

YOUNG LAWYERS

BY JORDAN A. DAVIS, ESQ., YOUNG LAWYERS CHAIR



PASSING THE TORCH

Mahatma Gandhi wrote, “[m]ay the work of your hands be a sign of gratitude and reverence to the human condition.”

As I reflect upon my time with the Young Lawyers Section (YLS), I am grateful to have been a part of such a wonderful organization for the past seven years. I have had the privilege of serving the YLS as a committee chair, northern Nevada district representative, secretary, vice chair and, most recently, chair.

As chair, I presided over a membership of more than 500 young attorneys. I’ve also had the privilege to serve under the exceptional leadership of past YLS chairs Kendelea Works, Jeremy Reichenberg, Layke Martin, Matt Digesti and Jeff Connor, all of whom were and continue to be exceptional leaders in our legal community. Throughout my tenure with the YLS, I’ve been given the opportunity to meet incredible people, make everlasting friendships, travel across

the country and give back to our community.

The YLS provides young lawyers with opportunities to educate our young people, serve our veterans and assist our seniors. In addition, each year, the YLS hosts the Trial Academy at the State Bar of Nevada Annual Meeting, giving young attorneys the opportunity to sharpen their trial skills. The YLS also participates in a number of other pro bono events and hosts socials designed specifically to allow young attorneys to get to know one another. One program that I am particularly proud of is Project Salute.

In 2012, I was honored to spearhead Project Salute, a pro bono program in coordination with the Reno Veteran’s Center and Washoe Legal Services, designed to aid veterans with legal military issues. Since 2012, Project Salute has served the northern Nevada community, assisting 181 veterans by providing assistance with VA benefits and other legal issues including family law, wills, contract disputes and criminal matters.

In addition, as a delegate for the YLS, I had the honor to travel across the country representing the state of Nevada with the American Bar Association (ABA). At those national conferences, I was able to

meet with other young attorneys from across the country and bring ideas and programming from other chapters back to the Silver State.

As with all things in life, change springs forth new opportunities. The great philosopher Socrates said: “The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” I am confident that under the leadership of our next chair, Scott Lachman, and our dedicated team of executive committee members the organization will continue to flourish.

Scott has already demonstrated his commitment to leadership by spearheading the state’s Disaster Legal Services program, organizing pro bono events in both northern and southern Nevada in the wake of severe flooding. The State Bar of Nevada named Scott Young Lawyer of the Year in 2013, and the ABA recognized him as one of its “On the Rise Top 40 Young Lawyers” in 2017. Scott will continue to set the gold standard of excellence and make our Nevada chapter proud. Finally, I would like to especially thank our esteemed Board of Governors, whose members continue to support the mission of the YLS. **NL**