

JYL NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JACKSON YOUNG LAYERS

President's Corner

by **Jake Bradley**

As your new president, I am thankful for the efforts made by JYL and its members in helping us maintain our services through the past two difficult years and also excited for JYL's new programs for this upcoming year.

First, a look at the past year. We all owe last year's president Maggie Kate Bobo and last year's Board a major thanks for everything they were able to do for JYL and the community last year. Maggie Kate did a great job keeping JYL on track given the challenges of the pandemic, and she will continue to provide invaluable assistance to JYL as she continues her role on the Board this year. Special thanks as well to La'Toyia Slay, JYL's previous president that rolled off the Board after the previous year. And thank you to Kye Handy, who rolled off the Board as last year's treasurer.

Despite the pandemic, Maggie Kate and JYL were able to hold our annual Legal Beagle 5k virtually, continue virtual luncheons for CLE credit with exciting speakers such as Auditor Shad White, and start a new Christmas Toy Drive benefitting the children at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi. JYL was also able to give out its annual Community Outreach Grant to the Refill Café, a local non-profit with a mission to empower young adults ages 18 to 24 so that they can be more equipped and motivated to enter the workforce and be self-sufficient. Maggie Kate and the Board hosted the first in-person JYL luncheon featuring Judges Jolly, Southwick, and Wilson, all from the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. The notable success of that event provides enhanced optimism for further in-person events in the coming months.



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President's Corner (continued)

by Jake Bradley

Now, a look forward. I am excited to announce our new Board members and the new programs that JYL will be offering and re-offering this upcoming year. First, I want to welcome Brianna Bailey, the new JYL Secretary. In addition to her role as secretary, Brianna (law clerk for the Honorable LaKeysha Greer Isaac) will be exhibiting her writing and organization skills as the Board's newsletter liaison. Thank you to Brianna and the new newsletter committee chairman Bud Sheppard (who has recently been hired as a law clerk for District Judge Taylor B. McNeel), for bringing back the JYL newsletter this year!

Brianna will also be heading up the new JYL recruiting committee. Of course, ensuring that all young lawyers in the Jackson area have access to JYL's programs has always been important. This year Brianna and her team will make a renewed effort to make sure that all Jackson young lawyers are aware of and have an opportunity to join JYL. On that note, if you know of any young lawyers in the Jackson area that are not members of JYL, please let Brianna or I know or bring them to a JYL event!

Our second new Board member is Phelps attorney Nash Gilmore. In the past two years, Nash has been one of the organizers putting on JYL's flagship fundraiser, the Legal Beagle. This year, Nash will host the Legal Beagle with the new athletic committee chairman Russell Dumas of the Balch & Bingham firm. Russell earned the JYL Outstanding Service Award last year, and his addition to Nash's team will ensure that this year's Legal Beagle is a great success. We hope to see you all on Saturday, October 30, 2021, for this year's Halloween-themed Legal Beagle. I am hearing that the Legal Beagle's always-popular t-shirts will be even better (and spookier) this year.

We are also expecting great things from some of our Board members that are coming back for this year. Director Candice Rucker is this year's liaison for JYL's community service/pro bono committee. She, Maggie Kate Bobo, and committee chairman Johnny Barnes have recently finalized plans for a virtual pro-bono clinic for the heroes at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

With all of our help, Candice, Maggie Kate, and Johnny will be drafting simple wills and advanced healthcare directives for UMMC's medical personnel on October 8, 2021. Don't worry if you are like me and do not have any experience with wills and estates. Candice, Maggie Kate, and Johnny will be providing a tutorial before the start of the event. Participants will then be paired up with UMMC's heroes for thirty-minute sessions. JYL and I are very excited for this opportunity to give back to the people who have given our community so much, and I encourage you all to participate if you are able.

Also, on the public-welfare front, this year's luncheon and speaker liaison Garrett McInnis has teamed up with the new chair Gregory Alston to schedule our first JYL luncheon of the year. Garrett and Greg are excited to host former Judge and Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety Sean Tindell at Char Restaurant at 12 p.m. on Friday, September 24, 2021. As with all JYL lunches, all attendees will receive one hour of CLE credit. Guests are welcome for \$30. Hope to see you on September 24, 2021!

We can also expect additional programs and opportunities from the remainder of our Board and new committee chairs. Stevie Rushing is the incoming president-elect and will be heading the city court mediation and community and member services committees. The new chairs of the mediation committee are Stephen Fritz and Josh Stover. Butler Snow attorney Marc Chamberlain will be continuing his role as a director on this year's Board and has some exciting plans in the works for the diversity committee with that committee's new chair, Kye Handy. Maggie Kate Bobo will head up the social committee this year with help from co-chairs Madison Keyes and Suzette Turner. Finally, thanks to Emily Barr for continuing her good work as chair of the community outreach grant committee.

I look forward to an engaging year, and I hope to see you all at lunch on September 24, the virtual clinic helping UMMC's heroes on October 8, and running in your costume on October 30, 2021!

2021 - 2022 JYL Leadership Announcement

2021 - 2022 JYL Executive Board



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2021 - 2022 JYL Leadership Announcement

2021 - 2022 JYL Committee Chairs



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The Pros of Pro Bono Work

by **Johnny Barnes and Candice Rucker**

The mission of the JYL Pro Bono Committee is to encourage and facilitate pro bono legal services among members of JYL and all young lawyers.

To further this mission, JYL has partnered with the Mississippi Women Lawyers Association to sponsor a virtual Wills for Medical Heroes Legal Clinic for the University of Mississippi Medical Center. On October 8, 2021, JYL volunteers will have the opportunity to help these heroes complete wills and advanced health directives.

JYL and MWLA will also host a virtual CLE at 8:15 a.m., before the Clinic begins at 9:30 a.m., to educate volunteers on drafting basic wills, healthcare directives, and other estate-planning documents.

Young lawyers who participate in this pro bono legal clinic will provide invaluable assistance to those on the pandemic's front lines, gain significant practical experience, and have the opportunity to contribute to our profession and society in a meaningful way.

Wills for Medical Heroes Legal Clinic for UMMC



The New Committee on the Block

by **Brianna Bailey**

It's official: The Jackson Young Lawyers created a committee devoted to recruitment, and we want you to be a part of the inaugural committee!

We are thrilled to kickstart a purposeful effort to engage and reconnect with young lawyers in the Greater Jackson area.

Our goal is to serve as a resource for recent law school graduates and new lawyers to aid in their transition as emerging leaders in the practice of law.

Join the Recruitment Committee

Benefits of membership include bi-monthly lunch meetings with diverse guest speakers offering free CLE credit, networking and social events, community service and pro bono opportunities, and an invitation to JYL's annual Legal Beagle 5K and corn hole tournament.

All duly-licensed members of the Mississippi Bar who are residents of the Jackson metropolitan area and who are 37 and younger or who have been members of the Mississippi Bar for less than three years are eligible for membership in JYL.

I invite you to go a step beyond attending JYL's signature events by joining the recruitment committee to unite with like-minded young professionals who aim to capture the audience of new lawyers.

Event Spotlight: Fifth Circuit Panel

by Maggie Kate Bobo

In May, we held our first in-person membership meeting of the 2020-2021 year. I dare say that it was worth the wait.

Fifth Circuit Judges Grady E. Jolly (senior), Leslie Southwick, and Cory Wilson joined us for a Q&A-style panel discussion.

We discussed several topics, including the often unavailing attempt at humor in brief writing, citations to unpublished opinions, and oral argument pointers. It is a rare treat to converse with federal circuit judges, and we so appreciate their willingness to share their wisdom with us.



Evening Honoring the Judiciary Award Recipients



The gavel was passed from outgoing President Maggie Kate Bobo to incoming President Jake Bradley.



The Pro Bono Award:
Julian D. Miller



The Outstanding Service Award:
Russell Dumas



The Outstanding Service Award:
Jake Bradley

Save the Dates

***Membership Meeting with Guest Speakers
Department of Public Safety Commissioner
Sean Tindell and General Counsel Mac May***
12:00 pm on Friday, September 24, 2021
at Char Restaurant

CLE Tutorial on Wills and Estates
Virtually on October 8, 2021 at 8:15 a.m.

Wills for Medical Heroes Clinic for UMMC
Virtually on October 8, 2021 from
9:30 a.m to 5:00 p.m.

Legal Beagle Halloween Edition
7:00 AM on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at
Old Phidippides Watermelon Classic Course

Legal Beagle 5K Halloween Edition

by Nash Gilmore

Run proceeds will benefit the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Mississippi Bar Association, which places pro bono cases for underprivileged people with volunteer lawyers.

The 5k will start at 8:15 a.m. on Old Canton Road near the LeFleur Station Post Office and finish alongside the I-55 Kroger on Jacksonian Plaza. A one-mile fun run will be held at 9:15 a.m. There will be refreshments from Beagle Bagel and door prizes from Fleet Feet. The popular, long-sleeve Legal Beagle t-shirts are included in the race materials and are also available for sale. Halloween costumes are encouraged!

Want to get Published?

JYL welcomes submissions from its members in our newsletter. Our Newsletter Chair is looking for interesting articles on emerging legal issues, insightful reflections, and humorous commentary that Jackson's Young Lawyers will enjoy. To be published in JYL News, contact Bud Sheppard at budshep@gmail.com.



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