

## **Samantha H. Baker - President-Elect**

*OVB Law & Consulting, S.C.*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

As I near the end of my fourth year serving on the YLD board of directors, I am excited and prepared for the opportunity to continue serving my fellow young lawyers. I seek your support and vote in this next election for the position of President-elect.

The YLD is designed to promote and champion the success of our State's new and future lawyers. I have spent more than half of my time as an attorney serving on the YLD board, and I have seen the benefits that the YLD can have on a new attorney's career. I have also seen, and personally experienced, the struggles and hurdles new lawyers face, and I realize how isolating this career can be at times. As President-elect, my mission will be to address the concerns new lawyers have but rarely voice. To increase mentorship participation across the bar so that new lawyers can gain diverse perspective and experience. To create a specific young lawyers section of the Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program and promote the use of said program to help new lawyers have difficult conversations – conversations about managing work load, dealing with micro-aggressions from colleagues and superiors, and making career-impacting decisions.

I will ask our members to speak up, tell us what you expect from the YLD, tell us what will add value to your career and practice. And if I am elected as the next YLD president-elect, I will listen and I will act.



## **Ellen Atterbury - Secretary**

*City of La Crosse, La Crosse, Wisconsin*

Ellen R. Atterbury is the Assistant City Attorney for La Crosse, Wisconsin. She is a “double Badger” who received her undergraduate and law degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Among other volunteer committee involvement, Ms. Atterbury currently serves as a Director on the State Bar of Wisconsin Young Lawyers Division and Past-President of the La Crosse County Bar Association. She is currently finishing her second term as a YLD Director and wishes to serve as Secretary for the upcoming term. As a municipal law nerd, she loves Robert's Rules and promises to make sure her minutes are top notch.



**Alexis Garuz - Director**

*Garuz Legal Group LLC, Waukesha, Wisconsin*

I'm Alexis Garuz. I am running for a second term as a director on the YLD Board. I bring a unique perspective as a young, small law firm owner as well as a Latina. My practice has focused on criminal defense graduating law school in 2017. I've worked as an associate, had a law partner, and now supervise an associate, so I bring a diverse perspective to the Board not only culturally, but also as someone who has worked in a variety of settings. I enjoy representing younger members of the Bar as the legal profession continues to evolve along with technology and social media as we brainstorm new ways to address issues like access to justice in rural areas and criminal justice reform.



**Gilbert Malis - Director**

*Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

My name is Gilbert Malis. I have been a lifelong Milwaukee Resident and graduated from Marquette Law School in 2019. During my time at Marquette Law School, I volunteered for the Eviction Defense Project and found a passion for public interest and Pro Bono work.

After law school, I worked a year in creditor's rights law during the height of the pandemic and moved to civil private practice. It was during this time that I learned my desire to join public interest and work towards helping people in community. I joined Legal Aid Society to further give back to my community. I am excited to have served the YLD for a short term and am eager to serve again.





**Aaron Benz - Director**

*Amundsen Davis*, Appleton, Wisconsin

I am running for the Young Lawyers Division Board of Directors to serve its members, especially its members in the greater Northeast Wisconsin area, where I live and practice.

Following law school, I spent a little over a year as a law clerk at the Milwaukee County Circuit Court in both the civil and probate divisions. After about a year doing insurance defense work, I had the opportunity to move to the northern offices of Davis & Kuelthau- now Amundsen Davis- in a role dedicated to commercial litigation.

In my current role, I have had the opportunity to work with mentors who have encouraged me to become more involved in the State Bar Association leading me to participate in the G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy. This made me aware of the resources available to all attorneys throughout Wisconsin through the State Bar that I was not taking advantage of or necessarily knew about. Without the mentorship and encouragement I received, I do not know that I would have taken advantage of this. Being in a leadership role in the Young Lawyers Division is an opportunity for me to make sure young lawyers take advantage of the resources available to them to learn and grow their practice. Additionally, my time practicing in this region and networking with other attorneys throughout the state has made me realize that it is important to have a voice to represent the unique challenges we face practicing in our area.

Thank you for your consideration.



## **Taylor Browne - Director**

*Dykema*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Taylor Browne is a 2023 Marquette Law School graduate and is hoping to get more involved in the legal community and make a positive impact in general. Taylor is currently an associate at Dykema, a new law firm in the Milwaukee area.

In law school, Taylor served as the President of the Organization for Student Wellbeing and has a passion for finding ways to integrate well being into the busy (and stressful) lifestyle that comes along with the legal profession.

Taylor is a first generation lawyer navigating much of her legal career through the help of past coworkers, law school friends, and professors. Getting connected and working together is an integral part of being a young lawyer, and Taylor enjoys coordinating ways to do that. We all bring our own unique perspectives to the table and the best way to accomplish anything is by learning through those around us. Taylor hopes to have the opportunity to be a part of the Young Lawyers Division Board to continue to learn more about the legal profession as well as provide guidance to incoming members.



**Damon Etawlyah - Director**

*Small Axe Cooperative, Madison, Wisconsin*

I recognize the power of the State Bar as an organization. I truly believe that people behave most ethically when they are supported and connected to a community of practice. I think that the State Bar is ideally positioned to support both new lawyers and experienced veterans through the stress and struggle of active practice.

I have considerable experience serving on boards and advising organizations. I have managed group resources at many scales over roughly 15 years. I have helped make hiring decisions. I have worked with 501(c)3s that have active lobbying profiles such as we maintain. I have worked with membership organizations and I currently help to run my own firm. I have an understanding of Wisconsin's political infrastructure and experience working in contentious political environments. I have helped coordinate educational events and conferences across Wisconsin. I have lived in Madison my whole life, have roots in the fox valley, and have traveled this state extensively. I intend to practice in Wisconsin for the rest of my life.

I am a teacher at heart and I am passionate about sponsoring mentorship relationships that are mutually beneficial. I approach most problems through the lens of instruction and skill building. I tend to overemphasize practical results but I have a broad interpretation of progress. I truly enjoy the challenge of organizational strategy.

I am running for this position because I believe I would be a great fit. Please support me with your vote.



**Alexander Evans - Director**

*Turke & Strauss, LLP*, Janesville, Wisconsin

Practicing with *Turke & Strauss, LLP*, I've recently relocated to Janesville, Wisconsin with my wife and twin toddlers. Despite being a relative newcomer to the state, I recognize the importance of community engagement particularly through the State Bar and the unique reach of the Young Lawyers Division. I think it's important to continue the Bar's mission to make legal services more accessible to the general public through education initiatives and outreach programs, and I think the Young Lawyers Division is a great place to continue to grow and expand those programs while we begin and grow our own careers.



## **James L. Fields-Bowers - Director**

*Gruber Law Offices, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

Attorney James Fields-Bowers was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Growing up, he had a passion for helping his community and individuals in critical times of need. As a result, Attorney Bowers attended Marquette University in Milwaukee where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Criminology and Law Studies. Attorney Bowers had the fortunate opportunity to continue pursuing his passion by attending Marquette Law School on a Thomas More Scholarship. While attending law school, he focused primarily on litigation and volunteering with Marquette's Pro Bono Society.

After receiving his law degree, Attorney Bowers worked for several years as an Attorney at the State of Wisconsin Public Defenders Office before joining Gruber Law Offices as a Personal Injury Attorney. Attorney Bowers truly enjoys working at Gruber Law Offices and believes that passion and making a difference is a vital part to client representation. He aggressively advocates for clients' compensation and is devoted to helping clients achieve the best possible outcome in their cases.

As a Board of Director, Attorney Bowers will encourage meaningful dialogue and collaborate with fellow Board members to help shape the future direction of the Young Lawyers Division.

**Sean P. Griffin - Director**

*West & Dunn*, Waunakee, Wisconsin

Hello, I am Sean Griffin and I am an attorney at West & Dunn in Waunakee. I was born and raised in Waunakee, and returned to Waunakee following law school to serve and give back to the community I grew up in. At West & Dunn my practice focuses on civil litigation, municipal law, and veterans benefits litigation.

As a director I hope to become more involved with the State Bar and to encourage other young lawyers to become more involved in the State Bar through new and increased programming opportunities and opportunities for service. As a small firm attorney I hope to engage more small firm attorneys in the section and State Bar and to help provide development opportunities for small firm attorneys, especially those in areas of the state that experience a shortage of legal services.

I would like to create more opportunities for networking and professional development for rural and small practice attorneys and help build and encourage professional relationships between small firm, and rural practice attorneys to help better serve our clients and our communities.

I am thankful for your consideration and hope to have your vote.

Respectfully,

Sean



## **Bailey Groh Rasmussen - Director**

*Godfrey & Kahn, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

My name is Bailey Groh Rasmussen and I graduated magna cum laude from Marquette University Law School in May of 2023. While in law school I was involved in both Marquette Law Review and Marquette Moot Court. I also participated in Marquette's internship program and had the opportunity to intern for Justice Ann Walsh Bradley at the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the United States District Attorney's Office, and the Milwaukee District Attorney's Office. In September, I started working as a Litigation Associate at Godfrey & Kahn in Milwaukee.

I am a first generation lawyer. I am excited for the opportunity to run for the Young Lawyers Division Board. I know that it is important for attorneys, especially young attorneys, to develop and maintain connections with other attorneys in our state. I want to be involved in helping coordinate events and opportunities for other first generation lawyers and young attorneys to connect with one another and start building those relationships that are so critical to our careers.

If I am elected to this position, I plan to advocate for coordinating events that focus on helping new lawyers adjust to working life as an attorney. There is so much we can learn about how to balance our lives with our work. Having opportunities to discuss this and learning ways to find that balance can only help us grow in our careers. I appreciate the opportunity to apply for this position and I am happy to answer any further questions regarding my interest.



## **Cecilia Ann Heberling - Director**

*Axley Brynerson, LLP, Madison, Wisconsin*

Today's young lawyers are entering the legal field excited and hopeful for a fulfilling career, yet unsure of how they will navigate their path towards a fulfilling legal career. Talking to partners or supervisors can be daunting, and the early years of the legal profession can be described as "sink or swim." I have been told by mentors that the first ten years of legal practice are the most difficult because it takes that long to learn the job. How do we ensure the well-being of our young attorneys in the meantime? How do we help our young lawyers "swim"? Is our profession not aware that life vests exist? The Young Lawyers Division of the Wisconsin State Bar Association plays a critical role in answering these questions. I am a senior associate at Axley Brynerson, LLP, focusing my practice on litigation and labor and employment. I have experience juggling the process of learning how to be a lawyer and navigating the legal profession, all while raising a young family. I believe that our profession needs to be more responsive to the well-being and development of young attorneys. For these reasons, I am committed to utilizing a position on the board of the Young Lawyers Division to find solutions to assist in the advancement and well-being of our Wisconsin State Bar Association's young lawyers.





**Sydney Hecimovich - Director**

*Foley & Lardner LLP, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

Hello! My name is Sydney, I am currently a third-year lawyer practicing in Foley & Lardner's Intellectual Property Litigation group in Milwaukee. My law career began at an IP boutique fresh out of law school in Salt Lake City, Utah. While my undergraduate degree is from UW – Madison, I decided to leave Wisconsin for law school. I knew I always wanted to come back but needed to experience a change in scenery. I am ecstatic to be back in this cheese loving state and believe my time in Utah will allow me to bring a refreshed perspective to the Young Lawyer Division Board.

Two areas I feel passionately about are advocating for the mental health of young attorneys and bridging the gap between seasoned attorneys and newly minted attorneys. One activity I would like to borrow from those in Utah is sponsoring golf clinics for young lawyers. I, myself, do not golf but understand it is a great opportunity to get fresh air and network (benefiting both our mental health and relationships with other attorneys). The barrier to entry for golf is relatively high and many do not know where to start. I hope by putting together these clinics young lawyers can come together to learn a new skill. In addition to advocating for the issues I feel passionately about, I will proactively seek out feedback and concerns from other young lawyers so that I may better serve our community here in Wisconsin.

## **Jacqueline Jugenheimer - Director**

*Jugenheimer Legal Services, LLC, Madison, Wisconsin*

I have come full circle. I wanted to become an attorney in Germany in my 20s, ended up in the US and become a Policy and Budget Analyst for the State of Wisconsin instead. When our children were born, I became a homeschooling mom and started a business as legal translator and court interpreter. When my kids were in college, I went back to UW-Law School, got an LLM-LI and passed the bar exam in February 2023. Being an older "young lawyer" would bring a new perspective to the board. Now I work as contractor for a small firm specializing in trust and estate work.



**Samuel Killian - Director**

*Pitman, Kalkhoff, Sicula & Dentice, S.C., Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

My name is Sam Killian and I was recently admitted to the Wisconsin State Bar in May of 2023. I am a graduate of Marquette University Law School and I currently practice as a general liability personal injury attorney at Pitman, Kalkhoff, Sicula & Dentice, S.C. in Milwaukee. I am applying for a seat on the Board of Directors of the Young Lawyers Division because I am enthusiastic about the work I do, and I want to get more involved in this division of like-minded young attorneys. As I'm sure any young lawyer who has just begun practicing understands, the legal field can be difficult to navigate at times. Since I am the first member of my family to work as an attorney, I also understand how it can be difficult to get a footing in a field without many preexisting relationships or experiences to build off of. Therefore, the programs and opportunities available through groups like the Young Lawyers Division of the Wisconsin State Bar are of vital importance and I want to help make more opportunities available as I continue to grow as an attorney myself. I think it important to increase awareness of the resources available to young attorneys through the State Bar so all attorneys feel poised to succeed regardless of experience level or age. I look forward to the possibility of being able to connect, lead, and serve with a variety of other attorneys from around the state.



**Jack G. Lemkuil - Director**

*One Law Group, S.C., Green Bay, Wisconsin*

Greetings, fellow Wisconsin attorneys,

I am honored to present myself as a candidate for the Young Lawyer's Division Board of Directors, and I bring a unique blend of education and commitment to our legal community. A proud UW Madison alum with degrees in Legal Studies and Personal Finance, complemented by a Criminal Justice certificate, I pursued my legal education at the University of Minnesota, earning my JD in 2023 and subsequently passing the Wisconsin Bar this past September.

At One Law Group, S.C. in Green Bay, I have immersed myself in diverse legal challenges, cultivating a deep understanding of our profession's demands. If elected, my primary focus will be on advocating for the mental health and well-being of fellow attorneys. Striking a healthy work/life balance is crucial, and I am dedicated to implementing programs that foster a supportive environment.

Additionally, I am passionate about breaking down barriers to legal assistance for underrepresented individuals facing language challenges. I aim to develop initiatives that bridge these gaps, ensuring equitable access to justice. Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive legal community that not only thrives professionally but also prioritizes the holistic well-being of its members.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the Young Lawyer's Division and make a positive impact on the Wisconsin legal landscape.

Sincerely,

Jack Lemkuil



**Kristen Lojewski - Director**

*Pitman, Kalkoff, Sicula & Dentice, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

I am currently the Secretary for the Association for Women Lawyers, so I know what it takes to be on a Board and particularly on a Board that is doing amazing things for our profession. If elected as a Director to the Board for YLD, I will be committed to continuing the ideals of YLD to encourage young lawyers' continued involvement in this profession. Your reputation is everything, and networking plays an integral role in all aspects of a person's career. I will be committed to maintaining the integrity of YLD and to helping shape the future of our profession while encouraging others (and myself) to network and get involved more. I am close to phasing out of being considered a "young" lawyer and would like to make all the impact while I still can. I hope to get your vote. Thank you!



**Marco Martino - Director**

*EMD Serono, Inc.*, Madison, Wisconsin

Greetings, my name is Marco Martino. I am a newly-licensed Wisconsin attorney, and I am seeking your support and trust to serve on the SBW Young Lawyers Division's Board of Directors. In my "prior life," I worked in the pharmacy field as a technician in a retail pharmacy, and as a pharmacist in a large academic cancer center. Currently, I work for a pharmaceutical company as a Medical Science Liaison where, besides my normal duties, I ensure that the company and I are operating in a legally compliant manner per the PhRMA Code and the Sunshine Act, amongst other applicable laws and rules.

I am interested in serving on the SBW Young Lawyers Division's Board of Directors for several reasons. For one, as a young lawyer, I would like to continue and possibly develop additional ways for young lawyers to network and grow professionally. Similarly, I would like to perpetuate the efforts that the Young Lawyers Division have made to develop and promote CLEs that are pertinent and interesting to young lawyers.

My career as a young lawyer is only beginning, and the SBW Young Lawyers Division has been an integral resource for me to become more involved in the SBW and to network with other young Wisconsin lawyers who are in a similar place in their young careers. With that said, I would like to give back to the SBW Young Lawyers Division by serving on the Board of Directors. Thank you for your support.



**Aleina L. McGettrick - Director**

*Moertl, Wilkins & Campbell, S.C.*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

I am currently an associate attorney at Moertl, Wilkins & Campbell where my practice focuses on estate planning, probate and guardianship matters. Since graduating (Marquette Law '21), I have been dedicated to immersing myself in my community professionally by participating in local organizations and volunteering with legal clinics. I am eager for the prospect of serving the YLD Board.

I am currently a CAAN Member at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, contributing to a network of community leaders and professional advisors. Through CAAN, I engage in discussions and activities that explore the impact of philanthropy on our community. Additionally, I recently joined the Eastside Senior Services Board, in which I have the opportunity to join and support an organization that is committed to assisting and supporting older adults by staying connected to and engaging with the community. My community leadership and involvement extends to my volunteer work with the Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinics and the Expungement Clinic with Legal Action of Wisconsin; these opportunities allow me to provide legal support to community members who may lack access to such resources through other channels.

Through my various leadership and volunteer work, my leadership attributes are characterized by my creativity, commitment and collaborative personality. It is my hope to utilize and further develop these attributes in a position on the YLD Board.



**Annalisa Pusick - Director**

*Cade Law Group LLC, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

Involvement with the State Bar has been fundamental in shaping my early years as a litigator. Each interaction has been an avenue to learn more about those who deepen our sense of belonging and encourage fresh ideas for our profession. I'm grateful to those who have supported me along the way. Now, it is my turn to return the favor. I primarily practice civil rights litigation and work to champion the constitutional rights of those wrongfully harmed. My work experience provides a unique perspective on the legal field, and I can harness those skills to take on more significant leadership roles. The Young Lawyers Division will empower me to commit those skills to develop programs and events curated for attorneys at the start of their careers - admittedly, a time filled with uncertainty and significant growth. Seeking a Director position with the YLD will allow me to sharpen my aptitudes while advocating for a professionally well-rounded organization.

I look forward to the opportunity to share my skills and experience as a member of the YLD Board. Thank you.



**Elizabeth Reinowski - Director**

*Crivello, Nichols & Hall, S.C.*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

I am 25 years old and a native of Merton, WI. I currently practice at a civil litigation firm in Milwaukee and enjoy playing tennis/pickleball and running my own online bakery. When I graduated from Marquette Law School, I was 23 years old, nervous, and lacked any real confidence in my abilities.

As a young lawyer, there seems to be a constant learning curve in terms of legal knowledge and being part of the general legal community. It is my goal to help other young lawyers grow their confidence, learn to stand tall, and celebrate every small victory as they come.

I have always enjoyed the opportunity to give back to the community and to those that supported me in my journey. In between the hustle and bustle of settling into legal practice, it is still important that we involve ourselves in public service, whether it is through pro bono work or other community outreach activities. Beyond creating an opportunity to connect with other lawyers, giving back allows the community to see us as helpful individuals that seek to make a difference. When we give back, we inspire others to do the same.

It is also my goal to create programs, including CLEs and networking events, which help us learn about, discuss, and combat the ever-growing presence of mental health issues among young lawyers. I want other young lawyers to know that we are not alone but that there is a community within the State Bar there to support us.



**Morgan A. Richie - Director**

*Doar, Drill & Skow, New Richmond, Wisconsin*

I am a practicing attorney based in New Richmond, WI, working for a general area law firm serving the western region of Wisconsin. I graduated from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in Minnesota and have worked in various legal settings, such as non-profits, solo practitioner firms, and the court system. My diverse experiences have helped me identify our legal community's barriers.

Due to Covid-19, half of my time in law school was remote. Like many others, remote learning did not allow for meaningful networking opportunities. Although networking and mentoring opportunities have resumed, additional opportunities for young lawyers are crucial for our success.

As a rural practicing lawyer, I understand that meaningful mentorship can be challenging in small legal communities. If elected, I pledge to prioritize young lawyers in and outside metropolitan areas by providing them with various opportunities for connection and support.

Furthermore, I will advocate for programming to address young lawyers' unique challenges. As young lawyers, we encounter distinct challenges, such as handling our first loss or balancing our obligations. I aim to ensure that young lawyers know about the available state bar resources and encourage division members to use them.

As a division, we have a strong voice to enact change and address the challenges for ourselves and future lawyers.

I firmly believe in the Board's purpose to engage young lawyers in the State Bar's programming and objectives, provide relevant activities, and involve young lawyers. I would be honored to continue enacting this meaningful goal.

