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Young Lawyers

BY KENDELEE WORKS, ESQ., YOUNG LAWYERS CHAIR

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE YLS

The YLS has been busy planning for the next year and I want to thank the young lawyers who have committed to volunteer their time to ensure that our YLS programs are a success. I also want to let everyone know what we have in store and reiterate there is still time to get involved. In addition to fostering opportunities for professional development among our members, the YLS is dedicated to promoting law-related education throughout our state. Our upcoming events are detailed below along with the respective committee chair(s) for each program.

Goldilocks
(Northern Chair: Melissa Bright; Southern Chairs: Tiffany Davis and Chandeni Gill)
August 2013 - June 2014:
Throughout the academic year, young lawyers volunteer to present “Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Trial of the Century” to elementary school students across the state. Students act as jurors and decide Goldilocks’ fate while learning the basics of the criminal justice system.

Lawsuits Clothing Drive
(Northern Chair: Justin Bustos; Southern Chair: Karl O. Riley)
October 2014:
In conjunction with the ABA’s Make a Difference Day, law firms, courthouses and public agencies in Washoe and Clark County assist the YLS with collecting new and gently used business attire for distribution to nonprofit organizations dedicated to assisting men and women re-enter the workforce.

Project Salute
(Northern Chair: Evan Brewer; Southern Chair: Kevin Kam)
Veteran’s Day 2013:
Our next Project Salute event for 2013 will take place around November 11. This nationwide program is dedicated to educating veterans on available benefits and assisting veterans and their spouses with the completion of forms required to obtain those benefits.

Holiday Drive(s):
(Northern Chair: Melinda Wishart; Southern Chair: Elias George)
November - December 2013:
Each holiday season the southern Nevada legal community facilitates the collection of toys and gift cards, which are contributed on behalf of the YLS to the 98.5 KLUC Toy Drive, with all donations going to HELP of Southern Nevada, an organization that ensures that thousands of Nevada families have a brighter holiday.
In northern Nevada, we are in a transition phase and hoping to partner with a nonprofit organization that would benefit from the assistance of the YLS. Recommendations may be directed to kworks@egletwall.com.

Roger D. Foley Poster and Essay Contest/Law Day
(Northern Chair: Marilee Breternitz; Southern Co-Chairs: Emelia Allen and Shane Jasmine Young)
April - May 2014:
As part of the ABA’s Annual Law Day (May 1, 2014), the YLS works in cooperation with the Nevada Supreme Court, school districts, Clark and Washoe County Bar Associations, and District, Justice and Municipal Courts throughout the State of Nevada to further the mission of law-related education. In conjunction with Law Day, the YLS sponsors our annual Roger Foley Poster and Essay Contest in which elementary, middle and high school students are invited to submit posters and essays based upon the ABA’s Law Day theme. The 2014 theme is “American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters.”

Serving Seniors:
(Southern Chair: Kristin Tyler)
Spring 2014:
Started as one of the ABA-Young Lawyers Division’s public service projects, young lawyers throughout Nevada and the rest of the nation continue to volunteer their time to educate seniors about estate planning options.

CLE:
(Southern Chair: Pete Georgis)
2013 -2014:
The YLS partners with various other sections and associations to sponsor CLE opportunities on topics that are of particular interest to lawyers in their early years of practice. In the coming months, look out for CLE focused on satisfying the new requirements of ADKT 478, which mandates that each Nevada attorney, at least once every three years, take one CLE hour on substance abuse, addictive disorders and/or mental health issues. The YLS is also planning CLE courses on business development and already gearing up for next year’s Trial Academy slated for the 2014 Annual Meeting in Newport, California.

Trial Academy:
(Co-Chairs: Maggie Lambrose and Karl O. Riley)
July 10-12, 2014: Annual Meeting of the State Bar of Nevada – Newport, California.
The YLS is excited to present its 5th Annual Trial Academy. Each year at the Annual Meeting, the YLS brings together the finest trial attorneys and members of the judiciary to educate Nevada lawyers on the fundamentals of trial practice in an intense, interactive, three-day trial academy program. Participants will present opening statements, conduct direct and cross-examinations, practice the art of voir dire questioning and make closing arguments while in small group sessions where judges, justices and experienced practitioners provide constructive feedback in a personalized setting. A special thanks to our 2013 chair Maggie Lambrose and our elite 2013 faculty for volunteering to share their time and wisdom: Justice Nancy M. Saitta, Justice James W. Hardesty, Hon. Elizabeth Gonzalez, Hon. Elissa Cadish, Hon. Abbi Silver, Hon. Linda Marie Bell, Hon. Mark R. Denton, Hon. Rob Bare, Hon. David T. Wall (ret.), Hon. Patrick Flanagan, Rene Valladares, Federal Public Defender, Scott Coffee, Chief Deputy Public Defender (Clark County), Alzora Jackson, Chief Deputy Special Public Defender (Clark County), Kathleen England, Rob Dotson, Stan Huntsenter, Mark Gunderson and Paola Armeni, Dominic Gentile and renowned evidence scholar Thomas A. Mauet.

Newsletter:
(Northern Chair: Austin Sweet; Southern Chair: Erin R. Barnett)
Quarterly:
The YLS Newsletter provides members with a view from the bench, a view from the corner office and updates regarding YLS events and the accomplishments of our members.

Grants
(Chair: Shane Jasmine Young)
Spring 2014:
Each spring, our grants committee applies for funding available from various bar associations including the SBN and ABA. Grant applications are based upon our individual events and community service projects.

Socials
(Northern Chair: Jess Rinehart; Southern Chair: Sarah Killer)
Throughout the year, our Social Chairs organize social and networking events in both Northern and Southern Nevada.
The YLS Executive Council also hosts a Facebook page and e-mail list-serve for members of the YLS. We encourage all of you to “like” our Facebook page and to pose questions and discussion topics to other young lawyers via the list-serve. We hope that both of these tools will become valuable information sources for our members. If you would like to get involved with the YLS, please contact me at kworks@egletwall.com.

KENDELEE WORKS is an Associate at Eglet Wall Christiansen where she litigates catastrophic injury cases arising from product defect or negligence.