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The newsletter of the Young Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar

in this issue 2007 YLC Leadership Conference, page 4 President's Message, page 3 Get involved! page 9 Sign up for the YLC Listserv at www.vayounglawyers.com

New Judges, Young Lawyers Mingle at the Eleventh Annual Bench-Bar Dinner

Corey B. Simpson

The VSB's Young Lawyers Conference hosted the Eleventh Annual Bench-Bar Dinner Celebrating Women and Minorities in the Legal Profession on Tuesday, October 16, 2007, at the Bull & Bear Club in Richmond, Virginia. The Bench-Bar Dinner has

been held since 1996 to honor newly appointed minority and female members of the Virginia judiciary.

The dinner highlighted the achievements and years of service each judge had contributed to the bar in their previous work in both the public and private sectors. The honorees included: the Honorable Sarah L. Deneke, Stafford County General District Court; the Honorable Cheryl V. Higgins, Albemarle County Circuit

Court; the Honorable Lauri D. Hogge, Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court; the Honorable Roxie O. Holder, Portsmouth General District Court; the Honorable Lisa A. Mayne, Fairfax County General District Court; the Honorable Florence A. Powell, Washington Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court; and the Honorable Janine M. Saxe, Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

The Honorable Elizabeth B. Lacy of the Supreme Court of Virginia provided the keynote address to the almost 100 attendees. Daniel L. Gray, President of the YLC, and Howard W. Martin Jr., President of the VSB, also made remarks. Past keynote speakers have included Anne B. Holton, First Lady of Virginia, and the Honorable Leroy R. Hassell, Sr., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

"Know the rules" was the advice Justice Lacy gave the honorees as she shared personal anecdotes from her career on the bench. She also discussed the importance of having women and minorities on the bench at all levels, in part because a judiciary reflective of the Commonwealth's population instills confidence and trust in the legal system.



▲ VSB President Howard Martin and YLC President Dan Gray with honored guests

Alana Malick and Mollie Barton, the YLC cochairs of the dinner, said the event is important for young lawyers because it provides an opportunity to meet and socialize with the judges in a comfortable setting—a very different experience from interacting with them in the formal confines of the courtroom. Based on the reaction of the honorees, attendees, and representatives of the Bar, the annual Bench-Bar Dinner was effective in meeting its charge, a testament to the hard work of its organizers, and an example of the important role played by the Young Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar.

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see you in court

Robert E. Byrne, Jr.

News and Practice Tips for Virginia Litigators

How many interrogatories does a subpart make?

No phase of litigation has a greater impact on the ultimate success of a case than discovery. Perhaps that explains why attorneys often wage intense battles over minutiae—such as what constitutes a part or a subpart under Supreme Court of Virginia Rule 4:8.

Relying on a decision from Virginia's 16th Circuit, opposing counsel recently notified me that he would not respond to my interrogatories because they exceeded thirty in number, even though I had asked only twenty-one numbered interrogatories. The attorney argued that, because the plain language of Rule 4:8 defines a subpart as any subsidiary question that requires an answer, each of the components requested by my language "including, but not limited to," constituted a part or subpart. I viewed his interpretation as an implausibly rigid reading of Rule 4:8-after all, the presence of "including, but not limited to" in an interrogatory merely defined the parameters of an acceptable answer. Besides, didn't everyone phrase interrogatories this way?

Almost no Virginia decisions have examined Rule 4:8's number limitation as it pertains to parts and subparts. A handful of federal courts have examined the issue, at least as the limitation applies to the similarly worded Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 33. And most of those courts followed the reasoning of the District Court of Nevada in *Ginn v. Gemini, Inc.*, 137 F.R.D. 320, 321–22 (D. Nev. 1991), which held that "interrogatory subparts are to be counted as part of but one interrogatory . . . if they are logically or factually subsumed within and necessarily related to the primary question."

In reaching this conclusion, the *Ginn* court considered the argument of a litigant who, like my opponent, claimed that secondary questions, no matter how closely related to a primary question, constituted parts and subparts and, thus, separate interrogatories. The *Ginn* court claimed such a "hypertechnical reading" of the discovery rules would require propounding parties to engage in "linguistic acrobatics," "sap the court's limited resources in order to resolve hypertechnical disputes," and "unnecessarily cramp the

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[propounding] party's fact-gathering ability." Such an interpretation of the rules was "absurd."

Ginn wasn't the only decision on my side. The District Court for the District of Columbia has explained that "lawyers, sensitive to the numerical restriction, also subdivide interrogatories so that after they introduce a topic, they demand to know in detail all the particulars about it, fre-

quently introducing their specific demands with the phrase 'including but not limited to.'" *Banks v. Office of the Senate, 222* F.R.D. 7, 10 (D.D.C. 2004). Continuing, the *Banks* court stated:

Thus, they may ask their opponent to state whether a particular product was tested and then demand to know when the tests occurred, who performed them, how and where they were conducted and the result. In such a situation, all the questions relate to a single topic, testing, and it would [be] unfair and draconian to view each of the demands as a separate interrogatory. This approach ends, however, the moment the interrogatory introduces a new topic that is in a distinct field of inquiry.

At the hearing on my motion to compel, my opponent acknowledged these adverse authorities but circled back to the plain language of Rule 4:8. Unlike Rule 33, which counts "discrete" parts and subparts, Rule 4:8 contains no such textual limitation. That means a part is a part, and each part must be counted as a separate interrogatory. If that were not so, he argued, there would have been no need to amend Rule 33 to include the word "discrete."

I lost that argument. But the court split the proverbial baby and allowed me to strike "eight" interrogatories on the spot—which, based on my opponent's math, meant that I had to strike only two numbered interrogatories. I was satisfied.

What is the lesson to be learned? The rules, though written in black and white, often appear gray in practice, especially when definitions are not entirely clear. Because of this experience, I've modified some of my standard interrogatories. I've dropped the "but not limited to" language. I make sure that any components are logically and factually related to the main question. And, for those "components" that venture beyond these logical and factual boundaries, I'll be sure to count those as independent interrogatories . . . at least until the Supreme Court of Virginia states that a part is not a part.

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message from the president

Daniel L. Gray



For me, bar work is a lot like saving for retirement. I started doing it with the vague notion that it was good for me. I did a little each month. I kept at it even when it became difficult. And I figured it would pay off one day.

I started volunteering for the Virginia State Bar ten or so years ago, when my friend and colleague, Savalle Sims, grabbed me to work on a committee she was heading. I remember driving down to Richmond to spend the day proofing the revised Rules of Professional Conduct with several other conscripts. I had no time for such endeavors, of course, being a new associate in a downtown firm, but—like many of us—I couldn't tell my friend no.

We should all be fortunate enough to have someone strong-arming us into doing bar work, but not everyone has such an easy entrée. Not only do many of us lack friends pushing us to get involved, but some firms and partners don't support their associates' work with the bar. I doubt that it's actively discouraged, but I'd guess many of us labor in such volunteer endeavors unsupported.

So I am always interested when I read articles exhorting bar involvement, because it's a tough sell in this day and age. I keep waiting for the one unrebuttable argument in favor of devoting one's time and talents to bar work, but it hasn't reached me yet.

I say bar work is a tough sell because the ideal of an active bar arose in a different era, one in which the bar and law firms were smaller. There weren't as many specialty bar associations. There weren't as many demands on our time. It was easier to get

involved and stay involved. The annual summer meeting in Virginia Beach used to be a must-attend; now we struggle to get people to come, especially young lawyers.

I've only scratched the surface on this, but you get the picture: we need you, and it's harder to get you.

I'd like to pitch you on the idea of service, but understand I'm not the best spokesperson for the rewards of bar work. I can't extol the virtues of the profession and our duties to it, like many of my colleagues can. It's not that I don't fully support and agree with those noble motives, it's just that I tend towards the more prosaic in terms of personal fulfillment. I kept at bar work because I liked meeting people, specifically other Virginia lawyers. That's what kept me involved. I've worked with lawyers in Bland who practice law and cut hay on their farms. I've worked with lawyers who are third- or fourth-generation attorneys, practicing in firms their ancestors started. I've worked with lawyers who passed up lucrative careers to work for Legal Services or the Public Defender. I find these folks endlessly fascinating. You can do good in a lot of organizations, but only in the bar do you get a cast of supporting players like that.

I can't tell you that bar work netted me immediate financial reward. In my first few years, I doubt I had one referral from my young lawyer colleagues. I can tell you, though, that after ten years, those young associates became partners, and new clients now routinely tell me that I came recommended by a bar colleague.

My bar connections are also a great resource; on any given topic, in any given corner of the state, I can talk to someone who knows the answer, whether it's a point of law or a point of procedure. You don't think it will ever happen to you, but you'll eventually have a client (or, God forbid, a relative) picked up for doing something naughty in Southwest Virginia, and it's nice to know the local defense bar.

Along the way, I've had a lot of fun doing good: chaperoning high school students and playing Laser Tag at our annual Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute; attending our Professional Development Conference and the inevitable after-party in downtown Charlottesville; trying to teach the finer points of jury trials to elementary school students. These are the experiences that can sustain you when the practice of law gets difficult.

The YLC runs a lot of programs, and I don't doubt there's one for everybody. Check out a list of them at our website: www.vayounglawyers.com. There will be something there for you.

So yes, it can be tough to start. It can be difficult to stay at it. It may not net immediate financial rewards. But, like that retirement account, your bar work will end up paying significant dividends over time. Get involved—you'll be glad you got in the habit now.

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YLC Leaders Convene in Richmond for 2007 Leadership Conference

Kenneth L. Alger II

I always look forward to the annual YLC Leadership Conference. Hokey? Maybe. But, like holiday parties and vacations, it provides a break from the otherwise monotonous routine of work and the daily grind. It's also a time to catch up with old friends, learn about the projects others are involved in, and of course get away from the office for a while.

▲ YLC program chairs, circuit representatives, and board members settle in for a presentation in the Capitol.

This year the conference was held on October 5th and 6th in Richmond. All YLC committee chairs, circuit representatives, and members of the YLC board of governors were invited to attend. The kickoff was dinner at Bank

restaurant on Friday night. The wine, food, and collegiality were all excellent.

YLC President Dan Gray opened the Saturday morning conference in the Capitol Building. He was followed by VSB President Howard Martin and President-Elect Manny Capsalis, both of whom spoke of pressing issues before the state bar-such as indigent defense and mandatory malpractice insurance—and the call to public service. The VSB's Executive Director, Tom Edmonds, spoke about several often-overlooked ways young attorneys can become involved with the Virginia State Bar, such as: 1) becoming involved in the Virginia Lawyer Referral Service, which can be a good source of cases and clients; 2) volunteering to serve as a receiver, and inventory the files of deceased or missing lawyers; 3) becoming active with your local district disciplinary committee, which decides complaints against local lawyers should be dismissed, result in sanctions, or be referred to the Disciplinary Board for more serious consideration; and 4) serving on the board of the Client Protection Fund, whose members allocate funds to reimburse a client or other person to whom a fiduciary duty is owed as the result of the dishonest conduct of a member of the Virginia State Bar.

The President-Elect of the YLC, Jennifer L. McClellan, gave a presentation on how to get people to work for your goals. She recommended being honest about your strengths and weaknesses, making it fun,

asking for help, and always thanking those who pitch in. YLC board member Sarah Petcher, last year's Young Lawyer of the Year for her excellent program on immigrant outreach, detailed the essential elements of a successful project—proper planning, budgeting, advertising, delegating, and soliciting volunteers.

The lunch keynote speaker was the Honorable Ashley Tunner, of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. One of the youngest judges in the Commonwealth, Tunner described the process that culminated in her appointment to the bench, as well as the challenges she faced as a public defender and, more recently, as a judge. She encouraged all of us to follow our passions and never let our youth discourage us from trying something new.

With that, the conference concluded, and we dispersed—with a renewed commitment to active membership in the bar, as well as new connections (potential conscripts!). I strongly encourage all of you to volunteer for a YLC project. From immigrant outreach to juveniles' rights, the possibilities are almost endless. Becoming involved with the YLC is one of the best things I've done as a young lawyer. Hope to see you at next year's conference!

Ken Alger is with the Shenandoah County Commonwealth's Attorney's office in Woodstock. He can be reached at kenalger@shentel.net.

Due to space constraints, *Ethics Corner* is taking a bye. Please look for Jeff Geiger's next column in our Winter issue.



Get Involved!

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corporate corner

Russell T. Schundler

Issues of Interest for Virginia Transactional Attorneys

Factoring Employee Equity Ownership into Choice-of-Entity Decisions

The founders of every new business must choose the form of their entity. While a large number of factors need to be considered when making this decision, a very important consideration, from both a business perspective and a tax perspective, is whether any of the employees of the business will also be owners.

For small start-up companies especially, the initial founders of the business often are also employees. As employees and owners, their economic return from the business will come in two forms—wage compensation for services rendered, and a share of any profits generated. The taxation of these different income streams can vary depending on which type of entity is chosen.

For many small businesses, C corporations are disfavored because profits are taxed twice, once at the corporate level and once at the shareholder level. However, for some corporations, such as those providing professional services, virtually all of the earnings may be paid to the individual employees as wage compensation, leaving little or no net profits to be taxed twice. In these situations, C corporations may be an attractive option, as they will generally provide advantages over S corporations and limited liability companies as to the taxation of benefits payments (such as medical insurance premiums, medical reimbursements, and disability and groupterm life insurance premiums) for employees who are owners.

For many businesses, though, this slight advantage related to the taxation of benefit payments does not offset the cost of the double taxation of profits. Thus, for most small businesses, the primary choice will be between an S corporation and a limited liability company, both of which receive pass-through tax treatment, meaning that there is just one level of taxation.

As between S corporations and limited liability companies, one major difference is the ability of the owners of an S corporation to distinguish between wages and profits for tax purposes. In an S corporation where the founder is an employee, the founder typically receives a reasonable payment as wages for services rendered. Additional amounts received by the owner in excess of this wage are then treated as dividend distributions. While in a flow-through entity the entire income stream is subject to immediate income taxation regardless of whether it is characterized as wages or dividends, only the wages are subject to employment taxes, which can be as high as 15.3%. In an S corporation, this entire extra employment tax can be avoided on those distributions that are properly characterized as profits.

For limited liability companies (assuming they elect to be taxed as partnerships), it is not possible to make this distinction between wages and profits. In general, an employee-owner's allocable share of an LLC's net income (subject to certain exclusions for rent, interest, dividends, capital gains, and other limited categories of income) is treated as a payment of wages and subject to employment taxes. Accordingly, the founder will have an extra tax on that portion of the net income of the limited liability company that represents the profits of the business.

This difference as to the taxation of profits tends to weigh in favor of using an S corporation in situations where the founder will also be an employee.

Another factor to consider, though, is whether equity will be used to compensate other employees. Such equity can take any number of forms, including options, appreciation rights, and straight equity. In each instance, the goal is to provide incentives by granting the employee a stake in the overall success of the business.

For businesses that plan to grant equity to employees, S corporations have a significant drawback in that all shares of stock must have the same basic economic rights and preferences. While S corporations may still provide equity compensation to their employees, this rule can significantly limit the company's flexibility in designing an equity compensation plan.

Unlike S corporations, C corporations and liability companies tremendous flexibility in providing equity to employees (subject to the rules regarding certain deferred compensation arrangements under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code). One extra advantage of limited liability companies is that they may issue profits interests, which represent a share of the business's future earnings. These profits interests are not typically taxable to the employee at the time of grant, which is often an attractive feature, but do provide the employee with a share of the future growth of the business.

Of course, other factors may ultimately drive the choice-of-entity decision. But the effect of that choice on employee equity ownership should always be carefully considered.

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Board Liaison: Barrett Lucy

TWENTY-FOURTH CIRCUIT

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TWENTY-FIFTH CIRCUIT

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Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig

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Cities: Harrisonburg & Winchester Counties: Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Page, Rockingham, Warren

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TWENTY-SEVENTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Galax & Radford Counties: Pulaski, Wythe, Carroll, Grayson, Montgomery, Floyd, Giles, Bland

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TWENTY-EIGHTH CIRCUIT

City: Bristol

Counties: Smyth & Washington

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TWENTY-NINTH CIRCUIT

Counties: Giles, Bland, Tazewell, Buchanan, Russell, Dickenson

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Board Liaison: Brian Charville

THIRTIETH CIRCUIT

City: Norton

Counties: Wise, Scott, Lee

M. Suzanne Kerney-Quillen

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Board Liaison: Brad Dalton

THIRTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

Cities: Manassas & Manassas Park County: Prince William

Cameronne Mary Powell

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Board Liaison: Sarah Louppe Petcher



2007-08 YLC Guide to Involvement Program Chairs

SERVICE TO THE BAR

ADMISSION AND ORIENTATION CEREMONY

This committee is responsible for organizing and staging a special ceremony, sponsored twice a year by the Conference, at which all newly licensed attorneys are given the opportunity to appear before the Supreme Court of Virginia to be admitted to practice in the courts of Virginia. Because the Court sits in Richmond, this committee typically is composed principally of young lawyers practicing in the metropolitan Richmond area.

Chair: Francie Scott

Hunton & Williams LLP

Richmond (804) 788-8200 fscott@hunton.com

ANNUAL MEETING

This committee plans the special interest program that takes place during the Bar's Annual Meeting, held in Virginia Beach each June. The program typically is on Friday afternoon and is a CLE of particular interest to young lawyers. The committee is also responsible for organizing the "Run in the Sun" 5-kilometer foot race and the "Beach Volley Follies" volleyball tournament, all sponsored by the Conference during the Bar's Annual Meeting in June.

Programs: Demian McGarry

The Carlberg Law Firm

Alexandria (703) 549-5551

dmcgarry@carlberglaw.com

Athletics: Maureen Danker

Condo, Roop, Kelly & Byrnes

McLean (703) 442-0888

mdanker@crkblaw.com

BENCH/BAR CELEBRATION DINNER

Each year the YLC, through this committee, hosts a dinner to honor newly elevated women and minority judges from across the state. The dinner provides an opportunity for young lawyers to interact with judges in a casual, relaxed atmosphere.

Co-chairs: Alana Malick

McCandlish Holton, PC

Richmond (804) 775-3886 amalick@lawmh.com

Mollie Barton

Batzli Wood & Stiles PC

Glen Allen (804) 545-9921

mbarton@batzliwood.com

BOARD MATCH

Board Match provides an opportunity for local nonprofit organizations to solicit new board members and participation by young lawyers in their area.

Chair: Brent Timberlake

Setliff & Holland, P.C.

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btimberlake@setliffholland.com

DOCKET CALL

The editor and editorial board of *Docket Call* publish four issues of the Conference's newsletter each year. This award-winning newsletter, which contains information about the Conference's activities and other material of particular interest to young lawyers, is circulated to every member of the Conference.

Editor: Meghan Cloud

McGuireWoods LLP Charlottesville (434) 977-2534

mcloud@mcguirewoods.com

FIRST DAY IN PRACTICE SEMINAR

In conjunction with the General Practice Section, this committee plans and implements the First Day in Practice Seminar for new lawyers, which is traditionally held the day after the Fall Admission and Orientation Ceremony.

Chair: Ryan Ayers Glasgow

Hunton & Williams LLP

Richmond (804) 788-8791 rglasgow@hunton.com

igiasgow@nunton.com

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

This committee implements a one-day CLE program that addresses practice tips and professionalism issues specific to young lawyers.

Co-chairs: Daniel E. Ortiz

Blankingship and Keith, P.C.

Fairfax (703) 279-7205 dortiz@bklawva.com

Robert E. Byrne, Jr. Martin & Raynor, P.C. Charlottesville (434) 817-3100

bbyrne@mrlaw.com

SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

COMMUNITY LAW WEEK

The organizers of Community Law Week promote the ABA's Law Day theme each year through programs held during the first week in May devoted to enhancing awareness and appreciation of the role of law in American life. The committee works in part through local bar associations, on a statewide basis, and plans media presentations and public programs held in schools and other fora.

Chair: Vacant

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAFETY PROJECT

The DVSP distributes brochures and pamphlets to domestic violence victims statewide and trains attorneys to provide pro bono representation to victims of domestic violence.

Chair: Kenneth Leo Alger, II

Shenandoah County

Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

Woodstock (540) 459-6129 kenalger@shentel.net

EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICES

Together with the VBA-YLD, this committee has developed and implemented a statewide Emergency Legal Services Response Plan, which includes training volunteers and working with other bar organizations to establish communication plans and provide emergency legal services in the event of natural disasters and other declared emergencies.

Co-chairs: Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.

Richmond (804) 354-6239

glen. sturt evant @gmail.com

Carrie N. Lyons Alexandria (703) 567-7589 lyonscnew@yahoo.com

2007-08 YLC Guide to Involvement Program Chairs

IMMIGRANT OUTREACH

This committee designs projects, including the Immigrant Outreach-Education Regarding Deportation Ramifications of Criminal Convictions program, to (1) educate members of the bar regarding immigration law issues and (2) reach out to Virginia's immigrant population.

Chair:

Hugo R. Valverde

Valverde and Rowell, P.C.

Virginia Beach (757) 422-8472

hugo.valverde@gmail.com

JUVENILE RIGHTS HANDBOOK

This committee is responsible for the printing and distribution of the Juvenile Rights Handbook. The committee chairman is responsible for administration of the VLF grant funds awarded during the 2006–2007 bar year. The specific goals for the 2007–2008 bar year are to disseminate available copies of the handbook, use VLF funds for a second printing, and translate the handbook into another language.

Chair:

Nathan Olson

Cooper Ginsberg Gray, PLLC

Fairfax

(703) 934-1480

nolson@cgglawyers.com

MINORITY PRE-LAW CONFERENCE

This committee presents a one-day seminar that exposes college students, especially minority students, to many aspects of a legal career. From LSAT prep courses, mock law school classes, and a mock trial to panel discussions with the bench, bar, and law students, this course provides valuable information to Virginia students considering a career in the law.

Co-Chairs:

Samantha Ahuja

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Brooke C. Rosen

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP

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NO BILLS NIGHT

Two annual No Bills Nights enable members of the public to raise legal issues and to seek information regarding their legal rights without cost. This year the YLC plans to put on programs in Abingdon, Charlottesville, Danville/Martinsville, Lynchburg, Fredericksburg, Northern Virginia, Staunton/Lexington, Richmond, Roanoke, Tidewater, and Winchester/Harrisonburg. Several programs are broadcast on local television stations.

Statewide Chair: J. Whitten "Whit" Ellerman

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Regional Chairs:

(1) Abingdon:

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(2) Charlottesville

Vacant.

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(4) Fredericksburg

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(5) Lexington/Staunton

Vacant.

To assist, please contact statewide chair Whit Ellerman at (540) 983-9300 or whit_ellerman@gentrylocke.com.

(6) Lynchburg

Vacant.

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(7) Martinsville

Vacant

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(10) Roanoke

Victor S. "Dinny" Skaff III

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(11) Tidewater

Julia E. Keller Glasser & Glasser, PLC Norfolk (757) 640-9396 Jkeller@glasserlaw.com

(12) Winchester

Vacant.

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OLIVER HILL/SAMUEL TUCKER LAW INSTITUTE

Working in conjunction with the Millennium Diversity Initiative and the University of Richmond T.C. Williams School of Law, the YLC has designed a program, called the Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute, to facilitate diversity in the legal profession. The program invites atrisk, minority students to attend a week-long comprehensive seminar that encourages them to become members of the legal profession.

Co-chairs: Yvette A. Ayala

LeClairRyan Richmond (804) 916-7182

Y vette. ayala @leclairry an. com

Rasheeda Niambi Creighton

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2007-08 YLC Guide to Involvement **Program Chairs**

STUDENTS' DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Students' Day at the Capitol introduces students to government and the law through a hands-on learning experience, including tours of the Governor's Mansion, Capitol Building, and the Supreme Court. In addition to the tours, the students participate in question-and-answer sessions with local attorneys and mock legislative sessions conducted by House and Senate staff members.

Co-chairs: Lindsey H. McGinnis

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lmcginnis@hunton.com

Jayne Pemberton

Sands Anderson Marks & Miller

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VOTER EDUCATION

The Young Lawyers Conference has teamed with the Virginia State Board of Elections to ensure the distribution of Virginia Voter Rights and Responsibility brochures. These brochures are provided to the public to clearly outline their rights, as well as their responsibilities in protecting those rights.

Chair: Sona Rewari

Hunton & Williams LLP

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WE THE JURY

The centerpiece of this program is a panel discussion involving former jurors, judges, and experienced counsel, who advise young lawyers on effective advocacy during jury trials.

Chair: Esther Slater McDonald

> Iones Day Washington, D.C. (202) 879-3617

esmcdonald@jonesday.com

WILLS FOR HEROES

Developed in response to the events of September 11, 2001, this program allows the legal community to show its appreciation for the efforts and sacrifices made by such "first responders" as firefighters, police, and emergency medical technicians. Volunteers provide simple wills, advanced medical directives, and powers of attorney on a pro bono basis.

Andrew G. Geyer Chair:

Hunton & Williams LLP Richmond (804) 787-8164 ageyer@hunton.com

COMMISSIONS

CHILDREN AND THE LAW

The YLC Commission for Children and the Law is tasked with developing programs and initiatives to improve the treatment and experience of those of the Commonwealth's youngest citizens who come into contact with the judicial system.

Chair: Barry Jay Waldman

Waldman & Associates, PLLC

Fredericksburg (540) 891-1414

waldmanassociates@hotmail.com

PRO BONO COMMISSION

The Pro Bono Commission assesses current pro bono programs and works to improve the quantity, quality, and visibility of pro bono activities. The commission concentrates on: (1) Researching the amount and quality of pro bono work done by young lawyers at Virginia law firms, with an eye toward evaluating whether or not we are meeting the ABA's 5% pro bono challenge, and (2) Focusing on the rewards to young lawyers of pro bono involvement.

Samantha Ahuja Chair:

> Greenberg Traurig, LLP Washington, DC (202) 530-8552 ahujas@gtlaw.com

WOMEN & MINORITIES IN THE PROFESSION

The commission will present this year, as in past years, the Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute and the Minority Pre-Law Conference. In addition, the commission seeks to develop other events that target young people within its focus areas who are not reached by current efforts.

Chair: Mollie Barton

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Winter YLC Events

11/13-14 | Students' Day at the Capitol

11/16 | Domestic Violence Safety

Project CLE, Winchester

12/13 | VSB Professionalism Course

01/11 | YLC Board Dinner

01/12 | YLC Board Meeting

01/17 | VSB Professionalism Course

03/06 | VSB Professionalism Course

For a complete, up-to-date list of events, please visit: http://www.vsb.org/site/events/

Address Change?

If you have moved or changed your address, please see the VSB Membership Department's page on the Web for an address update form, at www.vsb.org/site/members/.

Docket Call

A quarterly publication of the Young Lawyers

Conference of the Virginia State Bar

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Docket Call

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