

Overview

Every five years, the Louisiana District Judges Association develops a strategic plan that outlines the goals and priorities of the Louisiana District Courts. This year, the new plan introduces five justice campaigns and offers suggested strategies for fulfilling the objectives outlined in each campaign. The plan not only recognizes the imperfect distributions of means across the judicial districts, but also acknowledges the diverse ways the mission can be executed in each judicial district of our state.



Mission Statement

The mission of the district courts of Louisiana is to provide equal, effective, and efficient access to justice, to maintain judicial independence, competence and accountability, to achieve fair and just results, and to inspire trust and confidence of the public.



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STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS

2015-2019



Executive Summary

FIVE JUSTICE CAMPAIGNS

- 1. Provide Adequate Access to Justice*
- 2. Develop Effective Communication*
- 3. Advance Judicial Competency*
- 4. Clarify and Define Court Governance*
- 5. Instill Public Confidence*

Campaign 1 Access to Justice

To establish a more open and accessible system of justice

- Provide self-help kiosks
- Create online resources
- Encourage pro-bono projects
- Facilitate expedited trials
- Work to Reduce litigation costs
- Provide Limited English Proficiency (LEP) services
- Create dockets for self-represented litigants

Campaign 2 Effective Communication

To communicate more effectively with judicial partners and the public

- Coordinate schedules and the use of resources
- Create and distribute newsletters
- Improve signage
- Expand information services
- Develop public access websites

Campaign 3 Judicial Competency

To encourage continued learning and sharing of expertise in all areas of judicial responsibility

- Utilize best practices manuals
- Become involved in mentor programs
- Participate in governance and leadership programs
- Facilitate interaction between appellate courts
- Engage in committee work to improve the justice system
- Participate in continuing judicial education programs
- Assess the need for Problem-Solving Courts

For more detail and further suggestions, we invite you to review the formal strategic planning document at www.ldja.org.

Campaign 4 Court Governance

To promote effective and efficient administration of justice through self-governance

- Define and execute a court governance policy
- Initiate a systematic approach to develop skilled court leaders
- Emphasize education and professional development
- Foster self-assessment through performance surveys
- Enhance relationships with judicial partners

Campaign 5 Public Confidence

To promote public understanding of the function of district judges and their courts

- Participate in "Judges in the Classroom" programs
- Promote awareness of Problem-Solving courts
- Develop public access websites
- Utilize media and public relations
- Host mock trials and law day activities
- Applaud and recognize jury service