

The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division

AOC 2016



DISCOVERING THE FUTURE
CELEBRATING THE PAST

GRANT APPLICATIONS



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I. Short Project Title

**APABA of South Florida Presents:
“Get Out to Vote” (the “Event”)**

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III. Describe Your Affiliate

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida (APABA) is a non-profit, voluntary bar organization of Asian Pacific American attorneys in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. The organization is dedicated to ensuring that the Asian Pacific American community is effectively represented in South Florida.

As an affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), APABA’s goals and objectives coincide with those of NAPABA, including working towards civil rights reform, combating anti-immigrant agendas and hate crimes, increasing diversity in federal, state, and local government, and promoting professional development. The overriding mission of APABA is to combat discrimination against all minorities and to promote diversity in the legal profession.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request

The Asian Pacific American (“APA”) community comprises the second fastest growing population in the United States, and reports suggest that their growing electoral clout could play an important part in upcoming elections. Unfortunately, scholars have suggested that political party neglect or widespread campaign ignorance may explain why such a large share of the APA population has no party identification and relatively low levels of electoral and civic participation. The purpose of the Event is to increase the APA community's interaction with the political and judicial system and to help political

and judicial candidates gain a greater understanding and appreciation for APA concerns. This will be a non-partisan event. APABA will create flyers, letters, and brochures about voter registration, the importance of voting, and about this year's candidates and state amendments, translated in several different languages, including English, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean ("Campaign"). We will then distribute the publications to the local APA community and publish them in local newspapers. In addition, we will host an event at a local venue and invite local, State and Federal political and judicial candidates in the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties to meet area APAs ("Event"). Likewise, APABA will invite a large share of the APA community to the Event. The publications and Event will educate area APAs on the voting process and candidates, and encourage area APAs to participate in the electoral and civic process and increase awareness amongst the candidates of the importance of the APA vote.

We have scheduled this Event for July 2016. APABA hopes to expand this Event and is expecting large numbers of the APA community to participate.

V. Project Objectives/Description

Recognizing the current and continuous need in the APA community to increase awareness of the political process and encourage the APA community to "Get Out to Vote," APABA hopes to establish the Event as an annual event so as to establish an ongoing and well-established event that will increase APA participation in the electoral process. At the same time, the political and judicial community is served by learning about the unique concerns of the APA community. By increasing proportional representation within the state, the community at large is benefited. Currently, we are not aware of any other projects in the area that provide this service to the APA community.

APABA's goal for the Campaign is to create nonpartisan flyers and brochures that educate area APAs to register to vote and to "get out to vote" in the 2016 general and local South Florida election. APA community members will be provided with informational brochures that have been translated into multiple APA languages. The informational brochures will provide detailed information about how to register to vote, where to vote, the importance of voting, and when and what elections are being held in the Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties, etc. The flyers and brochures will also include information about this year's candidates and state amendments.

APABA's goal for the Event is to host at least 100 members of the APA community and at least 30 members of the political and judicial community from South Florida, which will require a significant amount of funds.

The Event will begin with an initial “Meet and Greet” between the APA community and the political and judicial community. At the Event, a Question Box will be available, which will allow any attendee to anonymously submit questions or comments to candidates. Following the “Meet and Greet,” there will be a presentation by a member of the APA community focusing on the potential voting power of the APA community and the importance of APA participation and education of the electoral process in Florida. Distinguished members of the judicial and political community will be pre-selected to participate in a panel, in which questions/comments will be presented to the panel. Following the panel, the “Meet and Greet” portion of the Event shall commence until the close of the evening. Members of the judicial and political community will be provided with complimentary gift bags.

The Event can be easily duplicated by other young lawyer affiliates who want to increase electoral and civic participation among all communities, particularly those communities that are underrepresented, including, importantly, the *young voter community*.

VI. Project Evaluation

APABA’s ultimate goal is to increase voter participation in the APA community and to increase awareness in general of APA concerns in the political and judicial community. APABA will consider the Event a success if we receive a turnout of at least one hundred members of the APA and political and judicial community in support of the Event. APABA will consider each annual event a success if we continue to increase our turnout numbers each subsequent year. With the support of this grant, we hope to be able to establish the Event as an annual event, which will gain recognition over time and promote voter diversity in the state of Florida.

VII. Project Organization

The Event will be headed by the President of APABA with the assistance of its officers and directors (many of whom are young APA lawyers) and help from volunteers, as needed. These tasks include securing venues and panel members, planning a food menu and refreshments, compiling the materials, translating the materials, promoting and advertising the Event, creating an evaluation, and hosting and coordinating the Event. These tasks will be delegated to APABA’s officers and directors.

VIII. Budget

- Campaign Materials (Informational Flyers and Brochures about voter registration, importance of voting, and information about this year's candidates and state amendments) - \$500
- Translation services (translate Flyers and Brochures into multiple APA languages) - \$600 (approximately \$100 to translate a flyer and brochure into each language).
- Gift bags for the candidates - \$300
- Marketing/Advertising Materials for the Event (Name Tags, Flyers and Brochures) - \$400 (\$100/month for 4 months)
- Food and Refreshments - \$500
- Event space - \$1000
- Microphone, podium, and audio devices - \$250

Funds for food/refreshments and event space will be paid for directly out of APABA's own budget and corporate sponsorship.

IX. Timetable

APABA has scheduled this Event for July 2016.

- February through March 2016: Secure a venue, prepare a food and refreshments menu, and begin securing the attendance of political and judicial candidates. Prepare flyers and brochures about voter registration, importance of voting, and information about this year's candidates and state amendments, translated into multiple APA languages
- April 2016: Prepare marketing materials and continue to seek out the attendance of political and judicial candidates. Select a speaker from the APA community.
- April through July 2016: Promote and advertise the Event to the APA community.
- August 2016: Hold the Event and evaluate the success of the same.



**Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division
Affiliate Outreach Program
GRANT APPLICATION 2016**

Submitted By: Young Lawyers Section of the Broward County Bar Association

I. Project Title:



Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy



II. Contact Information:

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III. Describe Your Affiliate:

The Broward County Bar Association currently consists of over 2,300 active members, of which, more than 800 are active members of the Young Lawyers Section.

This Affiliate is a division of the Broward County Bar Association, the largest voluntary Bar Association in Broward County. The Board of Directors for the Young Lawyers Section of the Broward County Bar Association ("YLS") regularly attends the Affiliate Outreach Conference. Prior to missing the January 2012 Conference, the YLS regularly attended for ten (10) consecutive years.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

The project objectives of motivating children to read, providing free books and literacy resources to children and their families, and promoting community support for literacy will be met through the following:

1. A Comprehensive **Guest Reader Initiative** Supporting the Broward County Public Schools Reading is Fundamental Campaign

This grant will be utilized in the connection, and continued expansion of the Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy with early childhood programs in local elementary schools. Last year, the program reached a total of six elementary, and early childhood education centers (Sunland Park Academy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Northfork, Riverland, Stephen Foster, and the Village Multipurpose Family Literacy Program), throughout the month of May 2015.

Based on the tremendous response, and the overwhelming support of the YLS members, we hope to expand the program to reach eight schools in 2016. Volunteers from the YLS ("Guest Readers") will be assigned as guest readers in the Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms at the identified sites. Guest Readers will be provided a book, and a manual for guidance during the

read aloud process. Guest Readers will be prompted to share a story about their love for literacy and how they use reading and writing as a vital part of their everyday lives. Through a partnership with Broward's Reading is Fundamental ("RIF"), all students in the guest reading class will be provided an age-appropriate book of their choice to take home and keep after the guest reading experience.

2. Community Outreach for the Broward Read for the Record Campaign 2015

The Guest Reading program in May sets the stage for the larger, County-wide, Read for the Record event scheduled for October 2016. The national Read for the Record campaign, presented by Jumpstart and the Pearson Foundation, is one time of the year when millions of individuals come together to read the same book on the same day as they celebrate literacy and support Jumpstart in its efforts to promote early childhood education. Funds from this grant will purchase a copy of the selected Read for the Record book for approximately 600 community early childhood centers that will be able to continue participating in the Read for the Record campaign. The Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy volunteers will join hundreds of other guest readers across Broward County in early childhood centers and elementary school early childhood programs in the celebration of Read for the Record and recognition for support of early childhood education. This year, in addition to purchasing copies of the selected book, the grant will also present a scholarship to a school of the YLS' choosing, to fund a Spelling Bee Scholarship Fund. The establishment of the Spelling Bee Scholarship Fund will serve to encourage students to continue reading throughout the year, while at the same time fostering a fun, and competitive spirit associated with reading and learning.

V. **Project Objectives/Description:**

The continuation of Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy, will serve the early childhood programs in local elementary schools and (**approximately 500 children**) and 656 community early childhood centers/childcare providers (**over 50,000 children**).

In addition, Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy will **continue working and collaborating with several community organizations and foundations**, including Broward County Public Schools, RIF, Children's Services Council, the Early Learning Coalition, The United Way of Broward County, Family Central, Inc., community early childhood centers throughout Broward County, and other Bar associations.

Recent federal funding cuts have limited the outreach of the Broward Schools' RIF program, which distributes books to 1,500 children and their families annually. **This project will expand** the reach of those programs by serving literacy locations that are not currently being served. Broward County families will benefit from books and literacy resources and students will receive the benefits from modeling of good reader habits.

The Read for the Record Campaign has been implemented in Broward County Public School ECE programs since 2006 in a limited format. The initiative lacked the access to resources and capacity to reach all ECE programs throughout the county. **This grant will allow for the continued expansion.**

Benefits to the community include supporting the development of children at their most critical stages of development, the bringing together of community organizations and foundations on a unified front, and **opportunities to support a positive perception of lawyers.** Seen as gatekeepers of the law; lawyers are sometimes misunderstood or revered. This project will allow the students and families served to experience positive, motivating literacy engagements with lawyers and gain a better appreciation for the legal profession.

This increased collaboration between the Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy, Broward County Public Schools, and community organization and foundations will support additional opportunities for volunteerism, mentorship, and support. Volunteers participating in Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy, who would be interested in mentoring opportunities will be referred into the Reading Pal Program with United Way or with the Innovations for Learning Program with the Broward Schools Literacy Department. Differentiating volunteer and mentor opportunities according to need and availability will support the continued growth of Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy and other projects throughout the community.

In the spirit of RIF, all books and literacy resources will be provided to participants free of charge. With the collaboration from RIF and the Broward County Public School District, this project **could be easily replicated.** Resources to support implementation is currently housed on the Broward County Public Schools Early Childhood Education wikispace, with open access to all involved.

Based on the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), there is a need to improve U.S. students' academic performance, engagement, motivation and self-belief, particularly among lower socio-economic students. With 33% of students entering kindergarten demonstrating readiness behaviors (as evidenced by the 2012 ECHOS¹ assessment) and 54% of third grade students reading at proficient levels on the 2013 FCAT², this need is mirrored in Broward County. When children start kindergarten behind, they are more likely to stay behind for the rest of their lives, and this gap only widens over time. By adulthood, our nation sees an increase in high school drop-out rates, unemployment, incarceration, and countless other remediation programs. Every dollar invested in early childhood education, however, produces a return on investment of 10% and can work to decrease these negative increases.³

Investing in early education benefits society as a whole:

¹ Early Childhood Observation System ("ECHOS") is an ongoing, observational assessment system. It is a whole-child-oriented measure based on national standards in seven domains: Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Social and Personal Skills, Science, Social Studies, Physical Development and Fitness, and Creative Arts.

² When in full implementation, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test ("FCAT") was administered to students in grades 3-11 and consisted of criterion-referenced assessments in mathematics, reading, science, and writing, which measured student progress toward meeting the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) benchmarks. During the 2010-11 school year, Florida began the transition from the FCAT to the FCAT 2.0 and Florida End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments.

³ James J. Heckman's Report to the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Reform, http://www.nhsa.org/files/static_page_files/2f94c200-1d09-3519-adeedf3d2a939ac3/heckman_letter_federal-commission_9-1-2010final%20_3_.pdf

- Higher high school graduation rates and academic achievement
- Lower rates of crime, teen pregnancy, and public assistance dependency
- Higher levels of lifetime workforce productivity

The foundation of student achievement is the ability and motivation to read. According to the national Becoming a Nation of Readers report (1985), “the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.” Read alouds not only model the pleasure received from reading, but also expose students to more complex vocabulary than they typically hear or read independently. Reading aloud also builds word-sound awareness in children, a potent predictor of reading success.

VI. Project Evaluation:

YLS will meet with representatives from the Broward School Board for feedback regarding the project. Additional evaluation tools will include feedback from guest reader sites, stories from guest readers, and feedback from community organizations and foundations.

VII. Project Organization:

- YLS responsible for obtaining Guest Readers The Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy will recruit Guest Readers and oversee that the project is properly organized and structured. The Guest Readers will be assigned to one of the four local elementary schools or one of the two local early childhood centers.
- The School Board of Broward County is responsible for all of the logistics necessary to ensure that the selected local elementary schools and early childhood centers are prepared for the Guest Readers.
- Broward County Schools Family Literacy Programs and RIF are responsible for providing the books for the Guest Reader Initiative and sourcing the books that YLS intends to purchase for Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy

VIII. Budget:

Item	Amount	Price Per Item	Total	Total From Grant
Read Aloud Big Books for Guest Readers [TBD]	30	\$9.00 Each	\$270.00	\$270.00
Read for the Record Books (Title TBA)	1000	\$3.00 Each	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Family Literacy Resource Bags for Students in Guest Reader Classroom	500	\$2.00 per bag	\$1,000.00*	0
Reading is Fundamental Books for Students in Guest Reader Classrooms	500	\$2.00 per book	\$1,000.00*	0
Young Lawyers for Literacy Promotional Print Collateral	530	\$150.00 Total	\$150.00**	0
Spelling Bee Scholarship Fund		\$500	\$500	\$500
TOTALS:			\$5,920.00	\$3,770.00

*In-Kind provided through Broward County Schools Family Literacy Programs and RIF.

**In-Kind provided through YLS.

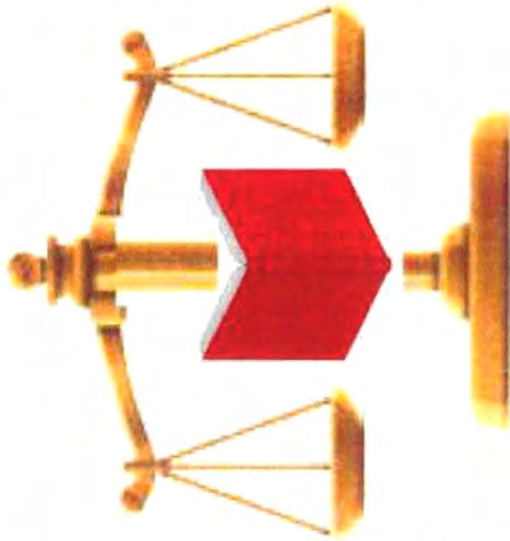
IX. Timetable:

• Review 2015 and begin planning for 2016	December 2015
• Recruit volunteer readers • Assign readers to sites • Meet with Broward School Board to schedule guest readers	January - February 2016
• Guest readers reading at school sites	March-May 2016
• Create resources for Read for the Record Campaign • Collaborate with community early childhood organizations to communicate campaign news to BCPS and community ECE programs • Implement comprehensive plan to communication Read for the Record news, events, and updates	August and September 2016
• Read for the Record Day! ☺	October 2016 (Date TBA)

X. Exhibits: To be presented at the Conference during the PowerPoint presentation.

Broward Young Lawyers For Literacy

BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION



Early Childhood Reading Program



&



Broward Young Lawyers For Literacy



Broward Young
Lawyers for Literacy

Broward Read for
the Record Campaign

Guest Reader Initiative

Broward's Reading is
Fundamental will provide
book for each child to take
home and keep after the
reading experience.

This part of the project
serves
approximately 500 children

Each child is also be
provided
with material about Family
Literacy
Programs and Family
Education.

Lawyers



Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy

Guest Reader Initiative

Broward Read for
the Record Campaign

► The national Read for the Record campaign, presented by Jumpstart and the Pearson Foundation, is one time of the year when millions of individuals come together to read the same book on the same day.

► The Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy volunteers join hundreds of guest readers across Broward.

► Funds from this grant will purchase a copy of the Read for the Record book for over 600 early childhood centers.



BENEFITS OF Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy

▶ over 500 community early childhood centers (over 40,000 children) have been able to participate in the Read for the Record campaign for the first time.

▶ it has expanded the reach of the RIF programs by serving literacy locations that are not currently being **served**—**approximately 500 children.**

▶ **support a positive perception of lawyers.**

▶ collaboration between the Broward Young Lawyers for Literacy, Broward County Public Schools, and community organization and foundations supports additional opportunities for volunteerism, mentorship, and support.





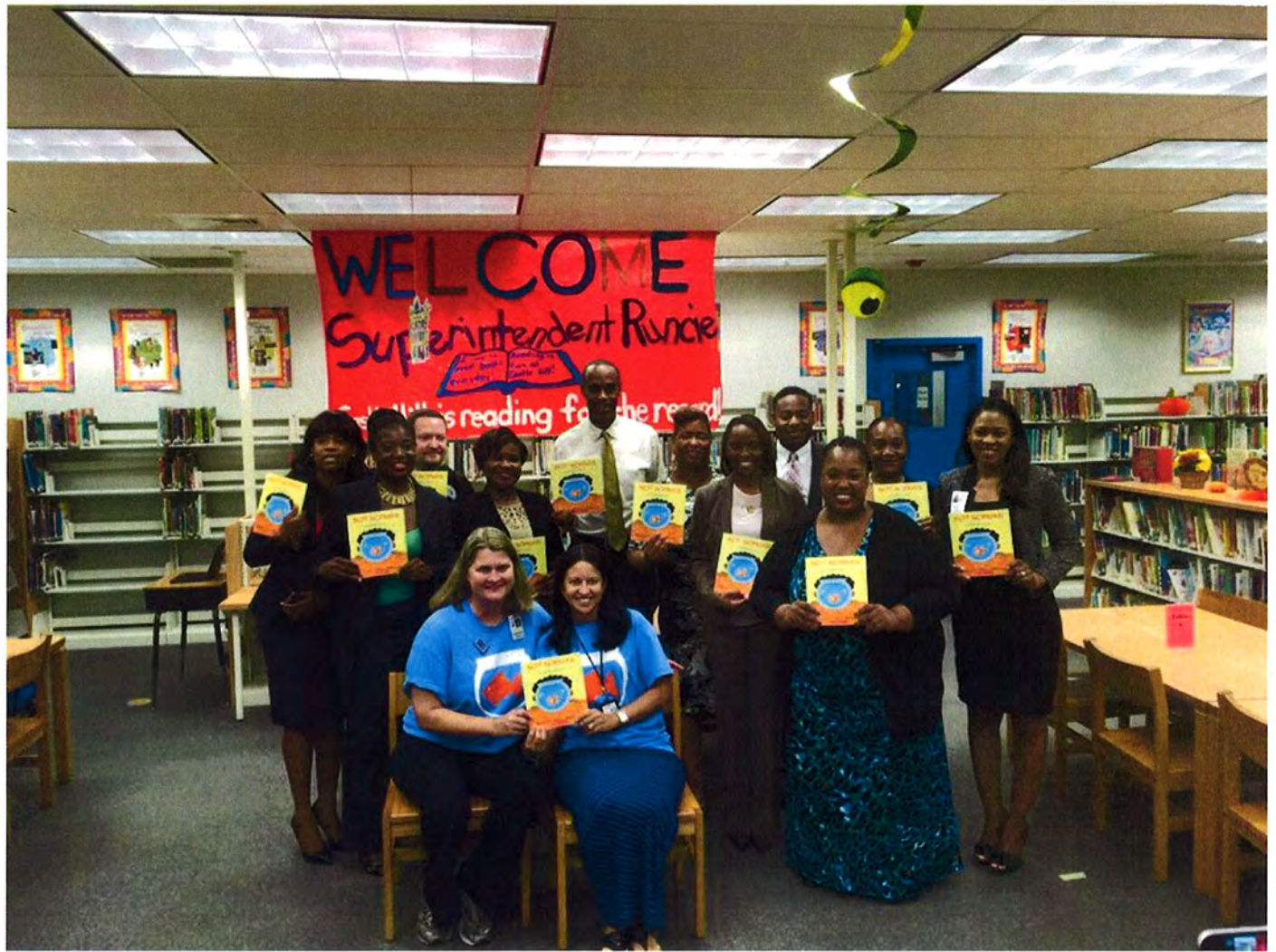


WELCOME

Superintendent Runcie



Castle Hill is reading for the record!









**THE FLORIDA BAR
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION
AFFILIATE OUTREACH PROGRAM**

**THE CARIBBEAN BAR ASSOCIATION
2016 GRANT APPLICATION**

GRANT APPLICATION

I. Short Project Title:

Caribbean Reading Celebration

II. Contact Information (and designated January 15, 2016 presenters):

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III. Description of Affiliate:

The Caribbean Bar Association, Inc. ("CBA"), founded in 1994, is a voluntary bar organization comprising of more than 100 registered attorneys, jurists and legal professionals of Caribbean descent, who reside or work in South and Central Florida. The CBA is committed to serving the needs of the Caribbean-American community in South Florida. Since its inception, the CBA has implemented numerous activities and partnerships to articulate and promote the goals and objectives of the Caribbean-American lawyers in South Florida; to foster and encourage professional excellence among Caribbean-American lawyers; to promote a greater awareness of and commitment to the civil and political rights of the Caribbean-American community; to increase the enrollment of Caribbean-American law students; and to promote the general welfare of Caribbean citizens in South Florida. Approximately 50 percent of CBA's membership comprises of lawyers with less than seven (7) years in practice.

Members of The CBA have participated in six (6) previous Affiliate Outreach Conferences as follows:

1. **2009:** Cherine Smith Valbrun (former President) and Veniese Wilkinson (former Treasurer);
2. **2010:** Cherine Smith Valbrun;
3. **2012:** Carol Green (former President) and Schuyler Smith (former President);
4. **2013:** Kimare Dyer (current Board Member) and Annika Ashton (Immediate Past President);

5. **2014:** Alison Smith (former President) and Annika Ashton; and
6. **2015:** Annika Ashton and Nicholas Johnson (former Board Member).

This year, the Affiliate Outreach Conference will be attended by Michelle Bell (current President) and Nikeisha Pryor (current Secretary) who will be presenting this project. A version of this project has previously been presented at an AOC; however, as discussed in detail below, the amount of participants who attend this event has increased significantly since our prior submission and furthermore, the CBA intends to expand the scope of the Caribbean Reading Celebration.

IV. Purpose of Request:

For the past six (6) years, the CBA has hosted a Caribbean Reading Celebration for children between the ages of four (4) to nine (9), which has proven to be very successful and well-received by the community at-large. The event is also in furtherance of the CBA's priority to tangibly contribute to the South Florida Caribbean-American Community through service to local youth. The Caribbean Reading Celebration is usually held in the summer and has become a signature event for the local children as part of their summer experience. This year's event is scheduled for July 15, 2016.

The 2015 Caribbean Reading Celebration was held at the African American Research Library in downtown Fort Lauderdale, and saw a significant increase in the number of participants, from 60 to 100 children. In addition to expressing their appreciation for the story time, participating camps and students gave positive feedback regarding our expansion of the number of participants, our inclusion of school supplies in gift bags, and the introduction to Caribbean folk songs.

This year we would like to sustain the growth that we saw in 2015, by once again hosting at least 100 participating children, and expanding the Caribbean Reading Celebration to include providing each participating summer camp with a copy of a compact disc containing Caribbean folksongs for the students to enjoy in their classrooms after the event. Not only will the program encourage students to read, and provide much needed back to school supplies, but will provide students, many of whom are of Caribbean descent, with additional exposure to these cultural ties. Accordingly, this grant application is being submitted for the purpose of continuing and expanding the Caribbean Reading Celebration.

V. Project Objective/Description:

Recognizing the need to improve the literacy skills among young children, especially those from under-served communities, the Young Lawyers Division of the CBA in 2008 instituted the CBA's Young Readers Program to address low literacy levels in South Florida's African-American communities, which has become an annual Caribbean Reading Celebration. The CBA has also identified the need for American and Caribbean-American youths to learn more about the history, culture and music of Caribbean-Americans, who comprise a sizeable population in South Florida communities. The Caribbean Reading Celebration is designed to make reading fun, thereby piquing the students' interests and inciting their quest for knowledge and enjoyment of Caribbean history, music and culture. The CBA strives to select books about different Caribbean islands and cultures, thereby showcasing simultaneously, the diversities and similarities among the islands.¹ This year, the CBA has selected *A Day with Bonefish Joe* by Elizabeth Howard. In addition to featuring and providing a Caribbean storybook, the CBA would like to provide each participating summer camp or school with a copy of the *Caribbean Songs and Games for Children* Compact Disc, so that the children can enjoy Caribbean music in their classrooms after the event.

The Caribbean Reading Celebration consists of a day of story time sessions with young lawyers reading to children between the ages of 4 to 9 years old. We have developed a partnership with the African-American Research Library in Ft. Lauderdale and they host the event for us annually. We identify nearby summer camps with a significant Caribbean and African-American population and invite them to attend the celebration. We will work with the identified summer camps and schools to arrange transportation for the children to the venue to participate in the Caribbean Reading Celebration.

Once the students arrive, members of the Young Lawyers Division of the CBA will take turns reading from the selected Caribbean book to the children, and invite the children to participate and comment on the story being read. Children are encouraged to participate in the reading also, in order to develop their self-confidence and literary skills. After the reading, the children will be entertained by a local Caribbean singer/musician, Steve Higgins, who generously donates his time for this event. The entertainment consists of singing Caribbean folk songs and learning Caribbean ring-games. At the end of the Caribbean Reading Celebration, each child will be given the Caribbean story book and some school supplies, as the

¹ Featured books over the last three (3) years have included stories written by or about individuals from the Caribbean islands of Anguilla, Jamaica, and Haiti.

reading day is typically held shortly before the end the summer holiday. This year, our goal of hosting at least 100 children, providing each of them with a copy of the Caribbean story book and school supplies, and providing the camps with a compact disc containing Caribbean songs, will require significantly more funds.

The Caribbean Reading Celebration's objectives are:

1. To increase young lawyers' involvement in addressing the needs of their surrounding communities through direct interaction with some of the most financially challenged families;
2. To introduce and encourage reading among children between the ages 4 to 9 years old;²
3. To educate children between the ages 4 to 9 years old about the history, music and culture of Caribbean-Americans through a fun yet educational medium;
4. To help young children recognize that reading books can be fun as it opens wide the doors of the imagination;
5. To provide entertainment to the children while they learn about Caribbean-American culture, music and history and the achievement of at least one Caribbean-American author and/or illustrator; and
6. To simply put a smile on the faces of young children from underprivileged areas.

This project is relatively easy for other young lawyers or voluntary bar associations to duplicate.

VI. Project Evaluation:

The CBA will measure success of the project based on the amount of positive feedback from the participants, teachers and the library that hosts the event; the amount of participants that attend the event; and requests by individuals to participate in future Caribbean Reading Celebrations. In furtherance of measuring the success of the event, the CBA Executive Board will work with the African-American Research Library to maintain a log of the children who attend and participant feedback.

² Academic data from every urban U.S. school district shows that there is a dramatic need for intervention with students early in their academic careers. Studies have shown that young children who have limited early literacy skills at school entry represent the greatest challenges facing educators today. These children typically fail to benefit fully from the core literacy instruction provided by educators to all children, falling farther behind as they progress through their educational career. (Vellutino, Scanlon & Reid, 2003). The early identification and application of early literacy interventions with young children who are at risk for developing reading difficulties is necessary to ensure the acquisition of proficient reading skills (Burns, Griffin & Snow, 1999).

VII. Project Organization and Structure:

Two CBA Executive Board Members will co-chair the project. The African-American Research Library will identify a group of children who will be transported to the location to participate in the Caribbean Reading Celebration. The Young Lawyers Division of the CBA will provide young attorneys to read to the children, and identify and provide the author and/or illustrator to read, sing and/or draw for the children.

VIII. Budget: (based on an estimated 100 children attending)

Item	Estimated cost
Books for children	\$1000
Caribbean Songs CD for camps	\$200
Gift Bags (including school supplies)	\$1000
Total Expenditures:	\$2200
Income	\$0
CBA Funds	\$350
Fundraising	\$350
Grant	\$1500

IX. Timetable:

January: Submit grant Application and continue planning with the African American Research Library.

March: Initiate fundraising and recruiting of volunteers for the event.

April: Identify and select camps to participate in the event; continue fundraising and recruiting volunteers.

July: Advertise and host Caribbean Reading Celebration.

EXHIBIT I

**Caribbean Reading Day Celebration
July 31, 2015
Press Release**



THE CARIBBEAN BAR ASSOCIATION

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August 3, 2015

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Carol Green, Esq.
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Sheldon Philp, Esq.
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Cherine Smith Valbrun, Esq.
2009-2010
Y. Lisa Colon Heron, Esq.
2008-2009
Sherylle A.O. Gordon, Esq.
2007-2008
Pamela M. Gordon, Esq.
2005-2007
Robert C.L. Vaughan, Esq.
2004-2005
Dahlia A. Walker, Esq.
2003-2004
Marlon A. Hill, Esq.
2000-2003
Neil A. DeLeon, Esq.
1998-2000
Jerry D. Hamilton, Esq.
1994-1998

On July 31, 2015, the Caribbean Bar Association held its annual Reading Celebration at the renowned African-American Research Library in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The CBA has partnered with the library for the past four consecutive years and the event has grown significantly since its early days. This year, Desmond Hannibal and library staff were able to invite over seventy children from neighboring camps and day care centers to the celebration. In keeping with the CBA's goal of educating the community about Caribbean culture, the CBA selected *Tap Tap*, a book about Haiti by author Karen Lynn Williams. *Tap Tap* features a little girl who goes to the market with her mother and wants to ride the bus, called a "tap tap" in Haitian creole, instead of walking.

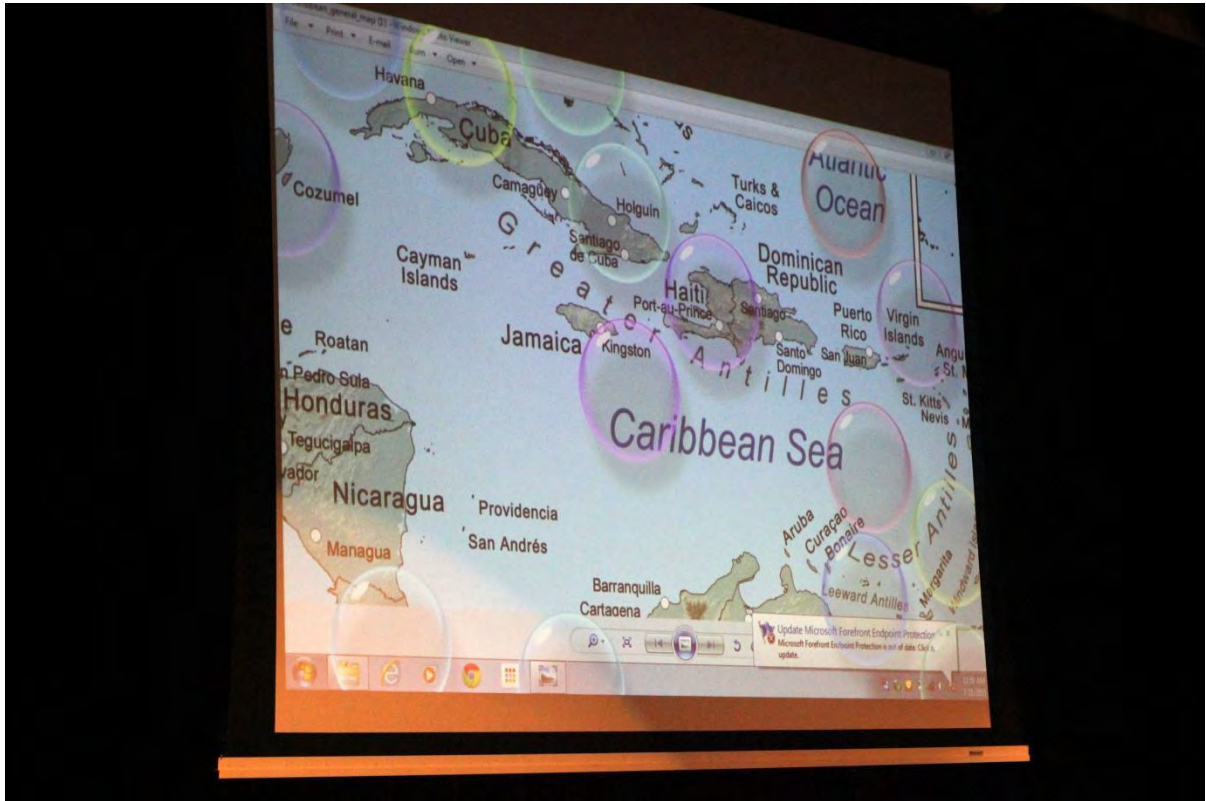
Leading off the reading was Judge Jason Dimitris of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit who was accompanied by his judicial assistant and bailiff. Other readers included members of the Caribbean Law Students Association from Nova Southeastern University, local attorneys and CBA members Hilary Creary, Georgia Robinson, Serena Witter and Stefan McHardy and CBA board members including President Annika Ashton, Vice-President Devona Reynolds-Perez and Secretary Kimare Dyer. After reading the book, Steve Higgins of Stoosh Productions led the children and the readers in a round of Caribbean songs and ring games. With the assistance of grants provided by The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, each child left with their own bag of school supplies and two books, *Tap Tap* and *Jamaica's Find*.





EXHIBIT II

**Caribbean Reading Day Celebration
July 31, 2015
Additional Pictures of the Event**





I. SHORT PROJECT TITLE

Building Community and Awareness of Sexual Exploitation of Women: A Project with Samaritan Village Inc.

II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Christina A. Leger, Esquire
CFAWL Young Lawyers Director
CFAWL
P.O. Box 3351
Orlando, FL 32802

Heather Meglino, Esquire
CFAWL Young Lawyers Co-Director

Christina A. Leger will be presenting this project at the Affiliate Outreach Conference.

III. DESCRIBE YOUR AFFILIATE

The Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers (“CFAWL”) is a professional organization devoted to actively promoting the advancement and recognition of women in the legal profession, expanding leadership and involvement of its members in the community at large, furthering the common interest of, and encouraging camaraderie and learning among, its members, promoting women’s opportunities and rights, and upholding the highest standards of integrity, honor, and courtesy in the legal profession. The organization’s membership is diverse and includes both men and women.

CFAWL currently has over 400 members and continues to grow. The Young Lawyers Division (“CFAWL YL”) serves approximately 250 of those members, both attorneys and law students. CFAWL members live and practice primarily in Orange County, Osceola County, Seminole County, Lake County, and Brevard County.

This is the eighth year CFAWL YL is attending the Affiliate Outreach Conference (“AOC”). In 2009, the AOC awarded grant funding to CFAWL YL for a “Professional Women’s Exchange.” The following year, CFAWL YL received grant funding from the AOC for a Community Outreach Fair to connect members of the community with volunteer opportunities. In 2011, the AOC awarded grant funding to CFAWL YL for a literal “ground breaking” project entitled “Extreme Makeover: Harbor House,” a one-year interior make over project benefiting the Harbor House of Central Florida. In 2012, grant funding was provided for a project entitled “Changing the Family Landscape,” a one day, two-part project benefitting SafeHouse of Seminole County. In 2013, CFAWL YL received grant funding for “Developing Distinction in Women,” a one-day seminar for local female attorneys and other female professionals aimed at developing relationships and encouraging the professional development of CFAWL’s members and the community. Finally, in 2014, CFAWL YL received funding to implement a three-part project with the PACE Center in Central Florida to empower future legal leaders. In 2015, the AOC awarded grant funding to CFAWL YL to improve the outdoor space and provide career development resources to Covenant House Florida, which provides a housing facility to homeless youth.

IV. SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF YOUR REQUEST

This year, CFAWL YL is planning a project called “Building Community and Awareness of Sexual Exploitation of Women: A Project with Samaritan Village Inc.” Samaritan Village strives to see a world where women are free from sexual exploitation. To meet this vision, the organization works with local partners, and seeks out advocates for change within the community. Through local events, speaking engagements, its Street Team and resale boutique, it endeavors to engage the entire community in the fight against human sex trafficking.

Samaritan Village provides safe housing at “Ruth’s House” for survivors of human sex trafficking. The safe house currently provides quality care to women based upon each individual’s needs. It’s 12-18 month program employs a holistic, trauma-informed care model that provides residents the opportunity for healing in a home, where they are able to develop a family-like environment with fellow residents and staff. During this time, Samaritan Village assists with every need that may arise, including legal, medical, therapeutic care, and professional development, so that residents have the time and space to focus on their healing.

Currently, the Orlando facility can house up to 6 women, and provides services to a range of others that do not reside within its walls. All women that visit Samaritan Village's safe house are welcome to use all of the indoor comforts of the home, as well as its outdoor backyard space, featuring a pool, patio, and deck space. Due to weather, heavy use, and limited resources, the outdoor space and several indoor spaces are in need of update and repair.

Sexual exploitation is a significant issue in Central Florida, particularly for women. By providing women with a safe environment and with the services necessary to allow their healing and recovery, Samaritan Village is able to help women find a meaningful life and, ultimately, contribute to the community.

CFAWL's theme for 2015-2016 is "Challenge Accepted." As up and coming members of the legal profession, CFAWL YL is uniquely positioned to educate the community on the challenging and pervasive issue of human sex trafficking, and assist in the efforts to transition women from sexual exploitation to healing, wholeness and productivity. To that end, CFAWL YL has developed a two-part project with Samaritan Village.

CFAWL YL volunteers will work within Samaritan Village's Program Manager to educate CFAWL YL members about the modern form of sex slavery that exists throughout the United States and globally, and the specific needs of survivors of sex trafficking in our area. Samaritan Village will create materials that give the modern woman an understanding of this issue to build awareness and self-protection. CFAWL YL will educate its members using these materials at a lunch setting, where Samaritan Village staff will speak and interact with CFAWL YL volunteers.

In addition, CFAWL YL volunteers will spend a day at the Samaritan Village safe house improving the functionality and aesthetic appeal of the indoor living areas and backyard space. By updating the indoor and outdoor spaces of the safe house, CFAWL will create a welcoming environment for the Samaritan Village residents to enjoy. **See Exhibit A, Plan for Service Project.** The ultimate goal of the project will be to challenge women to learn more about human sex trafficking that is occurring in our local community and to bring their unique gifts to connect with other women to end this modern-day slavery.

V. PROJECT OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION

What needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to CFAWL? This project will address the need of Samaritan Village to provide the women recovering from sexual exploitation with a welcoming space and with encouragement to achieve their personal and career goals. These needs are important to CFAWL/CFAWL YL because they align with its theme of inspiration and its goals of encouraging involvement of members in the community at large, furthering the common interests of its members, promoting women's opportunities and rights, and upholding the highest standards of integrity, honor, and courtesy in the legal profession.

To what group will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large) and how many people will the project serve? Samaritan Village connects with hundreds of survivors each year, as residents of its safe house or through its Street Team. Survivors of sex trafficking will benefit from the project with updated indoor and outdoor spaces to ensure that each of resident receives the housing she needs, and increased community awareness of human sex trafficking to continue to fight against this issue. CFAWL YL volunteers, comprised of lawyers and law students, will benefit from this project, as well, through the opportunity they will receive to bond with other members and give back to the community.

What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different? Samaritan Village is fortunate to partner with different groups throughout the year to provide comfort and support to survivors of sex trafficking. The last volunteer projects occurred over one year ago, where volunteers visited the safe house to complete yard maintenance. On a separate occasion, volunteers provided and decorated a Christmas tree for the home. Samaritan Village reports both projects as great successes. While a number of groups provide maintenance to the safe house, none are slated to improve the indoor and outdoor spaces this year, and none will provide the same community awareness resources included in CFAWL YL's project.

How will the public benefit from the project? What impact will the project have in the community? The public will benefit from the project through the services the project will provide to the Samaritan Village safe house and in the impact those services may have on survivors of sex trafficking in Central Florida. The public has an

interest helping women find freedom from sexual exploitation to become productive members of society. If the women of Samaritan Village are able to achieve their personal and career goals through CFAWL YL's help, the public will certainly see the benefit.

Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to the participants? Yes. CFAWL YL will provide Samaritan Village with new outdoor equipment and greenery to improve the aesthetic appeal of its outdoor spaces, as well as home maintenance materials to increase the comfort and functionality of the indoor spaces.

Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate? Yes. Florida weather allows for year-round enjoyment of outdoor spaces, which is often in need of improvement, update, or repair. Samaritan Village is experienced in assisting volunteer groups with service projects and community awareness efforts. Other areas are likely to have similar programs for women transitioning from sexual exploitation with similar opportunities.

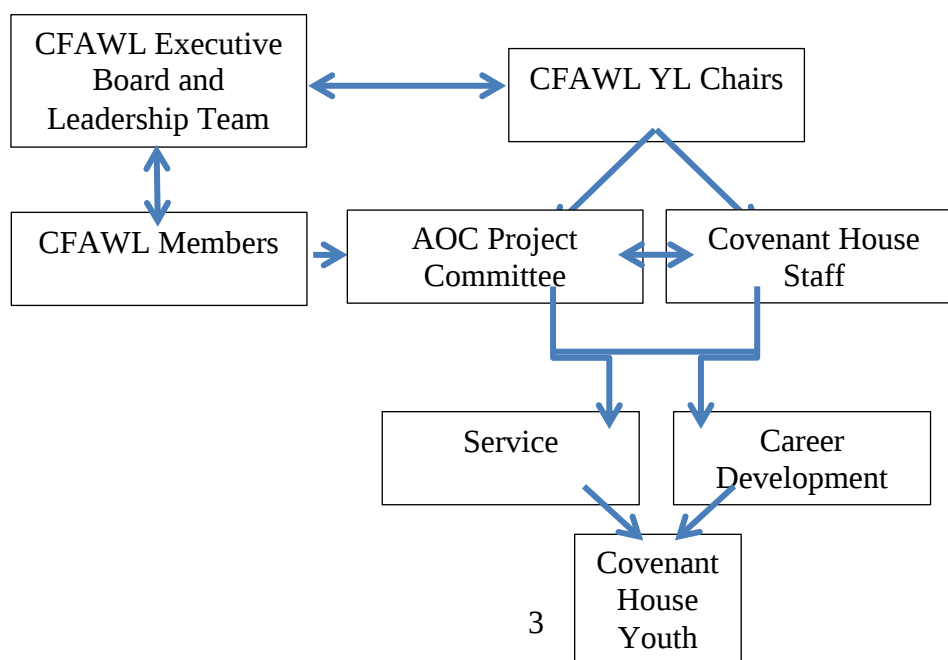
VI. PROJECT EVALUATION

By the end of the funding period, CFAWL YL expects to assist with community awareness efforts by creating materials, with guidance from the Samaritan Village staff, that provide a real world understanding of human sex trafficking, and provide an educational lunch for interested individuals. We will measure the effectiveness of this portion of the project by the level of interest in volunteer opportunities to assist in the effort to end this modern-day slavery.

CFAWL YL also expects to improve the function and aesthetic appeal of the outdoor and indoor spaces at the Samaritan Village safe house, and will measure the effectiveness of this portion of the project by the extent of the improvement we are able to provide these areas of the safe house. CFAWL YL will update the outdoor space for residents by repairing the backyard fence, pressure washing the pool deck, assembling a backyard umbrella, improving the aesthetic appeal of the space with mulch and greenery, and cleaning an additional building on the property for conversion to supplemental living space for future Samaritan Village residents. Additionally, CFAWL YL will update the indoor space by painting two bedrooms, applying concrete paint to the indoor Florida room, repairing a toilet, and installing insulation in attic.

VII. PROJECT ORGANIZATION

"Building Community and Awareness of Sexual Exploitation of Women" will be organized by CFAWL YL, a subcommittee within CFAWL, which is headed by two chair people. The chair people will solicit a committee to assist with the implementation of the project. The committee will work with the Samaritan Village to organize and implement the service project and community awareness activities. The committee will report to the chair people who will communicate with the board and general members, as pictured below.



VIII. BUDGET

CFAWL YL is asking for 1,633.00 to implement the project, as detailed below. No YLD funds will be used for refreshments. CFAWL YL will hold a collection at a CFAWL luncheon for the additional funds necessary to allow volunteers to share a meal with Samaritan Village's staff to preclude the service project.

Item	Anticipated Budget Item	Qty	Price	Total
1	Paint for 2 Bedrooms	2 Gallons	\$35.00	\$70.00
2	Paint Supplies	Various	\$100.00	\$100.00
3	Concrete Paint for Florida Room	1 - 32 Oz.	\$33.00	\$33.00
4	Mulch	40 Bags	\$5.00	\$200.00
5	Pressure Wash Back Pool deck	Borrowed	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	Replace Fence Sections	2	\$40.00	\$80.00
7	Blow In Insulation	50 Bags	\$15.00	\$750.00
8	Insulation Blower Rental	1 Day	\$50.00	\$50.00
9	Back Yard Umbrella & Base	1 Each	\$125.00	\$125.00
10	Hedge Plants	5 Each	\$20.00	\$100.00
11	Replacement Toilet	1	\$125.00	\$125.00
	Total			\$1,633.00

* All costs are estimates including tax, as prices may be subject to change at the time of purchase.

IX. TIMETABLE

January/February 2016 – Plan:

- Create a committee, and assign roles accordingly based on interest
- Decide on date for service project with alternative rain date
- Take measurements of space, and decide on shopping list with Samaritan Village
- Plan materials community awareness activities and finalize date for educational lunch

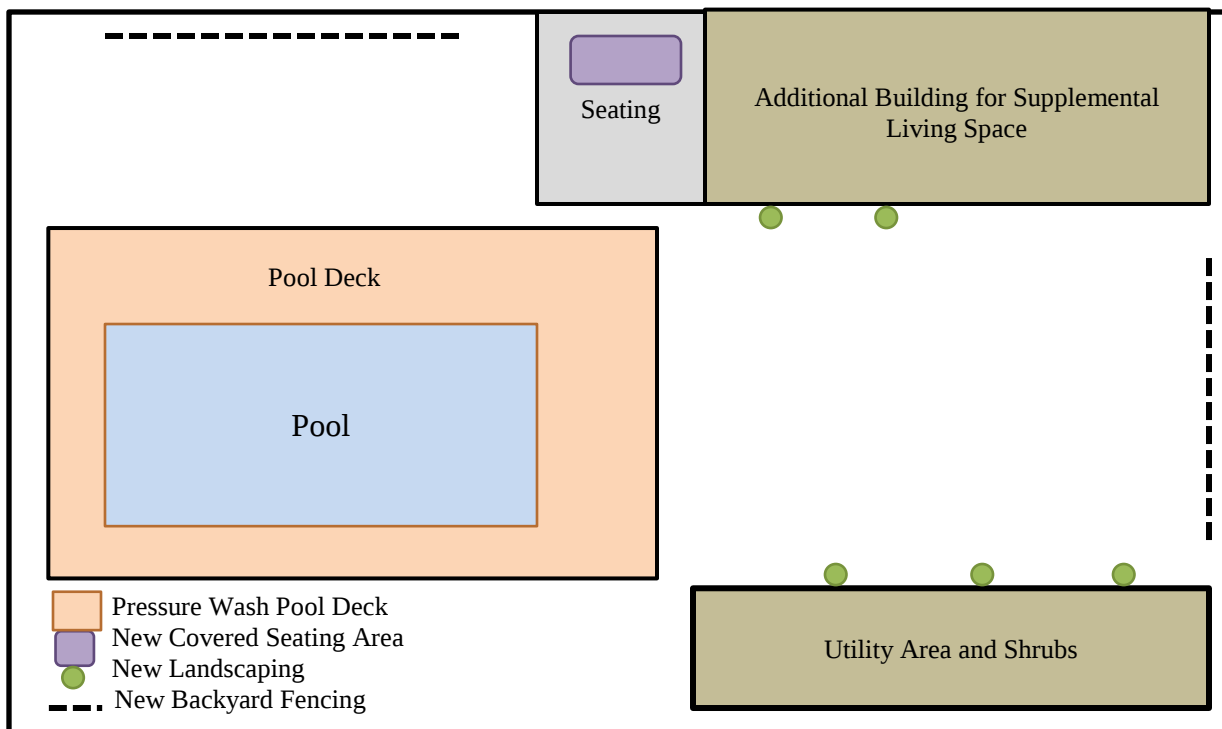
March 2016 – Prepare:

- Place any pre-orders necessary for service project
- Publicize date for project and solicit members to participate
- Finalize numbers of expected participants and estimate cost of meal

April/May 2016 – Execute:

- Fundraise at luncheon to cover cost of meal with Samaritan Village prior to the service project
- Purchase supplies for service project and arrange for meal
- Coordinate and execute service project at Samaritan Village
- Create materials for community awareness activities and deliver at educational lunch
- Wrap up project, solicit feedback, and publicize results.

**Exhibit A
PLAN FOR SERVICE PROJECT**



The backyard of the Samaritan Village safe house features seating areas for residents and visitors upon a pool deck and concrete, sun-exposed area, as indicated on the diagram above. CFAWL YL will improve these spaces by (a) repairing the backyard fence, pressure washing the pool deck, assembling a backyard umbrella, adding landscaping to make the area aesthetically pleasing to all who use it, and (b) cleaning inside an additional building on the property to convert it to supplemental living space for future Samaritan Village residents.

Additionally, CFAWL YL will update the indoor space by painting two bedrooms, applying concrete paint to the indoor Florida room, repairing a toilet, and installing insulation in attic.

* Due to the privacy of the home and keeping its secrecy as a safe house, we have not included actual photos of the home.



**CLEARWATER BAR ASSOCIATION
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION
2016 AFFILIATE OUTREACH CONFERENCE
PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION
“Random Acts of Flowers”
Presented by:
Dane Heptner and Caitlein Jammo**

I. Short Project Title: Random Acts of Flowers

II. Contact Information:

- a. Caitlein Jammo, Secretary, Johnson, Pope, Bokor, Ruppel & Burns, 911 Chestnut Street, Clearwater, FL 33756, 727-461-1818, CaitleinJ@jpfirm.com
- b. Dane Heptner, Director, Perenich, Caulfield, Avril & Noyes, 1875 North Belcher Road, Suite 201, Clearwater, FL 33765, 727-796-8282, heptd@usalaw.com

III. Describe Your Affiliate:

The 145 members of the Clearwater Bar Young Lawyers Division strive to improve their members, profession, and community throughout the year. Our robust affiliate tackles projects such as:

- ❖ Feeding the Hunger for Legal Assistance – working with the Hispanic Outreach Center to create Spanish videos explaining legal issues and to assist with programs and events that provide food, healthcare, and legal information to those who may have reduced access to such services;
- ❖ The Reading Retreat – continuing our AOC-grant-funded project from two years ago where we are providing a child-friendly reading nook for the children whose family members are using services of the Clearwater Civil Courthouse (ongoing);
- ❖ Clearwater Bar Inaugural Legal Fair – organizing and participating in clinics and providing free legal advice to over 200 attendees in over 20 practice areas;
- ❖ Holidays in January – annual project providing holiday joy to underprivileged children by hosting an educational day at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium

(home of Winter the dolphin) complete with toys and a pizza party (annually in January);

- ❖ Afternoon at the Courthouse – providing newly sworn in attorneys with a boot camp including a tour of the courthouse, panel discussion with judges, and a CLE regarding solo practice.
- ❖ Lawyers for Literacy – partnering with Lawyers for Literacy to provide tutoring for struggling elementary school students on a weekly basis throughout the school year.

Each year the Clearwater Bar YLD also attends the Affiliate Outreach Conference and puts the awarded grant monies to use implementing new community programs such as The Reading Retreat, Prepared for Parenting, and Interviewing for Success. This year's grant application is also for a new project to benefit the Clearwater community.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

The Clearwater Bar YLD is proposing to create and provide flower arrangements and a friendly visit to patients in hospitals and residents of assisted-living facilities who are struggling with their health and the recovery process and do not have strong family or friend support during this time of need and may feel forgotten.

How you feel determines how you heal. Research shows that loneliness and depression negatively impact a person's ability to physically recover in medical situations. In particular, having flowers in hospital room has been shown to result in shorter hospital stays; lower pain, anxiety, and fatigue ratings; and lower systolic blood pressure. We want to support and encourage individuals in their recovery by promoting positive mental health. By providing these bouquets to at-risk individuals, we will improve the chances of their physical recovery.

To do this, we will collaborate with Random Acts of Flowers, an organization that is dedicated to this cause. This organization was created when the founder was hospitalized and given numerous bouquets of flowers. He shortly realized that a number of the other patients on his floor were not as fortunate to have received flowers and visitors, so he decided to give away all of his flowers to those patients. The idea for Random Acts of Flowers grew from there.

V. Project Objectives/Description:

PROJECT: The Clearwater Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division would like to create and deliver approximately three hundred (300) bouquets of flowers to individuals struggling with health issues in hospitals and assisted-living facilities to brighten their spirits and promote their healing.

The Clearwater Bar Young Lawyer's Division will work with Random Acts of Flowers to purchase and organize the materials, assemble the floral and plant arrangements, load them into delivery vans, and deliver them to approximately three-hundred individuals.

- a. **To what groups will the project provide service?** The project will benefit individuals in hospitals and assisted-living facilities who are struggling with their health and do not receive significant family or friend support.
- b. **How many people will the project service?** Our goal is to deliver three hundred (300) bouquets. This project will not only help these 300 people directly but it will also serve the families and friends of the recipients and the health care workers at each facility. We would like for this project to become a semi-annual project as this is a significant need in the Clearwater area.
- c. **What other projects in the area have attempted to provide similar services to the same group? When and with what success? How is your project different?** Random Acts of Flowers has created the infrastructure for this project and has been extremely successful in making thousands of deliveries to hospitals, nursing homes in Pinellas County. We are unaware of any other organization doing a similar project with flowers. Various churches and service organizations will make visits or sing for these individuals periodically, but we are unaware of any organization other than Random Acts of Flowers that is dedicated to serving this population.
- d. **How will the public benefit from the project?** There are proven health benefits to receiving flowers and a friendly visitor, including a faster recovery, better blood pressure, less pain, less anxiety, and reduced depression.
- e. **What impact will the project have in the community?** This project will impact the community positively by showing that we as a community come together to brighten the days of our fellow community members who do not have the support of family and friends at this juncture in their lives. We serve as a community to visit them, bring flowers, and spend time getting to know individuals who are lonely and in need of social interaction. This interaction can go a long way when someone is in physical distress which is severely impacted by depression and loneliness. This project will serve as a showing that our community picks up and acts as friends and family to those without that blessing for whatever reason.

Each arrangement will have a delivery card indicating that it was provided by the Young Lawyers Division of the Clearwater Bar Association. This will promote a positive image of our association in the community as one that is committed to taking care of those in need.

- f. **Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to the participants?** The floral arrangements and plants will be given to the recipients at no charge.
- g. **Is this an easy project for other Young Lawyers Sections to duplicate?** Yes, this project could be duplicated by another section creating floral arrangements and delivering them to special individuals deserving the bouquets. The Clearwater YLD is in a unique position to be in the same place as the only Florida

location of Random Acts of Flowers, so other sections would not have the benefit of this infrastructure, but a section certainly could replicate it on a smaller scale.

VI. Project Evaluation: Our goal is to create and delivery approximately three hundred (300) bouquets on either one or multiple delivery days depending on the needs for delivery at that time. The success of the project will be measured by the number of bouquets delivered and time spent visiting with the recipients.

VII. Project Organization: One Clearwater YLD member will serve as chairperson of the project. A committee made up of other Clearwater Bar YLD members will be formed to assist the chairperson with implementing the project. We have strong connections to Random Acts of Flowers, which will assist in the operations on the actual delivery day.

VIII. Budget:

Description	Cost
Vases (300)	\$900.00
Flowers	\$1,500.00
Additional Materials (foam, ribbon, etc.)	\$300.00
Gas (2 tanks for the Company for the delivery vans)	\$100.00
TOTAL COST	\$2,800.00

IX. Timetable: Our delivery day(s) will occur in 2016 with the goal of delivering on or near a holiday or during a particular time of need.

Young Lawyers Section of the Collier County Bar Association
Grant Application for The People's Law School

I. Short Project Title:

The People's Law School

II. Contact Information and Persons Presenting to AOC:

Christen Spake
Quarles & Brady, LLP
1395 Panther Lane
Suite 300
Naples, FL 34109
(239) 659-5057
Christen.Spake@quarles.com

III. Affiliate Description:

We are the Collier County Young Lawyers Section ("YLS") of the Collier County Bar Association. There are approximately 100 members of the YLS, and we have attended AOC for the past several years. This is our first time presenting this project.

IV. Summary:

This project will make basic legal information accessible to the community at large, and particularly to individuals seeking legal self-help. Legal Aid Service of Collier County ("Legal Aid"), with the assistance of volunteer attorneys from YLS and from other Collier County bar groups, will produce informational DVDs on a variety of legal topics for distribution to people seeking information in a particular area of the law. A better understanding of the law generally should empower individuals proceeding pro se to resolve simple legal issues on their own or avoid legal conflict entirely. The project is scheduled for completion within one year.

V. Project Objectives/Description:

Legal Aid's mission is to provide high-quality free civil legal advice, representation and education to the residents of Collier County, based on need, so as to encourage self-sufficiency and improve the lifestyle and living conditions of the entire community. Legal Aid assists those who cannot afford an attorney with the civil legal representation needed to ensure their safety, health and minimum economic security. Legal Aid is the only known organization in Collier County that provides free legal assistance in civil matters to qualifying individuals.

For this 2016 project, Legal Aid will involve the local legal community in expanding the legal knowledge of Collier County residents through a series of educational videos on various legal topics. Across the United States, many bar associations provide those in need with videos on legal subjects such as civil rights, mortgage foreclosures, life planning, consumer law, disability, and elder law, and our objective in this undertaking is to provide practical legal information in a user-friendly format for pro se individuals seeking legal self-help.

On average Legal Aid provides legal services to over 3,000 individual per year despite its limited resources. Many of Legal Aid's clients may be able to handle their individual issues without the assistance of Legal Aid, or avoid the problem altogether, were they provided with an understanding of the law surrounding their legal issue.

The informational videos will be in the form of DVDs, which will be kept in the Collier County Bar Association law library within the Collier County courthouse and at the offices of Legal Aid. Individuals who call or walk into those locations with relevant legal questions will be offered The People's Law School DVDs in order to help them better understand their relevant area(s) of law. The DVDs will be made available to the community for free and will not be sold. This is an easy project for other young lawyers to replicate throughout the state to effectively and efficiently disseminate legal information to the community.

VI. Project Evaluation:

This project will be a success if young lawyers empower members of the community to avoid or independently handle simple legal matters by providing accurate, useful legal information in an understandable format. YLS will achieve its goal of making the law more widely accessible and comprehensible if the program DVDs are relevant to an individual's legal situation and are accepted by the individual. The quantity of DVDs distributed will be a good indicator of the program's appeal to the target audience. We also expect to build camaraderie and interest in supporting Legal Aid, and by extension, the underserved members of our community, among young lawyers by involving our members in this project, which is in itself a successful outcome.

VII. Project Organization:

This project is headed by Lisa Mead, Executive Director of the Collier County Bar Association, working closely with the YLS Board of Directors. YLS members have already volunteered to discuss key aspects various legal topics such as Family Law, Department of Revenue, Simple Wills, and Guardianship. The Collier County Bar Association and the Collier County Bar Foundation will support the YLS video project by donating additional funding and content as necessary. Once filming is completed, the content will be edited and produced on DVDs. The DVDs will be in the Collier County Bar Association law library within the Collier County courthouse and at the offices of Legal Aid, and will be distributed as described in Section V, above. The YLS video

project will also be promoted by the Collier County Bar Association, including by email announcements, so that members of the Collier County Bar Association can likewise promote the People's Law School DVDs.

VIII. Budget:

DVD Production – 50-100	\$ 500.00
Videographer – filming and editing	\$3,000.00
Total	\$3,500.00

IX. Timetable:

We are currently in the process of soliciting volunteers for each of the topics to be filmed. We anticipate the filming and editing process to begin in the first quarter of 2016 and hope to begin distributing the completed DVD's by Spring of 2016.

X. Exhibits:

None.

END OF GRANT APPLICATION.



D.W. Perkins Bar Association
Young Lawyers Division
Jacksonville, Florida

AOC 2016 – The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Grant Application

“Threads for Rethreaded”

I. SHORT PROJECT TITLE

The Young Lawyers Division of the D.W. Perkins Bar Association presents “Threads for Rethreaded.”

II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Natashia Hines and Kameisha Presley are the co-chairs of the Young Lawyers Division of the Daniel W. Perkins Bar Association (“DWP YLD”).

D. W. Perkins Bar Association
P. O. Box 2156
Jacksonville, FL 32203

Project Presenters at AOC:

Natashia Hines, Esq. nhines@fcsf.edu
Kameisha Presley, Esq. kameisha@thepresleyfirm.com

III. DESCRIBE YOUR AFFILIATE

The Daniel Webster Perkins Bar Association, Inc. was formerly known as the Colored Lawyers Association. In 1968, it changed its name in honor of Jacksonville attorney, D.W. Perkins. Attorney Perkins was one of Florida’s first African American lawyers, having been officially admitted to the Florida Bar in 1914. Today, more than 80 local attorneys and judges [of various ethnic and racial backgrounds] hold membership in the D.W. Perkins Bar Association.

The D.W. Perkins YLD Committee is active both within the organization, and in the community. In past years, grants from The Florida Bar Young Lawyer Division have enabled us to do community service projects with the SOS Academy (a charter school for “at-risk” youth), the MaliVai Washington Foundation, and more recently with the Family Nurturing Center. We attended the 2015 Affiliate Outreach Conference.

IV. SUMMARY OF THE PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST

The purpose of DWP YLD’s Threads for Rethreaded program is to support the work of Rethreaded in Jacksonville, Florida. Rethreaded operates with a mission of helping people

affected by the sex trade, giving legal, safe, and meaningful work to those individuals. Through their business, Rethreaded helps victims of human trafficking earn living wages and learn a trade. The DWP YLD will be able to use the grant to contribute to this cause.

V. PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

The objective of the project is to assist Rethreaded with their cause of helping victims of sex and human trafficking. Rethreaded accepts all victims, male or female, adult or child. Often, these victims do not have viable skills and may have a criminal record making it nearly impossible for them to obtain employment or other opportunities. The DWP YLD supports the goal of bettering the lives of the survivors. Human trafficking affects everyone, regardless of race, gender, and economic status. The community at large will benefit from its citizens gaining employment skills. With the grant funds, DWP YLD will purchase, gather, and seek donations of t-shirts that will be used in the training program in Jacksonville. Also, a portion of the grant funds will go directly to Rethreaded for their "\$8.25 campaign." The participants of the Rethreaded employment training are paid \$8.25 an hour. The training helps the participants take the t-shirts and "rethread" them into items sold on their website, the proceeds of which benefit other victims. More information and photographs of Rethreaded's items can be found at www.rethreaded.com.

VI. PROJECT EVALUATION

The DWP YLD expects to contribute to providing a working wage and access to employment education to the victims and survivors of human and sex trafficking. The measurement for effectiveness is the number of participants who complete Rethreaded's training. Statistically, if a victim participant makes it through a three month training period they are considered a success. We will be able to keep in communication with Rethreaded in regards to this information.

VII. PROJECT ORGANIZATION

Members of the DWP YLD will be responsible for obtaining the t-shirts for this project. They will also coordinate the freedom training donation with Kristin, Kristin@rethreaded.com, who is our contact at Rethreaded.

VIII. BUDGET

Expenditure Category	FL Bar YLD Grant Funding Request
235 used t-shirts	\$1,175.00
100 hours of freedom training	825.00
Supplies (boxes, labels, etc.)	50.00
TOTAL:	\$2,050.00

IX. TIMETABLE

The DWP YLD will coordinate with its members and our Rethreaded contact to gather and deliver the t-shirts and freedom training donation. The project is likely to be completed by Fall 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natashia Hines, Esq. and Kameisha Presley, Esq., Co-Chairs, D.W. Perkins Young Lawyers Division

DCBA

DADE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION
123 N.W. 1st AVENUE
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MIAMI, FLORIDA 33128

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Eric M. Tinstman

Immediate Past President
Geri Satin

DCBA Assistant Director
Alice Ramirez

I. Short Project Title:

DADE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION: MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST

II. Contact Information:

The Dade County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section
C/O Alice Ramirez
123 NW 1st Avenue, #214
Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 371-2220
aramirez@dadecountybar.org

Project Presenters at AOC:

Joshua L. Wintle, Esq., DCBA YLS President
Stuart J. Weissman, Esq., DCBA YLS President-Elect

III. Describe Your Affiliate:

The Dade County Bar Association ("DCBA") is one of the largest voluntary bar associations in Florida, with approximately 4,500 members. It was incorporated in 1920 to serve Dade County lawyers, to promote the administration of justice, to enhance attorney professionalism, and to cultivate positive relationships among its members.

The Young Lawyers Section ("YLS") is a section of the Dade County Bar Association. All Regular, Associate, and Government Service DCBA members aged 36 or under, are automatically members of the YLS. The DCBA YLS has more than 1,300 members. The DCBA YLS Board of Directors consists of a team of driven young lawyers. The DCBA YLS Board paves the way for the YLS's mission and focus, which includes enhancing young attorneys' professionalism, business practices and relationships. The YLS is also dedicated to its children's services programs. The YLS works to promote and enhance the section's civic education and community service programs and encourages young lawyers to give back to their local community. Representatives of the YLS have regularly attend the Florida Bar YLD AOC over the years.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of your Request:

The purpose of the DCBA YLS Miami-Dade High School Essay Contest is to provide an educational and competitive opportunity to Miami-Dade public high school students in the 11th grade.

The topic for the DCBA YLS's first Essay Contest will be: "Free Speech in the Digital Age." With the internet, smartphones, apps, and related electronic and social media tools present in our everyday lives, what does this mean for our understanding of our First Amendment rights and protections? How should (or shouldn't) the law and the Courts adjust to this new reality? Essays may discuss the topic generally or focus on a specific sub-topic or case that impacts our evolving understanding of free speech.

The DCBA YLS will begin its Essay Contest in the Spring of 2016 and hopes to continue the contest into the future with differing topics each year. The DCBA YLS will begin the first year with a written essay contest. In future years, we will look to enhance the program with mentorship opportunities and even perhaps oral advocacy contests. We are hopeful to gain suggestions, ideas, and improvements along the way.

The DCBA YLS will provide a detailed set of Rules and Guidelines along with a required Entry Form and Parent/Legal Guardian Form. The DCBA YLS will have a committee review each of the submissions with a particular set of grading criteria and will announce three (3) winners of the Essay Contest with each winner receiving a \$1,000 scholarship to be utilized for educational purposes only. In addition, the DCBA YLS hopes to host an awards event where the winners will be announced.

V. Project Objectives/Description:

The DCBA YLS' goal and objective is to establish a longstanding relationship with public high schools throughout Miami-Dade County to provide exciting competitive and educational opportunities to students. The DCBA YLS has been working to create programming which provides an exciting scholarship opportunity to students. Over the years, the DCBA YLS has given back to the local Miami-Dade community through education with student mock trial programs, middle school mentoring, and Florida Bar exam classes for law school students. While the DCBA YLS will continue with this programming, we are eager to find and launch new endeavors. We believe the essay contest is just the beginning.

The project will require students to not only utilize their intellect, but also their creativity with the essay submissions. While the three (3) winners will receive a monetary scholarship award, the DCBA YLS believes the true benefit is to allow students to share their thoughts on an extremely relevant topic: "Free Speech in the Digital Age." This topic effects so many across the world. Whether students strive for a career in the law, politics, business, accounting, journalism, medicine, education, or so many other areas, the concepts of free speech and the digital age will continue to play a role for the foreseeable future.

The DCBA YLS has already begun reaching out to local Miami-Dade County high

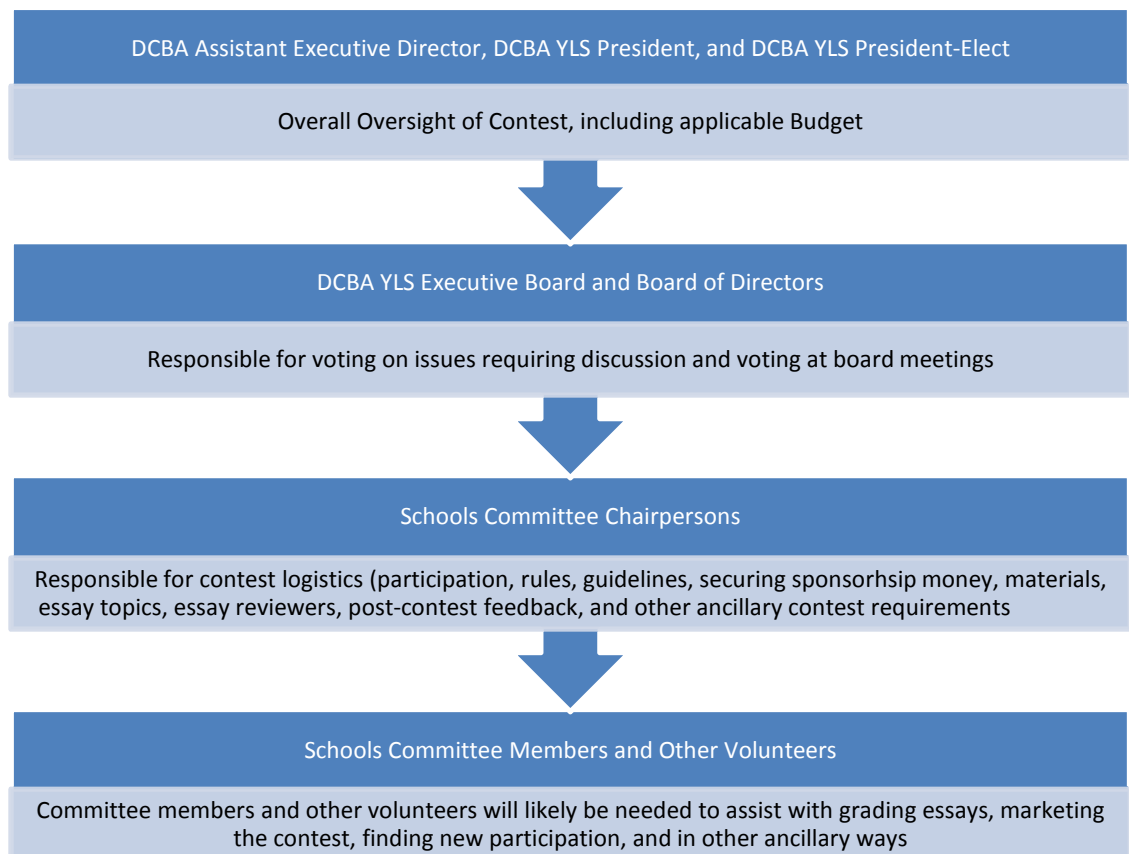
schools. We are hopeful that after the first year of the contest, future years will bring more participation once other schools hear about this successful program. We do not yet have a limit on the number of submissions.

VI. Project Evaluation:

By the end of the funding period, the DCBA YLS expects to have launched (and perhaps have completed) its First Annual High School Essay Competition. We will measure the effectiveness of the program based on the number of essay submissions and the number of schools containing participants. We will truly be able to measure the effectiveness and success of the program after the second year and beyond as we observe the growth of the program. We will be looking for feedback by way of direct communication and possibly surveys sent to participants after completion of the contest.

VII. Project Organization:

Along with the DCBA YLS Executive Committee, the DCBA YLS Schools Committee will play an integral role this year and for the years to come. The Schools Committee will handle the day to day logistics and will take the lead on organizing the contest while also ensuring its continuity as an annual event. Input will be provided from fellow board members, and where appropriate, final approval from the YLS Executive Committee and DCBA Assistant Executive Director.



VIII. Budget:

DCBA YLS High School Essay Contest Budget	
Event Marketing	
Fliers, Brochures, and Other Marketing Materials	\$500
Contest Materials	
Official Rules and Guidelines; Essay Materials; Entry Forms; Parent/Legal Guardian Forms; postage	\$350
Scholarship Awards	
Three (3) winners (\$1,000 to each)	\$3,000
Trophies/Plaque Awards	\$150
School/Participation Follow-up	
Surveys and other feedback materials	\$250
Awards Banquet	
Food and Refreshments	\$1,500
Name tags, supplies, marketing, photographer	\$400
Two hours rental of event space (if not held at a school)	\$1,000
Total	\$6,850
Contributions from Other Sources	
DCBA YLS Schools Committee Budget	\$3,000
Potential Corporate Sponsorship	Unknown
Estimated Total from Contributions	\$3,000
Amount Requested from AOC Grant	\$3,850

IX. Timetable:

Date	Description
Begin Marketing Campaign for Essay Participation	Now
Essay Enrollment and Applications Accepted	February 15, 2016
Deadline to Receive Entries	April 1, 2016
Winners Notified	After May 1-10, 2016
Awards Banquet	TBD

X. Exhibits:

See attached (Rules, Guidelines, Parent/Legal Guardian Forms)

Dade County Bar Association – Young Lawyers Section Presents

The 2016 DCBA YLS College Scholarship Essay Contest

Official Rules and Guidelines

The Young Lawyers Section (“YLS”) of the Dade County Bar Association (“DCBA”) presents its first annual College Scholarship Essay Contest (“Essay Contest”). The Essay Contest is open to Miami-Dade Public School students in Eleventh grade, who meet the eligibility criteria detailed below (“Contestants”). At the conclusion of the Essay Contest, three winners will be selected. The winners will be notified after May 1, 2016.

Eligibility: Contestants must be Miami-Dade residents enrolled in 11th grade in a Miami-Dade County public school.

Submission Information and Entry Deadline: Entries must be e-mailed to Dade County Bar Association – Young Lawyers Section Essay Contest at [Insert E-mail Address]. All entries must be received no later than April 1, 2016 at 11:59 PM. Each student may enter only one essay, no longer than 1000 words.

Entry Form: Contestants must provide all required information requested on the entry form (entry form must be legible). The Contestant and their parent or legal guardian are required to read and understand these rules in order to complete the entry form in its entirety. The entry form includes a certification that must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Labeling Requirements: Essays must include student’s name, home address, telephone number, school the student attends, grade level, title of the essay, and a word count. Essays must be no longer than 1000 words in length and should be typed.

Length: Contestant’s essay should be no longer than 1,000 words.

Award: Each winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship.

Other: The Dade County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section and Essay Contest organizers (“Competition Organizers”) retain full discretion over all facets of the Essay Contest. Among other things, the Organizers may alter the Official Rules and Guidelines (in whole or in part) at any time and for any reason.

Essay Topic: “Free Speech in the Digital Age.” The internet, smartphones, apps, and related tools are now everyday realities in how individuals communicate and express themselves; how do you envision this new reality will affect our First Amendment rights and protections? How should (or shouldn’t) the law and the Courts adjust to this new reality?

Dade County Bar Association – Young Lawyers Section Presents

The 2016 DCBA YLS College Scholarship Essay Contest

Essay Contest Checklist

Contestants should review this Checklist prior to submission of their Essay. It is the Contestant's responsibility to ensure that all items on this Checklist are complete, and that their Essay submission meets the Official Rules and Guidelines of the Essay Contest.

A. Essay

- Typed
- No longer than 1000 words

B. Information included on essay

- Student's name
- Telephone number
- School student attends
- Grade level
- Title of essay
- Word count

C. Additional items

- Completed, legible entry form
- Signed Parent/Legal Guardian Form
- Submitted in time to be received by 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 1, 2016

Dade County Bar Association – Young Lawyers Section Presents

The 2016 DCBA YLS College Scholarship Essay Contest

Entry Form and Parent/Legal Guardian Form

Student Name:		Grade:	
Title of Essay:		Word Count:	
Home Mailing Address:		Age:	
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:	
Home Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>			
Parent/Legal Guardian Name:			
Parent/Legal Guardian Cell Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>		Parent/Legal Guardian E-Mail Address:	
School Name:		County:	
School Mailing Address:			
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:	
School Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>			

Statement:

As parent or guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay. I understand that if it is discovered my child plagiarized or that the thoughts expressed are not his or her own, the essay will be subject to disqualification.

I, _____,
(Print Name of Parent/Legal Guardian), hereby certify the following:

1. I am the parent/legal guardian of _____
2. My child is currently a legal resident of Florida, resides in Miami-Dade County, and attends a public school in Miami-Dade County as a current 11th grader.
3. I recognize that the Essay Contest organizers and the Dade County Bar Association retain full discretion over all facets of the Essay Contest. I, and the student contestant, agree to abide by any and all rules or regulations enforced, at any time, by the organizers and the Dade County Bar Association.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

**TAMPA BAY CHAPTER OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION 2016 AFFILIATE GRANT APPLICATION**

I. SHORT PROJECT TITLE

Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association YLD presents a “Crash Course for Practicing in Federal Court and Pro Bono Opportunities to Gain Experience”

II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Jordan Maglich is the Chair of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“FBA YLD”). The grant application will be presented by Joann Grages Burnett, a member of the FBA YLD who will be assisting with the implementation of the use of grant funds.

Jordan D. Maglich
Wiand Guerra King P.A.
5505 West Gray Street
Tampa, FL 33609
jmaglich@wiandlaw.com
Ph. (813) 347-5115

Joann Grages Burnett

III. DESCRIBE YOUR AFFILIATE

The FBA YLD consists of approximately 30 members who (i) are 36 years of age and under or (ii) have been admitted to practice for three years or less. The purpose of the YLD is to increase the interest of younger lawyers in the FBA’s activities on both a local and national level; conduct programs of interest and value to younger lawyers; and to assist in the establishment, improvement, and coordination of active younger lawyers in the Tampa Bay area. The mission of the FBA is to strengthen the federal legal system and administration of justice by serving the interests and needs of the federal practitioner, both public and private, the federal judiciary and the public they serve. The FBA is dedicated to the advancement of the science of jurisprudence and to promoting the welfare, interests, education, and professional development of all attorneys involved in federal law.

The FBA YLD was created in 2012 under the by-laws of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. The FBA YLD became an affiliate of the Florida Bar YLD in 2013 and this is the second year the FBA YLD is attending and participating in the Florida Bar YLD Affiliate Outreach Conference. In 2015, former FBA YLD co-chairs Lauren Pilkington-Rich and Traci Koster presented a grant application for this same project which was subsequently granted.

IV. SUMMARIZE THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REQUEST

Consistent with the mission of the FBA YLD to conduct programs of interest and value to younger lawyers and to assist in the establishment, improvement, and coordination of active young lawyers in the Tampa Bay area, as well as the FBA’s mission of serving the interests and needs of the federal practitioner and the public they serve, the FBA YLD would like to present a half-day seminar

in May 2016 or June 2016 geared toward young lawyers who are interested in practicing in federal court and gaining experience by taking on pro bono cases in the federal court. This seminar will aim to educate young lawyers about different aspects of practicing in federal court by having experienced federal court practitioners present on different topics of federal practice, highlighting areas that significantly differ from Florida state court practice. Additionally, the FBA YLD will have a presentation on how to get involved with pro bono in the federal court, including volunteering at pro se clinics in the bankruptcy court or district court, volunteering for pro bono cases, and the resources available to young lawyers interested in doing so. The seminar will end with either a luncheon or afternoon/evening reception with some of the federal judges and their law clerks. This half day seminar will be an invaluable event for young lawyers, as it will not only provide education and resources on navigating the federal courts, but it will also encourage young lawyers to get involved with pro bono opportunities and interact with the local federal judiciary.

V. PROJECT OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION

The FBA YLD Committee, which consists of a Chair and 4-5 at-large committee members, will organize, coordinate, and manage the seminar. The seminar will be held in the Jury Assembly Room on the 3rd floor of the Samuel F. Gibbons United States District Court House in downtown Tampa in May 2016 or June 2016. The FBA YLD will apply for 4 hours of CLE credit with the Florida Bar. The FBA YLD Committee will coordinate and organize the relevant presenters on the topics of: Local Rules for the Middle District of Florida, removal procedures, and motion practice. The FBA YLD Committee will also organize the presentation regarding pro bono involvement and resources related thereto. The FBA YLD Committee will assist in any way necessary for the presentation materials to be printed and assembled in a binder for all seminar attendees. The FBA YLD plans to distribute thumb drives with an FBA YLD logo containing the Local Rules, Discovery Handbook, Pro Se Handbook, and selected forms and other resources for practitioners. The thumb drive will primarily be a promotional giveaway for the attendees, as it will have the FBA YLD logo on it, but it will also have a few frequently used documents that attendees can take with them on the go, as well as additional free space for attendees to store their own documents.

Subject to available funding from the FBA, the luncheon or afternoon/evening reception will be held at Le Meridien, which was the former federal courthouse in Tampa. Members of the federal judiciary and their law clerks will be invited to attend and interact with the seminar attendees. If it is a luncheon, the FBA YLD Committee will organize it as a roundtable for judges to sit at different tables to discuss various topics with the attendees. If it is an afternoon/evening reception, it will be more of a networking and mingling event. In addition to FBA members, law clerks, law students, and federal court interns will be invited to attend and participate in the seminar and luncheon or reception.

The objective of the seminar will be to educate young lawyers and law students on the unique aspects of practicing in federal court and provide resources for navigating through a case, whether it is part of pro bono, private practice or public service. The primary focus of the seminar will be civil in nature, but may also include some information about getting involved in criminal pro bono cases and appeals. This seminar will address the need for young lawyers to gain more exposure to federal courts early in their careers and assist them by providing resources and education that will be helpful in the development of their careers. This seminar will also address the need in the community for more pro bono volunteers in federal court and encourage young lawyers to take pro bono cases in federal court after learning about the resources available to them.

This would be the second annual event, as the inaugural event was held on July 17, 2015, and was well attended and received by attendees that included young lawyers and law school students. There is currently not a similar project provided in the area geared towards young lawyers, as the FBA is the only bar association focused on federal court practice in the Tampa Bay area and is primarily responsible for programming related to federal court practice. Although the FBA provides CLE from time to time, the CLE has not traditionally been geared towards young lawyers or general federal court practice.

VI. PROJECT EVALUATION

The results the FBA YLD would like to achieve from the seminar are increased attendance for young lawyers and more confidence and interest on the part of young lawyers in federal court practice. The FBA YLD will distribute a survey to the attendees to evaluate the effectiveness of the presentations, format, and substance of the program, as well as solicit recommendations for improvement. This is a seminar that the FBA YLD would like to continue to implement on a yearly basis. High attendance (30+ attendees) and positive feedback would indicate that the seminar was a success.

VII. PROJECT ORGANIZATION

Members of the FBA YLD committee will be responsible for coordinating and organizing all aspects of the seminar with help from volunteers, as needed. These tasks include securing the venues and speakers, planning the luncheon or reception menus, compiling the materials, applying for CLE credit with the Florida Bar, promoting and advertising the seminar, creating an evaluation, and assisting with the presentations as requested by the speakers. The co-chairs will delegate different tasks to the committee members and assist the committee members in execution of the tasks. The entire committee will have meetings and work together to make sure there is a concerted effort in organizing the entire seminar.

VIII. BUDGET

Printed materials, binders, and supplies	\$300
Promotional thumb drives with FBA YLD logo	\$500
TOTAL REQUESTED BUDGET	\$800
Luncheon/Reception at Le Meridien (outside funding)	\$1000

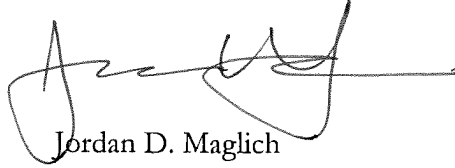
Funds received from the FBA will be used for the luncheon/reception at Le Meridien.

IX. TIMETABLE

The seminar will take place in May 2016 or June 2016 in order to include law students as well as interns and summer associates before law school finals begin. The FBA YLD Committee will meet in February and secure the venue and speakers in March. The FBA YLD Committee will begin promoting the event as soon as the venue and some of the speakers have been secured. Promotion will be through the FBA website, emails, contact with the area law schools, membership emails, the FBA newsletter, social media, and by word of mouth. The agenda and materials should

be finalized by the end of April to allow for compilation of the materials in binders and purchase of the thumb drives. The RSVP deadline will be one week before the seminar.

On behalf of the Young Lawyer's Division of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, thank you very much for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan D. Maglich". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jordan D. Maglich

**FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS YOUNG LAWYERS
SECTION'S AFFILIATE OUTREACH CONFERENCE GRANT APPLICATION
2016**

“COMPREHENSIVE EMPOWERMENT”

The following is the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) Young Lawyer Section's project grant application for funding from the Florida Bar Young Lawyer Division Affiliate Outreach Committee.

I. Short Project Title & Description

“COMPREHENSIVE EMPOWERMENT”

This program will consist of two separate parts of one comprehensive CLE. The program will start with a live interactive discussion based upon the principles and tools promoted through the ABA “GRIT” program, which is designed to engage a wide audience of female lawyers and learn to implement new leadership techniques to help women advance their legal careers. This portion will consist of small group discussions designed to facilitate creative ways to implement the GRIT tools into the participant's various lifestyles.

The event will be advertised to participants well in advance to provide attendees with enough notice to arrive prepared- i.e., attendees will be provided electronic material to review regarding the GRIT program and effective tools to for implementation prior to the seminar in order to effectively discuss its contents.

The second part of the seminar will consist of a live interactive yoga class. This will provide participants with basic tools that they can implement and continue the practice of yoga in the comfort of their own home or office. The practice of yoga will allow participants to learn tools which can assist with stress-management and overall health and wellbeing.

With the help of the AOC Grant, FAWL hopes to be able to advertise the event, provide printed information regarding the GRIT program, and provide the first 75 registrants with yoga mats to assist with their continued focus on work-life balance.

We will be applying for CLE credit for this seminar.

We are planning for this event to coincide with the FAWL Spring Meeting in April of 2016, which will encourage members from FAWL throughout Florida to participate in this seminar.

FAWL will advertise and promote the seminar as a program designed to encourage female lawyers to advance their status in the legal profession while promoting work-life balance.

II. Contact Information

Stephanie Cagnet Myron (FAWL YLD Representative and Chapter Member of Palm Beach County FAWL)

Scott Wagner and Associates, P.A.

250 S. Central Blvd. #104A

Jupiter, Florida 33458

[561-653-0008](tel:561-653-0008)

Smyron@scottwagnerlaw.com

III. Describe your Affiliate

FAWL strives to propel women lawyers into economic, social and leadership spheres of power. FAWL actively promotes gender equality and the leadership roles of FAWL's members in the legal profession, judiciary and community at large. To achieve these goals, FAWL upholds the highest standard of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession, promotes reform in law, and facilitates administration of justice. FAWL's statewide membership exceeds 2,600 members. A large portion of members are young lawyers.

Last year FAWL applied for and successfully obtained an AOC grant for a live panel discussion on

“Learning to Lead.” This program was a great success and was made possible in part due to the grant. With this year’s grant application, FAWL hopes to draw on its current success with increased participation through its affiliation with the YLD. FAWL recognizes that young female lawyers are often told that the profession has improved greatly in the treatment of women and invites debate on that issue. FAWL views this project as an exciting opportunity to foster debate about women’s issues in the profession in a modern environment, while drawing upon participation from all ages.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of your Request

This program has several important goals. The first is to build alliances among women lawyers in the profession by engaging them in discussion over common issues. The second is to foster awareness of different perspectives about the place and goals of women in the legal profession. FAWL believes that this goal is well-served by an alliance with the YLD community, which often brings a new and enlightened perspective to traditional issues. Finally, FAWL hopes that through the alliances built during the program, lawyers who participate take the tools and renewed focus on work-life balance with them: into their professional environments, into court, into bar committees- and that the greater goal of FAWL, which is to promote women in the legal profession, is furthered by an increased awareness about how this goal can be best achieved.

V. Project Objectives/Description

The “nature of the project” is to foster discussion and promotion of women lawyers regarding their paths to success in a forum that will encourage broader awareness and change of professional obstacles that may or may not be unique to women lawyers.

The program objectives are as follows:

- The project strives to address the need for women lawyers to form alliances that help them succeed in the profession. These needs are seminal to the existence of FAWL and are also important to young lawyers, over half of whom are women who are entering the profession at a rate higher than ever and yet continue to be paid less and promoted less often than their male counterparts.
- The project will provide services to any person who signs up to participate in the program in that it will educate them about women’s issues generally, as well as provide guidance for success in the legal profession.
- The project will serve as many people who sign up to participate. While the physical space in the discussion room may be limited to a few hundred participants, the live yoga session will hopefully take place on the beach (weather permitting) and could accommodate anyone who is able to participate.
- While there are many programs in which FAWL participates that foster discussion about women in the legal profession, this program is unique in that it relies on a program designed by the American Bar Association which focuses specifically on women in the law. Additionally, the “small group discussion” format adds an element of fun and helps foster a more intellectually social atmosphere than traditional panel discussions.
- The public will benefit from this project in that it will encourage women – who are a minority in the legal profession- to educate themselves and advance in that arena.
- This project will also provide women with the tools to implement the practice of yoga into their stressful lives in a manner which will help promote increased productivity and satisfaction.
- This project will impact the community by increasing awareness of obstacles that women in the legal professions have to achieving success and/or competing with men, and educate members of the community about how to overcome these obstacles. In so doing, it will promote gender diversity.

- FAWL hopes to provide yoga mats to the first seventy-five people who sign up for the program. This can likely only be possible with the help of an AOC grant.
- This would be a fairly easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate, as long as they follow the same format.

VI. Project Evaluation

The program will be evaluated based upon the number of participants. Further, the participants will complete a survey which seeks input regarding most and least useful aspects of the program, educational value of the program, and suggestions for future similar programs. (The FAWL project funded last year by the AOC grant was similar to the current proposal, and this is an extension based in part off of the reviews received from to last year's project). If the in-person participation reaches over seventy-five people, FAWL will consider that a very successful number of attendees. (This number is based on the fact that the location of the seminar will limit attendees from other parts of Florida). FAWL will promote the program as a comprehensive work-life balance seminar and consider it a success if it engenders equal or greater participation and replication than its project last year.

VII. Project Organization

This project will be organized, coordinated and run by FAWL locally and through FAWL at the state-wide level, which will assist with the facilitation of the live discussion and yoga aspects of the program. FAWL's Young Lawyers Section will partner with local FAWL chapters to promote and generate interest in the program. Young female lawyers from around the state will be encouraged to participate in the seminar and take what they learn into their professional environments.

VIII. Budget

The FAWL Young Lawyers Section requests \$2,225.00 in grant funding. This money will cover the cost of providing the yoga mats to the first 75 participants who sign up for the session, as well as the costs to ship them the yoga mat if necessary, in addition to the costs of advertising and facilitating the event. Other sponsorships for the in-person discussions will come from FAWL local chapters and FAWL at the state-wide level. If necessary, there may also be a registration fee associated for registration.

EXPENSES	AOC GRANT	SPONSORSHIPS/ IN KIND DONATIONS/ REGISTRATION FEES	TOTAL EXPENSE
Cost of 75 yoga mats (ordered at \$25.00 per mat)	\$1,875.00		\$1,875.00
Videotaping/Editing for CLE		\$250.00	\$250.00
Cost to ship yoga mats to those who would like to participate remotely	\$100.00		\$100.00
Copies of flyers to advertise the event	\$50.00		\$50.00
Event name tags/programs/miscellaneous supplies	\$200.00		\$200.00
Refreshments at Live Event		\$400.00	\$400.00
Room Rental		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
TOTALS	\$2,225.00	\$2,650.00	\$4,875.00

IX. Timetable

The FAWL YLD plans for this program to take place in April of 2016, during the FAWL Spring Meeting. This will allow many of its state-wide members who will already be traveling for the Spring Meeting to participate in this project.

- February of 2015: Promote the program and advertise the availability of free yoga mats to the first 75 people who sign up.
- March of 2015: Distribute the GRIT information and toolkits electronically to all who have registered for the seminar; confirm topics for group discussions during seminar.
- April 1, 2015: Confirm reservation of appropriately-sized room at Spring Meeting; confirm yoga instructor and location of yoga; continue to advertise the program.
- April of 2015: Hold the seminar during the Spring Meeting.

X. Exhibits

Attached please find additional information regarding the ABA GRIT program as “Exhibit 1” and additional information regarding the benefits of yoga as “Exhibit 2.”



The Grit Project

THE ABA COMMISSION ON WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION

PROGRAM TOOLKIT

Using Grit and Growth Mindset to
Advance Women in the Law

*Produced by the ABA Commission
on Women in the Profession*

The Grit Project
www.ambar.org/grit



**Commission on Women
in the Profession**
American Bar Association

Improve Grit and Growth Mindset Watch Women Attorneys Succeed

In the past two decades, women and men have entered law firms as first-year associates in roughly equal numbers. In 2013, about 47 percent of associates were female. However, by the time women arrive at the most senior leadership levels—non-equity and equity partners—they represent only 29 percent and 17 percent of their peers, respectively.*

While studies have identified some of the obstacles that contribute to this gender gap at the leadership level, until recently little has been known about the common characteristics of those women who do make it to the top ranks of law firms. In 2012, an important study undertook this much-needed research. The results were revealing: the study identified two traits common among highly successful women lawyers, **grit and growth mindset**. And the best news? Women lawyers have control over them.

**Report of the Eighth Annual NAWL National Survey on Retention and Promotion of Women in Law Firms, 2013.*



In short, grit—defined as “perseverance and passion for long-term goals”^{**}—teamed with a growth mindset—the view that one’s abilities can be developed—were found to be important tools that aided highly successful women attorneys in handling challenging situations. These research results inspired the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession to undertake the **Grit Project**.

What Is the Grit Project?

The Grit Project educates about the science behind grit and growth mindset and, through its online Toolkit, provides bar associations, law firms, corporate legal departments, and women attorneys with the resources to assess, teach, and learn these traits.

^{**}The leading expert on grit is Angela Duckworth, a psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania, who has developed a 12-item self-report grit test that measures grittiness on a scale of one to five.

Grit and Growth Mindset Research and the Practice of Law

Grit has been shown to predict achievement, often above and beyond other metrics—such as GPA or rank of law school—that law firm recruiting departments frequently look to first. The research on grit has shown the following:

- Grittier individuals tend to work harder and longer than their peers and are more likely to engage in deliberate efforts to improve their performance.
- Grittier individuals are more likely to “stay the course” and not to get distracted by immediate, short-term interests or needs.
- Having grit is particularly important in very challenging contexts.

With respect to mindset, people with a fixed mindset believe that their strengths are predetermined. In contrast, people with a growth mindset see their abilities as flexible entities that can be developed through dedication and effort. The result? Individuals with a growth mindset tend to outperform those with a fixed mindset.



A recent study of women lawyers in AmLaw 200 firms showed a strong, statistically significant relationship between grit and success for women in BigLaw. Digging deeper, the data suggests that grit is a precursor to success rather than an outcome of it. The research also found that many successful women lawyers display growth mindset characteristics and rely heavily on it to navigate challenging workplace situations such as their responses to negative feedback and the sometimes overwhelming pace and volume of the work itself.

Good News

Grit and Mindset Can Be Taught and Learned

The most exciting news about grit and mindset is that most experts agree that these traits can be learned and developed given the right conditions. The first step is educating women lawyers about these traits, and other traits within their control, that can lead to success.



The Grit Project Toolkit

How It Works

The Toolkit provides bar associations, law firms, corporate legal departments, and other groups all the materials needed to present a successful program, including program agendas, customizable PowerPoint slides, a library of relevant scenarios for group exercises including several digital vignettes, a discussion guide for presenters, program handouts, and a bibliography.

With the Toolkit, you can:

- Tailor the program to any audience.
- Present tools women lawyers can use to measure their grit and growth mindset.
- Instruct women attorneys on how to apply the grit approach to their law careers.
- Facilitate discussion of how to handle challenging situations in the legal profession using grit and a growth mindset.
- Customize the program to the format and time allotted.
- Offer future reading and learning opportunities.



All materials in this Toolkit are available online at ambar.org/grit.

Materials include:

- 1 Program Agenda**—Format, sequence of presentations, and various segment options.
 - 2 PowerPoint Slides**—A customizable PowerPoint slide deck to use as part of an opening presentation, with notes for the presenter(s) and details on key points.
 - 3 Program Materials**—PDFs of recommended articles to use as background information for speakers and as handouts at the program, as well as the grit and mindset tests.
 - 4 Library of Scenarios**—Includes digital video of several scenarios as well as a library of written scenarios.
 - 5 Discussion Guide**—A how-to guide for presenters to lead small or large group discussions of the scenarios.
 - 6 Speakers Bureau**—Potential speakers and panelists.
 - 7 Marketing the Program**—Text that can be used to create a marketing flyer.
 - 8 Bibliography**—Extensive list of articles that can be referenced for a more in-depth understanding of the issues, to be distributed to speakers in advance of the presentation and to attendees as appropriate.
- 

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The Grit Project Program Toolkit is a project of the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession.

For more information, visit ambar.org/grit.

[In the Lab Arts & Culture Community Only at NYU](#)

November 25, 2014

5 Ways Yoga Can Make You a Better Lawyer



Picture a lawyer and you might imagine a stiff-backed, suit-wearing, briefcase-toting powerhouse—not the easygoing, elastic pants-wearing hippie we usually associate with yoga. But according to Arthur Fama, assistant dean for student affairs at the NYU School of Law, it is precisely the yin-and-yang relationship of yoga and law that makes for such a powerful

combination. Not only does yoga help you to deal with the stress of studying or practicing law—but it can also help develop your professional skills, he says.

Every Monday at 12.30, Fama runs yoga classes at the law school. “There are usually about 20 students in attendance; if we had a bigger room there would probably be more,” he said. “When the students arrive, I try to maintain a calm atmosphere. So rather than letting them get too involved in their own talking, which is their tendency, I ask that they just sit quietly for a few minutes.”

The classes start with some deep breathing before moving on to cyclical sequences of physical postures, followed by 10 minutes of guided meditation at the end. “I use various techniques in what is sometimes called yoga sleep,” Fama explains. “The student lies there and I will lead a body scan, gradually bringing their awareness to different individual parts of their body.”

But how can yoga make you a better lawyer? Let Dean Fama count the ways:



Yoga helps you to listen mindfully.

“Yoga is ultimately a mindfulness practice,” says Fama. “What we’re doing on the yoga mat is staying in the moment and focused. So it’s helpful not only for students’ wellbeing, but also for how they interact with clients, judges or co-workers. The tendency for lawyers is to race ahead and think of the next thing to say instead of really listening to what’s being said. But if you’re able to stay in the moment it really helps you to understand what the client ultimately is looking for.”

Yoga creates a balance between the right and left sides of your brain.

“Because of the type of training we undergo as lawyers—the focus on analytical structures and

problem-solving—adding the mindfulness of yoga is like a booster,” said Fama. “It allows you to engage in the analytical part with a more creative openness.”

Yoga can help you to understand your client.

Sometimes understanding your client requires reading between the lines, Fama says, and yoga can help develop the sensitivity needed to do this. “If you have a client who is communicating from a very emotional place instead of just laying out the facts, you’re a much more effective lawyer if you’re able to pick up on their needs.”

Yoga slows everything down.

“It creates a bit of space when you’re approaching a problem. Instead of just tackling it, you are sitting with it for a bit longer.”

Yoga helps you to filter out thoughts that don’t need your attention.

“Thoughts come constantly,” says Fama, “but by practicing yoga you can become aware of the thoughts without becoming so preoccupied by them.”

Fama has been running these classes since he became assistant dean almost three years ago, and has been practicing yoga for about 15 years. “I realized early on that I needed, for my own sense of wellbeing, to find that balance. So I meditated and did yoga for many years while I was practicing law,” he recalls. He did his teacher training in New Jersey, and has since remained close with his own instructor, occasionally running retreats with him in New Jersey and Miami.

Fama also refers students to [The Mindfulness Project](#), the group that hosts yoga and meditation sessions at NYU’s Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life. “I keep this postcard of theirs on hand to give to students,” he says. “It says ‘Inhale. Exhale. Repeat.’ They take it and put it on their fridge as a reminder to breathe. It’s a good reminder for all of us.”

—Anneke Rautenbach



FDLA YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE – 2016 YLD AOC GRANT APPLICATION

I. Project Title: Florida Defense Lawyers Association (FDLA) Young Lawyers Committee “High Five Kids’ Pack” Program

II. Contact Information:

Brett M. Henson, Esq., Co-Chair
Dickinson & Gibbons, P.A.
401 N. Cattleman Rd., Ste 300
Sarasota, FL 34232
(941) 552-3527
bhenson@dglawyers.com
(AOC Presenter)

John M. Miller, Esq., Chair
Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, P.A.
1715 Monroe Street
Post Office Box 280
Fort Myers, FL 33902
(239) 344-1310
john.miller@henlaw.com

Miguel R. Roura, Esq., Co-Chair
Roig Lawyers
100 S. Ashley Drive
Suite 1350
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 514-1865
mroura@roiglawyers.com

III. Affiliate Description: FDLA was formed in April 1967 to represent the interests of lawyers in private practice who primarily defend civil matters. Its mission is to enhance the knowledge, skills and professionalism of defense lawyers, while fostering balance in the civil courts through judicial and legislative advocacy. In support of this mission, it hosts the annual Florida Liability Claims Conference in Orlando, FL. This conference brings together attorneys and insurance claims professionals from the entire state, and averages approximately 350 to 400 attendees. The conference is scheduled to take place at Disney’s Contemporary Resort on June 8-9, 2016

FDLA’s Young Lawyers Committee is comprised of over 155 young lawyers throughout the State of Florida. Its goal is to encourage young lawyer involvement in an effort to advance FDLA’s mission. The Committee

obtained approval as an Affiliate Organization in the Fall 2015 and will be attending the 2016 AOC for the first time.

IV. Summary of Grant Applications: The FDLA Young Lawyers Committee will host an interactive “High Five Kids’ Pack” Program at FDLA’s Florida Liability Claims Conference on June 8, 2016. This program will benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. Conference attendees, including members of the Young Lawyers Committee, will be invited to participate.

V. Project Objectives and Description: Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida is a private, nonprofit organization that collects, stores, and distributes donated food to more than 550 feeding partners in six Central Florida counties: Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia. One of Second Harvest’s primary target populations for food distribution is needy children who do not have access to school cafeterias during the weekends or summer months. Second Harvest distributes food to these children through school distribution, summer food sites, and mobile food pantries at 10 at-risk schools in the Greater Orlando area. The FDLA Young Lawyers Committee is interested in partnering with Second Harvest as a way to give back to the Central Florida region, where it has hosted its annual conference since 1994. FDLA also chose to partner with Second Harvest because it provides a “mobile” service opportunity for large conferences and events.

The project will take place onsite at the Disney Contemporary Resort during the afternoon of June 8, 2016. Volunteers from Second Harvest will bring food supplies onsite to be packaged into individual “High Five Kids’ Packs” by conference attendees. Conference attendees will go through a conference room in an assembly line to put together the food packs. Based upon past conference attendance and consultations with Second Harvest, the Committee’s goal is to assemble at least 400 individual packs to be distributed to children in need. Second Harvest has successfully hosted similar events at large corporate events. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVJj84zlBhU>).

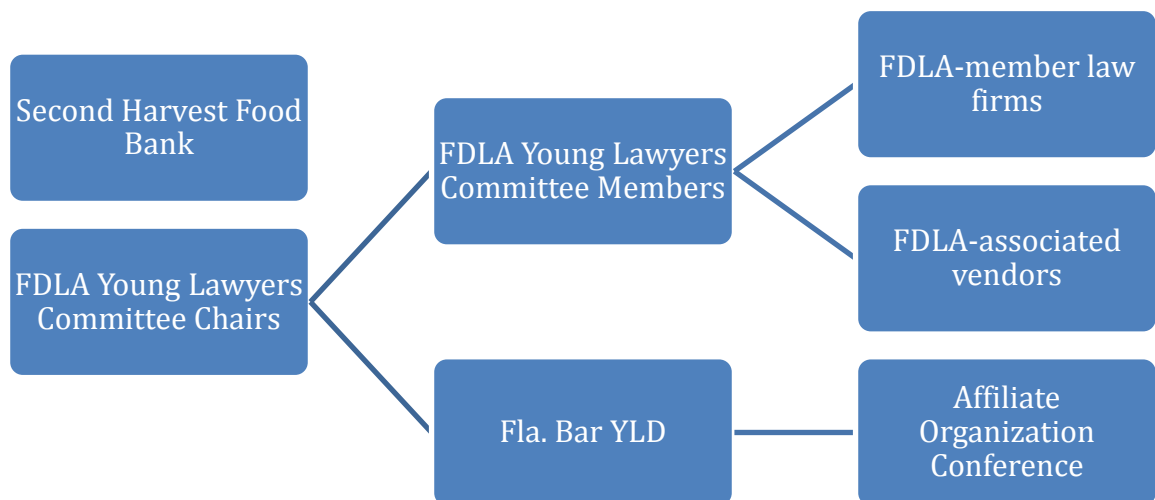
Second Harvest is the only major food distributor in the Central Florida area. The Committee has a unique opportunity to serve a large number of needy children and families by hosting the “High Five Kids’ Packs” program in conjunction with its annual conference. Typically, Second Harvest relies on much smaller volunteer organizations to assemble its “High Five Kids’ Packs.” By having a large number of volunteers in a single location at the same time, the Committee will be able to package a much larger number of packs to provide to children in need during the summer months.

This project will meet the basic nutritional needs of elementary-aged children during the summer months when they do not have access to free or

reduced cafeteria meals. This project is ideal for other young lawyer affiliates to host in conjunction with a large organizational conference.

VI. Project Evaluation: The Committee will evaluate the success of the project in 2 areas: (1) young lawyer involvement; and (2) the number of packs assembled. The Committee plans to engage young lawyer committee members by requesting that they help solicit financial contributions from FDLA-member law firms and FDLA-associated vendors. At a minimum, the Committee plans to assemble at least 400 packs. However, based upon additional fundraising efforts of young lawyer committee members, it will endeavor to complete upwards of 2,000 packs.

VII. Project Organization: This project will be led by the FDLA's Young Lawyers Committee chairs. Mr. Henson will coordinate directly with Jennifer Landress, Stewardship & Special Projects Manager of Second Harvest regarding event details and logistics. The Committee chairs will seek involvement from its members during 2 upcoming conference calls (1/27/16 & 5/25/16). Involvement will include event participation and attendance, along with fundraising for additional packs from FDLA-member law firms and FDLA-associated vendors. All additional funds raised will go to offset the costs of the Committee's aspirational goal of assembling 2,000 packs.



VIII. Budget: Second Harvest provides all supplies to assemble the “High Five Kids’ Packs” based upon reduced-cost donations from area restaurants and grocers. Each pack costs a total of \$5.00 to assemble. All grant money will go to the purchase of supplies for assembly of the packs. At a minimum, the Committee will assemble 400 packs. However, the Committee plans to enlist its members to solicit financial contributions from FDLA-member law

firms and affiliated vendors to reach its aspirational goal of assembling 2,000 packs. The Committee is requesting a \$2,000 grant for the cost of assembling 400 packs at \$5.00 per pack.

400 Packs

Packs	Cost per Pack	Total
400	\$5.00	\$2,000.00

2,000 Packs

Packs	Cost per Pack	Total
400	\$5.00	\$2,000.00 (AOC Grant Money)
1600	\$5.00	\$8,000.00 (law firm & vendor contributions)
		\$10,000.00

IX. Timetable:

- **January 27, 2016** – FDLA Young Lawyers Committee Conference Call – discuss fundraising needs to meet aspirational goal of assembling 2,000 packs
- **February 1, 2016 to April 15, 2016** – Committee members solicit financial contributions to reach \$8,000 fundraising goal
- **April 31, 2016** – Finalize event announcement and publicity to include law firm and vendor sponsors
- **May 15, 2016** – Deadline to inform Second Harvest as to number of packs to be assembled
- **May 25, 2016** – FDLA Young Lawyers Committee Conference Call – discuss results of fundraising efforts and confirm member attendance and participation
- **June 8, 2016** – “High Five Kids’ Packs” Program in conjunction with FDLA’s 2016 Florida Liability Claims Conference

X. Exhibits: “Exhibit A” is a preliminary proposal from Second Harvest for the cost of assembling 400 packs. “Exhibit B” is the assembly line layout provided by Second Harvest. Disney has agreed to furnish extra conference space free of charge for this event.

Kids Pack Program

Our Kids Pack Program provides nutritious meals to needy children who do not have access to school cafeterias during the weekend and summer months.

We started this program because many families struggle to provide meals for their children when they are not in school. These packs will go to these children through school distribution, Summer Food sites, mobile drops targeting at risk families, as well as a variety of other outlets.

The food packs contain a variety of kid-friendly items such as cereal, shelf-stable milk and juice, fruit cups and more. These food packs of shelf stable food are all assembled at our Food Rescue Center by our dedicated volunteers. We are always looking for opportunities to expand this program to more children.

Each Kids Pack includes:

- 8 oz. Chocolate milk
- 6.5 oz Apple juice
- .75 oz Rice cereal Bowl
- Granola bar
- 4 oz. Apple sauce
- 7.5 oz Macaroni O's and Beef
- 7.5 oz Macaroni and Cheese
- 7.5 oz Beef stew



How it works:

Every volunteer will receive a job on the assembly line. Second Harvest staff will handle the instructions and leadership throughout the event. Each pack costs \$5.00

Tentative Volunteer Activity Overview

Food Repack: Assembling these Kids Packs is a fun, impactful activity. It is an easy way to engage in local hunger relief and participants will leave knowing exactly how many lives they have impacted as a direct result of their actions.

EXHIBIT A

Second Harvest Food Bank's team of professionals will take care of ordering product, set up, instructions, event execution, and clean up.

Run of Show

Volunteers will put together packs after a welcome and instructions.

Volunteer Activity - Budget

A donation would assist Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida in providing proper weekend and summer nutrition to underprivileged children in our community.

# of packs @ \$5 per pack	Cost of Packs
400	\$2,000

EXHIBIT A

The round table is a high-top cocktail table. The other tables are standard 6 foot tables. The box at the end of the lines is a pallet we will bring.

Second Harvest Food Bank Service Project

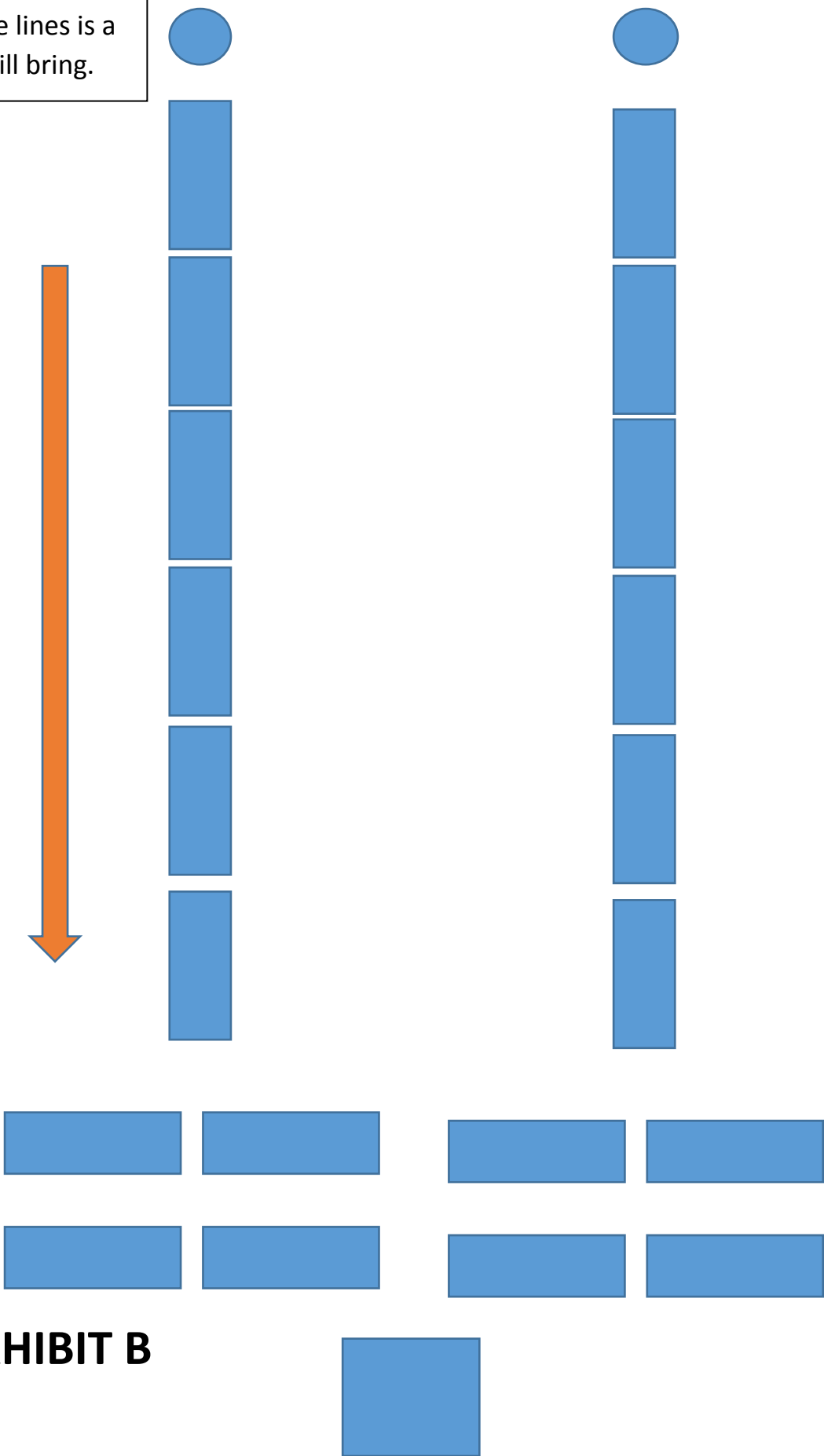


EXHIBIT B

Project Grant Applications: How to Qualify for Award Money

Applications for award money from the Young Lawyers Division should consist of a narrative summary of your project, divided into sections using the bold section headings below. **Please note that these headings have been revised in the past couple of years.** Past affiliate projects that have applied for award money have received awards up to \$5,000.00, although typical awards range from \$500.00 to \$1,500.00. The submission of a grant application does not guarantee the receipt of award money. Award decisions will be made at the sole discretion of the YLD Board of Governors following project presentations at this year's Affiliate Outreach Conference ("AOC") on January 17, 2015.

I. **Short Project Title:** "JUSTICE FOR ALL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION"

II. **Contact Information:** NICOLE RAMOS-BARREAU, ESQ.

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 012631, MIAMI, FL 33101

Contact Telephone: 305-333-8286

Contact Email: NICOLERAMOSESQ@GMAIL.COM

Person Presenting Project: Carolyn Martin, Esq.

III. **Describe Your Affiliate:**

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association (GSCBWLA), formerly the National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division Dade County Chapter, was formed in 1985. The association's mission is to address the concerns of women lawyers as they relate to the social, economic, political and moral needs of the community. For over twenty-four years, the association has been a network of attorneys dedicated to community service and the professional development of its members. The association has placed a strong emphasis on community service through its community seminars, free neighborhood legal clinics and programs educating and empowering youth and the mentorship of law students. In 2005, the association voted to be renamed in honor of community activist Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, who was the first Black female attorney to practice in Dade County and the first Black female legislator in the State of Florida. Throughout the association's existence, it has grown and its reach has expanded. Although it began as a Dade County bar association, GSCBWLA currently represents over 350 men and women law students, lawyers and judges throughout the State of Florida.

IV. **Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:**

During the past thirty years, our association has been dedicated to serving and educating our community. We have maintained this dedication through community seminars, free neighborhood clinics and mentorship programs that empower youth and their families. Gwen Cherry members have noticed that in city and statewide competitions there is little to no participation from high school students attending urban core schools. Urban Core Schools serve a demographic that is comprised of predominantly African American and Hispanic students as well as students from low

socioeconomic households. These students are disproportionately more likely to have negative interactions with the judicial system and could greatly benefit from positive exposure and engagement in the judicial process. Participation in such competitions introduces the students to analytical and oratory skills that will be valuable in their personal and professional development. It also educates them about the internal structure of the judicial system.

In furtherance of Gwen Cherry's mission to actively serve and engage our community and encourage participation in the legal system, Gwen Cherry will host its first annual "Justice for All Mock Trial Competition."

V. Project Objectives/Description:

The charge of the Justice for All Mock Trial Competition would be to achieve the specific objectives outlined below.

- Encourage participation of urban core school students in county wide mock trial competitions.
- Empower urban core students to understand and navigate the judicial system properly
- Expose urban core students to networking with minority lawyers and judges who have succeeded despite similar obstacles.
- Train urban core students on analytical and oratory skills through intensive lecture series, legal research and writing and public speaking.
- Inspire students from backgrounds that are underrepresented within the legal community to attend law school or to pursue legal careers
- Increase the involvement of the student's family members in their educational development.
- Connect the students and their families with government leaders in their community.
- Promote a positive relationship between low-income/minority students and the legal system.

Gwen Cherry will achieve these objective by hosting this mock trial competition on May 13, 2017 at the Criminal Courthouse. There will be a minimum of six mock trial teams from urban core schools. Teams will be selected based on acceptance by invitation from Gwen Cherry. Each team will be required to have a minimum of four students, maximum of six students. Each team will also be required to have designated faculty member represent them as a mock trial coach. Gwen Cherry would select a mock trial hypothetical which will be based on a civil or criminal case. The hypothetical will be distributed along with rules of evidence books, binders and materials for demonstrative exhibits free of charge to each team coach in October of 2016. Teams will meet weekly with their coaches and a designated member of Gwen Cherry to practice and prepare for the mock trial competition. During the competition, team members will be required to act as both advocates and lawyers

preparing opening and closing arguments as well as oral testimony. Lawyers, judges and government officials from the Miami Dade community will serve as judges for the mock trial competition. Students will be critiqued on their presentation of the case, oratory skills as well creativity. After the competition, the students will be able to attend a lunch with a keynote speaker. During this lunch, students will have the opportunity to network and establish mentorship with the competition judges. The awards for the winning team, best advocate, best witness and most creative trial strategy will be presented during the lunch as well. The students' parents/guardians will also be invited to the lunch to engage in this experience which will encourage parental involvement in the student's educational journey. Throughout the preparation for the mock trial competition, each participating team will have the opportunity to receive resume and college application assistance as well as a meeting with a law school admissions counselor. This will provide the students will the ability to learn about the requirements to be admitted into law school and what the law school curriculum entails.

This program is something that is uniquely achievable by Gwen Cherry as we serve a community which a significant percentage of minority students from low socioeconomic backgrounds and we have established relationships with government officials such as the Mayor of Miami Gardens and the City of Hialeah that will provide community support and participation. Student's participation in the mock trial will be widely publicized through media outlets such as the Miami Times and the Miami Herald and will help to promote a positive representation of our urban core schools and minority communities.

VI. Project Evaluation:

The goal of the Justice for All Mock Trial Competition is to encourage and empower minority students from underrepresented populations to take an active role in the judicial system in their communities and to provide them with invaluable tools that will prepare them for success in their personal, academic and professional careers. Gwen Cherry also hopes to grow this annual mock trial competition to include urban core schools from Broward and Palm Beach County to increase the number of minority students participating.

VII. Project Organization:

The project will be spearheaded by GSCBWLA community service committee under the direction of the community service director, Nicole Ramos-Barreau, Esq. Ms. Ramos-Barreau and the current president of Gwen Cherry, Loreal Arscott, Esq. will contact members of the voluntary bar associations, bar staff, the Judiciary, government and community leaders to solicit support for mentorship and judges. We will also work in conjunction with the local law school administrators as well as college admissions directors to assist in preparing the mock trial participants for college admissions, standardized testing and even law school application preparation.

GSCBWLA public relations chair, will be in charge of publicizing the events, and liaising with other law-related organization, community groups, and appropriate governmental agencies that share a similar vision as GSCBWLA.

VIII. Budget:

Catering for projected mock trial in 2017:	\$3,000.00
Flyers or other Publication for the Events:	\$300.00
Printing, Binders and exhibit Materials:	\$1000.00
Photographer	\$200.00
Awards/Certificates	\$300.00
Name Badges	\$200.00

Total: \$5,000.00

IX. Timetable:

August 26, 2016- Applications for team registration due to Gwen Cherry

September 23, 2016 – Meet and Greet for Teams and Gwen Cherry Members

October 3, 2016 – Distribution of the mock trial hypothetical – teams commence meeting bi-weekly with team coaches and designated Gwen Cherry members.

November 5, 2016 – Resume/ College Application workshop for registered team members and their parents

March 10, 2017 – Law School Tour/ Meeting with law school administrator

May 13, 2017 – Mock Trial Competition with lunch/keynote speaker

X. Exhibits: Please attach any exhibits supporting your Affiliate's project grant application. However, given copying costs, please only include essential exhibits with your application.

XI. Page Limitation: Applications should not exceed five (5) typed pages, not including exhibits.

XII. Project Presentations: Each Affiliate shall present the project and answer questions about their project at the AOC on January 15, 2016. Presentations should be at least three (3) minutes, not to exceed five (5) minutes. The YLD Board of Governors encourages creative innovative and fun presentations. Any request to use technology in the presentation, including A/V equipment, must be made to Tom Miller (tmiller@flabar.org), on or before January 8, 2016.

XIII. Follow-up: Affiliates are encouraged to submit a closing report upon completion of the project. This report should inform the YLD of the success of the project and the use of the YLD funds.

The early deadline for project applications is Tuesday December 15, 2015 at 11:59 p.m. Early submissions are encouraged and may receive additional points in the scoring process.

The regular deadline for project applications is January 8, 2016 at 5:00pm. Late submissions are subject to exclusion and loss of points in the scoring process.

To submit your project application, email one electronic copy (via Word, Wordperfect, or PDF) to Christian George at (christian.george@akerman.com) and Tom Miller (tmiller@flabar.org). Please title the attachment as follows: (Affiliate Name) AOC Grant Application. You will receive a confirmation email. Submitting an application will serve as authorization to post, duplicate, and/or disseminate all or portions of your application at the sole discretion of the YLD Board of Governors. For any questions, please contact AOC Co-Chair Christian George at christian.george@akerman.com.

Short Project Title:

YLD Golf Tournament

Contact Information:

Tammy Briant, Stetson University College of Law, 1401 61st Street S., Gulfport, FL 33707. Melissa Mora, Florida Hospital – West Florida Region, 14055 Riveredge Drive, Suite 250, Tampa, FL 33637.

Alexandra Palermo will present our project at the AOC.

Describe Your Affiliate:

The Hillsborough County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division is open to lawyers who are less than 36 years old or have less than 5 years of experience as an attorney. The Hillsborough County Bar Association has 3800 members and its YLD division has 926 members. The HCBA is proud to have one of the largest and strongest young lawyers divisions in the state. Our success is rooted in our membership and the support each of our dedicated young lawyers provides in all facets of the YLD. The mission of the YLD is to support the initiatives and goals of the HCBA, promote professionalism and ethical conduct, provide guidance and support to new lawyers, provide educational opportunities for our members, organize programs and events of interest to young lawyers, and encourage community involvement.

The HCBA YLD has been represented at many past AOC's and has been grateful for the support of the Florida Bar in many of its initiatives.

Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

The Hillsborough County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division's Golf Tournament is an annual event open to all members and friends of the HCBA. The HCBA YLD Golf Tournament has continued to grow over the years. It began as an event purely focused on networking with only the hopes of breaking even on the costs of the event. It has grown into one of the HCBA YLD's main sources of revenue to fund other programs hosted by the YLD.

The revenue from the tournament goes to fund the HCBA YLD's charitable efforts throughout the year. HCBA YLD events supported by revenue generated by the golf tournament include, but are not limited to:

- Holidays in January- this event brings together foster children, foster, parents, and young lawyers for a fun-filled day of activities and holiday gift-giving.
- Steak & Sports Day- this event involves the YLD visiting a local foster home to host a "Steak & Sports Day." The program benefits children separated from their families and includes a BBQ featuring, of course, steak and a full range of sports activities.
- Law Week- members of the legal community participate in numerous activities throughout an entire week in the spring where they teach local students about the legal profession. Activities include visits to classrooms, mock trials, and courthouse tours.
- YLD Coffee at the Courthouse & Judicial Shadowing Day- young lawyers are invited to the Hillsborough County Courthouse to meet and network with members of the judiciary.

Project Objectives/Description: With specificity, describe the nature of the project. In so doing, please also address the following questions:

The HCBA YLD Golf Tournament is an annual project focused on providing networking opportunities for young lawyers and most importantly, raising revenue for the charitable work the YLD does throughout the year. Giving back is a foundational mission of the YLD. Raising revenue through hosting the Golf Tournament allows the YLD to give back to the community throughout the year without taking funds away from its operating budget, which is not a guaranteed source of revenue either as it fluctuates with membership. If the YLD did not generate these funds, the events organized by the YLD would either be limited or completely eliminated. Not only have the YLD's efforts benefitted those organizations listed above, , the YLD has also assisted organizations such as Big Brother's Big Sister's, Joshua House, A Kid's Place and the Children's Home Society. Hundreds of people are served through these charitable initiatives, including some of our community's children with the greatest needs. Participating golfers receive a round of golf, lunch, refreshments, and dinner all included in their registration fee. Other affiliates may be able to replicate this project if they have local contacts with a community golf course and sponsors to assist with covering the costs. The affiliate should also have strong ties with community partners to ensure the tournament is a success. The networking aspect of the golf tournament should be highlighted as well. Young lawyers are able to engage experienced lawyers and judges in a fun, yet professional atmosphere. Countless connections are made at the golf tournament. These connections are highly valued by all participants.

Project Evaluation:

The HCBA YLD Events Committee projects to earn a profit of approximately \$6,000 for next year's golf tournament to put towards these projects and others that the YLD hosts and participates in throughout the year. Criteria for success includes meeting the revenue budget of \$6,000, earning enough revenue to cover costs, the number of player registrations and participation, and the number of sponsorships received.

Project Organization:

The golf tournament is a sole project of the HCBA YLD. The HCBA Bar staff assists with the project, however, details and logistics are handled and managed by the HCBA YLD Events Committee. The Senior HCBA Bar and the YLD Bar Board both advise the committee and are kept advised throughout the planning process.

HCBA YLD Board Members

- Responsible for organizing event and marketing.
- Securing sponsors.
- Volunteering on day of event.

HCBA Bar Staff

- Works along with HCBA YLD Board Members in organizing in marketing the event.
- Securing Sponsors.
- Volunteering on day of event.

HCBA YLD Events Committee

- YLD Committee tasked with organizing event and volunteering for event.

Budget:

Golf and Green Fees Cost: \$3,700+ (minimum guarantee of 80 players at a cost of \$46.00/player)

Set up, Hosting and Other Costs: \$2,500

Trophy's and tournament Prizes: \$1,000

Prizes: \$1,000 (includes trophies for first and second place teams, raffle prizes, etc.)

Total Minimum Budget: \$7,200

The budget increases if players exceed the 80 guaranteed by HCBA to the hosting golf course. The projected source of funds beyond the YLD grant requested would come from sponsors, raffle ticket sales, contest sales, and individual player registration. The expenditures for on course refreshment comes from in-kind donations of sponsors or are paid with sponsorship money.

The HCBA YLD would greatly appreciate receiving a grant of \$1500.00 from the AOC.

Timetable:

Planning for the Golf Tournament begins in June. The deadline to reserve the golf course is August 1st. Sponsorship recruitment begins in June and continues up to the tournament. Player registration begins approximately two months prior to the event. The event takes place in October.

Exhibits:

Please find a flyer from last year's tournament attached.

2016 AOC Grant Project Application HBACF's Practice Series for the New Minority Lawyer

I. Short Project Title

“Practice Series”

II. Contact Information

For the purposes of this grant and project, the appropriate HBACF contact is Christina Alvarez. Christina Alvarez will be presenting the grant proposal at the 2016 Affiliate Outreach Conference.

Christina Alvarez
C. Alvarez Law
33 E. Robinson St., Ste. 222
Orlando, FL 32819
Phone: (407) 985-4260
Email: christina@calvarezlaw.com

III. Affiliate Description

The Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida (“HBACF”) is a non-profit organization celebrating twenty-five (25) years of service in 2016. There are currently one hundred and eighty-three (183) members of which one hundred members (100) are young lawyers or student members. The HBACF has attended the AOC for the past seven (7) years. This project has not been previously presented at an AOC by the HBACF.

IV. Purpose of Request

The purpose of this request is to implement a practice series for the young lawyer members of HBACF in order to offer more resources to new minority attorneys trying to acquire specific training. A workshop featuring a topic of practice would be held every quarter and would qualify as a CLE. Ideally the practice topic would be presented by an attorney or judicial member of the HBACF. Some of the workshops topics would include: (1) taking depositions (2) negotiation tactics (3) entering in evidence and (4) presenting an effective opening and closing statement...etc.

In 2015, the HBACF held a CLE entitled “Developing Negotiation Skills as a Weapon for Transaction” in which approximately thirty (30) members attended. The format of the CLE was a panel discussion lead by top negotiators at Holland and Knight and Colling, Gilbert, Wright, and Carter. The CLE was also videotaped for later viewing by the HBACF members. The panel was very well received and feedback from members proved it to be beneficial for attorneys who often litigate. The success of the panel brought to light the need for the HBACF to continue to provide training resources as a benefit to our members.

V. Project Objectives/Description

Needs Addressed by Project

The project is intended to reach the young lawyer members of the HBACF who want to sharpen skills in their practice area or young lawyer members wanting to learn new skills in a different area of law. The HBACF YLS believes that the need for young lawyers to gain hands on experience and training is greater than ever as most law firms are interested in hiring an associate with legal training. Also, the HBACF is a small organization which may make it more comfortable for new attorneys to engage and ask questions during the practice topics because they already have an established relationship with other attendees and the speaker.

Groups Served by Project and Public Benefit

This project will serve the young lawyer members of the HBACF. The public will benefit from this project as the practice series will provide the tools for new minority attorneys to represent their clients more effectively. The practice series will also allow new minority attorneys to take on more complex matters.

Other/Similar Projects in the Area

The Orange County Bar Association does offer a course entitled “New Lawyer Training Program” in which young lawyers have the opportunity to tour the Orange County Courthouse and navigate the court system. However, the practice series offered by HBACF will be targeted more towards sharpening or learning new practice skills. The practice series will also focus on procedure while integrating practice tips.

Ability to Replicate Program

Once the practice series is implemented it will be easy for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate. An agenda for the topics will be created and posted on the HBACF Website so that other affiliates may view it.

VI. Project Evaluation

The success of the project will be evaluated by other participating HBACF members. The members will be given an opportunity to evaluate the course after completion.

VII. Project Organization

The project will be chaired by the 2016 Young Lawyers Section Chair, Christina Alvarez. The chair will report to the HBACF executive board for approval of all budgeting, partnerships and organizations of the practice series. To assist in implementing and carrying out the practice series, a committee will be formed of HBACF YLS members. The committee will be charged

with coming up with topic ideas, obtaining speakers, selecting materials for the topics, obtaining meeting space, and registering interested attendees.



VIII. Budget

The chart below summarizes the preliminary budget for this project. To the extent grant funds fall short and/or not eligible to cover specific expenses, the difference will be sought from sponsors, charitable contributions and contribution from the HBACF's general budget.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Materials	\$1,000.00
Advertising	\$500.00
Misc. equipment	\$200.00

IX. Timetable

The HBACF intends to meet with the YLS committee in spring of 2016. The HBACF will begin the implementation of the practice series in February of 2016 and intends on starting the series in April of 2016.

X. Conclusion

The HBACF believes the goals and objectives of this project will carry out the mission of the organization. The project will help new minority lawyers gain important hands on training and skills so that they may competently represent other minorities in need.

problem-solving—adding the mindfulness of yoga is like a booster,” said Fama. “It allows you to engage in the analytical part with a more creative openness.”

Yoga can help you to understand your client.

Sometimes understanding your client requires reading between the lines, Fama says, and yoga can help develop the sensitivity needed to do this. “If you have a client who is communicating from a very emotional place instead of just laying out the facts, you’re a much more effective lawyer if you’re able to pick up on their needs.”

Yoga slows everything down.

“It creates a bit of space when you’re approaching a problem. Instead of just tackling it, you are sitting with it for a bit longer.”

Yoga helps you to filter out thoughts that don’t need your attention.

“Thoughts come constantly,” says Fama, “but by practicing yoga you can become aware of the thoughts without becoming so preoccupied by them.”

Fama has been running these classes since he became assistant dean almost three years ago, and has been practicing yoga for about 15 years. “I realized early on that I needed, for my own sense of wellbeing, to find that balance. So I meditated and did yoga for many years while I was practicing law,” he recalls. He did his teacher training in New Jersey, and has since remained close with his own instructor, occasionally running retreats with him in New Jersey and Miami.

Fama also refers students to [The Mindfulness Project](#), the group that hosts yoga and meditation sessions at NYU’s Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life. “I keep this postcard of theirs on hand to give to students,” he says. “It says ‘Inhale. Exhale. Repeat.’ They take it and put it on their fridge as a reminder to breathe. It’s a good reminder for all of us.”

—Anneke Rautenbach



**The Jacksonville Bar Association
Young Lawyers Section
Grant Application
For
The 2016 Charity Chili Cook-Off**

The Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section
Grant Application

I. Short Project Title: 2016 Charity Chili Cook-Off

II. Contact Information:

Alexandria Hill
50 North Laura Street
Suite 1100
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Alexandria.hill@gray-robinson.com
904-632-8486

Ryan Hyde
50 North Laura Street
Suite 1600
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
rth@tmhlaw.net
904-358-4000

III. Affiliate:

The Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section (“YLS”) is the largest section of the The Jacksonville Bar Association (“JBA”) with over 750 members consisting of young lawyers under the age of 35 or who have been practicing for less than five years. The YLS is dedicated to providing a diverse array of programs and projects designed to benefit young lawyers, all members of the bar, and the community. These projects go beyond the traditional networking happy hour and include core programs such as our Annual Charity Golf Tournament held every fall, our Annual Poker Tournament held every spring, breakfasts with local judges, sports league, and Noon in June (a program designed for summer law clerks). In addition, the YLS works closing with the board for the JBA to help coordinate their programming.

The Chili Cook-Off is just one of the amazing programs the YLS puts on every year. While the YLS has been coordinating the Chili Cook-Off for over six years, this is the first year we are seeking a grant.

The YLS normally sends several representatives and has been consistently active at past AOCs.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

All funds awarded to the YLS will be used to help organize the 2016 Charity Chili Cook-Off benefiting Community Connections, a local 501(c)(3). The event is scheduled for February 20, 2016.

Last year, the YLS raised over \$4,000.00 for Friends of Jacksonville Animals through the proceeds from the Chili Cook-Off. With the assistance of this grant, we hope to double the amount raised. The funds from this grant will be used directly to help offset the cost of the event so that more of the proceeds can go directly to the charity.

The event itself is open to everyone. Last year 24 law firms and two local businesses participated in the cook-off and over 400 attorneys and members of the public attended to taste the chili. The event is held at a local hot spot – the famed Riverside Arts Market. The Market is

The Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section
Grant Application

not only a great venue for the event, it has proven to be a great way to showcase lawyers helping the community.

V. Project Objective/Description:

The Chili Cook-Off is one of the YLS's largest charitable events, enlisting support from many local law firms, businesses and the judiciary. We anticipate over 400 spectators will come and enjoy the Chili Cook-Off this year. While the proceeds from the Chili Cook-Off will directly impact Community Connections of Jacksonville – one of the oldest human services organizations in northeast Florida – the event itself benefits the community at large by raising awareness of homelessness issues in the Jacksonville area.

Founded in 1911, Community Connections of Jacksonville uses imaginative and resourceful strategies and community partnerships to help and support the needs of working homeless and low-income women, children and families in northeast Florida. Its support services and transitional housing supports thousands of at risk women and children every year by developing self-sufficiency and encouraging families to reach their full potential.

Supporting an organization such as Community Connections of Jacksonville is important when tackling a multifaceted and complex issue such as homelessness. Not only does homelessness strain the already overburdened healthcare, foster care and legal systems, it can also cultivate a vicious cycle of domestic violence, chemical dependency and social isolation. Community Connections of Jacksonville's programs and support services assist individuals to break this cycle, benefiting their families and the northeast Florida community as a whole.

The money raised at the Chili Cook-Off will aid the people of northeast Florida by helping Community Connections continue its mission of providing assistance for working homeless and low-income families in the northeast Florida region. This support includes transitional housing to homeless women and children, head start development centers and after school programs, a workforce development office, and a wellness center that provides healthcare for at-risk homeless residents. While Community Connections of Jacksonville receives monetary contributions from local businesses and in kind donations from northeast Florida residents, this is the only fundraiser that is supporting this organization this year.

The Chili Cook-Off takes significant planning to reach its full potential, but this project can be easily replicated by other young lawyer affiliates. The key elements for a successful event include (i) marketing to ensure law firm participation, (ii) a suitable venue, and (iii) logistical support from the young lawyers group to the participants. Chili Cook-Off participants will be provided with plastic ware, tasting cups, napkins and trash cans, along with tables and chairs. This support allows the Chili Cook-Off participants to focus on the most important part of the event – chili!

We anticipate twenty-five teams will participate this year and battle it out for awards including: Spiciest Chili; Meatiest Chili; Best Fixin's; Most Original; Best Cornbread; Crowd Favorite; and Best Overall Chili. Each team's chili is judged by local judges at the county, circuit, and federal

The Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section
Grant Application

levels. In addition to chili, the event features live music and face painting for the kiddos. It truly is a community event that the YLS hopes to make a staple event in Jacksonville.

The assistance of a grant will allow the YLS to offset the costs of the Chili Cook-Off and help the YLS provide Community Connections of Jacksonville with more of the proceeds raised by the Chili Cook-Off to further its mission of 'Healing Homelessness and Fighting Poverty, One Life at a Time.'

VI. Project Evaluation:

We hope to raise over \$8,000.00 for Community Connections as well as collect much needed items to help support the work they do for the Jacksonville Community.

VII. Project Organization:

The Chili Cook-Off Committee of the YLS will spear head the event. The current committee consists of two co-chairs, both board members of the YLS, and eight members who have all been assigned to subcommittees. Each subcommittee may seek as many volunteers as necessary. The subcommittees include: legal; logistics; entertainment; team liaison; PR; volunteer recruitment; and judging/awards. We are also recruiting law students to assist with day of logistics.

VIII. Budget:

Revenue		Budget
	Team Entry Fees*	\$3750
	Sponsorships**	\$4000
	Grant Request	\$2000
Total Revenue		\$6750
Expenses		
	Venue Fee	\$500
	Tables	\$700
	Tasting cups/spoons/napkins	\$300
	Koozies	\$250
	Publicity Expenses	\$100
	Trash cans	\$100
	Insurance	\$625
	Misc.	\$100
	Face Paint Supplies	\$10
	Publix - Ice	\$50
Total Expenses		\$2735

The Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section
Grant Application

Net Profit		\$7015
Funds at the door***		\$2000
Total Profit		<u>\$9015.00</u>

* Based on 25 teams at \$150.00

** Two firms have committed to sponsorships, one for \$1500.00 and one for \$500.00.

***The YLS does not charge an entrance fee for this event. However, we do take donations at the door.

IX. Timetable:

The event is scheduled for February 20, 2015. We have already reserved the venue and entertainment. We are also in the process of recruiting teams. By the time this grant application is presented, we hope to have at least 20 teams committed. At this time, we have five. Team registration deadline is February 5. Once the deadline passes, we will order the tables and chairs for each team and pick up the extra items we provide to each team including trash cans, tasting cups, napkins and spoons.

Josiah T. Walls Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

*"An organization of minority lawyers
dedicated to responding to the needs of our community."*



Overcoming Violence

**February 13, 2016
University of Florida Levin College of Law**

**Presented to the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division
January 2016 AOC**

**Josiah T. Walls Bar Association
PO Box 13894 • Gainesville, FL**

I. Josiah T. Walls Bar Association YLD
Law and Justice Conference
“Overcoming Violence”

II. Contact Information

The contact person for the Josiah T. Walls Bar Association Young Lawyers Division ("JTWYLD") is Lakesha Thomas. She can be reached at (352)-372-0519 Ext 7316. The mailing address for JTWYLD is P.O. Box 13894. Lakesha Thomas will also make the presentation on behalf the JTWYLD

III. Describe Your Affiliate:

The Josiah T. Walls Bar Association Young Lawyers Division ("JTWYLD") is a small yet very active group of approximately five (5) young Lawyers. Overall Josiah T Walls Bar Association ("JTWBA") has an active membership of about 15 attorneys and is open to bar members in the 3rd, 5th and 8th Judicial Circuit. JTWYLA has attended the AOC for the past several years and has been awarded funds for our Restoration of Civil Right Program Lawyers for Literacy Project. And the Law and Justice Conference

IV. Summary of the Purpose of Request

The Law & Justice Conference was inspired by and patterned after various “Street Law” programs that have been taught throughout the nation by lawyers, judges and law student since 1972. However, what makes the Law Justice Conference unique is that it condenses the traditional street law curriculum into a daylong high energy conference comprised of facilitated workshops, inspirational messages, and interactive leaning games. Generally, the Law and Justice Conference encourages the participants to think analytically about topical issues of the day such as gun violence , police community/race relations, and the impact of social media on society . The desired specific goals of the Law and Justice Conference are as follows: 1) encourage students to view the law as an integral part of their lives 2) facilitate the critical examination of the roles of lawyers, judges, law enforcement officers and other government officials and in their community and 3) improve participants communication and problem solving skills.

V. Project Objectives/Description

What needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to your Affiliate?

We live in an age where information on virtually any subject, no matter how complex or obscure is accessible at a mere swipe of a touch screen. However, often the public at large is woefully misinformed about many of the basic tenets of the justice system.

Misinformation often leads to a mistrust of the institution on a foundational level. This mistrust is compounded in many minority communities due to a strong public perception that the justice system does not treat all people equally. As a Bar Association comprised primarily of lawyers of color we feel a keen responsibility to address this issue

To what groups will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large)?

The conference will target middle and high school aged students who reside in geographic areas of Alachua and Marion Counties

How many people will the project serve?

The Conference will served approximately 100 students

What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?

In 2010, the University of Florida Levin College of Law Center on Children & Families sponsored a Youth Summit designed to engage high school students in discussion about matters concerning law and policy and how each affects them. The proposed Conference will expound upon this idea by asking the students the use the information that they have obtain during the conference to solve a real world problem. Additionally with the support of the Gainesville Police Department the Youth Conference can focus needed attention on students who are in the most danger of making adverse life decisions

How will the public benefit from the project?

- ***What impact will the project have in the community?***

The Youth Conference aspires not only to educate young people about the law, but to empower them to take an active role in the civic affairs of their schools and communities. The Youth conference will strive to fulfill this mission in high profile, high energy interactive one day event. This conference will serve as a testing ground upon which the student can learn engage controversial issues in a thoughtful and civil manner

- ***Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participants?***

No materials will be sold to the participants however we plan to provide each student participants with pens pads folders tote bags with various coupons or gifts cards as keep sakes and incentives.

- ***Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?***

This project in theory can easily be replicated; the core of the program is based upon the “Street Law” curriculum which is readily available via the internet. However the essential component for success world is the development of strong partnerships with other community stakeholders. In the case of the Conference JTWYD have forged alliances with the Gainesville Police Department, Reichert House Afterschool Program and the Boys & Girls Clubs who will assist with participant recruitment Additionally, The University of Florida College of Law and the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association who will provide facilities, volunteers and financial support.

VI. Evaluation

The project’s success will be measured in terms of achieving the following goals:

- (1) Reaching a larger, broader, and more diverse audience than previous programs
- (2) Greater program recognition by government, media, public, and private entities
- (3) Higher levels of youth enthusiasm and involvement
- (4) JTWYLD will create a survey to assess whether the above listed objectives have been obtained. The JTWYLD will also use social media such as Face book, YouTube and Twitter to promote the project and to access the level of excitement for the program.

VII. Organizational Structure.

The JTWYLD will host the Conference in cooperation with several partners: The University of Florida College of Law, The Gainesville Police Department, The Boys and Girls Club, Reichert House Afterschool Program, and the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association. The JTWBA will be the organization responsible for the production of the Conference and coordination of all volunteers. The JTWBA will be the sole entity accountable for the administration of all grants funds. The partner organizations will support the Conference by providing a meeting space, technical assistance, and additional financial support

VIII. Budget

Facilities.....	\$ In Kind
(University of Florida College of Law)	
Food: Breakfast, Lunch, snacks.....	\$1,700.00
(Josiah T. Walls Bar Association)	
Materials.....	\$1,400.00
- Tote bags	
- Water bottles	
- Pens	
- Book for Student participants	
- Coupons/Gift cards	
- Folders/Labels	
- Name Tags	
- Pens/Pencils	
- Copies	
- Session Materials for Presenters (\$50 x 6)	
Awards	
- Plaque for Keynote Speaker.....	\$75.00
- Thank You Cards Presenters.....	\$15.00
- Gift Cards Presenters.....	\$150.00

Total estimated budget---\$3,340

IX. Timetable

Law and Justice Youth Conference 2016
“Overcoming Violence”
Saturday February 13, 2016
University of Florida Levin College of Law
8:00 am – 3:00 pm

8:00am - 9:00am
Registration and Breakfast for Participants
(Courtyard & Holland 180 Foyer)

9:00am – 9:15am
Welcome & Announcements
(Holland 180)

9:15am – 9:45am
Motivational Speaker: Dr. Anntwanique Edwards
(Holland 180)

10:00am – 11:00
Workshop #1: Bullying/Cyberbullying
285B, 285C, 285D

15 Minute Break

11:15 – 12:15
Workshop #2: Second Amendment/Firearm regulation
, 355B, 355C, 355D

12:15 – 12:45
Lunch for Law & Justice Participants (Cafeteria) & Volunteers (Faculty Dining Room)

1:00 – 1:45
Small Group Panels
Attorney and Law Student Dialogue: Reaching Goals & Success
285B, 285C, 285D, 355B, 355C, 355D

2:00 - 2:30
Law & Justice Jeopardy
(Holland 180)

2:30 – 3:00
Closing Remarks & Certificates
(Holland 180)

X. Exhibits

None Attached.

Lee County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
2016 AOC Grant Application

- I. **Short Project Title:** Lee County YLD Tryathlon
- II. **Contact Information:** Thomas Coleman, President of the Young Lawyers Division of the Lee County Bar, is the contact person and presenter for the grant application.
- Thomas G. Coleman, Esq.
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, P.C.
2235 First Street
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Direct Phone No.: (239) 985-4839
Direct Fax No.: (239) 334-3240
Email: tom.coleman@bipc.com
- III. **Description of Affiliate and Past Attendance at the AOC:** The Young Lawyers Division of the Lee County Bar Association (the "Lee YLD") is a growing organization made up of about 70 young lawyers dedicated to furthering their professional growth and developing the skills necessary to become leaders within the Lee County Bar Association ("LCBA") and the community at large. The Lee YLD places great emphasis on improving the community through philanthropic activities that focus on children. The Lee YLD is governed by a four-person board and has consistent monthly meeting attendance of 15-25 members. The Lee YLD rotates meeting and social event locations throughout Southwest Florida to accommodate our members and support a broad spectrum of the community.
- This will be the fifth consecutive year that the Lee YLD has attended the Affiliate Outreach Conference and submitted a grant application. In 2013, the AOC Grant funds received by the Lee YLD helped fund a S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program at Child Care Southwest Florida, an organization that provides day care services to underprivileged families in Lee County. In 2014 and 2015, the AOC Grant Funds received by the Lee YLD were used to partner with Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida ("VFK") and its "Bedz for Kidz" program. This program provides beds and related items for children in the Lee County Guardian ad Litem Program. In 2015, the Lee YLD's \$3,500 AOC Grant was combined with an additional \$1,500.00 raised by the Lee YLD, for a total contribution of \$5,000.00 to VFK. In so doing, the Lee YLD met the \$5,000 project goal stated in its 2015 AOC Grant application.
- IV. **Summary – Purpose of Request:** The purpose of the Lee YLD's 2016 AOC Grant request is to obtain funding to support and expand the "Lee County YLD Tryathlon". The "Try"-athlon is a three part event which the Lee YLD is organizing with the Children's Network of Southwest Florida ("Children's Network").

The three events which comprise the Tryathlon will occur in the first, second and third quarters of 2016. The Children's Network will provide the Lee YLD with a list of local foster families who will be invited to participate in all three events. The three planned events – bowling, miniature golf, and fishing – are intended to be relaxed yet competitive so that the participants can all have fun while still being encouraged to try their hardest to compete. We will separately award participants who attend multiple events in order to recognize the value of committing to a series of tasks. Ideally the children will also be able to form lasting friendships with one another that extend beyond participation in the Tryathlon. Members of the YLD will have opportunities to participate on the organizational level and in the actual events as well. The Tryathlon is intended to increase the wellness and quality of life for foster families in Southwest Florida. The event will also provide Lee YLD Members with opportunities to serve as role models and have fun interacting with the community.

AOC Grant funding will enable the Lee YLD to increase event capacity and invite a greater number of foster families to the Tryathlon. It will also enable us to provide small prizes in connection with first two events, and school supplies to all participants in the August "Back-to-School" fishing tournament. The Lee YLD will pay for non-covered Tryathlon expenses through sponsorships, its traditional fundraising efforts (periodic sales, drives, and raffles), and with LCBA funds budgeted for the Lee YLD.

- V. **Project Objectives/Description:** The Lee County YLD Tryathlon is made up of bowling, miniature golf, and fishing events organized with the Children's Network. We have obtained prospective commitments from a local bowling alley and miniature golf course for discounted, all-encompassing group rates. We anticipate using the local Bass Pro Shop stock pond to conduct our fishing tournament.¹ The second and third quarter events will also correspond to the LCBA's annual golf tournament and the start of the school year in August. The Tryathlon events are being organized in this manner to appeal to a broad spectrum of participants and so that the prizes at the end of the event have the added benefit of helping the kids get ready for the 2016-2017 school year. The Lee YLD/LCBA will also be able to use the miniature golf tournament as a lead-in and springboard to generate interest in the LCBA's annual charity golf tournament. If necessary, the scope and structure of the event can be narrowed to coincide with available funding and sponsorships.

¹ A local representative from Bass Pro Shops has expressed interest in participating in the event and is in the process of obtaining the necessary corporate approvals. In the event that the stock fishing pond at Bass Pro Shops is not available then a local state park should provide a suitable back-up location.

1. What needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to your Affiliate? To what groups will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large)?

The Tryathlon is meant to improve the wellness of all event participants and to encourage ongoing community involvement. The spelling of Triathlon with “Try” underscores that participation and perseverance are the main themes of this project. By organizing multiple events and promoting repeat attendance, we hope to demonstrate the value of committing to a common task and forming new relationships with the other people involved. We are also hoping to promote healthy, fun competition and to reward the participants that try their hardest to achieve the event goals. The YLD Members will also be able to act as role models for the children who participate.

2. How many people will the project serve?

The Tryathlon will serve approximately 30-40 participants, including both foster families and Lee YLD / LCBA Members, subject to sponsorships and available funding.

3. What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?

We do not know of any other “multi-part” project organized by a professional organization like the Lee YLD and a community organization similar to the Children’s Network. There may be other instances of single events which foster community interaction by mixing or pairing participants from similar types of organizations, such as charity golf or fishing tournaments. The Tryathlon is distinguishable in that it provides for continual interaction among the participants from the Children’s Network and Lee YLD over an extended period of time. The relaxed, kid-focused theme of the Tryathlon events is also meant to appeal to a broader range of participants than a traditional charity sports tournament. Other local events provide school supplies to disadvantaged families but our prizes relate to event participation and have the potential to be tailored to the participants based on information we receive from the Children’s network.

4. How will the public benefit from the project?

The public’s relations with the Southwest Florida legal community will benefit because the Tryathlon represents a sustained effort by the Lee YLD (and LCBA) to improve the lives of families in this area. Disadvantaged members of the community will be provided with a series of free, healthy, and inspirational activities. Repeat attendance will ideally allow participants to form friendships that last beyond completion of the Tryathlon. Youth participants will be exposed to additional positive role models and their families can interact with representatives of the legal community and perhaps obtain a referral to necessary legal services. Subject to funding, participating families will also be able to obtain school supplies via the Tryathlon, reducing the burden on other charitable sources for these items and freeing up

capacity for provision to non-participating community members. up capacity for provision to non-participating members of the community. Finally, the formation of a partnership between the Lee YLD and the Children's Network to host this series of events will provide a bedrock for cross-organizational involvement and support in the future. Connecting professional organizations with charitable organizations allows for a strategic union to better impact and address the needs of our community.

5. What impact will the project have in the community?

The Tryathlon will impact the community by providing healthy, fun activities that increase quality of life for area residents. The Tryathlon will also help develop positive public relations among the participating organizations, sponsors, and community at large.

6. Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participants?

The Lee YLD will cover attendance and provide all materials to participants in the Tryathlon. Depending on available funding and the outcome of negotiations with event sponsors, we may be able to provide participants with backpacks with school supplies and/or let them keep their own basic fishing equipment.

7. Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?

The concept is simple to understand and replicate but the level of planning and involvement over the course of the year is substantial. A dedicated affiliate organization could replicate and/or improve upon the Tryathlon model contemplated herein.

VI. Project Evaluation: The success of the Tryathlon will be evaluated based on the level of general participation, repeat participation, and post-event feedback from the organizations, sponsors, and participants involved.

VII. Project Organization: The Lee YLD has the largest role in the Tryathlon because it is responsible for organizing the different event components and obtaining local sponsors. The Lee YLD is forming three separate project committees which will each have primary responsibility for the planning of an individual event. We will also have Lee YLD Members who volunteer and/or participate on the days of the individual events. The Lee YLD has partnered with the President of the Children's Network and her staff to identify deserving foster families to participate in the Tryathlon and help maintain lines of communication with the families in between individual events. The Lee YLD is also in the process of obtaining a local business/venue sponsor for each event. The LCBA has committed to making budgetary funds available to the Lee YLD in order to reduce some of the fundraising pressure and instead allow for the investment of our time into the Tryathlon itself. Members of the LCBA will be invited to participate in Tryathlon events. Members of the LCBA have also suggested a willingness to help identify and solicit sponsors.

VIII. Project Budget: Lee County YLD Tryathlon

<u>Tryathlon Project Budget</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tryathlon Event 1 (Bowling)	
Lanes / Bowling Shoes: (discounted flat rate; 6 lanes for 3 hours)	\$500.00
Prizes:	\$150.00
Food & Refreshments:	\$300.00
Tryathlon Event 2 (Miniature Golf)	
Rounds of Golf: (group rate of \$6.75 per person/round x 40):	\$270.00
Prizes:	\$150.00
Food & Refreshments:	\$300.00
Tryathlon Event 3 (Fishing)	
Bait / Tackle (fishing rods provided)*:	\$200.00
Prizes (basic school supply packages for all fishing participants with additional notebooks or other small items for repeat Tryathlon attendees):	\$830.00
Food & Refreshments:	\$300.00
Subtotals	
Total Event Costs:	\$970.00
Total Prize Costs:	\$1130.00
Total Refreshment Costs**	\$900.00
Total Tryathlon Budget	\$3,000.00
<u>Tryathlon Project Funding</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AOC Grant Request	\$2100.00
Lee YLD Budget/Reserves**	\$900.00
Total Tryathlon Funding	\$3,000.00

Additional funds necessary will be raised by the Lee YLD through bake sales, raffles, and other historically successful fundraising efforts

- IX. Timetable:** The Lee YLD will analyze anticipated funding and expenses by early February 2016. Project organization will emphasize the earliest events first until we have secured sufficient funding for the entire Tryathlon. The first event, bowling, is going to take place in February 2016. The second event, miniature golf, is likely to take place in late April or early May 2016. The third event, fishing, is likely to take place in mid August 2016.

EXPANSION OF ART CREATIONS FOR THE COURTHOUSE

2016 Grant Application Presented by:

The Manatee County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division

I. Project Title

The Manatee County Young Lawyers Division ("YLD") is proud to present the ART CREATIONS FOR THE COURTHOUSE PROJECT - EXPANSION for consideration by the YLD Board of Governors.

II. Contact Information

- Project Chairs

Ann Breitingner
Blalock Walters, P.A.
802 11th St. W.
Bradenton, FL 34205

Bryony Swift
Porges, Hamlin, Knowles & Hawk,
P.A.
1205 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205

Bryony Swift will present the project at the AOC on January 15, 2016

III. Describe Your Affiliate

- The Manatee County Bar Association has approximately 60 attorneys that qualify for membership in the YLD, with approximately 25 attorneys actively participating in regular YLD events.
- Members of the Manatee County YLD have participated in each of the past eight (8) Affiliate Outreach Conferences.
- The Manatee County YLD presented the initial year of this project at the 2015 AOC. This year we are hoping to expand upon the project. In 2015 this project was presented with a "Gold Award."

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request

A. Background

The Manatee YLD promotes community involvement among its members, and serves the needs of numerous local non-profit organizations. Last year we applied for and received funds to begin the "Art Creations for the Courthouse" project. The project was a huge success and met with strong support from both the community school system and the courthouse administration. This year we would like to expand this project to bring the vibrancy created by this project to additional areas of the courthouse.

Renovations to the Manatee County Judicial Center (MCJC) were completed in May 2008. After the renovations were completed, members of the judiciary and

other MCJC employees expressed a desire to display artwork from the community in the MCJC, but had not yet come to fruition, until our project in 2015.

It is against this background that this grant is submitted.

B. Current Project

The Art Creations for the Courthouse Project - Expansion aims to continue and grow the connection with local schools by displaying students' artwork throughout the MCJC, primarily focusing on the floors most frequently used by juveniles. Last year, we displayed approximately 20 students' artwork on the 5th floor of the MCJC. Additionally, we hosted an unveiling of the students' artwork for the students, their parents, and members of the legal community. This year, we hope to greatly expand the project to display at least an additional 30 students' artwork and again host a successful unveiling event.

V. Project Objectives/Description

This project addresses the need of the community and the county's legal community to connect in a positive manner. Commonly, the public only enters the courthouse for unpleasant circumstances or under times of duress. These interactions perpetuate negative connotations of the courthouse and the legal process in general. Further, as we are focusing on the floors of the MCJC most often visited by juveniles, we are creating the feeling of a "safe space" rather than a stark scary building. These needs are important to our affiliate because we want our courthouse to be a part of the community. An open and inclusive courthouse will bring the community together.

This project will provide services to many different groups of people. Most importantly, this project will serve the public at large by bringing their artistic creations into the MCJC and opening the building to the public for a positive experience. Secondly, this project will serve those families and juveniles spending time on the fifth floor of the MCJC as the entire floor will be brightened by the displayed artwork. Lastly, this project will serve the legal community in Manatee County by bringing creative artwork into the MCJC and making a connection between the legal community and the community at large.

Our goal is to display an additional 30 pieces of artwork. As such, this project will directly affect those 30 students whose artwork is displayed. Additionally, we are inviting those students whose artwork is chosen to an unveiling reception at the courthouse and asking those students to bring their parents or a special guest of their choice. Apart from the students and their families, the artwork will be enjoyed by all members of the legal community and those members of the community visiting the courthouse, no matter the circumstances.

Our original idea was based on the successful program created in Pinellas County government buildings. After the success of our 2015 exhibit, numerous individuals of the

community and the courthouse administration encouraged us to expand our project, commenting on what a difference the children's artwork made to the walls of the courthouse.

Our goal is for the community to get a new perspective on the courthouse as a place that is actually part of the community, not a place of stress and negative experiences. Further, when and if members of the community, especially juveniles, enter the courthouse for a potentially stressful experience, the displayed artwork will create a sense of community and invitation.

As with 2015, the Manatee County Schools will be providing all of the supplies necessary to create the artwork. Once the artwork is finished being displayed, it will be returned to the students, along with the name plaque displayed with it.

We hope to continue and expand this project in the coming years. Additionally, we will rotate out the 20 pieces of artwork hung in 2015, resulting in a total of 50 children's new artwork being displayed in 2016. Thus, through this project the Manatee County YLD will benefit 50 children by encouraging and celebrating their artistic abilities. This project will also benefit their parents and their art teachers who will join us at the Courthouse to encourage and celebrate these talented young people.

VI. Project Evaluation

The success of this project will be determined by the attendance at the unveiling ceremony and the reception of the artwork once hung in the MCJC. We hope to collect reactions from the MCJC staff regarding the artwork and their impression of the community's reaction.

VII. Project Organization

This project will be executed by a special committee of the Manatee County YLD, along with the assistance of the Executive Director of the Manatee Community Bar Association, Sue Revell.

In the schools, the art director for the county, Dr. Bazzy, will select pieces of art to share with the YLD. She will then coordinate with the committee of the YLD to transport these pieces to us. Once the artwork is given to the YLD, we will analyze the artwork to ensure the topics of all pieces are appropriate to be hung in the MCJC, and frame the artwork.

After all pieces have been cleared and framed, they will be given to the MCJC's Chief Deputy Court Administrator, Kim Miller, a strong supporter of this program. She will then coordinate with the maintenance staff to affix the additional frames to the wall and hang the art appropriately. The maintenance staff will donate their time.

The special committee of the YLD will plan the unveiling ceremony and coordinate with the MCJC staff regarding logistical issues.

VIII. Budget

The below preliminary line-item budget represents the costs necessary to carry out the Art Creations for the Courthouse – Expansion project through to the actual event. Although the per frame cost is high, it is necessary that we purchase lockable frames that can be permanently mounted to the wall in order to comply with courthouse safety standards. After a thorough analysis of the available options, we determined that these \$150 frames are the best option for this project.

Anticipated Income

AOC Grant (Requested)	\$5,000
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Anticipated Expenses

Frames	\$4,500 (30 frames at approximately \$150/each)
Plaques	\$500 (30 small plaques and a commemorative plaque)
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$5,000.00

IX. Timetable

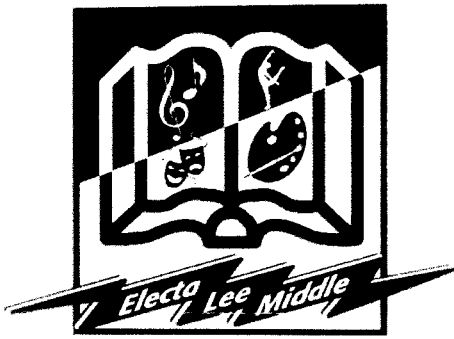
During the initial year of this project, we were able to identify a timeline that worked best for all parties. In late Spring 2016 we will again meet with Dr. Brazzy to select the new and additional artwork to be displayed. Our goal is to collect the artwork, hang the frames, and prepare a reception before the end of the 2016 school year. We hope to host the reception and unveiling in May 2016.

X. Exhibits

The attached photos showing the original bare walls of the 5th floor of the MCJC, the results of our 2015 project, and a picture from the unveiling showing the children proudly standing with Judge Moreland, parents, teachers, and members of the Manatee YLD. We have also included a letter of recommendation from Dudley Caroline Leigh, an art teacher in Manatee County and a letter of support from Kimberly Miller, the Chief Deputy Court Administrator.







ELECTA LEE MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL
4000 53RD AVENUE WEST
BRADENTON, FL. 34210
PHONE (941) 727-6500 FAX (941) 727-6513

October 9, 2015

Dear Ms. Bryony Swift,

I want to thank you on behalf of the visual art students at Lee Magnet Middle School, and the other schools in our county, for the opportunity to showcase student artwork in a public venue such as the Manatee County Courthouse. This opportunity was such a wonderful prospect for our young aspiring artists to exhibit drawings and paintings in a professional manner. The framing and lighting allowed them to view their work as it should be hung, and to see the value others hold for their creativity and talent by displaying the pieces in an authentic gallery setting.

It is a rare occasion when our school district's art students are given the chance to experience a reception in their honor, to celebrate their designs, and to be held in esteem as professional artist would be regarded. The parents, students, teachers, and community members who attended the event were all very impressed with the art exhibition and the reception. The entire event replicated a professional art opening experience. The details of the event from beginning to end were the elements that created a sense of importance for the students and made them feel significant to the community.

We were deeply honored to be invited to be a part of the Young Lawyers Division of the Manatee County Bar art exhibit. I hope Lee art students will have the opportunity to avail themselves again for an occasion such as this in the future.

Sincerely,

Dudley Caroline Leigh
Lee Magnet Middle School

The mission of Electa Lee Magnet Middle School is to inspire students to reach their highest potential and to acquire a love of learning by providing an artistically enriched environment.



STATE OF FLORIDA
TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WALT SMITH, COURT ADMINISTRATOR

January 6, 2016

The Florida Bar
Young Lawyers Division

RE: *Art Creations for the Courthouse* funding request

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in support of the Manatee County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division request for funding to expand and enhance its *Art Creations for the Courthouse* project. What started as an idea of trying to brighten up a public waiting area in the Manatee County Judicial Center by hanging a few pieces of student artwork has morphed into having a mini art gallery in the waiting area outside of the juvenile courtroom. This waiting area is now a very popular place to sit as people view drawings and paintings from students ranging in age from kindergarten through high school while they are waiting for their case to be called. We have received numerous comments and compliments from local attorneys and the public about how much they appreciate having the student artwork displayed in the judicial center.

Court Administration was proud to collaborate with the attorneys in the Young Lawyers Division to make their vision become a reality, and we support their endeavor to expand this artwork project to other public waiting areas in the judicial center. I urge you to give thoughtful consideration to this request and assure you that the judiciary and Court Administration fully support this project.

If you have any questions or wish to speak with me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Kimberly L. Miller, Esq.
Chief Deputy Court Administrator

MARION COUNTY YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

2016 AOC PROJECT: “INTERFAITH SUMMER CELEBRATION”

I. Short Project Title and Description

“INTERFAITH SUMMER CELEBRATION”

The MCYLS is seeking financial assistance for its 2016 philanthropic project to celebrate the arrival of summer and to collect food items for children living at, and receiving services from, Interfaith. This event would give children living at the Interfaith emergency shelter, who rarely have the opportunity to participate in parties and celebrations that are just for them, a chance to spend a fun and special afternoon with our young lawyers. It would also serve as an opportunity for our membership to donate food items to the Interfaith pantry for distribution to children receiving other services from the agency.

II. Contact Information

Hillary Musselman (President, Marion County Young Lawyers Section)
Office of the State Attorney
110 NW 1st Ave, Suite 5000
Ocala, FL 34475

III. Description of Affiliate

The Marion County Young Lawyers Section (MCYLS) is composed of approximately 35 active members. The MCYLS has attended every AOC since 2005, receiving grant funding each year. In recent years, the MCYLS has received funding for its annual Great Debate Tournament, for its Boys and Girls Club of Marion County Honor Program, and for last year's Veteran's Day Luncheon Celebration.

IV. Project Summary/Purpose:

The MCYLS is seeking financial assistance for its 2016 philanthropic project to celebrate the start of summer with children living in the Interfaith emergency shelter and to collect food donations for children who do not have access to meals normally received through the free or reduced price meal program in school cafeterias when school is in session. This program would allow our young lawyers to spend a fun afternoon celebrating the at risk children in our community who do not regularly have the chance to participate in parties and celebrations.

V. Project Objectives/Description

The MCYLS is committed to positively impacting the lives of Marion County residents, particularly local youth. This commitment has been a cornerstone of prior AOC projects. In 2010, AOC funding allowed the MCYLS to begin the Great Debate Tournament, which enjoyed great success and served to further the educational experiences of Marion County high school students. The MCYLS continues to hold its Great Debate Tournament in addition to one other major philanthropic endeavor chosen by the membership as its AOC project.

This year's MCYLS AOC Project will foster a relationship between the MCYLS and at risk youth living at the Interfaith emergency shelter. Through hands-on mentoring, young lawyers will set a positive example for the children. In turn, Marion County young lawyers will gain a better appreciation of the difficult circumstances in which many area youth are living. The objective of the project is to remind children living at Interfaith that they are not forgotten and to give them an afternoon that celebrates them and makes them feel special. It is also to help ensure that children who are at increased risk during summer months have enough food to eat.

Children living in shelters rarely have the opportunity to participate in celebrations and are frequently left out of many of the traditional milestones and rights of passage that other children enjoy. Meanwhile, children not living at the shelter but still receiving services from Interfaith are more likely to go hungry during summer months because they do not have access to the free or reduced school lunch program. Summer is also a traditionally slow time for charitable donations and many food pantry programs suffer as a result.

During the summer celebration the MCYLS will provide a pizza party lunch, summer games that can be left at Interfaith for later use, and treats as expenses permit.

The MCYLS firmly believes that this project is easy for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate. The concept is simple and could be implemented at any shelter where children reside. It will celebrate the children and remind our lawyers of the challenges children face during the summer and throughout the year.

VI. Project Evaluation

The MCYLS hopes this project will remind at risk children that they are not forgotten and that they community cares about them.

Success will be determined based on the number of children present. MCYLS membership includes several young lawyers who are regularly involved with Interfaith and can remain informed of the after-effects and responses by the children. MCYLS hopes to build support for this program over time and to increase celebration days and interaction with the children.

VII. Project Organization

The current MCYLS President, Hillary Musselman, is heading its 2016 Interfaith Summer Celebration. A five-member Interfaith Summer Celebration Committee will be formed.

X. Budget

Budget is contingent on the number of children who will be present. It is estimated that there will be approximately 15 children as well as several adult staff members at the celebration. Our request is for \$600 to cover food, games, and small gift bags for the children. All food pantry donations will be collected from our membership.

Total Expenses

Games: \$200
Food and drink: \$200
Paper goods: \$50
Gift bags: \$150

XI. Timetable

The MCYLS members are ready to introduce the Interfaith Summer Celebration in June 2016. Our committee will begin meeting in late February to coordinate a day and time for the celebration. We will meet again in April 2016 to plan activities and confirm preparations for food and gift bags. The celebration will take place in June.

Project Grant Applications: How to Qualify for Award Money

Applications for award money from the Young Lawyers Division should consist of a narrative summary of your project, divided into sections using the bold section headings below. **Please note that these headings have been revised in the past couple of years.** Past affiliate projects that have applied for award money have received awards up to \$5,000.00, although typical awards range from \$500.00 to \$1,500.00. The submission of a grant application does not guarantee the receipt of award money. Award decisions will be made at the sole discretion of the YLD Board of Governors following project presentations at this year's Affiliate Outreach Conference ("AOC") on January 16, 2016.

- I. **Short Project Title:** Provide a title for your project for use in the AOC materials.

MDFAWL YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE – LUNCH AND DINNER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- II. **Contact Information:** Provide the name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of a contact person or persons at your Affiliate. Additionally, please identify the individual(s) who will present your project at the AOC on January 16, 2016.

**Lauren Brunswick
Shubin & Bass, P.A.
46 S.W. 1st Street, Third Floor
Miami, Florida 33130**

**Evelyn Suero
Fuerst Ittleman David & Joseph PL
1001 Brickell Bay Dr 32 Fl
Miami, FL 33131**

The individual who will present the project on January 16, 2016 is Evelyn Suero.

- III. **Describe Your Affiliate:** Please provide a brief description of your Affiliate, including:
- the total number of members of your Affiliate, if known.
 - the past attendance of your Affiliate at AOC. If this is your Affiliate's first time attending an AOC, please state so in this section. If your Affiliate has previously presented this project before at an AOC, please state so in this section.

The Young Lawyers Committee of the Miami-Dade chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (MDFAWL) has approximately 100 members. The Young Lawyers Committee's events may be attended by all of MDFAWL's approximately 408 members (both male and female).

MDFAWL first presented this project at last year's AOC. With our grant award, we have served over 100 young attorneys through our lunch and mentorship program. It is as a result of the program's success last year that we are now seeking to renew the program.

- IV. **Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:** Please provide a brief overview of an organized and well-conceived project to be completed within one calendar year from the date funds are received. Your project should not be primarily political or partisan in its purpose as these purposes will not be funded. Likewise, projects that are inconsistent with the activities and priorities of the Florida Bar will not be funded.

The Young Lawyers Committee of MDFAWL will host a series of informal lunches and dinners, each of

which will be attended by approximately six “senior” attorneys and approximately twelve “young” attorneys. These events will bring together a group of attorneys of varying experience levels and will focus on particular practice areas (e.g., litigation, real property, corporate, in house, etc.). The events will serve as an opportunity for networking and informal mentoring. Attendees will be encouraged to exchange business cards and continue professional and/or mentoring relationships subsequent to the event.

V. **Project Objectives/Description:** With specificity, describe the nature of the project. In so doing, please also address the following questions:

- What needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to your Affiliate?

MDFAWL is a volunteer bar association dedicated to actively promoting the advancement of women in the legal profession, expanding the leadership role of its members in the community at large, and promoting women’s rights. The most recent annual Survey on Retention and Promotion of Women in Law Firms conducted by the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) Foundation reveals that not much has changed in compensation, leadership roles, rainmaking, and equity partnership at our nation’s largest 200 firms. The Young Lawyers Committee endeavors to address this issue by providing its young attorney members with focused mentorship and networking opportunities at the crucial early stage of their professional development. We believe that young attorneys as well as junior attorneys can benefit from learning and mentoring from someone more senior in their respective field while broadening their professional network as well.

- To what groups will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large)?

All members of MDFAWL may attend our events.

- How many people will the project serve?

We are aiming to host at least one lunch and dinner event quarterly depending on the grant amount received. Two events hosted quarterly, at a rate of twelve young attorneys present at each event, will serve approximately 100 attorneys within just one year.

- What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?

We are unfamiliar with other projects in our area that have tailored their events to providing mentorship to young attorneys, let alone mentorship within a specific practice area. General young lawyer networking events, while providing a pleasant setting for networking with other attorneys, unfortunately do not provide young attorneys with a definite method of networking and mentoring with individuals in different practice areas of interest. We believe that mentorship is an essential ingredient to the professional development of young attorneys in the Miami area in their first years of practice.

- How will the public benefit from the project?

Pro bono service has been and will be highlighted at every event as a valuable method of gaining experience. New/young attorneys will be informed about the many benefits of pro bono service and

if they wish, they will be put in contact with Legal Aid representatives who can assist the young attorneys with finding projects that may be of interest. For instance, young attorneys who are interested in corporate work may be interested in working on a pro bono matter with the Dade Legal Aid Venture Law Project.

- What impact will the project have in the community?

Young attorney attendees, women lawyers in particular, will begin their careers with a better understanding of how to navigate their chosen practice areas, minimizing costly errors and increasing attrition.

- Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participants?

If any materials are provided, they will be given to attendees free of charge.

- Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?

Other young lawyer affiliates can definitely replicate this project for their members. MDFAWL often works in conjunction with other bar associations, for instance Gwen S. Cherry and the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida. Neither of these organizations have a formal young lawyer affiliate as of yet. It is our committee's hope that these organizations will create similar young lawyer affiliates and carry out projects such as this one. This project would be a great opportunity for these organizations' younger members who seek mentorship and wish to network with experienced attorneys who practice law in the practice areas of their choice.

- VI. **Project Evaluation:** Please provide the results you expect to have achieved by the end of the funding period. Explain how you will measure the effectiveness of your project. With specificity, describe the criteria for success or failure of the project.

We will pair experienced attorneys with young attorneys ("attendees") together during informal lunch and dinner events for light and thoughtful discussions about the practice of law in the area featured at the event. In order to measure the success of the entire program as well as each individual event, we will provide all participants with end-of-event sign-in sheets and short feedback surveys as a means of communicating positive aspects of the program as well as any changes and/or featured practice areas participants would like to see at subsequent events. We will also encourage participants to schedule meetings with one another to obtain constructive feedback about the events and promote long-lasting relationships. An event is a success if over 75% of the participants respond positively either in-person or to our feedback survey, stating that they gained valuable networking connections, useful information and new insight about the practice of law in the particular practice area featured at the event. It has been our experience and continues to be our expectation that the attendees not only seek mentorship from the experienced attorneys, but that they meet and network with other attendees who share their interests, thereby increasing their opportunities for success in the field of their choice.

- VII. **Project Organization:** Provide a narrative and an organizational chart showing the proposed project structure. Outline the lines of authority and role of your Affiliate, senior bar, bar staff, other law-related organizations, community groups and appropriate

governmental agencies, and how they will relate.

The project will be run by a subcommittee of the Young Lawyers Committee comprised of four individuals including, Chairpersons of MDFAWL's Young Lawyers Committee, Ellen English, Amanda Fernandez & Evelyn Suero, and Lauren Brunswick (MDFAWL Board Member) who will work in conjunction with the Young Lawyers' Committee and the Board of MDFAWL on this project. Senior participants for the program will be promoted through MDFAWL's various committees, including the judicial committee and the corporate counsel committee, as well as via MDFAWL's monthly newsletter, which is circulated to 7,000 attorneys every Friday, as well as its weekly newsletter, which is circulated to 1,500 attorneys each Friday.

- VIII. **Budget:** Develop a preliminary line item budget of monies needed to complete your project. State whether additional funds can be obtained, if necessary, to achieve the project objectives and continue the project in the future beyond the one year AOC grant period. You may incur costs that exceed the YLD grant requested. If so, please state the projected source for those funds. Show the total cost, the amount requested from the YLD and contributions from all other sources (cash or in-kind). **If you budget for expenditures to cover refreshments, staff or attorney time, rental or meeting space or travel reimbursement, you must show income outside of the YLD grant funds to cover these expenses, as YLD funds cannot be used for these expenditures.**

Promotion of event via MDFAWL website and newsletters	Free of charge
Cost of attendance for senior attorneys ¹ \$45 per person (meal + parking) x 6 per event x 8 events	\$2,160
Total	\$2,160

Additional funding can be obtained, if necessary, directly from MDFAWL, upon request and approval of MDFAWL's Board of Directors. The Young Lawyers Committee can also solicit sponsorships as a means of funding.

- IX. **Timetable:** Provide a timetable for the project's major activities.

The program will consist of 8 lunch and dinner programs, with one lunch program and one dinner program to take place during each quarter of 2016. The first lunch/dinner program will take place in March 2016.

¹ The Young Lawyers Committee wishes to make attendance of senior lawyers complementary to (1) encourage participation and (2) thank senior lawyers for their participation.

A Halloween Party for Children Residing At the Women's Residential & Counseling Center

Submitted by the Young Lawyers Section of the Orange County Bar Association

Presenters:

Charity J. Tonelli
OCBA YLS Board of Directors
Stuart, Mount & Boylston, P.A.
37 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 1100
Orlando, Florida 32801
Phone: (407) 434-0330
Email: charity@raisedtoprotect.com

Jennifer L. Morando
YLS Event Chair
The Rosenthal Law Firm, P.A.
976 Lake Baldwin Lane, Suite 103
Orlando, Florida 32814
Phone: (407) 488-1220
Email: jmorando@therosenthallaw.com

I. SHORT PROJECT TITLE

The project is entitled the **WRCC Halloween Party**.

II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Charity J. Tonelli
OCBA YLS Board of Directors
Stuart, Mount & Boylston, P.A.
37 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 1100
Orlando, Florida 32801
Phone: (407) 434-0330
Email: charity@raisedtoprotect.com

Jennifer L. Morando
YLS Event Chair
The Rosenthal Law Firm, P.A.
976 Lake Baldwin Lane, Suite 103
Orlando, Florida 32814
Phone: (407) 488-1220
Email: jmorando@therosenthallaw.com

III. DESCRIPTION OF AFFILIATE

The Orange County Bar Association (“OCBA”) is a 3500-member voluntary bar association in Orlando, Florida. The Young Lawyers Section of the OCBA (“YLS”) is comprised of the OCBA members who are either under the age of 35 or who have been practicing law for five or fewer years. There are approximately 750 members of the YLS. The YLS is a vibrant and active organization, putting on more than forty events per year for its members. The YLS has attended AOCs in prior years. In 2013, the YLS presented this same project, but has since significantly improved the project.

IV. SUMMARY OF THE PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST

The purpose of the request is to fund a Halloween party for the children who reside at the Women’s Residential & Counseling Center (“WRCC”) in downtown Orlando. The 2016 party will mark YLS’ fourth year of hosting this event for the WRCC. The single largest component of the event budget is the costumes purchased for the children. Without this program, most, if not all, of the children at the WRCC would not have a Halloween costume to wear for their school Halloween parties or for trick-or-treating. Additionally, funds will be used to purchase Halloween decorations, games, crafts, prizes, and treats for the party. The program will also feature an educational component – a mock trial – and a pro bono legal advice clinic for the women residing at WRCC.

V. PROJECT OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION

A program of the Coalition for the Homeless, the WRCC is a transitional housing facility for women and children. The WRCC is a 138-bed facility, including 12 emergency beds for crisis situations. Many of its residents find their way to the WRCC in an effort to escape violence or avoid homelessness. While residing at the WRCC, residents are required to find a job, pay rent, and meet with a case manager to work on honing life skills, such as saving and budgeting, and planning and preparing for their transition into permanent housing upon their completion of the WRCC program.

Most of the women residing at the WRCC cannot afford an indulgence such as a Halloween costume or a Halloween party. Thus, the primary objective of this event is to provide a brand new Halloween costume to all of the children residing at the WRCC. The numbers vary depending on the current occupancy of the WRCC; however, there are usually between forty to fifty children at the WRCC at any given time. Additionally, we provide the children with not only a new costume, but also with a fun, festive, and safe Halloween party since many of the children may not participate in trick-or-treating due to safety concerns.

Another objective of the program is to teach the children about the legal system in a fun and interactive way. Before the actual Halloween party starts, a group of volunteers will perform the mock trial of Big Bad Wolf vs. Curly Pig. Based on the familiar story of the three little pigs, the mock trial is an informal and entertaining presentation that demonstrates to the children what a trial is like. The children will also put their own debate skills to work when we ask them to play the role of the jury and decide what the verdict will be.

Lastly, we will provide an opportunity for the women who reside at the WRCC to consult with a pro bono attorney. This program always happens to fall during National Celebrate Pro Bono Week. In 2015, in an effort to honor National Celebrate Pro Bono Week and improve this project, we added a pro bono component to this program in the form of a legal advice clinic. Attorneys with experience in legal areas such as family, criminal, landlord/tenant, and bankruptcy, were on hand to meet with WRCC residents and discuss their legal concerns. This year, we hope to repeat and expand upon the legal advice clinic by extending the clinic hours, increasing publicity of the clinic, and improving awareness and understanding of the service provided.

VI. PROJECT EVALUATION

The success of this project will be measured as follows:

- The **SMILES** as the kids enter their cafeteria to find it decked out in Halloween decorations and excitedly explore the contents of their Halloween treat bags;
- The **LAUGHTER** as the kids participate in Halloween themed games, crafts, and activities;
- The **JOY** as the children eagerly select and try on their brand new Halloween costume;
- The **KNOWLEDGE** the kids will gain from watching a mock trial presentation and debating the verdict they will deliver; and
- The **RELIEF** that the women will feel from having an opportunity to consult with a volunteer attorney about the legal issues that are important to them.

VII. PROJECT ORGANIZATION

The YLS President will appoint a Chairperson for the program. The Chairperson will be responsible for planning the program but may form a committee to assist with planning of the program. The Chairperson will report to the YLS Board of Directors. The Chairperson will coordinate with the Director of Community Engagement (the “Director”) of the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida to secure a date, time, and space for the program. The Chairperson will coordinate the pro bono component of the program with the Pro Bono Coordinator for the

Legal Aid Society of the OCBA. To staff the Halloween party and the pro bono clinic, the Chairperson will solicit volunteers from the members of YLS.

VIII. BUDGET

The estimated budget for the program is \$2,370.00. A line-item breakdown of the estimated budget is provided in Table 1 below. In years past, we have been fortunate to have sponsors and volunteers who were willing to provide monetary or in-kind donations to cover party refreshments and candy for trick-or-treating stations. To keep party costs low, we have generally purchased decorations, games, and other party items at discount retailers which were only suitable for one-time use. Given that this is a program that we would like to continue into the future, we would like to invest in some more durable decorations, games, and activities that can be used and enjoyed for years to come, which, in turn, would help reduce the recurring costs of this program.

Based on the budget detailed below, together with historical sponsorship patterns of this program, we are requesting a grant from the YLD in the amount of \$2,170 (we have deleted the food/beverage portion from our request). In the event the full request is not funded, then the budget will have to be supplemented by sponsorships and by the YLS; the budget would most likely need to be cut as well.

TABLE 1		
Description		Estimated Cost
Party Expenses:		
	Children's Costumes	\$ 1,400.00
	Party Decorations	\$ 120.00
	Games	\$ 100.00
	Crafts and Supplies	\$ 80.00
	Activity/Coloring Books	\$ 100.00
	Trick-or-Treat Bags	\$ 70.00
	Party Refreshments	\$ 100.00
	Candy	\$ 100.00
	Printing	\$ 30.00
	Subtotal: Party Expenses	\$ 2,100.00
Mock Trial Expenses		
	Mock Trial Props/Costumes	\$ 150.00
	Printing Costs	\$ 30.00
	Subtotal: Mock Trial	\$ 180.00
Pro Bono Clinic Expenses		
	Supplies (e.g., pens, note pads)	\$ 30.00
	Printing	\$ 60.00
	Subtotal: Pro Bono Clinic	\$ 90.00
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET		\$ 2,370.00

IX. TIMETABLE

- **June/Early July 2016:** The Chairperson will coordinate with the WRCC to secure a date for the program to occur in October 2016 (typically, the event is held on a Thursday evening that is close to Halloween).
- **August 2016:** If the Chairperson elects to organize a planning committee, the Chairperson should begin doing so at this time. At this time, the Chairperson will also contact the Legal Aid Society to coordinate the details of the legal advice clinic.
- **September 2016:** The Chairperson will begin to promote the event to YLS members and solicit volunteers to participate in the mock trial, the party, or the legal advice clinic. The Chairperson, together with the planning committee, if applicable, will begin to plan the details of the mock trial and the party, including purchasing costumes in preparation for the event.
- **October 2016:** In early October, the Chairperson and the committee will prepare flyers to distribute at the WRCC for purposes of promoting both the Halloween party and the legal advice clinic. The Chairperson and planning committee, if applicable, will finalize plans for the mock trial, the party, and the legal advice clinic. The Chairperson will obtain a list of children, including age, gender, and size, to ensure that there are enough costumes.

X. EXHIBITS

Pictures from the 2015 WRCC Halloween Party:







- I. **Short Project Title:** Start STRONG
- II. **Contact Information:** Celeste Thacker, Burr & Forman 200 S Orange Ave Suite 800 Orlando, FL 32801, [407-908-3711](tel:407-908-3711), cthacker@burr.com. Presentation by Celeste Thacker
- III. **Describe Your Affiliate:**
 - *the total number of members of your Affiliate:* approximately 80 Young Lawyers
 - *past attendance* – This is Osceola’s first time at the Affiliate Outreach Conference. Last year Osceola received a Health and Wellness Grant from the YLD.
- IV. **Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:** Start STRONG is a mentoring program targeting teens transitioning from middle school to high school. Start STRONG is a two part program. Part one is a kickoff program that will be 6 hours on a Saturday and part two is pairing teens with a mentor that meets bi-weekly with the teen to reinforce the points of the program. STRONG stands for Success, Time-Management, Responsibility, Osceola County, Networking, and Growth. Each of these words will be a station teaching the teenagers different aspects of personal development and empowerment with the goal of leading them to be successful in high school and a productive member of Osceola County. The Saturday kickoff program will occur in the summer before the school year begins and continue throughout the year in the mentorship portion of the program.
- V. **Project Objectives/Description:** *With specificity, describe the nature of the project. In so doing, please also address the following questions:*
 - *What needs does the project address?* Recently, due to lack of funding, the Osceola Department of Juvenile Justice had to cut four programs that were designed to help teens. One of the programs is the Community Outreach and Mentoring Program (COMP). This program provided in-home psychosocial rehabilitation services to youth ages 10-17 to assist with gaining empowerment to develop to the fullest potential possible, provided positive role models and therapeutic prevention, and intervention to improve self-esteem, social skills, and increase positive behavior. The goal of Start STRONG is to fill this void by providing positive mentors and programs to build teen empowerment. While the target audience for Start STRONG is teens in transition, the program will hopefully expand in the future to reach the wider age range that COMP can no longer serve.
 - *Why are these needs important to your Affiliate?* The Osceola County Bar Association values community development through building future citizen

leaders and through supporting juvenile justice programs to stop crime before it happens.

- *To what groups will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large)?* This provides services to the Osceola Department of Juvenile Justice and teens in Osceola County.
- *How many people will the project serve?* The goal of the kickoff program is 50 teens and the continued mentoring program goal is 25.
- *What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?* Our project is different from others because we intend to proactively build teen leaders instead of retroactively dealing with problem teens. While there are other programs that assist teens, like the Boys and Girls Club, and the Osceola County Education Foundation we are not aware of another program in the county currently meeting this specific need of building leaders and helping teens avoid the criminal justice system.
- *How will the public benefit from the project? What impact will the project have in the community?* Reduced crime and empowered teens who can be future community leaders.
- *Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participant?* The materials used for each station of the kickoff program or by each mentor will be distributed to the teens.
- *Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?* The curriculum used for the kickoff program should be easily distributed to other affiliates.

VI. **Project Evaluation:** *Please provide the results you expect to have achieved by the end of the funding period. Explain how you will measure the effectiveness of your project. With specificity, describe the criteria for success or failure of the project.* The results we plan to achieve through this project are empowered teens with direction for how to succeed in high school and beyond. We can measure the success of the program because mentors will track how their teen is behaving by meeting regularly with them and actively asking about their involvement in school. Ultimately the program is a success if one struggling teens is empowered to become a more successful student and member of the community. Additionally, mentors will give a report at the end of the mentoring program detailing whether they could see a difference in the outlook of their mentee. At the conclusion of the kickoff program and the mentoring program we will also seek feedback from the students who participated.

VII. **Project Organization:** *Provide a narrative and an organizational chart showing the proposed project structure. Outline the lines of authority and role of your Affiliate, senior bar, bar staff, other law-related organizations, community groups and appropriate governmental agencies, and how they will relate.* The kickoff program

will have six 45 minute stations each one focusing on a different aspect of STRONG. The stations will be led by Bar Association members, Department of Justice personnel, community leaders, and student leaders from high schools in the county. The teens will have multiple chaperones accompanying the group from station to station. Bar Association members and community leaders will serve as the mentors. The Osceola Young Lawyers Rep will oversee the program with the help of the Osceola Board.

VIII. **Budget:**

Meeting space (likely the library or community house) and lunch for the students and volunteers during the kickoff program will be purchased through proceeds from the silent auction at the Osceola Bar Gala. The meeting space is estimated to be \$500 for the day and the lunch/snacks will cost about \$10 per person = approximately \$800 (50 student and 30 volunteers).

We seek the following from the YLD:

\$1,000.00 - Journals (\$5.00 x 50) and a book about goals and leadership skills (title TBD but potentially Stephen Covey's Seven Habits of High Effective Teens approximately \$15.00 x50) for the students to take after the kickoff program. Those paired with a mentor will be encouraged by their mentor to use the journal and read the book.

\$450.00 – Materials. This will include any nametags (\$25.00), pens/pencils, paper, or other materials to be used in the kickoff program sessions (\$50.00 x 6); marketing brochures (\$100.00); and signage (\$25.00)

IX. **Timetable:** Kickoff Event – last Saturday of June or first Saturday of July; mentoring program will be individual based on the schedules of the student and attorney and will continue until June 2017 when we will have a Wrap-Up Event for all involved.

PINELLAS COUNTY CHAPTER
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS
YOUNG LAWYER DIVISION'S AFFILIATE OUTREACH COMMITTEE
2016 PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION

Short Project Title:

Pursuit of Perfect Work/Life Balance: Everybody's got it, right?

Contact Person/Presenter Information:

Laura Jo Lieffers
Moyer Law Group
801 3rd Street South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
llieffers@moyerlawgroup.com

III. Describe Your Affiliate:

The Pinellas County Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (PFAWL) is devoted to actively promoting the advancement of women in the legal profession and furthering the common interests of its members by encouraging camaraderie and learning. PFAWL'S chapter has approximately 100 members, the majority of whom are young lawyers and law students. PFAWL's Young Lawyer Division was established in the fall of 2012. This is the fourth year PFAWL'S Young Lawyer Division will be attending an AOC. Last year, PFAWL was awarded funding for its Diversity Initiative, where PFAWL supported various local groups supporting diversity in the profession through sponsorships of events.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

PFAWL's project was inspired by the Tampa Bay Chapter of Federal Bar Association's Staying in the Game: Women, Leadership and the Law program. With this project, PFAWL will continue its efforts to support diversity in our profession. Specifically, we want to publish resources to help local female lawyers, especially in big-law/private practice, "stay in the game" and help their firms find ways to retain the talent. These publications will include an article in the FAWL Spring Journal and a short video series (similar to "Mentoring with the Masters") to be published on PFAWL's website (and hopefully the FLFA YLD website!).

V. Project Objectives/Description:

Many great organizations, including FAWL and the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, have commissioned great events, resources, and forums where leaders in the law discuss "work/life balance" and finding time to "do it all" in the high-stress, billable-hour, fast-paced, deadline-driven industry of law. These endeavors have been greatly successful and PFAWL wants to contribute to the resources available to our young lawyers and female lawyers at all stages in their careers. In most private, big (or even medium and small) law firms, a lawyer's success is

based upon hours billed or money received from the work performed, and if an attorney hopes to become partner one day, his or her book of business. Building upon the theme of the FAWL Spring Journal, which is Work/Life Balance, this project will entail publishing an article (or multiple articles) in the FAWL Spring Journal and producing a video series for the PFAWL website (similar to Mentoring with the Masters) that contain helpful pieces of advice, ideas, and interviews with amazing leaders across the state of Florida. The goal is to gather practical, localized advice from women and men in Tampa Bay, who have become leaders in their fields (not just law) where career progress and success are based upon performance criteria (i.e., billable hours, sales, deals closed, etc.), and how each copes with the stress of everyday life. A life that includes trying to balance a more than full-time career and their personal lives. Our research has shown that to be successful in your career, sometimes there is no perfect work/life balance and instead the pursuit of balance in sacrifices and minimizing regrets.

PFAWL specifically wants to help young female attorneys stay in the law game, and thrive in their environments—and hopefully show firms that it is worthwhile to retain their talent and provide these women with tools to become equity partners or shareholders in their respective firms. However, we hope that these publications will be helpful to both male and female attorneys, and young lawyers along with their supervising attorneys.

In addition to the great work that FAWL and the TBC of the FBA has done mining advice from lawyers, the article and the videos would highlight a cross-industry analysis of interviews with local successful, professional businesswomen (and men) in leadership positions (or on track for leadership positions) and draw from a more diverse array of experiences; this can include not only lawyers, but also Architects, Engineers, Contractors, members of the Insurance, Technology, Financial, and Healthcare industries. Pooling ideas from these interviews and gathering advice that is helpful for lawyers in private practice. This project is not meant to change the “big law” system as it exists, but to provide advice and helpful hints to become successful female attorneys within the system.

These publications will be accessible by not only the PFAWL members, but also readers of the electronic FAWL Journal and any of PFAWL’s followers on social media.

VI. Project Evaluation:

Utilizing social media and PFAWL’s website to share the videos, we can measure interest and success by number of likes and views of the videos. We hope that the videos will encourage other organizations to explore new and diverse ways to learn from other professions, outside of the legal field.

VII. Project Organization:

This project’s events will be organized by the PFAWL Board of Directors. The Board will also work with any partner organizations. We have also obtained quotes from and hope to work with a local videographer (Marilyn M. McCloskey & Associates, Inc.) in the production, editing and publishing the video series.

VIII. Budget:

We are requesting the AOC grant funds to cover the cost of 2 videos. We hope that if the project is successful, we will be able to cover future additional videography work in-kind sponsorships. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Production of Video Clip for Website (Rates by McCloskey & Associates, Inc., St. Petersburg, FL)	
2 Hour Interview Shoot (\$175 for 1 st Hour and \$85 for ea. Additional Hour)	\$260
10 Hour Editing for 4-5 minute video (\$85.00 per hour)	\$850
1 Video Interview Total:	\$1,110 per video
	x 2
Total 2016 Grant Request (2 video interviews):	\$2,220

IX. Timetable:

The article(s) will be published in Spring 2016 and we hope to have 2 video clips, probably approximately 5 minutes in length, ready to upload to our website by July 2016.

St. Johns County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section

I. Short Project Title

Corn-Hole for a Cause @ Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park
Benefiting the St. Johns County Legal Aid Office

II. Contact Information

St. Johns County Bar Association
Attn: Travis Mydock, Esq.
PO Box 211
St. Augustine, FL 32084
SJCAYLS@gmail.com

Heather Maltby Esq. and Brittany Fraser Esq. will present at AOC.

III. Describe Your Affiliate

The St. Johns County Bar Association ("SJCBA") has 150 active members. In 2015, we formed a Young Lawyer Section ("YLS") and became an official affiliate of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division ("YLD"). The YLS currently has 30 members. In 2016, we hope to grow affiliate membership to include the 150+ young lawyers that also live and/or work in St. Johns County. This is the first time we have attended or presented at AOC.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request

The YLS is requesting grant money to assist with the costs of our event and promotional items. The primary purpose of our request is to help grow affiliate membership and raise money for the local legal aid office while improving the work/life balance of the young lawyers in our area. Our plan is to coordinate a BBQ and Corn-Hole Tournament at Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park to be held on Saturday May 21, 2016.

V. Project Objectives/Description

Membership growth is critical to the success and development of our affiliate chapter. Our project will promote and grow affiliate membership while also benefiting local legal aid. All current members of the YLD in St. Johns, Putnam and Flagler Counties (over 200 young lawyers) will be invited to attend and encouraged to join the affiliate chapter. Current students and recent graduates of Florida Coastal School of Law will also be allowed to attend. The event can accommodate up to 100 people with 64 corn-hole tournament participants (32 teams).

All proceeds from our project will be donated directly to the St. Johns County Legal Aid Office. Additionally, we will encourage attendees to provide pro bono legal aid services. As a result, low income members of our community will directly benefit from the monetary donations and/or pro bono services provided.

Our project will coincide with the YLD's Health & Wellness Month in May. It will also follow final exams and law school graduation (May 13). The event will help improve the work-life balance of the young lawyers who attend. It will provide a stress free event outdoors which will help foster new professional relationships while strengthening existing ones.

We have already secured Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park as our venue. The park is a family and pet friendly attraction which features 15 beautiful acres that overlook the Matanzas River and St. Augustine Inlet. The location is also the historical site where St. Augustine first began in 1565 when Spanish Explorer Pedro Menendez de Aviles established the first and oldest continuous European Settlement in the United States. We will have access to the venue free of charge from 5 pm to 10 pm on Saturday May 21, 2016. The venue also includes a 3,000 square feet pavilion with tables and chairs for up to 150 guests.

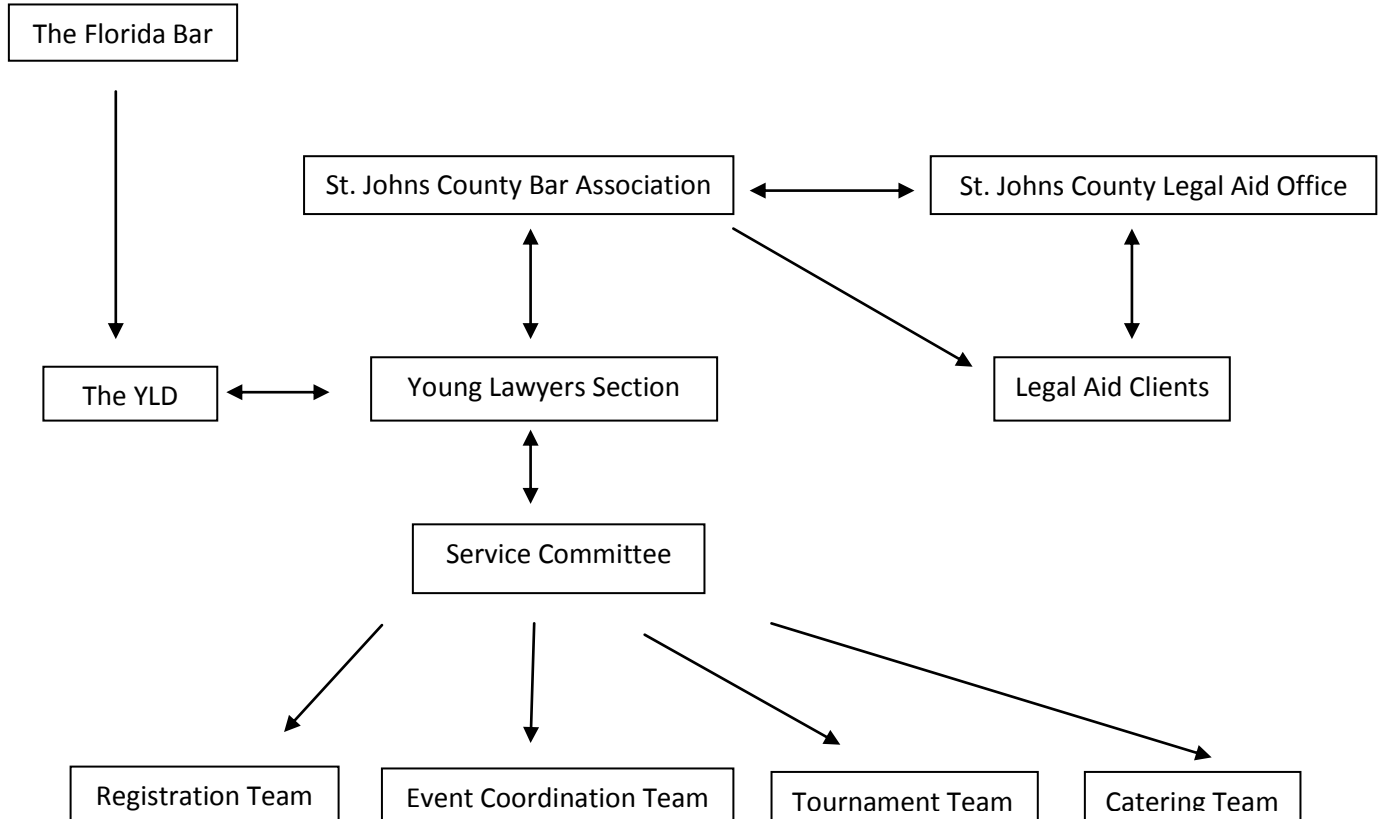
There are no other projects in the area that provide a similar service to the targeted groups. Two local law firms host fundraising events for local area legal aid (a St. Patrick's Day themed party in March and a golf tournament in September). This is the only event hosted by the local bar association and the only event intended for young lawyers and law students.

No materials will be sold. Participants will, however, be encouraged to make a \$50 donation. This is an easy project for other affiliates to replicate.

VI. Project Evaluation

Our goal is to raise \$3,000 or more for the St. Johns County Legal Aid Office. The effectiveness of our project will be measured by the ultimate donation as well as by the number of participants. The success of our project can further be measured by the number of young lawyers who become new members of the affiliate chapter.

VII. Project Organization



- St. Johns County Bar Association
 - *President* will present our donation to the St. Johns County Legal Aid Office at the monthly bar luncheon in June.
 - *Secretary* will email all invitations/reminders for the event, and take photos during the event for publication on YLD and SJCBA social media.
 - *Treasurer* will handle all finances for the event including deposits and expenses.
- Young Lawyers Section, Service Committee
 - *Registration Team* will design the event invitation, maintain the list of registered guests, design and order the promotional items, sign in attendees as they arrive, plus distribute admission tickets and promotional items.
 - *Coordination Team* will set up the tables and chairs in the pavilion, collect and return the borrowed corn-hole boards, and clean up after the event.
 - *Tournament Team* will organize and run the tournament, keep official time and rules, and present the winner's trophy.
 - *Catering Team* will oversee the food/drink order and delivery including clean up.

VIII. Budget

a. Income

Tournament Participants	64 x \$50 =	\$3,200
Other Attendees	36 x \$25 =	\$900
<u>Sponsorships</u>	<u>2 x \$750 =</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>
TOTAL		\$5,600

b. Expenses

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Source</u>
Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth Archeological Park*		In Kind
Corn Hole Boards		In Kind
BBQ Catering (@ \$15 per person)	\$1,500	Guest
Promotional Items / SJCBA YLS shirts (@ \$10 per person)	\$1,000	Grant
Musician	\$300	Grant
Drinks/Cups/Plates/Forks/Ice/Trash Bags	\$100	Grant
Winner Trophy	\$75	Grant
Attendee Wristbands/Food Tickets	\$25	Grant
<u>Printing</u>	<u>\$25</u>	<u>Grant</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3,050	
REQUESTED GRANT AMOUNT	\$ 1,550	

*** The venue has been secured at no cost. The regular rental rate is \$4,000.**

Regular group rate admission is \$9.50 per person.

IX. Timetable

We have already secured the venue for Saturday May 21, 2016. The SJCBA will promote the event in the e-newsletter and at all board meetings leading up to the date. Invitations will be emailed directly to all YLD members in St. Johns, Putnam and Flagler Counties on February 1. Email reminders will be sent on March 1st, April 1st, and May 2nd encouraging everyone to register. Students at Florida Coastal School of Law will be notified March 18th. The number of groups (Law Review, Moot Court, Mock Trial, etc.) invited will depend on the number of registrations received to date. The registration deadline will be May 2nd. Sponsors will be sought during the months of February to May. A musician will be secured no later than May 2nd. Promotional items will be ordered no later than May 2nd. Catering will be ordered no later than May 11th.

X. Exhibits



**THE FLORIDA BAR YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION
AFFILIATE OUTREACH CONFERENCE 2016**

ST. PETERSBURG BAR ASSOCIATION GRANT APPLICATION

- I. Short Project Title:** “Ask a Lawyer” Day
- II. Contact Information:** Stephen Lewellyn, YLS Chair
Maxey Law Offices, PLLC
100 Second Avenue South, Suite 401 North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
Phone: 727-230-4949
Email: s.lewellyn@maxeyiplaw.com

Stephen Lewellyn will present the project of the St. Petersburg Bar Association Young Lawyers Section at the Affiliate Outreach Conference on January 15, 2016.

III. Describe Your Affiliate: The St. Petersburg Bar Association Young Lawyers Section (YLS) currently has approximately 90 members, with approximately 25-30 members who regularly and actively participate in YLS functions. Our Affiliate first presented this project in 2015 and is presenting the project for a second time to build upon last year’s success.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request: The St. Petersburg Bar Association YLS would like to build upon “Ask a Lawyer” Day, an event held last year with the purpose of providing free legal services and information to our community who cannot afford the costs of legal services.

Last year’s event provided pro-bono legal services to 50 members of our community. Several attendees had multiple legal issues and visited with more than one attorney during the event. This year, our goal is to increase the number of attendees by increasing awareness of the event to both our Bar community and the community at large.

V. Project Objectives/Description: The “Ask a Lawyer” Day event will be held following our Law Day outreach and is designed to provide an opportunity to people who cannot afford an attorney to meet with an attorney to ask questions, receive general information, learn about their rights and responsibilities, obtain help completing pro se forms, and obtain referrals, if appropriate, to local pro bono legal organizations. It will also provide an opportunity for our attorneys to find one or more cases that they are willing to take pro bono.

The event format includes two to three of our attorneys for each of the following subject areas: (1) Family Law; (2) Landlord-Tenant; (3) Criminal Defense; (4) Wills, Probate, and Trusts; (5) Bankruptcy; and (6) General Civil Matters. When a guest arrives, an intake volunteer will quickly determine the area of law the guest is seeking assistance, and then direct the guest to the waiting area for the proper area of law, where the guest would wait for his/her turn to visit with an attorney. Our goal is to provide information and resources to at least 50-80 members of our community.

Our community will benefit from our “Ask a Lawyer” day by becoming better informed citizens and participants in the legal system. Those who cannot be helped in a single information session will be paired with a legal aid organization or a private attorney willing to serve the individual pro bono. Hopefully, this experience will positively impact the community's perception of lawyers and the local legal system by increasing access to the courts and truly striving for “Justice for all.” We will make available to the public informational pamphlets and brochures, as well as free legal forms from the Sixth Judicial Circuit. This would be an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate because the principal resources required are our knowledge, time and compassion. In every community there are individuals who are currently underserved by the legal community and who are in need of assistance.

VI. Project Evaluation: The YLS expects to have achieved organization and completion of a pro bono “Ask a Lawyer” Day to provide legal information and resources to members of our community who cannot afford the costs of legal services. Since this will be the second year of the event, success of the event will be measured by comparison with the number of people served and pro bono hours provided by last year’s event.

VII. Project Organization: The organization of our project will involve the cooperation and work of our Affiliate and the Bar Office staff in the following manner:

1. January 2016: Affiliate determines scope of project based on funding, confirms rental space for event, and updates the Executive Committee and Bar Office staff.

2. January 2016: Affiliate works with Bar Office staff to publicize the need for additional funding from the Bar members and local firms; Affiliate and Bar Office staff collect additional funding.

3. March 2016: Affiliate and Bar Office staff publish the date of the event to members and call for volunteers.

4. March 2016: Affiliate and Bar Office staff design newspaper ad for the Tampa Bay Times, order fliers, and order T-shirts.

5. April 2016: Newspaper ad printed in Tampa Bay Times (multiple times); Affiliate distributes fliers to schools, churches, and local organizations.

6. Week of Event (May 2016): Bar Office confirms rental space and set up; final push for volunteers; Affiliate provides instructions to volunteers.

7. Day of Event: Volunteers meet at 8 a.m. to receive final instructions; Affiliate oversees event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

8. Week After Event: Affiliate and Bar office evaluate success of event; provide closing report to the Florida Bar YLD.

VIII. Budget:

Rental space for event	\$700.00
Advertising (newspaper)	\$400.00
Printing Flyers (1,000)	\$100.00
Printing Yard Signs (day of at event location)	\$200.00
Copying Costs (brochures, free forms, legal resources)	\$100.00
Volunteer T-Shirts	\$200.00
Beverages and Snacks for Volunteers	DONATED
Total	\$1700.00

The St. Petersburg Bar Association YLS is requesting a grant of \$1,700.00 from the Florida Bar Foundation to complete this project. In the event that we do not receive the amount requested, we will engage in fundraising among our Bar members and local firms to raise additional funds to cover the costs of the event. If required, we would eliminate the volunteer t-shirts, reduce costs associated with the yard signs, and, while not desirable, we would look at changing the event location to reduce rental costs.

IX. Timetable: At the 2016 Affiliate Outreach Conference, we will learn from the Florida Bar whether we have received a grant and the amount awarded. During the January meeting of the St. Petersburg Bar Association Executive Committee, senior Bar leadership and Bar office staff will be updated on the proposed project.

If additional funding is required, fundraising efforts will occur throughout February, March, and April. At the February meeting of the St. Petersburg Bar Association Executive Committee, a second update will be provided to senior Bar leadership and Bar office staff. In March, the YLS and the Bar office staff will publicize the event, register volunteers, design the newspaper ad, order fliers, and order T-shirts. The newspaper ad will run in the Tampa Bar Times during April.

Additionally, in April, the YLS will distribute fliers to schools, churches, and local organizations to publicize the event. The week of the event, the Bar office will confirm the rental space and setup, and the YLS will prepare and provide instruction to volunteers. On the day of the event, volunteers will arrive at 8:00 a.m. for final instruction. The YLS will oversee the event from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will provide an evaluation of the event to the Florida Bar YLD the following week (including a closing report).

I. Short Project Title

2016 Florida High School Mock Trial Competition

II. Contact Information

Committee Co-Chair
Ilyas Sayeg
Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA
1605 Main Street
Sarasota, FL 34236

Committee Co-Chair (Attending AOC)
Hagen Brody
12th Judicial Circuit
2071 Ringling Blvd, Suite 300
Sarasota, FL 34237

III. Describe Your Affiliate

The Young Lawyers Division of the Sarasota County Bar Association has approximately 150 members. Further, members of our affiliate typically attend the AOC.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of your Request:

The Florida High School Mock Trial program is put on every year by the Florida Law Related Education Association. It is an academic competition in which a team of 6-8 students simulate the roles of both attorneys and witnesses in a fictional trial situation. Case materials, questions, and answers, and other resources are posted on-line by FLREA, Inc. Students compete against other teams in their judicial circuit, and the winner of that competition comes to the state competition. The competition is intense. However, students are coached by practicing attorneys and gain practical skills as they research, prepare, and present their cases.

Unfortunately, this year students in the 12th Judicial Circuit were facing the potential of not having a local competition in which to participate. Not wanting to see these kids miss the opportunity to take part in this great competition, the Young Lawyers Division of the Sarasota County Bar Association volunteered to take on the responsibilities of putting together this competition.

The Young Lawyers Division of the Sarasota County Bar Association believes that this competitive experience, especially with the level of interaction the students will have with judges, practicing attorneys, and various professionals working legal support fields, will be invaluable to the personal and educational development of these students.

V. Project Objectives/Description

The competition will be held on February 27, 2015 at the Sarasota County Courthouse. A number of courtrooms will be open for use by the teams, staffed by real judges and bailiffs. Various judges, attorneys, paralegals and other legal

professionals will be on hand to serve as jurors and help the day go smoothly. Teams will arrive in the morning and be provided with breakfast and refreshments. Teams will take a break at lunch time. Lunch will be provided, as well.

i) What Needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to your Affiliate? To what groups will the project provide services?

The Florida High School Mock Trial program addresses the need to provide High School students with exposure not just to professions for which they may aspire, but also to the real world skills that are build from researching, preparing, and presenting dense material in a competitive environment. The life skills students learn from this competition carry over regardless of their future profession. As one teacher advisor stated regarding her students, some of these students have never even been exposed to professionals or proper etiquette in professional settings.

These needs are important to the SCBA YLD in order to improve these students' readiness for college and work. Further, as younger attorneys, our membership is more easily able to relate to these students and provide meaningful mentorship. Finally, the program will help give these students a sense of belonging in their own community. A positive learning experience at this stage of their development furthers a critical goal motivating these children to return after finishing their education and contribute back to their community.

ii) How many people will the project serve?

The project this year will directly serve roughly 40 students who will be competing from five schools as well as another group from a high school that has chosen to attend in order to witness the competition but not participate. The success of this program this year is key. The SCBA YLD plans to host this event annually and plans to make this event an annual staple not just for the YLD but for the local school boards as well.

iii) What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?

The SCBA YLD is unaware of any other mock trial competition catering to high school students. A similar competition exists through the ACE Mentoring Program for high school students interested in becoming engineers. These programs are similar in that the students are exposed to professionals and gain real world skills by working in a team to prepare for and present in a difficult competition. That competition is also held annually and is slowly growing in popularity in Sarasota County. The High School Mock Trial Program is different in that it is on a bigger scale. The program isn't simply judged by local professionals. The winning team moves on to the state competition. Further, the competition is staffed by judges,

attorneys, paralegals, and even bailiffs. The students are exposed to a wide variety of careers.

iv) How will the public benefit from the project? What impact will the project have in the community?

The students taking part in this competition will take away an experience that will help shape them the rest of their lives. While the competition materials are dense and difficult, completing the competition is highly rewarding. The sense of achievement and skills garnered from the experience will help these children as they move on to college and work.

v) Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participants?

The materials for the competition are available online: http://www.flrea.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=32

Teams access these materials and begin preparing based on their own timetable in order to be ready for the February competition.

vi) Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?

While the event will take *some* legwork to help give each team the tools they need to succeed and to actually plan the day of the competition, this event should be a staple in every young lawyer affiliate. It helps each affiliate connect with their community in a meaningful way.

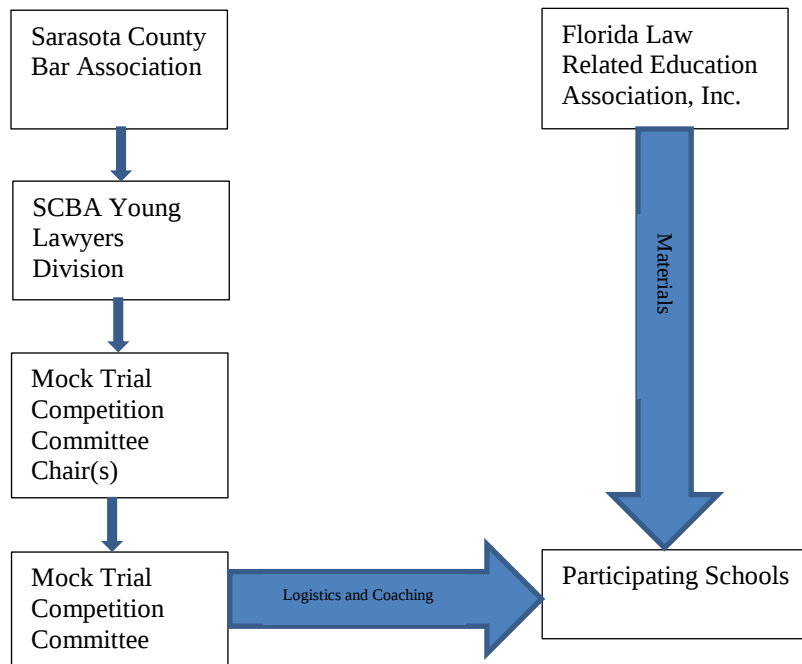
VI. Project Evaluation

The SCBA YLD expects to have put on this competition on February 27, 2015. The YLD will follow up with each participating school to gain insight into their experience. This will be done in order to better tailor the experience for students the following year. The goal is always to make sure that the students have the proper coaching from local attorneys in order to understand and present the information they're provided.

Further, the YLD expects to grow the competition each year. This year, the competition is on par with previous years with five teams. We will be inviting the local media to run stories about the competition on the day of the event and will be including the participating teams in local bar events. Further, we will be doing outreach to the local school boards. Through these outreach methods, we hope to increase school participation each year until this competition becomes a staple not just for our YLD, but for the Sarasota and Manatee County School Boards. This competition has the potential to include every school in both districts and we plan on laying the foundations this year to build up to such a competition in the future.

VII. Project Organization

The project first is dependent upon the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. to release their annual Florida High School Mock Trial Program fact pattern. This was done in late October, 2015. The SCBA YLD, meanwhile, selects a chair or co-chairs for the event committee. From there, an event committee is formed. That committee is split into committee members focus on either school outreach/preparation or event-day logistics.



VIII. Budget:

The YLD anticipates costs of no greater than \$1,500 for this event. These costs will cover breakfast, lunch, refreshments, and participation award plaques.

IX. Timetable:

This event will take place on Saturday, February 27, 2016. A winning team will be selected based on the presentations on that day. That winning team will receive an

invitation to attend the state competition hosted by Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc.

X. Exhibits:

Enclosed, please find the competition materials released by Florida Law Related Education Association.

SHORT PROJECT TITLE

YOUNG LAWYERS FOR THE SANFORD RESCUE OUTREACH PROGRAM

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Christina Soberon-Llort and Michael A. Sasso will be presenting the SCYLD Rescue Outreach Program initiative at the Affiliate Outreach Conference ("AOC") on January 15, 2016.

OUR AFFILIATE

The Seminole County Young Lawyer's Division ("SCYLD") was founded in 2007 with two distinct purposes: to provide service to the Seminole County community through the efforts of its young attorneys; and to promote the development of attorneys new to practice, instilling in those new attorneys a level of knowledge and professionalism so important to attorneys throughout the state. The organization had over 30 members who were practicing attorneys for the 2014-2015 membership year, as well as additional members from Central Florida's local law schools. As of the date of this application, the SCYLD currently has 27 members for the 2015-2016 membership year.

The SCYLD Rescue Outreach Program is a continuation of an initiative began three years ago with the Rescue Outreach Mission of Sanford. Each of those years the grants awarded by The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division have been an integral part of our success in furthering the goals of the Rescue Outreach Mission.

PROJECT SUMMARY

For 2016, the SCYLD is continuing its relationship with the Rescue Outreach Mission of Sanford ("the Mission"), a human resources agency in Seminole County, Florida that provides a safe, supportive and healing environment in which disadvantaged or homeless people receive the assistance they need to return to self-sufficiency. The Mission also provides mentorship to the adults and children it serves, whose road to self-sufficiency often times requires the development of both practical and professional skills. Through partnering with the Mission, the SCYLD will provide mentoring to both adults and children at the mission, as well as volunteer opportunities

to the SCYLD's members to help disadvantaged Seminole County residents whom the Mission serves.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND DESCRIPTION

About the Rescue Outreach Mission of Sanford

The Mission is located at 1701 W. 13th Street in Sanford, Florida, and was founded in 1986 by Mother Blanche Bell Weaver, the pastor of the Rescue Church of God, who saw desperate people in her community living without the basic essentials. With the support of her church and its members she set out to help those in need.

The Young Lawyers in Seminole County are acutely aware of the housing crisis that plagues many of the residents in our county. Florida is still recovering from the economic recession; sadly homelessness in our community has become more frequent and of longer duration. There are more than 4,000 homeless persons in Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties on any given night. The recession has added new faces to this issue – with families with minor children increasingly losing their housing. As the only organization of its kind for a radius of 25 miles, the Mission serves a wide geographic area with many needs, pulling residents from primarily Seminole County but also a portion from Orange County. The longer a family or person remains homeless, the more dysfunctional they tend to become. Without the benefit of the Mission's "Opportunities & Hope" program, many families and individuals risk becoming chronically homeless. This creates an even larger burden to society.

The Mission aims to assist homeless people return to self-sufficiency by providing emergency resources such as food, shelter, clothing and counseling, and by offering comprehensive case management and referral services to help clients find needed resources beyond those the Mission provides.

Our project serves in excess of 84 homeless people in Seminole County at any given point in the year. The Mission has two shelter facilities. One 36-bed shelter serves homeless women and women with children, including those needing shelter and safety from domestic violence. The other 48-bed shelter houses homeless men. As part of their case management, shelter residents work toward personal goals, including employment, a crucial step to becoming more financially stable and independent so they can move into permanent housing.

The SCYLD Rescue Outreach Program and the General Needs the Program Addresses

The SCYLD has partnered with the Mission, specifically to assist the needs of the people it serves identified during the Mission's in-take process, and addressed in the case management plans developed for the Mission's residents.

During the Mission's in-take process, each person is interviewed to determine the cause of his or her homelessness. The Mission assesses the individual's goals, job skills, education level, health, substance abuse and disability issues (if any), and other factors that contribute to their

employment potential. Each case is reviewed weekly to determine progress toward planned goals.

Often times, the case management plans developed by the Mission involve issues related to the development of a resident's professional skills, or helping the child of a resident achieve stability at his or her school. For example, many residents have never worked in a professional environment and need coaching regarding interviewing skills, basic computer skills, professional dress and presentation skills. Additionally, many residents come to the Mission with children whose schooling has been disrupted by the lack of stable housing, chronic hunger, and a resulting need for extra academic help to just to get back on track.

PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND TIMETABLE

After touring with the Mission's facilities and meeting one-on-one with the Director of the facility, the SCYLD has proposed the following volunteer program to assist the Mission and its residents:

Bi-Monthly Youth Mentorship Sessions

The SCYLD will hold bi-monthly youth mentorship sessions for children of residents currently housed at the Mission. These sessions will be more informal in nature and will allow for children of the Mission to have both exposure to professionals in the community, as well as an opportunity to receive mentoring in academic challenges that the children are facing. The SCYLD would also like to provide at each of these sessions school supplies for the children being mentored.

8th Annual Rescue Run Corporate 5K

This year marks the Mission's 8th Annual Rescue Run Corporate 5K. The run is will be on March 12, 2016, and is one of only two corporate race events in Seminole County. The run ends with a wellness BBQ truck and awards presentation for the fastest CEOs and top 3 finishers in all age groups. The event offers camaraderie, competition, fitness, music, food and fun for over 1,200 participants expected.

Supporting this event has become a tradition for both the Seminole County Bar Association and the Seminole County Young Lawyers Division. The run serves as the biggest direct advertisement to members of the community for the Mission – and it does wonders to raise issue awareness and attracts many new volunteers. To further these goals the SCYLD is asking for \$500 to contribute to the Rescue Run for 2016, which will be used to marshal community support through the marketing avenues established by the Mission, including social media and internet marketing.

BUDGET

For both project categories, the following budget is contemplated:

Adult Mentorship

Printing and material costs for professional “skill sheets”	\$100.00
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Youth Mentorship

School supplies	\$400.00
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8th Annual Rescue Run Corporate 5k

Contribution to Raise Awareness for the Mission	\$500.00
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TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,000.00
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Additional funds can be obtained through membership dues and fundraisers to supplement the costs of promoting awareness about the plight of Seminole County’s large homeless community, as well as for additional materials for use in the SCYLD’s mentorship efforts.

PROJECT EVALUATION

At the completion of the projects listed in this application, SCYLD leadership would meet with the Director of the Mission, as well as the Mission’s case managers, to discuss the effectiveness of these programs, as well as whether the programs assisted residents in achieving the related goals under their individual case plans. This meeting would also act to define the scope of future projects based on the changing needs of residents as addressed by case managers in residents’ case plans. Although these projects are on-going in nature, the SCYLD believes that a continued evaluation of our contributions will ensure that we are maximizing the effectiveness of our service to the residents of the Mission.

CONCLUSION

Given the economic climate and the associated hardships faced by all residents of Florida, the SCYLD believes the programs presented under this Application, as well as a partnership with the Mission, will provide the members of the SCYLD a meaningful opportunity to give back to the Seminole County community where the attorneys of the SCYLD practice. The SCYLD is excited to assist the Mission in its continuing efforts to serve Seminole County’s disadvantaged residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sasso & Christina Maria Soberon-Llort
Seminole County Young Lawyers Division

Tallahassee Bar Association Young Lawyers Section

2016 AOC Grant Application – "Thunderdome Tallahassee"

I. Short Project Title: Thunderdome Tallahassee: Legal Education, Leadership, and a Legacy in Volunteer Family Law Services for Low-Income Leon County Citizens

II. Contact Information:

Submission:

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Thunderdome Tallahassee:

Darby K. Scott, Esq.
Executive Director
Legal Aid Foundation
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darby@tallahasseebar.org

Alyssa Cameron and/or Erin Tilton will present at this year's AOC

III. Describe Your Affiliate: The Tallahassee Bar Association Young Lawyers Section (the "YLS")

- The YLS is comprised of young attorneys or those attorneys recently admitted to the Bar. The YLS strives to contribute to the educational and professional advancement of attorneys, particularly younger members of the Bar, as well as contribute to the betterment of the community in general through charity functions and projects. The YLS has 123 members.
- The YLS has had a strong presence at the AOC and has applied for and received grants the past three years.
- Thunderdome Tallahassee ("Thunderdome") is in its third year in 2016, and this is the third year the YLS is presenting Thunderdome for funding at an AOC. Thunderdome was awarded the President's Award in 2014 and the Gold Award in 2015.

IV. Summarize the Purpose of Your Request:

The YLS, in partnership with the Legal Aid Foundation, proposes continued support to further develop "Thunderdome Tallahassee," a cohort training program in family law. Thunderdome gathers and trains diverse community leaders to address the chronic need for pro bono service among low-income clients in and around Leon County. This innovative model has helped the Legal Aid Foundation to recruit and develop more volunteers, serve more clients, garner new donors/sponsors, and receive widespread publicity, such as in the *Tallahassee Democrat* and *The Florida Bar News*. Based on the successful development of the Thunderdome Tallahassee initiative, Class 3 participants will commit to taking cases during nine months of family law education, group discussions and leadership development. This supportive and experiential environment will foster new and continued volunteerism, benefitting local

families and children unable to afford the legal help they need.

V. Project Objectives/Description:

- *What needs does the project address? Why are these needs important to your Affiliate?*

Thunderdome provides family law legal services to low-income clients in and around Leon County. In consulting with the American Bar Association for best practices in volunteer recruitment and education, the Legal Aid Foundation found a promising program model to help address three important goals: (1) increase pro bono family law services to needy Leon County citizens; (2) unite the legal community with larger community efforts for social change; and (3) deliver volunteer training supported by continuing legal education credit, intensive networking and public recognition.

Finding pro bono volunteer lawyers is always a challenge, particularly in family law matters. Young lawyers, or lawyers inexperienced in family law, may be reluctant to handle these potentially high-emotion cases without the training and support they receive through Thunderdome. Amazingly though, over the past two years through the efforts of many dedicated Thunderdome participants, this program shortened a new client's waiting time from 3-4 months or more, to several weeks. Young lawyers further benefit through expanded recognition among colleagues and community peers, as well as leadership training and legal mentorship.

- *To what groups will the project provide services (young lawyers, the community at large)?*

This project provides legal services to low-income Leon County citizens with family law civil legal needs through pro bono legal service. Additionally, this program provides diverse young lawyers with legal training, leadership development and networking opportunities with established members of the Leon County legal community and each other.

- *How many people will the project serve?*

This project has the ability to serve an immeasurable number of people. The inaugural Thunderdome class consisted of 21 young lawyers, each of whom handled at least one pending case. Class 2 consisted of 16 lawyers and a program assistant, each of whom handled at least one case. Upon entry, each participant is assigned to a family law case from the Legal Aid Foundation pro bono case list and will be assigned a second case if the first is completed during the course of the program.

Thunderdome graduates will be more likely to volunteer for family law cases than will untrained Legal Aid volunteers. Capacity will multiply over time as successful volunteers take family law cases throughout their careers, paying dividends years into the future. Class 3 will train and develop approximately 15-20 attorneys.

- *What other projects in the area provide similar services to the same group(s)? When and with what success? How is your project different?*

There is nothing similar to Thunderdome in Tallahassee. The Legal Aid Foundation previously provided pro bono legal services to low-income families, but Thunderdome increases the supply of pro bono volunteers with family law training and reduces the clients' wait time.

- *How will the public benefit from the project?*

The public will benefit by having trained attorneys, working in a group, handle the family law cases of low-income people in and around Leon County. Civil legal aid in family law bolsters family stability, safety, and living conditions, ultimately impacting the public welfare of Leon County and the surrounding area.

- *What impact will the project have in the community?*

The community at-large gains greater access to trained attorneys prepared to handle pro bono family law cases. This decreases the wait time for clients in need.

- *Will the materials, if any, be sold or provided to participants?*

In 2014, the Legal Aid Foundation, YLS, FSU Law professors, and other Thunderdome leaders compiled a Florida-specific family law handbook and other support materials geared toward young lawyers or volunteers inexperienced in family law. Having been evaluated by the first two classes, these materials will be updated for 2016, and Thunderdome will provide participants with the handbook to use in conjunction with the Thunderdome curriculum. Thunderdome also has 21 copies of the 2014 Family Law Certification Review Course donated by the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar.

- *Is this an easy project for other young lawyer affiliates to replicate?*

Yes, Thunderdome is an easy project to replicate throughout Florida. Thunderdome Tallahassee is based on Thunderdome family law legal clinics in Chicago and Connecticut. With the Florida-specific handbook and a documented process for implementation, Thunderdome clinics can begin throughout the state. An additional benefit is that such an educational program supported by networking and community leadership development will be attractive to sponsors at local levels.

VI. Project Evaluation:

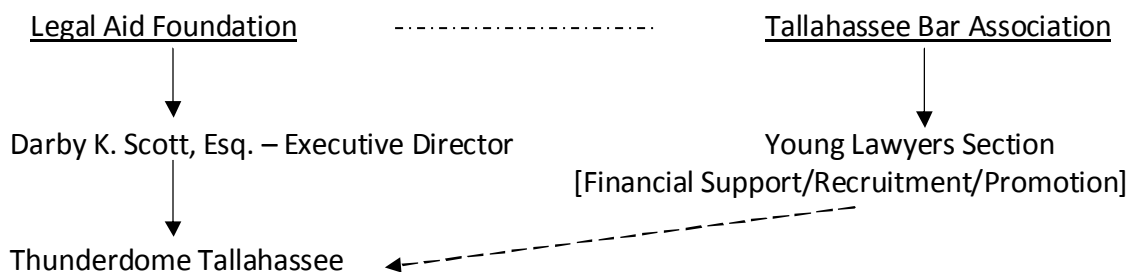
- In spring of 2016, continue the Thunderdome development process with ways to improve the Thunderdome experience for participants, and establish best practices to address the ongoing need for pro bono family law assistance.
- Beginning fall of 2016 and continuing for several months, provide Class 3 of between 15-20 diverse attorneys with family law education and experience, leadership development, networking, and public recognition.
- Use participant experiences and program publicity to inform the community of how Thunderdome impacts the public welfare of low-income families, a critical step to build community participation and future support.
- The effectiveness of the project can be evaluated most quantitatively by how many clients Class 3 is able to assist and the measurable decrease in wait times for those clients. But other measures of success may include the prestige of Class 3 participants, the effective handling of cases, and the retention of Thunderdome graduates as future volunteers.

VII. Project Organization:

The YLS is unofficially affiliated with the Legal Aid Foundation through its association with the

Tallahassee Bar Association. The Legal Aid Foundation is an independent organization but was founded by the Tallahassee Bar Association (the "TBA") and still looks to the TBA for support. This grant application is an effort by the YLS to assist the Legal Aid Foundation with its funding needs for this remarkable program, still in its infancy.

Thunderdome is administered by the Legal Aid Foundation, while YLS helps to raise funding, recruit participants and sponsorships, and promote the program. The Legal Aid Foundation ultimately selects and trains participants, and assigns cases based on ability and need.



VIII. Budget:

Administrative expenses (CLE materials/credits/postage/printing/etc.)*	\$ 3,000.00
Supplies and materials (Thunderdome handbook/clinic materials/etc.)*	\$ 1,265.00
Other Litigation Costs *	\$ 300.00
Recording *	\$ 450.00
Space Rental	\$ 2,140.00
Awards Luncheon	\$ 3,453.00
Marketing	\$ 500.00
Community launch reception (food)	\$ 500.00
<u>Total Non-Personnel Expenses</u>	<u>\$11,608.00</u>

AOC Grant Request

\$ 5,000.00

* YLS anticipates using awarded AOC grant monies for these purposes.

The first two Thunderdome classes received private sponsorship in addition to the funding from state and national grants. The Legal Aid Foundation anticipates similar private sponsorship dollars and in-kind support for Class 3 in 2016, but the precise source of all of the funding is not presently known. The Tallahassee Bar Association, the Legal Aid Foundation and the Tallahassee Bar Association Young Lawyers may all independently seek funding for Thunderdome from the Florida Bar under various grants available to them.

IX. Timetable: Provide a timetable for the project's major activities.

- By spring of 2016, reconvene diverse Leon County community leaders to improve the Thunderdome experience for participants and clients
- Beginning fall of 2016, select and provide a cohort of between 15-20 diverse attorneys with family law education and experience, leadership development, networking, and public recognition. Assist at least 15 families with pending matters at the Legal Aid Foundation.
- Beginning fall of 2016, continue to use participant experiences to publicize Thunderdome's impact and to publicly recognize participants.

For Immediate Release: September 16, 2015



Darby Kerrigan Scott, Executive Director
Legal Aid Foundation
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www.legalaidtallahassee.org

www.legalaidtallahassee.org/thunderdome-tallahassee

The Legacy Grows: Announcing the Launch of Thunderdome Tallahassee Class 2
The Legal Aid Foundation Celebrates a Dynamic Group of Established and Emerging Leaders



The **Legal Aid Foundation** is thrilled to announce the launch of **Thunderdome Tallahassee Class 2**, an impressive collection of established and emerging leaders in the local legal community. Thunderdome is an innovative, hands-on leadership and pro bono family law training program which equips both fresh and seasoned attorneys with the tools necessary to effectively handle pro bono family law cases.

The program is a novel means of providing **equal access to justice**, a critical human services need in our community. It is estimated that thousands of low-income residents in Leon County lack legal representation, despite a dire need. Legal representation in a family law context often equates to safety, stability and health for families and children. One class at a time, Thunderdome Tallahassee aims to greatly enhance the pool of competent service-oriented attorneys who can give their time and talent to help families in need.

Class 2 is represented by a diverse group of attorneys hailing from private practice and government, and bringing a wide array of legal experience. The class includes **Michael Alao**, Hopping Green & Sams; **John Bischof**, Bischof PA; **Thomas Dickens**, Dickens Reid PLLC; **Dina Foster**, Pennington PA; **Oaj Gilani**, Florida Department of Health; **Ashtin Henninger**, Bischof PA; **Angela Huston**, Florida Office of the Attorney General; **Bridget McDonnell**, Florida Department of Health; **Mary L. Pankowski**, Law Office of Mary L. Pankowski; **Yvette Pressley**, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation; **John Reid**, Dickens Reid PLLC; **Halley Stephens**, Fuller, Mitchell, Hood & Stephens; **Reid Wakefield**, Coppins Monroe Adkins & Dincman, PA; **William "Bill" Wallis**, recently retired from Butler Pappas; **Joseph "Jake" Whealdon**, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation; and **Matthew**

Williams, Public Defender's Office, 2nd Judicial Circuit. The class includes the likes of the Former Vice President of Florida International University (Mary Pankowski), the first female judge in the 27B Judicial District of North Carolina (Dina Foster), and an Army Judge Advocate General ("JAG") Corp veteran (William "Bill" Wallis), just to name a few of the countless accolades the group boasts.

Orientation and a full-day Family Law Institute training took place this month. Jonathan Sjostrom, Chief Judge of Florida's Second Judicial Circuit, presented at the Family Law Institute and remarked about the program: "Thunderdome is a tremendous resource for the community and the court, providing excellent training in leadership and public service. Lawyers learn valuable skills, network with their peers and bar leaders, and help provide access to justice to unrepresented litigants." Several additional trainings and events will be held throughout the year, and each class member is assigned a pro bono family law case through the Legal Aid Foundation.

The class is fortunate to have a wealth of family law expertise at its fingertips. The Mentors for Class 2 include **Kristin Adamson, Carolyn Cummings, Sean Desmond, Tom Powell, Jerry Rumph, Tom Schulte, Ruth Stone, Harriet Williams, John Williams, Neibra Collins Williams** and **JoLen Wolf**.

The Legal Aid Foundation is deeply grateful for the service and dedication of the Class 2 Participants and Mentors, as well as the **Sponsors** who make this incredible program possible: the **Young Lawyers Section of the Tallahassee Bar Association**, the **Tallahassee Bar Association**, the **Florida Bar Family Law Section**, **Berger Singerman**, **Evolution Media**, **Florida State University College of Law**, **Prime Meridian Bank**, **John Kranjou and Ted Nation**, **Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors**, **Ziffer Stansberry**, **Holland & Knight**, **Novey Law, Parks & Crump** and [others](#). Learn more about Thunderdome Tallahassee [here](#).

The Legal Aid Foundation provides civil legal representation and assistance in Leon County to people in need through volunteers and supporters. Established 45 years ago by the Tallahassee Bar Association, LAF helps lawyers with a passion for equal justice serve our community. The Legal Aid Foundation is a United Way agency, a member of the United Partners in Human Services, and appreciates the long-time mission support of the Florida Bar Foundation and Leon County.



Legal Aid Foundation launches Thunderdome Class 2

Special to the Democrat 10:04 a.m. EDT September 21, 2015



(Photo: Special to the Democrat)

The Legal Aid Foundation announces the launch of Thunderdome Tallahassee Class 2, an impressive collection of established and emerging leaders in the local legal community. Thunderdome is an innovative, hands-on leadership and pro bono family law training program which equips both fresh and seasoned attorneys with the tools necessary to effectively handle pro bono family law cases.

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John Reid, Dickens Reid PLLC; Halley Stephens, Fuller, Mitchell, Hood & Stephens; Reid Wakefield, Coppins Monroe Adkins & Dincman, PA; William "Bill" Wallis, recently retired from Butler Pappas; Joseph "Jake" Whealdon, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation; and Matthew Williams, Public Defender's Office, 2nd Judicial Circuit. The class includes the likes of the Former Vice President of Florida International University (Mary Pankowski), the first female judge in the 27B Judicial District of North Carolina (Dina Foster), and an Army Judge Advocate General ("JAG") Corp veteran (William "Bill" Wallis), just to name a few of the countless accolades the group boasts.

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The Legal Aid Foundation provides civil legal representation and assistance in Leon County to people in need through volunteers and supporters.

Read or Share this story: <http://on.tdo.com/1FaJ3ec>

Thunderdome program training lawyers to help poor clients

Karl Etters Democrat staff writer @KarlEtters on Twitter 8 p.m. EDT March 20, 2015



(Photo: Joe Rondone/Democrat)

More than 85 percent of people embroiled in family law case in Florida are unrepresented. They must fight for justice without an attorney.

One program, Thunderdome Tallahassee, hopes to change that.

The 20 members of the inaugural Thunderdome Tallahassee class got some recognition Friday for their collaborative effort with the Legal Aid Foundation, which trains lawyers to help clients navigate the tricky world of family law, pro bono.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Jorge Labarga, keynote speaker at the 22nd floor Capitol awards luncheon, said under representation in civil family litigation, especially among low-income families, is on the rise.

"It's just not acceptable in our society that some people don't have access to courts and some people just give up," Labarga said.

"In just about every family law case in courts throughout the country, there's at least one party, either the husband or the wife that is unrepresented and are going at it on their own," he added. "It's just impossible for someone who is not a lawyer to navigate through the legal system."

In November, Labarga established the Florida Commission on Access to Civil Justice to work toward solutions to the low-income legal gap that leaves some of Florida's poorest petitioners and defendants unable to pay for legal representation.

The Legal Aid Foundation is a 45-year-old Tallahassee-based organization providing civil representation and resources in Leon County through volunteers and supporters.

Executive Director Anne Munson said the Thunderdome takes after the Leadership Tallahassee model of pairing young lawyers with mentors who practice family law. All of the assistance they provide is free.

The next class will be announced in September.

Last year the foundation, which works to connect low-income families with legal help or domestic services like 211 Big Bend and the Refuge House, heard from 8,000 callers and was able to help 385 of them through volunteer attorneys.

It makes it tough if those lawyers don't practice family law, though.

"(Thunderdome) is basically arena training for the lawyers who say I will help some families, but I need to help myself," Munson said.

That assistance goes much further than the in-court representation, she added.

"When a lawyer helps a family in need it's not just the case, it's usually giving a safer and more stable living environment to raise their children," Munson said. "It's getting the legality settled so they can afford the food and the clothes and the things that give children a better chance to grow up and be successful."

Thunderdome Class 1 members Sarah Warren and Chuck Bowen said the chance to break out of their normal law practice and help is rewarding.

"It's been great to have mentors who have been willing to take the time to walk us through our cases and provide us with resources they have found to be useful in their practice," said Warren, who is a special taxing district attorney at Hopping Green & Sams.

Bowen, a privacy and compliance lawyer with Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, said the chance to give back is an attitude that he hopes Thunderdome class members can continue to cultivate.

"It's very much part of our values to want to be able to do something for folks who may not have access to the legal system or are otherwise not able to navigate it effectively and then end up in a situation they shouldn't have to face," he said.

VOLUSIA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

GRANT APPLICATION

- I. SHORT PROJECT TITLE:** “The Need for Knowledge: Helping the General Public Understand Judicial Elections”.

II. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Matthew C. Shapiro (Presenter)
President Elect
Volusia County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
222 Seabreeze Blvd.
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
386-257-1222
Matthewshapiro@riceroselaw.com

Sarah Metz (Presenter)
Volusia County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
444 Seabreeze Blvd., Ste 900
Daytona Beach, FL 32118
386-254-6875
Smetz@daytonalaw.com

- III. AFFILIATE SEEKING FUNDING:** The Volusia County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“VCBA YLD”) is comprised of seventy-five lawyers. The VCBA YLD has attended the Affiliate Outreach Conference every year since 2004, and has seen a sharp increase in membership over the past several years leading to the creation of a separate Young Lawyers Division Board of Directors for the first time in its history. The VCBA YLD is seeking to maintain the positive momentum it has gathered by participating in an ambitious project that will benefit the entire population of the Seventh Judicial Circuit.
- IV. PURPOSE OF REQUEST:** VCBA YLD is seeking **\$1,800.00** in grant money to fund a project with the primary goal of educating non-lawyers about judicial elections. Every year the Volusia County Bar Association, the VCBA YLD, and the League of Women Voters of Volusia County receive inquiries from community members who lack information about the judicial election process. Some want to know who they should vote for, others do not understand terms such as a “circuit,” and most have little to no knowledge about what types of issues a judge actually decides and how those decisions might impact voters who could one day find themselves in need of services provided by the judicial branch of government. Because lawyers and the judiciary tend to be somewhat insulated from the general public, even political-based groups such as the League of Women Voters are unable to adequately provide information to those seeking to make informed decisions on election day.

The purpose of this project is not to endorse a candidate or a sitting judge. The VCBA YLD has the desire to work in conjunction with two other local groups to produce an easy to understand, widely accessible video that will serve to provide answers to commonly posed voter questions that often go unanswered.

V. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

The primary goal of the project is to remove the mystery from judicial elections by providing insight into the process, common terminology, and role of a judge. The idea to produce a video that would have mass appeal came from a similar project undertaken by the Texas State Bar Association.¹

The project addresses a vital concern throughout Volusia County and the Seventh Judicial Circuit in that people are voting for judicial candidates with little to no understanding of the position, or what might make an individual qualified. Judges are the face of a primary branch of government, yet judicial elections receive little coverage and even educated citizens often turn to lawyers for input as to how their vote should be cast. It is well-known that this is a problem as the VCBA YLD, the local Florida League of Women Voters, and the Volusia County Bar Association have all expressed concern based on the frequent number of inquiries they receive. It is because of this concern and desire to educate that all three groups will be contributing time and funding to ensure the video in question is created and easily accessible.

The goal of the project is to make a high-quality explanatory video available to all individuals residing within any county within the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Because the video will be non-partisan and will not endorse any judge or candidate, the video will be largely timeless and applicable to individuals throughout Volusia, Flagler, Putnam, and St. Johns counties. There is no other similar service in the Seventh Judicial Circuit, and to the knowledge of the VCBA YLD, this will be the first of its kind.

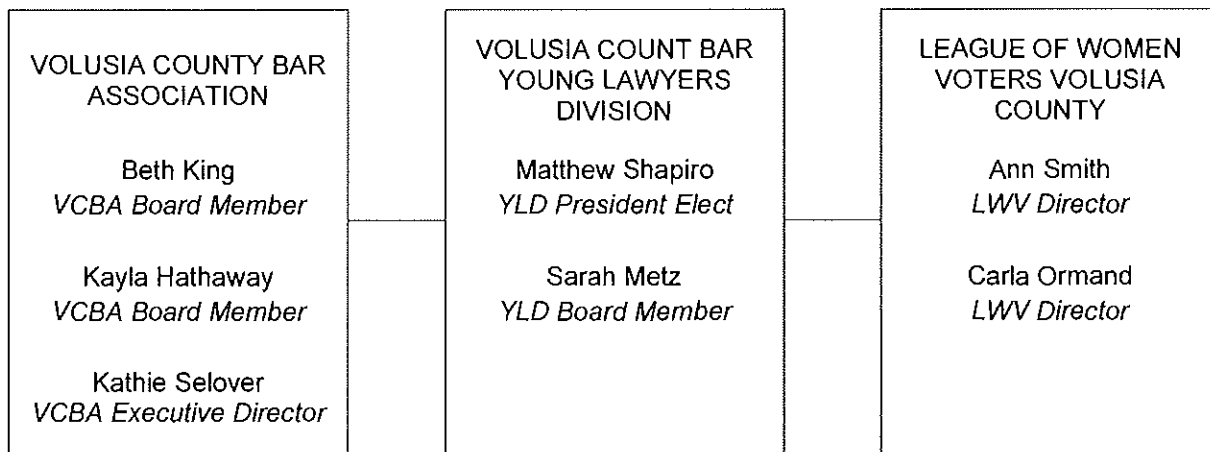
The intent of the VCBA YLD is that the video outline the purpose of a judge and the type of cases a judge might handle. The presentation will also highlight the difference between a county judge and a circuit judge, while further explaining the fact that candidates are often running for different seats or positions. The video will also address essential characteristics to look for such as fairness, timeliness, and impartiality. Finally, those who watch the video should gain an understanding as to certain key terms often utilized such as “board certified”, “trial experience”, “private and/or public practice”, “disciplinary action”, etc. Once created, the video will be circulated to local newspapers, colleges, and businesses, and will be posted on social media.

If successful, the project will lead to more informed votes being cast. The video is intended to be timeless and will be made available to future boards and organizations

¹ The VCBA YLD has received permission from the Texas State Bar to produce a similar video.

from other states (if desired). The video, and project in general, will be easy for future young lawyer affiliates to replicate.

- VI. PROJECT EVALUATION:** The effectiveness of the project will be based off of voter feedback supplied to VCBA YLD, the Volusia County Bar Association, and the Florida League of Women Voters. It is the intent of all organizations participating in the project to have website links where voters can leave additional questions, comments, and concerns after watching the video in its entirety. Positive feedback and few questions will indicate that the video served its purpose. VCBA YLD will also monitor voter turnout, but it is understood that it is difficult to make any direct correlation between this project and turnout numbers.
- VII. PROJECT ORGANIZATION:** The Volusia County Bar Association along with the Young Lawyers Division have teamed up with the League of Women Voters of Volusia County to produce a Judicial Elections video. Working together, the 3 groups will share expenses, create a script, work closely with the producer to create an informative, educational video and promote the video by providing a link to area organizations, schools, groups, public libraries. The video will be available on the VCBA website, LWV website and social media sites.



- VIII. BUDGET:** The only expense is the cost of producing the video.

\$1,000 League of Women Voters
\$1,800 AOC Grant Request
\$1,700 Volusia County Bar Association
\$4,500 (Total Project Cost)

- IX. TIMETABLE:** The VCBA YLD, Volusia County Bar Association, and League of Women Voters of Volusia County intend to meet on January 13, 2016, in order to finalize the script. Blue Dog Video aims to have the video completed by February 15, 2016, and the project partners will have the video available for mass distribution by April 1, 2016.

X. EXHIBITS: Contract with Blue Dog Video (see attached).

Blue Dog Video



October 23, 2015

Volusia County Bar Association
340 S. Beach St.
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Attn: Kayla Hathaway

Dear Kayla,

Thank you for the opportunity to produce your informational video on judicial elections.

I believe we can create an informative and visually creative piece, based on our conversation and the example you showed me.

I have attached a proposal that outlines the cost of the project..

Please let me know if you have any questions, and when you would like to move forward with the pre-production and planning.

Best regards,

Tim Stockman
Blue Dog Video

Volusia County Bar Association - "Judicial Elections"		
Pre-Production		
	● Meet with client to discuss creative concept and script. ● Script assistance and storyboarding ● Finalize Voice Over talent with client	
Video Editing		
	● 30+ hours animation editing utilizing Adobe After Effects ● 3:00 - 4:00 animated video	
Review		
	● Review proof(s) with client ● Additional editing sessions (up to 2), if necessary ● Digital delivery to client	
	Total Cost:	\$4,500

- Video editing includes two re-editing sessions (per spot) based on client review before final submission. Additional editing beyond two re-edit sessions will be billed at \$100/hour.
- After final approval of video by client, additional editing will be billed at \$100/hour.
- Blue Dog Video reserves the right to use the completed video(s), as a whole or in edited segments, for promotional uses.
- Videos are for the use of the Volusia County Bar Association, Blue Dog Video and the League of Women Voters of Volusia County

The Services and Terms set forth in this letter are agreed to:

Signed,

Kathie Selover
Executive Director, VCBA

Date

Tim Stockman
Blue Dog Video

Date