

Docket Call

The Official Newsletter of the Young Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar
Patrick J. Austin, Esq., Editor
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Q&A with Virginia State Bar President Edward Weiner Patrick J. Austin

The Virginia State Bar is a state agency regulating and supporting nearly 50,000 practicing attorneys throughout the Commonwealth. Each year, an attorney is asked to step up and serve as President of the VSB. For the 2015-2016 term, Edward L. Weiner, founder and senior partner at Weiner, Spivey & Miller, was selected to fill that prestigious position and serve as VSB President.



Ed is heavily involved in an array of Bar-related activities. For example, he is a former chair of the VSB Conference of Local Bar Associations, immediate past president of the Fairfax Bar Association, and a past president of the Fairfax Law Foundation. Ed also served on the faculty of the VSB's Harry L. Carrico Course on Professionalism and is the founder of Jazz 4 Justice, a fund-raising model that partners local bar associations with university music departments to raise money

for legal aid and pro bono programs as well as music scholarships.

He is ready to take on the immense responsibilities that come with the VSB presidency.

Q: First and foremost, congratulations on being elected as President of the Virginia State Bar!

A: Thanks for your good wishes and for the chance to connect with the Young Lawyers Conference.

Q: You were sworn in during this year's Virginia State Bar (VSB) Annual Meeting that took place in Virginia Beach. Tell us about that experience.

A: The VSB Annual Meeting is always a great event – the Beach, seeing friends, networking in a relaxed environment, excellent CLEs. This year was truly special. What an amazing experience to be surrounded by friends, attorneys who've been my role models and mentors, and my extended family (including my brother—who was my law partner for 10 years—and others who FaceTimed in). It was unforgettable!

Q: Did you always plan to become a leader in the VSB or was your ascension the product of timing and circumstance?

A: It was both. My Bar involvement started at the county level in Fairfax. Fifteen years ago, I worked with the Fairfax Law Foundation to start a

fundraising partnership with George Mason University called Jazz4Justice. The program raises funds for pro bono legal services and music scholarships. The VSB Council of Local Bar Associations asked me to speak about how the model could be rolled out to other Bars. This began my exciting and rewarding involvement with the VSB. After serving on a number of committees and being elected to Bar Council by my Fairfax colleagues, a previous VSB President suggested I consider the VSB Presidency.

Q: What objectives and goals do you have as VSB President?

A: There are 3 in particular:

1. Increasing access to justice.
2. Engaging with online legal service providers companies to ensure adequate public protection.
3. Furthering VSB services to smaller and rural bars.

Q: What would you say are the biggest challenges facing the VSB going forward?

A: The Presidents and Executive Directors of State Bars from across the US are great about not only raising issues of relevance in their states, but in sharing their approaches and solutions. It's clear that many of the challenges facing us in Virginia are also being faced elsewhere:

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1. Access to justice (63 million Americans are eligible for legal aid at a time when funding is at an all-time low);
2. Non-lawyer ownership of law firms;
3. Changes in the delivery of legal services (e.g., Licensed Limited Legal Technicians, LegalZoom, Avvo).

Being good stewards of the law does not mean resisting or ignoring change. Younger members of the Bar play a critical role in helping our profession embrace change.

Q: How do you successfully manage your time being a senior partner at a busy law firm, serving in a leadership role with the VSB, being a father to two daughters, etc.?

A: I'll get back to you on that one.

Q: Did you have a favorite class in law school?

A: At the time, my favorite classes were the ones behind me. I really enjoyed Trial Advocacy and Evidence.

Q: If you had to choose another profession besides law, what would you choose?

A: I have always wanted to be a lawyer. What changed was the type of law I thought that I'd practice. In college, it was environmental law. In law school, I was drawn towards criminal law. Now, being a civil trial attorney is it! When and if I retire, I'd love to be a ski instructor.

Q: How has working with the VSB directly helped you professionally, either through networking or business development, or both?

A: Being involved with my local bar, the VSB, the Virginia Bar Association and Virginia Trial Lawyers Association has connected me with the finest lawyers in the Commonwealth. Having always been part of a small firm, this network of "go to" experts has been a lifeline.

Q: What advice would you give to younger attorneys who are

entering the profession to be successful Virginia attorneys?

A: Get involved with your local Bars, many of which have sections or committees relevant to your practice area. Engage with committees at the VSB. It is good for our profession and great for you as professionals. In 1836, Professor D. Hoffman, founder of the University of Maryland School of Law, gave this overview of a lawyer, which holds true today:

... A lawyer should be acquainted with the whole circle of human science... sometimes a philosopher to detect, a logician to reason, a poet to describe and an orator to persuade.

Patrick Austin is a 2013 graduate of George Mason University School of Law. He is an Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Department of Justice and Editor-in-Chief of the *Docket Call*.

Reform Needed in Financing a Legal Education

Matthew Kreitzer

Bankruptcy Judge Jim D. Pappas said, "Today, facing the mammoth costs of a modern education, nearly all students must borrow heavily to finance their futures." Student loan debts are unique, in that they require a much more complicated and rigorous process to discharge than any other loan. Discharge is the process by which a debtor is able to have a federal court excuse his or her personal liabilities on a debt and get a fresh start. Judge Pappas's opinion highlighted the circumstances surrounding the student loan market—costs of tuition and living are increasing beyond the rate of inflation, and students are in much more debt than in years past.

This increased debt load is especially prevalent among law students. The total cost of a legal education can range from \$60,000 to \$250,000, depending on the school and the amount of financial aid a student receives. This increased debt load, combined with a fragile employment market, creates a recipe for default. Reports of unemployed law school graduates are numerous, and many legal professionals are looking for ways to reform

how students finance a legal education. This article examines the past student debt loads of legal professionals, the current market, and the proposed changes.

HISTORICAL COST OF LAW SCHOOL

The cost of law school has increased dramatically since the 1980s. In 1986, the tuition for an entire year of law school at the University of Michigan School of Law was \$4,420. Adjusted for inflation, that would be the equivalent of \$9,000 in 2011. Get ready to be stunned - in 2011, the cost of tuition at the University of Michigan School of Law was \$46,800 per year. This is not unique to the University of Michigan. Other law schools have seen similar shockingly steep increases in the cost of tuition. The median tuition for all ABA accredited law schools has risen from \$3,746 in 1985 to \$20,076 in 2011.

Students from different graduating class years have different perspectives on how debt load has impacted their career opportunities.



A 1995 law school graduate said, "There just wasn't much [tuition] since it was in-state tuition in the early 90s." Law students in recent years have a different opinion.

A 2013 law school graduate said, "By the time graduation rolled around, I was in debt to the tune of almost 200K. That's about average for 2013 law graduates who went straight through."

This increased debt load on graduates impacts career prospects and professional flexibility.

For example, a 2013 law school graduate said, "Has loan debt impacted my choice of employment? It already has. For the next eight years and something, I have to work in a public service position. I have to have student loan forgiveness. I don't make enough money to pay off even the interest that accrues each year on my debt."

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE

Given the difficult situation that law students are facing in the currently legal job market, there need to be changes to how prospective law students finance a legal education. A survey distributed among legal professionals indicated support for additional regulations on the law-school market. The leading response was reforming the Bankruptcy Code to allow for the easier discharge of student-loan debt. The second leading choice was educating prospective students about the true financial ramifications of financing law school almost exclusively through student loans.

A 2014 law school graduate said, "It is important to know what options there are out there for repayment, other than the standard 10-year repayment plan, and what the consequences of those options are." Among those options are federal repayment programs like "Pay As You Earn" and "Income Based Repayment." Other options are refinancing through a bank or private refinancing institution.

Some legal professionals focused on the wisdom of so many students pursuing a legal education. One respondent said, "I think the primary problem is the number of graduates. It is a supply and demand issue. There are too many of us out there, and this drives down the demand for us. Employers are paying us less. I think the best solution is to limit the incoming class size for law school."

CONCLUSION

Given the increased tuition rates for law students, legal professionals are struggling to make payments as the increase outpaces inflation rates. The cost of living and tuition is forcing many market participants into jobs that aren't ideal. In this climate, it is important for young lawyers and law students to understand the options available to them. Refinancing, loan forgiveness, and government programs are going to be integral in managing the existing debt. As Judge Pappas stated in his opinion, something needs to change.

Matthew Kreitzer is a 2013 graduate of the College of William & Mary's Marshall Wythe School of Law. He is currently an associate at Booth & McArthy.

Q & A with Thomas H. Miller, Winner of the Local Bar Leader of the Year Award

Patrick Austin

Tom Miller, a partner at Frankl, Miller & Webb LLP in Roanoke, was named the 2015 recipient of the Local Bar Leader of the Year Award. This prestigious award recognizes continued dedication of bar leaders and close cooperation with the Virginia State Bar.

Tom's involvement with Bar events and activities is extensive and impressive. He has been an active member of the Roanoke Bar Association for over 30 years and was elected to the Association's Board of Directors in 2006. He has served as chair of the Memorials and Resolutions Committee, chair of the Continuing Legal Education Committee, and as secretary/treasurer, president-elect, and president of the Association. He has also served as chair of the Roanoke

Law Foundation and chair of the You and the Law: Senior Symposium.

Tom's service to the community goes beyond Bar activities. He is also a member of the Kiwanis Club assisting with an aftercare social club providing regular dinners and social outlets for adults with special needs. Tom also participates in Read Across America and works for Meals on Wheels.

Q: First and foremost congratulations on being selected for the Local Bar Leader of the Year Award. What did you do when you first learned that you won the award?

A: When I first learned that I had won the Local Bar Leader of the

Year Award, my initial reaction was one of surprise and embarrassment. I was shocked, but very honored to have been recognized by the Committee of Local Bar Associations for this award. But, I was somewhat embarrassed that I was being recognized for doing the thing which I believe is most important for all of us, lawyers or not, which is providing service to those in need in our community. One should not aspire to recognition for being in service to others.

Q: How do you effectively juggle so many Bar commitments, a full-time job, personal commitments, etc.?

Q: It is difficult to juggle Bar commitments with a full-time job and family and other personal commitments. However, if you prioritize your life to be one of service to others, then your life is governed by that mindset and everything seems to fall into place. This may mean sacrificing free time to complete a project or working weekends to get the job done. It also helps to have a wonderful wife, and I do, who is very understanding of the time I spend away from home and very supportive and understanding partners who appreciate the fact that service to others is a passion for me and something that makes me enjoy what I do every day, helping to make me a better lawyer, a better partner, and a better person.

Q: Is there a particular event, organization, Bar committee that you enjoy most?



A: Our Bar Association has sponsored, for more than 15 years, a program called Barrister Book Buddies. We adopt Roanoke City elementary school classes that struggle with reading scores. We read to the students to encourage them to develop a love for reading and the lifelong importance of reading. I believe that this one activity is the most enjoyable of the RBA activities I participate in and leaves me with the best sense of accomplishment both for myself and the children.

Q: What motivates you to be involved in the various Bar initiatives?

A: The motivation for being involved in Bar projects, for me, is one of wanting to be in service to others. If you don't have the desire to serve others to better your community and to better yourself, then you will not seek out such opportunities, whether Bar-related or not. That is my motivation to be involved in Bar activities. Service is the rent we pay for the privileges we enjoy, and I have been very privileged in my personal life and career. Thus, I give back to my community. Fortunately, the Roanoke Bar Association provides me with a number of opportunities to provide service to those in need. Ours is the best Bar in the state!

Q: Did you aspire to be a Bar leader, or did it occur through timing and circumstance?

A: I don't think anyone ever aspires to be a Bar leader, but again, it starts with the proper mindset with respect to your professional practice and your personal life. If that mindset is geared towards service

to others, then timing and circumstance will carry you through.

Q: What advice would you give to recent graduates and new Virginia attorneys looking to make an impact in the Commonwealth?

A: I would advise new lawyers to work at becoming good lawyers, first and foremost, especially in the development of their practice areas. Once that has been accomplished, they should then look to give back to their communities in whatever way suits them and in whatever method is appropriate for them. By doing so, they will develop a balance which will keep them well centered and should help them experience a fulfilling career.

Q: What other programs or initiatives would you like to get involved in or start moving forward with the Virginia State Bar?

A: I would encourage fellow attorneys to get involved in their local Bar Associations looking for opportunities to serve. This is the easiest place to start. The Virginia State Bar does offer involvement in projects to give back to your community. Take advantage of those opportunities that have been developed on a state-wide level and custom fit them for your local Bar Association. Do small programs that do good works in your own communities. That is where it will make the most difference.

Patrick Austin is a 2013 graduate of George Mason University School of Law. He is an Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Department of Justice and Editor-in-Chief of the *Docket Call*.



First Day in Practice Seminar

December 10, 2015

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Greater Richmond Convention Center

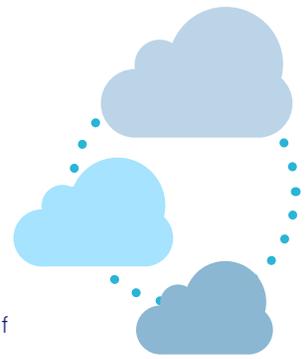
6 MCLE Hours Pending (2 ethics)

More information and registration at

<http://www.vsb.org/site/sections/generalpractice-calendar/cle1212015>

The Cyber Attorney, The Cloud, and You

Scott A. Nerlino and Matt Webster



Ubiquitous access, worry-free backups, and automatic indexing of files; this is the promise of cloud storage. Cloud storage has been available for nearly 15 years, but it is the service's recent broad acceptance that has made cloud providers targets for cyber criminals. As attorneys, we need to understand the balance between increased efficiency and added risk, all while being mindful of our ethical obligations of confidentiality.

WHAT IS THE CLOUD?

At its simplest, the cloud abstracts the use of a file from the storage of a file. This means that an attorney can create, edit, and update files without having to know where or how files are kept. This is possible through the cloud's distributed server side architecture: information is being stored across multiple servers. The information, however, is accessible in a completely transparent fashion. The user does not need, and cannot know, exactly how or where the information is stored. The user simply has to use a single interface to interact with the system.

PROS OF THE CLOUD

The cloud offers a number of improvements over owning your own server. Foremost among these is the cloud's accessibility. Almost all providers have applications that work on numerous devices from the traditional PC to tablets and phones. The overall accessibility of data in the cloud is extremely high and easy to configure.

Moreover, because the data is so accessible, there are two wonderful side effects. First, it is substantially easier to collaborate with remote peers since the cloud servers will automatically sync new and updated files. Second, there is almost no chance for down

time. While an individual server in your office may fail, it is highly unlikely that the requisite number of systems would simultaneously fail rendering the cloud service inoperable. Even if that did happen, the cloud service providers are in a much better position to fix their systems than most attorneys.

Further building on this idea, local disaster recovery is often a difficult and time-consuming process. If a firm's primary servers or desktops are either compromised or damaged, recovery can take days or weeks. If the firm's important files are on the compromised machine, the firm's downtime will be substantial. Instead, if a computer goes down and the files are in the cloud, any computer can be used to access the files and work can quickly continue.

CONS OF THE CLOUD

Of course, with any new technology, there are also a number drawbacks. While the accessibility and collaboration mentioned above is nice, it is not perfect and it should come as no surprise that it may be a double edged sword. Any configured device can, and will, sync documents, as long as the device has an internet connection. This may be further compounded by the fact that many internet connections outside of your firm are not secured.

Third-party access is an issue. Virginia State Bar Legal Ethics Opinion 1872 somewhat addresses this issue, and cites to the prior legal ethics opinion 1818 stating:

"The lawyer is not required, of course, to absolutely guarantee that a breach of confidentiality cannot occur when using an outside service provider. Rule 1.6 only requires the lawyer to act with reasonable care to protect information relating to the representation of a client. When

a lawyer is using cloud computing or any other technology that involves the use of a third party for the storage or transmission of data, the lawyer must follow Rule 1.6(b) (6) and exercise care in the selection of the vendor, have a reasonable expectation that the vendor will keep the data confidential and inaccessible by others, and instruct the vendor to preserve the confidentiality of the information. The lawyer will have to examine the third party provider's use of technology and terms of service in order to know whether it adequately safeguards client information, and if the lawyer is not able to make this assessment on her own, she will have to consult with someone qualified to make that determination."

This assessment can be a difficult proposition. Is a passive scan of the files an ethical violation? What about an active scan which then indexes some of the data but does not share it with an opposing party? What if you happen to be doing federal criminal defense and the federal government decides to request access to those files through the provider without notifying you?

Of course, these questions are meant to get you thinking rather than to scare you. Most of the business cloud providers offer enhanced protections compared to individual-user accounts. Unfortunately, these features are not always implemented by default. Yet, the thoughtful attorney will make sure that whatever service you use will include some form of encryption, preferably encryption at rest, meaning that the file is encrypted before it ever touches the cloud.

CONCLUSIONS

The cloud can be a great technology to lower your costs and improve

Minor Children? Estate Planning Essentials

Jesci Norrington

Young couples are often overwhelmed when their families start to grow. With a new baby and a To-Do list a million miles long, estate planning rarely makes it to the top of the list. However, there are several important legal documents every parent with minor children should have in place to avoid major issues in case something unexpected occurs.

1. WILL.

Clients need to have a will to name the guardians for their children. The guardians are the people responsible for the custody and care of your client's children if something were to happen to your client and his or her spouse. It is recommended to name one individual versus a couple to avoid divorce situations, as well as disputes over custody and decision making. Clients should also have a will or a trust that spells out how their assets get distributed in the event of death. If the clients opt not to set up a revocable trust now, with minor children, parents should at least consider creating a testamentary trust in the will for the benefit of the child. This can add some additional protections and flexibility

for any assets left to the child, and it allows a specifically named trustee to manage those assets.

2. POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR CHILDCARE.

This document allows parents to list trusted individuals who may act on their behalf in caring for their child if an emergency strikes. The powers listed should include authorizations for medical care, education or extracurricular activities, and temporary custody. This allows a babysitter or relative to act on a parent's behalf without administrative impediments. For example, the child needs to go to the doctor when his or her parents are traveling or have been disabled in an accident. The power of attorney for childcare gives an agent legal authority to take the child to the doctor and make necessary decisions on the parent's behalf. This can help avoid delay in obtaining proper care.

3. APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM GUARDIAN.

This document allows the guardian named in your client's will to serve

as guardian of the child until the probate court can officially appoint a final guardian. This document comes into play after the parents have passed away, versus the power of attorney (which is only valid when the parents are still alive).

Finally, in addition to the legal documents, a little guidance for named guardians and agents can go a long way. It is strongly recommend to leave letters of instructions for guardians regarding the care of your children. These can be simple or quite thorough. These documents should specify educational, religious, and family preferences. Educating the guardians on what their role and duties would be before anything happens can provide peace of mind to both the parents and guardians. It is important for an estate-planning attorney to have these resources and guide clients and their helpers in the right direction.

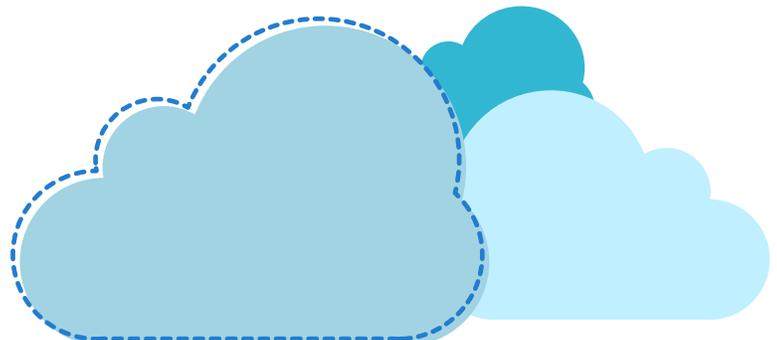
Jesci Norrington is a 2013 graduate of George Mason University School of Law. She is now an associate at InSight Law, an estate planning firm based in Ashburn, VA. She may be contacted at jkd@insightlaw.net.

➤ *The Cyber Attorney, The Cloud and You*, continued from previous page

your firm's performance. By being conscious of how the technology works, most firms can reap the clouds benefits. Hopefully, as the technology see more use, the Virginia State Bar will provide some additional guidance with specific security recommendations. Until then, always take the opportunity to learn about the technology you use, its limitations, and its security concerns.

Scott A. Nerlino is a 2013 graduate of George Mason University School of Law and is currently an attorney and data scientist at Aptima, Inc. working on DARPA's Plan-X, a foundational cyberwarfare program to develop platforms for the Department of Defense to plan for, conduct, and assess cyberwarfare in a manner similar to kinetic warfare. He can be reached at Scott.Nerlino@writofvalor.com.

Matt Webster is a freelance engineer and software developer based in the Washington, DC area experienced in python- and ASIC-based design methodologies. Matt currently assists DARPA's Plan-X program through data science work and John Hopkins Sibley Hospital as their engineer-in-residence.



Welcome to the Bar!

Nathan J. Olson

Now that you passed the bar and have been sworn in as an attorney of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I want to welcome you to the Virginia State Bar ("VSB"), and more specifically, the Young Lawyers Conference ("YLC"). You are automatically a member of the YLC for your first three years of practice, or until you reach the age of 36. There is no fee, no application, and no selection process. As the President of the YLC, I write a message to our members four times a year. I want to use this President's Message to congratulate you and encourage you to make the most out of your newly attained status.

The practice of law will present you with several challenges, but will also open many opportunities. Being an attorney is about more than just winning your case, collecting your fee, drafting the perfect contract, and impressing your partners. Your role as an officer of the court carries with it additional responsibilities and expectations. After all, you are in a profession, not just a business. Rule 6.1(a) of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct states that "[a] lawyer should render at least two percent per year of the lawyer's professional time to pro bono publico legal services. Pro bono publico services include poverty law, civil rights law, public interest law, and volunteer activities designed to increase the availability of pro bono legal services."

The YLC is made up of young attorneys willing to participate in volunteer activities in the spirit of Rule 6.1. We offer numerous volunteer opportunities in a wide variety of practice areas. These opportunities range from short-term commitments to long-term leadership positions. We have projects aimed at helping victims of domestic violence and human trafficking, providing emergency legal services for people affected by natural disasters, assisting first responders with estate planning documents, and many others.

While you may not be in a position to do much pro bono work in your first few years in practice, there are other ways to give back to the profession and the community. You can volunteer to judge trial advocacy and moot court competitions, join an access to justice legal group, or participate in a bar organization. There are statewide organizations, local bar organizations, and those in specific practice areas.

I have been a part of the YLC my entire nine-year legal career. I have organized mock trials for local high schools, organized CLEs for young lawyers, and participated in various pro bono activities. I have also met lawyers throughout our diverse Commonwealth. Along the way, I have been privileged to take on several leadership positions that have allowed me to work with senior members of both the judiciary and the bar and mentor other

young lawyers. In fact, I attribute much of my career development to my participation in the YLC.

After you read this article, I would like you to think not whether you will give back to your profession, but how you would like to do so. You have reached this point because you are intelligent, hard-working, and willing to serve your community as an officer of the court. You should use these attributes to give back to those less fortunate and less able to access legal services.

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities with the YLC, I encourage you to look at all of the programs we offer. You can find out more by visiting our website (<http://www.vsb.org/site/conferences/ylc/about-the-ylc>) and browsing our Programs page. When you find some that interest you, visit the "Getting Involved" page on our website (<http://www.vsb.org/site/conferences/ylc/getting-involved>) and complete our YLC Interest Form.

Even if you are not ready to volunteer now, I ask that you continue to read the Docket Call during the year and follow us on our social media platforms including Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+, Twitter, Pinterest, and YouTube. I hope that in doing so you will find an opportunity worth exploring.

Get social:



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Involvement Guide 2015-2016

The YLC coordinates a variety of programs in service to both the Bar and the public. If you are interested in assisting with any program or commission, please contact any YLC Board Member, Program Chair or Co-Chair, or your Circuit Representative.

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 YLC at which time 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 comprised principally of young lawyers practicing in the metropolitan Richmond area.

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Sponsors Coordinator:
Annie Wen Cai
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ANNUAL MEETING/PROGRAMS

This committee plans a CLE or other special interest program to take place during the Bar's Annual Meeting held each June in Virginia Beach. During gubernatorial election years, this committee typically schedules a debate.

Contact: Colleen Haddow
chaddow@coltenlaw.com

ANNUAL MEETING/ATHLETICS

This committee is responsible for organizing the "Run in the Sun" 5 kilometer foot race and the David T. Stitt Memorial volleyball tournament, both sponsored by the YLC during the Bar's Annual Meeting in June in Virginia Beach.

Craig E. Ellis
CEllis@cityofchesapeake.net

BENCH BAR CELEBRATION DINNER COMMITTEE

Each year the YLC 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.

Contacts: Melissa York
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Nerissa Rouzer
nrouzer@oag.state.va.us

BOARD MATCH

Board Match is a program that the YLC is developing to provide an opportunity for local non-profit organizations to solicit new board members and board participation from area lawyers.

Contact: VACANT

DOCKET CALL NEWSLETTER

The editor and editorial board of the Docket Call are responsible for publishing four issues of the YLC's newsletter each year.

Contact: Patrick Austin
paustin@hsinjurylaw.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 traditionally held the day after the Fall Admission and Orientation Ceremony.

Contact: Everett L. Bensten
docketcall@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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

Contacts: Melissa Alfano (Washington, DC)
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SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

COMMUNITY LAW WEEK

This committee develops programs and sponsoring activities during the first week in May devoted to enhancing the public's awareness and appreciation of the role of law in American life. Included among the activities are presentations in the media, programs in the public schools, and public forums.

Contact: Barbara Marmet
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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAFETY PROJECT

Responsible for developing programs to raise awareness about legal issues related to domestic violence, the DVSP has distributed a Safety Brochure and a Legal Pamphlet in both English and Spanish to domestic violence victims statewide and trains attorneys to provide pro bono representation to domestic violence victims.

Contact: Stephanie M. Kelly
Stephanie.Kelly@fairfaxcounty.gov

EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICES

This committee, in conjunction with VBA-YLD, 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 in the event of natural disasters and other declared emergencies.

Contacts: Sarah E. Cox
Sarah.cox@dpovirginia.gov

Emily W. Mathews
Emathews@lawmh.com

IMMIGRANT OUTREACH

This committee designs projects, including the Immigrant Outreach-Education Regarding Deportation Ramifications of Criminal Convictions program, to raise awareness about the legal issues facing Virginia's immigrant population.

Contacts: Giovanni DiMaggio
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Alexandra "Sasha" Prokopets
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LEGAL HANDBOOK FOR CANCER SURVIVORS

Recognizing the need for a resource addressing the legal issues faced by cancer survivors in the Commonwealth, the YLC developed a handbook covering topics such as insurance, employment, advance medical directives, and wills. The handbook is printed and distributed to medical facilities and cancer advocacy organizations throughout the Commonwealth and available online as a PDF.

Contact: Kristi Cahoon Kelly
kkelly@kellyandcrandall.com

MENTAL HEALTH LAW COMMITTEE

This committee puts on a free, semi-annual CLE in different locations around Virginia. The CLE explains notable developments in Virginia mental health law as they apply to aspects of all practice areas. Mental health laws touch a broad range of practice areas, including employment, family law, trusts and estates, civil rights and criminal law. The course is presented in an engaging format consisting of panelist discussion, audience participation and hypothetical problems.

Contact: VACANT

MINORITY PRE-LAW CONFERENCE

This committee plans a seminar that strives to expose 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. The event is held in Northern Virginia, Southern Virginia, and Tidewater.

Contacts:

Northern Virginia
 Nichelle Charles
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Aaron Gleaton
avgleaton@gmail.com

Hampton Roads
 Shemeka Hankins
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NO BILLS NIGHT

The Conference, through this committee, conducts No Bills Nights to provide a forum for the public throughout Virginia to raise legal issues and to seek information regarding their legal rights, without cost. This year, the Conference hopes to put on programs in Abingdon, Charlottesville, Danville/Martinsville, Lynchburg, Fredericksburg, Northern Virginia, Staunton/Lexington, Richmond, Roanoke, Tidewater and Winchester/Harrisonburg.

Statewide Contact:
 James B. Olmsted
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Regional Contacts:
Abingdon
 Holly N. Mancl
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Charlottesville
 VACANT

Danville/Martinsville
 Rachael Sanford
Sanfordr@clementwheatley.com

Fredericksburg
 VACANT

Lexington/Staunton
 VACANT

Lynchburg
 VACANT

Northern Virginia
 Kabara Korth Praskavich
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Richmond
 VACANT

Roanoke
 D. Adam McKelvey
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Tidewater
 Shemeka Hankins
Shemeka.hankins@norfolk.gov

Winchester
 VACANT

OLIVER HILL/SAMUEL TUCKER PRE-LAW INSTITUTE

The Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference in conjunction with the Millennium Diversity Initiative and the University of Richmond T.C. Williams School of Law has designed a program, the Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute, to facilitate diversity in the legal profession. The program enables at-risk, minority students to attend a weeklong comprehensive seminar that encourages them to become members of the legal profession.

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Tamar L. Jones
tjones7183@gmail.com

RULE OF LAW DAY AT THE CAPITOL

The purpose of this program is to educate 400 at-risk middle school and high school students about rule of law principles and the operations of their state government. Students take a field trip to the Virginia Capitol where they learn about the legislative, executive and judicial branches from various government officials in these branches. Prior speakers at this program include the Governor of Virginia, the Virginia Attorney General, Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and Senators as well as Delegates from the General Assembly of Virginia. After students listen to these speakers at the General Assembly Building and the Supreme Court of Virginia, students are divided into groups to discuss different factual scenarios with attorneys, judges, and law enforcement officers assigned to their specific group.

Contacts: Justin Sheldon
Justin.sheldon@leclairryan.com

Gabriel A. Walker
Gabriel.walker@leclairryan.com

WILLS FOR HEROES

In response to the events of September 11, 2001, the Young Lawyers Division of the South Carolina Bar Association created a program called Wills for Heroes to allow the legal community to show its appreciation for the efforts and sacrifices made by firefighters, police, sheriffs and emergency medical technicians. This committee, in conjunction with VBA-YLD, has developed and implemented a program in the Commonwealth

to provide simple wills, advanced medical directives, and powers of attorney to First Responders on a pro bono basis.

Contact: Jonas Callis
Jcallis@faplawfirm.com

YLC Commissions

CHILDREN AND THE LAW COMMISSION

R.F. Michael Snodgrass
rfmsnodgrass@gmail.com

Crystal Shin
crystalshin@gmail.com

PRO BONO COMMISSION

K. Alyse Latour
alatour@mofo.com

WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION COMMISSION

Krystle Cobran
Krystlec24@gmail.com

Circuit Representatives

In 1983, the YLC established a statewide network of Circuit Representatives appointed from each of the state's 31 judicial circuits. This network is designed to meet three objectives: 1- to provide a liaison between practicing young lawyers on the local level and the Young Lawyers Conference Board of Governors; 2- to promote statewide communication and participation among young lawyers in the projects and activities of the YLC; and 3- to increase the quantity and quality of public service legal programming throughout the Commonwealth. The primary responsibility of each Circuit Representative is to organize and carry out an annual project for young lawyers in his or her judicial circuit. These projects have ranged from CLE programs to community service programs to YLC membership projects. If you are interested in becoming a Circuit Representative or assisting with any of the projects of the YLC, please contact any YLC Board Member or your Circuit Representative.

FIRST CIRCUIT

VACANT

SECOND CIRCUIT

City: Virginia Beach
Counties: Accomack & Northhampton
Jamie Allgood
jla@shupertlaw.com

THIRD CIRCUIT

City: Portsmouth
Rebecca Robinson
rrobinson@por.idc.virginia.gov

FOURTH CIRCUIT

City: Norfolk
Carteia V. Basnight
Carteia.basnight@gmail.com

FIFTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Franklin & Suffolk
Counties: Isle of Wight & Southampton
VACANT

SIXTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Emporia & Hopewell
Counties: Prince George, Surry, Sussex, Greenville, & Brunswick
Kevin O'Donnell
kevin.odonnell@richmond.edu

SEVENTH CIRCUIT

City: Newport News
J. Anderson Mullins
amullins@waynemoorelaw.com

EIGHTH CIRCUIT

City: Hampton
Angelaine Harmonie Mason
harmoniemasonesq@gmail.com

NINTH CIRCUIT

City: Williamsburg
Counties: York, James City, Charles City, New Kent, Gloucester, Matthews, Middlesex, King William, King & Queen
Naomh M. Hudson
naomh.hudson@leclairryan.com

TENTH CIRCUIT

Counties: Appomattox, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, & Prince Edward
Emily J. Lenschow
Lenschowlaw@gmail.com

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

City: Petersburg
Counties: Amelia, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Powhatan
VACANT

TWELFTH CIRCUIT

City: Colonial Heights
County: Chesterfield
Andrew S. Chen
achen@counselorchen.com

THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Richmond
Stacy E. Lee
Richmond
slee@hclawfirm.com

FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT

County: Henrico
Annie Laura Stephens Malo
als@kanejefries.com

FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Fredericksburg
Counties: King George, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Caroline, Hanover, Westmoreland, Richmond, Essex, Lancaster, & Northumberland
Christopher S. Colby
ccolby@vanblk.com

SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Charlottesville
Counties: Madison, Greene, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, Orange, & Culpeper
Jason P. Seiden
Jseiden@michiehamlett.com

SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Falls Church
County: Arlington
Allison Marie
amarie@shoun.com

EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Alexandria
Melissa A. Little
Melissa-little@comcast.net

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT

City: Fairfax
County: Fairfax
Sarah Payne
SPayne@maddoxandgerock.com

Mary M. Nerino
mnerino.hensonpachuta@gmail.com

Kristina Wolf
kwolf@uscourts.cavc.gov

TWENTIETH CIRCUIT

Counties: Loudon, Fauquier, & Rappahannock
Eric J. Demetriades
eric@hdattorneysatlaw.com

TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

City: Martinsville
Counties: Patrick & Henry

Courtney L. Armstrong
carmstrong@wardarmstrong.com

TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT

City: Danville
Counties: Pittsylvania & Franklin
Michael A. Nicholas
Mnicholas@dmklawfirm.com

TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT

Cities: Roanoke & Salem
Counties: Roanoke
Abigail Murchison
murchison@gentrylocke.com

TWENTY-FOURTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Lynchburg & Bedford
 Counties: Nelson, Amherst, Campbell, & Bedford
 Michael R. Sloan
Michael@overstreetsloan.com

TWENTY-FIFTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Covington, Lexington, Staunton, Buena Vista, Clifton Forge, Waynesboro
 Counties: Highland, Augusta, Rockbridge, Bath, Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig
 Kent A. Gibson
Kent@spencerandtaylor.com

TWENTY-SIXTH CIRCUIT

Cities: Harrisonburg & Winchester
 Counties: Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Page, Rockingham, Warren
 Kristopher R. McClellan
kmcclellan@lsplc.com

TWENTY-SEVENTH CIRCUIT

City: Galax & Radford
 Counties: Pulaski, Wythe, Carroll, Grayson, Montgomery, Floyd, Giles, Bland
 Meghan Lackey
mklackey@wytheco.org

TWENTY-EIGHTH CIRCUIT

City: Bristol
 Counties: Smyth & Washington
 Matthew Moynihan
mmoynihan@pennstuart.com

TWENTY-NINTH CIRCUIT

Counties: Giles, Bland, Tazewell, Buchanan, Russell, Dickenson
 Kaitlin Justus
Kaitlin@davideplinglaw.com

THIRTIETH CIRCUIT

City: Norton
 Counties: Wise, Scott, Lee
 Rachel Wolfe
mrwolfe@gmail.com

THIRTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

Cities: Manassas & Manassas Park
 County: Prince William
 Krista Yancey
kny@comptonduling.com

YLC BOARD LIAISONS FOR CIRCUIT REPS

Circuit Rep Liaisons:
Circuits 1-10
 Regenea A. Hurte
rahurte@gmail.com

Circuits 11-15, 22-27
 Brian T. Wesley
bwesley@reynoldswesley.com

Circuits 16-21, 28-31
 Nathan J. Olson
nolson@cgglawyers.com

If you are interested in becoming a Circuit Representative or assisting with any of the projects of the YLC, please contact any YLC Board Member or your Circuit Representative.

A full listing of volunteer opportunities and a volunteer form can be found at <http://www.vsb.org/site/conferences/ylc/getting-involved>

