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Kenneth Mitchell Jr. kmitchell@gmpclaw.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT Veronica Rogusky Cox vrogcox@gmail.com

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Kindall Browning-Rickle kbrowning@houstoncountyga.org

PAST PRESIDENT **Brittanie Browning** brittanie.browning@akerman.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS** 

T. Alec Chappell alec\_chappell@gas.uscourts.gov

Jena G. Emory jemory@mmmlaw.com

Siena Berrios Gaddy sgaddy@bakerdonelson.com

#### Future Meeting Dates

October 10-12, 2025 Cloudland at McLemore Resort Rising Fawn, Georgia

### **MIDYEAR**

January 15-18, 2026 Omni Hotel at the Battery Atlanta Atlanta, Georgia

#### **SPRING**

April 23-26, 2026 Kimpton Hotel Arras

#### **ANNUAL**

June 11-14, 2026 Omni Amelia Island Resort & Spa Fernandina Beach, Florida

Asheville, North Carolina

YLD Annual Meeting General Session June 6 | 1 p.m. Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

#### **AGENDA**

Adjournment

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Recognition of Special Guests and First-Time Meeting AttendeesVeronica
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New Business
For the Good of the Order

www.georgiayld.org



June 6, 2025

Dear Board of Governors,

It is my honor to share my final report as the 78<sup>th</sup> President of the YLD. This year, we made service our top priority, increased engagement, and empowered young lawyers to develop their professional brand. The YLD's leaders and members hosted a variety of programs to meet the goals. I am thrilled to share the year in review for the YLD.

The YLD held its Fall meeting in conjunction with the State Bar in Jekyll Island. At the Fall meeting, the YLD hosted a CLE entitled "Social Media Smarts: Ethical Hacks, Bar Rules, and How to Stay Off the Disciplinary Radar." This was a free CLE that provided one ethics hour and we explored essential strategies for maintaining professionalism online. We also donated personal hygiene and cleaning supplies to Hand in Hand of Glynn, which is a community of homes for adults experiencing chronic homelessness. Additionally, the YLD networked with fellow Georgia lawyers at the Georgia-Florida tailgate in Jacksonville.

The YLD began 2025 at the Midyear meeting in Savannah, which was held in conjunction with the State Bar. During the Midyear meeting, the YLD placed an emphasis on branding which was displayed by our YLD Headshot Studio by Rikki Brew of Envisioning Freedom Photography, where YLD members were able to take headshots to update their professional profile. We also held a CLE entitled "Branding with Integrity" which featured panelists Lester Johnson, Shiriki Jones, and Tony Del Campo, who discussed how to market yourself with professionalism and integrity. In addition, the YLD volunteered with Renegade Paws Rescue, a shelter dedicated to saving lives and providing care to unwanted, abused, and injured dogs.

On February 11, 2025, the YLD Leadership Academy participated in YLD Legislative Day at the Georgia State Capitol. During this session, the Leadership Academy was able to speak with State legislators about the legislative session and had a group photo with Governor Kemp. The Leadership Academy also went to the Nathan Deal Judicial Center to visit the Georgia Statewide Business Court, Georgia Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court of Georgia. Following the discussion with each court, Leadership Academy participants were able to get sworn in to the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of Georgia.

On March 8, 2025, the YLD hosted the 2025 YLD Signature Fundraiser at Truist Park in the Hank Aaron Terrace. The 2025 Signature Fundraiser beneficiary was the YLD Public Interest Internship Program, which supports law students with funding for unpaid internships in public interest law. We also recognized the service Paula Frederick, outgoing General Counsel of the State Bar of Georgia with the YLD Lifetime Achievement Award; and Ashley Akins, partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein with the YLD Signature

Service Award. The event was well attended, and we raised over \$90,000.

The YLD Spring Meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee from March 27-29, 2025. This meeting was our only standalone session. During the Spring Meeting, we had a CLE on the ELVIS (Ensuring Likeness Voice and Image Security) Act, which is the first enacted legislation in the US specifically designed to protect musicians from the unauthorized use of their voices through Artificial Intelligence technologies. The ELVIS Act CLE was moderated by Attorney Darius Walker, who led the discussion with panelists Anthony Adewumi, BMI and Professor Kristi Wilcox Arth, Belmont University. We also donated hygiene products to Cycling For Good, a non-profit dedicated to assisting people in the city who are experiencing homelessness. Additionally, we participated in a Kickball Game with over 70 people playing or watching the game. We wrapped up the evening with a dinner and a live band.

In April, we wrapped up the 14<sup>th</sup> Legal Food Frenzy competition, which ran from April 15-25. The Legal Food Frenzy supports our food banks around the state as they approach the summer months when students that would otherwise receive free or reduced lunch at school, which is no longer available to them over the summer break. I especially thank Ashley Akins and Caroline Scalf for their leading this year's efforts. This year the Legal Food Frenzy raised \$615,317. Since its inception, Georgia's legal community has raised \$5.9 million dollars, which equals more than 23 million meals for our state.

Our YLD Leadership Academy Class concludes during the Annual Meeting. I thank our Leadership Academy Co-Chairs James Banter, Samantha Mullis, and Kelsie Speight. Our class has 33 members who have met monthly since January. The Leadership Academy had six sessions around the state allowing for networking and professional development.

As we wrap up this year, I just want to say that it has been an honor to lead the Young Lawyers Division. I am grateful for our YLD Officers, Board of Directors, District Representatives, and Committee Chairs who made this year a success. I also want to say thanks to our staff, Jessica Oglesby and Jamie Goss, for all of their hard work this year.

#### YLD COMMITTEES

The YLD has more than 30 committees working to support our motto of service to the community and profession. Each committee works diligently to provide substantive programming in their respective focus areas. Below are some of the events, activities, and accomplishments of our YLD committees this year:

YLD Business Law Subcommittee Nathan Miles, Chair

The YLD Business Law Subcommittee co-hosted a CLE panel with the Corporate Counsel Committee regarding Generative AI and how it may impact young lawyers' careers. The panel was even covered by Law360!

YLD Child Protection and Advocacy Committee
Ashley Horton, Danielle Simpson, and Zipporah Tillman, Co-Chairs

The YLD Child Protection and Advocacy Committee is working on rescheduling the event that was postponed

due to the inclement weather. The CPA committee is hopeful that we will be able to plan this final event to take place this spring.

# YLD Community Service Projects Committee Lyddy O'Brien and Taylor Wilson, Co-Chairs

The YLD Community Service Projects Committee is still planning additional service day events after our food bank day. We are in talks with the WIP committee and the child advocacy committee about a joint event in May.

### YLD Estate and Elder Law Committee Chelsey B. Haun and Markus L. Russell, Co-Chairs

The YLD Estate and Elder Law Committee held a Wills Clinic on April 5, 2025, in Atlanta, in conjunction with Atlanta Legal Aid. In total, we were able to provide twenty Legal Aid clients with estate planning documents and had a tremendous amount of volunteer support from the State Bar and community partners.

# YLD Ethics and Professionalism Committee Katie-Rose Martin, Chair

The YLD Ethics and Professionalism Committee's newest members got to meet each other in person at the YLD Spring Meeting in Nashville. The Committee has been putting out a Rule of the Month on social media on the third Wednesday of each month. April's was Rule 3.4 Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel. Look out for May's Rule of the Month, Rule 1.5 Fees, and June's Rule of the Month, Rule 1.3 Diligence. The Committee will meet in May for a final Standing Committee Meeting. Finally, the 21st Annual Ethics and Professionalism Award will be given a well-deserving YLD member at the YLD Dinner on Friday, June 6.

# YLD Family Law Committee Emily Long, Ashley O'Neil and Jonathan Stoye, Co-Chairs

The YLD Family Law Committee recently held a CLE on Jury Trials in Family Law with Judge Christopher Edwards; We are working on coordinating Supreme Cork.

# YLD Federal Law Subcommittee Charles Duvall, Chair

In February, the YLD Federal Law Subcommittee partnered with the Judicial Law Clerk Committee to host a virtual CLE on the fundamentals and practice of bankruptcy law. The program featured insightful information from Judge Lisa Ritchey-Craig and Megan Glimmerveen, who shared practical guidance and foundational knowledge to help attorneys better navigate bankruptcy law.

### YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee Shannon Schoultz, Demarius Newsome, Kier Prince, and Shannon Schoultz, Co-Chairs

The committee met with the big Inclusion in Profession Committee earlier this month. They expressed interest in working with this committee on how we can retain those that age out of YLD. We also expressed

our concerns with the programmatic issues this committee was confronted with this year. We have been tasked to come up with resolutions to the issues.

### YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee Bianca Webb and Christopher Williams-Lopez, Co-Chairs

The YLD Intellectual Property Law Committee hosted our first happy hour and we have requested IP committee members to let us know if their firms are interested in sponsoring a CLE. We are also looking into a partnership/collab event with Atlanta Lawyers for the Arts.

YLD Intrastate Moot Court Committee Chelsea Harris and Megan McKown, Co-Chairs

The YLD Intrastate Moot Court Committee had our 2025 competition on April 4th and 5th. We thank all of the volunteers, YLD Staff, and Bar staff that made this competition possible.

# YLD Labor and Employment Law Committee Deitra Jones and Iriel Jones, Co-Chairs

The YLD Labor & Employment Committee recently held a litigation CLE where the speakers discussed best practices for both plaintiff and defense lawyers in the pre-litigation stage, including drafting complaints, answering the complaint, discovery techniques, and drafting and responding to summary judgment motions.

# YLD Law School Outreach Committee Chelsea Dease, Farheen "Lina" Khan, and Emily Walker, Co-Chairs

The YLD Law School Outreach Committee held several events this year. They are listed below.

October 9th, 2024: Meet the YLD Tabling at Georgia State Law School.

October 24th: Spooktacular Strategies: Navigating the Law without Fear Panel at Mercer Law featuring Supreme Court Justice Carla Wong-McMillian, Judge Kristy Harris, Chief Assistant District Attorney Eric Edwards, Kevin Hicks, Esq.

March 25th, 2025: Ethics and Professionalism Across Careers Panel at John Marshall Law featuring Supreme Court Justice Verda Colvin, Atlanta Hawks VP and Executive Legal Officer Scott Wilkinson, Ben Sessions, Esq., and Shelby Burnam, Esq.

April 3rd, 2025: Ice Cream Networking Social at UGA Law.

April 4th, 2025: Virtual CLE featuring Attorney Mental Health with State Bar of Georgia Secretary Javoyne Hicks.

# YLD Leadership Academy Committee James Banter, Samantha Mullis, and Kelsie Speight, Co-Chairs

The 2025 YLD Leadership Academy is coming to a close but is not done yet. In March we held a joint session with the YLD at large for a trip to Nashville, Tennessee. There, we attended an ELVIS Act CLE with the Tennessee Bar YLD and assisted the Disaster Relief Crisis Line in reaching out to clients who needed help with FEMA appeals. In April, we held a session in Columbus where we held a CLE panel with U.S. District Judge Clay Land and U.S. Magistrate Judge Amelia "Amy" Helmick. Also, while in Columbus, we served the

local community by assisting with a non-conviction record restriction clinic, sponsored by Georgia Legal Services. In May, we visited Augusta for a weekend full of networking, service, and fun. We, in connection with the U.S. District Court for the State of Georgia for the Southern District of Georgia, held a specially set mass swearing in for the Leadership Academy. We also held a government attorneys' panel and volunteered to prepare breakfast meals at the Augusta area Ronald McDonald House. We will end the 2025 Leadership Academy with our class graduation during the State Bar's Annual Meeting in Florida. We look forward to celebrating another great year and great class!

### YLD National Moot Court Competition Committee Jamie Christy and Douglas Comin, Co-Chairs

The YLD National Moot Court Competition Committee held the National Moot Court Competition on Nov. 16, 2024, at the Federal Courthouse in Atlanta. It was a fun and successful competition where we had multiple committee members as judges for early rounds.

# YLD Public Interest Internship Program Committee Arthur Bailin and Keona Blunt, Co-Chairs

PIIP is in the process of reviewing applicants for its scholarship grants submitted by current law students. We're hoping to have answers to those who applied by the end of April.

# YLD Real Estate Law Committee Morgan Boulineau and Erika Harris Fritz, Co-Chairs

The YLD Real Estate Committee is planning a CLE on Torts in Real Estate: Insight of Litigation Attorneys at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 5. It will be a panel discussion with practicing litigation attorneys on the effects of torts in the real estate practice, including stories of their particular encounters.

### YLD Solo Practice and Small Firm Committee Colin Adebayo, Angie Holloway and Michael Thompson, Co-Chairs

The YLD Solo Practice and Small Firm Committee hosted Scaling Your Law Firm through Automation Virtual CLE Event on April 17, 2025. This virtual CLE had two guest speakers to discuss automation strategies and AI tools available to law firm owners.

# YLD Sports Law Committee Joy Bonner and Caleb Ratliff, Co-Chairs

This bar year has not been short of amazing. This year we as a committee were not only able to plan wonderful events, we have had the opportunity to encourage committee members to lean into their interests of sports and the practice of law. This included varying attendance at sport and entertainment events and CLE. As a committee we were able to host a successful "YLD Sports Law A Night with the Hawks," on March 4, 2025. This event included an opportunity for committee members to meet in person and network prior to attendance at State Farm Arena as the Hawks competed in its regular season. The event was a success and the committee was encouraged by members to continue its efforts in engaging young lawyers in

the practice of sports law.

YLD Women in the Profession Committee Cayton Chrisman, Olivia Mercer and Megan McCulloch, Co-Chairs

The Women in the Profession Committee hosted a Financial Literacy for Younger Lawyers event on 2/4. We hosted a GAWL/WIP "Breaking Barriers: Empowering the Next Generation" panel on 3/19. We are having our service project on 4/24 at Ronald McDonald where we will cook dinner for the families staying at the home. We have our Atlanta United game event on 5/25.

YLD Workers' Compensation Committee Akash Alpeshkumar Patel and Michael Brandon Rosenstein, Co-Chairs

The YLD Workers' Compensation Committee is preparing to host a joint CLE Panel with the Georgia Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution Section to offer attorneys in both sections in opportunity to hear from seasoned mediators and practitioners regarding preparing for and engaging in successful negotiations.

#### **YLD AFFILIATES**

The YLD currently has seven recognized active affiliates around the state: Young Lawyers of Augusta, Cobb County Younger Lawyers Division, Columbus YLD, Glynn County YLD, Houston County YLD, Macon YLD and Savannah YLD. If you know anyone interested in joining the affiliates, please let us know.

# YLD MEETINGS

#### Annual Meeting | Jun. 5-8

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida Held in conjunction with the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors.

I am honored and humbled to have served as the 78<sup>th</sup> President of the YLD. I appreciate the ongoing support from the Bar leadership and Board of Governors to make this year a success. I look forward to continuing my service as Immediate Past President.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Mitchell Jr. 2024-25 YLD President From: Keith Collins

To: <u>kbrowning@houstoncountyga.org</u>

Cc: <u>Gmail</u>; <u>Jessica Oglesby</u>; <u>kenneth.mitchell@cobbcounty.org</u>

Subject: Petition for Affiliate Membership – Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

**Date:** Friday, March 28, 2025 8:34:00 AM

Attachments: GBCA Letter of Support for State Bar Affiliate Status.pdf

GCBA Resolution Signed.pdf

Good morning, Madam Secretary,

I hope you are doing well. On behalf of the Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (Gate City YLD), I am pleased to submit our petition for affiliate membership with the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia.

As required by **Article XII**, **Section 1** of the YLD Bylaws, we have attached the following documents for your review:

- 1. **Authorization for Affiliation:** A resolution/letter adopted by Gate City YLD authorizing our affiliation.
- 2. **Petition & Membership Details:** A letter signed by three (3) members of our organization, providing an overview of Gate City YLD and the size of our membership.
- 3. **Bylaws Adoption:** While Gate City YLD does not currently have its own constitution or bylaws, we acknowledge and will adopt the YLD Bylaws in effect at this time until we establish our governing documents.

We are excited about the opportunity to formally affiliate with the YLD and further our shared mission of supporting young lawyers across Georgia. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you need any additional information to process our petition. We look forward to your review and next steps.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'll see you soon!

Best regards,

# Keith A. Collins, Esq.

Co-Chair, Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division



Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia 104 Marietta St NW, Suite 100 Atlanta, GA 30303

February 7, 2025

Re: Petition for Affiliate Status of the Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

To Whom It May Concern: We, the undersigned members of the Gate City Bar Association, submit

this letter in support of

the affiliation of the Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (GCBA YLD) with the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia (State Bar YLD).

The Gate City Bar Association (GCBA) is the oldest and largest voluntary bar association for Black attorneys in Georgia, established in 1948 to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the legal profession. With a proud history of advocacy, mentorship, and professional development, GCBA has been instrumental in advancing the careers of Black attorneys and fostering excellence in legal practice.

On the heels of its seventy-fifth (75th) anniversary, the Gate City Bar Association boasts a membership of over five hundred (500) members, including practicing attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and other legal professionals. As a leading organization within Georgia's legal community, GCBA actively engages in professional development programs, community service initiatives, and efforts to increase access to justice.

In recognition of the growing number of young Black attorneys seeking professional development, mentorship, and leadership opportunities, the GCBA Young Lawyers Division (GCBA YLD) was established to serve the interests of Black attorneys under 40 years old or in their first five years of practice. The mission of the GCBA YLD is to provide a supportive network for young Black lawyers, foster professional growth, and encourage civic engagement.

Affiliating with the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia will provide GCBA YLD members with enhanced networking opportunities, leadership training, and access to statewide initiatives aimed at empowering young lawyers. This partnership will strengthen both organizations by increasing engagement, fostering collaboration, and advancing shared goals of professional excellence and community service.

Accordingly, we, the undersigned members of the Gate City Bar Association , respectfully request the recognition of the Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers an Affiliate Unit Division of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Bruce

Gate City Bar Association President

Hon. Pierce Hand Seitz

Gate City Bar Association President-Elect

N. John Bey

Gate City Bar Association Immediate Past President

William K. Boddie Jr.

Gate City Bar Association Member at Large



# RESOLUTION OF THE GATE CITY BAR ASSOCIATION

AUTHORIZING THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION TO SEEK AFFILIATE UNIT STATUS WITH THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION OF THE STATE BAR OF GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the Gate City Bar Association ("GCBA") is committed to the professional development, mentorship, and advancement of young Black attorneys in Georgia;

WHEREAS, the GCBA recognizes the importance of engaging young lawyers in leadership, service, and networking opportunities that will enhance their legal careers and strengthen the legal profession;

WHEREAS, the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia ("State Bar YLD") serves as an essential platform for young lawyers to develop professionally, contribute to community service initiatives, and participate in bar leadership;

WHEREAS, the GCBA has formally established its own Young Lawyers Division ("GCBA YLD") to provide a structured and supportive environment for young attorneys under the age of 40 or within their first five years of practice;

WHEREAS, becoming an Affiliate Unit of the State Bar YLD would provide the GCBA YLD with additional resources, collaboration opportunities, and greater visibility within the Georgia legal community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Gate City Bar Association formally authorizes its Young Lawyers Division to apply for and obtain Affiliate Unit status with the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the GCBA YLD shall work in coordination with the leadership of the State Bar YLD to fulfill all necessary requirements for affiliation and ensure alignment with the mission and values of both organizations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the leadership of the GCBA YLD shall report to the GCBA Board of Directors on its progress and activities as an Affiliate Unit, ensuring continued alignment with the overall mission of the Gate City Bar Association;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, and the officers of the GCBA YLD are authorized to take all necessary steps to implement this resolution.

Adopted this 19th March day of February, 2025.

Signed:

Christopher E. Bruce, President

Gate City Bar Association

Shannan M. Young, Chair

Gate City Bar Association Young Lawyers Division



YLD SPRING MEETING
GENERAL SESSION
Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2025
Kimpton Aertson Hotel
Nashville, Tennessee

#### WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

YLD President Kenneth Mitchell Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

#### WELCOME FROM STATE BAR OF GEORGIA - IVY N. CADLE

President of the State Bar, Ivy N. Cadle, welcomed attendees to Nashville.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - DAMON ELMORE

Damon Elmore, executive director of the State Bar of Georgia, gave an update on happenings at the bar. The spring meeting of the Board of Governors was last week (March 21–23, 2025). They did a rule review about changing the membership categories for the bar, which would allow inactive members to provide pro bono services. He also gave an update on the bar's reserve, "unallocated cash." At the moment, the bar is being conservative in spending the unallocated cash because inevitably, the bar building will need repairs as time goes on. The Board of Governors also looked at a potential dues increase. The increase will be about 2.2%. The dues are going up because the costs of everything are going up. The bar is still working on evaluating potential changes to the CLE rules. That would bring a change to the compliance period, from one year to 18 months, and the way CLE funding happens.

Bar elections are going on. A lot of young lawyers are involved in the bar—several are currently running for Board of Governors seats. Meeting attendees who were running were Samantha Mullis, Megan Wyss and Chelsea Dease. Meeting attendees are encouraged to vote and spread the word. Even if you are not running for the Board of Governors, you can get involved and make contributions to the bar.

The Supreme Court has commissioned a committee on legal regulatory reform. This committee will explore changes or issues that would support access to justice in areas that really need it. Meeting attendees are encouraged to fill out the survey.

Damon congratulated Ivy Cadle for his year as bar president.

# RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS - KENNETH MITCHELL, JR.

YLD President Kenneth Mitchell Jr. recognized meeting sponsors Avalon, Neuroscience Center and

Milestone Reporting. Special thanks were also given to photographers Rikki and Justin Brew for attending the meeting and capturing the moments.

#### RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES – VERONICA COX

YLD President-Elect Veronica R. Cox recognized first-time attendees and special guests. Special guests included Ivy N. Cadle, Damon Elmore, Leslie Cadle (who is very special) and members of the 2025 Leadership Academy.

#### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

#### Board of Directors

- Kenneth Mitchell Jr. recognized the Signature Fundraiser Committee. The event was held on March 8, 2025, at Truist Park at the Hank Aaron Terrace. Money was raised for the Public Interest Internship Program (PIIP). Proceeds are still being counted, but the total is getting close to \$90,000.
- Samantha Mullis spoke on behalf of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism as a member
  of the Board of Directors. She encouraged meeting attendees to participate in the "Connect With a
  Colleague" contest that is taking place currently. She detailed the requirements to enter the contest
  and the fabulous prizes available.
- Katie Rose Martin, chair of the Ethics and Professionalism Committee, announced that nominations
  for the annual ethics award open on April 1, 2025. Please submit nominations. Nominees cannot be
  members of the Ethics and Professionalism Committee and must be members of the YLD.
- Chelsea Dease, co-chair of the Law School Outreach Committee, highlighted the event held at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School on March 24, 2025.

#### Committee Chairs

- Megan McCulloch, co-chair of the Women in the Profession Committee, gave a recap of an event they held on March 19, 2025, that was well attended via Zoom. She also announced an event on May 25, 2025, at the Atlanta United game. Tickets are \$30, which includes \$10 for concessions.
- Veronica Cox, on behalf of the Meetings and Membership Committee, announced that the committee created a YLD performance audit and voted to put it into place this spring. The audit will focus on things like attendance, member satisfaction and transparency.
- Kenneth Mitchell Jr. thanked the Sports Law Committee for a great event at the Atlanta Hawks game
  in March. He also thanked everyone who volunteered to judge high school mock trial. He reminded
  attendees that the Intrastate Moot Court Competition is coming up next week (April 4–5, 2025) and
  volunteer judges are still needed.

# **OFFICER REPORTS**

#### President's Report

YLD President Kenneth Mitchell Jr. announced that the next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, June 5–8, 2025, at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa. Leadership Academy graduation will be held at the Annual Meeting. He thanked Jessica Oglesby and Jamie Goss for all of their hard work in planning this meeting and everything else they do.

## Past President's Report

Brittanie Browning, immediate past president, spoke about "Use Your Six," a program through the State Bar that gives you six free hours of counseling services per year. She also encouraged meeting attendees to complete pro bono work, if possible. The aspirational goal is to complete 50 hours of pro bono work each year. You must go to the bar's website and self-report the pro bono hours that you complete.

# President-Elect's Report

President-Elect Veronica R. Cox thanked Jessica Oglesby and Jamie Goss for putting in the extra effort to help her plan her bar year in advanced of the Annual Meeting. She announced that she has dates for the 2025-2026 YLD Meetings.

The Fall Meeting will be at Cloudland at McLemore Resort in Rising Fawn, Georgia. The Midyear Meeting will be at the Omni Hotel at the Battery Atlanta. The Spring Meeting will be in Asheville, North Carolina, and will focus on service and pro bono work. The Annual Meeting will be back at the Omni Amelia Island Resort and Spa. There will also be a Christmas party at the Four Seasons in Atlanta. Bar leadership will be invited to the Christmas party, so get involved now. The year 2026 will mark the 20th anniversary of the Leadership Academy, which Veronica will be celebrating.

Veronica is looking for committee chairs and board members. If you are interested in getting involved, reach out to her.

### Treasurer's Report

YLD Treasurer Virginia C. Josey encouraged committees to use the funds allotted to them. If you have questions about how to spend the money, please reach out. There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded and approved.

# Secretary's Report

YLD Secretary Kindall Browning-Rickle requested that all meeting attendees sign in via the QR code provided so that attendance can be accurately accounted for as part of the performance audit. She reported on the Midyear Meeting minutes in the meeting materials. After being moved and properly seconded, the Midyear Meeting minutes were approved.

# **Newsletter Report**

Newsletter Co-Editor Alec Chappell announced that the winter issue of the YLD Review went out in February 2025. He thanked everyone who wrote for that issue. There was a member spotlight for Caleb Ratliff from the Northern District, Tate Crymes from the Middle District and Samantha Mullis from the Southern District. They need content for the next issue. Alex Clark volunteered to recap the Spring Meeting, Keith Collins volunteered to recap the Signature Fundraiser, and Blair Weatherly volunteered to write a recap of the AI panel that her committee hosted.

Newsletter Co-Editor, Jena Emory reminded us that if you need ideas, reach out and they have ideas. The time commitment for an article is low. The articles are only 750 words. Not all articles require research.

#### FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Damon Elmore – YLD Newsletter is remarkable. Thanked for the donations to Cycling For Good. It is Damon's Foundation/project. They stop and say hello, give out supplies. There is a need for reading glasses, socks, and underwear.

Ivy Cadle – How do you get involved in the State Bar? Reach out to President Elect Chris Twyman now because he is looking to fill those spots now.

Kenneth Mitchell – Legal Food Frenzy kicks off April 2, 2025. Brittanie Browning explained that the Legal Food Frenzy is a statewide two-week competition for law firms, legal departments, or any group of lawyers. It raises funds to support our local food bank across the state. It helps to give to the food banks for the summer when families and children do not have access to lunches at schools.

# **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully, Kindall Browning-Rickle

YLD Secretary State Bar of Georgia