

2014-2015 BCBA Young Lawyers' Section

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954.763.6939

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954.434.1077

Broward County Bar Association
1051 SE 3rd Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
954.764.8040

letter from the young lawyers' president



Jeffrey M. Wank

The Young Lawyers' Section (YLS) of the BCBA strives to enhance the educational and professional advancement of less experienced attorneys. It is deeply rooted in the section's mission to give back to our community through various events and charitable donations. Since my time on the Young Lawyers' Section board of directors, I have seen the impact our organization has made on young attorneys and Broward County. Like my predecessors, I have experienced the rapid growth of YLS and its diverse membership base.

As we move into 2015-2016, it is clear YLS has become an integral part of the BCBA. No longer is there a mindset of simply asking younger attorneys to sit at the table, but rather, it is the new lawyer

who is helping shape how our profession will advance through this ever-changing technological age. It is the new lawyer who is taking on leadership roles, engaging in speaking events, advocating vigorously for a client, and molding the future of the BCBA. YLS has become an integral vehicle in the community for any associate, partner, law student, or judge to promote our profession, and is an organization in which our community can hold in high regard.

I am humbled by this honor to serve as the Young Lawyers' Section president, and relish the opportunity to make a difference. Past YLS Boards have raised the bar, and this year's YLS Board, which is comprised of 12 dedicated and ambitious young lawyers, as well as Kelly Vogt president-elect; Todd Baker, treasurer; and Sara Sandler secretary, certainly have tremendous shoes to fill. Most notably, YLS thrived under the leadership of its past president, Liza Smoker Faw. More than ever, our events have yielded renowned success, and participation from the legal and non-legal community alike has distinguished YLS from any other voluntary bar association. The creation of the YLS Boot Camp, for example, has sparked new lawyers and law students' interest in developing their legal skills. Our Breakfast with the Judiciary and Judicial Reception provides one on one access to our judiciary. The YLS Golf Tournament, Holiday-in-February and numerous charitable events have raised thousands of dollars and brought awareness to local charities. I am proud to say that our group has truly made a difference in the legal profession and local community.

This year, with the assistance of Braulio Rosa and his staff at the BCBA, and joint efforts with Robin Moselle, BCBA president, YLS seeks to climb new heights. If you are under the age of 36, practicing less than five years, or a law student, I invite you to reach out to me or anyone of the YLS board of directors to join our mission to better our profession and community. Help shape the future of Broward County's ever growing legal profession and come serve the community which has provided us all so many opportunities in our legal careers. I know you will find it to be a rewarding and beneficial experience.

I look forward to serving the community and our profession this upcoming year as the YLS president. To get involved with any of our events, or to serve on a committee, please contact me at 954-847-4920 or jmwank@mdwgc.com.