

State Bar of Michigan | 2016-2017 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Young Lawyers Section

Chair

P70678 Shenique A. Moss
Wayne County Commission
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Chair-Elect

P72801 Syeda Farhana Davidson, Clinton Township

Secretary

P73846 Kara Rachel Hart-Negrich, Lansing

Treasurer

P72107 Ryan Zemke, Utica

Council Member

Term Ending: 2017

P76618 Matthew Paul Breuer, Royal Oak
P78523 Bobby Alonza Ficklin, Jr., East Lansing
P76423 Amy S. Krieg, East Lansing
P76599 Laura M. Kubit, Caro
P71957 Ryan Christopher Plecha, Birmingham
P78607 Coleman Luther Potts, Detroit
P77179 Brande Nicole Smith, Farmington Hills
P80626 Aaron Philip Sohaski, Detroit

Term Ending: 2018

P75913 Katherine Jean Bennett, Lansing
P78104 Kristina A. Bilowus, Royal Oak
P76526 Jerome Crawford, Troy
P77031 Tanya Nicole Cripps, Auburn Hills
P80481 Rabih Hamawi, Southfield
P75369 Samantha Jolene Orvis, Grand Blanc
P77123 Choi Tanaha Portis, Detroit
P74814 Erica N. Payne Roell, Marquette
P75395 Christopher Brian Wickman, Okemos
P72107 Ryan Zemke, Utica

Immediate Past Chair

P70099 Mark William Jane, Ann Arbor

Commissioner Liaison

NOT ASSIGNED, AT CURRENT TIME

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

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Please attach any additional information needed regarding Council meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
2016 SBM YLS Annual Meeting	09/22/2016	Devos Place, Grand Rapids
SBM YLS Planning Meeting	10/07/2016	Crowne Plaza Lansing West
SBM YLS Retreat/ABA YLD Fall Conference	10/20-22/2016	Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit
Business Meeting	11/14/2016	Teleconference
Business Meeting	01/21/2017	SBM Building, Lansing
Business Meeting	02/17/2017	SBM Building, Lansing
Business Meeting	03/17/2017	Teleconference
Regular Meeting/ BOC Challenge	04/21/2017	Spare Time, Lansing
Business Meeting	07/22/2017	TBD, Novi
Annual Section Meeting	09/28/2017	Cobo Hall, Detroit

Addendum Information: Please list any addendums attached.

See Addendum for information on YLS Events/Seminars, YLS Committees, the ABA Young Lawyers Division, the Inter Alia Newsletter, and Social Media Initiatives

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
See Attached Addendum		

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
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Legislative issues:

No

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

None

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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e-mail form

2016-2017 YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT ADDENDUM

EVENTS AND/SEMINAR

- **Back to School: Know your Rights (September 14, 2016 in Flint)**

This was the second year of the "Back to School: Know your Rights" event which is a free educational picnic targeted for middle and high school aged students and their families. The event was held at the Flint Boys & Girls Club on September 14 at 5:00p.m. The focus of the program was to provide general information regarding students' rights in Michigan public schools. Topics discussed include: Freedom of Expression and Religion, Freedom from Discrimination, Freedom from unreasonable school searches, how to respectfully handle an encounter with law enforcement and what student's rights are with respect to school discipline. The YLS wants to arm students the necessary information so they understand their rights. We believe that this will enable them to speak up and defend themselves in a constructive manner if and when they are violated.

In addition to educational information, the first 250 participants of the event received a free back pack as well as free school supplies to fill the backpack. A free hot dog cookout was also offered.

- **American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Fall Conference (October 20-22, 2016 in Detroit)**

The YLS cosponsored the 2016 American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (ABA YLD) Fall Conference. The Conference was held at the Westin Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit on October 20-October 22, 2016. This was the first time that the ABA YLD held a conference in Detroit (or at least in recent memory) so it was truly an exciting opportunity for the YLS to showcase not only one of our beautiful cities but also our amazing legal community.

The ABA YLD Fall Conference is one of four national young lawyer conferences hosted by the ABA YLD each year. Approximately 300 young lawyers from across the globe came together to attend the Conference which featured a rich complement of robust and innovative programs. In addition to outstanding continuing legal education programs, professional development opportunities, and leadership skills courses, the conference also featured a health and wellness track focused on improving the mental and physical well-being of our young professionals.

Seminar topics included: Growing Your Network: Ethics and Professional Conduct that Build Relationships; Anatomy of a Solo/Small Firm: Flying Solo; DIY Marketing & Getting Experience; Elevate your Career with an Elevator Pitch; Justice for Flint: The Failures, Lessons Learned and Next Steps; The Ethics and Interplay Between the Judicial System and the Media; Gender Identity, Title IX and K-12 Education: Hot Topics and Current Litigation; Data Breaches And Cyber Security – Are You Ready?; Work/Life/Debt: Balancing Student Loans (and other debt) with Life and Lawyering; Enemy at the Gate: Emerging Security, Economic, and Legal Challenges to Airport Security; Lessons from Detroit: Municipal Bankruptcy and its Implications on City and Local Government

Operations; Lunch Program: Lions, Tigers, Pistons, and Red Wings too: Hot Topics in Professional Sports; Women in Politics and Leadership Positions; Racial Justice - Prosecutorial Discretion in the Wake of Public Outcry; Work Life Management: Lawyering and Living; LGBTQ Family Law Considerations and Practice Tips; Literacy: Is it a Right or a Privilege; and Closing Plenary: Leveraging Personality Type to Lead More Effectively.

Local speakers included Larry Nolan, President of the State Bar of Michigan, The Honorable Dennis W. Archer, Chairman and CEO, Dennis W. Archer PLLC / Chairman Emeritus, Dickinson Wright PLLC, The Honorable Nancy G. Edmunds, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, The Honorable Steven Rhodes (Retired), Former United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Eastern District of Michigan, Ryan C. Plecha, Lippitt O'Keefe Gorbein, PLLC, Eugene Driker, Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, P.L.L.C., Shirley V. Lightsey, President, Retired City Employees Association, Kevyn D. Orr, Jones Day, (Former Emergency Manager), Reginald M. Turner, Member, Clark Hill, PLLC, Robert E. Carr, Senior Vice President of Operations & Legal Affairs for Olympia Entertainment and Detroit Red Wings General Counsel, Jay Colvin, Detroit Lions Senior Vice President of Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Richard Haddad, Vice President & General Counsel at Palace Sports & Entertainment and Detroit Pistons, Amy Peterson, Detroit Tigers Associate Counsel, John F. Reed, Rain BDM - Business Development & Marketing for Law Firms, Charlie Langton, Langton Law, Ronda Tate Truvillion, Lewis & Munday, P.C., Tammy Helminski, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Dr. Douglas Ruden, Wayne State University, Oday Salim, Great Lakes Environmental Law Center, Jay Kaplan, ACLU of Michigan, Claudia Rast, Butzel Long, Ann Arbor, MI, Lena F. Masri, Council on American-Islamic Relations Michigan, Brigadier General Michael C.H. McDaniel, Director of Homeland Law/LLM and Professor, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, Mwanaisha Sims, Michigan State University, Aaron Sohaski, Henry Ford Health System, Syeda Davidson, Burgess, Sharp & Golden, Robert Jenkins, Social Security Administration, Rachel A. Smith, Brooks Kushman, Tish Vincent, State Bar of Michigan, and Angie Martell, Iglesia Martell Law Firm, PLLC.

The Conference left such a great impression of our city and our legal talent that members of the ABA YLD continue to talk about the quality of conference both in terms of legal substance and congenial vibe of our bar.

- **Networking Power Hour Lunch (October 20, 2016 in Detroit)**

The YLS hosted a free Networking Power Hour Lunch on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at Miller, Canfield, Paddock, and Stone P.L.C., in Detroit. The purpose of the event was to allow local attorneys and law students to network with attorneys from around the globe who were in attendance for the ABA YLD Fall Conference. The event also featured some discussion on the power of networking in the legal profession.

- **Institute of Continuing Legal Education/YLS Breakfast Basics: Alternative Fee Arrangements" (October 28, 2016 in Ann Arbor)**

The YLS and ICLE hosted "Breakfast Basics: Alternative Fee Arrangements" on October 28, 2016 at the ICLE Offices in Ann Arbor. The seminar focused on AFA options (including flat fees) and practice areas and transactions that are best for AFAs. It also featured a discussion on how to set the appropriate fee to be profitable while remaining

credible and affordable to clients. Attendees learned about creative options beyond the billable hour that can boost efficiency and help clients avoid “sticker shock.” The panel featured Alari K. Adams, Squared Legal Group PLC; Erin R. Bonahoom, Canvas Legal PLC, Detroit; Denise D. Couling, Couling Law & Mediation PLLC; and Brian Schwartz, Miller Canfield PLC.

- **National Trial Advocacy Competition (November 4-6, 2016 in Lansing)**

The YLS hosted the 17th Annual National Trial Advocacy Competition on November 4-6, 2016 at the Veterans Memorial Courthouse (Ingham County Circuit Court) in Lansing, Michigan. The preliminary rounds were held on November 4-5 and the semi-final and final rounds were held on November 6. This was the second time the YLS hosted the competition after taking it over from Michigan State University College of Law in 2015.

The competition which is designed for teams of four participants, made up of two advocates and two witnesses, drew some of the best law school teams from across the country. Participants had the opportunity to perfect their courtroom advocacy skills before Michigan judges and practitioners.

- **"Navigating the District Court, Circuit Court, and Friend of the Court: Wayne County Edition"(November 2, 2016 in Detroit)**

The YLS hosted a "Navigating the District Court, Circuit Court, and Friend of the Court: Wayne County Edition" at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center on November 2, 2016. Judges and experienced practitioners shared key “do’s and don’ts” about practicing in District Court, Circuit Court, and Friend of the Court. Featured speakers included Hon. E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, 36th District Court, Michael Glynne, Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office, Erin Lincoln, Wayne County Friend of the Court, Meagan Moslimani, City of Detroit Law Department, and Hon. Lawrence S. Talon, 3rd Circuit Court. Attendees left with an enhanced understanding of practical considerations related to local court practice.

- **How to Clear Your Record: Felonies & Misdemeanors (December 3, 2016 in Mount Clemens)**

The YLS co-sponsored (with the Macomb County Bar Association) a “How to Clear Your Record: Felonies & Misdemeanors” expungement fair at the Mount Clemens Public Library on December 3, 2016. Members of the community were invited to speak with local attorneys about the steps to expunging their criminal records.

- **Federal Bar Association New Lawyers Seminar (December 6-7, 2016 in Detroit)**

The YLS once again served as a sponsor of the New Lawyers Seminar presented by the Federal Bar Association. Shenique Moss provided a brief presentation on the benefits of participating in the YLS and encouraged new lawyers to get involved by volunteering to serve on a YLS Committee and/or State Bar Committee.

- **I AM YLS Table (February 21-22, 2017 in Lansing)**

The YLS hosted an I AM YLS table at the February Bar Examination on February 21-22, 2017 at the Lansing Center. Section members were on hand to provide bar exam takers with some essentials (pencil, earplugs, etc). in case they forgot them and words of encouragement.

- Mental Health for Lawyers and Law Students (March 14, 2017 in Detroit)**

The YLS hosted a Mental Health for Lawyers and Law Students Seminar on March 14, 2017 at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. This seminar was designed to give lawyers and law students the necessary tools and resources for mental health. Panelists discussed mindfulness techniques to foster mental well-being, therapeutic resources to help deal with deeper or more troubling issues like depression and addiction, and ethical concerns. Attendees also learned about confidential resources available at the State Bar of Michigan. Panelists included Tish Vincent, Tim Batdorf, and Laurie Orlando.
- SBM YLS/BOC Challenge (April 21, 2017 in Lansing)**

The YLS challenged the SBM Board of Commissioners to a fowling challenge at Spare Time Entertainment Center in Lansing. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate so the challenge had to be moved indoors to the bowling alley where the BOC team emerged victorious. The event raised much needed funds for The Access to Justice Fund.
- 10th Annual Young Lawyer Summit (April 28-29, 2017 in Thompsonville)**

The YLS hosted its 10th Annual Summit April 28-29 at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville. Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Stephen J. Markman was the luncheon keynote speaker and the YLS presented the 2017 Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. The Summit featured two special educational programming tracks. The Professional and Business Development Track included the following educational seminars: "Beyond LinkedIn: How to Build a Powerful Professional Network on Social Media," "Rainmaking: Much More than Simply Making Money," "Cut the Fat: Use Lean to Improve Efficiency, Reduce Cost & Return Respect for People to Your Legal Practice," "The Professional Professional: Cultivating an Image for an Entire Career and Beyond," and "Becoming an Articulate Advocate: Strategies for Powerful Public Speaking in and out of Court." The Litigation Boot Camp Track featured the following educational seminars: "Write like the Best: A Hands-on Editorial Session," "Evidence Jeopardy: Enhancing Your on-the-Spot Evidence Knowledge in a Fun-Not-Painful-Way!," "The Anatomy of the Ultimate Trial Notebook: from Case Screening to Verdict," "Perfecting the Art of Voir Dire: Selecting the Best Jurors for Your Case," and "Trial No Error: Tips on Trial Strategy." The Summit also featured special programming and many networking opportunities, such as: Friday's Think Fast!: Improv(ed) Lawyering Workshop and Conversations, Snacks, and Bonfire and Saturday's Morning Exercise Classes (Zumba and Yogalates), Breakfast Program: Maximize Your Strengths, Professional Headshots, Resume Review, Photo Scavenger Hunt, and game night.
- ICLE/YLS Breakfast Basics: Alternative Fee Arrangements" (May 23, 2017 in Detroit)**

The YLS and ICLE hosted "Breakfast Basics: Alternative Fee Arrangements" on May 23, 2017 at the offices of Miller Canfield in Detroit from 8:30am until 10:30am. This seminar was so well received when held in the Fall 2016 that YLS decided to have a second seminar. Like the prior seminar, this seminar focused on AFA options (including flat fees) and practice areas and transactions that are best for AFAs. It also featured a discussion on how to set the appropriate fee to be profitable while remaining credible and affordable to clients. Attendees learned about creative options beyond the billable hour that can boost efficiency

and help clients avoid “sticker shock.” The panel featured Alari K. Adams, Squared Legal Group PLC; Erin R. Bonahoom, Canvas Legal PLC, Detroit; Denise D. Couling, Couling Law & Mediation PLLC; and Brian Schwartz, Miller Canfield PLC.

- **4th Annual Diversity Mock Trial Competition (June 3, 2017 in Detroit)**

The YLS will host its 4th Annual Diversity Mock Trial Competition on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. The program provides middle school students with an opportunity to participate in a mock trial and interact with a number of local judges and lawyers. It is an invaluable program that will undoubtedly make an impact with students. There is not really any advance preparation required as the workshop is all inclusive during the day. Participants will receive the competition materials beforehand; all the students would need to do is review them and be somewhat familiar with the content.

- **586/248/313 Networking Challenge (June 7, 2017 in Sterling Heights)**

The YLS will cosponsor the 586/248/313 Networking Challenge (and battle for bragging rights) on June 7, 2017 at Kart 2 Kart. Leaders from all 3 bar associations (Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne) will be on hand to discuss the benefits of service to the bar on a personal and professional level. Racing will be available for purchase if participants feel the need for speed.

- **History of Legal Practice in Northern Michigan/Upper Peninsula (June 23, 2017 in Marquette)**

The YLS will host the "History of Legal Practice in Northern Michigan/Upper Peninsula" event on Friday, June 23, 2017 starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Marquette Regional History Center. Registrants will have the opportunity to attend informative presentations in a beautiful setting on a wide-range of topics explaining the history that has led to the unique jurisprudential climate of the UP/Northern Michigan. Topics include a discussion of Native American legal history, famous criminal cases, and the evolution of women's practice. We will also tour the famous Marquette County Courthouse. There will also be plenty of opportunities for networking both during the event and at an afterglow reception at the Ore Dock Brewing Company. There is also a group reservation at the Delft Bistro (Dutch treat).

- **So You Have Your P Number, Now What?: Practice Essentials for New Lawyers (July 22, 2017 in Novi)**

The YLS will host its new lawyer program “So You Have Your P Number, Now What?: Practice Essentials for New Lawyers” on July 22, 2017 at The Baronette Renaissance Detroit-Novu Hotel. In this dynamic, intensive half-day training seminar designed especially for new lawyers, attendees will learn from experts how to navigate the judicial system, maximize their social media, and present and practice with civility and professionalism. Attendees will also leave understanding some of the nuances of starting a practice, achieving work/ life balance, and maintaining their good standing with the State Bar of Michigan. Seminar topics will include: A to Z of Starting a Case, Been there, Done that?: Practice Tips From Experienced Lawyers, Building and Financing the Modern Solo Practice, Client 101 (Intake, Consultations, Screenings, Retainer Agreements, and Collecting Fees), Keeping Your Overhead, Under Budget: Optimizing Free and Low Cost Practice Resources, Judicial Perspectives on Motion Practice and Courtroom Etiquette, Launching Your Career with Assistance of the State Bar of Michigan, Manage Your Debt, Manage Your Money,

Strategies and Insights of Balanced Living, Tips on Avoiding Grievances, Ethical Pitfalls, and Malpractice, and Using Social Media to Stand Out in a Crowded Job Market. Attendees can also have an opportunity to take a professional headshot taken and have their resume and cover letter reviewed.

- **I AM YLS Table (July 25-26, 2017 in Lansing)**

The YLS will host an I AM YLS table at the July Bar Examination on July 25-26, 2017 at the Lansing Center. Section members will be on hand to provide bar exam takers with some essentials (pencil, earplugs, etc) in case they forgot them and words of encouragement.

- **Heroes vs Villains 5K Run and Fitness Walk (August 20, 2017 in Detroit)**

The YLS is hosting its inaugural Justice League: Heroes vs Villains 5K Run and Fitness Walk on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at Belle Isle Park in Detroit, Michigan. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Access to Justice Fund.

2016 -2017 YLS COMMITTEES

- **Community Outreach Committee**

- The Community Outreach Committee is responsible for planning and implementing various service projects and initiatives to serve the public. The Committee's work also helps create a more positive image of the YLS and the legal profession in the community.
- Co-Chairs: Bobby Ficklin (ficklinlaw@gmail.com) and Brande Smith (brandesmith02@gmail.com)

- **Disaster Legal Services Committee**

- The Disaster Legal Services Committee is responsible for organizing the Section's disaster legal assistance efforts. Disasters, both natural and manmade, can result in large populations in immediate need of legal assistance on a number of topics. The Committee, in conjunction with the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Office of Disaster Assistance Programs, works to develop a disaster relief plan for providing a network of volunteer attorneys to provide free legal services to victims of federally declared disasters throughout the State of Michigan. The Committee is also tasked with creating and maintaining the disaster relief handbook covering common legal situations and available resources for survivors of Michigan disasters.
- Co- Chairs: Choi Portis (choi.portis@gmail.com) and Ryan Plecha (ryanplecha@gmail.com)

- **Diversity Committee**

- The Diversity Committee is responsible for promoting diversity in the legal profession. The Committee is tasked with organizing diversity related seminars, projects, and initiatives for section members and the public.

Co-Chairs: Kristina Bilowus (kristinabilowus@yahoo.com), Matt Breuer (m.paul.breuer@gmail.com), and Jerome Crawford (jcrawf@gmail.com)

- **Education Committee**

- The Education Committee is responsible for planning and coordinating educational and professional development seminars that are specifically designed to meet the needs of young lawyers. When possible, the Committee tries to include experienced young lawyers in the program faculty to provide them with the opportunity to gain exposure and experience in an educational forum.

- Co-Chairs: Coleman Potts (clpottslaw@gmail.com) and Christopher Wickman (chrisbwickman@gmail.com)

- **Health and Wellness Committee**

- The Health and Wellness Committee is responsible for promoting the overall health and well-being of young lawyers. The Committee is tasked with organizing seminars and activities focused on mental health and wellness, fitness and exercise, healthy living, and stress management.

- Co-Chairs: Tanya Cripps (cripps.tanya@gmail.com) and Amy Krieg (akrieg15@gmail.com)

- **Inter Alia Committee**

- The Inter Alia Committee is responsible for collecting content for and publishing the YLS Newsletter, Inter Alia. Inter Alia is published at least four times a year, and provides the YLS membership with articles on substantive issues, practice tips, and notice of upcoming Section events and news. Annually, the Inter Alia Committee recognizes contributors to the Inter Alia for that bar year.

- Chair: Syeda Davidson (sfh davidson@gmail.com)

- Vice Chair: Kara Hart-Negrich (khartnegrich@gmail.com)

- **Media/ Marketing Relations Committee**

- The Media/Marketing Relations Committee is responsible for maintaining the YLS webpage, marketing and promotional materials, protocol regarding the YLS listserv, and initiating and maintaining any other media and/or marketing relations items.

- Co-Chairs: Aaron Sohaski (sohaskia@gmail.com) and Ryan Zemke (zemker@gmail.com)

- **Membership Committee**

- The Membership Committee is responsible for promoting greater participation of Section members in the YLS and bar association as a whole. The Committee is tasked with ensuring the Section adequately engages its membership through

planning social and networking events, looking for partnerships with other professional organizations, and suggesting ways to increase the Section's value to its members. The Committee also works with liaisons to and from various SBM sections.

- Co-Chairs: Kara Hart-Negrich (khartnegrich@gmail.com) Katherine Bennett (katherinejmontgomery@gmail.com)

- **National Trial Advocacy Competition Committee**

- The National Trial Advocacy Competition Committee is responsible for coordinating the Annual National Trial Advocacy Competition for law schools across the country.
- Co-Chairs: Laura Kubit (lkubit@gmail.com) and Samantha Orvis (samantha.orvis@gmail.com)

- **Pro Bono Committee**

- The Pro Bono Committee is responsible for promoting pro bono legal service throughout Michigan. The Committee is tasked with sponsoring pro bono projects and events, and partnering with providers of pro bono opportunities to provide young lawyers with the training and support they need to become successful advocates. Annually, the Committee will recognize young lawyers who provide pro bono service. This Committee works with YLS affiliate organizations and programs to provide pro bono opportunities to young lawyers and to promote the public's access to justice.
- Co-Chairs: Shenique A. Moss (sheniquemoss@gmail.com)

- **Upper Peninsula Engagement Committee**

- The Upper Peninsula Engagement Committee is responsible for organizing programs and activities specifically for young lawyers in the Upper Peninsula ("UP"). The Committee is also tasked with examining the unique issues UP young lawyers face in getting more involved in the Section and exploring ways to further engage them.
- Co-Chairs: Erica Payne Roell (ericanpayne2322@gmail.com) and Mark Jane (mwjane1980@yahoo.com)

- **Young Lawyer Summit Committee**

- The Young Lawyer Summit Committee is responsible for organizing the Summit which provides young lawyers the opportunity to participate in various educational seminars and networking events during the course of a weekend.
- Chair: Shenique A. Moss (sheniquemoss@gmail.com)

- **Entertainment Committee**
 - Co-Chairs: Jerome Crawford (jcrawf@gmail.com) and Ryan Plecha (ryanplecha@gmail.com)
- **Keynote Speaker Committee**
 - Chair: Tanya Cripps (cripps.tanya@gmail.com)
- **Logistics Committee**
 - Co-Chairs: Choi Portis (choi.portis@gmail.com) and Brandi Smith (brandesmith02@gmail.com)
- **Outstanding Young Lawyer Award Selection Committee**
 - Chair: Syeda Davidson (sfhdaavidson@gmail.com)
- **Programs Committee**
 - Chair: Roberta Sacharski (robertasacharski@gmail.com)
- **Publicity Committee**
 - Chair: Aaron Sohaski (sohaskia@gmail.com)
- **Sponsor/Vendors Committee**
 - Co-Chairs: Kara Hart-Negrich (khartnegrich@gmail.com) and Ryan Zemke (zemker@gmail.com)
- **Venue Committee**
 - Co-Chairs: Erica Payne Roell (ericanpayne2322@gmail.com) and Laura Kubit (lkubit@gmail.com)

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

The YLS represents Michigan young lawyers at the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“ABA-YLD) meetings. As an affiliate of the ABA-YLD, the YLS representatives vote on resolutions considered by the ABA YLD at the Midyear and Annual Meeting and learn ways to improve the section by attending Affiliate training at the Fall and Spring Conference. Historically, the YLS has had one of the strongest delegations which is one of the reasons we were able to secure the bid for the 2016 Fall Conference.

Meetings

YLD representatives attended (or will attend) the following meetings.

- **Fall Conference:** October 20-22, 2016, Detroit, Michigan
- **Midyear Meeting:** February 2-4, 2017, Miami, Florida
- **Spring Conference:** May 4-6, 2017, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- **Annual Meeting:** August 10-12, 2017, New York, New York

YLS ABA Representatives

- **2015-2017 ABA YLD District Representative (District 20- Michigan):** Choi Portis
- **2015-2017 ABA House of Delegates Michigan Young Lawyer Representative:** Shenique Moss
- **Incoming 2017-2019 ABA YLD District Representative (District 20-Michigan):** Amy Krieg
- **Incoming 2017-2019 ABA House of Delegates Michigan Young Lawyer Representative:** Laura Kubit

YLS Council Members Serving the in ABA YLD Other Capacities:

- **Jerome Crawford** (2016-2017 Affiliate Assistance Team Vice Chair and 2016-2017 YLD Entertainment and Sports Industries Committee Vice Chair)
- **Shenique Moss** (2016-2017 YLD Speaker, 2016-2017 House of Delegates Teller Committee Chair, 2016-2019 Leadership Advisory Board, and incoming 2017-2020 ABA House of Delegates Nominating Committee Young Lawyers Division Representative)
- **Samantha Orvis** (2016-2017 Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Committee Vice Chair)
- **Choi Portis** (2016-2017 YLD Vice Director of Diversity, YLD Credentials Board, and incoming 2017-2018 YLS Diversity and Inclusion Director)
- **Aaron Sohaski** (2016-2017 TYL Editorial Board Associate Editor)

INTER ALIA NEWSLETTER

The YLS issues a newsletter, Inter Alia, to advise its membership of activities and to provide informative and educational material. Each edition of Inter Alia is available on SBM Connect webpage under “Newsletters”- <http://connect.michbar.org/yls/home>

SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVES

The YLS launched the following social media initiatives this bar year to provide much needed information and added benefits.

- **Frequent Job Postings:** Job postings are circulated using the discussion feature of Section Connect. YLS has received positive feedback for providing this added benefit. In fact, several section members have received jobs offers from jobs they found out about through our job postings.
- **#WellnessWednesday:** YLS posts articles related to wellness (health, mental wellbeing, etc.) on our facebook page every Wednesday to raise awareness of the different issues that young lawyers encounter.
- **#ThankfulThursday:** YLS posts various pro bono opportunities and articles events related to pro bono on our facebook page every Thursday.

- **“From Desk Potato To 5K” 9-week fitness training program**: This Program is designed to help prepare section members for our Justice League: Heroes v Villains 5K (approximately 3.2 miles) on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at Belle Isle State Park. All running levels (from beginners to advanced) are welcome to participate! This social media campaign aimed at getting members moving has a suggested training schedule: tinyurl.com/heroesvillains5Ktraining

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership with the ADR Section

The Young Lawyers Section and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section have agreed to collaborate by creating a program to mentor, coach, and advise YLS members on a volunteer basis, and to provide assistance to those who have questions or concerns about the ADR process. The ADR Section created a web page

(<http://connect.michbar.org/adr/communityresources/ylshelppage>) which provides the names of experienced alternative dispute resolution practitioners to answer urgent questions about mediation and arbitration YLS members might have. This free resource is specifically limited to members of the Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

Through this program, young lawyers trying to determine how to best represent their client may contact volunteer experienced ADR practitioners and ask questions such as:

- How to select a mediator?
- What considerations go into selecting a mediator?
- How to prepare a client for the process?
- What is likely to happen in a mediation?
- How mediation advocacy differs from traditional zealous advocacy?
- How to strategize and plan for negotiations at the mediation table?
- How to draft a mediation statement?
- How should an attorney conduct himself or herself in a mediation?
- How to draft a settlement agreement?
- How to demand an arbitration?
- How to respond to an arbitration demand?
- How is an arbitration conducted?
- How to prepare an arbitration statement?
- How to find good arbitrators?