

ALLISON A. JONES received her undergraduate degree from LSU in 1982 and Juris Doctorate from LSU School of Law in 1985. She currently practices with the law firm of Downer, Jones, Marino & Wilhite, LLC in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Ms. Jones is a member of the National and Louisiana Employment Lawyers Associations and is a past Chair of the Louisiana State Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section. Ms. Jones has served as President of three bar associations: (i) the Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit, (ii) the Harry V. Booth and Henry A. Politz American Inn of Court, and (iii) the Shreveport Bar Association. She currently serves as Chair of the Louisiana Law Institute Committee on Employment and Labor Law. She also has been invited to join several honorary professional organizations, including, but not limited to, the College of Labor and Employment Law, Litigation Counsel of America (trial lawyer honor society composed of less than one half percent of American Lawyers) and the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

A significant part of her practice includes representing plaintiffs in employment discrimination cases. She has successfully mediated, settled and litigated hundreds of employment cases. In 1995, she was counsel for plaintiff in the gender discrimination/retaliation case of Melody Olson v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company tried in federal court in Monroe, Louisiana where she obtained a 3.2-million-dollar jury verdict which was affirmed on appeal. Ms. Jones also successfully represented women seeking admittance into the Southern Trace Country Club “Men’s Grille,” and she has handled Title IX litigation ensuring equal funding for female sports numerous parishes in the State of Louisiana. Ms. Jones also served as trial counsel for Patricia Powell in prosecuting her claims against the Rapides Parish School Board for revocation of tenure resulting a final judgment in the amount of \$1,147,732.00 plus interest and court costs, which decision was upheld on appeal. Ms Jones does not limit her practice to civil rights work as her practice also includes commercial litigation. In this respect, Ms. Jones has served as counsel for several debtors in Chapter 11 reorganizations in the bankruptcy court for the Western District of Louisiana serving as lead counsel in prosecuting claims on behalf of the reorganized bankrupt estate of Whitaker Construction, Inc. against the City of Shreveport for work done on the Independence Stadium, resulting in a jury verdict of nearly \$800,000.00, which verdict was affirmed on appeal. Ms. Jones has also tried several jury trials involving oil and gas disputes.

Ms. Jones devotes a significant part of her time to community activities. She served as Alderman and Mayor Pro Temp for the Town of Blanchard from 1990-2014, was a member and Chair of the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency from 2005-2012 during post-Katrina rebuilding, and she is deeply committed to community building, including, but not limited to, affordable housing advocacy.

Ms. Jones was recently selected as the recipient of the 2023 Professionalism Award given by the Shreveport Bar Association. This award is given annually to attorneys whose practice and personal conduct exemplify the highest level of integrity, dedication, and honor in the practice of law as judged by the Shreveport Bar Association.