

**The Florida Bar
Young Lawyers Division
Board of Governors Meeting
Friday, September 19, 2008
Loew's Resort – Miami Beach**

1. **Call to Order** – President Jewel White Cole called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM.
2. **Roll Call** – Kim Gustafson
The following members were not present: Ginger Barry, Hunter Carrol, Bill Chanfrau, Chrissy Davis, Sean Desmond, Ward Griffin, Bill Henry, Felicia Jordan, Belinda Lazzara, Kim Law, Christina McKinnon, Laurel Moore, Ron Ponzoli, Adam Rabinowitz, Kris Robinson, Heather Rodriguez, Elisha Roy, Peter Sartes, Christine Stenger, Mindi Wells, and Victoria Wu.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation** – by Monica Segura
4. **Consideration of Minutes of July 25, 2008 meeting** - President Jewel White Cole
There was a motion to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2008 meeting in Clearwater, Florida. The motion was properly seconded and the minutes were approved by the Board.
5. **Committee Reports**
 - (a) **AOC**: Christina Alonso circulated a Newsletter and played a slideshow regarding the Affiliate Outreach Conference to be held on January 22-25 at the Hard Rock Hotel Orlando. AOC attendees will be invited to attend the YLD Board Meeting. The President's roundtable will be different this year. There will be rotating roundtables on four separate topics (including diversity and grant funding). An ABA representative will discuss how to tap into ABA funds. Chelsie Roberts announced the Orange County YLS will host a happy hour Thursday to welcome everyone to Orlando. Thursday's dinner is at the Palm. Friday's dinner is at Hard Rock Live. Conference attendees can purchase a lanyard for \$5 which will grant access to all clubs at City Walk for Friday night. Saturday afternoon conference attendees can attend Universal for \$54 (this includes \$15 Universal dollars). January 5, 2009 is the deadline for everything (grant applications, hotel reservations, etc.). The committee has invited Jay White to attend.
 - (b) **Annual Meeting**: Renee Thompson reports she attended a second meeting with the big bar regarding the annual meeting. They are considering a beach theme. Several young lawyers are on the judicial luncheon contribution list.

- (c) **Awards:** Doug Woodward reports that the deadline for the pro bono award is in October.
- (d) **Budget:** Cynthia Morales reports that the current and year-end budget will be posted on the website. Last year some budget line items were overrun, others were not used at all. This year's goal is to stick to the proposed budget. Committee chairs purchasing anything that exceeds \$500 for an event need to prepare a purchase order. Tom Miller can assist with the purchase order process. All reimbursement requests must be submitted within 30 days. If the deadline is approaching, PDF the reimbursement request to Tom and then follow up with originals via mail.
- (e) **Bylaws:** Ed McCarthy reports regarding bylaws amendment. Over last few years, the YLD has passed 3 bylaw changes (which must be sent to the big board of governors for ratification). The committee decided to further tweak bylaws regarding delegates to ABA annual meeting before submitting the amendments to the big board. The proposed revision eliminates the requirement that one must be a member of the division to be appointed as an ABA delegate. This allows individuals to be seated as delegates even if they have aged out. The committee recommendation to pass this amendment to the bylaws was approved.
- (f) **CLE:** Christina Alonso reports that the sub-committee regarding amendment to basic skills classes (to eliminate requirement of in-person attendance) will meet in the next few weeks and a vote will be held at the December meeting. Matt Welch thanked Marcy Shaw for covering the real estate CLE and reports that all other CLEs are on track.
- (g) **Communications:** President Jewel White Cole requests that members agree to write articles if asked.
- (h) **Diversity:** Jewel White Cole reports there is a request to sponsor a Central Florida Gay and Lesbian Law Association event on October 17th honoring the 30th anniversary of the *Eimers* decision. The diversity committee has not had time to review this request to make a recommendation. Discussion was had regarding the event. President Cole reports that there is money within the budget to afford this sponsorship. Greg Haile volunteers to write article for the newsletter regarding the decision/event. A Motion was made to support this event at the highest level (\$2,000). The Motion was properly seconded and approved. It was also announced that the Minority Mentoring Picnic will be held in Miami November 1st. YLD is a major sponsor of the event at \$5,000.
- (i) **Executive Committee:** President Jewel White Cole reports that she has continued Scott Atwood's initiative of appointing liaisons to sections. The executive committee has been discussing whether or not YLD is benefiting from this. At the section leadership conference in July – it was conveyed to

President Cole that the sections want YLs involved. Most sections are covered. The tax section has helped new YL affiliates set up their corporate structure. RPTLS and Labor Employment have offered to help YLD wherever appropriate. The Executive Committee has voted to allow section liaisons a once-a-year/\$500 reimbursement to travel to section meetings. Requests to use this reimbursement should be submitted to the executive committee before the expense is incurred for approval. Appointed members will be able to get reimbursement for section meetings. The Tax Law and Land Use sections have created YL sections.

- (j) **Governmental Affairs**: Matt Rameda reports the committee is vetting topics for this year's seminar and is strongly considering a seminar regarding Court budgets.
- (k) **Law Practice Transition**: President Jewel White Cole reports that the committee is updating the Practicing with Professionalism materials.
- (l) **Law Related Education**: Michael Orr reports the committee is working on a schedule for the moot court competition.
- (m) **Law Schools Committee**: Ghenete Wright Muir circulates the flyer the committee created which was distributed at law school orientations. The letter which President Jewel White Cole sent to all deans introducing the Law School section was also circulated. Ghenete reports that the students at orientation connect YLD with the Florida Bar exam. We need to educate law student leaders as to what they are doing - - i.e. they are members of the YLD but not members of the Bar. The Student Section will have its first board meeting at AOC. Discussion was had as to whether the law students would be able to make grant requests. It was decided they would be able to watch - but not present – as there are limited funds for award money.
- (n) **Local Bar Affiliates**: Renee Thompson reported there were 14 applications for the afternoon-at-the-courthouse grant. All but one affiliate requested the full \$500 grant. The committee recommends that 13 affiliates be awarded \$500 and that West Pasco be awarded the \$450 it requested. The recommendation was approved. The committee suggests RJ include this grant as a line item in the budget next year. The Tax Law Section has started a YL section. Bay County had its first YL meeting. Al Sauline reports 27 members attended. Lake County YL is up and running. Renee Thompson requests updates on dates when events happen so YLD can have presence.
- (o) **Long Range Planning**: President-Elect R.J. Haughey reports the committee will meet in February in the Tampa area.
- (p) **Practicing with Professionalism**: President Jewel White Cole reports that they have written opening remarks for a consistent message at each PWP seminar

that they will request Justice Quince read. The remarks are aimed at why there is a Supreme Court requirement and what lawyers are supposed to get out of seminar. Adam extends thanks to those who have already done PWP seminars as they have been great and run smoothly.

- (q) **Quality of Life:** Lou Ursini - - No Report
- (r) **Pro Bono Report:** Renee Thompson reports regarding Justice Quince's Guardian Ad Litem pro bono project. President Jewel White Cole reports that Heather Pinder Rodriguez is getting more information on Justice Quince's program. The FEMA hotline is going active due to Tropical Storm Fay. We will be recruiting volunteers for it. All are encouraged to help solicit volunteers for the RPTLs Save Our Homes project (see below).

6. **RPTL's Florida Attorneys Saving Homes Pro Bono Project:** Adele Stone addressed the Board. Seeking volunteers for the Save Our Homes project. The project provides legal assistance to the working poor (a step above legal aid) during pre-foreclosure/pre-litigation negotiations. The goal is to keep people in their homes. Florida Legal Services partnered with the Bar and announced this project in May of this year. There are captains in each circuit who divide the cases among volunteers. There are currently 615 volunteers and 575 lawyers with active cases. The 1-800 number has received over 10,000 calls. There is a library of resources available at Florida Pro Bono.org (maintained by Florida Legal Services). This volunteer opportunity is ideal for lawyers who practice in real estate, business, bankruptcy, or litigation. President Jewel White Cole reports information is available on the website and will be in the newsletter.

7. **Liaison Reports**

- (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 Sartes – no report.
- (e) **Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law:** Ginger Barry – no report.
- (f) **Equal Opportunity Law:** Christina McKinnon – no report.
- (g) **Family Law:** Elisha Roy – no report.
- (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 reports the committee is working on a basic tax CLE course. The tax law section is very excited about recruiting new young lawyer members and is willing to help YL committees in any way appropriate.
 - (m) **Trial Lawyers:** Monica Segura reports that section is promoting the Trial Advocacy 2009 course that will be offered at UF in May. A flyer was circulated regarding the course.
8. **President Elect's Report:** R.J. Haughey reports that in the next two months he will be deciding what CLEs will be offered, appointing officers, and preparing a budget for next year. RJ requests input from the board for the budget and recommendations for officers. He intends for officers to be active positions. RJ reports that the big board's Task Force on Attorney Client Privilege is accepting public comments regarding what constitutes attorney client/work product privilege for government lawyers and when Sunshine laws trump the privilege.
9. **President's report:** President Jewel white Cole reports that the FEMA hotline is Active and encourages participation in it and the RPTLs project. The Committee on Professionalism has focused on law students, law schools, and new lawyers. They are eager to be involved with YLD and wish to assist with mentoring and retooling the PWP seminar. An ABA representative for Florida is needed. Georgia YLD is meeting October 30 - Nov 1 in St. Augustine. Georgia Bar has invited all Fl Bar BOG members to attend. RJ & Jewel have taken possession of trophy from Battle of Boards at general meeting last week. RJ reviewed the 16 year history of the event – YLD is tied 8/8 with the Senior Board.
10. **Good of the Order**
- (a) Scott Chitoff and Doug Woodward (and their wives) are expecting a child.
 - (b) Monica Segura and Tom successfully put on a Practicing with Professionalism seminar.
 - (c) Chelsie Roberts has been elected to the Orange County YL board.
 - (d) Rhonda Stroman thanks everyone for support in her judicial campaign. She will be putting together a CLE on judicial campaigns.
 - (e) Ghenete Wright Muir's election for City Commissioner of Sunrise is in March 2009. (vote wrightmuir.com).
 - (f) Sean Desmond made it through the primary and is seeking additional support for his runoff election.
11. **Time and Place of Next Meeting** – Marco Island Resort and Spa, December 5, 2008.
12. **Adjournment** - At 11:58 A.M. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, properly seconded and approved.