

# Young Lawyers

BY JEFF CONNOR, ESQ., YOUNG LAWYERS CHAIR



## A FOND FAREWELL FROM A FRIEND

With the summer months upon us again, it is time for me to bid farewell to my term as chair of the Young Lawyers Section (YLS). Part of me is relieved to be putting the term behind me but more so, I'm a little melancholy at the realization that my time with the section is ending, as I "age-out" of eligibility for YLS membership. Before I ride off into the proverbial sunset, I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the State Bar of Nevada Board of Governors and the YLS Executive Council (past and present) who had the confidence in me to put me in this position.

I've learned so much about the YLS from former executive council members that it would be impossible to make a list, and I am constantly inspired by the newer council members who continue to make sure that the YLS is one of the most active of the state bar's sections.

During the past year, the YLS has done many great things that I am very proud to have been a small part of. From our annual pro-bono events—including Serving Seniors and Project Salute—to unexpected services—like pitching in to help northern Nevadans deal with the

tragic implications of a record-breaking winter that left many residents with significant property damage—the YLS has helped a great number of people in need. Through our law-related education programs, such as Goldilocks, many youngsters in our communities have begun to learn how our legal system works. The importance of these contributions should never be underestimated, as this work builds public confidence in the legal profession and the judicial system. And none of it could come together without the dedicated volunteer efforts of the YLS Executive Council and the section's various committee chairs.

There are a few specific individuals I would like to acknowledge for helping me to make this a successful year for the YLS. To past chairs Jeremy Reichenberg, Kendelea Works, Matthew Digesti and Layke Martin: thank you for teaching me the section's inner workings and showing me what it takes to balance all of our personal and professional obligations while still effectively serving the YLS. To past executive council member Mike Lee: thank you for teaching me the importance of the YLS's role as an affiliate of the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division (YLD), and how to use our relationship with the YLD to help advance the section's goals and interests.

To the unsung heroes of my time with the YLS: our budget officer, Dylan Ciciliano, and our ABA Young Lawyer Delegate and former ABA YLD district representative, Jess Rinehart. Dylan, thank you for always making yourself available to answer my budget questions

at a moment's notice and for jumping in on a few phone calls over the years to make sure we had a quorum for important votes. Jess, thank you for being the boss of all things ABA YLD and for keeping me in the loop when it came to YLD developments impacting the YLS; your insight and service was invaluable.

To my fellow outgoing executive council member Eric Pepperman: thank you for buying into everything the YLS is about and for being a constant source of support for the YLS and me personally. Going back to our days on the Hill at the University of Nevada, I have always known that I could trust you to step up to the plate when something needed to be done. And, as our obligations to other aspects of life have grown over time, my trust in you has never wavered; it has truly been an honor to serve with you on the YLS.

To remaining council members Amber Duval, Peter Handy, Karl Riley, Angela Cook and Kyle Waite, I can't thank each of you enough for your dedication to the YLS. This year, each one of you, in your own way, has answered the call to help the YLS, serve the bar and give back to the community. Much work remains, and I am excited to see what the future holds for each of you and for the Young Lawyers Section. Keep fighting the good fight!

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to incoming chair Jordan Davis and chair-elect Scott Lachman. Even as an appellate lawyer, it's hard for me to put into words my gratitude for you two gentlemen as both colleagues and friends. While I noted that I'm saddened that my time with the YLS is drawing to a close, I am nothing but optimistic about the YLS' next two years, because I know that I'm leaving it in your capable hands. Gentlemen, good luck! **NL**