



Vol. 2020-2 (Fall 2020)
“THEORETICALLY QUARTERLY”
Young Lawyers Committee
The Maritime Law Association of the United States

Message from the Chair

Greetings from Baltimore! I hope that all of you are staying safe, and that you and your loved ones remain in good health.

During these unsettling times, with so many of the routines and enjoyments of earlier years having been challenged by COVID-19 and a relentless hurricane season, I would like to extend a special thanks to all YLC members who have taken such an active role in the MLA since our last meeting. With increased attendance at the virtual committee meetings this fall, the contributions of many of your fellow YLC members are being showcased to an even larger audience.

Although our virtual meeting is no full substitute for us all being together and meeting in person, I am looking forward to seeing so many familiar faces around the “Zoom” room this week. Perhaps this year more than any other, in light of unforeseeable hardships, the contributions of our members have been vital to the work of the Association. Your efforts have been recognized and are applauded by the MLA President, Board, and Committee Chairs. Thank you.

- Imran Shaukat

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YLC Fall Committee
Zoom Meeting

The Young Lawyers Committee will be meeting remotely on Thursday, November 5, 2020, from 5:00 – 6:00 PM EST for our fall committee meeting. If you would like to attend and have not already registered, please contact Imran Shaukat (ishaukat@semmes.com) to receive the Zoom meeting details.

Fall Meeting:
Shout-outs & Thank You’s

We would like to recognize the following YLC members for their efforts in delivering presentation speaking at the following committee meetings this fall:

- **Jeanne Amy**, Offshore Industries Committee
- **Rowen Asprodites**, Inland Waters and Towing Committee
- **George Croton**, Offshore Industries and Our Oceans Committees
- **Chris Hannan**, International Organizations, Conventions, and Standards Committee
- **Kristina Prete**, Offshore Industries Committee



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 Uniformity Committee invites YLC members to present on various circuit conflicts in U.S. maritime law. More details regarding the scope of the presentations is available under "Announcements" on the YLC Committee Page. If you are interested in presenting at an upcoming Uniformity Committee meeting, please contact Imran Shaukat (ishaukat@semmes.com) and Professor Michael Sturley (msturley@law.utexas.edu).

2. The Young Lawyers Committee seeks volunteers to assist with a historical documents project. The volunteers will review meeting minutes, board minutes, position papers, and other historical documents to identify and then summarize

MLA Resolutions. If you are interested in participating in this important project, please contact Peter Black (pblack@millsblack.com) and Kenny Jordan (kjordan@mmr-law.com).

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 *Daniel Wooster* (dwooster@pbh.com) or YLC liaison, Barrett Hails (barrett.hails@phelps.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 Movie Night

The YLC screening of *Jaws* on October 22, 2020 was a success! Much fun was had in the WhatsApp group chat and many jokes

about the Mayor's excellent sportscoat collection were made. If you have suggestions for the next movie night and/or would like to be added to the YLC WhatsApp group chat, please contact Peter F. Black (pblack@millsblack.com).

YLC Chairs

Chair

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