

**Andrea Davis**

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**From:** NLD Leadership [ncaj@ncaj.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2009 3:20 PM  
**To:** Andrea Davis  
**Subject:** Read All About It! November Newsletter!



## **NEW LAWYERS' DIVISION**

### **Newsletter**

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**November 2009**

### **Attention: Division Name Change!**

**Great News!** At Mountain Magic in October, NCAJ Board of Governors approved the name change of the Young Lawyers Division to the **New Lawyers Division**. In addition to the Division name change, the age requirement of 35 years or less was removed from Division membership criteria. Any NCAJ member who is practicing less than ten years is automatically enrolled in the New Lawyers Division.

As you may be aware, with more and more Americans transitioning careers, Division leadership appreciated that many NCAJ members, at a later time in life, have transitioned careers to the legal profession. It was with that concept in mind that Division leadership put forth these changes to Division membership criteria to more accurately portray the composition of Division membership. *Great job NLD Leadership!*

### **Call for Projects!**

Division leadership is working on the Division agenda for 2010 and, with over 700 Division members spread across the state, Division leadership needs your assistance in developing public outreach projects. Recently the NC Bar's YLD hosted a free legal clinic for the public for Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney in Winston-Salem. In the past, the Division has been involved in running an NCAJ member food drive for local area food banks.

Division leadership is seeking volunteers from the Division to assist with organizing public outreach projects in regions across the state. If you have any ideas about public outreach projects in your area or are interested in volunteering to assist leadership in organizing a public outreach project, please contact [Andrea Davis](#), NCAJ Sections & Divisions Director.

### **Law School Circuit Recap**

With more and more new attorneys going into practice for themselves from the start, NCAJ staff is making an outreach to law schools in the state to offer up our attorney members' expertise and assistance to law students.

A super huge **thank you** goes out to Division members, **Ben Whitley**, NLD Chair, **Jesse Rigsby**, NLD Publications Chair, **Toussaint Romain**, NLD Criminal Defense Section Liaison, **Christina Medlin**, **Matthew Myers**, **Katy Parker** and **Hardison Wood** for participating in the following NCAJ presentation panels at law schools around the state:

- **Ben & Christina**, along with NCAJ member **David Henson**, participated in the NCAJ Panel Discussion: *Practical Tips for Setting Up & Running a Solo/Small Law Office Practice* held on Thursday, October 15 during UNC Law School's Small & Medium Firms Week. NCAJ panelists discussed the challenges and pluses of setting up and running a solo/small law practice as well as acquainted law students with the tremendous benefits of NCAJ membership.

11/9/2009

- **Matt & Toussaint**, along with NCAJ members, **Mark Sumwalt** and **George Piemonte** and counterparts from the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys, participated in the NCAJ/NCADA panel discussion: *Taking Sides: Understanding Plaintiff and Defense Practices* held on Wednesday, October 21 at Charlotte Law School. NCAJ & NCADA panelists discussed the type of cases that an attorney takes impacts the nature of his/her work and even lifestyle. The panel helped law students understand that "taking sides" is more than a philosophical decision -- it has practical implications to their work and career.
- **Jess, Katy** and **Hardison**, along with NCAJ member, **Mary Wilson**, participated in the NCAJ Panel Discussion: *Determinations & Decisions: Getting Your Law Career Started* held on Thursday, November 5 at Campbell Law School. NCAJ panelists discussed different career paths, practice areas and how NCAJ membership has aided in their professional development.

## Regional Roundup

NLD leadership continues to bring the Division to its members on regional scale. In addition to the Raleigh NLD Social in April 2009 and the NLD Meeting & Social at Convention in June 2009, NLD members were regionally networking in September and October.

NLD leadership hosted a NLD Networking Social at Natty Greene's Pub in Greensboro on September 24. **NCAJ President David Pishko** and **Past President Janet Ward Black** were special guests. Division members met and mingled with new admittees to the NC Bar and NCAJ members and non-members from the Triad area.

On October 23 at Mountain Magic, NLD had a Division meeting immediately followed by the NCAJ Sunset Social Hour. Division members had the opportunity to meet and greet other NCAJ members from the beautiful area of Western Carolina.

Please contact [Andrea Davis](#) with your suggestion of which location in the state that NLD should next meet and mingle.

## Division Listserv

**Are you aware that NLD has a dedicated listserv for its members?** Membership in NLD listserv is an invaluable membership benefit.

- Are you going to trial for the first time and want some pointers?
- Do you need an expert and want good referrals?
- Is your caseload across many practice areas, you have an encountered something new and need some tips?

*You are not alone -- hop on your iPhone, your BlackBerry or your PC and query your Division listmates!* With Division membership over 700 strong and Division members practicing in different areas of the law statewide, you can receive responses to mostly any topic quickly. The Division listserv is accessible 24/7 and easy to use.

Don't delay any longer! Email [Andrea Davis](#) to set-up your NLD listserv account.

## Look Who's Bloggin' Now

The NCAJ homepage now features a blog! The blog is another venue for NCAJ attorneys to inform the public about issues important to their work defending the rights of all North Carolinians. We welcome and ask for member involvement as blog authors!!

Every Monday, a new blog will be posted for public viewing. The blog is structured to allow for public comments, each of which will be reviewed and approved by NCAJ staff, in consultation with the NCAJ blog's editorial board, before being posted online. During this first phase of this project, blog authors remain anonymous. The blog includes a legal disclaimer indicating that the content should not be considered to be legal advice.

Recent posts have focused on educating the public on UATRA and its effort to strike a balance between the interests of injured people and those that are responsible for the injury, fairly apportioning fault to all who are responsible.

Read or comment on past posts at [www.ncaj.com/page/blog/](http://www.ncaj.com/page/blog/).

This is an open request for members to contact us if they are interested in writing for the blog (300-500 word entry).

Contact Liz Avery-Jones at [liz@ncaj.com](mailto:liz@ncaj.com) for more information and to volunteer!

## Convention Moves to Wilmington

*It's Wonderful in Wilmington!* If you want to find out *WHY*, mark your calendars for **June 19-23** and make plans to attend **Convention 2010** that will take place at the Hilton Riverside in historic downtown Wilmington. The Hilton sits directly on the riverfront of the Cape Fear River and is steps away from scenic views, dozens of fabulous restaurants, lots of fun nightlife options, and eclectic shopping. A \$12 million renovation provides new rooms, new restaurants, and new public areas in a contemporary, art deco setting.

We recommend that you go ahead and reserve your accommodations. We've reserved room blocks at these locations. *Be sure to mention the NC Advocates for Justice for discounted rates!*

- **Hilton Riverside** - \$159/night - 910.763.5900. *Where the action is and most Convention activities take place. Both river view and city view rooms available.*
- **Best Western Coastline** - \$129/night - 910.763.2800. *All river view rooms, less than two blocks from the Hilton, location of Paralegal Conference.*
- **Riverview Suites** - \$159/night - 910.772.9988. *One-bedroom condos, all river view, one-half block from the Hilton.*
- **Shell Island Resort** - \$199/night - 910.256.8696. *In Wrightsville Beach, beautifully renovated facility, a wide revamped beach, oceanfront one-bedroom condos.*

Wrightsville Beach is a 20-minute drive from downtown Wilmington. For those who wish to rent beach cottages, we recommend these realtors:

- **Intracoastal Rental** - 800.346.2463 or 910.256.4503 - [www.intracoastalrealty.com](http://www.intracoastalrealty.com)
- **Bryant Real Estate** - 800.322.3764 or 910.256.3764 - [www.bryantrealestate.com](http://www.bryantrealestate.com)

## 2009-10 New Lawyers Division Officers

Chair: [Ben Whitley](#) (Raleigh)  
 Vice Chair: [Elizabeth Stewart Poisson](#) (Wadesboro)  
 Secretary: [Kristina Brown](#) (Raleigh)  
 CLE Chair: [Stuart Punger](#) (Winston-Salem)  
 Membership Chair: [Joe Tunstall](#) (Raleigh & Tarboro)  
 Publications Chair: [Jesse Rigsby, IV](#) (Raleigh)  
 NLD Regional Captains:  
 Region 1 - Eastern [Meredith Hinton](#) (Greenville)  
 Region 2 - Southern [Elizabeth Stewart Poisson](#) (Wadesboro)  
 Region 3 - Triangle [Gavin Routt](#) (Durham)  
 Region 4 - Triad [Helen Parsonage](#) (Winston-Salem)  
 Region 5 - Charlotte [Rob Heroy](#) (Charlotte)  
 Region 6 - Western [Steve Acan](#) (Asheville)  
 NLD Liaisons:  
 Auto Torts [Meredith Hinton](#) (Greenville)  
 Civil Rights [Rebecca Headen](#) (Raleigh)  
 Criminal Defense [Toussaint Romain](#) (Charlotte)  
 Eminent Domain [Benjamin Mount](#) (Raleigh)  
 Employment Law [Vanessa Lucas](#) (Raleigh)  
 Family Law [Karen Jackson](#) (Winston-Salem)  
 Hispanic Latino Legal Issues [Rhett Johnson](#) (Raleigh)  
 Juvenile Defense [Brandi Clemmons](#) (Durham)  
 Nursing Home Litigation [Megan Christenbury](#) (Greensboro)  
 Professional Negligence [Edward Yount](#) (Durham)  
 Workers Compensation [Michael Kepley](#) (Boone)

If you are a member of the *Consumer Areas of Practice Section, Disability Advocacy Section or Products Liability Section* and would like to be a NLD Section Liaison, please contact [Andrea Davis](#) for more details.

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