

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

William “Will” Jerrol Crain

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office: Louisiana Supreme Court Building
 400 Royal Street
 Fourth Floor
 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Residence: Mandeville, Louisiana

4. **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1961; Bogalusa, Louisiana

5. **Education Record:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1983 – 1986, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law School, J.D.; 1986

1979 – 1983, Louisiana State University, B.A. in Accounting; 1983

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2019 – present
Supreme Court of Louisiana
400 Royal Street

Fourth Floor
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Associate Justice

2013 – 2019
Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal
1600 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802
Judge

2009 – 2012
22nd Judicial District Court
701 North Columbia Street
Covington, Louisiana 70433
Judge

1986 – 2008
Jones Fussell, LLP
1001 U.S. Hwy. 190 East Service Road
Covington, LA 70433
Partner (1990 – 2008)
Associate (1986 – 1989)

1980-1986
Senator Benjamin Burras “Sixty” Rayburn
Louisiana State Senate
Legislative Committee on the Budget
Aide to the Chairman

1985 – 1986
19th Judicial District Court
300 North Boulevard
Suite 3602
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Part-Time Librarian

7. Military Service and Draft: Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the military. I registered for the selective service when I turned 18.

8. Honors and Awards: List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Certificate of Appreciation, Police Jury Association of Louisiana, Inc. (February 2024)

Judge of the Year, Crimefighters, Inc. (July 2023)

Republican of the Year, Washington Parish Republican Party (2021)

LSU Board of Supervisors Paul M. Hebert Law School Scholarship (1983 – 1986)

Louisiana Boys State (1978)

9. Bar Associations: List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Supreme Court of Louisiana

Executive Committee Chairman (2025 – present)

Committee of Judicial Ethics (2021 – present)

Technology Commission (2020 – 2025)

Court Cost Committee, Chairman (2020 – present)

Court Cost Committee, Vice-Chairman (2018 – 2019)

Louisiana Judicial College, Supreme Court of Louisiana

President (2018)

Board of Governors, Vice-Chairman (2019 – 2025)

Board of Governors, Chairman (2025 – present)

Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society

Member, Ex Officio (2019 – present)

Louisiana Judicial Council, Ex Officio Member (2019 – present)

First Circuit Judges Association (2018 – 2019)

Federalist Society (2001 – 2011; 2017 – 2020)

Louisiana District Judges Association (2009 – 2012)

24th JDC Bar Association (2020 – present)

21st JDC Bar Association (2013 – present)

22nd JDC Bar Association (1986 – present)

President (1990)

Vice-President (1989)

Slidell Bar Association (2009 – present)

Inaugural Class of Louisiana Judicial Leadership Institute (2011)

Washington Parish Bar Association (1986 – present)

Louisiana State Bar Association (1986 – present)

American Bar Association (1986 – 2003)

10. Bar and Court Admission:

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Louisiana (1986)

There have been no lapses in membership.

Texas (1993 – 2013)

I voluntarily resigned when I began my service on the Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal.

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Court of Appeal for the Fifth Circuit, 1994

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, 1988

United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, 2002

Louisiana State Court, 1986

11. Memberships:

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

I do not belong to any organizations other than those listed in response to Questions 9 and 10.

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

I do not belong to any organizations other than those listed in response to Questions 9 and 10.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply copies of all published material to the Committee.

September 5, 2025, Statement of Gratitude, New Orleans, LA; available at https://www.lasc.org/Press_Release?p=2025-09

In 2019 I published several campaign advertisements and produced campaign materials while running for the Louisiana Supreme Court. Copies supplied. The following is a link to my campaign Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Committee-to-Elect-Appeals-Court-Judge-Will-Crain-for-Supreme-Court/100058219623936/>.

June 10, 2008, *Covington Lawyer to run for state district judge – Republican intends to be on Oct. 4 ballot*, Times Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana. Copy supplied.

b. Supply copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

I have not prepared or contributed in the preparation of any reports memoranda or policy statements on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which I was a member.

c. Supply copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

January 18, 2024, Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing, Redistricting Session, 1:38:13. Video of my testimony to the committee is available at the Louisiana

State Senates website:

https://senate.la.gov/s_video/VideoArchivePlayer?v=senate/2024/01/011824SG.

Letter to Hon. Jeffrey M. Landry, Attorney General and Governor-Elect, Hon. Phillip DeVillier, Representative and Speaker-Designate, Hon. Cameron Henry, Senator and President-Designate, and Hon. Elizabeth Murrill, Solicitor General and Attorney General-Elect, from members of the Louisiana Supreme Court (Dec. 27, 2023). Copy supplied.

April 20, 2023, House and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing, 2:01:23. Video of my testimony to the committee is available at the Louisiana State House of Representatives website:

https://www.house.louisiana.gov/H_Video/VideoArchivePlayer?v=house/2023/apr/0420_23_HG.

April 4, 2023, Louisiana House Appropriations Committee Hearing, 1:20:00. Video of my testimony to the committee is available at the Louisiana State House of Representatives website:

https://www.house.louisiana.gov/H_Video/VideoArchivePlayer?v=house/2022/apr/0404_22_AP.

d. Supply copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

September 19, 2025: Speaker, Professionalism, LAMMICO Defense Counsel Seminar,” Louisiana Medical Mutual Insurance Company CLE, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

June 24, 2025: Speaker, “Young Men’s Group American Legion,” Louisiana Boys State, SLU Student Union Hall, Hammond, Louisiana. I spoke to several groups of attendees about leadership, perseverance, and ending with a quote from the Champions Creed, which is common for me. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Louisiana Boys State is the American Legion P.O. Box 3749, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821.

June 3, 2025: Speaker, “CLE: The Anatomy of the Disposition of a Felony Case: Docket Management,” Louisiana Judicial College, Destin, Florida. Notes supplied.

June 2, 2025: Speaker, “CLE: Docket + Trial Management,” Louisiana State Bar Summer School, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

April 23, 2025: Speaker, "Leadership Tangipahoa," Tangipahoa Parish, Amite, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

March 14, 2025: Speaker, "President's Luncheon," Louisiana Judicial College, Louisiana Association of Justice, Windsor Court, New Orleans. I addressed redistricting and current issues facing the Supreme Court. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the Louisiana Judicial College is Room W126, LSU Law Center, 1 East Campus Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803.

December 13, 2024: Speaker, "Supreme Court Updates 2024," 21st JDC Bar Association CLE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

August 29, 2024: Speaker, "Effective And Efficient Criminal Practice CLE," 22nd JDC District Attorney's Office, Covington, Louisiana. The presentation addressed effective methods for a criminal practice. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The address for the 22nd JDC District Attorney's Office is 701 N. Columbia Street, Suite 200, Covington, Louisiana 70433.

May 20, 2024: Speaker, "Opening of Pro-Bono Project," Pro Bono Project, Covington, Louisiana. Handwritten notes supplied.

February 29, 2024: Speaker, "Ethics, Parish Attorneys Association, 100th Police Jury Association Annual Convention CLE," Police Jury Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

October 15, 2023: Speaker, "Louisiana State Bar Admissions Ceremony," Louisiana State Bar, Pontchartrain Center, Kenner, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

July 25, 2023: Speaker, "Judge of the Year Award," Crimefighters, Inc., Kenner, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

May 19, 2023: Speaker, "2023 CLE: Recent Louisiana Supreme Court Cases and Developments," 22nd JDC Bar Association, Covington, Louisiana, Notes supplied.

Sometime in 2023: Speaker, "Online Continuing Legal Education Presentation," Louisiana State Bar Association, Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

November 14, 2022: Speaker, "Ethics 2022 - Recent Developments By The Judiciary CLE," Tulane Inn of Court, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

October 7, 2022: Speaker, "Ethics 2022, LABI's 2022 WC Seminar Recent Developments By The Judiciary," LABI, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

May 30, 2022: *Do no open 'til 2072: Time capsule planted at new Kentwood library*, The Daily Star, Hammond, Louisiana. Copy supplied

April 22, 2022: Speaker, "Lawyer Advertising," 22nd Bar Assoc. CLE, Mandeville, Louisiana. Notes supplied

March 11, 2022: Speaker, "Evidence and Procedure Seminar, Ethics in Attorney Advertising Rules," Louisiana Association of Justice, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

December 13, 2021: Speaker, "Cadet of the Year Award," St. Tammany Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, Mandeville, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

October 8, 2021: Speaker, "Ethics 2021: Recent Developments By The Judiciary," LABI, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

September 2021: Speaker, "Court Opening Ceremony," 22nd Judicial District Court, Covington, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

October 2, 2020: Speaker, "Louisiana Appellate Practice," Louisiana State Bar Association, I spoke about appellate practice and procedures. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The Address of the Louisiana State Bar Association is 601 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130.

December 11, 2019: Speaker, "Investiture," Supreme Court of Louisiana, Mandeville, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

November 15, 2019: Speaker, "Recognition of Attorney John Gallaspy," Covington Bar Association Continuing Legal Education. Covington, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

June 2019: Speaker, "The Bread and Butter Of Appellate Practice: Judgments, Orders, Writs and Appeals," LSBA Summer School, Destin, Florida. Notes supplied.

March 23, 2019: Speaker, "Tribute to Ronald Reagan at the Lincoln/Reagan Dinner," St. Tammany Parish Republicans, Covington, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

January 24, 2019: Speaker, "New Judge Training: Decisional Delay The Law, Ethics, Rules and Practical Implications," Louisiana Judicial College, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

December 14, 2018: Speaker, "Application for Priority Consideration of Writs in Criminal Matters, 2018 Criminal Court Seminar," Louisiana Judicial College, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

December 7, 2018: Speaker, “Handling *En Banc* Cases, 21st JDC Bar Association’s 7th Annual Study Break,” 21st JDC Bar Association, 7th Annual Study Break, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

November 16, 2018: Speaker, “Handling *En Banc* Cases,” 22nd JDC Bar Association’s All Day CLE, Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

October 2, 2018: Speaker, “Inter-Circuit Conflicts and Perspectives on Appellate Review, Fall Judges Conference,” Fall Judges Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

March 17, 2018: Speaker, “Tribute to Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln/Reagan Dinner,” St. Tammany Parish Republicans, Covington, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

December 8, 2017: Speaker, “Insights From The Appellate Bench,” 21st JDC Bar Association Presents: 6th Annual Study Break, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

November 17, 2017: Speaker, “Insights From The Appellate Bench,” 22nd JDC Bar Association’s All Day CLE, Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

September 28, 2017: Speaker, “Insights From The Appellate Bench,” 21st Annual Family Law Seminar, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

March 31, 2017: Speaker, “Considerations For Appellate Practice,” 22nd JDC Bar All Day CLE, Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

February 22, 2017: Speaker, “Update from the Judiciary,” American Federalist Society CLE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

May 10, 2016: Speaker, “Legal Family Feud,” Inns of Court, 22nd JDC”, Lacombe, Louisiana. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The Inns of Court does not have a physical address.

December 11, 2015: Speaker, “The Art of Appellate Persuasion,” The 21st Judicial District, Bar Association CLE, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

November 6, 2015: Speaker, “Ethics on Appeal,” Louisiana State Bar Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

February 26, 2015: Speaker, “Finish Strong: Jury Charges and Jury Interrogatories, 2015 Evidence and Procedure Seminar,” Louisiana Judicial College and the Louisiana Association for Justice, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

June 5, 2014: Speaker, “The Art of Managing Oral Argument A Perspective From The Bench.” Louisiana State Bar Association, Madisonville, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

June 1, 2014: Speaker, “Come Together” Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louisiana Judicial College, Destin, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The address of the Louisiana State Bar Association is 601 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130.

July 9, 2013: Speaker, “Oral Advocacy: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” 22nd JDC Inn of Court, Mandeville, Louisiana. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The Inns of Court does not have a physical address.

March 25, 2013: Speaker, “Professionalism: Order In The Court,” Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

Sometime in 2013: Speaker, “Impact attending Bogalusa High School made on career,” Bogalusa High School Honor Society, Bogalusa, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

May 6, 2012: *Tammany DA put the high in high school*, Times Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana. Copy supplied

April 27, 2012: *Call us St. Slammany? No problem*, Times Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana. Copy supplied.

December 14, 2011: Speaker, “Evidence And Persuasion At Trial, A View From The Bench.” Jacmel Inn, Hammond, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

October 28, 2011: Speaker, “Professionalism For Judges and Lawyers, LSBA Voodoo Fest – Trials: No Tricks, Just Treats,” Louisiana State Bar Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

August 19, 2011: Speaker, “LADC 2011 Sizzlin’ Summer Seminar,” Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, New Orleans, Louisiana. I have no notes, transcripts or recordings. The address of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel is 8982 Darby Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

August 20, 2010: Speaker, “Evidence,” 22nd JDC Bar Association, Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

January 9, 2009: Speaker, “Investiture,” 22nd JDC Investiture, Franklinton, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

January 9, 2009: Speaker, “Investiture,” 22nd JDC Investiture, Covington, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

November 3, 2007: Speaker, “Highlights of the 22nd JDC,” Mt. Hermon Ruritan Club, Clifton, Louisiana. Speech supplied.

October 19, 2007: Speaker, “Evidence at Trial,” 22nd JDC Bar Assoc., Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

August 4, 2005: Speaker, “Evidence at Trial,” 22nd JDC Bar Assoc., Covington, Louisiana. Notes supplied.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Jillian Kramer, *Inside the ‘dysfunctional’ New Orleans court plagued by murder case delays: ‘Like the Wild West’*, Nola.com. September 4, 2025. Copy supplied.

Will Crain Interview, AN17 Local News, June 1, 2025. Recording available at <https://youtu.be/CbPH1Oj-DXo?si=G90QJnpfHWzW XK7s>.

La. Supreme Court Judge Will Crain swears in Mayor Bill Borchert, Youtube, @MayorBillBorchert, January 20, 2025. Video available at <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/XirTWV4kcDw>.

Will Crain interview, AN17 Local News, January 4, 2025. Recording available at <https://youtu.be/TbcTttLSpc?si=-OZgrnpR0dM2tH0L>.

Andrea Gallo, *Louisiana judge suspended over rejected warrants in child abuse cases, ignored orders*, Nola.com, October 25, 2024. Copy supplied.

Julie O’Donoghue, *Louisiana Supreme Court calls lawmakers’ use of delays ‘egregious’ but may not scrap it*, Louisiana Illuminator, September 6, 2024. Copy supplied.

Tyler Bridges, *A college president here, a Supreme Court justice there: Jeff Landry is making moves*, Nola.com, July 3, 2024. Copy supplied.

Will Crain Interview, AN17 Local News, June 29, 2024. Video available at https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8zP1iZsIPA/?utm_source=ig._

Justice William J. Crain, Momentous Decisions, LSU Law Magazine, Spring 2024. Copy supplied.

Irv Magri, *Louisiana Supreme Court Justice William J. Crain named Crimefighters, Inc. Judge of the Year*, crimefightersoflouisiana.com, April 13, 2024. Copy supplied.

Tyler Bridges, *Conservatives dominate list of delegates Jeff Landry names to constitutional convention*, Nola.com, April 12, 2024. Copy supplied.

Jennifer Tran, *LSU Law alumnus, Louisiana Supreme Court Justice William Crain honored by Crimefighters, Inc. with Judge of the Year Award*, LSU Law Alumnus, August 7, 2023. Copy supplied.

Press release, *Louisiana Supreme Court Justice William J. Crain Named Crimefighters, Inc. Judge of the Year*, Louisiana Supreme Court, August 4, 2023. Copy supplied.

Matt Bruce, *Supreme Court says man who spent 46 years in prison deserves wrongful conviction compensation*, Nola.com, May 5, 2023. Copy supplied.

John Simerman, *Louisiana Supreme Court debates who has power to change verdicts*, Nola.com, May 2, 2023. Copy supplied.

Tyler Bridges, *Pay dispute between Supreme Court justices puts lawmakers in difficult spot*, Nola.com, April 20, 2023. Copy supplied.

Bogalusa High School Alumni Justice and Judges inspire students, Judges in the Classroom, Students in the Courtroom, A Newsletter of the Judiciary of the State of Louisiana, Volume 3, Issue 1. 2023. Copy supplied.

Louisiana Supreme Court Justice William J. Crain Led a Virtual Visit with Students at Lucille Nesome Memorial School, Judges in the Classroom, Students in the Courtroom, A Newsletter of the Judiciary of the State of Louisiana, Volume 2, Issue 1, Law Day 2022. Copy supplied.

Scott L. Sternberg, *One on One with Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justice William J. Crain*, Portraits & Perspectives: Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justices, Louisiana Bar Journal, December 2021. Copy supplied.

John Simerman, *Crain, Liljeberg clash in heated showdown for Louisiana Supreme Court seat*, Nola.com, November 11, 2019. Copy supplied.

John Simerman, *Ad war heats up Louisiana's Supreme Court race with a week to go*, Nola.com, November 9, 2019. Copy supplied.

Barbara Doyle, *Will Crain: Experience Matters*, Sophisticated Woman, The Northshore's Best, August 1, 2019. Copy supplied

Hot Seat: Louisiana Supreme Court Justice District 1 Debate, Part 1, WDSU News, October 11, 2019. Video available at <https://youtu.be/2hafCfjHrPU?si=yeXJefU1JexqCsU>.

Chad Calder, *Will Crain announces candidacy for Louisiana Supreme Court*, The Advocate, July 2, 2019. Copy supplied.

Heather Nolan, *William Crain to be sworn in as appellate court judge Friday*, Nola.com, December 14, 2012. Copy supplied.

Robert Rhoden, *Like father like son: Judge William Crain moving up to appellate court*, Nola.com, August 21, 2012. Copy supplied.

- 13. Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

22nd Judicial District Court

Judge

Elected position

Original general jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases in Washington and St. Tammany Parishes.

Louisiana Court of Appeal

First Circuit

Judge

Elected position

Appellate jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases from 16 parishes in the southeastern part of the state and supervisory jurisdiction over same Louisiana District Courts.

Louisiana Supreme Court

Associate Justice

Elected position

Appellate jurisdiction over the intermediate Courts of Appeal and general supervisory jurisdiction over all lower courts. Original jurisdiction in lawyer and judge disciplinary cases and exclusive appellate jurisdiction for cases where a law or ordinance is declared unconstitutional and in capital death penalty cases.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment? 150

- i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials: 50%

bench trials: 50%

ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings:	<u>50%</u>
criminal proceedings:	<u>50%</u>

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents:

In re Thibodeaux, 2025-00854 (La. 9/16/25), ___ So. 3d ___ (2025WL2650001 at *1), (Crain, J., dissenting).

Monroe Municipal Fire & Police Civil Serv. Bd. v. Brown, 24-00543 (La. 9/3/25), ___ So. 3d ___ (2025WL2525394)

State in Interest of D.D., 2024-00254 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 319

State v. Chester, 2024-00207 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 384, 389 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Thomas, 2024-00267 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 435, 449 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Coutee, 2023-01549 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 408, 427 (Crain, J., concurring)

McBride v. Old Republic Ins. Co., 2024-01519 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So.3d 452, 480 (Crain, J., dissenting)

In re Ward, 2025-00721 (La. 6/25/25), 412 So. 3d 220 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Solorzano-Robinson v. PV Holding Corp., 2025-00725 (La. 6/9/25), 411 So.3d 28 (Crain, J., agreeing in part, dissenting in part)

Ballard v. State, 2025-00450 (La. 6/3/25), 410 So. 3d 789, 790 (Crain, J., dissenting from denial of writ of certiorari)

State v. K.B., 24-00491 (La. 5/9/25), 408 So. 3d 938, 953 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Day v. Thompson, 24-00802 (La. 5/9/25), 408 So. 3d 911, 921 (Crain, J., concurring)

Wilmington Sav. Fund Soc'y, FSB v. B&W Enterprises, 2025-00059 (La. 4/29/25), 407 So. 3d 626 (Crain, J., concurring)

State v. Draughn, 25-00505 (La. 4/28/25), 408 So. 3d 192, 194 (Crain, J., dissenting)

In re Rose, 25-00390 (La. 4/23/25), 406 So. 3d 1163, 1164 (Crain, J., dissenting)

In re Med. Review Proceedings of Poree, 24-01590 (La. 4/23/25), 406 So. 3d 1159, 1161 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Louisiana Wetlands, LLC v. Energen Res. Corp., 2025-00043 (La. 4/15/25), 406 So. 3d 428 (Crain, J., dissenting from denial of writ of certiorari)

State v. Reed, 25-00423 (La. 4/11/25); 405 So.3d 560, 561 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Draughn, 25-00424 (La. 4/11/25), 405 So.3d 562, 563 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Covington v. Clark Sand Co., Inc., 24-01531 (La. 4/8/25), 404 So. 3d 646, 648 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Fremin v. Boyd Racing, LLC, 24-00995 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So. 3d 546

Welch v. United Medical Healthwest-New Orleans L.L.C., 24-00899 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So. 3d 554

Thomas v. Housing Louisiana Now, L.L.C., 24-00631 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So. 3d 570 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Diano, 24-00888 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So.3d 530, 538 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Campbell v. Orient-Express Hotels Louisiana, Inc., 24-00840 (La. 3/21/25), 403 So. 3d 573, 594 (Crain, J., concurring)

State v. Johnson, 24-01175 (La. 3/18/25), 402 So. 3d 1206, 1207 (Crain, J., concurring)

State v. Taylor, 24-00907 (La. 3/18/25), 402 So.3d 1204, 1205 (Crain, J., concurring)

In re Barzare, 24-1407 (La. 2/28/25), 401 So.3d 1261 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Toney, 24-01368 (La. 2/19/25), 400 So.3d 910, 911 (Crain, J., concurring)

Huntsman Int'l, L.L.C. v. Praxair, Inc., 24-00627 (La. 2/6/25), 400 So.3d 882, *reh'g denied*, 2024-00627 (La. 3/20/25), 403 So.3d 598

State v. Bartie, 2024-00897 (La. 2/6/25), 400 So.3d 896, 907 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Pinnacle Constr. Grp., L.L.C. v. Devere Swepeco JV, L.L.C., 24-00406 (La. 2/6/25), 400 So. 3d 878, 881 (Crain, J., concurring)

LeBlanc v. Walmart Stores, Inc., 24-01212 (La. 2/5/25), 400 So.3d 96 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Craighead, 24-01219 (La. 2/5/25), 400 So.3d 99, 102 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Barber Bros. Contracting Co., LLC v. Capitol City Produce Co., LLC, 23-00788 (La. 12/19/24), 397 So.3d 404, 423 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Succession of Frabbiele, 24-00091 (La. 12/13/24), 397 So.3d 391, 400 (Crain, J., dissenting)

State v. Hawthorne, 24-01233 (La. 11/27/24), 396 So.3d 250 (Crain, J., concurring)

In re Fiffie, 24-00976 (La. 10/25/24), 395 So.3d 738

State v. Mangrum, 23-01609 (La. 10/25/24), 395 So.3d 765, 771 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Howe v. Gafford, 23-01649 (La. 10/25/24), 395 So.3d 844, 850 (Crain, J., concurring)

Bd. of Supervisors of Louisiana State Univ. & Agric. & Mech. Coll. v. Bickham, 23-01364 (La. 10/25/24), 395 So.3d 792, 806 (Crain, J., concurring)

Collins v. Chambers, 24-01005 (La. 8/20/24), 390 So.3d 1282, 1288 (Crain, J. concurring)

Pickard v. Amazon.com, Inc., 23-01596 (La. 6/28/24), 387 So.3d 515

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals v. Bd. of Supervisors of Louisiana State Univ., 23-01396 (La. 6/28/24), 387 So.3d 527, 545 (Crain, J., dissenting)

In re Hjortsberg, 24-00149 (La. 6/28/24), 388 So.3d 382, 393 (Crain, J., dissenting)

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c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

1. *State in Interest of D.D.*, (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 319

State sex-offender registration requirement applicable to juvenile did not violate Eighth

Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment nor implicate Sixth Amendment right to trial by jury.

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2. *Bienvenu v. Defendant I*, (La. 6/12/24) 386 So.3d 280

Dissenting from the original opinion, I found the legislation granting sex abuse victims a window to file suit for otherwise prescribed claims did not violate Due Process Clause. The original opinion granted a "vested right" under Louisiana law greater protection than a fundamental right under federal constitutional law. I concluded this was wrong and reflected an incomplete analysis. On rehearing, my view was adopted by the majority opinion. *See Bienvenu v. Defendant I*, 2023-01194 (La. 3/22/24), 382 So.3d 38, 58 (Crain, J., dissenting), *reh'g granted*, 2023-01194 (La. 5/10/24), 384 So.3d 885, and *opinion vacated on reh'g*, 2023-01194 (La. 6/12/24) 386 So.3d 280.

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3. *Broome v. Rials*, 2023-01108 (La. 4/26/24), 383 So.3d 578

Incorporation of City of St. George in East Baton Rouge Parish followed proper procedures, was approved by voters, and valid. Both the trial court and intermediate appeals court denied incorporation.

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4. *June Medical Services, LLC v. Landry*, (La. 7/6/22), 341 So. 3d 538

In this case, I dissented from denial of supervisory writ. At issue was the execution of a “trigger” statute that outlawed abortion in Louisiana. The lower courts had implemented injunctions preventing the execution of that statute, thus allowing the abortion clinics to continue to operate. The writ application sought review of the temporary restraining order that prevented the statutes from going into effect. The Supreme Court denied the writ. I dissented and wrote separately and would have granted review under our court’s plenary power.

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Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein & Hilbert, LLC
909 Poydras Street, Twenty-Eighth Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 299-2100

5. *State v. Spell*, (La. 5/13/22), 339 So.3d 1125

Governor’s executive orders issued in response to COVID pandemic violated defendant’s

First Amendment right of Freedom of Religion. Defendant minister was arrested during a religious service at his church that violated stay-at-home executive orders prohibiting 10 or more people from being in a single space. My opinion found the executive orders, which excluded a multitude of secular activities but applied to religious services, did not survive strict scrutiny under the First Amendment.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Hillar C. Moore, III
District Attorney
222 St. Louis Street, 5th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 389-3400

Darrel J. Papillion
Special Assistant District Attorney
222 St. Louis Street, 5th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 389-3400

Counsel for Defendant:

Jeffrey S. Wittenbrink
Wittenbrink Law Firm
331 St. Ferdinand Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 308-6850

6. *Crowe v. Pearl River Polymers*, 99-14413 Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court

In this mass tort action, plaintiffs alleged personal injuries from two chemical emissions. The case had been pending ten years when I inherited it in June 2009. I presided over the trial of seventeen bellwether plaintiffs and awarded damages to ten of the bellwether plaintiffs in amounts from \$250 to \$26,403. I awarded no damages to seven of the plaintiffs. My judgment and written reasons are submitted herewith. The Court of Appeal made minor adjustments to my damage awards but otherwise affirmed my judgment. *See Crowe v. Pearl River Polymers, Inc.*, 2012-1323 (La. App. 1 Cir. 12/30/14), 2014WL7454995. Counsel with significant roles in the litigation:

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Ronnie G. Penton
Penton Law Firm
503 Georgia Avenue
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(985) 732-5651

Stephen B. Murray

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(504) 525-8100

Counsel for Defendant:

Richard M. Simses
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Houston, Texas 77056
(713) 627-9393

Luis A. Leitzelar
Bienvenu Foco Viator
4120 Bluebonnet Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Shawn C. Reed
Howard & Reed
516 North Columbia Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 893-3607

7. *State v. Austin*, Docket No. 09CR8 102299, Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court, Washington Parish, Louisiana.

Defendant was charged with aggravated rape of two seven-year-old victims. A jury found him guilty as charged, and I sentenced defendant to consecutive life sentences at hard labor without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence. The convictions and sentences were affirmed on appeal. *See State v. Austin*, 2012-1612 (La. App. 1 Cir. 4/26/13), 2013WL1792651. Trial court minute entry supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Lewis V. Murray, III (deceased)
Assistant District Attorney
Twenty-Second Judicial District Court
909 Pearl Street
Franklinton, LA 70438
(985) 839-6711

Counsel for Defendant:

Kathryn Landry
Hale Devall

400 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 576-0700

Frank Sloan
948 Winona Drive
Mandeville, LA 70471
(985) 845-9492

8. *State v. Jenkins*, Docket No. 483740, Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

Defendant was charged with armed robbery and found guilty by a jury. I sentenced defendant as a habitual offender to ninety-nine years at hard labor, without the benefit of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence. The convictions and sentences were affirmed on appeal. *See State v. Jenkins*, 2011-0203 (La. App. 1 Cir. 6/17/11) 2011WL2448235, *writ denied*, 2011-1588 (La. 1/13/12), 77 So.3d 952. Trial court minute entry supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Nick F. Noriea, Jr.
Assistant District Attorney
Twenty-Second Judicial District Court
415 East Lockwood Street
Covington, LA 70433

Counsel for Defendant:

Peter A. Ierardi, IV (deceased)
Louisiana Public Defender's Office
402 North Jefferson Avenue
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 892-5002

9. *State v. Williams*, Docket No. 456515, Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

Defendant was charged with second degree murder for beating to death a 64 year-old woman in her home. The jury convicted defendant as charged, and I sentenced him to life imprisonment at hard labor without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal. *See State v. Williams*, 2010-1392 (La. App. 1 Cir. 2/11/11), 2011WL2178767. Trial court minute entry supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Nick F. Noriea, Jr.

Assistant District Attorney
Twenty-Second Judicial District Court
415 East Lockwood Street
Covington, LA 70433

Counsel for Defendant:

Peter A. Ierardi, IV (deceased)
Louisiana Public Defender's Office
402 North Jefferson Avenue
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 892-5002

10. *State v. Swafford*, Docket No. 432816, Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

Defendant was charged with first degree murder in the beating death and robbery of a business associate. A jury convicted defendant as charged. The state did not pursue the death penalty. I sentenced the defendant to life imprisonment at hard labor without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence. The conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal. *See State v. Swafford*, 10-1791 (La. App. 1 Cir. 5/6/11), 2011WL2616849. Trial court minute entry supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Nick F. Noriea, Jr.
Assistant District Attorney
Twenty-Second Judicial District Court
415 East Lockwood Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 247-0345

Counsel for Defendant:

J. Kevin McNary
The Bezou Law Firm
534 East Boston Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 892-2111

- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

1. *In re Fiffie*, 2024-00976 (La. 10/25/24), 395 So.3d 738

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Michelle A. Beaty
Judiciary Commission of Louisiana
Office of Special Counsel
601 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 568-8299

Counsel for Defendant:

Vercell Fiffie
116 West 1st Street
Edgard, LA 70049
(985) 267-9111

2. *Broome v. Rials*, 2023-01108 (La. 4/26/24), 383 So.3d 578

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Mary Olive Pierson (deceased)
8702 Jefferson Highway, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
(225) 927-6765

Brett P. Furr
Taylor, Porter, Brooks, & Phillips, L.L.P.
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Baton Rouge, LA 70821
(225) 387-3221

Counsel for Defendant:

Mark D. Plaisance
Plaisance Law, LLC
Post Office Box 1123
Prairieville, LA 70769

3. *Cajun Conti LLC v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London*, 2022-01349 (La. 3/17/23), 359 So.3d 922

Counsel for Plaintiff:

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Gauthier Murphy & Houghtaling LLC
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Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 456-8600

Counsel for Defendant:

Martin A. Stern

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New Orleans, LA 70139
(504) 581-3234

Virginia Y. Dodd
Phelps Dunbar LLP
400 Convention Street, Suite 1100
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

4. *Doe v. McKesson*, 2021-0929 (La. 3/25/22), 339 So.3d 524, 540 (Crain, J., concurring)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Donna U. Grodner
Grodner Law Firm
2223 Quail Run, B-1
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
(225) 769-1919

Counsel for Defendant:

William P. Gibbens
Schonekas, Evans, McGoey & McEachin, LLC
909 Poydras Street, Suite 1600
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 680-6050

5. *Wederstrandt v. Kol*, 2022-01570 (La. 6/27/23), 366 So.3d 47 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Rufus Holt Craig, Jr.
704 Foster Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(225) 927-0310

Counsel for Defendant:

Arthur Bagwell
32415 Bowie Street
White Castle, LA 70788
(225) 545-3042

David C. Spinner
Hair Shunnarah Trial Attorneys, LLC

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Metairie, LA 70001
(504) 684-5200

6. *Order Re: Louisiana Bar Exam*, (La. 7/22/20) (Crain, J., dissenting) (unpublished, copy submitted). This was a unilateral administrative action by the court with no parties or attorneys involved. The action, and my dissent, were widely publicized across the State of Louisiana.

7. *Jones v. State*, 2022-01455 (La. 5/5/23), 362 So.3d 341, 346 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Zachary Crawford-Pechukas
Innocence Project New Orleans
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New Orleans, LA 70119
(504) 943-1902

Counsel for Defendant:

Grant L. Willis
Assistant Louisiana Attorney General
Louisiana Department of Justice
Post Office Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
(225) 326-6200

8. *State ex rel. Robinson v. Vannoy*, 2021-00812 (La. 1/26/24), 378 So.3d 11, 50 (Crain, J., dissenting), *reh'g granted*, 2021-00812 (La. 3/21/24) 382 So.3d 27, and *opinion vacated and superseded on reh'g*, 2021-00812 (La. 12/13/24) 397 So.3d 333, *reh'g granted*, 2021-00812 (La. 3/20/25) 403 So.3d 530, and *aff'd on reh'g*, 2021-00812 (La. 6/27/25) 413 So.3d 403, *reh'g denied*, 2021-00812 (La. 9/4/25)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Edward Q. Cassidy
Lousene M. Hoppe
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
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Matilde J. Carbia
Mwalimu Center for Justice
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New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 212-2110

Counsel for Defendant:

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Post Office Box 5974
Shreveport, LA 71135
(318) 377-7557

9. *State ex rel. Tureau v. BEPCO, L.P.*, 2021-0856 (La. 10/21/22), 351 So.3d 297
(Crain, J., dissenting)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

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Talbot, Carmouche, & Marcello
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(225) 400-9991

Jerold Edward Knoll, Sr.
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Counsel for Defendant:

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Kelly Hart Pitre
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Jamie D. Rhymes
Liskow & Lewis
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Lafayette, LA 70503
(337) 232-7424

10. *State v. Watson*, 2022-00719 (La. 5/1/22), 338 So.3d 1169, 1170 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Counsel for Plaintiff:

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(225) 389-3465

Allison Miller Rutzen
Assistant District Attorney
19th Judicial District Court
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(225) 389-3465

Counsel for Defendant:

Victor J. Woods, Jr.
3834 New Prosperity Lane, Suite A
Addis, LA 70710
(225) 749-8696

- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

To the best of my knowledge, I have no cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

- f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

State v. Wilson, 2015-1794 (La. App. 1 Cir. 4/26/17), 220 So.3d 35, *writ granted*, 2017-0908 (La. 3/23/18), 247 So.3d 113, and *rev'd and remanded*, 2017-0908 (La. 12/5/18), 319 So.3d 262, and *writ denied*, 2017-1025 (La. 2/18/19), 265 So.3d 770. I authored the Court of Appeal opinion that affirmed defendant's convictions on two counts of second degree murder. I found no error in a trial court's evidentiary ruling excluding statements under the hearsay rule. The Louisiana Supreme Court concluded that ruling was erroneous, reversed the convictions, and remanded for a new trial.

State v. Moultrie, 2014-1535 (La. App. 1 Cir. 10/23/15), 182 So.3d 1017, *writ granted*, 2015-2144 (La. 1/13/17), 215 So.3d 245, and *rev'd*, 2015-2144 (La. 6/29/17), 224 So.3d 349. I authored the Court of Appeal opinion that reversed a conviction for drug offenses,

finding certain evidence was unconstitutionally seized. The Louisiana Supreme Court found the evidence was properly seized and reinstated the conviction.

State v. Wright, Docket No. 440135 Div G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. A jury found defendant guilty of aggravated incest, and I sentenced him to 18 years at hard labor. The Court of Appeal reversed the conviction, finding I erred in allowing evidence the defendant married a 14 year-old girl. *See State v. Wright*, 2010-0858 (La. App. 1 Cir. 12/22/10), 2010WL5464421. The Louisiana Supreme Court reversed the Court of Appeal and reinstated the conviction and sentence, finding my evidentiary ruling was correct. *See State v. Wright*, 2011-0141 (La. 12/6/11), 79 So. 3d 309. Trial court minute entry supplied.

Bogle v. Christian, Docket No. 2011-15703 Div. G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. I found a plaintiff failed to prove causation for any injuries in an automobile accident. The Court of Appeal reversed and awarded damages. *See Bogle v. Christian*, 2013-0690 (La. App. 1 Cir. 12/27/13), 2013WL6858255. Trial court judgment and written reasons supplied.

Alexander ex rel. Myles v. Period Millworks, LLC, Docket No. 2011-14286 Div G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. I granted an exception of no cause of action finding defendants' liability was limited to workers' compensation. The Court of Appeal reversed that ruling. *See Alexander ex rel. Myles v. Period Millworks, LLC*, 2011-2274 (La. App. 1 Cir. 6/14/12), 2012 WL 2196275. Trial court judgment supplied. No written reasons were issued.

Lewisburg Estates Homeowners Ass'n v. Wimberly, Docket No. 2007-16282, Div G, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. I denied relief in an action to nullify a judgment in favor of a homeowners association. The Court of Appeal reversed. *See Lewisburg Estates Homeowners Ass'n v. Wimberly*, 2012-2050 (La. App. 1 Cir. 9/13/13), 2013WL11253282. Trial court judgment supplied. No written reasons were issued.

State v. Tin, Inc., Docket No. 103031 Div G, 22nd Judicial District Court, Washington Parish, Louisiana. I denied an exception of res judicata in this suit. The Court of Appeal reversed. *State v. Tin, Inc.*, 2012-1778 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1/15/13) 2013WL12116254, *writ denied*, 2013-0371 (La. 4/19/13), 112 So.3d 224. Trial court judgment and written reasons supplied.

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

While possibly designated "unpublished; all opinions are, in fact, reported in Westlaw and Lexis/Nexis.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

State in Interest of D.D., 24-00254 (La. 6/27/25), 413 So. 3d 319, *reh'g denied*, 24-00254 (La. 9/4/25)

State v. Spell, 2021-00876 (La. 5/13/22), 339 So.3d 1125

State v. Hill, 2020-0323 (La. 10/20/20), 341 So.3d 539, 557 (Crain, J., dissenting)

Bienvenu v. Defendant I, 2023-01194 (La. 3/22/24), 382 So.3d 38, 58 (Crain, J., dissenting), *reh'g granted*, 2023-01194 (La. 5/10/24), 384 So.3d 885, and *opinion vacated on reh'g*, 2023-01194 (La. 6/12/24) 386 So.3d 280

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

I have not sat by designation on a federal court of appeals.

14. Recusal: If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information.

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself; including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

I have not served on a court that had automatic recusals. Recusals are handled on a case-by-case basis. I have always been guided by ensuring due process for the parties, which is a fair and impartial judge. Following the United States Supreme Court Decision in *Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co., Inc.*, 556 U.S. 868; 129 S. Ct. 2252; 173 L.Ed.2d 1208 (2009), actual bias is no longer required to prompt recusal in Louisiana. The test is now

whether the “judge’s impartiality might reasonably be questioned” and if there exists “a substantial and objective basis that would reasonably be expected to prevent the judge from conducting any aspect of the cause in a fair and impartial manner.” Canon 3 of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct; La. Code Civ. Proc. Art. 151(B).

At the district bench I served with eleven judges who could hear any case for which I was recused. However, I approached each recusal consideration as though I was serving in a single-judge district where, because of our elective system, one would expect to encounter friends, acquaintances and relatives to some degree on a regular basis. This allowed me to hue to the constitutional principles and, in deciding very difficult cases, limit the number of recusals. I do not recall having to be requested to recuse, except one time at the Louisiana Supreme Court.

I was requested to recuse by motion filed in *Global Mktg. Sols. L.L.C. v. Chevron U.S.A., Inc.*, 2019-01886 (La. 2/10/20), 347 So.3d 741, 742. The request arose out of campaign ads directed at the attorneys for the plaintiffs. It was alleged that because of ads run during my campaign, I could not be fair to the attorneys in the case. I believed I could be fair and impartial and did not self-recuse. The supreme court voted 4-2 (Crain, J. abstaining) to recuse me. After a period of time, the matter came back before the court. Once again, I was the subject of a motion to recuse. On this occasion the supreme court voted to not recuse me. I eventually was assigned to author the opinion in the case on final appeal.

15. Public Office, Political Affiliations and Activities:

a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidates you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not held any public office other than a judicial office.

b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have not held any memberships or offices in, or rendered any services to, any political party or election committee.

16. Legal Career: Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I have not served as a clerk to a judge.

ii. whether you practice alone, and if so, the address and dates;

I have not practiced alone.

iii. the dates, names and address of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

1986 – 2008
Jones Fussell, LLP
1001 U.S. Hwy 190 East Service Road
Covington, Louisiana 70433
Partner (1990 – 2008)
Associate (1986 – 1989)

iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I never served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

My practice was primarily litigation for 22 years. That included plaintiff and defense representations, and commercial litigation. My civil practice was heavily weighted to medical malpractice defense, with selected plaintiff cases I chose to handle on referrals.

ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

While with my law firm, Jones Fussell, LLP, from 1986 until 2008, I specialized in medical malpractice and my predominate client was St. Tammany Parish Hospital. I also represented BellSouth Telecommunications, John Deere and Coca Cola.

c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

I estimate 80% of my practice was litigation while associated with my law firm from 1986 until 2008. I appeared in court frequently and tried jury trials in courts throughout the State of Louisiana.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | federal courts: | less than 1% |
| 2. | state courts of record: | 99% |
| 3. | other courts: | 0% |
| 4. | administrative agencies: | less than 1% |

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|------|
| 1. | civil proceedings | 100% |
| 2. | criminal proceedings: | 0% |

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I estimate that I tried 50 cases to verdict or final disposition.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | | |
|----|----------|-----|
| 1. | jury: | 25% |
| 2. | non-jury | 75% |

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States.

I have never appeared before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. Litigation: Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case.

a. the date of representation

b. the name of the court and the name of the judge before whom the case was litigated; and

c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. *Risenhoover v. Cox TX Publications*, Docket No. 6:93-cv-00138-WSS, U.S. Western District of Texas, Hon. Walter S. Smith presiding.

I represented survivors of ATF agents killed in the raid on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. The suit sought and recovered substantial damages from media entities. The dates of my representation were approximately 1993 to 1998.

Co-Counsel:

John W. Stevenson, Jr.
Stevenson & Murray
24 Greenway Plaza
Suite 750
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(866) 928-5124

Opposing Counsel:

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Houston, TX 77010
(713) 752-4210

Mark I. Harrison
Bryan Cave
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Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602) 230-7000

2. *Eubanks v. St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 1*, Docket No. 03CV2878, U.S. Eastern District Court of Louisiana, Hon. Sarah Vance presiding.

I represented the defendant in the medical malpractice action. A jury awarded no damages to the plaintiff. The dates of my representation were approximately 2003 to 2007.

Opposing Counsel:

Gary Gamble
Murphy, Rogers, Sloss, Gambel, & Tompkins
701 Poydras Street, Suite 400
New Orleans, LA 70139
(504) 523-0400

3. *Fox v. Kusalavage*, Docket No. 02CV676, U.S. Western District Court of Louisiana, Hon. Patricia Fox presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this medical malpractice litigation that resulted in a jury verdict in favor of the plaintiff. The dates of my representation were approximately 2001 to 2006.

Opposing Counsel:

John G. Bergstedt
Stockwell, Sievert, Viccellio, Clements & Shaddock, L.L.P.
127 West Broad Street
Lake Charles, LA 70602
(337) 429-8197

4. *Secure Communications, Inc. v. SWU, Incorporated*, Docket No. 93-13609 Div. D, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. Honorable Clayton James presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this commercial litigation based on a breach of contract. A jury found the defendant breached the contract and awarded the requested damages to my client. The dates of my representation were approximately 1992 to 1995.

Opposing Counsel:

Brent B. Boxill
8714 Jefferson Hwy B
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(225) 923-1055
(225) 291-5555

5. *Schopp v. Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, Inc.*, Docket No. 418,380, 19th Judicial District Court, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. Hon. Michael McDonald presiding.

I represented the plaintiffs, a doctor and a lawyer, in this medical malpractice action seeking recovery for the wrongful death of their mother. A jury awarded damages to my clients, and the Court of Appeal affirmed the award. *See Schopp v. Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, Inc.*, 98-1382 (La. App. 1 Cir. 6/25/99), 739 So. 2d 338. The dates of my representation were approximately 1997 to 2000.

Opposing Counsel:

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(225) 387-3221

Robert W. Barton
Taylor Porter
450 Laurel Street, Suite 800
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(225) 387-3221

6. *McCant v. Bill Garrett Nissan*, 94-8770 Div. J, 22nd Judicial District Court, St. Tammany Parish Louisiana. Hon. Reginald Badeaux presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this products liability and negligent repair litigation arising out of an automobile accident. A jury awarded damages to my clients, and the court of appeal affirmed the award. The dates of my representation were approximately 1994 to 2001.

Opposing Counsel:

Frederick H. Dwyer
3580 North Causeway Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 846-3606

Carl J. Giffin
Bernard, Cassisa, Elliott & Davis
3838 North Causeway Blvd., Suite 30350
Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 834-9438

7. *Pierson v. MediThrift Drugs Jackson*, 87293 Div. E, 21st Judicial District Court, Tangipahoa Parish Louisiana. Hon. Kenneth Fogg presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this medical malpractice action that resulted in a judgment of substantial damages for my client. Additional litigation concerning coverage provided by

the Patient's Compensation Fund was resolved favorably to the plaintiff. The dates of my representation were approximately 1988 to 1995.

Opposing Counsel:

T. Jay Seale, III
Seale & Ross
200 North Cate Street
Hammond, LA 70401
(985) 542-8500

8. *Danna v. Narra*, 61157 Div. E, 23rd Judicial District Court, Hon. Alvin Turner, Jr. presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this medical malpractice action that concluded with a jury verdict in favor of my client. The dates of my representation were approximately 1997 to 2000.

Opposing Counsel:

Janie Languirand Coles
Mang, Bourgeois, Calloway, & Thomas, LLC
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 310
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225) 932-9312

9. *L.B. Shelton, Jr. v. Larry's Hardware*, 99-10146 B, 22nd Judicial District Court, Hon. Martin Coady presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this personal injury action. The jury awarded damages to my clients. The dates of my representation were approximately 1998 to 2002.

Opposing Counsel:

Adrienne Baumgartner (deceased)
Porteous, Hainkel, and Johnson
408 North Columbia Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 893-4790

William C. Lozes
Porteous, Hainkel, and Johnson
408 North Columbia Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 893-4790

Dan Richard Dorsey
Porteous, Hainkel, and Johnson
408 North Columbia Street

Covington, LA 70433
(985) 893-4790

10. *Roberson v. Timothy*, 89-16058 Div "B," 22nd Judicial District Court, Hon. A. Clayton James presiding.

I represented the plaintiff in this personal injury action arising out of an automobile accident. The jury awarded damages to my client. The dates of my representation were approximately 1988 to 1992.

Opposing Counsel:

James Ryan, III
201 St. Charles Av., Suite 3315
New Orleans, LA 70170
(504) 599-5990

Brent P. Abadie
3850 North Causeway Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70002
(504) 840-4911

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.).

I handled litigation that resolved insurance claims arising from Hurricane Katrina, including damage to a tree farm north of Covington, Louisiana and a shopping center in Slidell, Louisiana. I also represented the landowners and litigated the largest timber theft recovery in the history of St. Tammany Parish, which case was resolved without a trial.

I have never acted or registered as a lobbyist.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses.

20. **Deferred Income:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm

memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I receive rental income for a residence I own. I am also eligible to receive a pension in connection with my service as a state court judge. I have no other source of income responsive to this question.

21. Outside Commitments: Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

I have no plans, commitments or agreements to pursue any outside employment, with or without compensation, during my service with the court.

22. Sources of Income: List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally submitted to the Senate, I will file my Financial Disclosure Report and supply a copy to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

23. Statement of Net Worth: Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. Potential Conflicts of Interest:

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

To my knowledge, there are no family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, or financial arrangements likely to present a potential conflict of interest that I would anticipate encountering. If confirmed, I will recuse in any litigation where I have played a role. I will recuse in any case where a family member or close personal relation is a practicing attorney or represents any party. Lastly, I will evaluate any other real or potential conflict or relationship that could give rise to the appearance of conflict, on a case-by-case basis and determine appropriate action with the input of parties and their counsel including recusal where necessary.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern

If confirmed, I will carefully review and address any real or potential conflicts by reference to 28 U.S.C. § 455, Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any and all other laws, rules, and practices governing such circumstances.

25. Pro Bono Work. An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

I do not have specific records of cases as nearly all my files with Jones Fussell have been discarded, but I handled civil cases free of charge on a number of occasions and participated in Law Day presentations. As a lawyer and judge, I have regularly volunteered to provide continuing legal education. I have participated in the Judges in the Classroom/Students in the Courtroom program sponsored by the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana by addressing students at every level and have judged moot court competitions for students in high school and law school.

26. Selection Process.

a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

In late 2024, I reached out to Senator John Kennedy to discuss the three openings on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. In that conversation, I expressed that I would have an interest in one of the positions. I next received contact on March 25, 2025, from Senator Kennedy's office, requesting that my resume be forwarded to the White House. On April 16, 2025, the White House Counsel's Office contacted me to schedule a meeting in Washington, D.C. to interview with members of the White House Counsel's Office on April 25, 2025. I spoke with Senator Bill Cassidy on April 21, 2025, regarding the possible nomination.

On April 25, 2025, I met with and was interviewed by attorneys for the White House Counsel's office. On September 4, 2025, I was notified by Senator Kennedy's office and the White House Counsel's Office that I would be entering FBI background check for the possible nomination. Since then, I have been in contact with officials from the White

House Counsel's Office and the Department of Justice, Office of Legal Policy, regarding the nomination.

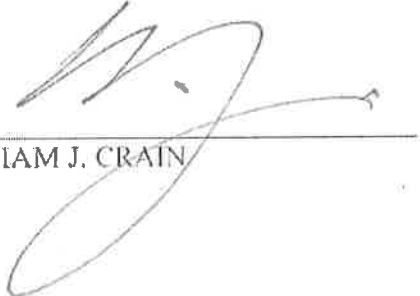
b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, William J. Crain, who swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

September 19, 2025
Date


WILLIAM J. CRAIN


NOTARY

Rosemary Susanne Johnson Inman
Louisiana Bar Roll # 29275
Notary Public ID# 79804
Parish of St. Tammany
Statewide Jurisdiction
My commission is for life.