

# CALIFORNIA YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

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Dear Colleague:

Congratulations on successfully passing the California State Bar exam. As President of the California Young Lawyers Association (CYLA), let me be among the first to welcome you as a member of the State Bar of California. You are automatically a CYLA member. In fact, all State Bar of California members who have been practicing five years or less, or are 35 years of age or younger, are automatically CYLA members.

CYLA is a completely free association with no membership fees or dues collected from you. CYLA provides numerous programs, guidance and mentoring to you and other new lawyers. The CYLA Board of Directors consists of 16 individuals, elected from California's nine geographical districts. CYLA also maintains a seat on the State Bar's Board of Governors and votes on important issues impacting new and young lawyers.

On October 23, 2004, CYLA will hold a career symposium in Los Angeles for new and young lawyers. The symposium will address interviewing skills and the opportunity for a personal review of your resume by legal career experts. The symposium will also provide guidance to young lawyers interested in a lateral move to another employment opportunity, seeking to become a partner with a law firm, marketing and developing a law practice, or exploring alternative career paths. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) credits are available at the symposium. I encourage you to read more about the career symposium and our organization by visiting our Web site at <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/cyla>.

CYLA is committed to providing you the best possible service and will partner with you to respond to your needs. Any of your area directors can be contacted and welcome your feedback, involvement and suggestions. A roster of CYLA district representatives is included in the pamphlet and on the Web page.

Your commitment to law school, mastering the State Bar examination and decision to practice one of the noblest professions is to be applauded. Commit yourself to excellence, high ethical and moral standards and get involved with your local community. CYLA will help you accomplish all those goals and together we will make practicing law a better profession for all young lawyers.

Very truly yours,

Craig M. Nicholas  
President, California Young Lawyers Association