

# YOUNG LAWYERS



BY KARL RILEY, ESQ.

## Young Lawyers Section Has Lots Planned for 2020

More than five years ago, I began my service to the State Bar of Nevada's Young Lawyers Section (YLS) as chair of the Law Suit Drive Committee. Now, I humbly serve as chair of the YLS for the 2019-20 bar year! Foremost, I want to thank my friend, Immediate Past Chair Scott Lachman, for his leadership and commitment to the organization. I also want to thank the YLS leadership for electing me to this position.

The YLS has a lot planned for this year. The YLS plans to use social media more to keep you informed of things with the State Bar of Nevada and the YLS. Facebook and Twitter will continue to be a staple, but the YLS will integrate Instagram to reach a broader audience. The YLS intends to give its members more opportunities to publish articles in *Nevada Lawyer*. The YLS plans to maintain some prior programs, revive some archived programs and introduce new initiatives, including more opportunities to engage with each other outside of happy hours. I believe a more connected membership is a stronger membership, and as young lawyers, we should be prepared to be the leaders of tomorrow.

### **This year, the YLS will focus on certain initiatives:**

- Pro bono and service;
- Fit2Practice; and
- the diversity pipeline.

Regarding pro bono and service, as attorneys, we must serve the less fortunate, and I request that, employer permitting, each young lawyer support the State Bar of Nevada's One Promise Nevada program. The YLS will continue various service projects such as Serving Seniors (providing legal resources to low-income seniors) and Home Safe Home (providing legal resources to domestic violence victims).

The YLS plans to implement a newer initiative, Fit2Practice, started by the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division. The YLS plans to partner with various gyms for potential discounts and social activities to increase the overall health (mental, physical, sleep and nutrition) of our members.

Besides increasing the diversity of the YLS's leadership, the YLS will also focus on increasing the diversity pipeline for lawyers. This will entail programming to introduce and educate women, minority and disadvantaged communities about the profession, how to become a lawyer, what lawyers do and how to succeed in the profession.

The YLS will introduce a speaker series, where our members can interact with judges, politicians and other leaders of our community. This will be slated for mid-2020.

Finally, in the spring of 2020, the YLS will host the Western State Regional Summit—a convening of young lawyers from Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico that provides CLEs, a service project and a few excursions. The YLS is excited to host this event.

The above cannot be accomplished without the hard work of the YLS leadership, and I am looking forward

to working with my team, including Chair-elect Peter Handy. Please ensure that you are members of the YLS, as member-sensitive pricing may apply for some events. Thank you for the opportunity to lead the YLS into this next decade, and please let me know if you have any ideas to help connect, improve and serve our membership. **NL**

**KARL RILEY** is chair of the State Bar of Nevada's Young Lawyers Section. He currently serves as a law clerk for the Honorable Johnnie B. Rawlinson on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. At his previous firm, Riley defended Fortune 50 clients in federal and state forums. His practice included defense of general business disputes, various consumer protection statutes and millions of dollars of assets against numerous wrongful foreclosure claims. Riley served as chair of the National Bar Association Young Lawyers Division in 2014-15, and the National Bar Association named him to its 40 Lawyers Under 40 list in 2015. The State Bar of Nevada named Riley as Young Lawyer of the Year in 2017. He is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. In 2018, Karl received the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division "On the Rise" Award and was a 2018 Fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity. This year, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law recognized him with its Emerging Leader Award.