RESOLUTION

In Memory of

Leonard L. Lockard

The undersigned, by appointment of the Shreveport Bar Association, submit this memorial to the memory of Leonard L. Lockard, a highly respected member of the Association, who departed this life on April 10, 1995, then 94 years young.

Mr. Lockard, affectionately and most respectfully referred to as "The Big L" by the young lawyers he tutored and guided, was born in Meridian, Mississippi, on March 2, 1901, the eldest child of a large, hard-working farming family. Upon graduation from high school in 1919 he entered the University of Mississippi and enrolled in the curriculum which emphasized a study of Greek and Latin, both the languages and the classics. Evidence of this early formal education repeatedly was manifested in his later speech and writings. Those

around him, particularly the young lawyers, especially including the undersigned, never ceased to be amazed at the breadth and depth of his vocabulary, believed to be a direct product of his education in the classics at Ole Miss.

In his senior year of undergraduate school he was permitted to enter Ole Miss Law School where he continued to excel academically. Before he could complete his final year of law school, however, his father died and, as the oldest of ten children, Mr. Lockard felt obliged to leave law school to assist his mother and younger siblings.

Providence smiled on northwest Louisiana when work opportunities drew young Leonard Lockard to Bossier City where he spent nearly five years in a clerical position with Loreco Oil Refining Company. During that time he attracted the attention of several Shreveport attorneys, including Harry V. Booth. Mr. Harry often spoke to the undersigned and others of just how much he was impressed by the obviously superior intelligence and excellent formal education of the youthful Leonard Lockard, so much so that he

persuaded the oil company clerk to return to his study of the law. While working for about a year for Mr. Harry as what we now would recognize as a paralegal, Mr. Lockard "read the law," which was then allowed, and he took the Louisiana Bar examination in 1931. At that time the bar examining committee was headed by a distinguished Shreveport attorney, Elmo Lee, who later became a member of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Judge Lee and the examiners were not only impressed by the young applicant's excellent academic record at Ole Miss, in both undergraduate and Law school, but by his exceedingly articulate answers to the examination questions. Mr. Lockard readily passed the bar on his first attempt. Records reflect that few others who were not graduates of Louisiana law schools did so that year, or any other year for that matter.

Shortly after his admission to the Louisiana bar Mr. Lockard was invited to join Mr. Harry's thriving practice of law, launching the legal partnership of Booth, Lockard, a joinder of two excellent trial

lawyers and two fine men. Over the next five decades Booth, Lockard would mark and be marked by a veritable retinue of trial lawyers, past and present, including Whitfield Jack, John R. Pleasant, Joe C. LeSage, Jr., Vernon Woods, John A. Dixon, Jr., Robert U. Goodman, John T. Carpenter, Henry A. Politz, James J. Thornton, Jr., James A. Reeder, H. F. Sockrider, Jr., Troy E. Bain, James E. Bolin, Jr., and Fred H. Sutherland. All profited immeasurably from their association with these two extraordinary attorneys.

Mr. Lockard was long active in organized bar activities, serving as president of the Shreveport Bar Association in 1957-58. In 1966 he was elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and, by appointment of the Louisiana Supreme Court in 1976, he served as a trial judge on the First Judicial District Court in Caddo Parish.

Leonard L. Lockard was a lawyer's lawyer. His love for and grasp of the law knew no superior and few peers. He was a walking legal encyclopedia. Those working closely with him never failed to

marvel at his vast knowledge of the law, the result of a combination of his incessant reading and study and his towering intellect. His preparation of a case exceeded all expected norms. He always knew more about his side of the case than anyone else and not infrequently he knew more about the other side of the case than opposing counsel. He had the unerring ability to go quickly to the jugular on any legal issue. He deftly shredded the chaff and focused on the sought-after kernel. He demanded the best of everyone he worked with and, as respecting clients, worked for, and he did not suffer fools gladly.

Mr. Lockard's legal career spanned nearly seven decades. His appearances in court extended from the local Justice of the Peace and mayoral courts throughout the entirety of the trial and appellate systems of both the State of Louisiana and the United States, including multiple appearances before the Supreme Court of Louisiana and the United States Supreme Court. He retired from the active practice of law in 1978 but continued until his death of counsel to the Booth Lockard successor firm of Booth, Lockard, Politz,

LeSage and D'Anna. By his work and through those he trained, directly and indirectly, Mr. Lockard has made a permanent imprint on the law and on the practice of law as we know it. And for the better indeed.

Leonard L. Lockard is survived by his widow, Mrs. Bernice W. Lockard, a beautiful and understanding companion to this complex man; by a grandson, Charles B. Allen, IV; one sister, Mrs. Sadie Almand; two brothers, Rufus and Wallace Lockard; and many nieces and nephews.

Thus done for the Shreveport Bar Association this 26th day of October 1995.

Joe C. LeSage, Jr.

Henry A. Politz

H. F. Sockrider, Jr.