

American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
The Affiliate

Calling All YLD Delegates to Atlanta

By Carlos A. Escurel and Latanisha D. Watters

If you want to take control of your professional and personal development, as well as influence the development of policies that will benefit the legal profession as a whole and the communities we serve, then becoming a Delegate to the ABA YLD Assembly (www.abanet.org/yld/assembly) is a great place to start. The ABA YLD Assembly provides young lawyers with the opportunity to have their voices heard and to participate in important discussions and debates about issues that directly affect young lawyers.

The ABA YLD has over 300 local, state, national, international, and specialty young lawyer affiliated organizations. The Assembly is the principal policymaking body of the Division, and each state bar organization, national affiliate, and military branch has an allotted number of delegates to the Assembly. The number of state delegates is based on the state's number of ABA YLD members. State delegates to the ABA YLD are selected by the respective state based on that state's rules and procedures. To become a delegate to the Assembly, contact your local young lawyer or national affiliate, your state's ABA YLD District Representative, or a member of the ABA YLD Affiliate Assistance Team, all of whom can be found on the ABA YLD website (www.abanet.org/yld). ABA YLD delegates must be ABA members, and registered for the meeting in which they wish to serve as a delegate.

The next meeting of the Assembly will be held during the ABA Midyear Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, on Saturday, February 12, 2011, at the ABA YLD hotel (to be determined). During the ABA YLD Assembly, Delegates debate and vote on important issues, which will help shape the position and policy that the ABA will assume on various topics affecting the national legal community. As an Affiliate leader, you may be called on to submit your Affiliate's ABA YLD Delegates online, before the Assembly. The online submission of delegates helps to streamline this process and can be done by submitting the names of your delegates at www.abanet.org/yld/delegate/delegateinstructions.html.

If you become a delegate for your state, you will need to be certified in Atlanta on February 10–11. Delegate certification will be in the same location as ABA Registration, at the Marriott Atlanta Marquis, which is the ABA headquarters hotel. After obtaining your name badge from ABA Registration, you should visit the ABA YLD Delegate Certification table to obtain your red delegate ribbon. You must wear your ribbon and name badge to be able to vote during the Assembly. Additional delegate certification instructions can be found on the Assembly website at www.abanet.org/yld/assembly.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding the delegate certification process or the ABA YLD Assembly at carlos_escurel@hotmail.com or at ldw@hsy.com.

Carlos A. Escurel is the ABA YLD Assembly Speaker and an associate with the Detroit, Michigan, firm of Tanoury Nauts McKinney & Garbarino, P.L.L.C. Latanisha D. Watters is ABA YLD Assembly Clerk and an attorney with the Birmingham, Alabama, firm of Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC.