

STATE BAR *of* TEXAS
2022–2023 VOLUNTEER AND STAFF GUIDE

TYLA
COMMITTEES

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

AS OF JULY 1, 2022

TYLA committees conduct much of the work of the Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA). Committees of the TYLA are divided into two categories: service and standing. Standing committee members are appointed for one year. Service committee members are recruited annually. Young lawyers across Texas have donated their time and effort in furtherance of TYLA programs through their volunteer work on committees.

If you are interested in joining a TYLA committee, please visit our website at www.tyla.org, or call the TYLA office at (800) 204-2222.

ABA YLD LIAISONS

Purpose: Elected Position. The elected representatives for the ABA YLD in Texas serve as liaisons to the TYLA board and coordinate with FEMA for relief efforts in the event of a declared natural disaster. Texas has two ABA YLD District Representatives: District 25 (South/Central Region) and District 26 (North/West Region). District Representatives serve staggered two-year terms and are elected by the local bar organizations in Texas that are affiliated with the ABA YLD in the appropriate region. Nominations are open to any eligible attorney in Texas meeting the requirements set out in the ABA YLD bylaws.

William Biggers, Co-Chair
Garrett S. Brawley, Co-Chair

ACCESS-TO-JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Access-to-Justice Committee will primarily work on expanding TYLA's resources for pro se litigants in Texas courts, as well as forms for pro se litigants and attorneys to use in emergency situations.

ECA: Michael Ritter
Katie Fillmore, Co-Chair
Russell Shrauner, Co-Chair
Mark Altman
William E. Johnson
Rosalyn Lark
Matthew S. Manning
Naomi Cobb Melchiorre
Hon. Lauren Sepulveda
Leo Yu

ANNUAL MEETING

Purpose: Appointed Position. Assist in the planning and organization of TYLA's annual meeting activities.

Michael J. Ritter, Chair

BYLAWS & POLICY MANUAL

Purpose: Appointed Position. Regularly conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including a review of the current election procedures for all TYLA officers and directors; recommends and drafts any needed or proposed revisions to the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including any approved redistricting plans; provides interpretations as needed to fairly implement all matters in compliance with the TYLA Bylaws and Policy Manual.

Ashley Hymel, Chair

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Communications committee will manage TYLA's communications via its social media accounts and through a quarterly newsletter and annual report. The committee will develop a plan for cross-platform synergy that allows content to be easily adapted from social media, to the quarterly newsletter, and to the annual report, with the goal of communicating information that is the most important to the TYLA membership in multiple ways.

ECA: Jeanine Novosad Rispoli
Garrett Coutts, Chair
Mark Altman
Ashton Barrineau Butcher
Katie Fillmore
Alyson A. Martinez
Austin W. Stevenson

COMPETITIONS

Purpose: National Trial Competition committee and State Moot Court committee will work on TYLA's three annual law student competitions, which promote the long-term quality of legal services by providing training in essential legal skills, including oral and written advocacy, and maintain TYLA and the State Bar of Texas as leaders in providing high-caliber learning opportunities for law students.

ECA: Ashley Hymel
ECA: Hon. Lauren Sepulveda
Ryan R. Bauerle, Co-Chair
Dave R. Hagan, Co-Chair
Johnathan Stone, Co-Chair
Timothy Adams
Garrett S. Brawley
Andrew Cavazos
Garrett Coutts
Jefferson Fisher
Tyler Granger
Michael Hanson
Sushant Mohan
Julia Peebles
Armin Salek
Aamir Siddik

DIVERSITY, DEVELOPMENT & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Diversity, Development & Wellness committee will focus on creating and distributing projects and resources that improve and enrich the lives of young attorneys from various backgrounds. Specifically, the committee will expand upon TYLA's Wellness Hub; plan the Wellness Retreat; create two development guides that include significant components about connecting with various and diverse communities within the legal profession and with the Texas public; and administer TYLA's diversity scholarship.

ECA: Rebecca Linehan
Armin Salek, Co-Chair
Aamir Siddik, Co-Chair
Ryan R. Bauerle
Guillermo Hernández, III
Roselyn Lark
Jenna Malsbary
Sushant Mohan
Andrea M. Palmer
Tiffany Sheppard
Russell Shrauner
Austin W. Stevenson
Reginald Wilson
Leo Yu

EXECUTIVE

Purpose: Elected Position. Officers are elected by the TYLA board, and the President-elect and succeeding officers are elected by the general membership of TYLA. The TYLA Executive Committee monitors board activities and makes administrative and policy recommendations to the board as necessary.

Michael J. Ritter, President
Hon. Lauren Renee Sepulveda, Chair
Hisham A. Masri, Vice President
Rebecca Linehan, Secretary
Cali M. Franks, Treasurer
Laura Pratt, President-elect
Ashley Hymel, Chair-elect
Jeanine Novosad Rispoli, Immediate Past President

JOSEPH M. PRITCHARD INN

Purpose: Membership Limited to Present/Past TYLA Board. Annual membership dues support the activities of the Inn. The Joseph Pritchard Inn conducts the following activities each year: (1) recognizes one second-year law student as recipient of the annual Joseph Pritchard Inn scholarship; (2) sponsors the meeting of the "Joseph M. Pritchard Inn of Former Officers and Directors of the Texas Young Lawyers Association"; and (3) prepares a directory of Current Members of the Inn. The Outstanding Director of TYLA is named in honor of the Inn.

Hon. Lauren Sepulveda, Chair

LIBERTY BELL AND OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARDS

Purpose: Appointed Position. Plans, coordinates, judges, and presents the annual statewide Liberty Bell Award. The Liberty Bell Award recognizes an outstanding non-lawyer who has made the most selfless contribution to his or her community that strengthens the effectiveness of the American system of justice. The Outstanding Mentor Award recognizes one attorney who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to mentoring young lawyers in his or her legal community.

Victor Flores, Co-Chair
Sally Pretorius, Co-Chair

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Purpose: Appointed Position. Monitors, reviews, and updates TYLA's Long Range and Strategic Plan. This includes a periodic review and evaluation of TYLA's district composition and recommendations for redistricting changes as outlined in Article V, Section 5, of the TYLA Bylaws. Also works with the TYLA Bylaws/Policy Manual Committee to prepare proposed changes for approval at the TYLA annual meeting. Redistricting review mandated every five years.

Laura Pratt, Chair

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Member Services committee, otherwise known as the "Local Affiliates Committee," will help provide membership services through local young lawyers' associations, who often have more direct connections with TYLA members throughout Texas.

ECA: Hisham Masri
Jefferson Fisher, Co-Chair
Tiffany Sheppard, Co-Chair
Tim Adams
Ashton Butcher
Miranda Caballero
Josué Galvan
Guillermo Hernández, III
Jenna Malsbary
Julia Peebles
Stephen M. Traeger
Courtney M. White

NOMINATIONS

Purpose: Appointed Position. Interviews prospective nominees and presents the slate of officer candidates to the TYLA board of directors. Coordinates with the Bylaws/Policy Manual Committee to propose guidelines for the statewide president-elect campaign and election.

Jeanine Novosad Rispoli, Chair

OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYER

Purpose: Appointed Position. Plans, coordinates, judges, and presents the annual Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas Award, which recognizes one young lawyer who best demonstrates professional proficiency, service to the profession, and service to the community. Nomination applications may be submitted by any TYLA local affiliate or local bar association, under rules prescribed by this committee.

Britney E. Harrison, Chair

POLICY MANUAL REVISION

Purpose: Appointed Position. Regularly conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including a review of the current election procedures for all TYLA officers and directors; recommends and drafts any needed or proposed revisions to the TYLA Bylaws and/or Policy Manual, including any approved redistricting plans; and provides interpretations as needed to fairly implement all matters in compliance with the TYLA Bylaws and Policy Manual.

Ashley Hymel, Chair

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Programming committee will work on new and ongoing programs and content that help TYLA members and other lawyers in the practice of law, including CLEs and other helpful content.

ECA: Cali M. Franks
Stephen M. Traeger, Chair
William Biggers
Andrew Cavazos
Josué Galvan
Tyler Granger
Reginald Wilson

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Public Service committee will work on completing the various components of this year's Texas Bar Foundation project, How Texas Courts Work.

ECA: Laura Pratt
Alyson A. Martinez, Co-Chair
Courtney M. White, Co-Chair
William Biggers
Garrett S. Brawley
Miranda N. Caballero
Michael Hanson
William E. Johnson
Matthew S. Manning
Naomi Melchiorre
Andrea M. Palmer