A Message from the Committee Chair for 2016-2017

Welcome to the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Homeland and National Security Committee (HNSC) website. It is an honor to serve as Chair of HNSC for 2017-2018. Now in its sixth year of existence, the Committee seeks to foster participation as the foremost nationwide group of young lawyers dedicated to homeland and national security issues.

Security challenges undoubtly abound. Terrorism is certainly not today’s lone homeland security challenge: cyber attacks, pandemic disease, natural disasters, mass migration, drug trafficking, and corruption, to name a few. And these dangers stand in addition to, and often intersect with, traditional national security concerns. The conflicts in Crimea, Libya, Syria, Iraq, and the South China Sea persist as varied and potentially destabilizing threats to U.S. national security, and the nonproliferation efforts concerning the highly distinct situations of North Korea and Iran remain at the forefront of global concern.

In some way, law is used as a tool to address each of these threats. Criminal prosecutions, immigration enforcement, customs, sanctions, civil damages suits, and the law of armed conflict are just some of the ways in which lawyers engage homeland and national security threats.

As young lawyers, our Committee aims to prepare our members to lead the legal efforts against tomorrow’s homeland and national security threats through three areas of focus:

- **Substantive Participation.** By offering our committee members the opportunity to learn, discuss, speak on, or write about important security issues, our members receive an avenue to engage issues in which young lawyers sometimes are infrequently included.

- **Expansive Engagement.** With the ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security, other ABA YLD Committees, or other interested groups, our cooperation with other entities allows our members to gain insights into a variety of areas of the law. We aim to incorporate differing perspectives to enable a thorough discussion; we welcome defense counsel, privacy advocates, and all other young lawyers interested in security.

- **Professional Growth.** The career trajectories of security practitioners are not homogenous. As a group of people fascinated by similar topics, our Committee aims to promote networking and connect talented members to professional opportunities.

If you are not already a member, please consider joining our Committee. Please email me at tzintak@gmail.com with any proposals, questions, or for more information on how to be involved.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Zintak
2017-2018 Chair
ABA YLD Homeland and National Security Committee