The YLD 2021 Year in Review

Franklin R. Cragle, III
2021 YLD Chair
Diversity and Inclusion Initiative “breaks ZOOM”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zre1PGl7kk4
Diversity & Inclusion, continued . . .

➢ **Black History Month Panel: A Discussion of Black Attorneys’ Experiences in the Legal Profession**
   - In February, the YLD hosted a moderated discussion on the experience of Black attorneys in Virginia’s legal profession
   - Award-winning DEI programming
   - Almost immediately “sold out,” exceeded VBA’s ZOOM capacity

➢ **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Revisited - What the Legal Industry Gets Wrong About DEI**
   - At the Annual Meeting, the YLD will Co-Host a panel to discuss what the legal profession’s approach to DEI and what could be done to improve it
The Spring Meeting

The Alexandrian, Alexandria, VA
April 16-18, 2021

2.0 CLE and Social Activities
The Spring Meeting

- Great CLE Programs:
  - Again presented solely by YLD members featuring their practice areas
  - Riparian Property Rights by Bryan S. Peeples, Pender & Coward, P.C.
  - The Path to Appeal of Right: Looking Ahead to Virginia’s New Appellate Landscape by Graham K. Bryant, Office of the Solicitor General

- Fun, Socially Distanced Activities
  - Historic Walking Tour of Old Town Alexandria
  - Outdoor Dinners on the water in Old Town
Wellness Challenge & Programming

- The YLD continued to combat Covid with its Wellness programs
  - We got flexible with Desk Yoga
  - The YLD hosted the VBA Wellness Challenge 5K Run & Walk at the Summer Meeting at the Homestead
  - We hosted the 10-day Wellness Challenge, complete with Bingo-style leaderboard
  - We hosted Keeping it Real - Surviving Economic Downturns During Your Career
ABA Awards of Achievement

- The YLD was again recognized on a national level earning Awards of Achievement from the American Bar Association ("ABA") in the following categories:
  - Comprehensive
  - Newsletter
  - Service to the Bar
  - Service to the Public
  - Diversity
The Fall Meeting

- The Sanderling, Duck, NC
- October 8-10, 2021
- 3.0 CLE and Social Activities
The Fall Meeting

- Great CLE Programs:
  - Again presented solely by YLD members featuring their practice areas
  - A Select Examination of Health Care Law by Jennifer L. Ligon of Williams Mullen
  - Intellectual Property Law by Craig Hoovler of Steptoe & Johnson LLP

- Fun, Socially Distanced Activities
  - Outdoor Dinners & Socials while listening to the ocean
Reinvigorating the Law School Initiative

We are working with every law school across the Commonwealth to schedule in-person visits, presentations, and socials to spread the cause of the VBA.
Collaborations & Partnerships

- We partnered with Virginia Judges & Lawyers Assistance Program (“VJLAP”) and others to bring our members and Virginia’s lawyers the Lawyer Wellness Challenge.

- The Wellness Committee collaborated with Amy G. Pruett of Williams Mullen to bring us Lawyer well-being and yoga/breath practice.
More Successes

- **Legal Food Frenzy**
  - In September - Hunger Action Month - the VBA continued to raise public awareness of the hunger crisis and generated hundreds-of-thousands of dollars to help food banks

- **Credit Issues Project**
  - Revising educational materials to teach high school students about the basics of credit and debts

- **National Moot Court Competition** (November, virtually)
Looking Ahead to 2022’s YLD Leadership

- Kristen R. Jurjevich (Pender & Coward) - Chair
- R. Patrick Bolling (Woods Rogers) - Chair-Elect
- Ann E. Kossachev (NAFCU) - Secretary-Treasurer
- Franklin “Frank” R. Cragle, III (Hirschler) - Immediate Past Chair

- New Executive Board members (in alphabetical order):
  - Alexander P.M. Boyd (Hirschler)
  - Alexandria E. Cuff (McGuireWoods)
  - Steven Lippman (Christian & Barton)
Looking Ahead to 2022’s YLD Leadership

- Returning Executive Board members (in alphabetical order):
  - **Graham K. Bryant** (Office of the Solicitor General)
  - **Hetal Challa** (Challa Law)
  - **Alicha M. Grubb** (Gentry Locke)
  - **Elizabeth “Liz” Olcott** (Christian & Barton)
Questions?

Franklin R. Cragle, III  
Hirschler  
2100 East Cary Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23223  
fcragle@hirschlerlaw.com