

ONES TO WATCH | Law



Schudmak

the LSBA CLE Committee. He was selected for the 2011 and 2017 CityBusiness Leadership in Law Award, recognized with an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale-Hubbell; Best Lawyers in America, mass torts litigation, 2012-2018; certified litigation management professional; fellow, College of Commercial Arbitrators; and fellow - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, International Arbitration & Mediation Center - London, England, among others. He received his bachelor of arts degree and juris doctor from Loyola University and was a member of the Moot Court Board.

**Shaundra Schudmak
shareholder**

Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard

An experienced litigation attorney, Shaundra Schudmak was recently named a shareholder in the firm where she manages every aspect of the claims and litigation process. Her practice focuses on several areas including insurance coverage, bad faith claims, uninsured and underinsured motorist claims, commercial litigation, general liability coverage, employment law and construction defect liability coverage.

In recognition of her professional achievements, Schudmak was selected for membership in the invitation-only Claims and Litigation Management Alliance. She has been named to the Louisiana Super Lawyers' Rising Stars list for the past three years in the field of insurance coverage and has been recognized for her legal and ethical ability with an AV-Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell. Schudmak earned her juris doctor from LSU and is admitted to practice in both Louisiana and Georgia.

**Magdalen Blessey Bickford
member**

McGlinchey Stafford PLLC

Magdalen Bickford represents management and employers in labor and employment litigation. She consults with employers of all sizes and industries on best practices in the workplace, provides guidance on policy and procedure drafting and implementation, provides management training and education and provides other general legal counsel. Bickford has litigated and advised counsel extensively in all areas of labor and employment law. She has successfully appeared in numerous courts and administrative agencies on behalf of management in several states, as well as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and



Bickford

National Labor Relations Board. She has been on the forefront of labor issues in Louisiana charter schools in both union elections and collective bargaining. As a former in-house counsel and vice president of human resources, Bickford brings a keen understanding to the needs of her business and education clients.

Bickford is a speaker both locally and nationally on issues relating to employer responsibilities in union matters, handbooks, best practices for creating and maintaining successful human resources teams and litigation avoidance in discrimination, harassment, wage and hour compliance, paid leave issues including the ADA and FMLA and other state and federal employment law issues. She is actively involved in several philanthropic and community issues and has served on many nonprofit boards of directors. She has received the CityBusiness Leadership in Law award (2017); CityBusiness Women of the Year award (2009); Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated Lawyer; The Best Lawyers in America (labor law - management), 2013-2018; Chambers USA / Louisiana, labor & employment; and Louisiana Super Lawyers (employment & labor), 2014-2015, 2018. After attending LSU for a period, she received both her undergraduate and law degrees from Loyola University.

**Beaux Jones
associate**

Baldwin Haspel Burke & Mayer LLC

Beaux Jones joined Baldwin Haspel Burke & Mayer in 2017 as an associate after working for six years as an assistant attorney general for the Louisiana Department of Justice, eventually serving as the environmental section chief. While with the state, he advised and represented numerous state agencies, including the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Office of Conservation, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. Jones has argued cases at every level of state and federal court in Louisiana. He has also handled matters before the U.S. 6th Circuit and the D.C. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

Jones is licensed to practice in both Louisiana and Texas and his legal practice is based in litigation and administrative matters, focusing on environmental, coastal, and oil and gas law. He authors the firm's environmental law updates, which provide discussions on Louisiana and federal



Jones



Tafaro

court decisions and legislative developments concerning environmental-related matters. He has also published articles in various trade journals and presents at numerous conferences and meetings each year.

Jones is a former fellow in the Loyola University Institute for Environmental Communication and currently serves as treasurer for the Louisiana State Bar Association - environmental section and as a member of the board of directors for the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana. He is a board member for New Orleans College Prep and was selected for the Youth Empowerment Project's 40 under 40 of 2018. He is also vice president of the Faubourg St. John Neighborhood Association. He received his juris doctor from LSU and his bachelor of arts degree from Davidson College.

**Lauren Tafaro
partner, New Orleans**
Adams and Reese LLP

Lauren Tafaro joined Adams and Reese in 2008 and has experience in insurance defense, toxic tort and personal injury litigation. Her labor and employment practice focuses on insured employment claims. She also has jury trial experience and has authored and argued successful dispositive motions and represented employers in administrative proceedings before state and federal agencies. In addition to her litigation experience, Tafaro has provided guidance and counseling to employers.

Tafaro serves on the firm's recruiting committee and the board of directors for Raintree Children and Family Services. She is also a member of the Louisiana State and Federal Bar Associations and participates in numerous professional organizations, including the American Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, Professional Liability Underwriting Society and Claims and Litigation Management Alliance. She obtained her bachelor's of science degree in psychology from LSU. Following her undergraduate studies, Tafaro relocated to New Orleans where she graduated from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, was recognized as a William L. Crowe Sr. Scholar and was a member of the Loyola Law Review.

WHO'S WATCHING YOU?

To submit your name or a colleague's for "Ones to Watch," contact Valerie Huntley at vhuntley@nopg.com or 293-9273.