

Young Lawyers

BY MATTHEW P. DIGESTI, ESQ.



THANK YOU YOUNG LAWYERS

As the sun sets on my service to the Young Lawyers Executive Committee, I've taken the time to reflect on what we have accomplished and, more importantly, those who have contributed. The stresses of being an associate, opening a firm, or engaging in public service are enough for most attorneys. But I have had the pleasure of serving with talented attorneys who want to do even more. For those who know me well, I wear hats all the time. And to everyone who helped the committee serve its membership this term, my hat is off to you.

Certain young lawyers have committed so much time, they deserve individualized recognition. What follows is my small gesture of thanks to all of you.

Layke Martin: Layke is every section chair's dream. She gets things done, with both style and grace, before she is even asked. Her contributions are too many to list here, but suffice it to say, the committee will benefit from her excellent leadership when she takes over as YLS chair in July.

Jeffrey Conner: Jeff is our long-term superstar. Coincidentally, he runs marathons and might be the healthiest young lawyer in the state. On top of all that, Jeff is a profitable member of the committee because he has mastered the skill of grant writing. We are hugely thankful, because Jeff is able to obtain things that the committee otherwise couldn't afford.

Scott Lachman: Scott is the committee's resident rockstar. He works closely with FEMA to provide legal assistance when emergencies are declared. In fact, Scott's assistance was so successful last year, during an emergency in southern Nevada, that the Young Lawyers Section membership received kudos from the local press. Scott is what executives label a "critical asset."

Jordan Davis: Jordan is the committee's celebrity. If you are ever at a networking event and you don't know anyone, start a conversation by asking someone if they know Jordan Davis. Odds are they do and presto — you have a conversation topic. As a power networker, Jordan is the face of the committee at many events, organizing everything from Young Lawyer Section CLEs to legal workshops for our veterans. The man simply gets things done.

Michael Lee: Mike is one of those special young lawyers who can juggle a solo practice as well as service to

the membership. The demands of running one's own firm are almost all-consuming. Yet Mike finds the time to serve the membership through effectively managing the CLE initiatives.

Eric Pepperman: Eric may have been the busiest litigator on the committee this year. Eric has also been blessed with a beautiful, expanding family. Despite these commitments, he led the committee's pro bono efforts with Project Salute and Serving Seniors. That he manages to litigate, be a present father and serve on the committee is really something to be applauded.

Amber Duvall: Amber is one of two new committee members this term. She jumped right into management of the YLS Newsletter, which has been well-received by the membership and the bar as a whole. It is a large task and Amber accomplishes her editorial duties as if "editor" was her actual job title.

Kyle Waite: Kyle is our second new committee member. He represents the southern rural district and has proven to be an important and effective member of the committee. His desire to become involved so early in his career is an indicator that he will be an excellent member for years to come.

Dylan Ciciliano: Dylan has the least enviable position of all. He serves as the committee's budget director.

Given the committee's budget, he is forced to say "no" often. But every great committee needs a diplomatic individual guarding the keys to the kingdom, and Dylan has mastered this requirement.

Maggie Lambrose: Intentionally saved for last, is the heart and soul of the Young Lawyer's Trial Academy. The Trial Academy is becoming, in my opinion, the gold standard for academies that take place during state bar annual conventions. It is forward-thinking, drives young lawyer attendance and molds our young lawyers into effective trial advocates. This program is organized and produced by the humble and talented Ms. Lambrose. Without her, the committee's signature event would not have become what it is today.

There are many other young lawyers who volunteer their time as committee chairs for committee initiatives. Since I am quickly approaching my word limit for this column, I can only extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has volunteered to make our section one of the most active and effective sections in the bar. My hat is off, for a second time now, to all of you.

It has been an absolute pleasure serving the young lawyer membership these past five years. I have made friendships that will last through my career and beyond. I highly recommend that all young lawyers consider serving on the committee. Committed people. Important initiatives. Lifelong friendships. Thank you all.

With gratitude,
Matthew **NL**

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