

Last Chance, Dec. 9-10: an opportunity to learn from exceptional national and Louisiana attorneys

LAJ's "Last Chance CLE Conference" has a well-deserved reputation for being Louisiana's ultimate CLE experience. This year's program, December 9-10, 2010, at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, features extraordinary attorneys who will present twenty-four dynamic credit courses.

Four of the conference's speakers — Paul Luvera Jr., Mount Vernon, Wash.; Joseph H. Lowe IV, Long Beach, Calif.; Nicholas Rowley, Decorah, Iowa; and Alonzo T. Stanga of Metairie, La. — are also on the faculty of the Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College in Dubois, Wyo.

This issue of *Louisiana Advocates* introduces you to six of the national speakers for this year's program: James R. Bartimus, Leawood, Kan.; Prof. Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., president of Colby-Sawyer College, New London, N.H.; Paul N. Gold, Houston, Texas; Joseph H. Low IV, Long Beach, Calif.; Randi McGinn, Albuquerque, N.M.; and Nicholas C. Rowley, Decorah, Iowa.

To learn more about the other six national speakers, see the September issue of *Louisiana Advocates*, which is available on www.lafj.org.



Bartimus

James "Jim" Bartimus concentrates his practice at Bartimus, Frickleton, Robertson & Gorny in the areas of medical negligence and pharmaceu-

tical litigation. He earned a law degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine for three years.

A past president of the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Foundation, and Missouri Institute for Justice, Bartimus is a fellow of the International Society of Barristers and the American College of Legal Medicine and an associate of and past national director of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Bartimus is a member of the Missouri Bar, Kansas Bar Association, Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, American Bar Association, Kansas Association for Justice, Colorado Trial Lawyers Association, Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, American Judicature Society, American Society of Legal Medicine, and Lawyers-Pilots Bar Association. He has a Martindale-Hubbell AV rating.

He is a contributing author to several books and has written extensively for national legal publications.

He is a past adjunct professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and is past adjunct graduate faculty member for the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Nursing.



Galligan

Colby-Sawyer College President Thomas "Tom" Galligan, Jr. earned a B.A. degree in political science from Stanford University, a doctor of jurisprudence

degree (*summa cum laude*, first in class) from University of Puget Sound (now Seattle University) School of Law, and a master of laws degree from Columbia University Law School.

For more than a decade, Galligan taught at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University,

where he was named the Dr. Dale E. Bennett Professor of Law and was honored six times by the students as the Outstanding LSU Professor.

He joined Colby-Sawyer College as its eighth president and a professor in the Humanities Department in August 2006.

Before being selected as the college's president, he served as dean and professor of law at the University of Tennessee College of Law in Knoxville, Tenn. While there, he was the Elvin E. Overton Distinguished Professor of Law and taught torts and admiralty.

Galligan has published numerous books and articles on torts and admiralty. His scholarship has been cited in the proposed *Restatement (Third) of Torts*, by numerous legal scholars, and by the United States Supreme Court and other federal and state appellate and trial courts.

His work with Prof. Frank L. Maraist was honored by the *Tulane Law Review* and the *Louisiana Bar Journal*.

Gold

Paul Gold of the Aversano & Gold law firm says his Last Chance presenta-



Paul Gold

tion, "I'm Melting," deals with "tactical and strategic procedural considerations for anticipating and dealing with the defense medical examination, including constructing effective discovery control

plans and discovery and formulating successful impeachment of the defense medical examiner." His conference paper is based on Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

"I am most proud of my partnership with Donna Aversano that was formed four years ago, in 2006. It has been liberating," Gold says. "Together, we have been able to practice our own style of plaintiffs' personal injury trial law,

which has benefited our clients and brought us tremendous satisfaction, success, and pride."


Gold adds, "I became a lawyer to provide an effective voice to those who might not otherwise have it. While I respect power, I think there always needs to be a counterbalance to equalize it. I believe that as a trial attorney I provide this counterbalance for my clients who otherwise might not be afforded within the justice system the respect, justice, and dignity to which they are entitled."

A graduate of the University of Texas-Austin and Southern Methodist University, Gold is a director and sustaining member of Texas Trial Lawyers Association and a recipient of its John Howie Award for Mentorship. He also received the State Bar of Texas Gene Cavin Award for outstanding contributions to continuing legal education in Texas.

Low

The dedication Joseph H. Low IV of

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Last Chance

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The Law Firm of Joseph H. Low IV to fighting for citizens' rights began in the U.S. Marine Corps, for which he fought all over the globe.



Joseph Low IV

"I used to be a cancer researcher," Low says, "I graduated from the University of California with a master of science degree in biophysical chemistry. I had

won a research competition and received a research grant from Howard Hughes Cancer Research for my work in cancer drug design, specifically quinizarin intercalation into DNA helices, which I was also published for.

"In addition, during this time period, 1992, I had my design for a superior method for mounting wheels to roller blade-type skates stolen and used without my consent. This motivated me to go to law school to become a biotech patent lawyer so that I could protect the little guy from being ripped off by corporations."

A graduate of the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Low is an instructor at the Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College and the Naval Judge Advocate General Training School.

He is particularly proud of work he's done for soldiers.

"I had a pro bono case go to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2006, which we won, and it ultimately changed the way military law is practiced. *U.S. v. Gonzalez-Lopes*, 548 U.S. 140 (2006). In addition, our wins in *U.S. v. Magincalda* and *U.S. v. Nelson* were wins in which the government was prosecuting U.S. Marines for actions in combat. They are both free of the murder charges today and are the only two to receive honorable

discharges. They both come to my house every holiday."



Randi McGinn

McGinn

"With jurors' attention spans shrinking by the minute, how can you get across your point on cross-examination in the first five minutes?" asks Randi

McGinn of McGinn, Carpenter, Montoya & Love, P.A. The key, she says, is the use of "thematic cross-examination to label the witness in a way the jurors will not forget." This will be the focus of McGinn's Last Chance lecture.

McGinn, who says she became a plaintiff's lawyer "to make our community safer for everyone," takes particular pride in her efforts on behalf of convenience store clerks.

"After handling a series of cases involving the death, rape, or serious injury to convenience store clerks required to work alone on the graveyard shift without any security protections, we organized our clients to testify before the state OSHA board to create the strongest convenience store regulations in the nation," she explains.

"Because of their efforts, New Mexico convenience stores open after 11 p.m. must choose between having two clerks on duty, having a clerk and a security guard, having a lone clerk in a bullet-resistant enclosure, or closing the store. Since enactment of these regulations in 2006, no New Mexico clerk has been killed or raped on the graveyard shift, and robberies have plummeted."

A frequent national lecturer for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, American Association for Justice, and

other groups as well as an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico Law School, McGinn gave birth to her daughter, Heather, the day before her three-day bar exam.



Nick Rowley

Rowley

Nick Rowley's presentation will focus on jury selection, juror inclusion versus exclusion, connecting with your jury by opening yourself up, and shedding

the fear of rejection. He also will discuss how to voir dire a jury on money for non-economic damages.

Rowley, who handles significant damages cases, has developed a law firm that dedicates more than 20 percent of its time and resources to handling pro bono criminal cases throughout the nation. Many people accused of crimes "do not have the resources to prove their innocence and end up getting sold out by the criminal 'injustice' system that is stacked against them," he says. He adds that civil trial lawyers "have a duty to help. . . ."

Rowley has offices in California, Minnesota, and Iowa. He represents victims of acquired brain injury, medical malpractice, and wrongful death, and has a serious criminal defense practice. He became a lawyer "after following Gerry Spence as a kid." He explains that Randy Weaver (Ruby Ridge) was from Rowley's hometown. Rowley learned the truth of what happened to Weaver because Spence stood up for Weaver.

Rowley began law school at age twenty after serving in the military and getting benefits to complete college and law school. At twenty-three, he started trying cases as a certified law student. In 2004 Rowley was the youngest lawyer to attend the Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College, and in 2008 he was the youngest to have been asked to be a trial skills instructor there.

The six other members of Last Chance's national faculty are:

- Donald H. Beskind, Twiggs,

Beskind, Strickland & Rabenau, Raleigh, N.C.

- **Mark Lanier**, The Lanier Law Firm, Houston, Texas
- **Paul N. Luvera, Jr.**, Luvera Law Firm, Mount Vernon, Wash.
- **Peter Perlman**, Peter Perlman Law Offices, Lexington, Ky.
- **Gary B. Pillersdorf**, Gary B. Pillersdorf & Associates, New York, N.Y.
- **Dorothy Clay Sims**, Sims & Stakenborg, P.A., Ocala, Fla.

They will be joined by "Louisiana Law Review" faculty:

- **Matthew F. Block**, Block Law Firm, Thibodaux
- **Lawrence N. Curtis**, Larry Curtis, APLC, Lafayette
- **John H. Denenea, Jr.**, Sherman-Denenea, L.L.C., New Orleans
- **Richard J. Dodson**, Dodson, Hooks & Frederick, APLC, Baton Rouge
- **Stephen J. Herman**, Herman, Herman, Katz & Cotlar, L.L.P., New Orleans
- **Allan Kanner**, Kanner & Whiteley, L.L.C., New Orleans
- **Robert E. Kleinpeter**, Kleinpeter & Schwartzberg, L.L.C., Baton Rouge
- **Robert M. Marionneau, Jr.**, Unglesby & Marionneau, Baton Rouge
- **Michael C. Palmintier**, deGravelles, Palmintier, Holthaus & Frugé, Baton Rouge
- **Darrel J. Papillion**, Walters, Papillion, Thomas, Cullens, L.L.C., Baton Rouge
- **Donald W. Price**, Dué, Price, Guidry, Piedrahita & Andrews, Baton Rouge
- **Alonzo T. Stanga III**, Stanga & Mustian, P.L.C., Metairie

Last Chance attendees may move freely between the "Winning with the Masters" and "Review of Louisiana Law" presentations.

You may register for the event online at www.laffj.org. A print registration form is also available on LAJ's website. To register by phone or to have a print registration form faxed to you, please call 225-383-5554.

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Tell us about your recent successes

Louisiana Advocates would like to publish your verdicts and settlements news. If you have a recent success that you would like to report, call LAJ at 225-383-5554 and request a copy of the verdicts and settlements reporting form.

A verdicts and settlements reporting form is also available on www.laffj.org. A link to a pdf version of the

form is posted on the *Louisiana Advocates* page of the "Newsroom."

Submissions may also be sent in narrative form; however, please be certain your narrative includes all information requested on the submission form.

Submissions not received in time for the upcoming month will be held for the following month's publication.



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