



PRESIDENT

Kenneth Mitchell Jr.
kenneth.mitchell@cobbcounty.org

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Veronica Rogusky Cox
vrogox@gmail.com

TREASURER

Virginia C. Josey
vcj@virginiajoseylaw.com

SECRETARY

Kindall Browning-Rickle
kbrowning@houstoncountyga.org

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Brittanie D. Browning
brittanie.browning@ackerman.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

T. Alec Chappell
alec_chappell@gas.uscourts.gov

Jena G. Emory
jemory@mmmlaw.com

Siena Berrios Gaddy
siena_gaddy@gamb.uscourts.gov

Future Meeting Dates

ANNUAL

June 5-8, 2025
Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort
& Spa
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

FALL

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
Asheville, North Carolina

YLD Spring Meeting General Session

March 29, 2025 | 9:30 a.m.
The Aertson Hotel | Kimpton
Nashville, Tennessee

AGENDA

Welcome and Call to Order Kenneth

Welcome from the State Bar of Georgia..... Ivy N. Cadle
President, State Bar of Georgia

Executive Director's Report..... Damon Elmore
Executive Director, State Bar of Georgia

Recognition of SponsorsKenneth

Recognition of Special Guests and First-Time Meeting Attendees.....Veronica

Executive Council Reports

Board of Directors

Representative Council

Committee Chairs

Affiliate Leaders

Officer Reports

President's Report Kenneth

Past President's Report Brittanie

President-Elect's ReportVeronica

Treasurer's ReportVirginia

Budget

Secretary's ReportKindall

Approval Meeting Minutes

NewsletterAlec, Jena and Siena

Old Business

New Business

For the Good of the Order

Adjournment



March 29, 2025

Dear Board of Governors,

I am excited to share the happenings of the YLD as the organization's 78th president. Your Young Lawyers Division continues to live up to our motto of serving the public and the profession. Our committees continue to hold in-person and virtual meetings and engage in service-related projects throughout our state.

On Tuesday February 8, 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, Court of Appeals of Georgia, and Supreme Court of Georgia. Following the discussion with each court, Leadership Academy participants were able to get sworn in to the Court of Appeals of Georgia and the Supreme Court of Georgia.

On March 8, 2025, the YLD will host the 2025 YLD Signature Fundraiser at Truist Park in the Hank Aaron Terrace. The 2025 Signature Fundraiser beneficiary is the YLD Public Interest Internship Program, which supports law students with funding for unpaid internships in public interest law. We will also recognize the service of 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. To this date, we have raised over \$50,000.

As I mentioned at previous meetings, our goal for this Bar year is to continue to make service our top priority, increase engagement with the YLD, and encourage young lawyers to develop their professional brand. So far, we have done just that. Since the Midyear Meeting, some of the things the YLD has accomplished are:

- YLD Ethics and Professionalism Committee hosted a CLE on Deposition Etiquette, which featured panelists Virginia Josey, Carlos Fernandez, and Taylor Dove, who discussed deposition techniques and strategies.
- YLD Family Law Committee hosted "Jury Trials in Family Law," a lunch and learn CLE, which involved a discussion with retired Judge Christopher Edwards about his perspective from the bench and in practice regarding jury trials in family law.
- YLD High School Mock Trial Committee volunteered all over the State for Georgia's High School Mock Trial Regional Competition. The Regional Competitions were held in Albany, Athens, Atlanta, Cartersville, Cumming, Dalton, Decatur, Gainesville, Jonesboro, Lawrenceville, Macon, Marietta, McDonough, Newnan, and Savannah.
- YLD Judicial Law Clerk Committee and YLD Federal Law Subcommittee hosted a CLE entitled "Bankruptcy

Basics: Navigating the Law and Process,” which included a discussion with Judge Lisa A. Ritchey Craig, United States Bankruptcy Judge, Northern District of Georgia; and Megan Glimmerveen on bankruptcy fundamentals and how to navigate the legal process.

- YLD Solo Practice and Small Firm Committee hosted a CLE entitled, “How to Start and Run a Profitable Law Firm on a Budget,” which featured T. Jayden Doye, CPA, Prestige Accounting Solutions and Jodi A. Miles, Esq., Lawyer and Law Firm Coach, Carpe Argentum Coaching on how to get started running a profitable law firm with budget restraints.
- YLD Women in the Profession Committee hosted “Financial Literacy for Younger Lawyers,” a virtual lunch and learn which featured Megan McGuire, Partner and Co-Founder of SLP Wealth.

The YLD Spring Meeting will be held in Nashville, Tennessee from March 27-29, 2025. This meeting is our only standalone session. During the Spring Meeting, we will have our YLD General Session, YLD Leadership Academy Session 3, a CLE, and a community service event. The CLE will be about 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 service event will be in conjunction with Vanderbilt Law School.

I want to give a special shoutout to YLD members: Alec Chappell, Jena Emory, and Siena Gaddy who have done a fantastic job with the YLD Newsletter; Frank Gaddy, Javarus Gresham, Kayla Kudratt, Serreen Meki, Shannon Schoultz, Iyana Smith, and Terrell Thomas who executed a fantastic Signature Fundraiser event; and Leadership Academy Co-Chairs James Banter, Samantha Mullis, and Kelsie Speight who have planned a great year for our 2025 YLD Leadership Academy Class.

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 Child Protection and Advocacy Committee

Ashley Horton, Danielle Simpson, and Zipporah Tillman, Co-Chairs

The YLD Child Protection and Advocacy Committee is planning to reschedule the social which was postponed due to the winter storm. Additionally, we are working on a service project/fundraiser to support children to possibly take place at the Annual Meeting. An organization we threw out there as a possibility to support was Fostering Families (an organization that meets material needs for children in foster care throughout GA).

YLD Community Service Projects Committee

Lyddy O'Brien and Taylor Wilson, Co-Chairs

The YLD Community Service Projects Committee has arranged for volunteer days at food banks in Atlanta and Macon on February 8. We are also planning an additional food bank volunteer day in the Savannah area, date to be determined. In addition to volunteering their time at the local food banks, committee members will donate non-perishable food items to the food banks when they go to volunteer. Due to limited volunteer slots, this was not shared outside the CSP committee, but we may be able to arrange additional food bank volunteer days and open that to all YLD members. We

are also in talks to arrange a volunteer event in Middle Georgia at the Peach County Law Library, which is renovating and needs assistance organizing their legal resources. This would happen in late February.

After February, we hope to have additional in-person volunteer and networking opportunities in the Spring.

YLD Corporate Counsel Committee

Javier Becerra, Blair Weatherly and Tayah Woodard, Co-Chairs

The YLD Corporate Counsel Committee holds a virtual monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month at 12:30 pm. Our next event will be a virtual CLE on March 11, 2025, from 12 -1 pm with the Business Litigation Subcommittee, on the "Impact of AI on Young Lawyers and the Future of Their Practice."

YLD Estate and Elder Law Committee

Chelsey B. Haun and Markus L. Russell, Co-Chairs

The YLD Estate and Elder Law Committee is planning a Wills Clinic - Scheduled for 4/5 from 9:30 to 12:30, in partnership with Atlanta Legal Aid Society, at Peace Baptist Church off Covington Hwy.

YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee

Shannon Schoultz, Demarius Newsome, Kier Prince, and Shannon Schoultz, Co-Chairs

The YLD Inclusion in the Profession Committee chose to table our CLE that was supposed to occur on February 13, 2025. We met with Damon on February 19, 2025, about committee expectations and possible programming.

YLD Intrastate Moot Court Committee

Chelsea Harris and Megan McKown, Co-Chairs

The YLD Intrastate Moot Court Committee is seeking volunteers for our Moot Court competition April 4 and 5 at the State Bar of Georgia! Sponsorships are still available if anyone is interested in sponsoring or volunteering, they can email Megan at Megan.McKown@paulding.gov.

YLD Judicial Law Clerk Committee

Tate Crymes, Mallory Fleming, and Devon Holloway, Co-Chairs

The YLD Judicial Law Clerk Committee and YLD Federal Law Committee are presenting a free virtual CLE on February 24, 2025, entitled "Bankruptcy Basics: Navigating the Law & Process." Judge Lisa Ritchey Craig and Megan Glimmerveen will present a broad overview of bankruptcy law and will answer audience questions about bankruptcy basics.

YLD Law School Outreach Committee

Chelsea Dease, Farheen "Lina" Khan, and Emily Walker, Co-Chairs

The YLD Law School Outreach Committee has volunteers signed up for the Black Students Retreat on September 13-14, 2024, taking place at the Bar Headquarters. We are currently in coordination phase of events at each of Georgia's five law schools. We have two events in the works at Mercer, GSU Bar Association Fair on October 9, and a spring panel at UGA and Emory. We are following up with John Marshall and we have also reached out to the YLD Women in the Profession Committee and Workers' Compensation Committee and look forward to hosting events with them!

YLD Leadership Academy Committee

James Banter, Samantha Mullis, and Kelsie Speight, Co-Chairs

The YLD Leadership Academy 2025 Class had our first session “Becoming a Leader in the YLD and State Bar” at the Bar Mid-Year meeting in Savannah. We enjoyed meeting the class with many taking advantage of the professional headshot studio! Session 1 included our annual YLD Past President’s Panel, a CLE “Branding with Integrity”, and YLD General Session.

Session 2 “Lawyers as Leaders in State Government” was on February 11 at the Georgia State Capitol. We were able to take a group photo with Governor Brian P. Kemp and First Lady of Georgia, Marty Kemp. We heard from several speakers who included lawyer lobbyists, lawyer-legislators, and lawyers who work for various Georgia state agencies. We learned more about the Tort Reform Bill and other upcoming legislation related to the practice of law. Session 2 wrapped up with a building tour and a swearing-in ceremony at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center. The tour included the Georgia Court of Appeals, Georgia State-wide Business Court, and the Supreme Court of Georgia. We heard from Court of Appeals Judge Kenneth B. Hodges III who provided practical appellate tips for brief writing and oral arguments. We heard from Judge William G. Hamrick III who provided us information and statistics of the advantages and efficiencies of having a State-wide Business Court. The day concluded with Supreme Court Justice Andrew A. Pinson who provided us with insight into his professional journey as well as advice for young lawyers. Justice Pinson then swore in several members of the Leadership Academy Class to the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court of Georgia.

Leadership Academy has four more sessions throughout the remainder of the Bar year. Session 3 “Networking Across State Lines” will be held in conjunction with the YLD Spring Meeting on March 28 – 30 in Nashville, Tennessee. Session 4 “Balancing Self Care and Lawyer Greatness” will be held on April 25 – 27 in Columbus. Session 5 “Community Leadership” will be held on May 17 – 18 in Augusta. Session 6 “Moving Forward in Leadership” will be our last session on June 5 – 8 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, in conjunction with the State Bar’s Annual Meeting.

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

We had 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 Real Estate Law Committee ***Morgan Boulineau and Erika Harris Fritz, Co-Chairs***

YLD Real Estate Committee is planning to host a CLE regarding Torts in Real Estate at the Annual Georgia Bar Meeting in conjunction with the Real Property Law Section of the Georgia Bar. We are also working with the Real Property Law Section to circulate registration information for the Real Estate Institute coming up in May, which will include a discount code for registering YLD members.

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 a CLE titled How to Start and Run a Profitable Law Firm on a Budget on January 16, 2025. We also plan to host a CLE titled Choosing a Law Practice You Love in March and a Networking event and panel discussion in April.

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

The YLD Sports Law Committee is hosting A night with the Atlanta Hawks on March 4, 2025. The game is set to begin at 7:30 pm. Several members have expressed interest in meeting for a networking hour prior to the game, we are working on locations for this pre-event hour.

YLD Women in the Profession Committee

Cayton Chrisman, Olivia Mercer and Megan McCulloch, Co-Chairs

We recently hosted a virtual financial literacy lunch and learn on February 4 with guest speaker Meagan Landress McGuire. We recorded the session and distributed it to our members who were unable to attend live.

We are also planning to host our annual service event in partnership with Ronald McDonald's "Meals that Heal" where we will assist with preparing meals for families in need. The event date is TBD but will be held in person in Metro Atlanta.

We are planning to co-host with GAWL a Women in the Judiciary/Women's History event in honor of International Women's Day. We are currently coordinating to obtain the panel's schedules to select at date.

Finally, we will be hosting a networking event on May 25 to watch Atlanta United's match against Cincinnati. This is an annual event for WIP that has been very successful, and we are looking forward to it!

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 | June 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 78th President of the YLD. I appreciate the ongoing support from the Bar leadership and Board of Governors to make this year a success.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Mitchell Jr.

2024-25 YLD President



2025 YLD SPRING MEETING

Treasurer's Report

March 29, 2025

Nashville, Tennessee

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Budget 2024-25</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Advocates for Students with Disabilities	\$500.00	\$683.00	\$500.00
Business Law	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Community Service Projects	\$1,250.00	\$15.00	\$1235.00
Corporate Counsel	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Criminal Law	\$500.00	\$1410.00	\$120.00
Disaster Legal Assistance	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Estate and Elder Law	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Ethics and Professionalism	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Family Law	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Inclusion in the Profession	\$1,000.00	\$940.00	\$60.00
Intellectual Property	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Intrastate Moot Court	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
Judicial Law Clerk	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Labor and Employment	\$750.00	\$675.00	\$75.00
Law School Outreach	\$2,000.00	\$410.00	\$1590.00
Leadership Academy	\$22,000.00	\$4943.00	\$17057.00
Leadership Academy Alumni	\$2,500.00	\$5036.00	\$14.00
Legal Food Frenzy	\$1,500.00	\$13.00	\$1,487.00
Legislative Affairs	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Litigation	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Membership Initiatives	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
National Moot Court Competition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Public Interest Internship Program	\$3,750.00	\$0.00	\$3,750.00
Real Estate	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Signature Fundraiser	\$3,250.00	\$1457.00	\$1793.00
Solo & Small Firm	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Sports Law	\$1,000.00	\$4410.00	\$340.00
Standing Committees	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Wellness	\$700.00	\$660.00	\$40.00
William Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Women in the Profession	\$1,250.00	\$500.00	\$750.00
Workers' Compensation	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
	\$53,350.00	\$21,152.00	\$40,211.00



YLD MIDYEAR MEETING
GENERAL SESSION
Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2025
JW Marriott Savannah Plant Riverside District

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

YLD President Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

WELCOME FROM STATE BAR OF GEORGIA – IVY N. CADLE

State Bar President Ivy N. Cadle, welcomed attendees. He spoke of how being part of the YLD was a great experience for him. He encouraged everyone to utilize the “Use Your Six” program through the State Bar. Reach out to the State Bar if you are in need of resources because there are a lot of programs that offer assistance. He also encouraged YLD members to attend the Board of Governors Meeting and get involved in the Board of Governors by joining a committee. Reach out if you are interested and someone will find something for you to do.

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, members of the 2025 Leadership Academy, Past YLD Presidents Ron Daniels and Bert Hummel, Damon Elmore from the State Bar, Katie Rose’s dog, Denny, Ashley Horton’s dogs, Coco Chanel and Daisy May, and Bill NeSmith.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS

- Committee Chairs
 - The Sports Law Committee – Caleb Ratliff announced an event, “A Night with the Hawks” coming up on March 4, 2025. The cost of the event is \$50 a person which includes a \$10 food voucher.
 - Leadership Academy – Samantha Mullis announced that Leadership Academy completed their first session today. The second session is Capitol Day on February 11, 2025, in Atlanta.
 - Women in the Profession – Megan McColloch announced that they will be hosting a Financial Literacy Lunch and Learn on February 4, 2025, at 12:30pm.
 - Corporate Counsel Committee – Blair Weatherly announced they have a virtual CLE on January 21, 2025, at 12:00pm. The topic of the CLE is AI.

OFFICER REPORTS

President's Report

YLD President Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., announced that our next meeting will be the Spring Meeting, which is a stand-alone meeting. It will be March 28-30, 2025 at the Aertson Hotel Kimpton in Nashville, Tennessee. The room block for the Spring Meeting opens next week.

The Signature Fundraiser will be at Truist Park in Atlanta. The theme for the event is "A Night at the Diamond." We are looking for sponsors for the event and will be sending out more information soon. The beneficiary of the Signature Fundraiser will be the Public Interest Internship Program. Ticket prices are \$100 for public interest attorneys and \$150 for everyone else. Ticket prices include cocktails, food, and parking. Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., thanked members of the Signature Fundraiser Committee for their hard work in planning and coordinating the event.

PROPOSED YLD BYLAW CHANGES

A motion to amend the YLD Bylaws was sent out by YLD President Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., on December 11, 2024, via email. Most of the proposed changes are not substantive with the exception of line 575 regarding the President's ability to extend a committee chair's 2-year maximum term when it is necessary for the success and continuity of the committee.

The motion was made by President-Elect Veronica R. Cox. The motion was seconded by Kelsey Kicklighter. Discussion was had, including questions from Shannon Schultz. The motion was passed.

President-Elect's Report

President-Elect Veronica R. Cox shared that the planning for the 2025-2026 bar year is underway. She is planning on bringing back the YLD Christmas Party, which will be held on the same day as the Leadership Academy Alumni Luncheon.

The 2025 Fall Meeting and 2026 Midyear Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Board of Governors Meetings. The Spring Meeting in 2026 will be a stand-alone meeting. One potential location is Asheville, North Carolina and another is Louisiana.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

President-Elect Veronica R. Cox is chair of the Nominating Committee and gave the following update:

- Nomination for YLD Secretary for 2025-2026 – Caleb Ratliff. There were no nominations from the floor.
- Nomination for YLD Treasurer for 2025-2026 – Kindall Browning-Rickle. There were no nominations from the floor.
- Nomination for YLD President-Elect for 2025-2026 – Virginia Josey. There were no nominations from the floor.

Voting will open March 17, 2025, and close April 18, 2025. Any other nominations must be submitted by petition before February 16, 2025.

Treasurer's Report

YLD Treasurer Virginia C. Josey pointed out the treasurer's report that was provided in the materials for the meeting. She encouraged committee members and attendees to spend their budgets and to reach out to her, Jessica, or Jamie if there were any budgetary concerns. After being moved and properly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved. She also announced a service project in Savannah for Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 12pm. The project involves walking dogs with Renegade Paw Rescue.

Secretary's Report

YLD Secretary Kindall Browning-Rickle requested that all meeting attendees sign in via the QR code that was provided so that we can accurately account for attendance. She reported on the Fall Meeting minutes in the meeting materials. After being moved and properly seconded, the Fall Meeting minutes were approved.

Newsletter Report

Newsletter Co-Editor, Alec Chappell announced that the first issue of *The YLD Review* went out in December 2024. There is a new feature in the newsletter that spotlights one YLD member from each Federal Judicial District. The second issue of *The YLD Review* is in progress. They do need articles for the next issue. If you are interested in writing an article but cannot think of a topic, please reach out to the co-chairs for ideas.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Katie Rose Martin brought leashes to donate for the Renegade Paw Rescue service project and encouraged other YLD members to attend.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully,
Kindall Browning-
Rickle**

**YLD Secretary
State Bar of Georgia**