

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

November 4, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

In light of the untimely passing of U.S. District Court Judge Ralph Tyson, you requested that I submit to you three distinguished Louisiana legal practitioners for your potential nomination to the U.S. Senate as a U.S. District judge for the Middle District of Louisiana. I appreciate the care that you and your administration provide to the selection of federal judges and recognize as well the need to fill this vacancy expeditiously in order to insure the fair administration of justice. Accordingly, it is my honor to present to you three distinguished legal practitioners from Louisiana. All of the candidates have demonstrated extraordinary acumen throughout their respective careers and meet the high professional standard of an Article III federal judge. The three candidates, in alphabetical order, are: Winston DeCuir Jr, Rachelle "Shelly" Dick, and Christine Lipsey.

Winston DeCuir, Jr is a partner at DeCuir, Clark & Adams, LLC, where he specializes in representing both plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters, most prominently federal labor and employment law. In addition to his experience litigating in both state and federal court, Attorney DeCuir has served as an adjunct professor at Southern University Law Center, where he taught labor and employment law. He is also an active member of the legal community of the Middle District, evidenced in no small part by earning the Louisiana Bar Association's 2006 President's Award for Service. A native of Baton Rouge, Attorney DeCuir earned his Bachelor's Degree from Amherst University *cum laude* and his Juris Doctorate from the Paul H. Hebert Law Center at LSU, where he was an Associate Member of the Louisiana Law Review. Attorney DeCuir is 38 years old.

Rachelle Deckert Dick is a founding partner at the law firm of Forrester and Dick, LLC. A veteran civil defense litigator, Attorney Dick has represented some of Louisiana's most prominent government and non-government entities in matters of federal employment law. Though her practice focuses primarily on defense litigation, her impartial temperament and expertise of employment law compelled the Louisiana Workforce Commission to appoint Attorney Dick to mediate cases as an Ad Hoc Hearing Officer in the Office of Worker's Compensation for the last three years. Attorney Dick clerked for Judge Catherine "Kitty" Kimball, who currently serves as Chief Justice for the Louisiana Supreme Court. Before pursuing her career in law, Attorney Dick worked for four years at the Dow Chemical

Company. Attorney Dick earned her Bachelor's of Science *cum laude* from the University of Texas at Austin. She earned her Juris Doctorate from the Paul H. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University, where she was a Member of the Louisiana Law Review. Attorney Dick is 52 years old.

Christine Lipsey is a partner at McGlinchey Stafford PLLC of Baton Rouge, where she works on the firm's commercial litigation team. With more than twenty-five years of experience representing business and government clients on civil matters, Attorney Lipsey is eminently respected in Louisiana for her work in federal court. Attorney Lipsey is also known as an exemplary legal professional in the Middle District because of the remarkable breadth of her engagement with legal community. Attorney Lipsey was the first female president of the Baton Rouge Bar Association and, despite having limited experience in criminal court, also played a key role as a member of the Louisiana Public Defender Board. Attorney Lipsey also serves as an adjunct professor of law at LSU, teaching ethics and professionalism. Attorney Lipsey earned for both her B.A. and J.D from Louisiana State University and is 59 years old.

To further aid in your efforts, I have enclosed the full resumes of each candidate. Should you need any further assistance from me or my staff, please contact my Chief of Staff, Jane Campbell at jane_campbell@landrieu.senate.gov or by phone at (202) 224-0095 at work or (202) 251-1332 on her cell.

Thank you so much for your consideration. I stand ready to assist you as needed.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator

MLL:jlc

WINSTON G. DECUIR, JR.

Office:

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Baton Rouge, LA 70802
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(504) 451-2521-cell
winstonjr@decuirlaw.com

Home:

6235 Belle Grove Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 763-8916

EDUCATION

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, Baton Rouge, LA

- J.D. May 1998
- Assoc. Member Louisiana Law Review
- Admitted La., 1998

AMHERST COLLEGE, Amherst, MA

- Graduated *Cum Laude*, May 1995
- B.A. Economics and History
- Honors Thesis in History

WORK EXPERIENCE

DECUIR, CLARK & ADAMS, LLP, Baton Rouge, LA (Sept. 2003-Present)

Partner with a practice primarily involving all areas of labor and employment law (Title VII, ADEA, ADA, §1981, FMLA, FLSA).

Manage all types of employment based litigation in state and federal courts for both public and private sector clients.

Provide advice in areas of wage hour compliance, immigration, and other general compliance with state and federal employment laws.

Advise universities and state agencies in areas of civil service, tenure, procurement, and laws governing the authority of public boards and commissions.

FISHER & PHILLIPS, LLP, New Orleans, LA (August 1998-Sept 2003)

Associate Attorney, managed lawsuits and EEOC charges primarily under Title VII, §1981, §1983 and the ADA. Prepared OFCCP affirmative action plans, and assisted clients with general preventive employment advice.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, Baton Rouge, LA (Spring 2007)

Adjunct Professor, Labor and Employment Law

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Louisiana State Bar Association (1998-Present)
Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Baton Rouge Chapter (2003-Present)
Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, New Orleans Chapter Vice President (2002-2003)
Louis A. Martinet Foundation, New Orleans Chapter, Board of Directors (2000-2003)

COMMUNITY--VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS/AWARDS

Baton Rouge Business Report, Forty under Forty Honoree (2010)
100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge, Outstanding Achievement (2010)
Louisiana State Bar Association, Presidents Award (2006)
Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Board Member (2010- present)
100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge, Member (2009 - present)
Capital High Academy for Boys and Girls, Board Member (2009 - present)
Chairman (2010 - present)
City Hall Fellows, Baton Rouge Advisory Board
St. Aloysius Men's Club
Coach, Express (BRSA, U7 Soccer)

PERSONAL

Spouse: Jennifer Fontenot DeCuir
Children: Winston G. DeCuir, III (6)
William F. DeCuir (3)
Hobbies: Fishing and Hunting

Rachelle “Shelly” Deckert Dick

Law Offices of Shelly D. Dick, LLC d/b/a
Forrester & Dick, *Attorneys*
4981 Bluebonnet Blvd
Baton Rouge, La. 70809

Phone: 225-448-5326
Fax: 225-928-7733
Cell: 225-907-5401
E-mail: SDick@Forresterdick.com

Education

December 1980, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, University of Texas at Austin, Dean’s List and *Cum Laude* honors.

May 1988, Juris Doctorate, Louisiana State University, Member, *Louisiana Law Review*.

Professional Positions Held

January 1981 - July 1985, Outside Sales, The Dow Chemical Company.
Responsible for the marketing of raw materials and the management of multi - million dollar sales territories in Cincinnati, Ohio and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

1987-1988—Law Clerk to Judge Catherine “Kitty” Kimball, 18th Judicial District Court.

June 1988 - January 1991, Associate Attorney, Gary, Field Landry and Bradford, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

January 1991- Present, founding partner of Forrester, Jordan & Dick, LLC. , subsequently Law Offices of Shelly D. Dick, d/b/a Forrester & Dick.

August 2008 - Present, Ad Hoc Hearing Officer for Health Care Provider PPO litigation in the Office of Worker’s Compensation, appointed by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

April 2010 - Hearing Officer appointed by The Louisiana Workforce Commission to hear dispute of Filipino teachers against Universal Placement International

Rachelle “Shelly” Deckert Dick

Publications

Author, *Ford v Wainwright: Warning Sanity on Death Row May be Hazardous to Your Health*, Louisiana Law Review, July 1987.

Author, *The Final States of Trial and Entry of Judgment*, Louisiana Civil Litigation Series, published by AIC- LCP.

Conference Presentations

Lecture, *The Management of Nonprofit Organizations*, December 1998, Southern University Department of Public Administration.

Speaker, *Jurisdiction of Native American Tribal Courts*, The American Inns of Court of Alexandria and Pineville, Louisiana.

Speaker, various continuing legal education courses in Ethics, Civil Procedure, Worker’s Compensation and Tribal Law and Jurisdiction

Speaker, *Adjusting Casualty Claims in Louisiana*, Liberty International Underwriters, New York, New York. June 2011

Moderator, *Best Practices Handling Worker’s Compensation Claims*, Southern Association of Worker’s Compensation Administrators. July 2011

Professional Licenses and Affiliations

Licensed and admitted to practice law in the State of Louisiana.

Licensed and admitted to practice law before The United States District Courts for the Western, Middle and Easter Districts of Louisiana.

Licensed and admitted to practice law before The United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal.

Licensed and admitted to practice law before The United States Supreme Court.

Professional Organizations

Member, American Bar Association, Louisiana State Bar Association and Baton Rouge Bar Association.

Member, National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel.

Rachelle “Shelly” Deckert Dick

Professional Organizations, *continued*

Member, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel.

Past Member and Secretary Treasurer of the Dean Henry George McMahon American Inn of Court, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Volunteer Experience

Provider of Pro Bono Legal Services through the Baton Rouge Bar Association, Pro Bono Services Program

Present, Member of the Administrative Board of First United Methodist Church.

Present, Chair Person of an \$8 Million Capital Campaign of First United Methodist Church.

High School Sunday School Teacher, First United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1998 - present

Past Member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee of First United Methodist Church.

Domestic and Foreign Missionary services through Louisiana Volunteers in Mission, including:

- Volunteer in several construction missions to Katrina ravaged communities in South Louisiana, sponsored by Volunteers in Mission of the United Methodist Church.
- Member of Construction Mission Team to Danoon Township South Africa, March 2008
- Member of a Construction Mission to Maua Methodist Hospital, Maua, Kenya, Africa, September 2010,
- Member of a Construction Mission Team scheduled to travel to Kampong Thom Cambodia for mission work in September 2011

Volunteer at The Holy Grill, a hunger mission of the Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Louisiana.

Frequent Volunteer and Chaperone of Youth Ministry events and Mission trips, First United Methodist Church Youth Department

Rachelle “Shelly” Deckert Dick

Volunteer Experience, *continued*

Past Board Member and Past President of The Early Learning Center, Child Development and Guidance Center.

Past Board Member and Past Secretary Treasurer of the YWCA of Baton Rouge

Past Board Member and Past President of The Battered Women’s Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Past Board Member and Past President of the Greater Baton Rouge Federation of Churches and Synagogues, presently know as Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge.

Past Member of and participant in “Sustained Dialogue” on Race sponsored by Greater Baton Rouge Federation of Churches and Synagogues.

Past participant and graduate of Leadership Baton Rouge, sponsored by The Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce.

Foreign Languages

Spanish

Personal

Married 28 years to Kelley R. Dick of Alexandria, Louisiana

Three Children:

Kelley R. Dick Jr., 2010 Graduate of LSU School of Engineering, Employed with F. Miller Construction Company, a Division of Orion Marine Group, Lake Charles, Louisiana

William Barrett Dick, Graduate of Catholic High School in Baton Rouge, presently an undergraduate student at LSU, Baton Rouge.

Michael Austin Dick, Senior in the Gifted and Talented Program at McKinley High School, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Rachelle "Shelly" Deckert Dick
Direct: 225-448-5326
Cell: 225-907-5401
E-mail: SDick@Forresterdick.com

Litigation Experience

Current Docket¹

The following is an illustrative list of clients, both plaintiff and defendant, that I currently represent.

<i>Party Represented</i>	<i>Case Caption</i>	<i>Court</i>
Louisiana State Police, defendant	Whitmore v LSP Popularis V LSP	USCDC, Middle District USCDC, Middle District
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, defendant	Spears v LCLE	USDC, Middle District
Louisiana Office of Risk Management, defendant	Sandres v State	USDC, Middle District
Louisiana DHH, defendant	Burton v State	Louisiana, 19 th JDC
Ronald Courville et. al, plaintiffs	Courville v NFI Trucking	USDC, Middle District
Robyn Lockwood, plaintiff	Lockwood v Nalco et al	USDC, Eastern District
Matthew P. Newsom, plaintiff	Newsom v GDS	Louisiana, 15 th JDC
Jared Pavalu, plaintiff	Pavalu v. GDS	Louisiana, 15 th JDC
Cinemark Theaters, plaintiff	Cinemark v Perkins Rowe	USDC, Middle District
Kansas City Southern Ry, defendant	Stewart V KCS	Louisiana, 18 th JDC
John Joseph, plaintiff	Joseph v Weber Marine	USDC, Eastern District
Fulmer Helmets, defendant	Maxfield v. Fulmer Helmets	Louisiana, 27 th JDC
Turner Brothers Crane, plaintiff	Turner v Kingboard, et al	Louisiana, 18 th JDC
City of Lake Charles, defendant	Piggee et al v City	Louisiana, 27 th JDC

¹ This list of current litigation is illustrative not inclusive.

Lexington Ins. Co., defendant

Compretta, et al. vs. Leglue, Louisiana, CDC
Blain Kern, Endymion,
and Lexington

Kevin Kearney, defendant

Thompson v Kearney

Louisiana, 19th JDC

Clients Represented²

Historically my firm has provided representation to both plaintiffs and defendants in litigation. The following is an illustrative list of clients that I presently represent or have represented in the past.

The Louisiana Supreme Court
Governor Kathleen Blanco
Various State Agencies
Canadian Nation Illinois Central Railroad
National Railroad Passenger Corporation d/b/a Amtrak
Kansas City Southern Ry
Cintas Corporation
Paragon Casino Resorts
The Tunica Biloxi Indians of Louisiana
Woman's Hospital
Baton Rouge Parks and Recreation

² This list is intended to provide reference to significant matter or clients represented historically. It is illustrative not inclusive.


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Christine Lipsey

Member

Baton Rouge

clipsey@mcglinchey.com

(225) 382-3683 (p)

(225) 343-3076 (f)

Christine Lipsey is a member of the commercial litigation team in the firm's Baton Rouge office. She has more than 25 years of experience in litigation representing small and large businesses, insurance companies, state agencies, lenders, and corporate shareholders.

Christine is widely recognized throughout the state and region as a leader in commercial litigation. One of her many notable accomplishments includes the representation of a major insurance company in the first case before the Louisiana Supreme Court to review whether the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) preempted Louisiana's own statute. Christine's arguments compelled the court to rule in favor of the insurance company, and the United States Supreme Court denied review. She also has had significant success defending clients in class action, breach of contract, and corporate fiduciary legal disputes.

Christine has published and presented on a number of business litigation topics including consumer credit and privacy, corporate officer and director duties, borrower/lender litigation, and unfair trade practices. She is also an adjunct professor at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, where she teaches The Legal Profession (ethics and professionalism).

Admitted to Practice

- Louisiana
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana
- United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana

Education

- Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, J.D., 1982
- Louisiana State University, B.A., 1974

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association, Business Torts Committee; Commercial & Business Litigation Committee; and Professional Liability Litigation Committee
- Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit
- Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Mandatory Continuing Legal Education
- Louisiana Bar Foundation Development Committee
- Louisiana State University Law Center, Board of Trustees and Adjunct Faculty Member
- Baton Rouge Bar Association, past-president
- Louisiana State Bar Association, Rules of Professional Conduct Committee; Board of Governors, Disciplinary Board, and House of Delegates (former member)

Presentations

- "Closing Arguments that Help the Jury," Louisiana State Bar Association 2010 Voodoo Fest Seminar, 10/2010
- "The Intersection of Ethics and Malpractice," Baton Rouge Bar Association Bench Bar Conference, 4/2010, and Louisiana State Bar Association Multi-Topic CLE Seminar,


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Service Areas

Government and Public Policy

- Government Contracts

Litigation

- Commercial Litigation

Professional Recognition

- Martindale-Hubbell AV Peer Review Rated Lawyer
- Louisiana Super Lawyers Business Litigation Insurance Coverage
- Chambers Louisiana / Litigation General Commercial

Awards & Honors



Offices

- Baton Rouge

Related Information

News

- [Chambers USA Names 14 McGlinchey Attorneys as Leading Lawyers for Business in 2011](#)
- [Super Lawyers Names 26 McGlinchey Attorneys in Ohio and Louisiana to its 2011 List](#)
- [Eight Firm Practice Groups, 14 Individuals Earn Top Rankings in Chambers USA 2010](#)
- [Twenty-three Attorneys Named Louisiana and Ohio Super Lawyers 2009](#)

- 11/2009 (co-presented with Michael A. Patterson)
- "Ethics, Management and Professionalism Seminar for New Practitioners," Louisiana State Bar Association, 5/2011, 4/2010, 5/2009, and 4/2008
- "Legal Ethics Update," Young Lawyers Section, Baton Rouge Bar Association, 7/2010 and 7/2008
- "Louisiana Ethics Update," Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project, Inc.'s Continuing Legal Education Seminar, 12/2008
- "Louisiana Ethics Update," Attorney-Client Seminar, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, 8/2008
- "Professionalism," Young Lawyers Section, Baton Rouge Bar Association, 7/2008
- "Professionalism," Public Utility Law Section, Louisiana State Bar Association, 10/2007
- "Professionalism," 2007 LSU Law Alumni Seminar, 9/2007
- "The Paper Lawyer's Guide to Electronic Discovery: Learn What There Is, How to Ask for it and What You Have to Produce," American Bar Association, Section of Litigation Annual Conference, 4/2007
- "The Basics: Fiduciary Duties of Officers and Directors of Non-Profit Entities," Associated Builders and Contractors, Pelican Chapter, 1/2007
- "Professionalism: Can We Get There from Here?," Baton Rouge Bar Association, 12/2006
- "Document Retention, Electronic Documents, New Federal E-Discovery Rules and Company Exposure," Association of Corporate Counsel, Louisiana Chapter, 11/2006
- "Advanced Commercial Litigation Seminar Borrower/Lender Litigation," LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center, 9/2006
- "Document Retention, Electronic Documents, New Federal E-Discovery Rules and Company Exposure," Society of Louisiana CPAs, Litigation Services Workshop, 10/2006
- "Documentation and Electronic Communications," Risk Management Association, Baton Rouge Chapter, 3/2006
- "2005 Corporate Officer & Director Seminar," Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P., 10/2005
- "Electronic Information and Records Management," Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P., 9/2005
- "Your Company and Electronic Information and Records Management," Greater Baton Rouge Society of Human Resource Management, 9/2005
- "Ethics In and Out of Medical Malpractice," Louisiana State Bar Association Medical Malpractice Seminar, Louisiana State Bar Association (Negotiating the Labyrinth), 11/2004
- "Business and Consumer Privacy: GLBA, HIPAA, and the FACT Act," Louisiana Business and Industry Conference, Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants, 8/2004
- "Update: Do Not Call; Truth in Lending; Fair Credit Reporting," Louisiana Insurers' Conference Annual Meeting, 8/2004
- "Corporate/Fiduciary Law Update - Trends: New sources of liability for officers, directors and their advisors," 2004 Corporate Officer & Director Fiduciary Forum, Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P., 4/2004
- "Pre-Trial Discovery and Pleadings - Reminders and Recent Developments," The Litigation Process in Louisiana State Courts, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Center of Continuing Professional Development, 4/2004
- "GLBA Meets HIPAA - Do You Have Privacy Issues and Not Know It?," Institute of Internal Auditors, Baton Rouge Chapter, 1/2004
- "GLBA Meets HIPAA - Do You Have Privacy Issues and Not Know It?," Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants, Baton Rouge Chapter, 4/2003
- "Professionalism: Can We Get There From Here?," Recent Developments in Legislation and Jurisprudence, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Center of Continuing Professional Development, 9 and 11/2003

Publications

- "Little FTC Acts and Statutory Triple Damages," *Business Torts Journal*, American Bar Association, Fall 2009 (co-authored with Dylan Tuggle)
- "Need to Know: Predatory Overbidding?" *Ment Shop Message*, Associated Builders and Contractors, Pelican Chapter, 2/2007
- "Electronic Documents and the New Federal Rules," *Legnippo (A Publication for Louisiana Certified Public Accountants)*, 12/2006
- "Brill v. Countrywide Homes: Burden of Proof in Remand Proceedings Under the Class Action Fairness Act," *The Federal Lawyer*, 5/2006 (co-authored with J.R. Whaley)
- "Document Destruction: Could the Stakes Be Higher?" *Business Torts Journal*, American Bar Association, Fall 2005
- "What About the Minority Shareholder in a Closely Held Corporation?" *Business Torts Journal*, American Bar Association, Summer 2005
- "The "Other" April Deadline (HIPAA Security Standards Rule)," *Legnippo*, Louisiana Nursing Home Association, 3/2005

- "Just the Facts: A glimpse at how the FACT Act affects your business," *Signals, Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association, 5/2004*
- "Just the Facts: A glimpse at how the FACT Act affects your business," *Law Journal, Baton Rouge Business Report, Spring/Summer 2004*
- "The FTC Safeguards Rules - Do Your Clients Have Privacy "Issues" and Not Know It?" *Around the Bar, Baton Rouge Bar Association, No. 181, 11/2003*
- "Lawyer, Heal Thyself: Do You Have "Issues" and Not Know It?" *Commercial & Business Litigation, American Bar Association, Fall 2003*
- "For Whom Does the Statute of Limitations Toll?" *Commercial & Business Litigation, American Bar Association, Winter 2001-2002*
- "When Can a Lawyer Serve as an Expert Witness?" *Commercial & Business Litigation, American Bar Association, Winter 2000-2001*

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