

From: noreply@formstack.com
To: [Miller, Thomas V](#)
Subject: 2021 Grab Bag Grant
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Formstack Submission For: **2021 Grab Bag Grant**

Submitted at 06/04/21 10:01 AM

**Name of
Affiliate
Organization:**

Hillsborough County Bar Association Young Lawyers
Division

**Contact
Name:**

Lyndsey Siara

**Contact
Email:**

siaralk@fljud13.org

**Mailing
Address
(where The
Florida Bar
should send
grant funds):**

1610 N Tampa Street
Tampa, FL 33602

Event Name:

Coffee at the Courthouse

**Estimated
Event Cost:**

1400

**Estimated
Young
Lawyer
Attendance :**

50

**Dollar
amount
requesting**

**Event
Description:**

Each year, the HCBA YLD hosts our Coffee at the Courthouse and Judicial Shadowing Day. For the past two years, we have co-hosted this event with the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers (HAWL). We would plan to once again inquire with HAWL about co-hosting this event. YLD volunteers organize an early-morning program where young lawyers meet circuit, county, and appellate judges in the judicial conference room at the George Edgecomb Courthouse for coffee and breakfast. This event gives young attorneys an opportunity to interact with members of the judiciary in an informal setting. The program has been enthusiastically received and highly attended by the judiciary and our members. It is now a staple of the YLD calendar. Following Coffee at the Courthouse, YLD members and law students spend the day shadowing judges from the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and Hillsborough County courts. Some years, we have had appellate and federal judges participate as well. Participants have the unique experience of observing a day in the life of a judge. The Judicial Shadowing Program provides members the benefit of direct interaction with the judiciary in a way that may not be otherwise available early in a young lawyer's career. So as to encourage law students to become members of the HCBA, we typically offer a limited number of spots specifically for students to register. After a morning of shadowing and interacting with the judges, participants again gather in the judicial conference room for a catered lunch. Once again, participants have the opportunity to interact with the judges. During the lunch, we facilitate a group conversation about what each participant had an opportunity to observe and learn from their morning of shadowing. In January 2020, 28 judges participated with a total of 84 participants! While COVID-19 prevented us from hosting the event in person in 2021, we are looking forward to returning in person in 2022 to bring back Coffee at the Courthouse bigger and better! Should in-person events not be permitted by January 2022, we will adjust our plans to instead offer several professionalism-focused videos to our members. These short videos will be mirrored after

the #ProTipTuesday videos produced by The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism. We would seek local judges to provide, in a short video, pieces of advice or tips to young lawyers, with a particular focus on professionalism. We would release a new video every week for approximately one month or more, depending on judicial participation. While it is our sincere hope that we can return to an in-person Coffee at the Courthouse experience in 2022, we have a back-up plan should this not be possible.

Will alcohol be served at the event?:

No

Will any monies received from the YLD be used to purchase alcohol, travel expenses, or attorney house?:

No

How will the YLD funds be utilized?:

YLD funds will be utilized to purchase breakfast food, coffee, and other beverage options, as well as necessary accoutrements such as plates, cups, napkins, and utensils. With the support of the Florida Bar YLD and our sponsors, each year, we have improved the breakfast and lunch selections. We believe this has translated into an elevated experience for both participants and judges, resulting in higher registrations each year. During the breakfast hour, a spread of bagels, fruit, donuts, and breakfast bars, along with coffee, tea, juices, and water are offered. During the lunch portion of the event, we typically offer a boxed lunch from a local vendor. Participants have the ability to select their preferred lunch option at the time of registration. With the YLD's support, we are able to offer nourishing and filling food and drink options for our participants, creating a very enjoyable experience for all. Should this event not be permitted to occur in person, we would adjust as described above. In that case, YLD funds would support the costs of filming the professionalism videos. Such costs would include the cost of

equipment and editor time and skill.

How does your event fit into the parameters of the Grant?:

Our Coffee at the Courthouse event is one of the premier HCBA YLD events we host each year. This event provides an opportunity for connection, relationship building, and professional development, all of which promote professionalism in our legal community. By learning from and interacting with the judges, we provide an opportunity for collegial interaction between the Bench and Bar. Young attorneys have the opportunity to observe court proceedings and benefit from one-on-one discussions with judges, bridging the gap between the judiciary and the legal community. We plan to host this event in January 2022, within one year of grant award.

Will your event benefit any other groups?:

Our event benefits our young lawyer members, law students, and judges who participate. While the greatest benefit is to our young lawyers and law students, our judicial participants express each year how much they enjoy this event as it gives them an opportunity to connect with the next generation of lawyers.

In which Judicial Circuit will your event occur?:

13th Circuit

In which County will your event occur?:

Hillsborough

Will your event be held via Zoom (or other online web platform), in-person, or a combination of the two?:

In-person

Proposed date of event (must be

**within one
year from
application
deadline):**

2022

**Describe how
you will
recognize The
Florida Bar
Young
Lawyers
Division for
its support of
your event.:**

The Florida Bar YLD will be recognized on the flyer advertising this event to our membership. This flyer will be included in email communication, as well as on our social media channels. The Florida Bar YLD will also be recognized during the event on display boards that thank our sponsors, as well as orally during opening and closing remarks. Finally, the Florida Bar YLD will be acknowledged in any social media posts wherein we share pictures after the event.

**Please attach
an event
budget.:**

[View File](#)

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