

## ROYCE DUPLESSIS *for MAYOR*

Royce Duplessis represents a new generation of leadership that will make the city more affordable and an easier place to live. Royce has always believed that leadership begins with service. Born and raised in Pontchartrain Park, the son of Hedy and Wilfred Duplessis, Royce grew up surrounded by a community that valued hard work, family, and fairness. Those values shaped him early on. Summers spent working as a bricklayer's assistant and evenings bussing tables at Mandina's Restaurant taught him the dignity of hard work and the importance of opportunity.



After graduating from St. Augustine High School and Xavier University of Louisiana, Royce planned to continue his education right away. But when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, he put his ambitions on hold and went to work helping his city recover. As Chief of Staff to Councilmember James Carter, he learned firsthand that leadership is about stepping up in times of crisis and working together to rebuild stronger. That commitment to his hometown would guide the rest of his career.

Royce went on to earn his law degree at Howard University, where he founded the Howard Energy and Environmental Law Society to advocate for environmental justice. He interned at the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality, experiences that deepened his understanding of how government can be used to protect and serve communities. After clerking for Judge Thomas J. Motley in Washington, D.C., he returned home to New Orleans to continue that work.

Back in Louisiana, Royce built a career as a corporate-trained attorney and later as special counsel to Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Johnson, where he worked to reform the criminal justice system and tackle inefficiencies in court fines and fees. As chair of the New Orleans City Planning Commission, he fought to protect historic neighborhoods while also promoting innovation and quality of life improvements across the city.

In 2018, Royce was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives, and in 2022, he was elected State Senator for District 5. Over the past seven years, he has become known as a lawmaker who gets results, not by shouting the loudest, but by building coalitions and working across party lines.

Among his key legislative achievements, Sen. Duplessis:

- **Passed a law requiring universal perinatal mood disorder screening** to improve maternal health outcomes.
- **Expanded Louisiana's fortified roof program** to help lower home insurance costs.
- **Extended the state's Earned Income Tax Credit** to provide financial relief for low-income workers.
- **Prohibited insurance companies from denying essential healthcare to individuals temporarily displaced by a state-declared emergency**, ensuring access to critical medical services in times of crisis.
- **Passed legislation limiting the use of solitary confinement for juveniles**, promoting more humane treatment and rehabilitative approaches for youth in detention.
- **Led efforts to expand workforce development programs and attract investment to Louisiana**, supporting economic growth, job creation, and small business development.

Currently, Sen. Duplessis runs his own legal practice, the Duplessis Law Firm, where he has had notable success in civil litigation. His leadership and commitment to public service have been widely recognized, earning him numerous honors, including:

- **2025 Inspired Cross Award** – Ascension DePaul Foundation New Orleans, for his dedication to promoting healthy communities
- **2023 Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award** – Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- **2023 Pascal Calogero Champion of Justice Award** – Louisiana Center for Children's Rights
- **2022 Mondale-Brooke Award** – Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center
- **2021 Legislator of the Year** – Louisiana Center for Development and Learning
- **2021 Fellow** – E Pluribus Unum Fund
- **2019 Legislator of the Year** – Childcare Association of Louisiana
- **2017 Fellow & Leadership Award Recipient** – New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute
- **2015 40 Under 40 Honoree** – Xavier University of Louisiana

Additionally, he is a member of the Education Leadership Institute (2016 Fellow) and the New Leaders Council (2014 Fellow). In 2012, he was elected to the Orleans Parish Democratic Executive Committee.

Sen. Duplessis currently serves on the boards of Innocence Project New Orleans, Total Community Action, the Justice and Accountability Center, and the Governor's Council on the Success of Black Men and Boys. Since 2012, he has mentored young men through the nationally recognized Silverback Society. He is also a past president of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc., where he expanded the organization's free legal services and outreach efforts. Additionally, he co-founded and served as past president of the A.P. Tureaud, Sr. Legacy Committee, which honors the legacy of the pioneering Louisiana civil rights attorney.

Today, Royce and his wife, Krystle, are raising their daughter Reese in Central City. For Royce, family is the foundation of everything. It is what drives him to fight for safer streets, more affordable housing, better jobs, and stronger schools, because every family in New Orleans deserves the same opportunities he wants for his own.

Now, Royce Duplessis is running for Mayor of New Orleans. He knows the city can't afford more chaos, corruption, or excuses. With a record of proven results, a career built on service, and a vision for a safer, more affordable, and thriving city, Royce is ready to turn the page and deliver the leadership New Orleans deserves.

**Senator Royce Duplessis**

Candidate for Mayor of New Orleans

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