

From: noreply@formstack.com
To: [McChesney, Richard J](#); [Miller, Thomas V](#); [Dorn, Celia](#)
Subject: The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division 2020 Inclusion & Equality Grant Application
Date: Friday, October 16, 2020 10:22:02 AM
Attachments: [94666284_PBCBA YLS Diversity Grant Application 2020 \(video budget\).docx](#)



Formstack Submission For: **The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division 2020 Inclusion & Equality Grant Application**

Submitted at 10/16/20 10:21 AM

Name of Young Lawyer Affiliate:	Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Section
Individual Contact Name:	Kelly Schulz
Contact Email:	kschulz@mapei.com
Contact Address (address where The Florida Bar should send the award):	1507 Belvedere Rd West Palm Beach, FL 33406
Proposed Date of Project (Must be within one year from application deadline):	Sep 03, 2020
Proposed Location of Project:	This project will be completed by participants from the safety of their own homes or in small groups at the Palm Beach County Bar Office.
Expected Number of Individuals Attending:	50

The Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Section ("YLS") has started an initiative to participate in the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition's ("FRRRC") Fines and Fees Program. The mission statement of the FRRRC is as follows: "FRRRC is a grassroots organization run by Returning Citizens (formerly convicted persons) who are dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against people with convictions, and creating a more comprehensive and humane reentry system that will enhance successful reentry, reduce recidivism, and increase public safety." As part of the Fines and Fees Program, FRRRC assists returning citizens reestablish their right to vote, excluding those with convictions of murder or felony sexual offenses.

Historically speaking, racial minorities have been disproportionately affected by the loss of voting rights due to felony convictions. In 2018, Amendment 4 was designed to restore the right to vote for Floridians with prior felony convictions, except those convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense, upon completion of their sentences, which includes prison, parole, and probation. Returning citizens must pay all fines and fees associated with their sentence prior to the restoration of their voting rights, which is why FRRRC started the Fines and Fees Program.

FRRRC needs attorneys licensed in Florida to volunteer and assist in the process of confirming that returning citizens who have applied for FRRRC's Fines and Fees Program do not have any disqualifying felony offenses in the county that they have outstanding fines and fees. As part of our initiative, members of the YLS will be donating their time to assist the FRRRC in determining that returning citizens do not have a disqualifying offense on their record. Moreover, YLS has partnered with the F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. Bar Association ("FMCBA") of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association to expand the reach of our initiative, and is reaching out to other local, young lawyer affiliates to see if any of them would like to join.

**Description/Agenda
(Please include a
brief
description/agenda
for your event) :**

In an effort to raise awareness surrounding this important program, YLS seeks to create a promotional video featuring one or more returning citizens who had their voting rights restored thanks to the help of the FRRC Fines and Fees Program and the support of YLS attorneys and other local bar affiliates. We hope that the video will promote the program and encourage other attorneys to uphold their oath to support the causes of the oppressed or defenseless by donating their time to assist in restore voting rights of returning citizens. In the video, we will have returning citizens discuss why they wanted their voting rights restored, that individual's experience in being permitted to cast a ballot in the election, and what that meant to them, as well as general information about the efforts of the FRRC and their mission. Thus, grant money from the Florida Bar YLD would assist in creating the promotional video.

With the help of local attorneys, the FRRC has already helped more than 500 returning citizens in Palm Beach County pay down fines and restore their voting rights. The contribution of attorney time by the YLS, the FMCBA, the PBCHBA will help the FRRC continue their efforts in assisting Palm Beach County's returning citizens ensure they are eligible to participate in the upcoming 2020 election. Our promotional video will help recruit additional local attorneys to join this cause and hopefully help more returning citizens restore their rights.

Of note as to date of project: We started this project at the beginning of September and will continue through the date of the general election on November 3, 2020, as a focused initiative to help voters participate in the 2020 election. After the election, we hope to continue our efforts and assist returning citizens in restoring voting and other rights.

Describe How You Will Recognize The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division for its Support of

In recognition of the Florida Bar YLD, we will promote this project on our social media platforms using the promotional video followed by the hashtag #YLDIsMe, as well as send out email blasts to the PBCBA, FMCBA, and PBCHBA membership prominently displaying

Your Event: :	the Florida Bar YLD logo and contribution to the project.
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Budget:	View File
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