

The Florida Bar  
Young Lawyers Division  
Board of Governors Meeting  
May 15, 2009, 10:00 a.m.  
The Pier House – Key West, FL

1. **Call to Order** – President Jewel White Cole called the meeting to order at 10:22 A.M.
2. **Roll Call.** The following members were not present: CJ Bosco, Bill Chanfrau, Kevin Cook, Greg Haile, Bill Henry, Felicia Jordan, Ed McCarthy, Kelly O’Keefe, Michael Fox Orr, Matt Rameda, Heather Pinder Rodriguez, Peter Sartes, Monica Segura, Victor Smith, Christine Stenger, Rhonda Stroman, Mindi Wells, Victoria Wu, Carlo Zampogna.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation** – Cara Higgins presided over the pledge of Allegiance. Ms Higgins introduced Ed Scales (Board of Governors Representative from the Keys) who addressed the group.
4. **Consideration of Minutes** – A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2009 and March 5, 2009 board meetings. The motion was properly seconded and approved.
5. **President’s Report** – President Jewel White Cole addressed her report during committee reports.
6. **President-Elect’s Report** – President-Elect R.J. Haughey reports the deadline for Florida YLD delegates to the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago is May 15. There are six seats available. President-Elect Haughey reported committee assignments for 2009-10 have been made and will be announced prior to the annual meeting. Next year, there will be a new sponsorship committee chaired by Sean Desmond (who will also chair the budget committee). The goal is to raise \$50,000. If anyone has leads or ideas for sponsorship opportunities -- please provide those to Sean. The Roast of outgoing members will be this evening at Sunset Terrace. Resumes were reviewed and discussed to fill open seats for the Third, Fifth and Eighteenth Circuits. The Third and Fifth circuit seats were two year terms. They 18<sup>th</sup> circuit was a one year term (due to a board member resignation). The board voted to elected Jennifer Kuyrkendall (3rd Circuit) Gordon Glover (5th Circuit) and Leslie Stewart (18<sup>th</sup> circuit).
7. **Program Administrator’s Report** – Tom Miller. No report.
8. **Georgia Bar Mentoring Program** – Georgia YLD President, Josh Bell

addressed the group regarding Georgia's mandatory mentor program for all new members to the Georgia Bar. A power point presentation regarding the Georgia Mentor Program (Transition into Law Practice Program) was shown. Georgia is the first state to mandate mentoring. The mentor program was established in Georgia for all new lawyers admitted to practice after June 30 2005. In Georgia, average of 1000 new lawyers go through program per year. All mentors appointed by Georgia Supreme Court (2,393 mentors appointed). The mentor program has two components. First, 12 hours of CLE (6 hours "beginning" lawyers program: 6 hours of elective CLE ). Second, a written mentoring plan must be executed (the Mentor then certifies once the mentee has completed the plan). The implementation of the mentor program resulted in a \$10 annual dues increase. The program has two full time employees and costs \$229,000/year to run (the CLE component is run by a separate entity). Additional information regarding the mentor program is available on the Georgia Bar website.

9. **Breakout Sessions** 10:45-11:30:

- a. Annual Meeting committee
- b. Law School committee
- c. PWP Committee

10. **Committee reports**

- a. **Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee** – Cristina Alonso reported over 100 people attended AOC. Thirty (30) affiliates presented grant applications and were awarded \$40,000. Sean Desmond's committee will look at sponsorships for the 2010 AOC to offset costs.
- b. **Annual Meeting Committee** – Renee Thompson distributed an agenda of YL activities for annual meeting.
  - i. **Wednesday, June 24:** Ron Ponzoli addressed the moot court schedule and need for judges/volunteers for judges for preliminary round. Renee Thompson reports there will be a Moot Court reception on Wednesday with hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. There will be a new Member dinner Wednesday night (casual attire) at Hawks Landing. For 09-10, there will be 16 new board members. Mentors have been assigned to the new board members.
  - ii. **Thursday, June 25:** Thursday will be the new board member meeting (morning), Moot Court Semi-Finals (morning), and YLD

meeting (from 10AM - 2PM with a boxed lunch instead of breakfast). The pass the gavel ceremony will be at 11:30 A.M. Finals for the Moot Court Competition are Thursday, from 2PM - 4:30PM and all YLD board members are required to attend. The Law Student Division will meet from 2:30 - 4: 30 (this will be their second official meeting). Thursday night is the YLD Casino night (dinner is 7-8. casino games from 8-11, and the raffles at 11). Guys will receive a gangster hat and girls will receive a black boa. There will be awards for costumes.

- iii. **Friday, June 26:** All board members must attend general assembly Friday from 10AM - Noon. Friday, the 50-year member luncheon is at 12:30 p.m. Judge Joseph Hatchett (former chief Judge of the 11th Circuit) will be the speaker. The Diversity Symposium is Friday, from 2:30 - 4:45. Jays' Surfin' Safari is from 8pm - Midnight. YLD is offered a special ticket price of \$55. Seth Myers from Saturday night live will be the comedian and Blue Stone Circle (a Buffets' cover band) will play. Beach Attire is appropriate. There will also be a children's event (Swamp night). For \$10, children aged 3-12 will be watched and entertained.
- iv. **Miscellaneous.** Board members do not need to register for the conference unless they will attend CLEs. Bring name tags to wear to the Wednesday night event.
- c. **Awards Committee** – Liz McCausland reviewed candidates for awards and board members voted on the nominations for awards. The winners were, the Middle District of Florida (the Diversity Award); Judge William Roby (the Outstanding Jurist Award), Melanie Shoemaker Griffin (the Most Productive Young Lawyer (non-board)); the Law Firm of Cobb Cole (the Quality of Life Award).
- d. **Budget Committee** – Cynthia Morales. Jewel White Cole reports a small surplus is predicted for this year's budget. President White Cole reports that the rule change regarding basic skills course is going through the board approval process now and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Bar expects the rule change to have a positive increase on future budgets (cost savings of \$200,000).
- e. **Bylaws Committee** – Ed McCarthy. No report.
- f. **CLE Committee** – Belinda Lazzara. No report.
- g. **Communications Committee** – Ward Griffin reports the website will be modified to include comprehensive database for people trying to

find jobs. It will include links to over 40 job search engines and recruiters. The committee will include a calendar of events on the website to be updated throughout the year. Initially it will include YLD activities. Affiliate events may be added to the calendar in the future. The committee is putting together an awards package for ABA awards.

- h. **Diversity Committee** – Felicia Jordan. Christina McKinnon reports that a one day pre-law bridging the gap seminar (aimed at attracting diverse undergraduates into the law) was postponed until the fall. The program may partner with CLEO. Ghenete Wright Muir reports she went through the program and it was a favorable experience. The YLD has been invited to participate in the BAR Diversity Symposium at the annual meeting and will share information regarding the pre-law seminar. During this symposium, voluntary bars will exchange ideas about their diversity initiatives (much like AOC) with the goal that others will replicate.
- i. **Executive Committee** – President Jewel White Cole reports the Bar’s Center for Professionalism (which does half of the programming for PWP) have been discussing offering the curriculum at law schools for free. PWP is a large part of the YLD revenue (and the YLD is required by the Supreme Court to put on the programming).
- j. **Governmental Affairs Committee** – Chrissy Davis. No report.
- k. **Law Practice Transition Committee** – Ron Ponzoli. No report.
- l. **Law Related Education/Moot Court Committee** – Michael Orr. Jewel White Cole reports all ten law schools are participating. Judges are needed for Wednesday afternoon for the preliminary rounds.
- m. **Law Schools Committee** – Sean Desmond reports the law school division is doing great. After discussions, it was determined we will not charge for admission for law student division. The student division has a board separated into several committees. Ave Maria law school recently joined. Membership application requires honor code of commitment to professionalism. The committee is looking into funding through sponsorships (BarBri, Lexis, Westlaw). The law student division will meet during the annual meeting. They have selected their next president.
- n. **Local Bar Affiliates Committee** – Renee Thompson reports there are two new affiliates (South Palm Beach County and Charlotte County). Some affiliates who attended the President’s roundtable at AOC reported having applied for and been appointed to ABA positions (as a

result of information learned during the roundtable).

- o. **Long Range Planning Committee** – President-elect RJ Haughey. No Report.
  - p. **PWP Committee** – Adam Rabinowitz reports that substantive changes for next year will be announced at annual meeting.
  - q. **Quality of Life Committee** – Lou Ursini. No Report.
11. **Selection of Most Productive YLD Board Member.** Sean Desmond was voted the most productive young lawyer board member. Ward Griffin was the board member voted to receive the Scott Atwood Overly Loquacious Award.
12. **Liaison Reports:** No reports.
- a. Appellate Practice – Chrissy Davis
  - b. Business Law – Scott Chitoff
  - c. City County and Local Government Law – President Jewel White Cole
  - d. Criminal Law – Peter Sartes
  - e. Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law – Ginger Barry
  - f. Equal Opportunity Law – Christina McKinnon
  - g. Family Law – Elisha Roy
  - h. Government Law – Ward Griffin
  - i. Labor and Employment Law – Chelsie Roberts
  - j. Out of State Practitioners – Mindi Wells
  - k. Real Property, Probate and Trust Law – Felicia Jordan
  - l. Tax Law – Nina Ferraro
  - m. Trial Lawyers – Monica Segura
13. **Good of the Order**
- a. Sean Desmond was named to the board of directors Big Brothers Big Sisters.
  - b. Kim and John Law are expecting their first child in November.
  - c. Paige Greenlee was elected shareholder.
  - d. Wade Bowden was elected to the board of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.
  - e. Scott Westheimer is engaged.
  - f. Marisol Gomez was elected an officer of Miami FAWL and got engaged in Breckenridge.
  - g. Cynthia McKinnon and Ghenete Wright Muir started a Florida legal network regarding legal events.
  - h. Elisha Roy was appointed by Justice Quince to the Standing Committee on Children and Families.

- i. Carlo Zampogna and his wife had their second child.
  - j. Marcy Shaw was appointed to the Traffic Rules Committee. It is also her birthday.
  - k. Cristina Alonso received a great opinion out of the Second DCA requiring Florida to recognize out of state adoptions of same sex couples.
  - l. Ghenete Wright Muir thanks the board for its support during her election.
  - m. Jewel White Cole was selected for the board of directors for the Florida Bar Foundation.
  - n. Greg Brown is having a birthday this month.
14. **Time and Place of Next Meeting** – Annual Meeting, Orlando World Center Marriott, June 24-27, 2009.
15. **Adjournment** – President Cole at 1:55 P.M.