

Welcome from the Young Lawyers Division (YLD)!

Congratulations and welcome to the Mecklenburg County Bar! As Chair of the Young Lawyers Division of the Mecklenburg County Bar, I congratulate you on your many accomplishments. You made it – you have arrived at the Mecklenburg County Bar, and I am thrilled to introduce you to the YLD and all that it has to offer. As a new member to the MCB your first year of membership in YLD is **FREE!** That means you are automatically a member of the YLD for a year with access to its socials, community service projects, ask-a-lawyer days and other events without having to do (or pay) anything.

What is the YLD? The YLD is open to all lawyers who are 36-years-of-age or under or are within their first three years of practice. Our goals are to promote collegiality among young lawyers through professional and social activities, to serve the citizens of Mecklenburg County through community service projects and to facilitate young lawyers' participation in the Mecklenburg County Bar.

The YLD offers new lawyers a great opportunity to meet and network with other lawyers and to get involved both in the community and in the Bar. We have numerous committees in which you may be interested:

- **Community Service Committee**—Coordinates relevant public service opportunities for YLD members. Past events include Salvation Army Christmas and Habitat for Humanity Build.
- **Education Committee**—Organizes activities that educate the Mecklenburg County community about the law and involve our lawyers in community projects, including: YLD CLE planning or Academic Internship Program with CMS middle school age students.
- **Legal Assistance Committee**—Organizes projects which provide legal assistance to the citizens of Mecklenburg County and/or North Carolina as a whole, including free, walk-in legal clinics. Upcoming events include a legal clinic for Habitat for Humanity and an Ask-A-Lawyer Day.
- **Social Committee**—Plans quarterly socials for YLD members and other events which promote the interests of YLD members.
- **Membership Committee**—Focuses on increasing YLD membership, ensuring that the YLD meets the needs of its members, assisting in plans for the new lawyer swearing-in ceremonies, and coordinates the annual MCB YLD Young Lawyer of the Year Award
- **Connectivity Committee**—Ensures that the YLD members are actively participating in the goals and missions of the MCB to bridge the gap between the YLD and the MCB. Plans networking events and events for YLD members with families You can find information about our events on our section of MeckBar.org, e-mail blasts from the MCB, and our Facebook page. I invite and encourage you to become a member of YLD and get involved.

Think of the MCB and YLD not as competing with your practice obligations, but as a supplement to building your attorney reputation and a successful practice in our legal community.



Anna G. LeBlanc, *YLD Chair 2020-21*