

American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
The Affiliate

Kick Off the Bar Year in Style: Attend the 2010 Fall Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico

By Carl N. Frazier

With its rich history, thriving arts scene, and scenic natural beauty, Santa Fe, New Mexico, is the perfect location for this year's Fall Conference. The 2010 Fall Conference is scheduled for October 14–16, 2010. The conference in "The City Different" will not only offer affiliate leaders an opportunity to network and exchange ideas, but will kick off a new, exciting year for the ABA Young Lawyers Division (ABA YLD) under the leadership of Division Chair David B. Wolfe.

Serving Our Seniors

The 2010 Fall Conference will feature the official kick off of the ABA YLD's 2010–2011 public service project, *Serving Our Seniors*. The project is designed to provide low-income senior citizens with the essential elements of a basic estate plan.

Senior citizens make up one of our most vulnerable populations. Many face crucial medical and economic decisions without the wherewithal to retain legal counsel. Too often, this leads to uninformed decisions and, worse, to seniors becoming victims of fraud.

Serving Our Seniors will equip young lawyers with the tools to educate our seniors about the importance of estate planning and protecting themselves from fraud and abuse. The project prepares young lawyers to go into the community to provide legal representation to low-income seniors in drafting basic estate planning documents. Attendees at the Fall Conference will receive more information about *Serving Our Seniors* to enable them to implement the project in their affiliates.

Opportunities for Affiliate Leaders

Besides our exciting new service project, the Fall Conference presents a number of excellent opportunities for affiliate leaders. Attendees will connect and reconnect with their peers from across the country. These relationships help foster the exchange of ideas and projects among affiliates.

The Fall Conference will be personally rewarding, too, as young lawyers will be able to attend a number of excellent continuing legal education programs. Attendees will be able to take advantage of several formal and countless informal networking opportunities.

For those attending their first Fall Conference, be sure to attend the orientation meeting on Thursday evening. This will help you receive the maximum benefit from the conference.

All attendees are encouraged to attend the "Welcome Reception" on Thursday evening, as well, and the gala on Friday night. These events will allow you to mingle with bar leaders from across the country in a more relaxed atmosphere.

Mario Sullivan, the 2010–2011 ABA YLD Conference, Program, and Products Director, encourages all members to attend. Sullivan states that attendees "will have the opportunity to network, learn about the 2010 ABA YLD Public Service Project, attend CLE and professional development programs, have fun, and make lasting connections."

See You in Santa Fe!

For all the benefits the Fall Conference provides, the registration fee is a tremendous bargain. ABA members who register by September 13 pay only a \$75 registration fee (\$85 for nonmembers). Conference programming will take place at the luxurious Eldorado Hotel & Spa, which features classic Santa Fe hospitality near the landmark Santa Fe Plaza. To take advantage of the conference lodging rate, members should make their arrangements by September 13.

For more information and to register, visit www.abanet.org/yld. See you in Santa Fe!

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