

THE LAW FIRM OF HAMMONDS & SILLS

ROBERT L. HAMMONDS

Mr. Hammonds received his B.S. degree in 1976 and J.D. degree in 1978 from Louisiana State University. Since 1978, he has practiced almost exclusively in the field of school law. Mr. Hammonds serves as General Counsel to the Louisiana School Boards Association and is the President of the Louisiana School Attorneys Association. He has represented school boards and administrators throughout the state in all kinds of school law litigation, including desegregation cases, employment discrimination cases, special education cases, and tenure hearings. Mr. Hammonds has extensive experience in all federal courts in the state and has argued many cases to the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal. He is a member of the Baton Rouge and Louisiana State Bar Associations, the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys and the Louisiana School Attorneys Association. Mr. Hammonds served as editor of the Southern School Law Digest and has been a frequent guest lecturer at state universities and education seminars.

KENNETH F. SILLS

Mr. Sills received his B.S.S. degree in 1963 and his J.D. degree in 1966 from Loyola University. Upon admission to the Bar in 1966, he served in the United States Army in the Judge Advocate General's Corps for six and a half years and then as a Special Trial Attorney with the United States Department of Justice Organized Crime Racketeering Section. In 1976, Mr. Sills returned to New Orleans where he partnered with a law firm that represented the New Orleans Public School System. In 1989, Mr. Sills joined Robert L. Hammonds in Baton Rouge in the present law firm of Hammonds & Sills. Mr. Sills has concentrated in all aspects of trial litigation, including construction problems, constitutional issues involving First Amendment rights, student discipline, injuries on campus and tenure hearings. He is a member of the Baton Rouge and Louisiana State Bar Associations, the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys, Louisiana School Attorneys Association, Education Law Association and the Defense Research Institute (DRI).

HAROLD J. ADKINS

Mr. Adkins received his B.A. degree in 1981 and J.D. degree in 1984 from Louisiana State University. Since 1991, he has practiced almost exclusively in the field of school law, with an emphasis on insurance defense litigation, workers' compensation defense, civil rights and discrimination. Mr. Adkins has extensive experience in all trial and appellate courts in the state. He is a member of the Baton Rouge and Louisiana State Bar Associations, the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys, Louisiana School Attorneys Association, and the Defense Research Institute (DRI). Mr. Adkins has been a frequent speaker at the Louisiana School Boards Association annual meeting on current developments in school law and at other education seminars. He is the partner that oversees the defense litigation section of the firm.

JON K. GUICE

Mr. Guice received his B.A. degree in 1988 with honors from Northeast Louisiana University and received his J.D. degree in 1991 from Louisiana State University Law Center. Since 1991, he has concentrated in areas of school law and employment law. Prior to joining the Law Firm of Hammonds & Sills, Mr. Guice was Regional Counsel for the Louisiana Association of Educators. He is a partner in the firm's Monroe office. Mr. Guice is a fellow with Louisiana Bar Foundation, an observer to Louisiana State

Law Institute (2000), a member of Fourth Judicial District, Louisiana State (House of Delegates 1996-1997), a member of the Louisiana and American Bar Associations, the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the Judge Fred Fudicker, Jr. American Inns of Court, the Louisiana School Attorneys Association and the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys. Mr. Guice is a frequent speaker at education seminars and inservice programs. He is a resident partner in the Monroe office.

KAREN D. MURPHY

Ms. Murphy practiced as a registered dietitian after receiving her B.S. degree from Louisiana Tech University in 1984. She received her J.D. degree from Louisiana State University in 1997. Ms. Murphy is a member of the Baton Rouge and Louisiana State Bar Associations, the Baton Rouge Association of Women Attorneys, the Federal Bar Association, the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys and the Louisiana School Attorneys Association. She is admitted to practice in all federal courts in the State of Louisiana, as well as the Fifth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and the U. S. Supreme Court. Ms. Murphy handles matters involving civil rights and employment discrimination litigation.

CARLA S. COURTNEY

Ms. Courtney is a 1993 graduate of Louisiana State University receiving a B.A. degree in Broadcast Journalism/Mass Communications. She received her J.D. degree in 1997 from Louisiana State University. Ms. Courtney has significant experience having been a staff attorney with the Louisiana Board of Ethics and subsequently, in private practice handling insurance defense, personal injury, collections, administrative law, environmental law and public entity law issues. Ms. Courtney is a member of the Baton Rouge and Louisiana State Bar Associations, the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys and the Louisiana School Attorneys Association. She is admitted to practice in all of the federal courts in the State of Louisiana and the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Courtney handles matters involving personal injury and liability matters involving school districts and insurance defense matters. Ms. Courtney has also been appointed by local courts to act as the Special Master and Assistant to the Special Master in various Class Action lawsuits. She also serves on numerous boards for non-profit organizations.

LINDA K. EWBank

Ms. Ewbank is a 1984 graduate of Northeast Louisiana University receiving a B.B.A. degree. She received a MBA degree in 1986 from Louisiana State University. She received her J.D. degree in 1992 from Louisiana State University. Ms. Ewbank has significant experience in litigation and is certified in Family Law. Ms. Ewbank is a member of the Ouachita Parish and Louisiana State Bar Associations. She is resident in the firm's Monroe office and is handling various litigation matters including general liability defense and defense of workers' compensation claims.

ALEJANDRO R. PERKINS

Mr. Perkins is a 1999 graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana receiving a B.A. degree in Political Science. He received his J.D. degree in 2004 from Southern University Law Center. In July, 2004, Mr. Perkins began serving as a Judicial Law Clerk in the 19th Judicial District in East Baton Rouge Parish. Mr. Perkins joined the firm of Hammonds & Sills in November, 2006. Mr. Perkins is a member of the Louisiana and Baton Rouge Bar Associations, as well as the American and National Bar Associations. He is admitted to practice in all of the federal courts in the State of Louisiana, including the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Perkins is a member of the Louisiana State Law Institute and an officer of the Louis Martinet Legal Society, an affiliate chapter of the National Bar Association.

PATRICK A. JOSEPH

Mr. Joseph is a 1995 graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana receiving a B.S. in Accounting degree. He received his J.D. degree in 2004 from Southern University Law Center. He was admitted to practice law in Louisiana on October 15, 2004. Prior to joining the firm in December, 2007, Mr. Joseph was an Assistant District Attorney in the Orleans Parish District Attorney's office, New Orleans, Louisiana. Prior to his employment as an attorney, he was a police officer in the New Orleans Police Department from 1992 through 2004. He also had prior employment as an accountant with an accounting firm in New Orleans during the time period of 1995 to 1997. He is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association.

WAYNE T. STEWART

Mr. Stewart is a 1988 graduate of Duke University receiving a B.S. degree. He received his M.A. in Psychology from Louisiana State University in 1991 and his Ph.D. in Psychology in 1994. Mr. Stewart received his J.D. from Loyola University in 2006. Prior to his joining the firm in August of 2008, he was an associate with Hardy, Carey, Chautin & Balkin, L.L.P. in Mandeville, La. Mr. Stewart specializes in Special Education Law and intellectual property claims. He is a member is the Louisiana State Bar Association, the America Bar Association and the Federal Communications Bar Association. Prior to his employment as an attorney, he was a school psychologist for the Jefferson Parish Public School System from 1993 to 1996, a lecturer at Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans, Louisiana from 1997 to 2001, a Coordinator of Pupil Appraisal Services/Behavior Management for the Jefferson Parish Public School System from 1993 to 2004 and a Special Education Liaison for the Jefferson Parish Public School System from 2005 to 2006.

PAMELA WESCOVICH DILL

Ms. Dill is a 1979 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi receiving a B.S. degree in English and secondary education. After teaching high school for several years, she attended the University of Mississippi School of Law and received her J.D. degree in 1987. Ms. Dill clerked for the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Mississippi. In 1989, she joined the Jackson, Mississippi, law firm of Brunini, Grantham, Grower and Hewes, and later Adams & Reese office in Jackson, Mississippi, practicing exclusively in education law. In 1999, she established the Wescovich Law Office in Long Beach, Mississippi where she was a sole practitioner until 2005 and Hurricane Katrina. After Hurricane Katrina, she opened and operated a book and gift shop, "The Walk," until December 2007. At the same time, she was an instructor at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for paralegal studies and as a education law instructor at the University of Southern Mississippi. Ms. Dill was first employed with Hammonds & Sills as a paralegal in Baton Rouge while she completed her study and preparation for the Louisiana Bar exam in July 2008. Ms. Dill is now licensed to practice law in both Mississippi and Louisiana and she is handling matters related to employment and student rights, desegregation, and general constitutional and statutory issues involving school districts.

FRANKLIN V. ENDOM, JR. ("OF COUNSEL")

Mr. Endom received his B.A. degree in 1960 and his L.L.B. degree in 1963 from Tulane University. Beginning in 1968, through August, 2005, Mr. Endom was an associate with and then partner of the law firm that represented the Orleans Parish School Board and for many years served as its general counsel. Mr.

Endom has concentrated his practice in school board governance, revenue and finance, constitutional law, labor law and labor relations. As of August 29, 2005, Mr. Endom became Of Counsel in the present law firm of Hammonds & Sills. He is a member of the New Orleans and Louisiana State Bar Associations and the American Bar Association. Mr. Endom previously served as Adjunct Professor of Education Law at University of New Orleans Graduate School and has lectured at numerous education seminars. Mr. Endom is counsel to various charter schools in the New Orleans area.

PARALEGALS

PAMELA L. DELAUNE

Ms. DeLaune received her paralegal certificate from Boston University in 1994 after serving for many years as an educational service provider and special education administrator for a large school system in Louisiana. She received her B.S. degree in Speech Defective and Hard of Hearing from Louisiana State University in 1968, and her M.A. degree in Speech Pathology from Louisiana State University in 1973. Her areas of educational certification by the Louisiana Department of Education include: Speech Defective and Hard of Hearing, Speech Education, Hard of Hearing, Qualified Speech Pathologist, Supervisor of Student Teaching, Principal, Parish or City School Supervisor of Instruction, and Parish or City School Supervisor/Director of Special Education. She holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Ms. DeLaune's many years of employment in Louisiana's public schools provide a unique background and ability in handling issues involving special education matters and Section 504 concerns. She provides inservice training to public school systems across the state in matters relating to special education and Section 504 issues.

MICHAEL P. TRUETT

Mr. Truett received his B.A. with a major in criminal justice in 1999 from Southeastern Louisiana University and received his American Bar Association certificate as a paralegal from Louisiana State University in 2000. Mr. Truett joined our firm in February, 2008. Mr. Truett provides assistance to the attorneys in the review of medical records and assisting at trial.