

## 2. \* Division (Figures are for the young lawyer membership of your organization)

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	State Affiliate: 8000 or more		0	0%
2	State Affiliate: Between 3000 and 8000		0	0%
3	State Affiliate: 3000 or less		0	0%
4	State Affiliate: New Affiliate (within last 3 years)		0	0%
5	Local Affiliate: 2000 or more		1	100%
6	Local Affiliate: Between 800 and 2000		0	0%
7	Local Affiliate: 800 or less		0	0%
8	Local Affiliate: New Affiliate (within last 3 years)		0	0%
9	National Affiliate		0	0%
	Total		1	

## 3. \* How did you hear about the AOA program? (Select all that apply)

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Friend/Colleague		0	0%
2	Local Affiliate		0	0%
3	YLD Email		0	0%
4	YLD Website		1	100%

## 4. \* Number of young lawyers in your affiliate

### Text Response

9,0000

## 5. \* Is your organization affiliated with a senior bar?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		1	100%
2	No		0	0%
	Total		1	

## 6. If YES, is membership in your organization automatic?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		1	100%
2	No		0	0%
	Total		1	

7. If a state organization, which are you?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Mandatory		0	0%
2	Voluntary		1	100%
	Total		1	

8. \* When does your fiscal year begin and end?

Text Response

June 1 to May 31

9. \* First Name

Text Response

Jill

10. \* Last Name

Text Response

Eckert McCall

11. \* Address

Text Response

321 N Clark St., 19th Floor

12. \* City

Text Response

Chicago

14. \* Zip Code

Text Response

60610

15. \* First Name

Text Response

Natasha

16. \* Last Name

Text Response

von Will

17. \* Address

Text Response

233 S Wacker Dr., Suite 5500

18. \* City

Text Response

Chicago

20. \* Zip Code

Text Response

60606

21. \* Email Address

Text Response

nvonwill@smsm.com

22. \* Telephone

Text Response

312-645-5631

23. \* Please indicate number of exhibits being submitted

#	Question	Publications	CD or DVD
1		0.00	0.00

24. \* Single Project Title

Text Response

Same Sex Marriage

2.\* Division (Figures are for the young lawyer membership of your organization)

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1	State Affiliate: 8000 or more	0	0%
2	State Affiliate: Between 3000 and 8000	0	0%
3	State Affiliate: 3000 or less	0	0%
4	State Affiliate: New Affiliate (within last 3 years)	0	0%
5	Local Affiliate: 2000 or more	1	100%
6	Local Affiliate: Between 800 and 2000	0	0%
7	Local Affiliate: 800 or less	0	0%
8	Local Affiliate: New Affiliate (within last 3 years)	0	0%
9	National Affiliate	0	0%
	Total	1	

3.If Comprehensive Application, Project Number

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[Text Response](#)

4.\* Type of Project

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#	Answer	BarResponse	%
1	Educational	0	0%
2	Legislative	0	0%
3	Commemorative Events	0	0%
4	Pro Bono Projects	0	0%
5	Diversity	1	100%
6	Disaster Recovery	0	0%
7	Competitions	0	0%
8	Special Events	0	0%
	Total	1	

5.\* Degree of Change or Growth

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#	Answer	BarResponse	%
1	New Project	1	100%
2	Continued Project	0	0%
	Total	1	

6.\* Project Description(Please provide a brief description (750 words or less) of your project. Be sure to include a description of the role(s) played by the young lawyer volunteers in the undertaking of this project; any products resulting from the project; and in the case of continuing projects, if they have been expanded, explain how.)

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[Text Response](#)

On June 8, 2010, the Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Diversity Committee sponsored a seminar on the status of same sex marriage and civil unions in Illinois and nationally. The two-hour seminar featured four panelists who spoke about issues relevant to the subject. Our first speaker, Illinois State Representative Greg Harris, presented a background of the history of same-sex marriage in Illinois. Specifically, Representative Harris, the highest-ranking openly gay elected official in the State, reviewed civil union and same-sex marriage legislation that was then pending in the Illinois House and Senate. Representative Harris continued, discussing the future of the legislation in Illinois. The second speaker, Robert D. LoPrete of Reed Smith LLP, discussed estate planning issues in the context of civil unions and same-sex marriage. Mr. LoPrete's presentation noted the potential impact of the pending legislation in areas including property and inheritance rights and tax implications. Next, Christopher Clark, Senior Staff Attorney for Midwest Regional Office of Lambda Legal, offered an overview of same-sex marriage and civil unions in the larger context of its progress nationally. Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work. And finally, Andrew Koppelman, Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University, offered an analysis of the legal arguments on both sides of the same-sex marriage/civil union debate. Following the presentation, the panelists entertained questions from the audience.

7.\* Needs Assessment(What was the reason for undertaking this project? e.g. was the project internally or externally motivated; was there a need in the community for the project; was there a target audience?)

[Text Response](#)

Our Committee conceived of the idea for the seminar after following current events in Illinois and nationally on the subject of same-sex marriage. We considered the issue to be an important one facing Illinois and a topic that would resonate with all lawyers and specifically young lawyers. Therefore, we marketed our project to minority young lawyers as well as all Chicago Bar Association members. Our decision to do so stemmed from our belief that our subject was one of potential interest to lawyers of all ages and ethnicities. Our attendance at the seminar reflected this belief, as lawyers from a broad range of ages and backgrounds were in attendance.

8.\* Achievement of Goals / Impact (What were the goals and objectives of this project?)

[Text Response](#)

In preparing our presentation we conferred with other Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Committees, both for ideas and to raise awareness of the seminar and its goals. Many of the CBA YLS' membership include minority members. Our goal was an educational one, to inform people of the issues surrounding the subject of marriage equality on both a local and national level. In doing so, we focused on four crucial areas - the status of marriage equality in Illinois, the status of marriage equality nationally, the impact of pending legislation and the legal arguments fueling both sides of the same-sex marriage and civil union debate. We measured our impact in terms of the quality of our speakers and attendance at the event. In that sense, we were thrilled with our results, as our presenters were outstanding and our attendance (in-person and online) totaled over 100 participants, including Illinois Speaker of the House, Michael J. Madigan. Coincidentally, within a year of our presentation, Illinois legalized Civil Unions, speaking to the relevance and timeliness of the event. The presentation furthered awareness and education on the issues surrounding the subject of marriage equality. Attorneys meeting the ABA's definition of Goal III diversity by way of being lesbian, gay, transgendered or bi-sexual had particular interest in the event, and all minority attendees appreciated that the debate is not a foreign one on the civil rights front. Attending minority attorneys also met those in the community, such as Representative Harris and Mr. Clark, who are making active efforts to further the rights of minorities. In addition, attendees were able to learn about the effect the civil union act would have from an estate planning standpoint, the subject of which led to very substantive discussions between Mr. LoPrete and the audience during the question and answer portion of the seminar. Additionally, the presentation made by Professor Koppelman featured an example of how inter-racial couples were historically not permitted to marry as a comparison to same-sex couple not being permitted to marry. The example served to provide attendees with a historical perspective and context. We received positive feedback from the Chicago Bar Association, which promoted our project to both young lawyers and other CBA members. We believe the seminar helped to progress the CBA community's understanding of the issues. Our aim was to present a balanced overview of the issues related to marriage equality in Illinois and across the country and not to advocate a particular position, which again had particular interest to lesbian, gay, transgendered and bi-sexual attorneys. We had over 100 people in attendance, including individuals who joined us via webcast, and in that regard we were satisfied with our educational impact. CBA members continue to view our seminar using the CBA online CLE library, which is housed within WestLegalEd and is therefore available to lawyers across the country. We produced printed information concerning our presenters' presentations. Additionally, there is a video available of the entire seminar.

9.If goals were not met, why not?

[Text Response](#)

N/A

10.\* Will this be a recurring affiliate project?

[#AnswerBarResponse %](#)

1Yes	0	0%
2No	1	100%
Total	1	

11.If yes, will you make any revisions?

[Text Response](#)

12.\* How many young lawyer members actually participated in this project? (Consider young lawyer involvement in all the different stages of the project...planning, organization, implementation, and/or presentation.)

<a href="#">#Question</a>	<a href="#">How many young lawyer leadership (officers, directors, board membership)?</a>	<a href="#">How many young lawyer committee members?</a>	<a href="#">How many young lawyer general membership?</a>
1	5.00	0.00	290.00

13.\* Was the project conducted with the Senior Bar?

- | # | Answer | BarResponse | %    |
|---|--------|-------------|------|
| 1 | Yes    | 0           | 0%   |
| 2 | No     | 1           | 100% |
|   | Total  | 1           |      |

14.\* What other groups or individuals participated and in what numbers?

- [Text Response](#)

Il State Representative Greg Harris; Robert D. LoPrete, Reed Smith LLP; Christopher Clark, Lambda Legal and Andrew Koppleman, Northwestern University

15.\* What do you think is the optimum amount of members needed to carry out this project?

- [Text Response](#)

2-3

16.\* How much time did it take to organize the project?

- [Text Response](#)

3-6 months

17.\* How much time did it take to recruit members for the project?

- [Text Response](#)

3-6 months

18.\* How much time did it take to carry out the project from beginning to end?

- [Text Response](#)

6 months

19.\* What was the cost of this project excluding in-kind/donated services?

- [Text Response](#)

All speakers volunteered their time

20.\* How was the project funded?

- [Text Response](#)

No funding needed

21.\* How long did it take to raise the funds needed for this project?

- [Text Response](#)

N/A

22.\* What suggestions/recommendations would you make to other young lawyer groups who would consider undertaking a similar project?

- **Text Response**

We were extremely happy with the seminar. Given, however, that civil unions have been subsequently legalized in Illinois, the CBA Senior Bar organized a seminar last fall to discuss the impact of the passing legislation. During the 2011-2012 Bar year, the Senior Bar and YLS intend to jointly hold a seminar measuring the impact of this legislation and looking ahead to the possibility of the legalization of same-sex marriage in Illinois. For other young lawyers groups considering undertaking a similar project, a review current legislation is necessary.