



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

Mendenall Provides Tort Liability Exception in Workers' Comp Cases

By Brian E. Sopp • Barnes Alford Stork & Johnson

In South Carolina, “[t]he General Assembly has vested the S.C. Workers’ Compensation Commission with exclusive original jurisdiction over employees’ work-related injuries.” *Posey v. Proper Mold & Engineering, Inc.*, 378 S.C. 210, 223, 661 S.E.2d 395, 402 (Ct. App. 2008). This exclusivity rule, codified at S.C. Code Ann. § 42-1-540, prohibits tort suits by an employee against his employer and limits the employee’s rights to those enumerated in the Workers’ Compensation Act.

Until recently, South Carolina courts did not recognize any exceptions to this exclusivity rule. However, in *Mendenall v. Anderson Hardwood Floors, LLC*, the S.C. Supreme Court adopted the dual persona doctrine, which allows an employee to sue an employer in limited circumstances. 738 S.E.2d 251 (S.C. 2013). Although the court stressed that “[t]he dual persona doctrine will apply only in truly exceptional situations,” *Id.* at 254, the Court’s decision could have a significant effect on employers’ tort liability in South Carolina.

In *Mendenall*, the Court certified a question from the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina asking whether the dual persona doctrine allows an injured employee to bring a tort action against his employer where the allegedly negligent conduct was committed by the employer’s predecessor in interest.



Id. at 252. In 2003, Walterboro Veneer, Inc., designed and constructed a cement vat used in its wood product manufacturing plant. *Id.* After Walterboro sold the business, an employee of the successor corporation was killed in an accident involving the vat, and his estate attempted to sue the successor corporation in tort for the injury caused by the allegedly defective equipment. *Id.* The Court did not apply the doctrine to the facts of the case, but did “accept the dual persona doctrine as an exception to the [Workers’ Comp-

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sation] Act's exclusivity provision." *Id.* at 254. The Court explained that the "dual persona doctrine," states that "[a]n employer may become a third person, vulnerable to tort suit by an employee, if—and only if—it possesses a second persona so completely independent from and unrelated to its status as employer that by established standards the law recognizes that persona as a separate legal person." *Id.* at 253 (quoting 6 Larson's Workers' Compensation Law § 113.01).

The Court's decision in *Mendenall* deviated from prior decisions that refrained from adopting exceptions to the exclusivity rule. In *Tatum v. Medical University of South Carolina*, for example, the S.C. Supreme Court reversed a decision of the Court of Appeals adopting the dual persona doctrine. *Id.*, 346 S.C. 194, 196, 552 S.E.2d 18, 19 (2001) *abrogated by Mendenall v. Anderson Hardwood Floors, LLC*, 738 S.E.2d 251 (S.C. 2013). In *Tatum*, the plaintiff injured her back in the course of her employment with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). The plaintiff ultimately underwent three surgeries on her back with a physician employed by MUSC and sued the employer for the physician's allegedly negligent conduct. The *Tatum* majority, however, held that even if the Court recognized the dual persona doctrine, the doctrine would not

apply to the facts of the case because "MUSC did not take on the legally distinct persona of [the plaintiff's] treating hospital by referring her to [the treating surgeon]." *Id.* at 206, 552 S.E.2d at 24 (internal punctuation omitted).

Though it has now been abrogated by *Mendenall*, the *Tatum* decision remains significant because the Court explained two potential exceptions to the exclusivity rule: dual persona and dual capacity. "The 'dual persona' concept is applied in situations where the law clearly recognizes the duality of legal persons, so that it may be realistically assumed that a legislature would have intended that duality to be respected ... Under the 'dual capacity' doctrine, an employer becomes vulnerable to suit as a third party if he occupies, in addition to his capacity as employer, a second capacity that confers on him obligations independent to those imposed on him as employer. While the 'dual persona' doctrine recognizes different identities, the 'dual capacity' doctrine recognizes different activities or relationships. *Id.* (citing *Larson's Workers' Compensation Law* § 113.01[2] (1999) and 2A *Larson Workers' Compensation Law* § 72:80 (1976)).

The Court in *Tatum* noted that "[o]ur Court has rejected the 'dual capacity' doctrine." *Id.* at 204, 552 S.E.2d at 23 (citing *Johnson v. Rental Uniform Service of Greenville*, 316 S.C. 70, 447 S.E.2d 184 (1994) ("After careful consideration, we decline to adopt the 'dual capacity' doctrine as the law of South Carolina.") However, the Court neither adopted nor rejected the dual persona doctrine. *Id.* at 206, 552 S.E.2d at 24.

The facts of *Mendenall* and prior case law suggest that the primary scenario where the dual persona doctrine could apply is in the products liability context. *See Tatum*, 346 S.C. at 204, 552 S.E.2d at 23. ("While this Court has not considered the 'dual persona' theory, several states have adopted the 'dual persona' doctrine in the context of product liability suits by employees."). However, the *Mendenall* opinion does not limit the doctrine to those circumstances. In a footnote, the Court stated, "Although

the *Tatum* majority's discussion of the dual persona doctrine is correct, its application of the law to the facts of that case was erroneous." *Mendenall*, 738 S.E.2d at 254 n.4. In other words, the *Mendenall* Court suggests that the lower court in *Tatum* was correct in holding that "where an employer-hospital and its physicians negligently treat an employee for a work-related accident and, in doing so, exacerbate the injury, a tort action may be maintained by the employee against the employer-hospital." 346 S.C. at 196, 552 S.E.2d at 19 (quoting *Tatum v. Medical University of South Carolina*, 335 S.C. 499, 511, 517 S.E.2d 706, 713 (Ct. App. 1999)) (internal punctuation omitted).

In addition to subjecting employers to greater tort liability, the *Mendenall* opinion raises questions about the continuing applicability of the exclusivity rule to other areas of the law. For example, in *Gordon v. Phillips Utilities, Inc.*, an injured employee brought a tort action against a third party defendant. 362 S.C. 403, 608 S.E.2d 425 (2005). A judgment was entered against the defendant and the defendant argued that pursuant to the language of S.C. Code Ann. § 42-1-580, it was entitled to a setoff in the amount of any workers' compensation benefits paid by the employer. 362 S.C. 403, 407, 608 S.E.2d 425, 427 (2005). The defendant also argued that it was entitled to contribution from the employer under the Contribution Among Tortfeasors Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 15-38-20. *Id.* at 406, 608 S.E.2d at 427. However, the court rejected both arguments, finding that because the employee did not have a tort remedy against the employer, the third party defendant could not recover from the employer under the Contribution Among Tortfeasors Act or benefit from the Workers' Compensation Act's setoff provision. *Id.* at 406-07, 608 S.E.2d at 427. The *Mendenall* decision suggests that cases like *Gordon*, which rely, in part, on the exclusivity rule, could be revisited by the Supreme Court in the future. While the Court in *Mendenall* clearly intended to adopt a "narrow exception" to the exclusivity rule, the effect of this narrow exception may have a broader impact on the law in South Carolina than the Court intended.

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For a list of the YLD Executive Council, circuit representatives and upcoming events, please visit www.scbar.org/yld.

Post-Conviction Relief in S.C.: The *Strickland* Standard

By Ashleigh R. Wilson • Assistant Attorney General



Post-conviction relief (PCR) is the mechanism by which a person convicted of a crime challenges the validity of his conviction, most commonly on the basis that his attorney provided ineffective assistance of counsel. Though the application for post-conviction relief requests vacation of a criminal conviction, the filing of such institutes a civil action against the State of South Carolina. The relief available to an applicant if successful is vacation of conviction and a new trial or resentencing. The Office of the Attorney General litigates these cases on behalf of the State of South Carolina.

Post-conviction relief in South Carolina is governed by the Uniform Post-Conviction Procedure Act (“the Act”). S.C. Code Ann. §§ 17-27-10 to 160 (1976). In order to comply with the statute of limitations outlined in the Act, the application for post-conviction relief must be filed with the clerk of court in the county of conviction within one year of conviction or within one year after the sending of the remittitur to the lower court from an appeal, whichever is later. *Id.* § 45. If the application is filed within the statute of limitations and contains allegations proper for post-conviction relief, an attorney will be appointed from the civil appoint-

ment list to represent the indigent applicant. The State will respond to the application by filing a return. The matter will then be resolved at an evidentiary hearing held during a scheduled term of court for PCR matters in the judicial circuit where the applicant was convicted.

At the PCR hearing, the applicant has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence the allegations in his PCR application. The most common allegation is ineffective assistance of counsel. The standard for ineffective assistance of counsel was outlined by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668 (1984), which established that in order to prove counsel was ineffective, the PCR applicant must show two things: that counsel’s performance was deficient and that there is a reasonable probability that, but for counsel’s errors, the result of the proceeding would have been different. This was adopted in South Carolina in *Ard v. Catoe*, 372 S.C. 318, 331, 642 S.E.2d 590, 596 (2007) (citing *Strickland*). At the hearing, the applicant can present witnesses and elicit testimony about counsel’s performance. The State does the same to rebut the applicant’s allegations.

Some of the most common allegations presented in post-conviction relief proceedings are failure to investigate, failure to call a witness, and failure to advise the applicant of the right to appeal. Applicants can also challenge the voluntariness of a guilty plea by alleging ineffective assistance of counsel. *See Roscoe v. State*, 345 S.C. 16, 546 S.E.2d 417 (2001); *Boykin v. Alabama*, 395 U.S. 238 (1969).

After the PCR hearing, the court will either grant or deny the applicant’s PCR application. If the application is denied, the applicant’s conviction is essentially affirmed. The applicant has the right to appeal the denial of his or her application to the S.C. Supreme Court. If the application is granted, the applicant’s conviction is vacated and he is given a new trial or in limited circumstances resentenced. The State has the right

to appeal the granting of an application for post-conviction relief to the Supreme Court.

There are several aspects of PCR that distinguish it from other civil actions. Discovery is not allowed in non-capital post-conviction relief proceedings unless the court grants leave to do so after good cause is shown. S.C. Code Ann. §17-27-150 (1976). After the State files a return and compiles the applicant’s indictments, plea or trial transcript, appellate records, and Department of Corrections records, a copy of the documents is automatically sent to the applicant’s counsel.

Also in contrast to other civil actions, by filing a PCR application, the applicant waives attorney-client privilege with respect to oral and written communications between defense counsel and the applicant to the extent necessary to respond to the applicant’s allegations. *Id.* § 130 (1976).

All applicants are entitled to a full and fair opportunity to present their claims in one PCR application. Successive PCR applications and appeals are generally disfavored because they allow an applicant to receive more than “one bite at the apple.” *Odom v. State*, 337 S.C. 256, 261, 523 S.E.2d 753, 755 (1999). Successive applications may be summarily dismissed unless they allege the denial of the applicant’s right to seek appellate review of the denial of post-conviction relief pursuant to *Austin v. State*, 305 S.C. 453, 409 S.E.2d 395 (1991). Applications filed outside of the statute of limitations may also be summarily dismissed unless they allege the denial of the applicant’s right to seek appellate review by direct appeal or other good cause is shown. *See Davis v. State*, 288 S.C. 290, 342 S.E.2d 60 (1986).

Post-conviction relief is South Carolina’s method for ensuring criminal defendants receive their Sixth Amendment right to counsel. While PCR claims are abundant, there is a strong presumption that attorneys provide reasonable professional assistance, and good criminal defense attorneys in South Carolina abound.

Young Lawyers Celebrate Law Week



Sloan Ellis (left) and Stokely Holder reading to kids at Alexander Elementary in Greenville.

Community Law Week takes place the first week of May each year. Community service projects are planned throughout the state to promote public service and provide the public with information about the legal community. This year was once again a success across the state, as YLD teamed up with Cocky's Reading Express and

held Ask-a-Lawyer phone banks, a blood drive and a canned food drive. These activities provided a variety of opportunities for young lawyers to get involved.

Cocky's Reading Express is very popular in elementary schools because Cocky shows up and gives each child a book. In Greenville, the YLD read to enthusiastic children at Alexander Elementary. Cocky came to encourage the children to continue reading over the summer. In Columbia, young lawyers read at Caughman Road and Satchel Ford Elementary schools. Other circuits also participated in Community Law Week through volunteering with Cocky's Reading Express, including reading at schools in Rock Hill, Lexington, Orangeburg and more.

The Ask-a-Lawyer phone banks were a success as the phones rang off

the hook for the entire time allotted for the public to call in with their legal questions. Local news channels hosted the phone banks in Charleston, Columbia and Myrtle Beach. YLD Volunteers answered questions on issues over divorce, bench warrants and division of property. Some lawyer volunteers also answered questions via web chat.

The newest addition to Community Law Week this year was the blood drive. Donation centers were organized in Columbia, Sumter, Florence, Myrtle Beach and Charleston. Because the Red Cross is always in need of donors, this was a worthwhile way for YLD to help and encourage participation.

For a list of all of the generous volunteers who participated in Community Law Week, see the YLD website: www.schar.org/yld.

2nd Annual iCivics Day Reaches Nearly 6,000 Students

By Blaire Camp • Clerk to Justice Kittredge, Supreme Court of S.C.; Lindsay Joyner • Gallivan, White & Boyd; and Ryan Templeton • Intern to Justice Kittredge, Supreme Court of S.C.

How long does it take to become President? How much does a lawyer cost? What kind of lawyer are you? How much money does a lawyer make? Why do you represent a client you know is guilty? Why are men not constitutionally guaranteed a job?

These are just a few of the questions students asked the 70 lawyers who visited local classrooms as part of the YLD's second iCivics Day on May 20. Lawyers from across the state volunteered to talk to more than 5,800 students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades about various topics relating to civics education, including the importance of democracy, protection of individual rights and separation of powers.

iCivics is an education initiative launched in May 2010 by retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and is designed to educate students from across the country on many civics-related topics through fun web-based games designed for middle school students. iCivics was founded upon Justice O'Connor's belief that public education fostering a



YLD member Lindsey Livingston of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. makes a presentation to students at Forest Lake Elementary in Columbia, SC.

deeper understanding of American government is the only long-term solution to preserving a robust constitutional democracy. Additionally, iCivics provides educators with free lesson plans and curriculum units, and it is the nation's most comprehensive, standards-aligned civics curriculum that is available freely online.

To further the iCivics mission in South Carolina, the YLD's iCivics Com-

mittee advocates the importance of civics education and works to increase awareness of the free online resources iCivics offers teachers and students. To check out this interactive civics curriculum, visit www.icivics.org. If you would like to get involved with the iCivics Committee for the 2013-2014 year, please contact Morgan Crouch at mcrouch@schar.org for more information.

Ryan Neville Named 2013 Young Lawyer of the Year



Ninth Circuit YLD Representative Britt Kelly (right) presented the Young Lawyer of the Year award to Ryan Neville at the House of Delegates meeting on May 16, 2013.

Charleston attorney I. Ryan Neville has been named Young Lawyer of the Year by the Young Lawyers Division. The Young Lawyer of the Year Award is given annually to recognize a young lawyer who most exemplifies excellence in practicing law and public service.

Ryan was presented with the

award at the YLD's annual retreat in April and also was recognized at the Bar's House of Delegates meeting on May 16 at Sullivan's Island.

Ryan earned his Juris Doctor in 2008 from the Charleston School of Law and is an associate with Wills Massalon and Allen, LLC in Charleston where his practice areas

include business and real estate litigation, construction, foreclosure and insurance law. He is an active member of the YLD Annual Bar Convention Committee and is co-chair of the YLD Community Law Week Committee.

Ryan also serves as director of the board for the Preservation Society of Charleston, is a member of the Charleston County Board of Assessment Appeals, and teaches a legal writing course as an adjunct professor at the Charleston School of Law.

Britt Kelly, Ninth Circuit Representative and incoming YLD Secretary/Treasurer, said: "Ryan is wholly invested in his primary leadership role with YLD's Community Law Week Committee. His passion and leadership is helping make Community Law Week a more meaningful and better-recognized effort. Ryan's commitment to the Bar is resolute and demonstrated by his continued participation in a wide range of Bar events. He is a terrific ambassador for our organization and a great role model for our younger members."

Stars of the Quarter

Congrats to the following for their outstanding efforts and contributions to the YLD and their committees throughout the last quarter:

Jessica Brilhante

Brilhante Law Office, LLC, Bluffton
Wills Clinic

David Conway

Miller Conway, Goose Creek
Wills Clinic

Foster Girard

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, PA,
Columbia
Cocky's Reading Express

Michelle Kelley

Richardson Plowden & Robinson, PA,
Columbia

Cinderella Project

Marshall Newton

Robinson McFadden & Moore, PC,
Columbia
Newsletter

Logan Wells

Collins & Lacy, PC, Greenville
Cinderella Project



President's Awards

Please help us thank the following who have graciously and continuously served the YLD for a number of years:

James Brogdon, III

Gallivan, White & Boyd, PA, Columbia

Britt Kelly

Rosen | Hagood, Charleston

Chisa Putnam

Chisa J. Putman Attorney at Law,
LLC, Rock Hill

Rebecca Roser

Robinson McFadden & Moore, PC,
Columbia

Beth Palmer

Rosen | Hagood, Charleston

Reid Sherard

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough,
LLP, Greenville

Allison Sullivan

Bluestein Nichols Thompson &
Delgado, LLC, Columbia

Tracy Vann

Nexsen Pruet, LLC, Charlotte, NC

Patrick Wooten

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough,
LLP, Charleston

Recent Events



Joel Deason of McCabe, Trotter & Beverly, P.C. in Columbia assists an athlete in the bowling competition at the 2013 Special Olympics Summer Games.

Special Olympics

On May 5, 2013, the Young Lawyers Division assisted with the South Carolina Special Olympics bowling competition at Century Lanes at Ft. Jackson. This year, YLD members served as scorekeepers for more than 40 Olympians who traveled from all over South Carolina to compete in the games. Volunteers included Rutledge Johnson, Jenny Johnson, Rebecca Roser, Matt Brown, Courtney Laster, Meredith Seibert, Jael Gilreath, Morgan Bacon, Karen Bacon, Madi Bacon, Edward Rawl, Shannon Davis, Hollie Powell, Joel Deason and Brandon Jones.



Judge Edgar Dickson and young lawyers at a Courthouse Keys event in Orangeburg on May 21.

Courthouse Keys

Young lawyers around the state have been busy this spring with Courthouse Keys events. Courthouse Keys is a committee that organizes events to allow small groups of young lawyers an opportunity to meet and interact with members of the judiciary. Young lawyers were able to meet with Judges Lee S. Alford, Roger L. Couch, Edgar Dickson, Dale Moore Gable, Dianne Goodstein, Eugene C. Griffith Jr., Bryan Harwell, John C. Hayes III, S.

Jackson Kimball, Alex Kinlaw Jr., A.E. Morehead III, Thomas E. Rogers III, Vicki J. Snelgrove, Kaymani D. West and Mandrile H. Young. Thank you to these judges for supporting YLD.



SBA Pig Cook-Off

In the second annual pig cook-off, the YLD remained undefeated against friendly foes from the USC Law Student Bar Association. By a tie-breaking vote, Team Bobby Q's team, led by Robert Goings (pictured above) of Goings Law Firm, LLC, took home the hardware and served delicious BBQ to young lawyers, soon-to-be lawyers, and numerous members of the state and federal judiciary who were in attendance. Special thanks to Robert Goings, Hon. Bruce Williams, Rebecca Roser, Morgan Crouch, Ben Gooding, Daryl Hawkins, Charles Appleby, Andy Yoho and many others who helped cook the award winning pig and make this event a success.

Professional Development

Fifty young lawyers and young bankers gathered at the offices of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd on May 14

for a presentation by Attorney General Alan Wilson and Assistant Attorney General Tracy Meyers regarding the security enforcement arm of the S.C. Attorney General's Office. The keynote was preceded by remarks from Stephen Suggs of the S.C. Appleseed Legal Justice Center. The event was the seventh in a continuing series of professional development events for the Young Lawyers Division and S.C. Bankers Association Young Bankers Division members.



Will Johnson of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. and Attorney General Alan Wilson at the YLD/Young Bankers Association event on May 14.

Other professional development events were also held around the state this spring. On May 2, the Rock Hill area YLD members gathered with the Young Bankers Division at McHales Irish Pub. The two groups invited Economics Professor Laura Ullrich from Winthrop to address current financial issues facing young bankers and attorneys. May 29 was a busy day around our state too. Greenville area YLD members joined together with the Young Bankers as well as the Young CPA Network at the Palmetto Bank. Greenville Mayor Knox H. White spoke to the group about engaging the community as a young professional. Additionally, Columbia young lawyers gathered at the SC Bar Conference Center and listened to guest speaker Don Kempf present "Academy Awards of the Courtroom."

The YLD will continue its collaboration of professional development events during the next fiscal year, which begins this summer. Young lawyers who have ideas for future events such as this are encouraged to contact the incoming co-chairs of the committee, Allison Sullivan (apsullivan@bntdlaw.com) and Edward Rawl (erawl@laborlawyers.com).

Letter From the President

Trey Mills • Trammell & Mills Law Firm, P.A.



Farwell, Goodbye, So Long

We are coming upon the close of the fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. My year as

president of the Young Lawyers Division has come to its final days. I look back on my initial involvement starting sometime in 2006, when only five percent of the mandatory membership participated. I couldn't help but smile during the most recent House of Delegates meeting at Sullivan's Island on May 16, where I witnessed the Young Lawyer of the Year Award presented to I. Ryan Neville of Wills, Massalon & Allen, LLC in Charleston. Mr. Neville was selected from more than 120 applicants for this prestigious award by a committee of his peers. No small feat when you consider the competitiveness of our profession. Additionally, I watched the 2013 class of the Leadership Academy get recognized. The diversity, quality and participation of our membership has gained momentum over the past seven years thanks to the leadership that came before us. Fortunately for many of you new admittees, the sky is the limit given the quality of our leadership moving forward with Will Johnson, Lynsey Kmetz and Britt Kelly.

The only thing that will ever be asked of you by the Division is to volunteer your time, intelligence and altruistic spirit to better serve your own profession and the public around you. A quote that seems to embody that goal was stated by Brandon Sanderson, "The mark of a great person (man) is one who knows when to set aside the important things in order to accomplish the vital ones." We are all too busy if asked with our ongoing personal and professional responsibilities. However, you have all proven by

your own accomplishments through becoming a member of the South Carolina Bar that you are disciplined, intelligent and hard-working. Now stop staring at those diplomas on your wall, that handsome paycheck, and start striving for a little more greatness. "Your greatness is revealed not by the lights that shine upon you, but by the light that shines within you."
- Ray Davis.

I thank you all for remaining active in YLD and ask that you encourage others around you to pick up the flag if you are no longer able or willing to serve. I know many of you remain active while you continue to be associates, partners, solo practitioners, state and government employees, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, mentors and rock stars. In closing with the infamous words of a well-known marketing campaign but emphasized for a different and deeper meaning, "Stay thirsty my friends."

Following the initiative of Rebecca Roser in trying to highlight the year in review, these are the accomplishments of your peers that can only be made possible through hard work, time and commitment during the most recent fiscal year:

- YLD received five prestigious ABA Awards of Achievement in recognition of the Color of Justice, Habitat for Humanity Wills Clinic, Bar Convention, Newsletter and Comprehensive Programming at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago.
- The Fall ABA YLD Conference was hosted in Charleston, and more than 320 young lawyers from across the nation participated. The most amazing statistic was that of those 320 young lawyers, close to 120 of them were from South Carolina!
- More than 1,000 students and educators from Berkeley High School, Blythewood Academy, Dent Middle School, Irmo Middle School, Midlands Educational Business Alliance Mock Trial and Spring Valley High School learned how poor choices could negatively impact their future through YLD's Protect-

ing Our Youth Committee.

- New Admittees Receptions in Greenville, Columbia and Charleston had participation of more than 360 young lawyers and jubilant admittees.
- Chief Judge John Few of the S.C. Court of Appeals presented at the YLD/TIPS CLE during the Bar Convention in Myrtle Beach. Later that evening more than 250 young lawyers attended the Oyster Roast at Dunes Club, even with the unseasonably frigid weather.
- More than 600 high school girls throughout the state received prom dresses through the Cinderella Project at boutiques held in Aiken, Anderson, Columbia, Greenville, Greenwood and Orangeburg.
- More than 250 young lawyers, bankers and doctors participated in Professional Development events encouraging networking.
- More than 155 young lawyers and 22 local judges came together in small, social settings through Court-house Keys events.
- 150 brand-new backpacks loaded with school supplies were dispersed throughout Charleston, Richland and York counties with the assistance of 30 YLD members during the Annual Backpack Drive.
- More than 125 families were educated on the adoption and foster care process at seminars held in Charleston, Lexington and Simpsonville through the Families Forever Committee.
- More than 100 students registered to vote in the Ninth and 16th judicial circuits thanks to dozens of YLD members volunteering their time in support of the ABA American Voter Initiative.
- Nearly 100 homeowners and counting have been provided wills through Habitat for Humanity Wills Clinics held across the state.
- 95 individuals and families were assisted and more than \$55,000 returned to the community by the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Committee in Columbia.

Continued on back cover

Upcoming Events

First Responder Wills Clinic

The First Responder Wills Clinic benefits law enforcement and first responders. Volunteers help draft wills, powers of attorney and other important documents. The next clinic is in Charleston on Saturday, June 22, at the Charleston School of Law. Please contact Jennifer Williams for more information or to volunteer: jennifer@jkwilliamslaw.com.

Habitat Wills Clinic

The YLD Habitat for Humanity Wills Clinic Committee holds clinics around the state providing wills, health care powers of attorney and living wills free-of-charge to Habitat homeowners. Attorneys meet with homeowners and draft documents on their laptops. Once finalized, documents are fully executed by witness and notary volunteers. Volunteers are needed, and no experience in wills is necessary. Training and forms will be provided. The clinics fulfill a critical need in the community—please con-

sider volunteering! The next opportunity to do so is June 29 in Columbia. To volunteer and for more information, please contact Jennifer Ashburn at jennifer@ashburnfirm.com.

Professional Development Event

A free event for all young lawyers featuring a panel discussion will be held Wednesday, June 26 at 5:30 p.m. at The Harbour Club in Charleston. The panel will be comprised of Mark Fava, Chief Counsel of Boeing South Carolina; Jeff Winkler, Senior Corporate Counsel of The InterTech Group; and Gus Dixon, partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. The panel discussion will focus on ways to increase and improve interaction between in-house counsel and private practice lawyers and ultimately promote the sharing of ideas and experiences between the two groups. Space is limited so please RSVP to Morgan Crouch at mcrouch@sbar.org if you would like to attend.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

- More than 70 middle and high school minority students were introduced to the judicial system through panel discussions with local attorneys, judges, law admissions staff and law school students through the Color of Justice Committee in Charleston, Columbia, Orangeburg and Rock Hill.
- YLD continued its commitment to the Special Olympics through sponsorships and volunteering at events across the state.
- More than 5,700 fourth and fifth grade students heard from young lawyers on the Second Annual iCivics Day.
- YLD entered the digital age with its own Facebook page stocked full of information, updates, events and networking opportunities.

Sincerely,



Floyd S. "Trey" Mills III