Shreveport Bar Center

Sponsored by:



SHREVEPORT
BAR ASSOCIATION

Thank You 2026 Sponsors!



North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar
Sponsored by: The Shreveport Bar Association

KB | **KOSMITIS
BOND**
A Professional Law Corporation

**FISCHER
& PROCELL**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RK **RICE & KENDIG**
INJURY LAWYERS

 **MIRAMON LAW, INC.**
estate planning & probate

**Davidson | Summers | Hearne
Martin & Powell LLC**

Thanks For Your Valuable Contribution!

The planners and speakers of the SBA 2026 North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar are volunteers. Their gift of time and talent make this event successful. We acknowledge and greatly appreciate their work.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Sam Crichton

Honorable Verity Gentry

Sarah R. Giglio

Katherine Gilmer

Sarah Giglio

Honorable Donald E. Hathaway, Jr.

Charles “Pete” Kammer

Honorable Brady O’Callaghan

Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth Reeg

Sarah E. Smith

Honorable Chris Victory



2026 North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Sam Crichton is an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana. Prior to his role for the Western District of Louisiana, he was an Assistant District Attorney for the 1st Judicial District and Orleans Parish.

Honorable Verity Gentry serves as sole District Judge of the 11th Judicial District Court in Sabine Parish, Louisiana. She presides over criminal, civil, domestic, juvenile, and other district court matters. Before taking the bench, Judge Gentry spent more than a decade in litigation practice. She began her legal career with Orleans Public Defenders, where she represented indigent defendants in matters ranging from misdemeanors to serious felony prosecutions and tried more than 30 cases before judges and juries. She later practiced in Shreveport in criminal, personal injury, domestic, property, and other civil matters before founding the Law Office of Verity Gentry, where she represented clients in state and federal criminal cases throughout Louisiana. Judge Gentry earned her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, graduating in the top ten percent of her class as a William L. Crowe, Sr. Scholar. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Louisiana State University. Her prior professional service includes membership on the boards of Innocence Project New Orleans and the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. During her four years on the bench, Judge Gentry has focused on both the adjudication of cases and the modernization of court administration. She has transformed the Court's jury-management process into a fully digital system through a custom-built platform, overseen significant courthouse security improvements, and implemented numerous operational changes and creative solutions designed to improve the administration of justice. Those efforts have included improving processes related to issuance and service of protective orders, reducing and more effectively managing the Court's docket, establishing an Adult Drug Court program funded by the Louisiana Supreme Court, and creating a Pretrial Services program to monitor compliance with conditions of bond, funded through Sabine Parish Police Jury opioid-settlement funds. In 2026, the 11th Judicial District Court was selected as one of four rural courts to participate in a year-long technology and process-improvement initiative with the National Center for State Courts and Microsoft. Through that partnership, Judge Gentry and her court are working to identify and implement practical uses of technology and artificial intelligence to streamline workflows, improve court operations, strengthen accountability, and better serve the public.

Sarah R. Giglio graduated *magna cum laude*, from Texas A&M University and earned her Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law. Sarah began her career in criminal defense as an associate at Rosenthal & Wadas in McKinney, Texas, where she practiced until she moved to Shreveport. Once in Shreveport, she practiced at Elton Richey & Associates before opening Gilmer & Giglio in 2017. Sarah is licensed to practice law in Louisiana and Texas. Sarah is a member of the National College for DUI Defense, the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Shreveport Bar Association, and the Booth-Politz Inn of Court. She was selected as a member of the 2016 Young Professionals Initiative 40 Under 40 class. She served as at the 2021-2022 President of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier, and she currently serves on the Sci-Port Board of Directors and she is looking forward to her role at Chairwoman of the 2025 Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl.

Katherine Gilmer graduated from the University of Tampa with a degree in criminology, and Louisiana State University with her law degree. Her entire career has centered around the criminal court system in one way or another: from college internships with the public defender's office in Hillsborough County, Florida, to the Shreveport City Prosecutor's Office as a young attorney. Since 2013, she has been in private

criminal defense practice and opened her own firm with law partner, Sarah Giglio, in 2017. She likes to refer to her practice areas as anything from traffic tickets to homicide.

Honorable Donald E. Hathaway, Jr. received his Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Louisiana State University in 1988 and graduated from the Louisiana State University Law School in 1991. Following law school, Mr. Hathaway clerked for Judge Henry Brown on the Second Circuit Court of Appeal, served as an Assistant District Attorney in Caddo Parish and as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana. Mr. Hathaway was elected to serve as Judge on the First Judicial Court in 2020 and began his term January 1, 2021.

Charles “Pete” Kammer graduated college from Louisiana Tech University and went straight to Law School at Mississippi College. In 1992, Sonny Huckabay and he started the law firm of Kammer & Huckabay. In 2024, he accepted a position at the Federal Public Defender's Office with the desire to exclusively practice Federal criminal law. He has lived in Shreveport for the last 34 years. He is married to Shelly Wagner Kammer who owns a successful Real Estate Firm. They have six children and 4 grandchildren. Shelly and he enjoy spending time on the lake and hanging out with their friends at the Shreveport Yacht Club. When they are not at the lake, they are traveling or spending time with their grandchildren. Additionally, if he mentions that his wife is amazing, he will receive bonus points.

Honorable Brady O’Callaghan received his B.A. with honors in philosophy from Yale University and his J.D. from LSU Law School. He was the 1996 write on member of the Louisiana Law Review. He spent 2 years in general civil practice in Baton Rouge and 12 years as an assistant district attorney in New Orleans and Shreveport, prosecuting numerous murders and sex crimes. He tried nearly 100 jury trials and argued multiple cases to the Second Circuit Court of Appeal and the Louisiana Supreme Court. Judge O’Callaghan was elected in 2013 as a District Judge for the First Judicial District Court and has served on the criminal, family, and civil benches. He is a Past President of the Louisiana District Judges Association and past Chair of the Louisiana Judiciary Commission. He has served as an instructor for the trial advocacy program at LSU Law School since 2018. Judge O’Callaghan has also lectured to the bar, the judiciary, civic organizations, child advocates, law enforcement, and students on topics including judicial ethics, criminal constitutional law, jury selection, civics, and capital litigation.

Seth Reeg is the Deputy Criminal Chief for the Shreveport Criminal Division in the United States Attorney’s Office here in the Western District of Louisiana. Prior to that, he was the Senior Litigation Counsel and an Assistant United States Attorney focused on white collar crime. A native of Ruston, Seth attended Louisiana College for undergraduate and the University of Alabama School of Law for postgraduate. When not working, he can often be found attending sporting events for his two daughters at C.E. Byrd High School and Caddo Magnet High School. Alternatively, he also enjoys being outdoors and spends many mornings running throughout the South Highlands neighborhood.

Sarah E. Smith is originally from Shreveport, a 2002 graduate of Caddo Magnet High School and 2006 graduate of Centenary College. Sarah Finished Tulane Law School in 2009 and moved back to Shreveport to practice civil litigation at Ayres, Warren, Shelton, & Williams. After discovering a passion for criminal defense, she went to work for the Caddo Parish Public Defender’s Office followed by a short stint as a prosecutor with the Shreveport City Attorney’s Office. In 2016 Sarah started a solo practice focusing primarily on criminal defense. Over the past ten years she has represented criminal defendants in Caddo, Bossier, Desoto, Webster, Jackson, Claiborne, Lincoln, Ouachita, and Sabine Parishes. She currently handles all of the Life without Parole defense for the

Bossier Parish Public Defender's Office. When Sarah's not in court she enjoys, travelling, exercising, spending time with her spouse and two small children, and reading science fiction.

Honorable Chris Victory was born in Shreveport where he attended Caddo Parish public schools, thereafter, obtained his bachelor's degree in political science from Oklahoma Baptist University, and obtained his Juris Doctor degree from LSU Law Center. He returned home to Shreveport and practiced law for twelve years at the firm of Seabaugh, Joffrion, Sepulvado and Victory, largely in the areas of civil litigation, corporate law, and oil and gas. He was elected in 2020 to the First Judicial District Court where he has presided in criminal court for the duration of his service as a judge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar Shreveport Bar Association

Please return to the meeting room promptly following lunch and breaks so the program can stay on schedule.

An evaluation form printed on colored paper will be given to you at registration. Please complete the form and leave it at the registration desk before leaving the seminar. Your input is important to us in evaluating our program and planning future programs.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING MCLE FORMS

Louisiana Course #0201260911

6.50 Total Credit Hours

Including Ethics (1 Hour), Professionalism (1.25 Hours)

Please follow the instructions outlined below in completing the form:

- **Use a No. 2 Pencil to complete the form. Pencils are provided at your table.**
- **Enter your bar roll number** in the designated place and blacken the space that corresponds to each digit. If you have a 4-digit number, include "0" as the first digit. If you do not know your number and you are not a member of the Shreveport Bar Association, you must obtain your bar number from either your office or by contacting the LSBA (1-800-421-5722). Your course attendance form cannot be submitted without your bar number.
- **Enter the number of credit hours** for the portion of the seminar that **you attended**. In Louisiana, 1.0 hour of credit is awarded for each 60-minute presentation.
- **Print your Name and Program Title** (e.g., 2026 North Louisiana Criminal Law Seminar) in the space provided. Putting the course number on that portion of your Louisiana course attendance form to be submitted to the LSBA isn't necessary. The Louisiana course number can be found at the top of this instruction page.
- **Sign and Date** the form. You may keep the stub for your records.
- **Leave the form in the designated box at the registration desk at the end of your attendance at the seminar.** The sponsor of the seminar (Shreveport Bar Association) must forward all course attendance forms. Course attendance forms submitted by individuals to the LSBA will not be accepted.