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## letter from the young lawyers' president



*Jeffrey M. Wank*

Last year a young lawyer asked me why he should get involved with the Young Lawyers Section ("YLS"). The young lawyer mentioned he was interested in networking, but his priority was moving up the ranks within his firm, focusing on his cases, and exceeding his billable goals. My response to this particular young lawyer was concentrated on our charitable events and seminars to enhance his legal skills. The young lawyer attended a select few YLS events throughout the year.

A few weeks ago I ran into this young lawyer at the Broward Courthouse. It was evident he was in a rush, but he stopped to thank me for convincing him to get involved with YLS. He explained that he recently changed firms, and that he met his new employer at one of our events. The

rest was history.

There are countless stories of young lawyers getting jobs simply because they were engaged and attended events within the community. The adage goes, "it's not what you know, it's who you know." While not always the case, I firmly believe that a young lawyer's involvement in the legal community can create new opportunities. I have been pleasantly surprised by the feedback and outreach of our membership who want to get involved. You never know when an opportunity will present itself. At YLS events, different attorneys, judges, businesses and community leaders are always willing to speak with a young lawyer.

This year, YLS is committed to engaging and inspiring our membership. Please visit and bookmark the revamped YLS website ([www.browardbar.org/yls](http://www.browardbar.org/yls)) to keep up to date with our events. Plus, we have created a new YLS E-Newsletter which blasts our upcoming events each Wednesday morning. If you are not receiving our E-Newsletter, please contact me.

Finally, I am so happy to announce that YLS has been chosen to receive the Spirit of Justice Award at the 14th Annual For the Public Good event presented by Legal Aid Service ("LAS") of Broward County and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida ("CCLA"). The event will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale. I would like to share part of the press release highlighting YLS:

"The YLS has provided a shining example of how a group of people can pull together to make an impact in our community. Members of the YLS have donated countless hours to the Broward Lawyers Care Advice and Counsel Hotline at LAS. For the past two years they have challenged other volunteer bar associations to do the same. YLS has supported CCLA and LAS in other ways as well, making financial contributions, including sponsoring a summer fellow through NEXT, the young leadership group that supports CCLA and LAS. The enthusiasm and drive to put Broward County at top with regard to fulfilling pro bono obligations and support is inspiring. These young attorneys and the work they do will have a lasting impact for years to come."

I am so proud of YLS and all we have accomplished in the community. I hope this will encourage you to join us in our efforts to give back to Broward County. **B**