

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, LUNEAU, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MYERS, PRICE, REESE, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, STINE, TALBOT AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Michael Guidry on receiving the 2025

David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award.

WHEREAS, Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Michael Guidry was honored with the 2025 David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award at the Louisiana State Bar Association's 40th annual Pro Bono Publico & Children's Law Awards Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, the David A. Hamilton Award is the most prestigious pro bono award presented by the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA); and

WHEREAS, it is awarded annually to an individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment to ongoing pro bono activities and has previously received recognition from the LSBA or other statewide pro bono organizations; and

WHEREAS, recipients of this award have made significant contributions to the pro bono movement in Louisiana throughout their lives, participated in collaborative efforts within the state justice community, and exhibited notable leadership and service benefitting the poor and disenfranchised; and

WHEREAS, the pro bono ceremony celebrates outstanding individuals and organizations that have devoted their time and talents to ensuring access to justice for Louisiana citizens, regardless of their financial circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Justice John Michael Guidry has served the Louisiana judiciary for twenty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, Justice Guidry earned his bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University in 1983 and graduated cum laude with his Juris Doctor from the Southern University Law Center in 1987; and

WHEREAS, before becoming a judge, Justice Guidry worked as a legislative assistant and assistant parish attorney, and held various commission roles, including on the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission; and

WHEREAS, Justice Guidry was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in 1991 and then to the Louisiana State Senate in 1993, and after a decade in private practice, he was elected as a judge of the First Circuit Court of Appeal in 1997; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, he became the 15th Chief Judge and the first African American chief judge in the court's history; and

WHEREAS, On January 1, 2025, he was elected Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, becoming only the fourth African American to serve on the court and the first elected from outside Orleans Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Michael Guidry on receiving the 2025 David A. Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John Michael Guidry.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE