

NEW
LAWYERS
DIVISION

CONNECT.GROW.SERVE

2009

www.justice.org



Formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA®)

NEW LAWYERS DIVISION

CONNECT.GROW.SERVE

2009

The American Association for Justice (formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America®) serves its membership through various member groups, such as the New Lawyers Division (NLD). Through the NLD, AAJ offers specialized activities and services to reflect the unique needs of new plaintiff lawyers. As a member of the NLD, you are never alone in your efforts to serve your clients and protect the civil justice system.

The New Lawyers Division invites you to join our network of the next generation of AAJ leadership. Through the New Lawyers Division, you will find a home to help you **connect** with other plaintiff attorneys, **grow** your practice, and **serve** in the Association.

CONNECT GROW SERVE

WHAT'S INSIDE

Message from the Chair	05
Who We Are <i>We're just like you! As you grow in your plaintiff law practice, you'll never be alone.</i>	06
Get Involved <i>Your quick start guide to getting connected. If you read just one section, this is the one!</i>	06
Your Benefits <i>What's in it for you and how to make the most of your membership in the American Association for Justice.</i>	07
NLD Committees <i>Find a topic that interests you or one that you wish to learn more about. There are many roles on a committee for you to develop your leadership skills.</i>	07
NLD Events, including Convention <i>Network! Network! Network! Our special events are an excellent way to get even more out of your Convention experience.</i>	08
NLD Awards <i>Our Annual Awards program recognizes NLD members for their exemplary contributions.</i>	08
NLD Leadership <i>Meet our dedicated volunteer leaders of the NLD Executive Committee.</i>	09
NLD Board of Governors <i>These volunteer leaders represent their states in all things NLD.</i>	10

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Christopher D. Glover

It has been one of the greatest honors and privileges of my professional career to serve as the Chair of this incredible division. I compare holding this office as one of my greatest professional accomplishments second only to the privilege of obtaining a verdict for one of my clients. Even easier to say is that serving as Chair has been one of the most personally rewarding things I've ever done. I'm probably not a good enough writer to adequately describe the friendships I've made during the years I've been a NLD officer. I hope each of you have a group of friends like the ones I've met through AAJ. If you don't, my experience is that the NLD has its "arms wide open."

This hasn't been the easiest of years. The whole country faced tough economic times. Our organization wasn't spared. We faced obstacles that this division hasn't faced in years, if ever. Despite the challenges, we've had an incredibly successful year. We increased our membership numbers, broke records in fundraising, hosted some great events and there are more to come in San Francisco. If my year is remembered for anything, I hope it is for holding the ship together in rough seas. At times I had to do it with duct tape, which is probably appropriate for a Southern boy from Alabama. I guess destiny honored me with this place on purpose; I'm glad it did.

I couldn't have done anything without my fellow officers and our outstanding members. Thank you all. I admit there were times when I felt a load on my shoulders. Your NLD officers were there to lighten my load and pick up my spirits. This division is definitely in good hands.

In difficult times, it is easy to get discouraged. Don't. Instead, roll up your sleeves and fight. AAJ and the NLD are fighting and we need your help. There are too many people out there who have no voice. Use yours.

What we do here is so important to our clients and to our cause. We need more good people to join the NLD. We need more people who have already joined to serve. We need more people who serve to step up and be a leader. We are always trying to encourage people to get involved. Now is the time.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your Chair. Good luck Alexa!

Sincerely,



Christopher D. Glover

NLD 2008—2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- PAC and Membership phonathons are a key component of NLD activities. In the past year we raised over \$64,000 in three PAC phonathons in DC, Las Vegas, and Nevada. With 22 total partici-

pants across the three phonathons, that's almost \$3,000 raised per person! In two Membership phonathons in DC and Dallas, NLD members gathered to call past-due or former members to build AAJ membership. Join us at the next PAC phonathon—meet other NLD members, make a huge contribution to AAJ, and have fun. Remember, expenses up to \$500 are reimbursed when you participate in a phonathon.



- NLD continued its tradition of public service, led by the chair of the Public Service Committee, Cody Favilla. This year's public service projects were both focused on providing and improving living spaces for those in need. This past February in New Orleans, NLD partnered with members of the AAJ Executive committee to sponsor a Habitat for Humanity project. After a tour of the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina, AAJ members took up tools to work on building houses in the "Backatown" area. This year's second project during the Annual Convention was held at the Shelter Network in New Orleans. AAJ volunteers painted a family transitional shelter desperately in need of a facelift. Giving back is an important part of NLD's commission, and we are delighted to identify public service projects in the communities of our convention sites.
- The design and format of our quarterly newsletter *The Sidebar* were updated in 2009. Still providing quarterly guidance, tips and education to NLD members, *The Sidebar* now has a more professional, polished look. Our new online-only format conserves paper and allows us to be even more up-to-date with the information we provide to NLD members. Keep an eye out for the next e-mail announcing the availability of the latest NLD

Newsletter soon after the annual convention in San Francisco. Play a part by sharing your experiences and knowledge with other NLD members by contributing your own articles to *The Sidebar*.

- The NLD regional meet-up was held in San Francisco in early November, coinciding with the annual convention of the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC). Speakers included AAJ Vice President C. Gibson Vance and InjuryBoard's management team. A private first-time screening of *Access Denied? The Fight for Corporate Accountability*, a documentary about Wyeth Pharmaceutical's fight against musician Diana Levine, was also held. Simon Heller, the legal director for Alliance for Justice—the organization that produced the documentary—and Gerson Smoger, the lead counsel on Public Justice's amicus brief in *Wyeth v. Levine*, led a discussion that followed the screening. We look forward to the next regional meet-up—join us there!
- This year's education program at the AAJ Annual Convention had the theme, "Playing in the Big Leagues—Taking Your Practice to the Next Level." Moderated by this year's chair, Christopher Glover, speakers included Jeremy W. Alters, Stephen G. Lowry, Gregory Cusimano, Robert Cartwright, Yvonne Flaherty, Adam Malone, Alexa D'Amato, and past president Richard Hailey. Topics covered trial skills, practice management, as well as marketing—a breadth of topics necessary for a successful practice. Join us at our next convention to see what's in store for NLD members. And remember—new lawyers attending their first convention get 50% off registration. Convention is a great way to build connections with other AAJ and NLD members—and at these rates, every new lawyer should attend.
- In June, nine members were sworn in to the United States Supreme Court Bar. This is a notable accomplishment, hosted by the New Lawyers Division. If you qualify and didn't make this year, look for announcements of the next NLD-hosted Supreme Court swearing-in, and forward your career.
- No list of accomplishments is complete without the NLD parties that are the highlight of the convention for almost all convention attendees. In New Orleans for the Winter Convention, the NLD party was held at Generations Hall, a former 19th century sugar facility in NOLA. And in San Francisco, we were at Club 1015 (Ten15), a historical San Francisco nightlife landmark, considered the birthplace of clubbing. NLD always makes a statement with its party locations, wanting to give NLD and AAJ members a truly different and unique flavor of the convention location.

WHO WE ARE

The New Lawyers Division (NLD) serves the needs of AAJ members with 10 or less years in practice. Through networking, leadership opportunities, continuing education, and special events, NLD members find the camaraderie and support they need to excel in their plaintiff law practice and to serve their community.

By providing valuable feedback on the needs of new lawyers, through its special events to protect the civil justice system,

by recognizing the accomplishments of its members, and through its enthusiasm for supporting each other, the NLD plays a vital role within the Association.

But the easiest way to describe who we are, is to say that we are just like you: Hardworking, passionately devoted to our clients and the right of trial by jury, and looking for the support to grow and excel in your practice.

Learn more about us at www.justice.org/NLD.

GET INVOLVED

Here's a quick start guide to how you can become involved with your colleagues in the New Lawyers Division.

1. Join the American Association for Justice

Special membership rates are available for attorneys with less than five and ten years in practice.

YOU ARE AUTOMATICALLY
REGISTERED FOR AAJ'S
NEW LAWYERS DIVISION
IF YOUR BAR DATE IS
WITHIN TEN YEARS.

2. Register for the NLD List Server

Go to www.justice.org/NLD to gain access to this important networking and support tool.

3. Introduce yourself on the NLD List Server

Your first posting on the NLD List Server should include:

- Your name
- Number of years in practice
- Where you went to law school
- Your firm and office location
- Your practice area
- A short description of one of your current cases

4. Review the list of NLD Committees

Contact the chair for more information about getting involved.

5. Visit the NLD Web page for a list of upcoming events

Numerous NLD events take place throughout the country, including: Continuing legal education, business meetings, social events, and phonathons. The NLD offers numerous activities during AAJ's Annual and Winter Conventions.

6. Learn about your NLD benefits!

Visit the NLD Web page for the latest listing of the discounts and services available to you.

7. Read the latest *The Sidebar* newsletter

Find out the latest goings-on with the NLD. Even better, write an article for the newsletter and get published!

8. Check out the NLD's free Document Library

Hundreds of court documents and depositions, donated by other NLD members, are available for immediate download—FREE of charge! Got docs? Donate them to the library!

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET
STARTED IS AVAILABLE ON THE NEW
LAWYERS DIVISION WEB PAGE,
WWW.JUSTICE.ORG/NLD.

YOUR BENEFITS

In addition to your AAJ membership benefits, the New Lawyers Division offers special services to its members.

1. NLD List Server

Get immediate access to AAJ's New Lawyer community. Refer a case, or pick up a referral. Post questions about your cases. Share information and receive advice. Network with other NLD members.

2. New Lawyers Document Library

Save time and money in your case research! Located in the AAJ Exchanges, the NLD Document Library offers hundreds of court documents and depositions donated by NLD members. These documents are available for immediate download—FREE of charge! Consider donating documents of your own to give back to the community, get your name out there, and help build a powerful database of plaintiff case materials.

3. *The Sidebar* Newsletter

This is an excellent opportunity to get published. Articles include case strategies, trial techniques, judge interviews, and more.

4. NLD-only discounts

Select AAJ partners offer discounts to NLD members. As an NLD member attending your first convention or AAJ Education program, you will receive a special discount.

5. NLD-only events and activities

Regional gatherings provide opportunities for you to meet and mingle at social and community service events.

6. Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court

Become a member of the bar for the highest court in the land. We will assist you in obtaining a sponsor and completing your application to the court.

NLD COMMITTEES

The New Lawyers Division Committees are the lifeblood of the NLD and cover a wide range of topics. Expertise in a given subject area is not required, but commitment and a willingness to serve others is! Serving on a committee is an excellent way to learn about AAJ governance while providing valuable feedback to help grow and improve NLD services. Visit the NLD Web page for committee contact information, www.justice.org/NLD.

Document Library/AAJ Exchange Committee: Charged with the continued collection of documents helpful to the new lawyers for submission to the document library and AAJ Exchange.

Education Committee: Charged with working with AAJ Education and the National College of Advocacy Board of Trustees to develop and implement NLD education programs throughout the year and specifically at the Annual Convention.

Fundraising Committee: Charged with orchestrating political fundraising efforts on behalf of the NLD. Major activities include: AAJ Political Action Committee phonathons, fundraising on behalf of pro-civil justice system political entities, raising funds when called upon by the Executive Committee of AAJ and the NLD.

Law Schools Sub-Committee: Responsible for working closely with AAJ's Law Schools Committee to ensure that law students upon graduation continue in AAJ as voting members and participates in the New Lawyers Division.

Membership Committee: Responsible for increasing and maintaining new lawyer membership in AAJ. Major activities of this committee include: recruitment, retention, membership phonathons, and working closely with other NLD committees to ensure that overall membership goals are met.

PAC Sub-Committee: Charged with orchestrating political fundraising efforts on behalf of the NLD.

Public Service Committee: Focuses on civic-oriented projects and is also responsible for the substantive content for the Public Service section of the NLD Web site. This committee also performs a public service project at both the Winter and Annual Conventions.

Publications Committee: Responsible for all NLD publications. The committee also serves as a liaison to staff of the various AAJ publications, including *TRIAL* and the specialty *Law Reporters*. The committee is also responsible for developing the NLD quarterly newsletter, *The Sidebar*.

Social Committee: Responsible for the funding, planning, and organization of the NLD parties at both the Winter and Annual Conventions.

Special Projects Committee: Responds to requests for help from AAJ leadership.

Sponsorship Committee: Responsible for funding of the NLD parties at both the Winter and Annual Conventions.

State Board of Governors Committee: Responsible for recruiting NLD Governors from each state. Major activities include: recruitment, retention, various fundraising activities, document drive, and membership efforts.

Web Site Committee: Charged with the continued development of the NLD portion of Justice.org.

NLD EVENTS, INCLUDING CONVENTION

The New Lawyers Division offers a year-round calendar of events, located throughout the country. Regular events include:

- Business meetings
- Membership drives
- PAC phonathons
- Social events (recently we went on a sunset cruise!)
- Networking happy hours
- Continuing legal education programs

AAJ's Annual and Winter Conventions provide special opportunities to connect with your NLD colleagues. Events scheduled throughout Convention week mean you will have a ready group of colleagues for networking and enjoying the host city. Convention activities include:

- Public service activity
- Welcome reception
- Numerous networking receptions
- Continue legal education program
- NLD Party, with an honored reputation for being the "best party" at Convention
- Business meetings
- Annual awards reception (Annual Convention)

Register for the NLD List Server to get the latest news about upcoming events.

NLD AWARDS

The New Lawyers Division honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the NLD, the trial bar, and consumers. These awards are presented at AAJ's Annual Convention.

The F. Scott Baldwin Award was established to honor and recognize F. Scott Baldwin of Marshall, Texas, a world-renowned trial lawyer, whose efforts have produced outstanding damage awards for injured victims and their families. The F. Scott Baldwin Award is presented in recognition of the legendary degree of excellence and compassion that Scott Baldwin has brought to the profession and the significant time he has invested in training, preparing and encouraging lawyers to the profession of trial law.

The 2009 F. Scott Baldwin Award is presented to Stephen G. Lowry.

Past Recipients

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1997 | John B. "Jack" Baldwin and Robert Bonsignore |
| 1998 | Robert J. Fiore and Corrine C. Hodak |
| 1999 | Lance L. Stevens |

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2000 | Joe B. Stephens and Mitchell Tyner, Sr. |
| 2001 | Robert E. Cartwright, Jr. and Christine Spagnoli |
| 2002 | Kenneth S. Spiegelman and Jay A. Urban |
| 2003 | Mark Tate |
| 2004 | Jeremy W. Alters |
| 2005 | Fred Schultz |
| 2006 | Jason T. Studinski |
| 2007 | Melissa R. Smith |
| 2008 | R. Deryl Edwards, Jr. |

The Joe Tonahill Award was established to honor the true spirit of Joe Tonahill, a highly dignified and ethical defender of the civil justice system; a peerless stalwart of the modern trial bar; an exemplary trial lawyer; a dedicated leader; a passionate motivator of lawyers new to the profession of trial law; and one who through his own selfless deeds and inspirations has created a legacy for generations to follow.

The 2009 Joe Tonahill Award is presented to Kirk Wagar.

Past recipients

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1994 | Richard H. Middleton, Jr. and Larry S. Stewart |
| 1995 | Mary E. Alexander and Francis "Brother" Hare, Jr. |
| 1996 | Pamela A. Liapakas and Mark S. Mandell |
| 1997 | Russ M. Herman and Herman J. Russomano |
| 1998 | Roxanne B. Conlin and Michael Maher |
| 1999 | Jim Kitchens and Sheldon Miller |
| 2000 | David S. Casey, Vincent Glorioso, Jr., and Donald J. Nolan, III |
| 2001 | Charles A. Mathis, Jr. and Dianne Jay Weaver |
| 2002 | Tom Henretta, John F. Romano, and Todd A. Smith |
| 2003 | Thomas Vesper |
| 2004 | Robert J. Cartwright, Jr. |
| 2005 | Robert J. Bonsignore |
| 2006 | Kathleen Flynn Peterson |
| 2007 | C. Gibson Vance |
| 2008 | Julie Braman Kane |

For nomination information, visit the New Lawyers Division Web page, www.justice.org/NLD.

NLD LEADERSHIP

These dedicated stewards of the New Lawyers Division serve one terms, providing esteemed guidance over NLD responsibilities. Throughout their tenure, their commitment and dedication to the NLD's spirit of serving others was evident through their countless hours of self-less service.

2008–2009 New Lawyers Division Executive Committee

Christopher D. Glover, Chair
Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles, PC
Montgomery, AL



Alexa B. D'Amato, Chair Elect
D'Amato Law Firm
Linwood, NJ

Brian P. Galligan, Treasurer
Galligan Doyle & Reid, PC
Des Moines, IA



Jackalyn A. Olinger, Secretary
French & Mudd
East Alton, IL

Rebecca McRae Langston,
Representative to AAJ Executive Committee,
Representative to AAJ Board of Governors, and
Immediate Past Chair
Langston & Langston PLLC
Jackson, MS



M. Cody Favilla,
Representative to AAJ Board of Governors
SimmonsCooper LLC
East Alton, IL

W. Corban Gunn,
Representative to AAJ Board of Governors
Corban Gunn & Van Cleave, PLLC
Biloxi, MS



Elise R. Sanguinetti,
Representative to AAJ Board
of Governors, and Past Chair
Hinton Alfert & Sumner
Walnut Creek, CA

For contact information, visit the New Lawyers Division Web page, www.justice.org/NLD or the AAJ Member Directory at www.justice.org

NLD BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The New Lawyers Division Board of Governors is made up of the most active members of the NLD. AAJ calls on NLD Governors to participate in various events and activities in an effort to make the Association stronger and protect the civil justice system.

To learn about application requirements, visit the New Lawyers Division Web page, www.justice.org/NLD.

For contact information, visit the New Lawyers Division Web page, www.justice.org/NLD or the AAJ Member Directory at www.justice.org.

Alabama

Nathan A. Dickson II
Jinks, Daniel & Crow P.C.

Christopher D. Glover
Beasley Allen Crow
Methvin Portis &
Miles, P.C.

James R. Moncus III
Hare, Wynn, Newell
& Newton

Wesley L. Phillips
Law Offices of
Wesley L. Phillips

Emily Hawk Raley
Cusimano Keener Roberts
Knowles & Raley

D. Brett Turnbull
Hogan Law Office, PC

Alaska

Megan K. Allison
Disability Law Center
of AK

Arizona

Michelle D. Johnson
Adelman German, PLC

Arkansas

Sach Daniel Oliver
Bailey & Oliver
Law Firm

California

Lori E. Andrus
Andrus Anderson LLP

David L. Cheng
Waters & Kraus LLP

Gerri R. Colton
Technical & Medical
Advisors

Jessica E. Klarer
Casey Gerry Schenk
Francavilla Blatt & Penfield

Micha Star Liberty
Liberty Law Office

Ari E. Moss
Law Offices of Ari E. Moss

Matthew J. Quinlan
The Cartwright
Law Firm, Inc.

Elise R. Sanguinetti
Hinton Alfert & Sumner

Steven P. Shaw
Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai
LLP

Colorado

R. Keith Fuicelli
Fuicelli & Lee, PC

Connecticut

Edward J. McManus
Jacobs, Grudberg,
Belt & Dow, PC

Jeremy Virgil
Casper & deToledo, LLC

District of Columbia

Gabriel Amin Assaad
Assaad Law, PLLC

Lee Harris
George Washington
University School of Law

Christopher T. Nace
Paulson & Nace

Florida

Carrie Feit
Carrie J. Feit PA

Ricardo M. Martinez-Cid
Podhurst Orseck, PA

Phillip J. Mitchell
Mitchell & West, LLC

Georgia

Jonah A. Flynn
Flynn Law Firm

Stephen G. Lowry
Harris Penn & Lowry, LLP

M. Brandon Smith
Childers & Schlueter

Illinois

M. Cody Favilla
SimmonsCooper, LLC

Jackalyn A. Olinger
French & Mudd

Indiana

Jeff S. Gibson
Cohen & Malad

Iowa

Brian P. Galligan
Galligan & Reid, PC

Kansas

Gerald Lee Cross

Kentucky

Daryl T. Dixon

John Cary Hatcher Jr.
Paul A. Casi, II, PSC

Derek D. Humfleet
Humfleet Law, PLC

Jay Vaughn
Busald Funk Zevely, PSC

James Vaught
James Vaught Law Office, PLLC

Louisiana

Joseph E. Cain
Herman Herman Katz
& Cotlar, LLP

Massachusetts

Jon Michael Adler

Lauren Guth Barnes
Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro,
LLP

Michigan

Donna M. MacKenzie
Olsman Mueller &
James, PC

Mississippi

W. Corban Gunn
Corban Gunn & Van Cleave,
PLLC

April C. Ladner
Hortman Harlow et al

Rebecca McRae Langston
Langston & Langston PLLC

Missouri

Chad C. Lucas
The Kuhlman Law Firm

New Jersey

Alexa B. D'Amato
D'Amato Law Firm

Niki A. Trunk
Lopez McHugh, LLP

New York

Orla Margaret Brady
Kreindler & Kreindler LLP

Dan A. Nelson
The Nelson Law Firm

April M. Wilson
Dreyer Boyajian, LLP

Ohio

Joseph M. Lyon
The Lyon Firm,
A Law Corporation

Oklahoma

Darren M. Tawwater
Tawwater & Slama, L.L.P.

Oregon

John Branum
Carr and Carr Attorneys

Ronald F. Webster
Ronald Webster
Attorney at Law, PC

Pennsylvania

John S. Kamarados
Sheerer and Associates

Steven D. Resnick
Barroway, Topaz Kessler
Meltzer & Check, LLP

R. Andrew Santillo
The Winebrake
Law Firm

Rhode Island

Michael R. Bottaro
Wistow & Baryllick Inc.

South Carolina

Kelly Pope Karow
Mooneyham Berry
& Karow LLC

James Ledlie
Motley Rice LLC

Tennessee

Brandon Bass
Day & Blair, PC

James Krenis
Hill & Boren, PC

Edwin E. Wallis III
Glassman Edwards
Wade & Wyatt

Texas

Dean Gresham
Fineberg Gresham

Louis S. Hakim
Miller, Curtis &
Weisbrod, LLP

Utah

Robert M. Henriksen
Henriksen & Henriksen, PC

Virginia

James M. Kessel
Marks & Harrison

Eric D. Yost,
Marks & Harrison, PC

Washington

Steven L. Shaw
LePley Law Firm

West Virginia

Damon L. Ellis
Mani Ellis & Layne, PLLC

Aaron L. Harrah
Hill Peterson, et al

Jonathan Mani
Mani & Ellis Layne, PLLC

Wisconsin

Jonathan Paul Groth
Pitman Kyle & Sicula SC

States and U.S. Territories without Representation

Delaware

Guam

Hawaii

Idaho

Kansas

Louisiana

Maine

Maryland

Michigan

Minnesota

Montana

Nebraska

Nevada

New Hampshire

New Mexico

North Carolina

North Dakota

Puerto Rico

South Dakota

Vermont

Virgin Islands

Wyoming

NLD EVENTS



2008 AAJ Annual Convention in Philadelphia,
NLD Awards Reception



2009 AAJ Winter Convention in New Orleans,
NLD Business Meeting



2008 AAJ Annual Convention in Philadelphia,
NLD Awards Reception



2009 AAJ Winter Convention in New Orleans,
NLD Party at Generations Hall



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION *for*
JUSTICE

Formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA®)

777 6th Street, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20001