



West Virginia State Bar

Young Lawyer Section

BRIDGE THE GAP PROGRAM

Bridgeport Conference Center
Bridgeport, West Virginia

October 30, 2025

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Check-In
8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome to West Virginia State Bar: Services Offered by the Bar – Mary Jane Pickens, Executive Director, West Virginia State Bar
9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	Legal Ethics: How to avoid the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and what to do if you have a complaint – Rachael Cipoletti, Esq.
9:50 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	The First Ten Years: Cultivating a Healthy Legal Culture– Stephanne Thornton , Clinical Director for the West Virginia Judicial & Lawyer Assistance Program
10:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	BREAK
10:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	The Basics of the Abuse and Neglect Practice – Kristin Antolini
11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Federal v. State Court Practice – Honorable Michael Aloï & Honorable Omar Aboulhosn , Federal Magistrate Judges
12:20 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.	Lunch
1:20 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.	Bridging the Gap as a Young Lawyer – Panel, YLS Board Members
2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Civility Matters – Rob Aliff, Esq. , President-Elect, West Virginia State Bar
3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Pro Bono in WV: Opportunities, Benefits, and Resources to Help – Molly Russell, Esq. , Legal Aid of West Virginia