



Vol. 2019-1 (Spring 2019)
“THEORETICALLY QUARTERLY”
Young Lawyers Committee
The Maritime Law Association of the United States

Message from the Chair

Another successful Maritime Law Association spring meeting is in the books! Thank you to the many YLC members who contributed to the success of this year’s meetings in New York.

First off, I would like to thank **Jennifer Porter** for her leadership as Chair of the MLA Young Lawyers Committee these last two years. It has been an honor and great pleasure to work with her. With that being said, I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce **Kristi Thompson** as the incoming YLC Secretary. This makes your incoming officers for the Young Lawyers Committee 2019-2021 term: Kristi Thompson as Secretary, **Peter F. Black** as Vice Chair, and myself, **Imran Shaukat**, as Chair.

Kristi’s primary role as Secretary of the YLC is overseeing the Committee Liaison Program. Many current liaison terms are coming to an end. If you are interested in serving as a liaison to one of the MLA’s Standing Committees, please let Kristi know.

As many of you know, the leadership of the MLA is dedicated to keeping its young members involved in the Association. To that end, all YLC members will be receiving a short survey in the near future asking them to identify various areas of maritime practice and interest, so that those who are interested

in getting more involved, whether through speaking or writing opportunities, can be better informed when those opportunities arise.

- Imran Shaukat

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Spring Meeting: Shoutouts & Thank You

We would like to recognize the following YLC members for their efforts in delivering presentations at this year’s spring meetings in New York:

- **Shawn Bevans**, Marine Torts & Casualties
- **Aaron Greenbaum**, Inland Waters & Towing
- **Barrett Hails**, Recreational Boating
- **James Jeffcoat**, Practice and Procedure
- **Imran Shaukat**, Stevedores, Marine Terminals, and Vessel Services

The Marine Insurance & General Average Committee would like to thank the several YLC members who assisted *Olaf Aprans* in the preparation of the committee’s newsletter this fall, including *Yaakov Adler*, *Andrew Anastor*, *Kyle Brennan*, *Guillermo Cancio*, *Daniel Park*, and *Imran Shaukat*.



The Recreational Boating Committee wishes to thank *Julie Cunningham Aiello, Alena A. Ackhardt, and Joe Kulesa* for assisting with the preparation of case summaries for "Boating Briefs," the Recreational Boating Committee's publication.

The International Organizations, Conventions, and Standards Committee would like to thank to *Nicola Groh, Kevin Albertson, Adam Jaffe; Liam T. O'Connell; Alex Aughtry; Danielle T. Gauer, Patrick O'Connor, John Foulks; and Chris Hannan* for their stellar work on the ongoing conventions jurisprudence project.

Committee Liaison Program

For new members and those who are unfamiliar, the Committee Liaison Program assigns one YLC member to each of the MLA's standing committees to serve as a liaison. The goal of the program is to increase communication between the various standing committees and the YLC. The idea is that increased communication will lead to more opportunities for our members to get involved in those committees, and for those committees to benefit from a younger lawyer perspective. YLC liaisons will generally provide brief status reports at each YLC meeting pertaining to the work and projects of each standing committee.

Reminder: The YLC is ready to work! If you are currently a YLC liaison and have a project that needs help or if you are interested in volunteering to serve as a YLC liaison, please e-mail *Kristi Thompson* at (usa.kthompson@usa.cma-cgm.com).

Ongoing YLC Projects & Activities

1. The MLA is seeking YLC volunteers from around the country to assist in

reporting on the CLE seminar/presentation requirements for each state. The volunteers will be asked to collect information that will then be used by the MLA to update its records on each state's CLE requirements, to assist the MLA in its endeavor to provide new CLE offerings to its members. If you are interested in assisting on this project, please contact *Kirby Aarsheim* (kaarsheim@fsofirm.com).

2. The International Organizations, Conventions, and Standards Committee seeks volunteers to help with the ongoing conventions jurisprudence project. Volunteers will be asked to run electronic case reporter database searches with the name of IMO contentions and/or domestic enactment of the convention to identify responsive cases and draft brief summaries (150 words or less) describing the court's treatment of the convention. Please contact IOCS YLC Liaison *Chris Hannan* (channan@bakerdonelson.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

3. The Recreational Boating Committee publishes a newsletter entitled "Boating Briefs," which reports on cases involving recreational boats as well as legislative and regulatory developments specific to recreational boating. The Committee requests YLC members keep a lookout for these types of developments and cases and report them to the Committee. In addition, if a YLC member has been involved in an interesting case involving recreational boating, there may be an opportunity for that member to make a presentation about the case at a Committee meeting. If you have anything to report, please contact the chair of the Recreational Boating Committee, *Mark Buhler*, at mark.buhler@earthlink.net, or the YLC liaison, *Bo Williams*, at bo.williams@phelps.com.



Fall 2019 MLA Meeting: Scottsdale!

The MLA Fall Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch October 29 – November 2, 2019. We are currently seeking two to three YLC volunteers to assist with the CLE portion of the Scottsdale meetings. If you are interested in attending or will be attending the Fall Meeting and are able to assist, please contact *Imran Shaukat* (ishaukat@semmes.com).

Call for Projects

To All Standing Committees: Please let the YLC know how we can help with your projects. If you have projects in need of research or have writing opportunities that are well-suited for younger lawyers, please keep our committee in mind. Additionally, we can usually find a YLC member to assist with staffing your meeting (handling CLE paperwork, sign-in sheets, handouts, and assisting with presentation set up, etc.), if and when the need arises.

Publication Opportunities

Do you have any war stories from your practice that you wish to share with others? Do you think you have a sense of humor? Consider submitting your written piece for consideration to *Benedict's Quarterly Maritime Bulletin*. You may write to Managing Editor Joshua S. Force at jforce@shergarner.com.

Proctor Status

Any Associate member of the MLA who has been a member of the MLA for four (4) years or more is eligible to apply for Proctor status with the MLA. The advantages of

Proctor status are numerous, not the least of which is that a member cannot serve as a committee chair, vice-chair, or director unless s/he is a Proctor or Non-Lawyer member. Proctor applications may be obtained and submitted on the MLA website.

YLC Membership List on Website

If you are not already signed up as a member of the YLC, please make sure you do so. In addition, please review your email and notification settings on the website. We use the membership list on the website as a vehicle for communicating with our members. We have reason to believe that some of our young lawyers are not registered as YLC members or may have restrictive notification settings and thus do not receive our communications. If you know anyone that might fall into either category, please pass this message along and encourage them to formally join the committee and to check their settings. Conversely, if you are no longer a YLC member and are tired of our shenanigans, feel free to unsubscribe.

YLC Contacts

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