

## YLD Perspective

KELLE S. ACOCK

### Winter 2011 YLD Update

As we kick off a new year, I would like to welcome new members to the Younger Lawyers Division and remind the membership of our exciting upcoming events. I would also like to extend a special welcome to the newest members of the YLD's National Board of Directors: David Goodwin, Andrew Lilly, Glen McMurray, and Melissa Manning. A list of the YLD's current officers and board members is also posted on the YLD's section of the Federal Bar Association's website.



The Younger Lawyers Division sponsors a number of programs throughout the year and holds others in conjunction with annual meetings of the association and National Council. As in past years, the YLD will kick off a busy spring and summer schedule with one of the division's most successful programs: the Thurgood A. Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition. The competition will be held in Washington, D.C., during the FBA Midyear Meeting and will feature teams from law schools across the country. All FBA members are invited to attend the competition and are also encouraged to judge moot court rounds. We extend thanks to all members who have supported the program in the past and look forward to a successful competition this year.

On May 31, 2011, the YLD will sponsor its annual U.S. Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony for all FBA members interested in and eligible for admission to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. After the swearing-in, new admittees will be treated to a reception at the Supreme Court, where

they have traditionally been greeted by Supreme Court justices. The YLD will also be welcoming summer law clerks to the Washington, D.C., area through the Summer Law Clerk Program. The annual program, which runs from June through August, begins with a kick-off event and generally includes round table and question-and-answer sessions held at the Department of Justice, at the Department of Defense, and on Capitol Hill. These locations give law clerks an opportunity to visit with federal lawyers serving throughout the various federal agencies and departments.

In addition to these programs, the YLD encourages every chapter of the FBA to form a Younger Lawyers Division Committee. The YLD is always grateful for its members' many contributions in carrying out its mission. Should you or anyone in your chapter seek to become more involved in YLD activities or to create a local YLD Committee, please do not hesitate to contact me or Adrienne Woolley at FBA national headquarters for assistance. On behalf of the YLD and its national Board, thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to provide you with the YLD Perspective. **TFL**

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*Kelle S. Acock is the chair of the Younger Lawyers Division and is a member of the Federal Bar Association Board of Directors.*

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unreasonable to expect the Court to strike down yet another inflexible bright-line rule established by the Federal Circuit as the Court has done on multiple occasions over the last few years. And, in the eyes of this author, this would not be a bad thing, because the result would be a system that encourages, rather than discourages, full and forthright disclosure by the inventor during the examination of a patent application. **TFL**

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*Matthew A. Williams is a member of the Intellectual*

*Property Protection & Litigation Service Team of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs LLP, where he counsels clients and focuses on litigation involving patent prosecution and enforcement, trademark prosecution and enforcement, trade secrets, copyrights, transaction support, licensing of intellectual property, and litigation related to these areas. The firm has offices in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Indiana. Williams is based in the firm's Louisville office and can be contacted at [mwilliams@wyattfirm.com](mailto:mwilliams@wyattfirm.com). © 2011 Matthew A. Williams. All rights reserved.*