# LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT ASSOCIATION 65 ANNUAL LOUISIANA CLERKS OF COURT CONVENTION OPENING SESSION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010 AT 9:00 AM NEW ORLEANS SHERATON

The 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Clerks of Court Association Annual Convention was called to order by President Robby Barousse. At this time he introduced Dale Atkins, Conference Chair. Dale welcomed everyone to New Orleans and introduced the Reverend Samuel Blakes of New Home Full Gospel Baptist Church to give the invocation. The National Anthem was sung by Loria Johnson, Deputy Clerk of the Orleans Civil Clerk's office followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Jon Gegenheimer.

President Barousse welcomed everyone to New Orleans and thanked the host committee for their hard work in putting the conference together. Dale Atkins then introduced Sheriff Paul R. Valteau, Jr., Civil Sheriff of Orleans Parish. State Representative Cedric Richmond thanked the Clerks for all of the work they do for the judicial system. The keynote speaker was Mayor-Elect Mitch Landrieu who expressed his great expectations for the City of New Orleans in the upcoming year. Although, he knew there would be many obstacles he was very optimistic for the city.

Steven Windham, with the Secretary of State's office, informed the Clerks of a new system that would be installed in the middle of June for the commercial division of the Secretary's office.

President Barousse introduced the officers of the Association followed by the roll call of the State by Secretary, Linda Cook. The following clerks were in attendance: Robby Barousse, Hart Bourque, Darlene Landry, Brian Lestage, Jim Martin, Cynthia Johnston, Gary Loftin, Lynn Jones, Carl Broussard, Pat Gladney, Clyde Ray Webber, Beatrice Carter, David Dart, Ann Johnson, ElRay Lemoine, Michael Thibodeaux, Ann Walsworth, Jon A. Gegenheimer, Rick Arceneaux, Louis Perret, Vernon Rodrigue, Linda Cook, Tom Sullivan, Louie Bernard, Dale Atkins, Arthur Morrell, Bill Hodge, Dot Lundin, Lanell Landry, Lena Torres, Beverly Gordon, Edmond Kinler, Becky Patin, Cliff Dressel, Dodi Eubanks, Diane Meaux Broussard, Willie Deon, Holli Vining, Mark Graffeo, and Peter J. Fitzgerald.

Michael Thibodeaux introduced the new Clerk, Becky Patin from St. Martin Parish. Louie Bernard introduced the retired Clerks: Bud Bergeron and Debbie Hudnall. There was then a moment of silence for the deceased clerks.

Michael Thibodeaux asked that Georgie Blanchard, wife of retired Clerk of Court, Allen Blanchard, come forward. Michael presented a plaque of appreciation and recognition to Allen Blanchard for his years of service on behalf of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association. Georgie accepted the plaque on behalf of Allen and their children and gave a heart felt thank you to all who were there.

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First Vice-President Louie Bernard gave the report of the nominating committee:

We, the Nominating Committee, met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 and hereby submit for consideration of the general membership the following list of persons to serve on the respective Boards for the year 2010-2011:

### ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Louie Bernard
First Vice President – Mark Graffeo
Second Vice President – Lynn Jones
Third Vice President – Tommy Sullivan
Secretary – Bill Hodge
Treasurer – Tammy Foster
Historian – Gary Loftin
Parliamentarian – Lanell Landry
1st District Member – Edmond Kinler
3rd District Member – Mike Thibodeaux
5th District Member – Carol Jones
7th District Member – ElRay Lemoine
9th District Member – Christine Crow
Immediate Past President – Robby Barousse

## RETIREMENT AND RELIEF FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President – Louie Bernard
First Vice President – Mark Graffeo
Second Vice President – Lynn Jones
Treasurer – Tammy Foster
Clerk Member – Gary Loftin
Retired Clerk Member – Ann Ardoin
Immediate Past President – Robby Barousse

#### **INSURANCE TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

President – Louie Bernard
First Vice President – Mark Graffeo
Treasurer – Tammy Foster
1st District Member – Felicia Ann Hendl
3rd District Member – Diane Broussard
5th District Member – Kay Bolding
7th District Member – ElRay Lemoine
9th District Member – No Participant
Retired Clerk – John Dahmer
Immediate Past President – Michael Thibodeaux

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President Barousse, asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Motion was made by Lynn Jones to accept the Nominating Committee report and the slate of officers be elected by acclamation. Motion was seconded by Michael Thibodeaux. **Motion carried.** 

President Barousse congratulated the new officers who will be sworn in at the Final Session on Friday.

First Vice President Louie Bernard had a ballot distributed for each clerk to select their preference for the location of the December 2010 meeting.

Connie Couvillion said that Sammy Couvillon had asked her to tell everyone he was sorry he was unable to be there due to illness.

Dale Atkins thanked the Vendors for participating in this year's conference and reminded everyone to visit the Vendor booths. She also invited everyone to visit the Orleans Parish Notarial Archives Research Center.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** 

Linda Cook

S/ Robby Barousse\_

**Robby Barousse**