

The Florida Bar
Young Lawyers Division
Board of Governors Meeting
June 25, 2009, 10:30 a.m.
Orlando, FL

1. **Call to Order** – President Jewel White Cole called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M
2. **Roll Call.** The following members were not present: Cristina Alonso, Greg Haile, Bill Henry, Z. Felicia Jordan, Stephen Ngo, Clinton Payne, Ron Ponzoli, Kris Robinson, Peter Sartes, Christine Stenger, Rhonda Stroman, Mindi Wells, and Victoria Wu
3. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation** – Liz McCausland presided over the pledge of allegiance and invocation.
4. **Consideration of Minutes** – President Jewel White Cole. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2009 board meeting, which was properly seconded and approved.
5. **President’s Report** - President Jewel White Cole.
 - (a) Throughout the meeting, President Jewel White Cole and President Elect R.J. Haughey introduced special guests attending portions of the YLD Board meeting. Chief Justice Quince addressed the YLD Board and thanked them for their support on stabilizing court funding. Judge Patricia Seitz (a former YLD board member and the first female president of the Florida Bar) addressed the board regarding relationships formed while serving on the Board and the critical role of lawyers in our democracy. ABA President-Elect Steve Zak addressed YLD Board regarding involvement in the ABA appointments available to committees.
 - (b) President Jewel White Cole introduced Carin Constantine and video of Carin’s acceptance of the YLD Pro Bono Award before the Supreme Court was shown. President White Cole suggested the remarks be played as part of the new *Practicing with Professionalism* programming to encourage volunteerism.
 - (c) The YLD annual report summarizing the division’s accomplishments this year was published in the Florida Bar Journal. The accomplishments include: the pro-bono initiative (developing the brochure, promoting Justice Quince’s *Fostering Independence* initiative, recruiting volunteers to assist homeowners with pre-foreclosure workouts and volunteers for FEMA); reprogramming *Practicing with Professionalism*; advancing the

Law School Division (which held its first meeting this year, adopted bylaws, and elected officers); sponsored the inaugural pre-trial motions moot court at Stetson; held a successful Government symposium on court funding; hosted the first meeting of the Southern Conference of Young Lawyer Presidents; awarded \$40,000 in grants at the Affiliate Outreach Conference to 30 local affiliates; assisted several new young lawyer affiliates throughout the state; changed the Rule regarding basic skills courses; sponsored the Diversity Symposium and Equal Opportunity seminar; programmed the Moot Court competition at Annual Meeting with all ten Florida law schools participating; and revamped the website to include a page with links for legal job search sites. President Cole commended the board for its accomplishments while facing significant budget cuts half way through the year.

- (c) Additionally, President Cole commented on notable personal accomplishments of board members including engagements, marriages, pregnancies and births.
- (d) Awards were given. The Most Valuable Board Member Award was given to Sean Desmond. The Overly Loquacious Member Award was given to Ward Griffin. President Cole gave recognized members with perfect attendance (Jewel White Cole, R.J. Haughey, Paige Greenelee, Marisol Gomez, Kimberly Gustafson and Liz McCausland) and those who only missed the out-of-state meeting (Wade Bowden, Jacqueline Simms-Petredis, March Shaw, Matt Welch, Scott Westheimer, and Ghenete Wright Muir)

6. President-Elect's Report – R.J. Haughey addressed the board regarding the upcoming year.

- (a) President-elect Haughey encouraged committees to start work early (as there are many meetings early in the year). He has sent emails to each committee chair with baseline goals for the year. President-elect Haughey stressed the importance of PWP and basic skills CLEs - - as they generate virtually the entire YLD budget and are the first interaction new lawyers have with the Bar.
- (b) President-elect Haughey discussed the senior Board of Governors' goals for the year. They will launch a pro-bono program called "*The One*" (One client, One attorney, One promise). The campaign is designed to engage every attorney to take one pro-bono assignment. Additionally, the senior BOG will focus on funding for the courts and jobs for young lawyers. It has been estimated there are 5-10,000 unemployed lawyers in Florida.

- (c) President-elect Haughey discussed his newly created sponsorship committee which will seek to generate funds for YLD operations. This year's goal is to raise \$50,000.
 - (d) President-elect Haughey reported that the pro- bono committee will continue next year and that *Practicing with Professionalism* will continue to have a pro-bono component.
 - (e) President-elect Haughey announced that Cynthia Morales will serve as Team Captain for the Battle of Boards. Ms. Morales addressed the YLD board regarding the Battle.
 - (f) President-elect Haughey extended thanks Jewel White Cole for her leadership and representation and presented a gift to the outgoing president. President-elect Haughey also gave all board members the movie – the Power of One.
7. **Pass the Gavel Ceremony** – Former past presidents (Stephen Zak, Judge Elizabeth Rice, Michael Faehner, John Stewart, Scott Atwood) and Jewel White Cole provided words of wisdom to President- Elect R.J. Haughey as they “passed the gavel” to the 59th president of the YLD. Subsequently, former presidents Stuart N. Ratzan, Jamie Moses, and Juliette Murphy-Roulhac addressed the YLD board and provided encouragement to President-Elect Haughey.
8. **Program Administrator’s Report – Tom Miller** – No report.
9. **Committee Reports.**
- (a) **Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee** – Cristina Alonso. No Report.
 - (b) **Annual Meeting Committee** – Renee Thompson reviewed the schedule of events for Annual Meeting. She further reported regarding the previous night’s welcome dinner for the 17 new board members.
 - (c) **Awards Committee** – Doug Woodward reports it has been a good year and scholarships will be decided in the next week for law schools.
 - (d) **Budget Committee** – Cynthia Morales. Reports there is a budget surplus. President Jewel White Cole reports this was a trying year due to budgetary issues statewide.
 - (e) **Bylaws Committee** – Ed McCarthy. No report. President Jewel White

Cole noted there were many bylaw amendments this year. Additionally, the attendance bylaw amendment needs to be sent to the senior Board of Governors.

- (f) **CLE Committee** – Belinda Lazzara. No report.
- (g) **Communications Committee** – Ward Griffin reports the newsletter was distributed. Additionally, the YLD has applied for numerous awards through the ABA. Some members have expressed concern regarding their personal information being posted on the members-only page of the website. This page is not password protected. If anyone objects to their information being posted - - tell Ward Griffin. Otherwise, the member profiles will be posted next week.
- (h) **Diversity Committee** – Felicia Jordan. No report.
- (i) **Executive Committee** – President Jewel White Cole. No report.
- (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 that the competition is going well and requests all members to attend the final competition as all Supreme Court Justices will be in attendance.
- (m) **Law Schools Committee** – Sean Desmond reports the Law School Division Board will meet from 2:30 - 4:30pm. A special ceremony will take place wherein the first appointed president will turn the Division over to the first elected president. Law students present at the meeting are introduced to the YLD board.
- (n) **Local Bar Affiliates Committee** – Renee Thompson reports it was a successful year and reports on the committee's accomplishments. The committee sent letters to all affiliate presidents early in the year with the ABA new president's packet. The committee provided 14 affiliates with grant monies for a *Morning/Afternoon at the Court House* program and *Holidays In January* program. There are seven new affiliates. Thirty affiliates attended AOC. Some affiliate programs may be showcased at the ABA New Orleans YLD meeting (due to the ABA affiliate assistance presence at AOC). The committee started affiliate updates and will work to expand those next year.

- (o) **Long Range Planning Committee** – President-elect RJ Haughey. No Report.
- (p) **PWP Committee** – Adam Rabinowitz reports that the program is going through a major overhaul with a revamped schedule and content. A small committee finalizing the amendments will meet and report to the board at the July meeting. The new introduction for PWP recorded by Chief Justice Quince was played to the board.
- (q) **Quality of Life Committee** – Lou Ursini. No Report.
- (r) **Pro Bono** - Heather Pinder Rodriguez unveiled the pro-bono pamphlet. This pamphlet will be distributed at all PWP courses. Ms. Rodriguez reported regarding the *Fostering Independence Program* and FEMA volunteers.

10. Liaison Reports - No Reports

Appellate Practice – Chrissy Davis
 Business Law – Scott Chitoff
 City County and Local Government Law – President Jewel White Cole
 Criminal Law – Peter Sartes
 Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law – Ginger Barry
 Equal Opportunity Law – Christina McKinnon
 Family Law – Elisha Roy
 Government Law – Ward Griffin
 Labor and Employment Law – Chelsie Roberts
 Out of State Practitioners – Mindi Wells
 Real Property, Probate and Trust Law – Felicia Jordan
 Tax Law – Nina Ferraro
 Trial Lawyers – Monica Segura

11. Good of the Order.

- (a) Farewell remarks were made by the following members who are leaving the board: C.J. Bosco, Liz McCausland, Heather Pinder Rodriguez, Stephanie Bolton, Scott Chitoff, Nina Ferraro, Christina McKinnon, Bill Chanfrau, and Jewel White Cole
- (b) Michael Orr and Sean Desmond have each opened their own offices.

12. Time and Place of Next Meeting – Friday, July 17, 2009 at the Naples Grande Beach Resort (Joint Meeting with the Florida Bar Board of Governors).

13. Adjournment – President Cole. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at

1:55 P.M, which was properly seconded and approved.