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MISSION

The Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. (JLAP) serves the public, the Bar, and the profession by assisting on a confidential basis, lawyers or judges whose professional impairment may result from alcohol, drug abuse or mental illness.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The best news of all this Summer is that the profession's utilization of JLAP's totally confidential services is now at record levels. Behind the scenes, JLAP discretely assists hundreds of bar members (and their family members). In all these



MARK C. SURPRENANT

cases, people reached out voluntarily and there is absolutely no involvement whatsoever with discipline, bar admissions, or formal JLAP monitoring. And that is excellent news because when someone confidentially reaches out to JLAP for help <u>before</u> there is a problem with discipline, we all win!

JLAP continues to widen its clinical services to include all mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, and burnout, not just alcohol and drug issues. In addition, JLAP continues to refine its formal monitoring program to provide reliable outcomes for those who need to objectively prove their fitness to practice. Furthermore, JLAP has increased its on-campus services for law students.

JLAP is extremely grateful for the support it receives from virtually all corners of our profession, and JLAP is especially thankful in particular for the tireless efforts of JLAP's volunteer Board and Committee Members. Together we are all dedicated to saving lives and careers while also helping to protect the public.

Please help us spread the word: if you or someone you know needs help, reach out early and confidentially to JLAP!

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LAWYER SUPPORT GROUPS

The profession receives indispensable support from the 12-Step lawyer groups around the state. These groups provide an instrumental resource to lawyers and judges in recovery from alcoholism and addiction.

BATON ROUGE

Tuesdays at Noon
The City Club
355 North Blvd., Baton Rouge
Contact: Jim Clary, Jr. (225) 933-4578

Fridays at Noon O'Brien House 446 N 12th Street, Baton Rouge Contact: Keetsie Gunnels (225) 362-7040

LAFAYETTE

Wednesdays at Noon Guilbeau & Robideaux 106 West Congress Street, Lafayette Contacts: Jim Lambert (337) 261-3737 Tommy Guilbeau (337) 232-7240

NEW ORLEANS

Wednesdays at noon
P&G Restaurant
345 Baronne Street, New Orleans
(Private room in back of restaurant.)
Contact: Don Massey (504) 430-6276

SHREVEPORT

Tuesdays at noon
Highland Baptist Church
520 Olive Street, Shreveport
Contact: Steven Thomas (318) 465-7001

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



J.E. "BUDDY" STOCKWELL III

I am now in my seventh year as JLAP's executive director. It is impossible to overstate my gratitude for being able to serve the profession in this capacity. It is a privilege to support so many of my brothers and sisters in the legal profession (and to also

assist their family members as well).

I am also in my thirty-fourth year of continuous sobriety. Back in 1982, when my disease of alcoholism was at its zenith, it very nearly killed me. But luckily for me, when I reached out, the right helping hands sent me to state-of-the-art treatment at the time. I surrendered and cooperated. But for sheer luck, I would not have survived alcoholism.

Since that time, and for well over half of my life now, service work and helping others has been a significant component of my personal recovery. At JLAP we are all professionally dedicated to helping others who reach out to JLAP. We specialize in facilitating high-quality clinical options that are expected to render high success rates long-term for members of the legal profession and their families. JLAP's performance statistics indicate that goal is being met.

JLAP's most-pressing challenge today is increasing the profession's awareness, understanding, trust, and utilization of JLAP's totally confidential services that are delivered completely outside the scope of disciplinary referrals, bar admissions matters and court orders, etc.

You can help!

Please spread the word: if you or someone you know is suffering, encourage them to confidentially reach out proactively and early to JLAP. In each and every case, JLAP will reach back and do all it can to help!



JLAP'S CONFIDENTIAL CASES EXCEED JLAP FORMAL MONITORING CASES 5 TO 1

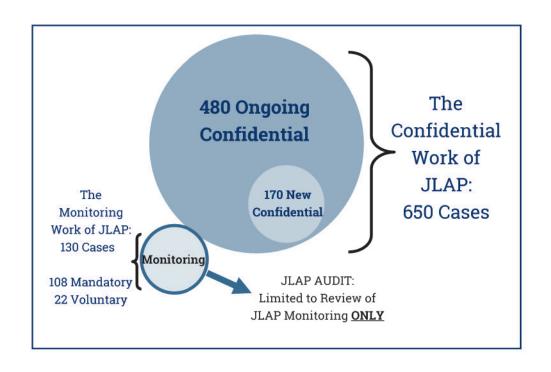
Totally out of the profession's sight, and reliably shielded with absolute confidentiality, JLAP's professional staff provides comprehensive mental health assistance to hundreds in our profession each year. These cases have nothing whatsoever to do with discipline, bar admissions or monitoring cases. No one outside of JLAP will ever know anything about any of these cases unless the person in trouble decides to reveal it. JLAP never reports cases to discipline or anyone else.

During the same time period that JLAP's confidential mental health services have been rapidly expanding behind the scenes, JLAP also conducted an Independent Performance Audit to examine the smaller segment of JLAP's services in bar admissions and disciplinary cases referred to JLAP. In such cases, the person must objectively and reliably prove their fitness to practice by clear and convincing evidence. The Performance Audit of JLAP was successful and it deemed JLAP's monitoring services to be "top-tier."

The following chart displays the true proportions of JLAP's caseloads in Fiscal Year 2015-16. It is of note that the JLAP Audit was focused solely upon monitoring services. JLAP's services are much broader, however, than just monitoring. The monitoring population is only a subset of the total population of clients served by JLAP.

JLAP is very grateful to have reached a new milestone wherein JLAP's confidential case load is now five (5) times that of its entire monitoring case load. When someone reaches out early to JLAP before the problem generates disciplinary issues, without exception, every person and entity wins: the person, their family, their peers, the profession, and the public.

For complete statistics and information on JLAP's broad services, you can peruse JLAP's 2015-16 Annual Report at JLAP's website online at www.louisianajlap.com and under the link "About JLAP." Also on the JLAP website you can review the JLAP performance Audit that was strictly limited to the certification of JLAP's formal monitoring program.





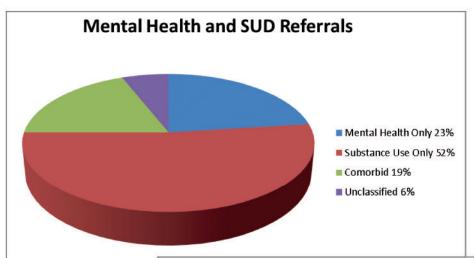
INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR JLAP'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

In the 2015-16 Fiscal Year, twenty-three percent (23%) of JLAP's new cases did not involve alcohol or drugs. Almost one fourth of JLAP's cases were cases involving issues such as depression, anxiety, bipolar, compassion fatigue, burnout and other issues that required assistance from JLAP's professional clinical team.

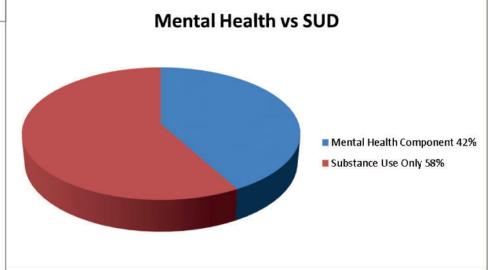
In the last six years, JLAP has significantly expanded its clinical expertise and program to transform it from one that historically focused on alcohol and drug issues into a full service professionals' program offering comprehensive mental health and wellness services.

JLAP's expansion of its services is very timely, because nowadays lawyers and judges suffer higher rates of depression than they do substance use disorders. In fact, recent studies show that the legal profession is challenged by a wide array of mental health issues, not just alcohol and drug problems.

Through all lines of available communication, JLAP has promoted its comprehensive mental health services and JLAP is very grateful that it is able to help people with all types of mental health issues in addition to those that are related to substance use.



It is noteworthy that forty-two (42%) percent of new cases had at least one mental health component outside of substance use disorders.





THE EXPANSION OF JLAP-APPROVED EVALUATOR AND TREATMENT OPTIONS

When a lawyer or bar applicant is referred to JLAP by discipline or bar admissions for an independent JLAP evaluation, JLAP will provide the person with several JLAP-approved options for evaluation, assessment, and appropriate "professionals' track" treatment if indicated thereafter in any given case.

In order to benefit its monitoring clients, JLAP is actively engaged in expanding its roster of JLAP-approved clinical resources so as to provide clients with a wider range of JLAP-approved options. JLAP continues to make progress in this mission and now has nine (9) approved professionals' track treatment centers to choose from. JLAP has also increased the number of its approved local evaluators in the state in an effort to make low-level evaluations more accessible and provide more options to those who are formally referred to JLAP for an initial evaluation.

Going forward, JLAP hopes to maintain a minimum inventory of at least ten (10) different approved treatment programs at all times so as to ensure that JLAP's clients have several treatment options to choose from. JLAP will also continue to increase the number of local evaluators available for low-level evaluations.

NATIONAL STUDY ON LAWYER MENTAL HEALTH AND JLAP

In February of 2016 a new study was published entitled "The Prevalence of Substance Use and Other Mental Health Concerns Among American Attorneys" (Krill, Johnson, Albert; American Society of Addiction Medicine, Feb 2016).

The study is troublesome in revealing that many types of mental health issues continue to beset the legal profession at alarming rates. And the areas of greatest concern have shifted. For example, depression is now more prevalent amongst lawyers than alcohol and drug use disorders. Also, anxiety, burnout, compassion fatigue and other mental health problems are on the rise in our ranks.

No one in the legal profession is immune to developing mental health issues over time. Now, more than ever, in the often fast-paced and pressured life of today's practicing lawyer, it is important that every member of the profession read the new study on lawyer mental health with an eye toward their own wellness and what they can do to manage stress in healthy ways. You can read the study here: http://louisianajlap.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/HazledenStudy2016.pdf

If you want to know more about how to better manage stress, call the professionals at JLAP!

NATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR STATE LAP'S AND JLAP'S

On May 5th—7th 2017, LAP Directors from across the country and Canada came together in Atlanta, GA, for the first ever Independent Annual Retreat for LAP Directors and Assistant Directors. The event was organized by the Louisiana, Colorado, Delaware, New Jersey, Mississippi and Montana programs. LAP Directors came to Atlanta from as far away as Vancouver BC and even the Hawaiian Islands.





JLAP'S CONFIDENTIAL HELP: REAL TRUST FROM REAL PEOPLE

In hundreds of open confidential cases right now, JLAP is assisting all sorts of folks from all corners of the profession with health issues that have nothing whatsoever to do with discipline, bar admissions, court orders, or formal JLAP monitoring to prove one's fitness to practice. Instead, these people are receiving JLAP's mental health assistance wholly behind the scenes and absolutely out of everyone else's view except for the people actually receiving help. Totally confidential assistance now represents the vast majority of JLAP's work.

Nonetheless, despite a very encouraging increase in demand, JLAP's <u>confidential</u> support still goes largely unnoticed by the profession as a whole. Not everyone knows (or believes) that JLAP's wholly confidential help is trustworthy and readily available to them and their family.

JLAP's challenge is to increase the profession's awareness of, and trust in, JLAP's totally confidential services. Legal professionals are evidence-driven people who by their very training tend to trust only after being able to verify. JLAP cannot share the specific facts of any case, nor would JLAP want its successful confidential clients to publicly reveal their identity and personal experiences to promote

So the best we can do is convey the *spirit* of hope and trust at JLAP by sharing a few anonymous excerpts of feedback and provide you with a feel for the relationship JLAP has with its clients.

"I have complete confidence that the service JLAP provides is 100% confidential. Simply put, JLAP is unquestionably a trustworthy program."

"Your phone call is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time. You have shown me more compassion than members of my family."

"JLAP has been a most positive influence and I cannot express in words the contribution JLAP has made to my life. I now have a successful law practice, I have a fine family, and I have good health and many friends."

"Today, I am indebted to JLAP for all of those good things that recovery brought to my life; and there are many."

"JLAP saved my life and career. JLAP holds a very special place in my heart."

"I can't begin to thank you for everything you've done to help our family. My family will be forever grateful."



"Thank you for talking to my friend on the spur of the moment. I could see by my friend's that it was helping to hear you talk. You are the best resource in the world and I am so thankful for JLAP!"

"JLAP has been outstanding and I want to thank JLAP for its patience and compassion."

"JLAP showed exemplary professionalism, kindness, excellence and dedication throughout all of my interaction with them."

"I am very grateful for JLAP. I am grateful for your candor and honesty. You don't know how relieved I was after our meeting."

"I have struggled with depression for a large portion of my life. I did not know who to turn to until I heard JLAP speak at a presentation. JLAP's help is greatly appreciated."

"My friend was terrified to be honest with you about the problems. I just wanted to give you and your staff a pat on the back, and let you know that things turned out better than my friend expected. This proves again to me that JLAP is there to help."

We fully understand that making a decision to reach out to JLAP confidentially is daunting. Asking for help involves willingness, courage, and to some degree, a leap of faith. Please know that from JLAP's perspective, we are so very joyful when someone reaches out confidentially to JLAP, whether it is for themselves or someone else they are concerned about.

That beautiful inflection point of reaching out can generate new hope, new opportunities, and can save lives and careers. With JLAP's professional clinical support, the person can choose to step out of isolation and take the best path forward to move out of the problems and into lasting, real solutions. Conversely, if the person decides that JLAP's recommendations are not for them, that's fine too. There is no risk to reaching out confidentially to JLAP.



"Thank you to JLAP for pulling me back from the brink. Life is simply beautiful and I appreciate all of your time, effort and support; I always will."



JLAP'S PROFESSIONAL MONITORING: SAVING LIVES AND CAREERS

JLAP's formal monitoring cases present significant challenges that are not encountered in simple cases where the person has reached out voluntarily and confidentially behind the scenes to JLAP.

In formal monitoring cases, the person is in trouble (or they anticipate trouble) with their law license, employment, or bar admissions due to some form of alleged unethical conduct (DWI arrest, etc.). They are referred by the Office of the Disciplinary Counsel or the Supreme Court's Committee on Bar Admissions to JLAP. Some are discretely referred by their law firm.

This highly specialized area of JLAP's services are rooted in *LSBA V. DUMAINE, ARTHUR F.* 550 So.2d 1197 (La. 1989). The court in *Dumaine* ordered the LSBA's Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (CADA) to aid the court in impairment cases:

"The Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse are ordered to cooperate in furnishing this Court through properly introduced evidence data to assist this Court in evaluating Dumaine..."

The court ordered independent testimony from CADA regarding: chemical dependency; propensity toward recovery; moral fitness to practice; and, the relationship between any impairment the lawyer may have and the disciplinary violations.

It is now JLAP's duty (since the formation of LAP in 1992) to provide independent, reliable and objective data when called upon to aid the court in its regulation of the practice of law and protection of the public in cases where a person's mental health fitness to practice has been called into question.

The work is very challenging, because the one thing that these outside referrals to JLAP generally have in common is that the person does not want JLAP's help, instead they are being <u>sent</u> to JLAP.

In the voluntary, confidential world of JLAP's services, the person has already accepted that they have a problem. They are reaching out because they <u>want</u> JLAP's help. In those types of cases, JLAP's relationship with the person is one of teamwork and trust from the outset. Not so in many disciplinary referrals.

The excellent news is, however, that even in contentious disciplinary cases, if the person complies with JLAP's monitoring program, in most cases a prior attitude of contempt turns to one of appreciation. The sheer joy that comes from working for, and then finally establishing, solid recovery in JLAP eclipses their initial resentments. These participant testimonials are illustrative of the shift:

"I saw each of the obligations contained therein [JLAP's monitoring contract] as a cost of doing business . . . I mechanically, and in an almost workmanlike fashion, satisfied the terms and conditions of my JLAP contract. Recovery seemed far too unrealistic in my case to be a rational goal. I simply did not believe it was, for me, achievable; it never had been before. I just need to get this thing [JLAP monitoring] behind me.

Then one day, when I was not looking for it, I came upon the realization that I no longer had cravings and that the "insanity" part of the disease had seemingly gone into remission. I found myself, for the first time in my life, living without fear of myself or anything else. My relationship with my JLAP contract changed from one of obligation to one of privilege."



"I personally do not believe it matters how you get to JLAP and/or to begin a Recovery journey, just know that if you are there, it is not by chance or mistake - you have some problem and need help. I know I did not drink like a normal person, and quite frankly, by the time I ended up on the telephone with Buddy Stockwell, I did not think like a normal person. Buddy assisted me through a difficult season in my life - his was the reassuring voice to nudge me in the right direction.

I was skeptical of JLAP, and Buddy himself, but in the end, Buddy was incredible and of vital assistance to me in early Recovery. He was personable and made me feel comfortable in uncharted waters. JLAP lead me to the services I needed to get back on track in life, be successful in my Recovery, and saved my employment status from suspension or disbarment.

Since then, I have learned a lot about myself, and how to deal with the people and situations I encounter to be a responsible and positive, contributing member of society. I am grateful for JLAP and Buddy Stockwell -- for helping me to steer my ship in the right direction, and while the journey has not always been easy, I am quite enjoying my life in Recovery."

"I remember how I felt, scared of the unknown, and admittedly a bit angry. I now realize that JLAP actually improved my life. Admittedly, I have not always felt that way but I have to admit to myself that, without JLAP, I am fairly certain I would not be where I am today and would most likely not be sober."

JLAP's role in formal referral cases is to provide independent, reliable, and objective clinical services on levels that are expected of a true "professionals' program" serving licensed professionals who hold the public's trust. In order to ensure that JLAP's monitoring program is delivering appropriate services, in 2015 JLAP commissioned a team of national experts to conduct an in-depth performance audit of JLAP's monitoring services in order to certify that JLAP's clinical standards and protocols are appropriate and effective. The full Audit Report, and JLAP's Response thereto, are both available online at JLAP's website www.louisianailap.com.

Participants who successfully complete JLAP's formal monitoring program enjoy, on average, a greater than 90% relapse-free long-term recovery rate. Completing JLAP's monitoring program can, in many cases, ultimately help the person prove by reliable, clear and convincing evidence that the person's prior impairment has been successfully resolved and that their mental health has been restored so as to satisfy fitness to practice inquiries by the profession, the court, and ultimately the public.

But above all else, JLAP's formal monitoring program also helps to actually save lives and families by supporting the person along a solid path of accountability and recovery that will more likely than not last a lifetime. All it takes is cooperation from the person referred to JLAP.

If you want more information about JLAP's formal monitoring program and how it can help you, please call or write JLAP at (985) 778-0571, 1405 West Causeway Approach Mandeville, LA 70471 or email to jlap@louisianajlap.com.



JLAP'S FREE CLE PRESENTATIONS

At no charge, JLAP provides several highquality Continuing Legal Education (CLE) presentations that can satisfy either Professionalism or Ethics MCLE requirements of attendees. All you have to do is contact JLAP and reserve a date and time for a JLAP presentation.

JLAP has conducted live presentations for: American Bar Association Sections and Seminars; National Conferences for various Legal Organizations; Louisiana State Bar Association Sections; LSBA's Summer School; Local Bar Associations; District and Federal Courts; Inns of Courts; Law Firms; and Law Schools.

Live presentations by JLAP are the most effective means of carrying JLAP's life-saving messages of wellness and hope to the members of our profession. In JLAP's experience, it is often soon after experiencing a live JLAP CLE presentation that an individual who is suffering will reach out confidentially and privately to JLAP for help. Likewise, a peer who is worried about a colleague is more likely to reach out to JLAP after experiencing a JLAP presentation. To that end, when you include a JLAP presentation in your CLE programing it provides direct support to the mental health of your attendees.

A full list of JLAP presentations and topics is available on JLAP's website at http://louisianajlap.com/resources/cle-presentations/.

When designing your next CLE program, please consider including a JLAP presentation!

JLAP STAFF AND BOARD UPDATE



NEW CLINICAL DIRECTOR

Jennifer Gros is JLAP's new Clinical Director. She has been on JLAP's Professional Clinical Team as a full-time Clinical Case Manager since 2014. Jennifer is a native of

Louisiana, born and raised in Baton Rouge. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Louisiana State University in 2004. Thereafter she attended the University of North Texas where she was accepted into the National Scholars Honor Society and graduated Cum Laude with a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling in 2007. Jennifer is a Master Addiction Counselor and a Licensed Professional Counselor in Louisiana.

Prior to her tenure at JLAP, Jennifer's broad professional experience includes having practiced in both outpatient and inpatient mental health settings, providing group therapy and psychosocial assessments to patients with chronic mental illnesses. She has also served as the Clinical Director for a Residential Treatment Facility for substance use disorders.

In 2012 Jennifer was honored by the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse for the Greater New Orleans area and received its "Excellence in Treatment" Award.

Since 2014, Jennifer has been providing outstanding clinical assistance and support to JLAP's clients in all categories including totally confidential cases, cases referred to JLAP by the Louisiana Supreme Court's Committee on Bar Admissions (COBA), and cases involving disciplinary matters referred to JLAP by the Office of the Disciplinary Counsel (ODC).

Please join us in congratulating Jennifer on her new role at JLAP!



NEW TREASURER MEMBER



Barry Grodsky is a partner at the Taggart Morton law firm in New Orleans practicing primarily in the areas of creditor rights, property management law, banking law, bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Barry received his

business degree from the University of Texas in 1979 and his law degree from Tulane in 1982. After internships with Congressman Billy Tauzin and U.S. District Judge Morey Sear and serving as a law clerk to State Judge Steven Plotkin he went into private practice. After serving on several committees and as Secretary of the Louisiana State Bar Association, Barry was elected President of the LSBA and will take office in June, 2018. He has received various from the Louisiana awards State Association. As a teacher at Tulane University. Barry has received teaching awards and was a Faculty Fellow. For a complete list of Mr. Grodsky's extensive history of service to the profession, please visit this link: http://www.taggartmortonlaw.com/ attorneys/uncategorized/barry-h-grodsky.html.

NEW JUDGE MEMBER



Honorable Rachael D. Johnson is the Division B District Court Judge for the Orleans Parish Civil District Court. She received a B.A. degree in psychology from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA., a Masters in Social Work from Smith College,

and a law degree from Tulane in 2005. Prior to being elected to the bench, her practice experience includes serving as Senior Staff Attorney with the Law Offices of Julie E. Vaicius; as an assistant City Attorney with the City of Riviera Beach, FL; and with Gary, Williams, Finney law firm in Stuart, Florida representing hundreds of plaintiffs in Vioxx litigation, personal injury and wrongful death cases. In both leadership and service roles, Judge Johnson has been involved over the years in numerous associations including the Juvenile Litigation Law Clinic, Black Law Students Association, Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Louisiana State Bar

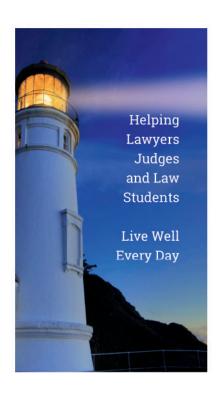
Association Board of Governors, the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, the New Orleans Bar Association, the A. P. Tureaud Chapter of the Inns of Court and the National Bar Association and the Executive board of the New Orleans Chapter of the Links, Inc. For a complete list of Judge Johnson's extensive history of service to the profession, please visit this link: http://www.orleanscdc.com/divb1.html.

NEW LAWYER MEMBER



Larry Shea, a founding member of the firm Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea, LLC, has been practicing law for over 35 years. His professional experience includes extensive litigation representing various businesses, numerous oil and gas producers

pipelines ranging and in matters from environmental complaints to oil field operations to contract disputes to ownership issues. Mr. Shea has been a very active member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and served as the President of the LSBA for the year 2014 - 2015. In 2002, he received the LSBA President's Award for Exceptional Service. He has also served in various leadership and member roles in the LSBA House of Delegates and numerous LSBA Committees including Ethics Advisory Service, Rules of Professional Conduct, Public Access & Consumer Protection, Ethics 2000, LSBA Handbook on Professional Responsibility, Practice Assistance Improvement, Ethics School, Mentoring and Internship, MCLE for New Admittees, Public Access & Consumer Protection, Rules of Professional Conduct, Multi-Jurisdictional Practice, and Ethics Advisory Service. Mr. Shea was an Adjunct Professor of Business Law in the School of Business at Centenary College from 1998 - 2010. He was a member of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board from 1995-2002, and served as Chairman in 2002. For a complete list of Mr. Shea's extensive history of service to the profession, please visit this link: http://www.bradleyfirm.com/staff/ shea-ir.



Real Trust - Real People

JLAP's life-saving services are trustworthy and CONFIDENTIAL as a matter of law. Here are real examples of actual feedback from JLAP clients:

"I have complete confidence that the service JLAP provides is 100% confidential. Simply put, JLAP is unquestionably a trustworthy program."

"Today, I am indebted to JLAP for all of those good things that recovery brought to my life; and there are many."

"JLAP showed exemplary professionalism, kindness, excellence and dedication throughout all of my interaction with the program."

"JLAP saved my life and career. JLAP holds a very special place in my heart."



JUDGES AND LAWYERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, INC.

1405 W. Causeway Approach

Mandeville, LA 70471

Toll-Free: (866) 354-9334 Phone: (985) 778-0571 Fax: (985) 778-0574

E-mail: jlap@louisianajlap.com

www.louisianajlap.com