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A REPORT TO MEMBERS OF
THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAR
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

Protecting Our Youth: Young lawyers across the state are making a difference

The YLD Protecting Our Youth Through Legal Education Committee has been making a great impact on at-risk middle and high school students across South Carolina this school year. The committee's goal is to educate these students on the consequences of their actions and how their actions can and will impact their future.

The committee is comprised of young lawyers who are dedicated to public service and to educating teenagers. The overall goal of the committee is to reduce the crime rate for youthful offenders. Volunteers on this committee hope that those who are reached are inspired to be successful and not end up as part of the criminal justice system.

The committee visits schools across the state, bringing prosecutors, defense attorneys, police officers or judges to sit on interactive panels with committee members who serve as moderators. The moderator poses questions and scenarios to these panelists about various situations students might be faced with at their age. The focus is on "hand of one" law, criminal records and overall consequences of students' actions.

Impact

This year, the committee greatly expanded and brought the program to new areas of the state with a particular emphasis on reaching alternative schools. With a goal of reaching every circuit in the state, the committee has successfully completed 22 panels in nine circuits this school year with more in the planning stage. They have hosted panels—with some schools requesting multiple presentations—in 15



different schools in Columbia, Beaufort, Darlington, Aiken, Laurens, Blythewood, Lexington, West Columbia, Orangeburg, Fort Mill and Batesburg-Leesville, reaching over 1,000 students.

The panels

The committee's success is largely due to the amazing volunteers who contribute their time to serve as panelists and moderators. In the Fourth Circuit, Darlington County Intervention School's panels were led by young lawyer Brooke Burris this year. Fourth Circuit Juvenile Public Defender Nathan Scales, Fourth Circuit Assistant Solicitor William Shipp Daniel III, School Resource Officer Sharon Blakney and Darlington Department of Juvenile Justice Branch Manager Lynn Gehrke served as panelists on both of these panels.

In the 11th Circuit, young lawyer Sa-
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Judicial Spotlight: Carmen Tevis Mullen, Circuit Court Judge, 14th Judicial Circuit

Born: Southern California

Education: Indiana University, B.A. English & B.A. Speech Communications; Clemson University, M.A. English; University of South Carolina School of Law, J.D.

Career: Upon graduation from law school, Carmen went to clerk for the Hon. L. Casey Manning of the Fifth Judicial Circuit. Following her tenure with Judge Manning, Carmen gained criminal trial experience as an assistant public defender in the Charleston County Public Defender's Office.

Upon completion of her tour as an assistant public defender, Carmen went to work for the House of Representatives Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee as its staff attorney. Carmen went into private practice in 1998. In 2000, Carmen established her own litigation practice with offices on Hilton Head Island and in Charleston. Carmen was elected by the General Assembly to the position of Resident Circuit Court Judge, Seat 2, for the 14th Judicial Circuit on February 15, 2006, to fill retiring Judge Jackson V. Gregory's seat.



Family: Carmen is married to Hilton Head attorney George Mullen and has four wonderful children: Lauren, Chip, Toria and Tevis.

What the bar would be surprised to learn about you?

I'm a wannabe doctor. My family and close friends call me Dr. Mullen. I used to say, for my second career, I was going back to medical school. It's always a possibility. I hope I am never placed in an emergent medical situation because I would have no qualms performing emergency surgery with a steak knife.

Personal life away from the bench:

I take care of and spend time with my husband, kids and dog, Charlie Girl, when not on the bench. I love to read, snow ski, travel and garden, weather permitting. I also try to work-out as often as possible which keeps me balanced and doubles as a way to catch up with friends.

What is the best advice you were given as a young lawyer?

Be respectful and kind to EVERYONE. South Carolina is a small state. You never know who is going to be governor, a judge or performing your emergency appendectomy. That, and recognizing you must love what you do and have the courage to make a change when you no longer love it.

What is the most rewarding aspect of being a judge and the most challenging aspect of being a judge?

The most rewarding aspect of judging on the circuit court bench is having the opportunity on a frequent basis to assist people in bettering themselves and becoming valuable members of our society. The most challenging aspect is the effect of drug use on people and its residual effect on their families and society in general. I truly believe that if we could eradicate drugs, we could get rid of 85 percent of crime.

What experience best prepared you for the bench?

Nothing prepared me more for the bench than having tried a lot of civil and criminal cases. Frequent trial practice—which is unheard of these days—is the best teaching tool for a young lawyer. That, and attending cotillion as a child.

If you could choose one legal scholar to have dinner with, who would it be and why?

Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. I would love to experience the friendship of these two Justices whose judicial philosophies were so diametrically opposite.

What practices did you implement early in your career that have been most beneficial to you?

Be exceedingly well-prepared. Prepare as if you are always going to trial. Then, and only then, will your case settle.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the South Carolina legal system?

Lawyer advertising. Unfortunately, the public's confidence in the legal profession and respect for the justice system has suffered due to pervasive lawyer advertising. It is the honor and responsibility of lawyers to provide legal services and we need to treat our duty with the dignity it deserves.



Color of Justice

On March 24 the Color of Justice Committee hosted 30 students from middle and high schools across the Midlands. Students participated in small group discussions with professionals regarding law school and how a lawyer handles representation of someone who is alleged to have committed a serious crime. Students also had the opportunity to collaborate with each other while serving as "jurors" in a hypothetical fact pattern.



President Awards

Kenneth “Jay” Anthony, The Anthony Law Firm, PA, Greenville
Joseph Pawel Bias, Vernis & Bowling of Columbia, LLC, Columbia
Cheslyne Shea Brighthop, Richland County Public Defender’s Office, Columbia
Lyndey Bryant, Adams and Reese LLP, Columbia
Teckla S. Henderson, S.C. Department of Public Safety, Blythewood
Adam Brooks Landy, Internal Revenue Service, San Francisco
Julie Lauren Moore, Duffy & Young, LLC, Charleston
Katherine Rose Myers, First Circuit Solicitor’s Office, Orangeburg
Irish “Ryan” Neville, Stevens & Lee, Charleston
John “Clarke” Newton, Bluestein Nichols Thompson & Delgado, LLC, Columbia
Sutania Alicia Radlein, Eleventh Circuit Solicitor’s Office, Lexington
Daina Michelle Riley, S.C. Senate, Columbia
Sheila Marlouvon Willis, Fisher & Phillips LLP, Columbia
Ashleigh Rayanna Wilson, Bowman & Brooke, LLP, Columbia

Protecting Our Youth

(continued from Front Cover)

mantha Albrecht successfully organized panels at three different schools for a total of six different panels.

In the Seventh and Eighth Circuits, the committee had the privilege of having two circuit court judges serve on their panels. Hon. R. Keith Kelly and the Hon. Eugene Griffith Jr. both took time out of their busy schedules to give back to the South Carolina Bar, the schools and the students.

Young lawyers Clarke Newton, Joseph Bias, Sutania Radlein, Virginia Riley, Chelsea Rikard, Amber Hendrick, Alli Blackwelder and Margaret Strom were all instrumental in planning successful panels.

The committee thanks the following volunteer panelists for their dedication to public service and for serving as panelists: Chelsea McNeil, Yates Brown, Cheslyne Brighthop, Suzanne Mayes, Matt Edgerton, Casey Rankin, Melanie Graham, Luke Pincelli, Hallie Willm, Quida Dest, Melissa Inzerillo, Stacy Coleman, Colin Duncan, Brooks Biediger Jr., Nick Riley, Mark Jones, Robert Madsen, Angie Hugie, Greg Carr, Samantha Luck, Cameron Mortenson, Sam Smith, James Cheek, Christopher Bain, Ben Cox, Ashley Hammack, Nick McCarley, Kim Caso, JJ Shellenburg, Dan Johnson, Alicia Goode, Harry Dest, BJ Barrowclough, Andrew McAllister and others.

New program

On April 27, the committee hosted



its first “Protecting Our Youth” Mass Day. This was a statewide event that took place at the Richland County Courthouse. Students from nearly a dozen different schools from four different circuits in the state attended the program. This Mass Day allowed students to visit a courthouse, interact with personnel within the criminal justice system and young lawyers, and hear from Department of Juvenile Justice insiders about life “behind the fence.” During the program, young lawyer Sutania Radlein moderated a panel with Assistant Solicitor Lamar Fyall, Assistant Public Defender Maisie Osteen and Sergeant Terrance Acox of the Richland County Sheriff’s Department.

The students also had the opportunity to observe a mock guilty plea about a juvenile charged as an adult who committed an armed robbery with a group of people. This mock guilty plea script was the original work of the committee

and focused on the “hand of one” law. Hon. Clifton Newman presided over the mock guilty plea. Young lawyers served as actors. Daina Riley played the role of the defendant, Tyler Bailey acted as the defense attorney and Sheneka Lodenquai was the prosecutor in the mock guilty plea.

Get involved

The Protecting Our Youth Program is rewarding for the young lawyers involved and the volunteers, and it is extremely beneficial for the youth reached. The committee is always looking for young lawyers to volunteer at programs across the state. If you are interested in serving the community, planning a panel and impacting the lives of our youth, please considering joining the committee during the YLD’s 2018-19 Committee Sign-Up. The committee would love to have more young lawyers dedicated to its mission.

Letter from the President



Dear Young Lawyers,

As you may be aware, the Bar's fiscal year—and with that my term as your President—will be coming to a close on June 30. I have enjoyed every minute of being your advocate over the past 12 months. I could not have done it without the stellar 2017-18 YLD leadership team! Thank you to each and every one of you! You were in the trenches on a daily basis carrying the heavy load of developing the quality events and programming that have helped us serve both our members and our respective communities.

I really wish I had space to wax poetic about each and every thing we accomplished this year, but I think the Publications Committee may kill me—as I already tend to be a little long-winded in this letter each quarter. By way of brief examples, in 2017-18, we have: started a blog; learned from seasoned lawyers monthly about how to make it in their respective practice areas while interacting with federal judges and law clerks across the state; broken barriers in discussing diversity issues; expanded the reach of our Color of Justice committee to seven counties; made wellness events part of our membership interaction; made our way down the May River to learn about its watershed and the impact of that watershed on the local community; held 16 Protecting Our Youth events reaching over 10 of the judicial circuits; networked with each other and more than eight other young professional groups; increased our social media footprint; discussed healthy relation-

ships with high school students; provided prom attire (boosting students' self-esteem along the way) in seven counties to hundreds of individuals; made 59 presentations to approximately 1550 students on iCivics Day; raised thousands of dollars for Make-A-Wish; learned about cybersecurity and cyber-hygiene; held two Bowling Buddies events for Special Olympics; spent the afternoon with our families, judges and their families while taking in a baseball game; and so many other remarkable things! You should all be so proud of these timely, thoughtful and impactful events.

Also, I would like to say an extra special thank you to four wonderful people who have made this year a success and helped maintain the YLD's great reputation: President-Elect Ashleigh Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer Sheila Willis, Immediate Past President Ryan Neville and YLD Coordinator Kimberly Snipes. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with each of you and am so grateful for your hard work and your friendship. Although it is bittersweet to become a past president, there is no doubt in my mind that the YLD will continue and grow its success under the reins of Ashleigh Wilson of Bowman and Brooke LLP. She, along with Sheila Willis and Perry MacLennan, will keep you engaged and excited about the difference you can make in your life and the lives of those around you through your involvement in the YLD. Certainly, though, do not hesitate to reach out to me as well if I can ever be of assistance to you. I am not aging out for a few more years!

If you have not had the chance to participate in any of our events this year, I encourage you to read our bi-weekly announcements and pick out something to try. There is a pretty healthy mix of ways to give back to the community and ways to enhance your network or practice. The new Committee Sign-Up information is available, and for the first time, you can sign up online! If there is something you would like to see that we do not have available, I encourage you to reach out to your circuit representative and put together that event for the 2018-19 year! Finally, as rewarding as this role is, it

unfortunately does not pay the bills. Therefore, I am extremely appreciative to work for a firm that has not only supported my year in this role but championed it. I am so lucky to work with people I care about and who care about more than just the amount of time I am physically in the office. I hope that each of you is able to find fulfillment in our profession, where you work, and the people you work with as well.

Thank you again for your dedication to making the South Carolina YLD a leader both in South Carolina and around the country.

Take care,

Lindsay A. Joyner
Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.



Stars of the Quarter

Tyler Bailey
M. Stephen Blevins
William Buyck III
Mary Cothonneau Eldridge
Jacob Godwin
Ti'a Hazel
Sheneka Lodenquai
Mary Lucas
Cashida Okeke
Meredith Ross
Leslie Simpson
Lindsay Sutcliffe
Michael Trask

Community Law Week 2018



One of the greatest examples of service to the public comes from young lawyers across the state participating in events during Community Law Week. Co-chaired by Leslie Simpson and Matt Orville and assisted by a committee of dedicated young lawyers, the purpose of CLW is to promote the legal profession and provide the public with information about its legal rights. During CLW, the committee and circuit representatives plan and implement service projects to further that purpose, such as the SC Bar Ask-A-Lawyer Phone Bank, Cocky's Reading Express, speakers in schools, DSS playroom refurbishing project, kids' identification card project, Lawsuits project and others. Each project is well appreciated by the individuals served and further drives our purpose of promotion and awareness.



Most circuits hosted Cocky's Reading Express, an opportunity for young lawyers to read to first graders and stress the importance (and fun) of literacy. Over 50 young lawyers from

around the state participated and each student was given a book to facilitate their interest in reading.



Dent Middle school in Columbia celebrated Military Families this month, and the CLW Committee invited First Lieutenant Paul Judge from the Army JAG Corps at Fort Jackson to present to the students on the role of the JAG in military justice. Approximately 20 students were present.



The 11th Circuit hosted a Pro Bono Q&A at Lexington Interfaith Community Services in Lexington. Similar to the Fifth Circuit's program, volunteers discussed topics such as eviction, child support, expungements, improving credit, social security benefits and the

criminal justice system process.

The Fifth Circuit hosted a Pro Bono Q&A with the residents of St. Lawrence Place in Columbia through its program "Homeless No More." Volunteers answered questions from the residents on topics such as eviction, child support, expungement and improving credit. YLD provided snacks for the residents during the Q&A, as well as for their children, who were placed in a child care program during the Q&A session.

The 14th Circuit hosted its Inaugural Cornhole Tournament supporting the Make-a-Wish Foundation at the beautiful Port Royal Sound Foundation Maritime Center in Okatie. Approximately 25 people were in attendance, including 15 young lawyers, other members of the bar, two judges, family and friends. The 14th Circuit raised \$330 for Make-A-Wish.

Finally, over 50 young lawyers in the Charleston area participated in the Birdies for Belief Golf Tournament on May 4. The event, which took place at Oak Point Golf Course at Kiawah, was teed off by a wish kid and his mother. The proceeds raised went to South Carolina Make-A-Wish to facilitate the granting of more wishes throughout the state.

If you are interested in participating during next year's Community Law Week, be on the lookout from an email from your Circuit Representative about ways you can get involved!



South Carolina Bar

Young Lawyers Division

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Young Lawyer Spotlight



Cashida Okeke is an associate in the Greenville office of Jackson Lewis. Her practice focuses on representing employers in workplace law matters, including preventive advice and counseling. Cashida's favorite part of practicing employment law is that she gets to become a trusted advisor and counselor to her clients on employment matters they face every day in the workplace. Cashida is active in the Young Lawyers Division and also gives her time to a variety of youth

service programs in her hometown of Rock Hill. She currently serves as the co-chair for the Color of Justice Committee. Cashida has been instrumental in planning several Color of Justice events across the state.



Emily S. Jordan is from Troy, Alabama. After attending the University of Alabama and the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law, Emily and her husband, Daniel, moved to his hometown of

Florence to begin their legal careers.

Emily's legal career began with a two-year clerkship for Circuit Court Judge D. Craig Brown. Her time with Judge Brown gave her invaluable insight into the inner workings of our judicial system, improved her legal research and writing skills, and taught her how to render competent decisions on a range of legal matters.

Following her clerkship, Emily entered private practice with her husband at The Law Office of Daniel T. Jordan, LLC. Since law school, Emily has loved the areas of estate planning and probate litigation and her practice is solely focused in those areas. On nearly a weekly basis, Emily appears before the Florence County Probate Court representing litigants in probate matters.

In addition to her active law practice, Emily is seeking the Republican nomination in the June 12, 2018, primary for Florence County Probate Judge. She hopes to use her knowledge and experience in probate law and practice to serve the people of Florence County.