

# LIDEA Past Presidents

**1964/1965/1966**

**A.J. "DUSTY" RHODES, CED**  
*Area & Industrial Development Manager*  
Louisiana Power & Light Company  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1967**

**ROBERT BAYS**  
*Vice President*  
First Federal Savings & Loan Association  
Little Rock, Arkansas

**1968**

**ROBERT L. "BOB" PETTIT, JR.**  
*Chairman of the Board*  
The Jefferson Bank & Trust Company  
Metairie, Louisiana

**1969**

**A. WILLIAM WRIGHT, CED**  
*Director, Area Development*  
Central Louisiana Electric Company  
Pineville, Louisiana

**1970**

**GILBERT M. MELLIN, Ph.D.**  
*Vice President*  
Whitney National Bank of New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1971**

**LEONARD H. GRANT**  
*Vice President*  
First Bank of Mandeville  
Mandeville, Louisiana

**1972**

**W. LYLE KISER**  
*Area Development Engineer*  
New Orleans Public Service, Inc.  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1973**

**WILLIAM T. HACKETT, JR., CED**

*Executive Vice President*

Shreveport Chamber of Commerce  
Shreveport, Louisiana

**1974**

**JOHN J. CORDARO, CED**

*Development Engineer*

Louisiana Power & Light Company  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1975/1976**

**MALCOLM M. WILLIAMS, CED**

*Director, Area Development*

Gulf States Utilities Company  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**1977**

**JACK H. SANDERS**

*Vice President*

American Bank & Trust Company  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**1978**

**BOB J. ODEN, CCE**

*Executive Director*

Lafayette HT & ID District  
Lafayette, Louisiana

**1979**

**ED TOSCANO**

*Superintendent*

*Industrial & Area Development*  
New Orleans Public Service, Inc.  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1980**

**MILES K. LUKE, CED**

*Executive Director*

Industrial Development Board of Northeast Louisiana  
Monroe, Louisiana

**1981**

**REX BRYAN, CED**

*Vice President, Economic Development*

First National Bank of Shreveport  
Shreveport, Louisiana

**1982**

**A. E. HOLMES, JR.**

*Vice President, Industrial Development*  
BOH Brothers Construction Company  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1983**

**ARTHUR J. DEICHMANN**

*Area Development Engineer*  
New Orleans Public Service, Inc.  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1984**

**WAYNE L. STERLING, CED**

*Executive Director*  
Washington Industrial Development Board  
Bogalusa, Louisiana

**1985**

**JOHN W. HOLT, JR., CED**

*Partner*  
T & H Developments  
Bossier City, Louisiana

**1986**

**PATRICK J. GALLWEY**

*Executive Assistant for Management*  
Port of New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**1987**

**J. ALLEN MOUTON**

*Executive Director*  
Lafayette Economic Development Authority  
Lafayette, Louisiana

**1988**

**M. D. LECOMTE, CED**

*President & CEO*  
Coordinating and Development Corporation  
Shreveport, Louisiana

**1989**

**JANICE S. WYNN, CEcD**

*Economic Development Specialist*  
Gulf States Utilities Company  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**1990**

**GARY P. LAGRANGE**

*Executive Director*

Port of West St. Mary

Franklin, Louisiana

**1991**

**A. B. KESSLER, CED**

*Economic Development Manager*

Greater Shreveport Economic Development Foundation

Shreveport, Louisiana

**1992**

**MARK F. DONHAM, CED**

*Vice President*

New Orleans Region Economic Development Council

New Orleans, Louisiana

**1993**

**MIRIAM G. WYATT**

*Assistant Director*

Small Business Development Center

Northeast Louisiana University

Monroe, Louisiana

**1994**

**J. KEVIN McCOTTER**

*Director – Economic Development*

South Central Bell

New Orleans, Louisiana

**1995**

**MICHAEL M. PHILPOT, CED**

*Director, New Business Development*

Greater Shreveport

Economic Development Foundation

Shreveport, Louisiana

**1996**

**LEWIS L. "SKIP" SMART, III**

*Executive Director, Economic Development*

Livingston Economic Development Council

Livingston, Louisiana

**1997**

**VIC LAFONT**

*Director*

South Louisiana Economic Council

Thibodaux, Louisiana

**1998**

**JAMES S. HOLMES, JR., CED**  
*Senior Corporate Development Specialist*  
CLECO  
Pineville, Louisiana

**1999**

**G. LAVERNE JASEK, CED**  
*Economic Development Specialist*  
State of Louisiana  
Department of Economic Development  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**2000**

**KATIE S. CHIASSON**  
*President & CEO*  
Crowley Chamber of Commerce  
Crowley, Louisiana

**2001**

**GREGG D. GOTHREAU**  
*President & CEO*  
Lafayette Economic Development Authority  
Lafayette, Louisiana

**2002**

**PHILIP E. SEGHERS, CEcD**  
*Senior Account Executive - Recruiting*  
Entergy  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**2003**

**H. PATRICK WITTY**  
*Director - Economic & Business Development*  
Cleco Power, L.L.C.  
Opelousas, Louisiana

**2004**

**DAVID L. BOWMAN**  
*Senior Vice President, Economic Development*  
The Chamber of Greater Baton Rouge  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**2005**

**DONALD M. PIERSON, JR., CEcD**  
*Assistant Secretary*  
Louisiana Economic Development  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**2006**

**REBECCA V. SHIRLEY**

*Executive Vice President*

Greater Abbeville - Vermilion Chamber of Commerce  
Abbeville, Louisiana

**2007**

**MARTHA P. COLLINS, PCED**

*Gonzales Marketing Team*

Gonzales, Louisiana

**2008**

**RICHARD T. WARD, CEcD**

*Director - Economic Development*

Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**2009**

**TOMMY J. KURTZ, CEcD, MPA**

*Executive Director, Business Expansion and Retention Group*

Louisiana Economic Development  
Baton Rouge, LA

**2010**

**ARTHUR R. COOPER**

*CEO*

LSU System Research & Technology Foundation  
Baton Rouge, LA

**2011**

**DON ALLISON**

*Partner*

Advantous Consulting, LLC  
Baton Rouge, LA

**2012**

**KURT FOREMAN**

*President*

North Louisiana Economic Partnership  
Shreveport, LA

**2013**

**RAY CORNELIUS**

*Partner*

Adams and Reese, LLP  
New Orleans, LA

**2014**

**KRISTI LUMPKIN**

*Economic Development Administrator*  
City of Ruston  
Ruston, LA

**2015**

**MICHAEL OLIVIER**

*CEO*  
Committee of 100  
Baton Rouge, LA

**2016**

**FRANK FINK**

*Director*  
St. Mary Parish Economic Development  
Franklin, LA

**2017**

**JERRY BOLOGNA**

*President and CEO*  
JEDCO  
Avondale, LA

**2018**

**RHONDA REAP-CURIEL**

*President*  
CENCOR Consulting  
Alexandria, LA

**2019**

**MIKE TARANTINO**

*President and CEO*  
Iberia Industrial Development Foundation  
New Iberia, LA