



Orange County Bar Association

Young Lawyers Section

Law Student Mentoring Program

YLS Mentoring Program Overview

The Program is designed to foster in law students an early appreciation for the importance of professionalism in the practice of law. It is also designed to assist law students in preparing for the transition from law school into practicing law.

Members of the OCBA Young Lawyers Section (“mentors”) will be paired with second and third year law students (“mentees”) for one academic year (“mentoring year”) beginning in August. During the mentoring year the mentor/mentee pair (“mentoring team”) will participate in at least six activities of their choosing. These activities may be as simple as discussing various topics over email, bringing the mentee to a deposition or trial, or attending a YLS luncheon. All that the YLS Mentoring Program requires is that the mentoring team commits, by filling out and signing a Mentoring Plan, to completing at least six activities over the mentoring year. The Mentoring Plan has over 50 suggested activities for the mentoring team to participate in, and is designed to provide a road map to guide the mentoring team during the course of the year. CLE credit is pending for some of the suggested activities.

The Professionalism Committee of the OCBA will select mentors to participate in the Program from the applications received. Those mentors will then be placed on the Pre-Approved Mentor List. All applications from mentees meeting the Program criteria will be accepted. Mentors and mentees will be paired in one of two ways. Either the YLS-Law School Mentoring Committee will pair mentors and mentees based on mentees’ selection of their top three mentor choices from the Pre-Approved Mentor List, or a mentor and mentee may agree in advance to be paired.

It is anticipated that participation in the Program will require a commitment of approximately 10 – 15 hours of a mentor’s and mentee’s time during the mentoring year. For more information or for an application, please visit the OCBA YLS website (<http://www.orangecountybar.org/younglawyer.asp>) or contact Kristopher Kest at 407-418-6285 or ylsmentoring@gmail.com.