



ACROSS THE BAR

2004 - 2005

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2005 - 2006 YLD BOG Meetings

August 25 - 28, 2005

Joint Meeting With
Senior BOG
St. Petersburg, Florida

September 22- 25, 2005

Naples, Florida

November 1-6, 2005

Washington, D.C.

January 12 - 15, 2006

Affiliate Outreach
Conference
Brevard County

March 23 - 26, 2006

Gainesville

April 20 - 23, 2006

Sanibel

Court Changes Basic Skills Requirements

By Sean Shaw, Esquire, Secretary, YLD Board of Governors

The Florida Supreme Court recently made changes to the basic skills requirements for all new admittees to The Florida Bar. *See In Re: Amendments to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar*, No SC04-914 (May 12, 2005). Prior to this ruling, Rule Regulating the Florida Bar 6-12.3 required that all new admittees complete the Practicing with Professionalism program ("PWP") sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar ("YLD") within twelve months of admission and complete two elective, basic, substantive continuing legal education ("CLE") programs sponsored by the YLD within the first three year reporting

cycle. The version of Rule 6-12.4 that was in place prior to this ruling allowed full-time government employees to defer compliance with these basic skills requirements. If a member ceased to be a full-time government employee, they were allowed twelve months to attend a PWP and twenty-four months to complete the three YLD-sponsored CLE courses.

The Court made the following revisions to Rule 6-12.3: codified that PWP is a one day program, increased the required number of YLD-sponsored courses from two to three, and allowed new admittees to complete the PWP up to twelve months before

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Message from the President:

"That's All, Folks!"

By Michael J. Faehner, Esquire, President, YLD

It's amazing how quickly a year flies by. Just one year ago, I wrote and shared with you, the 20,000 lawyers who are members of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, my goals and vision for our profession and our Division. After one year, I am happy to report that our Division is in very good shape. I am very thankful to many



people that have helped in achieving all of these goals. So, this being my last column, I want to thank all the people who shared in this vision.

I've got to start out by thanking my Board for the past year. The fifty individuals who make up the Board are a very hard working and dedicated group of attorneys who represent each and every young lawyer in Florida. Throughout the year they were committed to improving the professional lives of Florida's young lawyers through the Division's many

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2004 - 2005**

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Sarasota Young Lawyer Goes the Extra Mile on a FEMA Hurricane Relief Case

By Jennifer J. Ator, Esquire, 11th Judicial Circuit Representative,
YLD Board of Governors



J. Summonte, Jr.

Nearly a year ago, over eight hundred lawyers throughout the state set their personal needs aside and volunteered to respond to calls from the FEMA hotline. But one young lawyer went above and beyond – he not only resolved a case for the benefit of a hurricane victim, but also sought fees and donated them to the Red Cross.

Joseph F. Summonte, Jr. of Judd Shea Ulrich Oravec Wood & Dean, P.A in Sarasota, Florida was referred a tenant of a rent-by-the-week mobile home park in Orlando. The trailer he was renting had both storm related damage – broken windows and doors – and suffered from general lack of repair and maintenance – mold, roaches, leaky windows, and broken stove.

When the hurricane victim retained Judd Shea Ulrich, Joe demanded repair of the property and pursuant to their right to do so, the tenants stopped paying rent. The landlord filed a Complaint to evict the tenants. Because the landlord failed to follow the proper procedure, the tenant ended up being entitled to attorneys fees. The case was eventually settled at mediation.

Rather than letting the landlord off the hook to ensure a quick settlement, Joe and his colleagues at Judd Shea Ulrich demanded the attorney fees. Joe knew that because the case was from a FEMA referral, Judd Shea Ulrich could not collect fees for the representation. Nevertheless, Joe persisted and obtained \$4,000 in fees, which Judd Shea Ulrich donated to The Red Cross.

Joe actually handled seven cases on a pro bono basis for the hurricane victims. Six of the cases were referrals from FEMA; one of the cases was a case that was referred to him by a lawyer in Charlotte County. He was a true advocate for the victims and a tireless volunteer for The Florida Bar.

Joe graduated from Stetson University College of Law and practices in civil trial law, commercial litigation, construction law, and condominium and homeowner association law.

The Florida Bar YLD BOG thanks Joe and his colleagues at Judd Shea Ulrich for their efforts related to Hurricane Relief cases. Without lawyers like Joe, and law firms like Judd Shea Ulrich, who volunteered their time and energy to help hurricane victims, The Florida Bar could not have assisted over two thousand hurricane victims with legal problems following the disasters last summer.

BASIC SKILLS

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admission to the bar. This ruling also amended Rule 6.12.4 to no longer exempt full-time government employees from attending the PWP and adopted a “grandfather clause” that leaves the deferral in place for certain government employees and exempts others from PWP.

In addition to these changes, the Court encouraged the YLD to explore options which would reduce

the cost of PWP. In fact, prior to this case the YLD had already created a PWP Scholarship Program which provided several \$75 grants to attorneys in need. The YLD reaffirmed this commitment by keeping in place its current PWP Scholarship Program while at the same time exploring other options to make attendance at PWP more affordable.

YLD President Michael Faehner Honored by The Florida Supreme Court

By Jamie Moses, Esquire, President-Elect, YLD

At the recent Pro Bono Service Awards Ceremony at the Florida Supreme Court, Chief Justice Barbara Pariente surprised Mr. Faehner after he had presented the YLD Pro Bono Award to this year's recipient by calling him up to the bench and then reciting his accomplishments in front of members of The Florida Bar Board of Governors, award recipients and others who were gathered for this annual event to honor lawyers who gave back to their communities in the form of pro bono services. The Chief Justice truly surprised Mr. Faehner who believed he was being called back up to the bench because he did not give the YLD award recipient her plaque (not his fault that it was hidden under several other awards). At a loss for words, Mr. Faehner graciously accepted the award and challenged all lawyers in Florida to do pro bono service not only during times of crisis, but in our everyday practices.

Mr. Faehner received "The Chief Justice's Special Recognition" award which read:

"In grateful recognition of your dedication and commitment to the citizens of Florida through your extraordinary service to the victims of Hurricane Charley, Francis, Jeanne and Ivan. Your personal and professional concern for others throughout the weeks and months of recovery are an example to hold before the entire legal profession. The citizens of this state and your fellow lawyers will forever benefit from your tireless efforts."



The term "pro bono," derived from the Latin phrase "pro bono publico," means "for the good of the public." In 2003-04, Florida lawyers donated more than 1.4 million pro bono hours and \$3.7 million dollars in monetary contributions.

Other awards presented at the time were:

- The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award was established in 1981 as a way to recognize individual lawyers within Florida's judicial circuits who are

committed to providing free legal services to the poor. Twenty-one lawyers received The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for their commitment to providing free legal services to the poor.

- The Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award was given by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court and recognizes a lawyer who has made outstanding contributions to legal services for the poor. Chief Justice Barbara J. Pariente presented this year's award to Indian Rocks Beach attorney James M. "Van" Vanderplas.
- The first Distinguished Judicial Service Award was presented to Judge William A. Van Nortwick, Jr. of the First District Court of Appeal.
- The Dunedin law firm of Barrett and Barrett received the Law Firm Commendation Award.
- The Clearwater Bar Association received the Voluntary Bar Pro Bono Service Award.
- The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division presented their Young Lawyers Division Pro Bono Award to attorney Melanie Damian of Miami.

The ceremony was also dedicated to the memory of Henry Latimer, 1938-2005, a Florida Bar Board of Governor who was actively involved in providing pro bono services throughout the South Florida area.



Annual Meeting of The Florida Bar

June 22 - 25, 2005

Orlando World Center Marriott

For up-to-date information, visit www.floridabar.org.

Florida High School Mock Trial Competition

By Kelly O'Keefe, Esquire, 2d Judicial Circuit Representative, YLD Board of Governors

This year's high school mock trial competition presented the fictitious criminal case of a migrant worker being arrested for cocaine possession after a routine traffic stop. Issues of racial profiling, society's drug problem and over zealous law enforcement were addressed by the students during the trials. The teams had to be prepared to argue both side of the case.

High school teams from around the state initially competed at the local level, with the top teams advancing to the final competition in Orlando. For the second straight year, the team from **Lincoln High School in Tallahassee** won the State championship. Lincoln High School went on to represent Florida in the national competition held in Charlotte, North Carolina with the help of the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, which donated fund to help get them there.

The Lincoln High School team consisted of eight members and three alternates. Katherine Davis received the best attorney award in the State competition and a \$500.00 check. Katherine Davis and Sonha Hoang also received Best Attorney Awards at the National Competition. Other team members of the Lincoln High School team included David Grossman, Yao Yao Luo, Monica Marder, Gary Cooper, Lauren Durden, Sonha Hoang, Courtney Aztalos, Cathleen Wade, Heather Milton and Victoria Boselman. Lincoln High School teacher Rob Thompson and his wife, Kelly O'Keefe, an attorney with Broad & Cassell, were coaches for the team. Kelly O'Keefe is also the Second Circuit Young Lawyers Board of Governors Representative. The husband and wife team have been coaching Lincoln's Mock Trial team for nine years. They have remained dedicated to the program because it inspires young students to think critically and achieve a level of self confidence that will be valuable in whatever profession they choose.



The Lincoln High School Mock Trial team at Nationals in Charlotte, North Carolina. Frontrow, left to right: Attorney Coach Kelly O'Keefe, Kathleen Wade, Lauren Durden, Victoria Boselman, Sonha Hoang, Courtney Aztalos and Coach Robert Thompson. Top row, from left to right: Gary Cooper, Heather Milton, Yao Yao Luo, Katherine Davis, Monica Marder and David Grossman.

A quote from this year's Lincoln Mock Trial team captain, Sonha Hoang, demonstrates how that self confidence arises:

"Accustomed to textbook methods and checklists before leaving the house, I depended on the old adage "Practice Makes Perfect." In the world of academia, reading the chapter and completing the assignment would be considered sufficient. But practice and preparation were not enough for Mock Trial. Despite months of constant repetition and incessant rehearsal in the courtroom, practice played a measly sixty percent role in competition. Preparation carried me part of the way but it was bravery that I needed to push me to the finish line.

I lacked the confidence to be courageous; humility robbed me of the arrogance required to deal with the curveballs competition insured would be thrown my way: unexpected rulings, outlandish objections, and unorthodox styles. I had to learn to react quickly with no script to guide me; I could not pencil in spontaneity for Tuesdays at three. I had to have a response regardless. But before I could depend solely on the "off-the-top-of-my-head, on-my-feet" thinking that was necessary, I had to learn to trust myself. And, I had to learn to be

wrong. Before, I only raised my hand when I was absolutely certain of the correct answer. Mock Trial taught me to do otherwise. It taught me the benefits of being wrong. Making mistakes became the most valuable lesson; I strived to become less wrong. I had to sound and be confident when I knew that everything I was saying, I had just made up. As a member of the Mock Trial team, I was wrong often and often criticized. I was humbled greatly. But the tables have since turned. I am the captain and the experienced member; commanding and intimidating. It is my turn to push others to learn what I learned and am still learning."

Other teams in the final rankings at the State Competition included Boone High School in second place, Community School of Naples in third place, South Dade High School in fourth place, and Pinnellas Park High School in fifth place. Columbia High School and St. Stephens Episcopal School received legal professionalism awards in the competition. In addition to Katherine Davis from Lincoln High School receiving the Top Attorney Award, Best Attorney Awards were presented to Jolie Peguero of South Dade High School, Mario Henderson of Atlantic High School and Whitney Wilson of the Community School of Naples. The Top Witness Award went to Adam Guercio of the Community School of Naples, with Best Witness Awards also going to David Renick of South Dade High School, Naida Aclime of Ft. Lauderdale High School and Sascha Rodriguez of Riverview High School.

The State High School Mock Trial Competition was coordinated by the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. with the assistance of the Florida Young Lawyers Division. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who participated in coaching teams and judging the local level competitions and State Competition Orlando.



“Canines and the Constitution” Help Students Learn the Appellate Process

Florida high school students learn about the appeals process from the experts

A hypothetical canine search case became the basis of a new high school appellate competition in Florida this year to help students learn how the appellate process works. Serving as an extension of the popular high school mock trial competition, coordinated annually by the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc., the new appellate program was first conceptualized by Supreme Court Chief Justice Barbara Pariente. The program incorporates both a brief writing and oral argument component. The high school mock trial case was authored by Florida attorney Laurie Chane and incorporated an issue on appeal.

Teams of students throughout Florida submitted briefs which were judged by a panel of attorneys from The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division. The YLD provided funding and member support for the program. Winning brief writers presented oral arguments before a panel of District Court of Appeal judges in Miami, Daytona Beach, and Tampa. The First DCA in Tallahassee heard preliminary rounds in the state finals held on May 5, 2005 to select the top two teams to present before the Florida Supreme Court. Six of Florida's seven Supreme Court justices served on the judging panel for the high school oral arguments during Law Week.

“This was the pilot year for the project,” stated Annette Boyd Pitts, Executive Director of The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. “We hope to grow the program eventually to reach the size and popularity of the state high school

mock trial program.” One way the Association has devised to grow the program is through a new Constitutional Law honors course that FLREA developed and submitted to the Florida Department of Education. “This course has been approved and will provide the appropriate avenue to incorporate the appellate program,” Pitts added. The course incorporates a requirement to address a constitutional dilemma through writing an appellate brief. It also requires students to participate in a simulated oral argument.

“Ultimately, this was my goal for the competition; that is, to have our students learn the difference between the trial courts’ role and the appellate courts’ role...”

— Chief Justice Barbara Pariente

By participating in the appellate competition, students expand their study of the courts and the Constitution through a program that incorporates both rigor and relevance. A wide range of skills and knowledge are developed. Students use reasoning skills, constitutional analysis, writing, persuasion, and public speaking among other high level skills.

DCA level competitions were held the first two weeks in April. Winning

teams advanced to the state finals with preliminary rounds in Tallahassee on May 5 in the First DCA. Judge Philip Padavano and Judge Robert Benton sat on the judging panel along with staff attorney Janeia Daniels who assisted in the design of the program. The final round was held on May 6 at 10 am in the Florida Supreme Court. A reception followed in the rotunda of the Court. The program was broadcast over the Internet and on public television.

“I was very impressed overall with the ability of the students to respond to questions and to be so composed under pressure,” stated Chief Justice Barbara Pariente. “The most satisfying aspect for me was speaking to the students, teachers and parents to learn how much knowledge they gained about how our appellate system operates,” continued Pariente. “Ultimately, this was my goal for the competition; that is, to have our students learn the difference between the trial courts’ role and the appellate courts’ role,” she concluded.

Michael Faehner, President of the Young Lawyers Division along with YLD members Kelly O’Keefe and Greg Brown were instrumental in developing the program model and recruiting attorneys to assist with evaluating the briefs and oral arguments. Attorney Janeia Daniels of the First DCA assisted with refining the score sheets and crafting the design of the competition.

Appellate judges at the DCA level volunteered to judge the local competitions. Case materials are available on line at www.flrea.org under

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MOOT COURT

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moot court. The project is a cooperative effort of the Supreme Court of Florida, the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar, and the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc.

The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc is a principal grantee of The Florida Bar Foundation. The Foundation and The Florida Bar provide assistance and support to public education initiatives sponsored by the Association. For additional information or to volunteer, contact the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc, 2874 Remington Green Circle, Suite A, Tallahassee, Florida 32308 or call 850-386-8223. You can email Pitts at ABPflreaED@aol.com

We would like to thank the following people for their invaluable help making the district competitions happen:

First DCA:

Judge Philip Padavano
Judge Robert Benton
Janeia Daniels
Chief Judge James Wolf

Second DCA:

Judge Patricia Kelly
Chief Judge Altenbernd
Judge Thomas Stringer

Third DCA:

Judge Frank Shephard
Marie Mosely
Judge Linda Ann Wells
Judge Richard Suarez

Fourth DCA:

Judge Fred Hazouri

Fifth DCA:

Judge Winfred Sharp
Judge Richard Orfinger
Judge William Palmer
Judge David Monaco
Judge Robert Pleus
Judge Victor Tropy
Judge Earl Peterson

Final Team Results at State Competition

FIRST PLACE: Pinellas Park High School

Students: Bruce Bostick, Oscar Bastardo, Jackie Palazzolo, and Erika Jennings
Teacher: Matt Valentine

SECOND PLACE: Miami Killian Senior High School

Students: Andrew Bauta and Amy Mandel
Teacher: Lorraine Silverstein

STATE FINALISTS:

(in no particular order)

CFCC Career Academy

Students: Savannah Doane and Nikki Sias
Teacher: Douglas H. Oswald

Coral Reef Senior High School

Students: Desireé Blanco, Jessica Bouis, Nicole Crousillat, and Keane Roman
Teacher: Jan Jacobowitz

Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School

Students: David Krevat, Jonathan McNally, Genevieve Napolitano, and Don Sharogrodsky
Teacher: Connie Higgins

Lake Howell High School

Students: Heidi McLaughlin, Stephanie Scherrer, Melissa Theodore, and Diandra Caroballo
Teacher: LaTonya Thomas



Students from Lake Howell High take a break after a day of intense competition.



Students Bruce Bostick (center) and Oscar Bastardo (right) pose with Chief Justice Barbara Pairente (left)



Students from Miami Killian High pose with Chief Justice Pairente (left) and Michael Faehener (right)

Rodriguez Wins YLD Diversity Award

By Ginger Barry, Esquire, Committee Secretary, YLD Board of Governors



The Young Lawyer's Division is proud to announce that this year's winner of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Diversity Award is **Diego "Woody" Rodriguez.**

Mr. Rodriguez, a member of the Orange County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section, has made a commitment to promoting diversity, and creating opportunities for minority law students and lawyers, within the Bar through his leadership. Most notably, Mr. Rodriguez is the outgoing National Diversity Director for the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. As the National Diversity Director, Mr. Rodriguez was responsible for developing and implementing the Young Lawyer's Division's diversity initiatives and programs. Mr. Rodriguez has also served as the President of the Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida (2002), President of the Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association (2004-2005).

Mr. Rodriguez credits much of his enthusiasm for promoting bar leadership and participation among minority lawyers and law students to his experiences as an ABA YLD Minorities in the Profession Committee Scholarship recipient. In 2000, Mr. Rodriguez was one of six young lawyers in the nation selected to attend ABA YLD meetings on a full scholarship from the division. Mr. Rodriguez had the opportunity to pursue leadership opportunities within the ABA through this program. As a scholarship recipient, Mr. Rodriguez mentored and encouraged local minority bar leaders to pursue leadership opportunities within the ABA and the Young Lawyers Division. Mr. Rodriguez is now a frequent presenter for the ABA on minority issues and the promotion of minority leadership within the ABA.

Mr. Rodriguez not only mentors lawyers and law students, he also

mentors elementary and middle school minority students through ABA service projects, local bar activities and local elementary and middle schools in the Orlando area. At the Spring 2004 ABA YLD meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, Mr. Rodriguez presented "The Trial of the Century: A Re-Enactment of *Brown v. Board*," a mock trial project for the national education campaign for middle school students. Mr. Rodriguez was able to secure the participation of nationally recognized attorneys such as Johnny Cochran and Jock Smith to support and participate in the re-

enactment of *Brown v. Board* that was edited, directed, and moderated by Mr. Rodriguez. This service project was presented with a merit award from the ABA recognizing the project as the most outstanding service project for the year.

Mr. Rodriguez is an accomplished young lawyer whose leadership has helped expand the opportunities available to minorities within the ABA and The Florida Bar. The Young Lawyers' Division is proud to award him with the 2005 Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Diversity Award.

Judicial Directory on Website

The Judicial Directory Committee wants to remind all lawyers of a valuable resource available on the YLD's Website (www.flayld.org). The Judicial Directory Committee, under the leadership of C. Wade Bowden, has compiled a database of all Circuit Court and County Court judges in the state. The database includes basic biographical information about each judge including address and telephone number. The Judicial Directory additionally provides a link to

each Florida circuit's website. The Judicial Directory can be accessed by clicking on the "Judges" tab at the top of the webpage.

The Committee continually updates the information included within the database so that the most current information is available for each judge. The judicial directory is continually evolving making it an incredibly powerful resource for all practitioners.

The YLD is pleased to be able to offer such a valuable resource.



HIGH SCHOOL MOOT COURT WINNERS. Pinellas Park Senior High School won top honors in the inaugural high school appellate competition. The top two teams argued before six of Florida's seven Supreme Court justices to earn the state title. Second place honors went to Miami Killian Senior High School. Shown are (L-R) Michael Faehner, [President of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar] with winning appellate students Oscar Bastardo and Bruce Bostick of Pinellas Park Senior High School, and Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Barbara Pariente.

May 2005 Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors Meeting Report

By Carlos A. Kelly, Esquire and Starling N. Hendriks, Esquire, 20th Judicial Circuit Representatives, YLD Board of Governors

The Board of Governors of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar met in Miami Beach, Florida, May 19 through 22. The YLD Board of Governors meeting was held in conjunction with meetings of the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division.

YLD Board of Governors **President Michael J. Faehner, Esquire**, opened the meeting by administering the oath of office to **Michael Vines, Esquire**, who became a representative to the YLD Board of Governors from the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. Also serving as representative to the YLD Board of Governors from the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit is **Robyn Vines, Esquire**, who is married to Michael Vines. This is the first time the YLD Board of Governors will have a husband and wife serving as representatives simultaneously.

Next, President Faehner displayed the Chief Justice's Special Recognition Award, which was given to Faehner for his leadership in directing the effort of The Florida Bar's Young Lawyers Division in responding to the four hurricanes that hit Florida in 2004. President Faehner

told the YLD Board of Governors that the award was made possible only as a result of the efforts of the YLD Board of Governors and others.

After that, the YLD Board of Governors awarded a series of grants for various causes:

- \$5,000.00 for a hurricane preparedness program;
- \$10,000.00 to the Center for Professionalism to assist it in producing a video explaining the benefits of diversity in the legal profession;
- \$10,000.00 to the Henry Latimer Scholarship Fund;
- \$7,500.00 to the Florida Pro Bono Coordinators Association.

In the next order of business, **Kevin Cook, Esquire**, YLD Board of Governors member from the Fourth Judicial Circuit, announced the successful completion of a run benefiting the Florida Skin Cancer Foundation. The Florida Skin Cancer Foundation, Inc. was formed, in part, by **William Sundberg, Esquire**, a member of the YLD Board of Governors from the Second Judicial Circuit. For more information, you can

visit floridaskincancer.org.

After that, the Board awarded ten law scholarships of \$2,000.00 each to law students attending law schools in Florida.

Next, the YLD selected **Judge Robert Hawley**, a Circuit Judge sitting in Indian River County, Florida, as the recipient of the YLD's Outstanding Jurist Award.

The YLD selected **Gisela Munoz** of Miami, Florida as its recipient of the YLD's Most Productive Young Lawyer Award.

The YLD selected the law firm of **Gray and Gorenflo, P.A.** of Sanford, Florida as the recipient of the YLD's Michael K. Reese Quality of Life Award.

Next, the YLD awarded \$5,000.00 to help minority bar associations attract young lawyers, which the YLD believes will benefit minority bar associations, young lawyers throughout the State, and the profession in general.

The YLD then awarded \$25,000.00 to the Florida Law-Related Education Association for use in conjunction with its high school mock trial and moot court programs.

In its final order of business, the YLD addressed Florida Supreme Court opinion No. SC04-914 regarding the Practicing with Professionalism Program. The YLD Board of Governors reaffirmed its commitment to the need-based grant program recognized by the Court in the opinion and will explore how to make the Practicing with Professionalism Seminar more affordable in the future.

The next meeting of the YLD Board of Governors will take place during The Florida Bar's Annual Meeting June 22 through 25, 2005. If you would like more information about the YLD Board of Governors, please contact your circuit representative, who can be identified on the YLD's website at www.flayld.org.

The YLD Website – A Valuable Resource

Upcoming meetings and events • links to your local representatives • links to free legal research sites • applications for awards and scholarships • our newsletter • our judicial directory (insight into what circuit judges around the state require for practicing law before them) • etc.

Visit our webpage at www.flayld.org

Jacksonville Bar's Young Lawyers "Run for Cover"

The "Run for Cover" race was held on May 7, 2005, in downtown Jacksonville. The race started and ended at the state courthouse, with a route that included the Main Street and Acosta Bridges. Almost 200 ran and about half were screened for skin cancer. The Jacksonville Dermatological Society provided several volunteer doctors to conduct the screenings. At least one case of full blown skin cancer and several pre-cancerous conditions were discovered, which might not have been diagnosed until later when conditions might have deteriorated.



Jacksonville Bar Association president elect Kelly Mathis (left) with Buddy Schulz of Holland & Knight.



Our youngest race winner Mary Ann Brown showing off her hardware.



The race's overall winner Ashton Manley ran the bridges in 5:41 minute miles.



Volunteer doctors from the Jacksonville Dermatological Society screened scores of people (race participants and others who wanted to be screened) and found at least one case of skin cancer and several others with pre-cancerous conditions.



Race participants immediately before the race.

2005 Young Lawyers Division Scholarship Recipients

By **Nichole M. Mooney, Esquire, 9th Judicial Circuit Representative, YLD Board of Governors**

Each year, the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar awards 10 scholarships to second year law students attending one of Florida's ABA-accredited law schools. This year the scholarship has been increased to \$2,000.00. The scholarships are awarded both on the basis of merit and financial need. The YLD is pleased to announce and introduce the 2005 recipients of the scholarship.

Kenneth Michael Angell – A student at the University of Florida, Levin College of Law, Mr. Angell anticipates graduating in December, 2006. He received his Associate of Arts from Florida Community College, Jacksonville in 2000 and his Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of North Florida in 2003. After graduation from law school, Mr. Angell is interested in pursuing a career in public interest, advocating for civil and human rights, and also aspires to become involved in politics.

Jeffrey A. Bekiaries – Mr. Bekiaries is a student at the University of Florida, Levin College of Law and anticipates graduating in December, 2006. He received his Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the University of Illinois in 2002 and graduated cum laude. After graduation from law school, Mr. Bekiaries is interested in pursuing a judicial clerkship and has an interest in immigration law and labor and employment law.

Jennifer Caldarelli – Ms. Caldarelli attends the University of Miami law school and anticipates graduating in May, 2007. She received her Bachelor of Science in

Business Administration in Finance from the University of Florida. She looks forward to an interesting legal practice.

Iлона Demenina – A student of St. Thomas University School of Law, Ms. Demenina anticipates graduating in May, 2006. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Language (French and Spanish) from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. Ms. Demenina is interested in a several areas of the law and ultimately hopes to open her own office practicing civil litigation.

Katy H. Donlan – A student of the Florida State University College of Law, Ms. Donlan anticipates graduating in May, 2007. She attended Florida State University as an undergraduate and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science. Ms. Donlan hopes to practice in the areas of real estate, possibly specializing in land use planning, and estate planning after graduation from law school.

Christina Irene Echeverri – Ms. Echeverri is a student of St. Thomas University School of Law and anticipates graduating in May, 2006. She received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Florida International University. Ms. Echeverri wishes to stay in South Florida after graduation and is interested in becoming an adjunct professor as well as continuing a career in a legal practice.

Amanda Groover – Ms. Groover attends the University of Florida, Levin College of Law and anticipates graduating in December, 2006. She received

a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the University of Florida. Upon graduation from law school, she is interested in practicing in the area of media defense. Ms. Groover is also working to complete a master's degree in mass communication.

Krista A. Johnson – Attending Florida Coastal School of Law, Ms. Johnson anticipates graduating in December, 2006. She received a Bachelor of Science in Business - general management from the University of Minnesota - Carlson School of Management. Ms. Johnson hopes one day to become a law professor.

Kristina N. Klein – A student of the Florida State University College of Law, Ms. Klein anticipates graduating in May, 2006. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Women's Studies from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Ms. Klein looks forward to a challenging legal career and is interested in exploring different areas of practice.

Joshua D. Martin – Mr. Martin attends Stetson University College of Law and anticipates graduating in May, 2006. He also attended Stetson University as an undergraduate and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Mr. Martin is interested in pursuing a federal judicial clerkship and ultimately hopes to practice in the area of intellectual property.

The Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors congratulates all of these recipients on their excellent records and hard work. We look forward to their contribution to our legal community.

Palm Beach Bar “Hops” to the Hospital to Spread Some Cheer

For the fourth year, the Palm Beach County Bar participated in their annual Easter/Passover event. They provided toys and gifts to chil-

dren in the pediatric cancer ward at a local hospital. It was a very rewarding experience, and the kids loved the “Easter Bunny.” The YLD Affiliate

Outreach Project donated \$500 toward this event. (Shhhh! Don’t tell, but “the bunny” was really a PBBA executive committee member!)



The “Easter Bunny” visits some of the young patients in the hospital.



The Bunny and friends pose with the gifts to be distributed to the children.

Student Loan Legislation endorsed by the YLD BOG

By William Banks, Esquire, Board Historian

In an historic round of legislation, the Florida Senate and House considered passing an amendment to Florida Statutes §43.201 allowing for law student loan repayment assistance to certain qualified governmental attorneys. The House Bill (H.B. 169) and Senate Bill (S.B. 190) would have allocated up to \$44,000 in law student loan repayment to trial court staff attorneys, assistant state attorneys, assistant public defenders, and assistant attorneys general who had accumulated at least three years of

service to their respective agencies. The repayment was to be offered in graduated annual amounts starting at \$3000 per year and with increases reaching \$5000 per year based on length of service. The bills were amended and challenged on numerous grounds before the legislation died in committee on May 9, 2005.

The Board of Governors of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division supported this piece of legislation as a viable and productive means of attracting young lawyers to positions

in government. When faced with increasing financial burdens from student loans, many young lawyers opt for more lucrative positions in private practice when they might otherwise have sought employment with the government. This recent round of legislation was perhaps the closest a bill of this nature has come to passing the Florida legislature. The BOG remains hopeful that similar legislation will make it to the desk of the Governor when it is next introduced.

Professional Development Opportunity for Lawyers

Hello, my name is Kevin Joyce and I'm a practicing attorney, Ohio State Bar Association member and organizational consultant from Toledo. I'm writing because you might be interested in participating in a study of the legal profession that I'm part of.

The study's purpose is to examine the relationship between emotional intelligence - how leaders handle themselves and their relationships - and effectiveness in the legal profession. I'm working with Jane Wheeler, Ph.D., and Kristine Hoover, both of whom are on the management department faculty in the College of Business Administration at Bowling Green State University, where I'm also a part-time instructor. Jane is a management professor, director of the Institute for Organizational Effectiveness and director of the Master of Organization Development Program. Kristine is a full-time instructor in the College of Business Administration

We're seeking attorneys who are interested in participating in this study. We're analyzing the relation-

ship between leadership (as measured through assessments administered to participants and others who know them well) and success in the legal profession. In other words, what are the characteristics that successful attorneys share in common? The benefit to participating attorneys and their firms is that participating attorneys will receive lots individual feedback on their strengths and weaknesses. That information will give them the ability to build on their strengths and address areas needing development, which will improve professional performance - in the courtroom, as leaders of their firms and professional associations, and in building relationships with colleagues and current and prospective clients. Individual information will be kept confidential; information won't be shared with other participants and findings will be presented as compilations of data.

Participating attorneys will be asked for four things during the study: 1) to complete an information form asking for contact information, demographic information and infor-

mation relating to their professional performance; 2) to complete a questionnaire that measures competencies proven to have a significant impact on leadership; 3) to provide the name and contact information for ten people with whom they have a personal or professional relationship (e.g., spouse, child, parent, friend, supervisor, peer, colleague, subordinate or client), who will in turn be asked to complete a questionnaire about the participating attorney; and 4) to return the three forms to BGSU in the self-addressed, stamped envelope enclosed in their participant's package.

We would like to have as many attorneys as possible - with as much demographic, professional and geographic diversity as possible - participate in this study. All attorneys who are interested in participating are invited to contact me at k.joyce@e-quantumgroup.com

I'm confident the participating attorneys will find this to be a rewarding experience. Thank you for your time and consideration.

— Kevin Joyce

Affiliate Project:

WEST PASCO PRESS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE TAMPA TRIBUNE
FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2005 VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1916 25¢

VOL. 33
NO. 12

Young-lawyer group tailoring “Law SUITS” for job-seekers

BY MARK SEVER

SPECIAL TO THE WEST PASCO PRESS

NEW PORT RICHEY—The West Pasco Bar Association Young Lawyers Division is coordinating a clothing donation program, “Law SUITS,” to coincide with the association’s 2005 Law Week observances. May 2 - 6.

“The Young Lawyers Division wanted to get directly involved with the West Pasco Bar Association’s Law Week program,” said Rebecca Bell, attorney with Delzer, Coulter & Bell and co-chair of the Young Lawyers Division committee for Law SUITS. “We wanted also to get involved with the community in a charitable way.”

Every year, bar associations across the country hold Law Day - Law Week to educate the public about the law and their connection with it as citizens. This year in Florida, Law Week focuses on “The American jury: We the People in Action.”

The Young Lawyers Division of the West Pasco Bar Association was formally established late last year and its members are eager to make themselves known as active participants within the Association.

In its monthly meeting, eight members of the Young Lawyers Division discussed Law SUITS and its potential to benefit people who need

help finding a job.

Law SUITS began in 2002 and collects professional clothing from members of the community for later distribution to individuals in need of “a fresh start” in managing their job search coordination.

All donations will be distributed through Connections, a nonprofit New Port Richey-based organization that helps people hone their job-seeking skills. Connections offers numerous types of free job services, including career counseling, resume writing, interviewing skills, application writing and filing, networking skills and appropriate job leads that match individuals’ skills.

Specifically, Law SUITS is asking for donations of professional suits for men and women, shoes, ties, scarves, earrings and purses.

Last year said Young Lawyers Division President Anthony Salzano, the West Pasco Bar Association collected more than 50 suits and professional clothing accessories.

This year the Association. The Young Lawyers Division membership hopes to collect twice that number of suits and various accessories in its first year spearheading the program, Salzano said.

Each member in attendance at the Young Lawyers Division meeting accepted colored fliers of the Law SUITS event program and planned to distribute them at various business and public locations around town to advertise the benefit.

Writer Mark Beyer can be reached at mbeyer@suncoastnews.com



THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION of the West Pasco Bar Association met for its monthly lunch on March 21 to discuss Law Week 2005 and its coordination of “Law SUITS,” a clothing donation drive to benefit West Pasco job-seekers. The clothing drive will distribute collected items between May 2 - 6.

Mark Sever/SUNCOAST

The original version of this article appeared in the West Pasco Press, March 25, 2005 edition.

“Board-certified lawyers exemplify the high standards The Florida Bar sets for all of its members.”

– Florida Bar President Kelly Overstreet Johnson

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

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professional enhancement programs, and improving technology, legal education, diversity in the profession, quality of life and various public service programs. They are the hardest working lawyers that I know and just a great group of people. I will not forget any of them.

I also would like to thank all the local affiliates who truly exemplify what it means to be a young lawyer. Their commitment to service and our profession, each in their own way, gives us hope that the next generation of lawyers will be better than our present generation.

We could not have accomplished as much as we did this year without the support of The Florida Bar, its executive director, Jack Harkness, our Division administrator, Austin Newberry, and the numerous members of the staff that make The Florida Bar the best Bar in the nation. I would also be remiss if I did not thank The Florida Bar Board of Governors for being so supportive of their young lawyers.

I'm not one for long goodbyes, so I'll close with a bit of advice. Get involved if you are not involved. If you are, get *more* involved. One of the most important things as a lawyer in the State of Florida is to get involved with your local bar associations and specifically your Young Lawyers Division. Most of us on the Board of Governors began as local leaders of our YLD's and have worked our way up to representing our Circuits. We can and do make a difference in our profession and our community.

Last June I finished up my speech to the General Assembly with the theme of the year. During the tenure of many Presidents, they often have an engraved desk plate with a specific saying or quote on it. Harry Truman had "The buck stops here." Ronald Reagan had "It can be done." Well, I think the YLD should have a desk plate that says, "IT CAN GET DONE AND IT WILL GET DONE!"

Well, I am happy to report that this year WE DID "GET IT DONE"

THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR AND BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE!

YLD Observes the “Changing of the Guard”

YLD BOG Members Leaving the Board

President

Michael J. Faehner

1st Circuit

Julie Jones

(Appointed for 2005-06 as Secretary)

9th Circuit:

Paul Scheck

11th Circuit:

Maria Armas

(Appointed for 2005-06 as Membership co-Chair)

Garrett Biondo

Clinton Payne

Alexander Sarafoglu

13th Circuit

Gregory Brown

(Appointed for 2005-06 as High School Moot Court & Battle of the Boards Captain)

Lara Tibbals

15th Circuit

Ginny Neal

17th Circuit:

Shari Hines

Nicholas Romanello

Robyn Vines

19th Circuit

John Stewart (President-elect for 2005-06)

YLD BOG Appointed Positions Leaving

Cristina Alonso (Elected to 11th Circuit Seat)

William Banks

Ginger Barry

Kathleen Bishop

Courtney Grimm

Denise Lyn

Harry Teichman

New YLD BOG Members

1st Circuit

Doug Woodward

9th Circuit

Liz McCausland

11th Circuit

Cristina Alonso (Former Officer)

Edward McCarthy

Spencer Tew

Kenneth Walton, II

13th Circuit

Laurel Moore

Luis “Tony” Cabassa

15th Circuit

Elisha Roy

17th Circuit

Scott P. Chitoff

Felicia Jordan

Adam Rabinowitz

Michael Vines

19th Circuit

Nina Ferraro

New YLD BOG Appointed Positions

Maria Armas - *Membership Outreach*

Steven Blount - *Social*

Gregory Brown - *High School Moot Court & Battle of the Boards Captain*

Martin Garcia - *Social*

Sha’ron James - *Membership Outreach*

Julie Jones - *Secretary*

Diego “Woody” Rodriguez - *Membership Outreach*

Nicholas Shannin - *Publicity*

Sean Shaw - *Membership Outreach*

Gene Shipley - *Parliamentarian*

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Miami, Hyatt Regency Downtown

August 18, 2005

Tampa, Marriott Waterside

September 29, 2005

Orlando, Hyatt Regency International Airport

October 7, 2005

Ft. Lauderdale, Marriott Harbor Beach

November 18, 2005

Jacksonville, Omni Hotel

December 1, 2005

Deerfield Beach, Hilton



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Basic Evidence (0361)

July 14, 2005 Miami Hyatt Downtown
July 21, 2005 Tampa Marriott Waterside

Basic Federal Practice (0362)

July 15, 2005 Miami Hyatt Downtown
July 22, 2005 Tampa Marriott Waterside

Basic Personal Injury (0363)

July 15, 2005 Miami Hyatt Downtown
July 22, 2005 Tampa Marriott Waterside

Basic Real Estate (0364)

July 14, 2005 Miami Hyatt Downtown
July 21, 2005 Tampa Marriott Waterside

To register, visit the Bar's website at
www.floridabar.org, or call 850/561-5831.

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