

Form Name:	2022-23 #YourYLD Grant Application
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Name of Affiliate Organization	Hillsborough County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
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Contact Name	Nicole Gehringer
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Mailing Address (where The Florida Bar should send grant funds)	1610 N Tampa Street Tampa, FL 33602
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Event Name	Coffee at the Courthouse
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Estimated Event Cost	1400
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Estimated Young Lawyer Attendance	50
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Dollar amount requesting from the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar	500
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Event Description

Each year, the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division (HCBA YLD) hosts our Coffee at the Courthouse and Judicial Shadowing Day. In the past, we have co-hosted this event with the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers (HAWL) and plan to do so again this year. We plan to execute our joint Coffee at the Courthouse event in January 2023. Additionally, in the spirit of collaboration and bringing together our many affiliate bar associations, we also plan to inquire with the Tampa Hispanic Bar Association (THBA) and the George Edgecomb Bar Association (GEBA) to see if they would like to join HCBA YLD and HAWL in hosting this event. Our goal is to appeal to a wider young lawyer audience.

For this event, HCBA YLD volunteers organize an early-morning program where young lawyers meet circuit, county, and hopefully appellate/federal judges in the Judicial Conference Room at the George Edgecomb Courthouse in downtown Tampa for coffee and breakfast. This event provides young attorneys and law students an opportunity to interact with members of the judiciary in an informal setting. The program has been enthusiastically received and highly attended by both the judiciary and our members. It is now a staple of the HCBA YLD calendar. Following coffee, HCBA YLD members and law students spend the morning shadowing judges from the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and Hillsborough County. Our hope is to increase the appellate and federal judiciary's participation as this truly gives participants the unique experience of observing a day in the life of all types of judges. 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 or law student's career.

We typically offer a limited number of spots specifically for law students to register with the hope that this will encourage law students to become members of the HCBA and the YLD. 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 and other HCBA YLD members. During the lunch, we facilitate a group conversation about what each participant had an opportunity to observe and learn from his or her morning of shadowing. In 2022, we had approximately 60 participants, which included approximately 25 judges! After lunch, attendees are encouraged to continue shadowing judges throughout the afternoon.

We plan to send a survey in advance of the event for registrants to list their preference as to the type of proceedings they wish to observe. We are hoping to "match" participants with specific judges in order to minimize the number of people in each "group" and facilitate more worthwhile, organic learning opportunities based on their area of interest.

The proposed date of the event is January 2023.

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 and lunch 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, we have been able to improve the breakfast and lunch selections offered to the participants. 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 this support, we are able to offer nourishing and filling food and drink options for our participants, creating a very enjoyable experience for all.
How does your event fit into the parameters of the Grant?	Our Coffee at the Courthouse event is one of the premier events HCBA YLD hosts 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 and students have the opportunity to observe court proceedings and benefit from one-on-one discussions with judges, which helps bridge the gap between the judiciary and the legal community.
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)	2023

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.

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/13326897588>
