Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano



Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano has served on the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal since 2012 (term ends December 31, 2031) and previously served as the First Assistant District Attorney and District Court Judge presiding over Civil, Criminal, Juvenile, and Family Divisions at the 25th Judicial District. Judge Lobrano is the visionary and pragmatist behind the Community CARE Centers and Community CARE³ Model.

As a prosecutor, she became aware of the lack of community-based human services and the need for juvenile and criminal justice reform. To lay the foundation for the systemic change in the delivery of services and justice in her community, in 2005, Judge Lobrano incorporated the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Plaquemines Community CARE Centers Foundation, Inc. (Counseling, Assessments/Advocacy, Resources, and Early Intervention), where she served as its Co-Founder, Executive Director, and Grant Writer. To facilitate further systemic change and public-private partnerships for the common good, she started ChAMPS Mentorships, Plaquemines CASA, Family Court Co-Parenting for Parents and their Children, Criminal Court Special Victims Unit (Children and Elderly and Disabled Persons Neglect and/or Abuse), District Attorney Misdemeanor Diversion, Domestic Violence "No Drop" Policy and Protocols, Multi-Disciplinary Teams, Juvenile Court Special Division, and Plaquemines Children and Youth Planning Board and Department of Youth and Family Services.

As a judge, she expanded on her holistic-multidisciplinary, continuum-of-care, subsidiarity-localization, and equitable-inclusive approach to community development through her Community CARE³ Model, focusing on Trust-based Relationships, Early Intervention through Families In Need of Services and Truancy Enforcement, Trauma-Focused Care, and Family, Juvenile, and Criminal Court Reform Initiatives, including Community Coordination of the Justice, Education, and Healthcare Systems (Judges, Teachers, and Doctors Working Together) facilitated by Community CARE Centers.

Judge Lobrano has presented her Model at national and global conferences, including summits at the Vatican City, which involved meetings with Pope Francis and collaboration with global academicians and scholars. She attended summits at the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences on Justice (June 2019); Education (February 2020); and Family (April 2022). She also participated in a summit at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on Public Health (December 2019). Judge Lobrano co-chairs the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee of the National Association of Women Judges, participates on the Curriculum Committee of the National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and is a member of the International Association of Women Judges.

Judge Lobrano has been involved in the anti-human trafficking field since 2011, when she became aware that Louisiana lacked proper shelter, protection, and services for child victims of sex and labor trafficking. This compelled Judge Lobrano to request Louisiana legislators to create the "Human Trafficking of Minors Study Group" during the 2011 Louisiana Legislative Session, Senate Concurrent Resolution 58. Also, concerned for the lack of housing and services for adult trafficking survivors, in 2011, Judge Lobrano became a founding member of the Board of Directors of Eden House, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (now "Eden Centers for Hope and Healing") which provides shelter and services to adult human trafficking survivors. Judge Lobrano was the 2018 Chair of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission and produced its comprehensive 2018 Annual Report. She also participated in summits at the Vatican regarding global sex and labor trafficking, organ trafficking, and public-private corruption and organized crime.

Judge Lobrano, the daughter of public school teachers, created Project LAW (Legalthinking, Awareness, and Wellness) for 4th and 9th Graders and has taught in the schools for over 20 years. She received her undergraduate degree in Political Science and Education from Tulane University, Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School, and LL.M in Taxation from New York University School of Law. She has received numerous awards, including 2015 Louisiana State Bar Association's Citizen Lawyer/Crystal Gavel Award; 2010 Plaquemines CASA's Light of Hope Award for untiring efforts to improve the lives of children and families; 2010 Plaquemines Parish School Board, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Award; 2008 Victims and Citizens Against Crime's Outstanding Prosecutor Award; and 1988 Loyola Law School Faculty's Corpus Juris Secundum Award for Most Significant Contribution to Legal Scholarship.

EDUCATION

- New York University School of Law, LL.M. in Taxation (1993)
- Loyola University School of Law, New Orleans, Juris Doctorate (Law Review)(1988)
- Tulane University, Newcomb College, Bachelor of Arts, Education and Politics, Self-Designed, Multi-disciplinary Major (1983)
- Buras High School Valedictorian (1979)

JUDICIAL PUBLIC SERVICE

• Judge, La. Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit (General Appellate Jurisdiction over Civil, Family, Criminal, and Juvenile Cases) (Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes) (1/1/2012 to 12/31/2031)

- Judge, La. 25th Judicial District Court, Division B (Civil, Family, and Criminal) and Juvenile Division (Families In Need of Services ("FINS"), Delinquency, and Child In Need of Care ("CNIC")) (1/1/2009 to 12/31/2011)
- Chief Judge, La. 25th Judicial District Court (2009)

PROSECUTORIAL PUBLIC SERVICE

- First Assistant District Attorney, Commissioned 11/30/2006, La. 25th Judicial District, Plaquemines Parish (Chief, Special Victims Unit) (2006-2008)
- Assistant District Attorney, La. 25th Judicial District, Plaquemines Parish (Domestic Violence and Child Neglect & Abuse) (1999-2006)
- Legal Intern, Tulane College Work Program, United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of La.(Criminal Division)(1982-1983)

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL CAREER

- Attorney, Lobrano & Lobrano, LLC (1994-2008) (Government, NGO-Nonprofit, Environmental, Tax, Family, Estate, & Corporate)
- Attorney, Pivach, Cossich & Pivach, LLC (1988 to 1992) (General Practitioner, Appellate, Local Government, Environmental, Family, Estate)

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Tulane University, Newcomb Institute, Director's Advisory Board, (Member 2019-2021) Emeritus (2021-present)
- National Association of Women Judges (2012-present) Juvenile Justice & Child Welfare Committee Co-Chair (2019-present) Human Trafficking Committee (2012-present) Executive Board, Secretary (2015-2016) District 6 Director LA, MS, AL, TN (2013-2015) Finance Chair, Panel Organizer-Speaker (2013 NAWJ Annual Conference)
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2009-present) Curriculum Committee (2019-present)
- International Association of Women Judges (2012-present)(Washington, DC Biennial Conference Auction Chair (2016)
- Fourth and Fifth Circuit Courts of Appeal Judges Association (2012-present)
- La. State Bar Association (1988-present)
- La. and United States Supreme Court Historical Societies (2009-present)
- La. Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2009-present)
- La. FINS (Families In Need of Services) Association (2009-present)
- Plaquemines Parish Bar Association (Member 1988-present, President 1990-1991, Secretary 2000-2008)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019, FREE Coalition/South Central United States Human Trafficking, Exemplary Leadership as Chair of the La. Human Trafficking Prevention Commission
- 2018, National Association of Women Judges, District 6, Changing Faces of the Judiciary Recognition

- 2015, Louisiana State Bar Association's Citizen Lawyer/Crystal Gavel Award (Recognizing outstanding lawyers and judges who have been unsung heroes and heroines in their communities; who have performed services out of a sense of duty, responsibility, and professionalism; and who have made a difference in their local communities or state)
- 2014, Louisiana CASA, Trees for Life Recipient, Partners in Bravery, Fighting Child Neglect and Abuse
- 2010, Plaquemines Parish School Board, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (Project LAW 4th & 9th Grades)
- 2010, Plaquemines Parish CASA's Light of Hope Award for untiring efforts to improve the lives of children and families of Plaquemines Parish
- 2008, Victims and Citizens Against Crime's Outstanding Prosecutor Award
- 2007, Louisiana Youth Enhanced Services LA-YES, Certificate of Recognition, Plaquemines Community CARE Center
- 2006, Louisiana Governor's Children and Youth Planning Board Special Recognition
- 2004, Plaquemines Parish School Board Award, Project LEAD 5th Grade
- 1997, Assumption Church Pastoral Council's Chairperson Award
- 1988, Loyola Law School Faculty's Corpus Juris Secundum Award, Most Significant Contribution to Legal Scholarship
- 1988, Best Loyola Law Review Comment Award
- 1987, American Jurisprudence Award, Best in Tort Law
- 1986, Best Loyola Law Moot Court Brief Award
- 1980, Tulane University CACTUS, Exceptional Volunteer Service, Children Athletic Program, Kingsley House

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, RESEARCH, AND TRAININGS

ACADEMIC:

- Joy Cossich Lobrano, NYU School of Law: Independent Study, "State and Local Taxation: United States Supreme Court's Decisions on the Constitutionality of Retroactive Tax Legislation" (1993).
- Joy M. Cossich, Comment, "*The Suspension and Commencement of the Running of Liberative Prescription*", 34 Loy.L.Rev. 341 (1988)(Access to Justice).
- Joy M. Cossich, Note, Plaquemines Parish Commission Council v. Delta Development Co., "Contra Non Valentem: The Family of the Late Leander Perez Cannot Hide Behind the Passage of Time," 33 Loy. L. Rev. 1099, 1106 (1988)(Public Corruption).
- Joy M. Cossich, Tulane University, Departments of Political Science and Education, A Research Study into the Politics, Power, and Policy in a Local School District Plaquemines Parish (1983).

PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, VATICAN CITY

 JUSTICE: First Pan-American Judges' Summit on Social Rights, the Environment, Social Justice, and the Franciscan Doctrine (June 2-3, 2019). <u>https://www.pass.va/en/events/2019/pan-american_judges_summit.html</u> Speaker: The True Measure of Greatness of a Community is in How it Treats its Members who are Suffering - Juvenile Court Judges as Local Community Leaders who Champion and Protect the Right to the Pursuit of Happiness: A Systemic Change to the Application of Families In Need of Services and Truancy Laws ("Status Offenses") through Trustbased, Compassionate, Equitable, and Evidence-based Early Intervention for Children and Parents Promoting the Common Good and Social Order in the Delivery of Human Services and Justice.

https://www.youtube.com/p1aylist?list=PLPHLdH2gKEOeJOdnZIMKK9E5wm9wJB0AX, (2019)

- *EDUCATION*: The Global Impact (February 6-7, 2020). <u>https://www.pass.va/en/events/2020/education.html</u> Participant: Juvenile Court Judges Supervising Reciprocal Societal Duties of Parents, Students, and Schools and Promoting the Right to Compulsory, High-Quality, and Equitable Education.
- *FAMILY*: Plenary Session on The Family as Relational Good: The Challenge of Love, (February 6-7, 2020). <u>https://www.pass.va/en/events/2022/2022_plenary_session.html</u> Observer: *Community CARE³ Model: A Familial Relational and Community Integral Ecology Subsidiarity Model Based on the Reciprocity of Societal Duties for the Promotion of Protection, Resiliency, Wellness, and Transcendent Love of Children, Parents, and Communities Facilitated by a Coordinated Judiciary (Protection), Education (Resiliency), and Healthcare (Wellness) Secular System of Care and Sacred Systems of Care (Transcendent Love) Promoting the Common Good, Subsidiarity, and Social Order in the Delivery of Services and Justice: An Integrated and Holistic Approach to PREVENT the Development of Suffering Families and to CURE Familial Suffering by Providing Efficient and Coordinated Systems of Care through "Family-Friendly," "Community-Building" and "User-Friendly" Policies and Protocols.*

PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, VATICAN CITY

CRIME/CORRUPTION - PUBLIC HEALTH: Summit of African Women Judges & Prosecutors on Human Trafficking, Organ Trafficking, and Organized Crime (December 12-13, 2019) <u>https://www.pas.va/en/events/2019/africa_judges.html</u>

Participant: Community CARE³ Model: Concurrent Deployment of (1) Safety-Net Preventative Care (Early Intervention and Resiliency Care) and (2) Trauma-Focused Continuum of Care (Emergency, Stabilization, Restorative, Residential, and Re-Entry to Safety-Net Preventative Care).

JUDICIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- Louisiana District Attorneys Association: *Reform from the Bench in Collaboration with Prosecutors: New Effective Approaches to the Delivery of Justice,* New Orleans, La. (2009 Fall LDAA Conference).
- Louisiana Judicial College: *The Power of the Judiciary-Using it for Your Community,* Lafayette, La. (2010 Spring Judge's Conference).
- Supreme Court of Louisiana Court Improvement Program: *Judicial Expectations for Juvenile Court Stakeholders*, New Orleans, La. (2011).

- National Association of Women Judges, Informational Liaison, National Colloquium: Shelter and Service Evaluation for Action, *Traffic Stop: A Discussion about Child Welfare and Judicial Strategies for Preventing Juvenile Sex Trafficking and Helping Survivors* (2013 Colloquium Publication).
- Eden House and Louisiana State Bar Association: *Professionalism for Attorneys and Judges: Public Servants, Pro Bono Service, or Just Doing My Job?* New Orleans, La. (2013).
- National Association of Women Judges: *Human Trafficking: Aiding Survivors, Shelter and Restorative Care and Services, and Best Practices in Federal and State Courts,* Panel Planning Chair & Speaker, New Orleans, La. (2013 Annual Conference).
- Tulane University and UNICEF: *Shut Out Trafficking, Sex Trafficking of Minors,* New Orleans, La. (2014).
- Loyola University, Modern Slavery Research Project: *Trafficking, Social Justice, and the Criminal Justice System,* New Orleans, La. (2014).
- St. Thomas More Society: Second Annual Law Conference, *Justice and Mercy: The Perennial Challenges to Law and Judging relative to Homelessness and Human Trafficking*, Covington, La. (2015).
- New Orleans Federal Bar Association: *Louisiana Human Trafficking Laws*, New Orleans, La. (2015).
- National Association of Women Judges, District 6, Visionary Women: Champions of Perseverance, Persistence and Progress, *Early Intervention Collaboration among Schools, Juvenile Courts, and NGOs/Healthcare,* Shreveport, La. (2019).
- United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families Region VI, Human Trafficking Workgroup: Conference Host and Speaker: *Louisiana Human Trafficking Commission and the Courts,* New Orleans, La. (2019).
- Caddo Parish Judiciary and Free Coalition, South Central United States Human Trafficking Conference: *Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, including Sex Trafficking -Working Together: Juvenile Courts, Schools, and Healthcare,* Shreveport, La. (2018 and 2019 Conferences).
- The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education, Justice Catherine D. Kimball Summer Institute: *Early Intervention Collaboration among Schools, Juvenile Courts, and NGOs/Healthcare,* New Orleans, La. (2019).
- National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges: "*Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit*" Orlando, Florida, Summit Attendee representing and presenting on behalf of the National Association of Women Judges (2019).
- Louisiana-Texas Human Trafficking Summit: *Challenges from Arrest/Bail to Conviction*, Lake Charles, La. (2019).
- Louisiana Judicial College: *Trafficking: A Closer Look,* New Orleans, La. (2019 Fall Judge's Conference).

JUDICIAL TRAINING:

- New York University School of Law, Institute of Judicial Administration: 59th Annual Appellate Judges Training (2017).
- National Judicial College, Death Penalty Case Training (2010).
- Louisiana Supreme Court: Drug Court Training (2009).
- Louisiana Judicial College: New District Court Judges Training (2008).

• Loyola Law School, New Orleans, La.: Poverty Law Seminar, Fr. William Maestri, "Justice: The Long Search: The Study of Economic Theory from the Biblical Times to the Present including Interactive Community Service Requirement" (1988).

PROSECUTORIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- Louisiana District Attorneys Association: *Public School Initiatives-Project L.E.A.D* New Orleans, La. (2001 LDAA Fall Conference).
- Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office: New Domestic Violence Laws and "No Drop Policy" Training (Spring 2004).
- Louisiana Legislative 2006 Session submitted legislation and testified re: Amendment to La. Code of Evidence Art. 505 (exception to the spousal witness privilege to protect spouses of domestic violence) Informational Sessions, DA's Offices (Fall 2006).
- Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office: Special Victim Unit: Law Enforcement, Prosecution, and Victim Advocacy Training (April 2008).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC-PRIVATE NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIPS:

- 2005 Co-Founder: Plaquemines Community C.A.R.E. Centers Foundation, Inc. (Former President, Executive Director, Chair of Board of Directors, Grant Writer, and Community Development and Fundraising Director (2005-2008); Founder and Judicial Liaison (2009-present) (Co-founder with the late Sheriff's Office Det. Lt. Cathy Potts Butler)
- 2009 Founder: Community CARE³ Model (Courts, Schools, & Healthcare Coordinated System of Care (Justice, Education, Medical); Community CARE Centers; Project LAW-4th & 9th Grades (Legal-thinking, Awareness, Wellness); ChAMPS and Teens Helping Teens Mentorships; CARE and Court Internships; FINS ("Families In Need of Services") and Truancy Referrals, Assessments, and CARE Plans; and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Coordinated and Consolidated Community Meetings through Children and Youth Planning Boards)
- 2009 Founder: Co-Parenting Counseling for Divorced Couples, 25th Judicial District Court (Our Lady of Holy Cross College (now Holy Cross University) and Community CARE Center) (2009-2011)
- 2011 Founding Board Member: Eden House, Inc. for Human Trafficking Survivors, New Orleans (2011-present)(2022 expansion of "Eden Center for Hope and Healing" and "Eden Emergency Center")
- 2016 Bishop Perry Center for the Poor and Homeless, Board Member (Marigny and French Quarter)(2016-2019)
- 2023 Co-Chair: Algiers Community CARE³ Development Team
- 2023 Co-Chair: Eden Centers for Hope and Healing Task Force

SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND CURRICULUMS:

 Project LAW 4th and 9th Grade Programs ("Legal-thinking, Awareness, and Wellness (Wellness BEES: "Body-mind, Environment, Economics, & Spirit")) Founder and Curriculum Developer (District Court Judge 25th Judicial District, Division B and Juvenile Division, 2011-2012) (Appellate Court Judge, 2012-present)

- Project LEAD ("Legal Enrichment And Decision-making") 5th Grade Program, Plaquemines Parish District Attorney's Office, Curriculum and Mock Trial Developer, Program Director, and Grant Writer (2000-2011)(LEAD program 2000-present)
- Project LEAD Hurricane Katrina, District Attorney's Office, 1st through 12th grades, all schools in district, Curriculum Developer, Program Director, and Grant Writer (2006)

COURT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES:

- CASA of Plaquemines ("Court Appointed Special Advocates"), La. 25th Judicial District Court, Juvenile Division, Founder (2009-present)
- FINS ("Families In Need of Services") and Truancy Program, La. 25th Judicial District Court, Juvenile Division, Founder (2010-present)
- Plaquemines Parish Department of Youth & Family Services, La. 25th Judicial District Court, Created Local Department (2009-present)
- Juvenile Division, La. 25th Judicial District Court, Created Specialized Court Division (2009-present)
- Behavioral Health Court Liaison, La. 25th Judicial District Court (Juvenile, Family & Criminal Divisions) Created Attorney and Licensed Social Worker Position (2009-2011)
- Passages Program (Juvenile Drug-Mental Health Court) La. 25th Judicial District Court, Juvenile Division, Founder (2010-2011)
- Budgetary Systemic Changes of Local Parish Funding for Judiciary, Clerk's Office, Sheriff's Office, and Department of Youth & Family Services (2009-2011)

PROSECUTORIAL INITIATIVES (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & CONVICTION):

- 2004 Implementation of "No Drop Policy" in Domestic Violence Cases, 25th Judicial District, District Attorney's Office (establishing that in domestic violence cases, the state through the District Attorney's Office, not the victim of the abuse, is the party to charge the abuser allowing the prosecutor to control the prosecution and takes the burden away from victims and provide a victim safety-net) (2004-present)
- 2004 Creation of Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Diversion program (Duluth Method) (2004-present)
- 2004 Implementation and Founding Member of Coordinated and Consolidated Juvenile and Domestic Relations Meetings, including Plaquemines Parish Child Abuse Protocol Committee (Chair 2004-present); Child Abuse Multi-disciplinary Investigative Team (2004-present); Domestic Violence and FINS ("Families In Need of Services") Multidisciplinary Team (2004-present); and Louisiana Youth Enhanced Services (LA-YES) Plaquemines Consortium (2004-08)
- 2006 Creation of Special Victims Unit, 25th Judicial District, District Attorney's Office, and, as Chief, prosecuted all misdemeanor and felony criminal cases involving victims of child abuse, domestic violence, stalking, sex offenses, and elderly and disabled persons abuse and worked closely with law enforcement, child and elder protection agencies, and other agencies and non-profits working with special victims and non-offending family members to develop protocols for special victims' cases (2006-present)
- 2006 Creation of Plaquemines Children and Youth Planning Board (2006-present) (promotes coordinated efforts in the development, implementation and operation of services and programs which encourage positive youth development; diversion of

children and youth from the criminal justice and foster care systems; reduction in the commitments of youth to state institutions; and provide a community response to juvenile delinquency).

LOUISIANA EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONS AND LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

- 2022 Louisiana Commission of Law Enforcement, Member (2022-present) (improvements to the operations of the criminal justice and juvenile justice system and the promotion of public safety by providing leadership and coordination within the criminal justice community).
- 2018 Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission, Commission Chair, Editor of 2018 Executive Summary and Annual Report; 2018 La. HTPC Annual Report presented to Governor John Bel Edwards on January 9, 2019; and 2018 Executive Summary and Annual Report presented to the Louisiana Legislature on March 14, 2019. https://www.lasc.org/documents%2F2018_HTPC_Exec_Summary_and_Annual_Report.pdf
- 2014 Louisiana Joint Human Trafficking Commission, Member (studied the conditions, needs, issues, and problems relative to human trafficking in Louisiana and recommended initiatives and legislation resulting in the passage of House Bill No. 1025 (Regular Session, 2014) Act No. 564, which revised and enacted various statutes involving the commercial sexual exploitation of persons and human trafficking, including the amendment to Human Trafficking statute La. RS 14:46:2 expanding the definition of "fraud, force or coercion" which resulted in an increase of individuals being classified as Victims of Human Trafficking and thereby receiving the protection of the law and proper shelter and restorative services).
- 2013-2014 Louisiana Sentencing Commission, Re-entry, Evidence Based, and Front End Committee (La. R.S. 15:321) Committee Member (studied best practices to address the incarnation of nonviolent, non-sex offenders and their re-entry into the communities and to recommend initiatives to increase community-based services focusing on offenders identified by the courts as having substance abuse addictions as the underlying cause of their offenses).
- 2011 Louisiana Legislative Session, Senate Concurrent Resolution 58, requested the • creation of the "Human Trafficking of Minors Study Group" (resulted in Senate Bill No. 88 (2013 Regular Session)(presumption that minors are victims of child sex trafficking; restitution to victims; a special fund in the state treasury; human trafficking service plans; a civil cause of action for victims of human trafficking; a safe harbor program for sexually exploited children; a statewide protocol; a procedure by which certain convictions for prostitution related to victims of human trafficking may be set aside and expunged; remedies available victims; and informal adjustment services and to agreements)(recommendations by Shared Hope International and American Center for Law & Justice publication entitled "Protected Innocence Initiative").
- 2006 Louisiana Legislative Session submitted legislation and testified regarding Amendment to La. Code of Evidence Art. 505 (exception to the spousal witness privilege to protect victims spouses of domestic violence).

PERSONAL

Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano, the youngest of three children, grew up mostly in Buras, Louisiana, a rural, coastal community near the mouth of the Mississippi River. Her father and mother both made their careers in teaching in the public school system. Judge Lobrano has been married for over 30 years to Francis "Jay" Lobrano, also a Tax and Business Attorney. Jay and Joy attended NYU Law School together, both receiving LL.M. in Taxation. Jay is a law partner at Carver, Darden law firm in New Orleans and Belle Chasse and is the Chair of the Louisiana Board of Tax Appeals in Baton Rouge. Joy and Jay are the proud parents of a daughter, a Virginia Pediatrician, and a son, a Chicago college student. They enjoy fishing and photographing the beautiful wetlands of coastal Louisiana, the serene Virginia creeks, and the magnificent Illinois lakes. Judge Lobrano's other hobbies playing the cello and exercising at her local CrossFit gym and enjoying the "box family" community activities, particularly its Memorial Day "Murph Challenge" in honor of Lt. Michael Murphy (US Navy SEAL), who sacrificed everything he had for our freedom. Judge Lobrano has been an Associate of the Catholic Sisters of the Living Word for over 20 years and they annually, since 2009, plant cypress trees in Louisiana wetlands developing the "Make our Common Home Tree-mendous" environmental sustainability initiative.