YOUNG LAWYERS ON CENTER STAGE

CURRENT ISSUES RELATED TO YOUNG LAWYERS & VOLUNTARY BARS
CHRISTIAN GEORGE, SHANE SMITH, AND ZACK ZUROWESTE
THE FLORIDA BAR YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

- Our mission is to inspire and empower young lawyers to succeed, to advance the legal profession, and to serve their communities.

- All lawyers under age 36 and new Florida Bar members for the first 5 years in good standing are automatically members.

- Over 26,000 members.

- Governed by 60 person young lawyer board.

- Active on social media.

- Website is a great resource www.flayld.org.
WHAT DO WE DO?

• Provide educational and professional resources

• Provide grant money to young lawyer affiliates

• Host our Affiliate Outreach Conference every January
  • Leadership summit
  • Hundreds of lawyer leaders around the state
  • Law Student Division members from every law school
THE FLORIDA BAR YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

- Education
  - Practicing with Professionalism
  - Continuing Legal Education Basic Skills Courses
    - Basic Family Law
    - Basic Evidence
    - Basic Business Litigation
    - Basic Transactional Law
    - Basic Personal Injury Law
    - Basic Estate Planning and Probate
  - Webinars
  - Law Student Division
THE FLORIDA BAR YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

- Advocacy
  - Communications
  - Legislative Affairs - Constitutional Revision Commission
  - Diversity
  - Commission on Women
  - Quality of Life
  - Technology
  - Transition to Practice
• Service
  • Affiliate Outreach Conference
  • Annual Convention
  • Awards
  • Lawyers Advising Lawyers
  • Local Bar Affiliates
  • Pro Bono
  • Moot Court
THE FLORIDA BAR YLD ONLINE RESOURCES

- Technology Webpage
  - Free Technology CLE
  - E-discovery
  - Courtroom Technology
  - Law Practice Management
  - Social Media and Marketing
- Start My Florida Law Firm
- Lawyers Advising Lawyers
We wanted a website that would help lawyers transition from law school or big firm or government practice to successfully running their own firm.

We looked for a website like this, and we couldn’t find one.

So we created one.

With detailed info and links on a wide variety of topics to consider.

Won national award from the ABA.

Companies want to be listed on the website
How to Start Your Own Law Firm

So you have decided to open your own law office? Congratulations! You will be joining the approximately 1/3 of all Florida lawyers who have found being a solo practitioner a rewarding career. Wanting to go solo is easy, but what do you need to know? How do you actually launch your own law firm? Do you rent office space? Do you go virtual? What's a virtual law office? You likely have dozens of questions and may be unsure where to start. Fortunately, you are in the right place!

The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division has created this website to assist you in the process of establishing your own law firm. This website is designed to provide you with the basics of starting a law firm. Every lawyer and every firm is different, so this is not a replacement for your own due diligence and research, and certainly does not address every detail you need to know. But, if you follow these steps, you will be on your way to accepting new clients soon!

Start Your Journey
How to Start Your Own Law Firm

Steps to Starting Your Law Firm +
Vendor Resources

How to Handle Injunctions
by Stephanie Cagnet Myron, Esquire

How to Initiate a Personal Injury Suit
by Keith DuBose

How To Handle Basic Probate Ray Robison

Domestic violence includes: assault, battery, aggravated battery, aggravated assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any other criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death to petitioner by any of petitioner's family or household members.

Have Client Bring to Meeting:
- Driver's license
- Automobile Insurance Card(s) (for all drivers, including those where petitioner is a name on the policy)
- Health Insurance Card(s) (including Medicare/Medicaid)
- Photos of Vehicles, Injuries, Names of witnesses
- Vehicle Deed
- Any documents related to the Death
- Remind client that conversations with others will waive attorney-client privilege.

Kyle Felty

How To Handle Basic Probate Ray Robison
The Florida Bar and the YLD had a program to connect lawyers with a question in a substantive practice area to lawyers with knowledge in this area.

But we didn’t advertise it very well.

Hidden away on The Florida Bar’s website.

Now it has its own website, a link on the YLD website, and a link from the front page of The Florida Bar website.

www.LawyersAdvisingLawyers.com
ARE YOU PART OF AN AFFILIATE?

• If so, great! Share these resources with your members.
• If not, create an affiliate! It’s easy.
WHAT IS AN AFFILIATE? An affiliate is an organization, not a person. The YLD defines Affiliate as “Any (1) young lawyer organization, or (2) young lawyer component of any bar association in the Florida legal profession in which membership is dedicated to the cause of young lawyers.”

HOW DO I CREATE ONE? Simple. You must certify that your organization fits into one of the two categories above. Please sign the certification page and provide the requested contact information to the YLD. The YLD board will then vote to approve your organization as an Affiliate at an upcoming board meeting.
AFFILIATE BENEFITS

• Affiliate Outreach Conference held each January where each Affiliate is invited to send representatives to network, socialize, and present a grant proposal for a program of your choosing. Grant funds are set aside for affiliate programs, reimbursements are available for attending, and awards are given out to Affiliates at the Conference.

• Other Grant Programs.
  • “Morning/Afternoon at the Courthouse” and “Professionalism Roundtable”
  • “Holidays All Year Long” and “Community Engagement”
  • “Health and Wellness”

• Raising the Bar

• Awards
AOC 2018 – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- January 12-13, 2018
- The Vinoy, St. Petersburg
- Friday networking and information sessions
- Saturday grant presentations and social activities
- Grant budget of approx. $50,000
ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT YOUNG LAWYERS ON A STATEWIDE/NATIONAL LEVEL

- Constitutional Review Commission
- Access to Justice issues
- Lawyer referrals/matching
- Lawyers Advising Lawyers
- Technology and entry-level work
- Incubators and low-bono
- Number of young lawyers entering the profession
- Quality of life issues, including serious issues like alcohol and drug use and mental health issues
- Treatment of women & minorities in the profession
WHAT DO YOUNG LAWYERS WANT

• Feel relevant
• Be appreciated
• Put their knowledge and skills to work
• Do good
• Distinguish from the competition
• Find balance
• Not to be underestimated
• Try new things without the risk
• Be mentored/be a mentor
• More time
• Have fun
• Get unique opportunities
• Develop relationships
• Financial security
• Financial success
• Access to information
HOW TO GET YOUNG LAWYERS TO JOIN YOUR ASSOCIATION

- Free
- Reduced cost
- Friendly
- Ease of joining
- Offer a “value add”

VS.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

[Image of membership application]

[Image of person working at desk]

[Image of cluttered desk]

[Image of children]

[Image of person sleeping on couch]
HOW TO GET YOUNG LAWYERS TO ENGAGE IN YOUR ASSOCIATION

• Grant programs
• Relationships with young lawyers, old lawyers, judges
• Finite pro bono/community service – option for more later
• Social media
• Recognition
• Leadership
• Offer experiences young lawyers cannot get anywhere else