YLD MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Discounts on CLE
NCBA members receive discounted rates for live and video CLE seminars, seminar materials and practice manuals.

Publications
• Free online NCBA Member Directory
• Free subscription to NC Lawyer, the NCBA’s quarterly magazine
• The Advocate newsletter (Additional Section & Division newsletters available with section membership)

Professional Support
• Free online legal research through Fastcase
• Lawyer Referral Service makes more than 50,000 referrals each year
• Center for Practice Management provides law practice management materials and information
• Expanded Member Technology services offer discounts on consulting, computers, 24-hour support and network solutions
• Office of Governmental Affairs tracks legislation and lobbies for needed changes in the law
• Member access online at www.ncbar.org
• Insurance programs for life, health, and disability provided through Lawyers Insurance Agency
• Traditional and situational attorney-to-attorney mentorship programs with experienced attorney mentors

To become a member of the Young Lawyers Division, you must first be a member of the North Carolina Bar Association (NCBA). To join, go to www.ncbar.org/membership/join/ncba.aspx or send an email to jterrell@ncbar.org to request membership materials.

SERVING THE PROFESSION, continued
New Lawyers in Practice | Conducts panel discussions at the annual Practical Skills Course for newly admitted lawyers; develops publications on topics of interest to new lawyers, including “New Associates Survival Guide”; creates Nuts & Bolts CLEs; works on “Ask Atticus” articles for the newsletter; and addresses issues of importance to young lawyers in small firms and solo practices including preparation of marketing and trust account informational booklets and coordination of networking events specifically for small firm and solo practitioners.

Wellness | Focuses on wellness and quality of life for younger lawyers; specifically, the committee promotes exercise, fitness, healthy living, and mental well-being.

OTHER COMMITTEES & PROJECTS:
Citizen Lawyer | Domestic Issues | Internet & Communications | Law Student Resources | Meetings & Conventions | Pro Bono/Poverty Issues | Scholarship

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE NCBA YLD!
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Scan the code to the left to visit the North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division website. younglawyersdivision.ncbar.org
WHO WE ARE:
The Young Lawyers Division (YLD) is made up of all North Carolina Bar Association (NCBA) members who are under 36 years of age or in their first three years of practice in North Carolina. The YLD is the largest single component of the NCBA. Membership in the YLD is free as a part of membership in the NCBA.

The YLD is a service organization. It was organized in 1953 to “promote the general welfare of the public, advance the professional education and welfare of young lawyers, involve young lawyers in the activities of the NCBA, promote fellowship among all members of the bar, and advance the standards of both the legal profession and the administration of justice.” Today, more than 20 committees conduct a host of projects that serve the citizens of North Carolina and its lawyers. A list of these committees is included in this brochure, as is a description of some of the division’s flagship projects.

Each year the NCBA YLD competes in the ABA/YLD Award(s) of Achievement Competition and each year the NCBA YLD’s service projects are singled out as among the very best in the country.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO:
In addition to benefiting others, active involvement with the YLD also benefits the young lawyers who render this service. One of the chief benefits of involvement is that the YLD brings young lawyers together across county lines and practice group boundaries to work on issues of common concern. At a minimum, this experience leaves young lawyers with a network of acquaintances from across the state, but for most it also fosters a collective sense of purpose about our profession — a sense of connectedness to other lawyers in other places who practice other types of law — as well as a series of enduring friendships.

The YLD also offers leadership opportunities. Because a young lawyer’s tenure with the YLD can never span more than about 10 years and experienced leaders “age out” all the time, the division continually seeks to identify leaders and give them as much responsibility as they wish to take on.

Finally, the YLD is a task-oriented group that produces tangible and products and programs that are designed to happen in a single bar year. Consequently, closure is always close at hand and discrete volunteer opportunities abound.

SERVING THE PUBLIC:
Civic Education & Community Relations
Promotes civic awareness among high school students, including the rights and responsibilities that come with adulthood; conducts panel discussions at high schools and colleges on careers in the law; and will be conducting Rule of Law conferences for high school students in at least two locations across the state where lawyers and law enforcement personnel will facilitate discussion of the Rule of Law and how it impacts the daily lives of students. Plans and promotes an annual statewide YLD Public Service Day, which includes Ask-A-Lawyer events and the 4ALL project.

Law Week/Liberty Bell Award | Conducts moot court competitions, essay, poster art, video and photo essay contests for students; coordinates Law Week activities; and presents the NCBA’s annual Liberty Bell Award.

Legal Feeding Frenzy | Plans and coordinates month long competition among North Carolina legal organizations to raise as much food as possible to address hunger in North Carolina and assist North Carolina Association of Food Bank affiliates.

Legal LINK | Legal LINK (an acronym for Legal Leadership, Information, Networking, and Knowledge), the first-place winner in the 2012 ABA Next Steps Challenge, is a program designed to increase interest in legal careers among high-school members of populations underrepresented in the legal profession. Legal LINK consists of four consecutive weekly sessions for selected 10th-grade students, followed by mentorship of students successfully completing the program.

Military Issues | Works with military communities to develop projects that support service members and their families including a project designed to train attorneys to mediate Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act disputes. The committee also conducts the “When Duty Calls” project to provide pro bono legal assistance to military veterans seeking service-connected disability benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Minority Focus | Promotes understanding of the struggles and successes of minority and female attorneys; implements projects, such as Ask-A-Lawyer events, for minority communities; and participates in the “Street Law” program.

Project Grace / Law and Aging | Conducts clinics to provide healthcare powers of attorney and living wills free of charge to senior citizens and low-income individuals; also produces and distributes the “Senior Citizens Handbook: Laws and Programs Affecting Senior Citizens in North Carolina.”

Wills for Heroes | Conducts clinics to prepare wills free of charge for first responders, including, but not limited to police officers, firefighters and EMTs.

SERVING THE PROFESSION:
Bar Exam | Conducts projects to assist those taking the North Carolina Bar Exam, including: preparation and distribution of pamphlets with tips for preparing and taking the exam; bar preparation clinics for law students in conjunction with the February and July bar exams; and distribution of soft drinks and YLD brochures to examinees at the conclusion of the February and July bar exams.

Membership & Networking Services | Promotes participation in the YLD; plans joint socials with local YLD county bar associations; identifies quality of life and professionalism issues that young lawyers face and implements projects to address those issues; and encourages young lawyers and law students to participate and volunteer by conducting law firm and law school visits to discuss the benefits of NCBA membership.

NCBA President Mike Wells, right, and YLD volunteers flank Attorney General Roy Cooper, center, at a press conference launching the 2013 N.C. Legal Feeding Frenzy, which collected the equivalent of 150,000 meals.
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