

**The Florida Bar
Young Lawyers Division
Board of Governors Meeting
Friday, August 28, 2009, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Long Boat Key Club**

1. **Call to Order** – President R.J. Haughey called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
2. **Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation** - Scott Westheimer.
3. **Roll Call** – Kim Gustafson, Secretary. The following members were not present: Cristina Alonso, Hunter Carroll, Russell L. Ferraro, III, Cara Higgins, Ghenete Wright Muir, Stephen Ngo, Michael Fox Orr, Kelly Parsons, Clinton Payne, Matt Ramenda, Elisha Roy, Monica Segura, and Rhonda Stroman
4. **Consideration of Minutes of Orlando and Naples meetings** - A motion to approve the June 25, 2009 and July 17, 2009 minutes was properly seconded and approved.
5. **Breakout Sessions (9:50 - 10:25 AM):**
 - Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee – Jacqueline Simms-Petredis
 - Law Practice Transition Committee – Mindi Wells
 - Local Bar Affiliates - Marcy Shaw
6. **Social Agenda** - West Tibbals reviewed social agenda for the meeting.
7. **President’s Report** - President R.J. Haughey, II reported regarding the following topics:
 - (a) Laurel Moore has resigned her Board position. The Bylaws provide that the President selects a replacement that is then approved by the board. Four applicants were vetted by the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee recommended Stephanie Bolton replace Laurel Moore. A motion to appoint Stephanie Bolton to fill the balance of Laurel Moore’s term was properly seconded and approved by the Board.
 - (b) President Haughey requested a volunteer to replace Laurel Moore as the liaison to the Government Law Section.
 - (c) Cristina Alonso will replace Laurel Moore as chair person for the Pro Bono Committee.
 - (d) YLD Bylaws require all board members to participate in SCOPE (Seeking Counsel of Professional Experience.) SCOPE is a mentoring program where lawyers answer questions for young lawyers and solo practitioners. President Haughey requested all board members with five years of attorney experience sign up for the program. Tom Miller will circulate applications for SCOPE.
 - (e) The Florida Pro Bono Coordinators Association has requested the YLD provide money (\$2884) to purchase pro-bono pins. It also requested an unspecified amount for a national pro-bono conference in Arizona. As the YLD has provided

money for the purchase of these pins in past years, President Haughey recommends the Board approve the request. A motion was made by Victor Smith to approve the sponsorship for the pro-bono pins, which was properly seconded and approved. President Haughey said he would request additional information as to the funds/purpose of the conference sponsorship.

- (f) The YLD will attempt to get more young lawyers active in the ABA. President Haughey requested a strong presence at the 2010 ABA mid-year meeting (which will be held in Orlando from February 4th – 6th, 2010).

- 8. **President-Elect's Report** – President-Elect Renee Thompson reported that Paige Greenlee, Wes Tibbals and Maribeth Wetzel manned the YLD table at the Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference last month. Leslie Stewart assisted with the Florida Inns of Court leadership seminar. Paige Greenlee, Chelsie Roberts, and President-Elect Thompson served as delegates at the ABA Annual Meeting. A report from the ABA Annual Meeting was circulated which showed twenty-two Florida young lawyers were appointed to ABA leadership positions. The Florida Bar General Meeting schedule of events for September 9-12 was circulated. President-Elect Thompson thanked Jennifer Kuyrkendall for establishing an YLD affiliate in the Third Circuit and for inviting her to a meeting.

9. **Committee Reports:**

- (a) **Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee** – Jacqueline Simms-Petredis reported the theme will be “Make a Splash at AOC.” The Friday night dinner will be at Florida Aquarium. Thursday night’s Board dinner will likely be in Ybor City. Sean Desmond is working with the committee to obtain sponsors.
- (b) **Annual Meeting Committee** - Cynthia Morales reported that she serves as a liaison to Big Board’s Annual Committee. That committee is focusing on fundraising. Cynthia requested that YLD board members provide the names of firms to support the judicial luncheon.
- (c) **Awards Committee** - Doug Woodward reports the Committee soon will be soliciting applications for the diversity award.
- (d) **Budget Committee** – Sean T. Desmond. No report.
- (e) **Bylaws Committee** – Chris Davis Graves. No report.
- (f) **CLE Committee** – Matt Welch. No report.
- (g) **Communications Committee** – Ed McCarthy. Ward Griffin reported regarding improvements to the YLD website including a comprehensive list of job sites (compiled by Stephen Ngo). Ward also reports that YLD applied for two ABA awards. The YLD received an Award of Achievement (third place) for AOC in its Outstanding Single Project - Service to the Bar category. The YLD received a second place award in the Newsletter category. The YLD affiliate in Jacksonville also won 3 ABA awards and Miami-Dade County won an award.
- (h) **Diversity Committee** – Victoria Wu reported that the Minority Mentoring Picnic (which YLD sponsors) is Saturday, November 14th. The committee is trying to

put together a volleyball team for the event. The committee will hold a diversity roundtable during AOC.

- (i) **Executive Committee** – President R.J. Haughey. No report.
- (j) **Governmental Affairs Committee** – Chelsie Roberts reported the date of the government symposium may not be with the mid-year meeting because the date of the mid-year may be moved to the weekend of AOC. The committee has selected the topic of e-filing for its symposium.
- (k) **Law Practice Transition Committee** – Mindi Wells reported the committee is compiling a list of mentoring programs throughout the state. These programs will be promoted in the YLD newsletter. The committee is gathering mentoring materials for the website. The committee is seeking a logo/catch phrase for the mentoring initiative (i.e. “Mentoring Matters”). The committee will look into obtaining CLE credits for those who serve as mentors.
- (l) **Law Related Education/Moot Court Committee** – Lou Ursini reported the YLD will sponsor a pre-trial competition (focusing on motion practice) at Stetson on October 2nd and 3rd. The committee needs judges/attorneys in Tampa/St. Pete area to volunteer to judge the competition.
- (m) **Law Schools Committee** – Michael Orr. Kevin Cook reported the Law School Committee’s partnership with ABA is going well. The committee is working on website issues with the Communications Committee. Board members have spoken at law schools. Josh Miron reported that student division representatives seem to lack a consistent message about the LSD and suggested a blurb with the goals of the Law School Division be developed. President Haughey reported that the Law School Division wants a Facebook page. The Florida Bar is considering developing a policy regarding Facebook pages for sections. The LSD’s request for a Facebook page will be on hold until the relevant policy is obtained from The Florida Bar. Sean Desmond reported the Big Bar’s Professional Committee is working on mentoring for law schools (matching young lawyers with law students). Any calls from LSD members should be funneled through Mike Orr. President Haughey reported the LSD has over 1000 members.
- (n) **Local Bar Affiliates Committee** – Marcy Shaw reported that after consulting with the Budget Committee \$500 grants for Afternoon at the Courthouse and Holidays in January were approved. The Third Circuit is the newest affiliate. Osceola County has requested information regarding establishing a new affiliate.
- (o) **Long Range Planning Committee** – President-Elect Renee Thompson reports the Long Range Planning meeting was scheduled for the week of the mid-year meeting so the location/date may change as the mid-year meeting date may change.
- (p) **Pro Bono Committee** - Cristina Alonso. President Haughey reported that since the last meeting, the committee was approached by, and approved partnering with, two other programs (Lawyers Children for America and Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center) in applying for support from The Florida Bar Foundation. YLD continues to partner with the Florida Lawyers Saving Homes project (matching a volunteer attorney with a homeowner in the process of losing their

home to foreclosure). YLD has recruited a few hundred young lawyers for this program. The program is expected to continue for a few more years. Scott Westheimer arranged the Habitat for Humanity project for tomorrow morning. YLD will attempt to participate in other pro-bono activities that coincide with future meetings.

- (q) **PWP Committee** – Belinda Lazzara. No report.
- (r) **Quality of Life Committee** – Stephen Ngo. No report.
- (s) **Sponsorship** – Sean Desmond reports the Committee is targeting large sponsors for AOC. Sean’s contact at Lexis has shown an interest and the committee is following up with Lexis. Wes Tibbals obtained a sponsor for last evening’s happy hour. and will coordinate with Mike Orr about sponsors for the Ponte Vedra meeting. President Haughey suggests that local delegates assist with obtaining sponsors for the Thursday happy hour. Sean and Tom Miller are preparing breakdowns of expense reports for each meeting to assist with obtaining sponsors.

10. **Liaison Reports:**

- (a) **Administrative Law** - Chrissy Davis Graves. No report.
- (b) **Appellate Practice** – Chrissy Davis Graves. No report.
- (c) **Business Law** – Hunter Carroll. No report.
- (d) **City County and Local Government Law** – Ghenete Wright Muir. No report.
- (e) **Criminal Law** – Beth Wetzel. No report.
- (f) **Elder Law** - No report.
- (g) **Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law** – Ginger Barry. No report.
- (h) **Environment & Land Use Law** – Sue-Ann Robinson. No report.
- (i) **Equal Opportunity Law** – Michelle Samaroo. No report.
- (j) **Family Law** – Elisha Roy. No report.
- (k) **General Practice, Solo and Small Firm** – R.J. Ferraro. No report.
- (l) **Government Law** – No report.
- (m) **Health Law** - No report.
- (n) **International Law** - Wade Bowden reports that the ABA International Section meeting will be held in Miami Beach and this Section will hold a reception on October 27th. The Section has 1100 members. The Section is interested in a joint function with the YLD, perhaps at the Long Range Planning meeting.
- (o) **Labor and Employment Law** – Kelly Parsons. No report.
- (p) **Out of State Practitioners** – Mindi Wells. No report.
- (q) **Public Interest Law Section** -- Melanie Griffin. No report.
- (r) **Real Property, Probate and Trust Law** – Alan Raines & Leslie Stewart. No report.
- (s) **Trial Lawyers** – Marisol Gomez. No report.
- (t) **Worker’s Compensation Law** – Mark Flaherty. No report.

11. **Program Administrator’s Report** - Tom Miller reported the first two PWPs occurred in Miami. The Basic Skills rule change period for comment/opposition has passed with no

comment. The application for the rule change has been filed with the Supreme Court and we are waiting for a ruling (could happen at any time). President Haughey reported that the Executive Committee has discussed who will need to be notified regarding the Basic Skills Course change (likely local affiliates that used to host and obtain revenue from the seminars) and how that notification will take place (likely via press release).

12. **New Orleans** – Judge Barton will present a free ethics CLE during the out-of-state meeting. Phelps Dunbar’s New Orleans’ office may host a reception for the YLD.
13. **Good of the Order**
 - (a) RJ Haughey thanked the Board for its support.
 - (b) Al Sauline promoted a raffle for Catholic Charities.
 - (c) Sean Desmond is the new Chief of the Wakulla County State Attorneys’ Office.
 - (d) Lou Ursini warned of the risks associated with home burglaries via doggy door.
 - (e) Marc Shaw was named the Gulf Coast Business Review’s “40 under 40.”
 - (f) Michelle Samaroo was named to Success Magazine’s “40 under 40” and Leaders of Today and Tomorrow.
 - (g) Belinda Lazzara was one of six names sent to the Governor for appointment to a circuit judgeship.
14. **Time and Place of Next Meeting** – Ponte Vedra - October 22-25, 2009
15. **Adjournment** - President R.J. Haughey. At 11:47 A.M. the meeting was adjourned.