South-Central Regional Young Lawyers Conference of ABA YLD Affiliates

(with potential co-sponsorship by the ABA YLD)

SUMMARY

As defined by the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division’s (ABA YLD) Policy on Regional Conferences (approved Feb. 10, 2005), “regional conferences” are regional meetings or conferences organized and executed by ABA YLD affiliates. These conferences serve as an important mechanism for serving the members and the affiliates of the ABA YLD.

The ABA YLD affiliates that comprise District 22 (Kansas and Missouri) and District 24 (Arkansas and Oklahoma) have planned a conference, as part of the ABA YLD’s Affiliate Outreach Project (AOP), to exchange ideas about how to become better leaders and affiliates. The Conference will be funded solely by the affiliates of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. ABA YLD co-sponsorship is sought, and an ABA YLD subgrant will defray costs associated with holding the conference.

INTRODUCTION

The goal of the regional conference is to provide an avenue wherein YLD affiliate leaders can share their experiences with the AOP program registrants and participants, who gain valuable insight on developing, implementing, and carrying out successful public and member service programs in their respective state or county bar associations. CLE programming is also an option.

In addition to the programming activities, numerous social and recreational events will be available.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The South-Central Regional Young Lawyers Conference will provide affiliates with an avenue to come together to exchange ideas and resources regarding their activities. It is also an opportunity to provide affiliates with invaluable resources and information about the ABAYLD.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The opportunity to connect with young lawyers from across the country is only one of the vast benefits of being a member of the ABA YLD and participating in its meetings and conferences. As a result of such meetings and conferences, the affiliate leaders of ABA
YLD Districts 22 (KS & MO) and 24 (AR & OK) began a series of communications aimed at developing a program of interest to all involved. Efforts were made to reach out to other affiliates, but to no avail. To the affiliates’ knowledge, it has been quite some time since the last South-Central Regional Conference. By way of historical background, the Arkansas Bar Association Young Lawyers Section hosted a regional conference on April 15-16, 2005, in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the Oklahoma Bar Association Young Lawyers Division hosted a conference in downtown Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 20-22, 2007.

The affiliates have met via email and in person to develop a plan of action. The last in-person meeting of the affiliates was at the fall conference in Sante Fe, New Mexico. Affiliates Assistance Team (AAT) members, ABA YLD staff members, ABA YLD officers, and former ABA YLD Chairs, were on hand to offer advice and assistance. From there, the affiliates communicated via email and stayed in touch with the ABA YLD AAT and ABA YLD staff to address any questions and concerns. What you find below is a culmination of those communications and efforts.

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas & Oklahoma Bar Association and Staff  
   A. KS, MO, AR & OK Chairs  
   B. KS, MO, AR & OK Chair-Elects  
   C. KS, MO, AR & OK Council/Board of Directors  
   D. KS, MO, AR & OK Past-Chairs  
2. Volunteers  
   A. KS, MO, AR & OK Bar Association Staff  
   B. KS, MO, AR & OK Young Lawyers Section/Division Officers  
3. Partners/Co-Sponsors  
   A. American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division  
      1. ABA YLD Staff  
      2. ABA YLD Council  
      3. ABA YLD Groups  
         a. Affiliate Assistance Team  
         b. District Representatives  

**CONFERENCE DETAILS**

When: August 26-27, 2011
Where: Downstream Casino Resort in Quapaw, Oklahoma

Program: Tentative (see below)

**Friday, August 26**
- 12:00-1:00 Registration & Check-In
- 1:00-2:00 Plenary Session, Introductions, Summary of Structure of ABA YLD
- 2:00-3:00 15 mins for each state to provide a summary of its YLS or YLD organizational structure, activities, etc.
- 3:00-3:15 Break
- 3:15-5:30 Affiliate Roundtables
- 6:30-8:00 Dinner
- 8:00-11:00 Band by pool, event by pool

**Saturday, August 27**
- 9:00-10:00 Presentation by ABA YLD Leadership/ Affiliate Assistance Team
- 10:00-12:00 Affiliate Roundtables
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch with closing remarks by Affiliate Chairs or designated speaker
- 2:00 Optional: Golf Tournament

**EVALUATION**

The conference’s success and failures will be measured by the participants. After completion of the conference, we will ask for written evaluations and comments about each program and the conference overall. We will also seek comments from speakers at each session.

**TIME TABLE**

June 2010 Affiliate discussions via email regarding potential AOP in August 2011 for OK, AR, KS & MO began

July 2010 Consensus gathered that all named affiliates are interested in participating and a location is chosen; conversations with former ABA YLD Chair Jay Ray and others about potential conference; other affiliates asked to participate

August 2010 Affiliates to gather in San Francisco, CA at the ABA Annual Meeting to discuss conference
September 2010  Affiliate discussions via email regarding potential AOP in August 2011 for OK, AR, KS & MO continue

October 2010  Affiliates to meet in Santa Fe, New Mexico with ABA YLD staff and others

November 2010  KS YLD creates “2011 Core AOP Planners Contact Info”

December 2010  Affiliate’s Point of Contacts are named

January 2011  OBA YLD provides resort costs/information

February 2011  ABA YLS draft subgrant proposal; Affiliates to meet in Atlanta, GA at ABA Midyear Meeting to discuss conference

March 2011  Affiliates to submit subgrant application to ABA YLD; Affiliates to make conference deposit and develop agenda

April 2011  Affiliates finalize speakers, travel and agenda

May 2011  Affiliates to meet in Las Vegas, NV at the ABA YLD Spring Conference to discuss regional conference

June 2011  Program materials gathered and agenda finalized

July  Materials for programming and all social events finalized

August 2011  Regional Conference

BUDGET

(based on 60 total participants & 20 guests)

Income

Registration

($100/registrant or guest)  8000.00

Sponsorships

($1,000 /association)  4000.00

Grant Awards

($500/affiliate)  2000.00
Total Income:  $14,000.00

Expenses

- Lunch/Breaks  3500.00
- Dinner/Cash Bar  5500.00
- Miscellaneous Expense  500.00
- Rooms & Equipment Rental  2000.00
  (2 mtg rooms with podium, sound system & projector screen)
- Poolside DJ, cash bar & food  2000.00
- Hospitality Suite  500.00
  (room, liquor, snacks)

Total Expenses:  $14,000.00