

**The Florida Bar
Young Lawyers Division
Board of Governors Meeting
Friday, July 25, 2008, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Sandpearl Resort – Clearwater Beach**

1. **Call to Order** – President Jewel White Cole called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM
2. **Roll Call** – Kim Gustafson
The following members were not present: Kevin Cook, Nina Ferraro, Bill Henry, Cara Higgins, Christina McKinnon, Kelly O’Keefe, Clinton Payne, Matt Rameda, Chelsie Roberts, Rhonda Stroman, Doug Woodward
3. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation** – by Greg Haile
4. **Introductory Remarks**
President Cole welcomed new board member Al Sauline new member from Panama City. Also announced that a board photo will be taken later in the day.
5. **Convene with Florida Bar Board of Governors for public reprimands and for YLD report to Board of Governors (9:15 AM – 10:35 AM)**
YLD members joined the Florida Bar of Governors.
 - (a) The Trial Lawyers Section made a report.
 - (b) Board of Bar Examiners Member Sarah Judas gave an update on the Board of Bar Examiners.
 - (c) The Board of Governors discussed and approved an advisory opinion regarding outsourcing of paralegal work.
 - (d) The Board of Governors approved a motion directing the Bar’s representatives to the ABA House of Delegates to support a resolution amending the Model Rule regarding Imputation of Conflicts to allow screening to handle conflicts when a lawyer from one firm is hired by another.
 - (e) President Cole addressed the Board of Governors.
 - i. YLD board members introduced themselves to the Board of Governors
 - ii. President Cole thanked Elisa Roy for an outstanding Annual Meeting and acknowledged members of the Florida Bar Board of Governors who attended YL events.
 - iii. President Cole reported that the YLD was affected by the court funding crisis in that many Judges cancelled attending the Annual Meeting and judging the moot court competition due to a lack of funding in their circuits.
 - iv. President Cole reported that YLD BOG passed bylaws for a new Law School Division as a subsection of YLD. President Cole acknowledged Sean Desmond for his efforts in establishing the Law School Division. President Cole described the structure of the Law School Division (which will have its

own board of governors comprised of a 1L, 2L, and 3L from each law school). President Cole reported that the YLD has begun trying to connect with law students through their orientations and lunch 'n learn seminars.

- v. President Cole announced the YLD's special pro bono project for this year spearheaded by YLD BOG member Heather Pinder-Rodriguez.
- vi. President Cole reports that a retreat will be held on Saturday to review and revamp the Practicing with Professionalism CLE.

6. **Committee Breakout Sessions** were held from 10:45AM – 11:45AM for the following committees:

Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee – Cristina Alonso
Law Practice Transition Committee – Ron Ponzoli
Law School Committee – Sean Desmond
Communications Committee – Ward Griffin

7. **Consideration of Minutes of June 19, 2008 meeting** - President Jewel White Cole
There was a motion to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting in Boca Raton. The motion was properly seconded and the minutes were approved by the Board.

8. **Swearing In** (11:50) A.M.

Board members not present at the Annual Meeting were sworn in. President Cole administered the oath.

9. **Committee Reports**

- (a) **AOC:** Christina Alonso - No report.
- (b) **Annual Meeting:** Renee Thompson congratulated Elisha Roy for a great annual meeting. Next year's annual meeting will be at the Orlando World Marriott.
- (c) **Awards:** President Cole reports the checks were recently sent to scholarship recipients and she has received many thank-you's.
- (d) **Budget:** Cynthia Morales reminded everyone that reimbursement requests need to be submitted within 30 days of expenses incurred or the request will be denied. This will be strictly enforced.
- (e) **Bylaws:** Ed McCarthy - No report.
- (f) **CLE:** Belinda Lazarra requested all YLD BOG members to looking at the current schedule (which is posted online) to determine one's responsibility as a program chair or moderator for a CLE.
- (g) **Communications:** Ward Griffin reported that Ginger Barry is handling the newsletter this year and requested that board members agree to pitch in when requested by Ginger. Ward thanked Renee Thompson for updating the affiliate

splash pages and requested all board members to make sure their affiliate information is updated. President Cole also requested board members assist Ginger when requested to help with the newsletter.

- (h) **Diversity:** Felicia Jordan reported that a Diversity Picnic will be held in October and February and the Diversity Committee will be requesting funding of \$5,000 for each event. Felicia reported that the Miami Diversity Picnic last year had great attendance. The Central Florida Diversity Picnic was well attended, given it was the first time the event was held in Central Florida (and it rained). The Diversity Committee plans to hold a Bridge-the-Gap Seminar which will reach out to undergraduates to address low minority law school admissions. President Cole advised there is money in budget to sponsor the minority picnic. President Cole proposed that \$5,000 be taken out of the general line item (which was increased this year substantially) for the Central Florida Diversity Picnic (which will be held on February 28th at the Stetson campus). The Miami Diversity Picnic is already accounted for in the budget. A motion to take \$5,000 from the general line item for the Central Florida Diversity Picnic was made, properly seconded and approved.
- (i) **Executive Committee:** President Jewel Cole - No report
- (j) **Governmental Affairs:** Chrissy Davis reported the committee may hold two seminars this year. The committee will have a conference call soon.
- (k) **Law Practice Transition:** Ron Ponzoli – No report.
- (l) **Law Related Education:** Michael Orr – No report. President Cole reported that Jane Curran offered money (likely \$10,000) from the Florida Bar Foundation to fund judges’ travel for moot court competition during next year’s annual meeting.
- (m) **Law Schools Committee:** Sean Desmond reports that the Law School Division is under way and has appointed an acting president and formed committees. YLD will be at almost every Florida Law school orientation to promote YLD and the new Law School Division. Renee Thompson reported that Stetson and UF will host a recruiting event during the mid-year meeting and they have requested YLD participate. Renee asked that anyone attending the mid year meeting who is interested in helping out contact her. Sean reports that Renee is working on a uniform set of materials to be given to law students.
- (n) **Local Bar Affiliates:** Renee Thompson reported that the committee is requesting the board approve a funding request for \$500 grants (per affiliate) for morning/afternoon programs at the Courthouse. These are member service projects that help lawyers learn how to file in court, etc. . . . all the things they don’t tell you in law school. The new grant will be showcased in the next newsletter. Applications are due by September 5. Discussion was had regarding what limits, if any, would be placed on how the money may be used. The application requires a detailed budget which will be reviewed by the committee.

President Cole reported that she wished to establish the Morning/Afternoon at the Courthouse as a standing grant (like Holidays in January) since AOC doesn't fund the same affiliate project twice. Ultimately, that will be RJ's decision if he wished to establish a separate line item for this program next year. A motion was made to fund this grant for this year (with adding guidelines to the application) which was properly seconded and approved. Renee reported regarding affiliates around the state. The Outstanding AOC project from 2008 (the Manatee County children's waiting room) will be dedicated. Orange County YLD held a successful law clerks' reception. Lake County is a recent affiliate. Al Sauline is starting a new affiliate in Bay County. The committee has created a map of where affiliates are located and needed. Congratulations to the Jacksonville YLD on a nice officer installation. Renee then distributed goodie bags for those who responded to the request to update affiliate splash bags.

- (o) **Long Range Planning**: No report
- (p) **Practicing with Professionalism**: Adam Rabinowitz thanked Christina Alonso, Renee Thompson, and Cynthia Morales for timely submitting their PCP programs. Adam reminded the board to submit materials 30 days before the PWP seminar. President Cole reported that she sent a letter to Justice Quince requesting that she tape a uniform introduction to be played at PWP seminars.
- (q) **Quality of Life**: Lou Ursini discussed handout regarding RJ's involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters. The committee's goal is to coordinate with the newsletter regarding things YLs do outside of the law for the community.

- 10. **President-Elect's Report** – President-Elect RJ Haughey
President Cole reported for RJ (who was attending the Board of Governors meeting). The Florida Bar Foundation grant application for AOC has been completed. Jane Curran advised the grant will be \$25,000. February 28th will be the Diversity Picnic in Tampa.
- 11. **Special Pro Bono Report** – Heather Pinder-Rodriguez reported a pamphlet is being designed which highlights young lawyers doing pro bono and charitable work that will be distributed at PWP seminars. The website will be update to provide links to become involved in pro bono work. The newsletter will highlight young lawyers throughout the state doing pro bono work. Heather will send an email inquiring about YLs to board members requesting person to highlight in the pamphlet or newsletter. Also looking for free CLEs on specific topics to encourage YLs to pursue pro bono work outside their area of expertise.
- 12. **Board Photo and Lunch.**
- 13. **Basic Skills Courses/Webcasting** – Terry Hill (1:25 PM)
President Cole briefly restates Basic Skills requirement: Practicing with Professionalism within first 12 months and 3 basic skills classes within 3 years. Current requirement is that

basic skills courses be taken “in person.” “In person” can mean sitting in conference room watching video tape of the live performance. Each course is only shown live in 2 locations (Miami and Tampa); therefore the majority of people attend through video replay. The Board of Governors requested the YL BOG consider if webcasting is appropriate for basic skills courses. This would require a rule change with approval by the Florida Supreme Court because the rule requires participants attend “in person”. This does not affect PWP which is required to be presented “live.” Terry Hill from the Florida Bar reported that other sections have successfully implemented webcasting for their CLEs and he answered questions regarding the implementation of webcasting. The board discussed the positives and negatives of a rule change eliminating the “in person” requirement. A motion to form a subcommittee to further review the issue was made, properly seconded and approved.

Among the questions the subcommittee should look into are:

- (a) Are there safeguards to ensure participants are actively watching a webcast?
- (b) How will materials be distributed to class participants?
- (c) Why did the Supreme Court require that basic skills courses be attended in person?
- (d) Will there be a cost savings due to no longer renting rooms for video replays.
- (e) Is a live webcast cost prohibitive?

President Cole requested that those interested in serving on the subcommittee notify her.

14. **CLE Presentation** – Cristina Alonso

CLEs are required by the Supreme Court and are young lawyers’ first interaction with the YLD. Guidelines to ensure a quality product:

- (a) Begin by getting last year’s schedule and evaluations.
- (b) Select speakers who had good evaluations and provided quality materials on time.
- (c) Contact the appropriate Bar section to assist with substantive materials.
- (d) Deadlines are not fake. Deadlines are important because Tom has to submit an advertisement to the Florida Bar to market the CLE.
- (e) When a speaker confirms he is willing to participate, provide the speaker with needed information (date, location, live or videotape, deadlines for submitting materials).
- (f) Find out from your speakers if they need AV equipment.
- (g) Get speaker’s biography and contact information.
- (h) Prepare a word document with your speaker(s)’ contact information and bio (identify if they are board certified). Circulate this information regarding your speakers to CLE chair, vice-chair and Tom.
- (i) Provide speaker with materials from the previous seminar.
- (j) Send speaker tips on speaking.

- (k) Put all materials, in order, in electronic format and email to Tom to print the booklet for distribution at the seminar.
- (l) Two weeks before seminar, confirm speaker's engagement. Also confirm moderator's attendance.
- (m) Day before seminar contact speakers and request they arrive 15 minutes early. Asks moderators to arrive 30 minutes early to make sure facilities properly prepared (i.e. laptop hookups, room temperature).
- (n) If you are moderator, ask program chair for speaker bios.
- (o) After the seminar, moderator should circulate notes regarding the speakers' performance to the program chair, and CLE chair (Belinda).
- (p) After the seminar, program chair should send thank-you letters/calls to speakers. Program chairs should also send summary of outcome of program to CLE chair.

Belinda has given a checklist to all program chairs. Belinda requests that moderators take initiative to assist program chairs.

15. **Liaison Reports**

President Cole reports that Administrative, Elder, General Practice, Workers Comp, Public Interest Law (PILS), and Health Care still need section liaisons. President Cole has encouraged the sections to pay for YLD BOG members to attend meeting. President Cole is considering making liaisons from those sections to the YL.

- (a) **Appellate Practice:** Chrissy Davis – No Report
- (b) **Business Law:** Scott Chitoff – No Report
- (c) **City County and Local Government Law:** Jewel White Cole – No Report
- (d) **Criminal Law** – Peter Sates reports that prosecutors and other governmental attorneys are often discouraged by their employers to get involved in the Bar. Peter requests board members contact anyone they know that might be in a position to change this.
- (e) **Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law:** Ginger Barry – No Report
- (f) **Equal Opportunity Law:** Christina McKinnon – No Report.
- (g) **Family Law:** Elisha Roy reports that four bills were passed significantly affecting family law. There will be a telephonic legislative update.
- (h) **Government Law:** Ward Griffin – No report.
- (i) **Labor and Employment Law:** Chelsie Roberts – No report.
- (j) **Out of State Practitioners:** Mindi Wells – No report.
- (k) **Real Property, Probate and Trust Law:** Felicia Jordan – No report.
- (l) **Tax Law:** Nina Ferraro – No report.

- (m) **Trial Lawyers:** Monica Segura – No report.
16. **Battle of the Boards.** Games still unknown. Cynthia Morales and Ed McCarthy are appointed as co-captains.
17. **Good of the Order**
- (a) Ghenete Wright Muir (votewrightmuir.com) is running for City Commissioner. The election is in March.
 - (b) Rhonda Stroman is running for County Judge.
 - (c) Sean Desmond is running for County Judge (desmondforjudge.com).
 - (d) Michael Orr was voted the youngest member of the Jacksonville YLD board of governors.
 - (e) Al Sauline thanked all who supported his election at the Boca meeting. He is thrilled to be part of the YLD BOG.
 - (f) Heather McCarthy (Ed's wife) has taken a job at Nova University as a professor of medicine and team physician.
 - (g) Greg Haile was named up-and-comer in the legal category of the South Florida Business Journal.
 - (h) Miami Dade YLD will have a "serve as jurist" day during law week. They are working with affiliates in New York and Georgia.
 - (i) Jewel Cole was featured in UF law magazine and named a top governmental lawyer by Florida Trend
 - (j) RJ Haughey was name to Legal Elite.
 - (k) Greg Brown was named an up-and-comer by Florida Trend.
 - (l) CJ Bosco is healing well and thanks the Board for all their support.
 - (m) Denise Lyn (former board member) is running for judge.
18. **Time and Place of Next Meeting** – The Loews Miami Beach, September 18-21, 2008. Room block expires on August 19, 2008 – so please make reservations.
19. **Adjournment** - President Jewel White Cole
At 2:35PM a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, properly seconded and approved.