



West Virginia State Bar

Young Lawyer Section

BRIDGE THE GAP PROGRAM

Bridgeport Conference Center,
Bridgeport, West Virginia

October 29, 2026

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 Kevin Baker, Executive Director, West Virginia State Bar
9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	The First Ten Years: Cultivating a Healthy Legal Culture– Stephanne Thornton , Clinical Director for the West Virginia Judicial & Lawyer Assistance Program
9:50 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Civility Matters – Rob Aliff, Esq. , President, West Virginia State Bar
10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.	Federal v. State Court Practice – Honorable Michael Aloï , Federal Magistrate Judge and the Honorable Omar J. Aboulhosn , Federal Magistrate Judge
11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	The Basics of the Abuse and Neglect Practice – Kristin Antolini, Esq. & Jennifer Stephens, Esq
1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Bridging the Gap as a Young Lawyer – Panel, YLS Board Members
2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Legal Ethics: How to avoid the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and what to do if you have a complaint – Andrea J. Hinerman, Esq.
2:50 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.	Pro Bono in WV: Opportunities, Benefits, and Resources to Help – Melissa D. Lilly, Esq. , Legal Aid of West Virginia