

2014 Bankruptcy Seminar Presenter Bios

Henry G. Hobbs, Jr.

Acting U.S. Trustee Region 5 (New Orleans, LA) and Assistant U.S. Trustee (Austin, TX)

Henry Hobbs has been the Assistant U.S. Trustee in Austin, Texas for the past 22 years and has served as the Acting U.S. Trustee in New Orleans since January 1, 2011. He also briefly served as the Acting Assistant U.S. Trustee in New Orleans, Louisiana from April through August of 2005. After the passage of BAPCPA, he was the Acting Chief of the Credit Counseling/Debtor Education Unit of the Executive Office for United States Trustees from 2005 through 2007. During his tenure with the U.S. Trustee Program, he has also served as an interim chapter 13 trustee in the Western District of Louisiana. Before joining the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Trustee's office, he earned a B.S. in General Business Administration from Louisiana State University in 1977 and a J.D. from Louisiana State University Law Center in 1980. After serving in a Judicial Clerkship for Louisiana Second Circuit State Court of Appeal, he was in private practice in Shreveport, Louisiana for 12 years practicing bankruptcy, creditors' rights and commercial litigation.

He was a frequent speaker on collection and bankruptcy matters while in private practice in Louisiana. He has also been a frequent speaker at the Department of Justice's National Bankruptcy Training Institute in Columbia, South Carolina. Henry has spoken at the State Bar of Texas, Advanced Consumer Bankruptcy Course, the State Bar of Texas Advanced Business Bankruptcy Conference, the Mississippi Bankruptcy Law Conference, the LSU Bankruptcy Conference, the Western District of Texas Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference and the NACTT Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. He has also been a Guest Lecturer for University of Texas Law School, Bankruptcy Reorganization Classes.

Mr. Hobbs is a member of the Hill Country Trail Runners Club and has completed four marathons and over thirty ultra-marathons (50K to 100 miles), including the 2005 Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run in California.

Donald Lee Brice, Jr.

Attorney

Lee Brice obtained a bachelor's degree in Accounting from Louisiana State University in 1983, and his law degree from LSU Law School in 1986. He is a member of The Smitherman Law Firm, L.C. and has a broad general practice with emphasis on litigation, collections and bankruptcy, real estate, representation of business owners in all aspects including organization, business acquisitions and sales, commercial lending, and landlord and tenant law.

Mr. Brice is a co-owner of Interstate Title Company, Inc., and a licensed title insurance agent authorized to issue title insurance policies for First American Title Insurance Company of Louisiana.

In his spare time Mr. Brice and his wife enjoy traveling to football games at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, where their daughter is a cheerleader, and to Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, where they have season tickets.

Kevin J. Payne
Attorney

Kevin J. Payne is a partner in the firm of Rogers, Carter and Payne. He is a graduate of Baylor University (BBA) and the Paul M. Hebert School of Law (JD).

Curtis R. Shelton
Attorney

Curtis Shelton practices commercial law handling litigation, general business, and transactional matters. His experience includes representing parties to business and contract disputes in state and federal courts, representation of lenders in bankruptcy courts, complex commercial transactions and preparing contracts and business policies for on-going operations.

He received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern State University, and his law degree from Louisiana State University Law Center, where he was on the Louisiana Law Review and was a member of the Order of the Coif, an honorary society of the top ten percent of each graduating class. He graduated ranked 5th in his law school class. Curtis was admitted to practice in 1985.

Mr. Shelton is licensed to practice in all of the district and appellate courts as well as the Louisiana Supreme Court. Curtis is admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana and the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal. Curtis is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Shreveport Bar Association, and a past member of the Harry V. Booth American Inn of Court and the Bank Counsel Section of the Louisiana Banker's Association. Curtis was President of the Shreveport firm of Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway from 2001 through 2005.

Jerry Edwards
Attorney

Jerry Edwards is a director in the Shreveport law firm of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts. His practice involves litigation in diverse areas, with an emphasis in creditors' rights, personal injury defense, bankruptcy and municipal law. Mr. Edwards received his J.D. in 2005 from Vermont Law School where he a member of the Moot Court Board and President of the Student Bar Association.

Before joining Blanchard Walker, he clerked at the First Judicial District Court in Caddo Parish for Judges Scott J. Crichton and Jeanette G. Garrett. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Harry V. Booth - Judge Henry A. Politz Inn of Court. He is the District Eight Representative to the Young Lawyers Council of the Louisiana State Bar Association and Chair of the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana.

Kelli Cook
Attorney

Kelli Cook has been practicing law at The Cook Law Firm for 5 years and has worked there sporadically since she was 14 years old. She graduated from LSU (Accounting) in 2006 and the Paul M. Hebert School of Law in 2009. Ms. Cook is a member of the Woman's Section of the Shreveport Bar Association, Young Professionals Initiative, and the Shreveport and Bossier City Bar Association.

Kevin R. Molloy
Attorney

Kevin Molloy is a partner in the law firm of Simon, Fitzgerald, Cooke, Reed & Welch. Prior to his association with the firm, he was a law clerk for the Honorable Steven V. Callaway, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Louisiana. Mr. Molloy has been certified as a specialist in both Business Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization. He is currently a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association House of Delegates, a Fellow of the Louisiana and Shreveport Bar Foundations, a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association Committee on the Profession and the Harry V. Booth and Judge Henry A. Politz Inn of Court (Master). He was formerly Chair of the Consumer Protection and Bankruptcy Law Sections of the Louisiana State Bar Association, Chair of the Bankruptcy Advisory Commission of the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization and a Hearing Committee Chair of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board. Mr. Molloy is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University with a B.S. in Business Administration and he received his J.D. from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center where he was President of the Student Body and the Student Member of the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Tim Waltman
Attorney

Tim Waltman was born in Ruston, Louisiana. He received his Bachelor's degree in psychology from Indiana University (1986); master's degree in public affairs from Indiana University (1987); and his Law Degree from Loyola University (1997). He has been in private practice in Shreveport since 1997. Mr. Waltman is married to Angela Waltman, also an attorney, and they are the parents of a daughter, Haley, who is a graduate student at Indiana University, and a son, Dayton, who will be in the 5th grade at Fairfield Elementary this fall.

John S. Hodge
Attorney and Chapter 7 Panel Trustee

John Hodge is an attorney with the Shreveport firm of Wiener, Weiss & Madison where his practice focuses on matters related to bankruptcy, business law and civil rights. He also serves as a member of the panel of bankruptcy trustees for chapter 7 and 11 cases filed in the Western District of Louisiana. Mr. Hodge holds a Juris Doctor degree from LSU Law School and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from LSU.

Stephen V. Callaway
Bankruptcy Judge

Stephen V. Callaway was sworn in on August 9, 1986, as Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Louisiana at Shreveport. He was reappointed for another 14 year term in August, 2000. Judge Callaway was the Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District from August 9, 1986 until June 1, 1995, at which time the three bankruptcy judges of the District agreed to rotate the position of Chief Bankruptcy Judge every five (5) years. Judge Callaway, although a native of Olney, Illinois, has referred to Shreveport, Louisiana, as "Home" since age four (4). Judge Callaway attended Southwestern at Memphis and received his B.A. from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, in 1970. After a brief stint in the Marine Corps Reserve, Judge Callaway received his J.D. from Louisiana State Law School in 1973. Judge Callaway practiced law in Shreveport, Louisiana, as a partner in the firm of Burnett, Sutton, Walker & Callaway from 1973 to 1986, specializing in commercial and insolvency law. Judge Callaway was a founding member of the Shreveport Estate Planning Council, the Shreveport Bank Counsel Group, a past Circuit Governor of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and is a Past President of the Harry V. Booth and Judge Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court. He is an active member of the Broadmoor Presbyterian Church in Shreveport. Judge Callaway is married to Barbara C. Callaway and has two daughters: Kimberly Callaway and Katie Callaway O'Rear; and two step-daughters: Ashley Collinsworth and Leigh Ann Collinsworth Thompson. He is also the proud grandfather of one granddaughter and two grandsons