

2025 74th Annual



Ohio Youth in Government

April 10-12, 2025



JUDICIAL

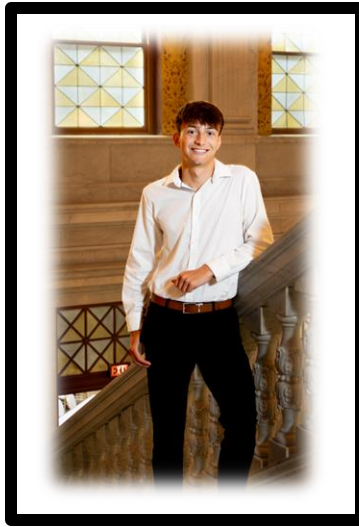
**Youth Governor
Lucas Jolly
Jackson YLA**

**Youth Chief Justice
Kollier Fulton
Jackson YLA**



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Hello everyone and welcome to the 2025 Ohio Youth in Government!

On behalf of everyone here with the Youth Leadership Association, we are jolly to have such an amazing attendance this year. Over the past few months, my fellow officers and I have been hard at work while at Camp Horseshoe, Fall Conference and other YLA events to ensure you have the best experience possible this weekend. We want to encourage you to take service for your community beyond not only the walls of the Statehouse, but our towns, our counties and even our great state of Ohio.

It is with a great urge that I encourage all of you, Juniors, Sophomores, even Freshmen to consider applying for an officer position. Although I know summer camp isn't for everyone, it is something that will have an impact on your life. For those of you not interested in an officer position, I still urge you to consider applying for press editor or committee chair.

As we start our weekend together, I want to make it clear that every one of you has a purpose here. Whether that be as a bill author, a member of the press, a lobbyist, page, appellee or an appellant...etc. we all have a purpose to fulfill. We are the new generation of lawyers, politicians, business leaders, and pioneers - ready to follow our passions wherever they lead.

Sincerely,

Lucas Jolly

Lucas Jolly

2025 Ohio Youth Governor



Hello everyone and welcome to Youth in Government 2025! I am so excited for this year's experience, the memories we will make, and the knowledge we will gain. YLA has been working very hard behind the scenes for this weekend to be a great success, and I hope you will all learn to love YLA and YIG just as much as I have in the past few years. The friendships and memories made through events like Camp Horseshoe, Fall Conference, and more will make a lasting impact on you and your future.

It's okay to be nervous but remember to be confident in yourself and your skills as you present your bills and argue your cases. In the end you will be proud of yourself for stepping outside of your comfort zone and either trying something new, practicing familiar skills, or rekindling old interests.

I have strengthened my confidence, learned more about myself, including my strengths and weaknesses, my passion for government, and have learned the foundations of our state government from my experiences through YIG; I hope just the same for you all. As our weekend begins, I urge you all to ask questions, spark conversations, meet new people, and enjoy every second. Respect everyone you encounter and always be yourself. Have fun these next few days and know you always have a friend right here!

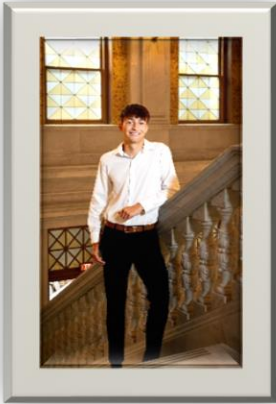
Kind regards,

Kollier Fulton

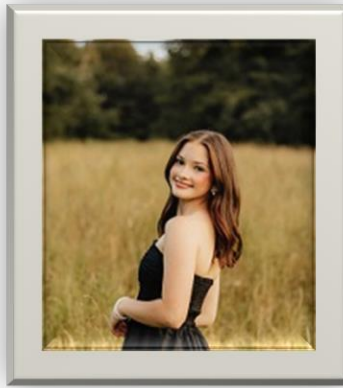
Kollier Fulton

2025 Ohio Youth Chief Justice

2025 Youth in Government Officers



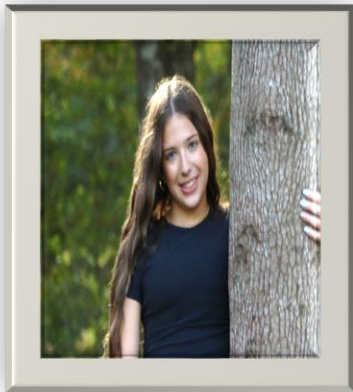
Lucas Jolly
Youth Governor
Jackson



Chloe Maybin
Lt. Governor
South Webster



Kollier Fulton
Youth Chief Justice
Jackson



Haley Ross
Speaker of the House
Jackson



Sabella McCarty
House Chaplain
Jackson



Daymion Daulton
House Co-Clerk
Jackson



Liam Milliken
President of the Senate
Jackson



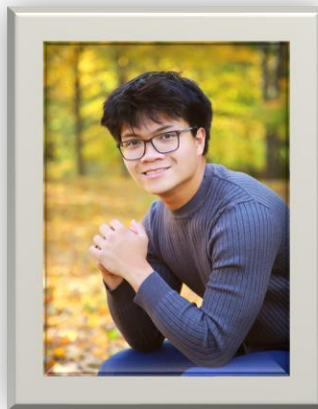
Maddie Mercer
Senate Clerk
Jackson



Beau Stephen
Senate Chaplain
South Webster



Zoie Ervin
Associate Justice
Jackson



Ian Bautista
Director of Legislative Affairs
Jackson



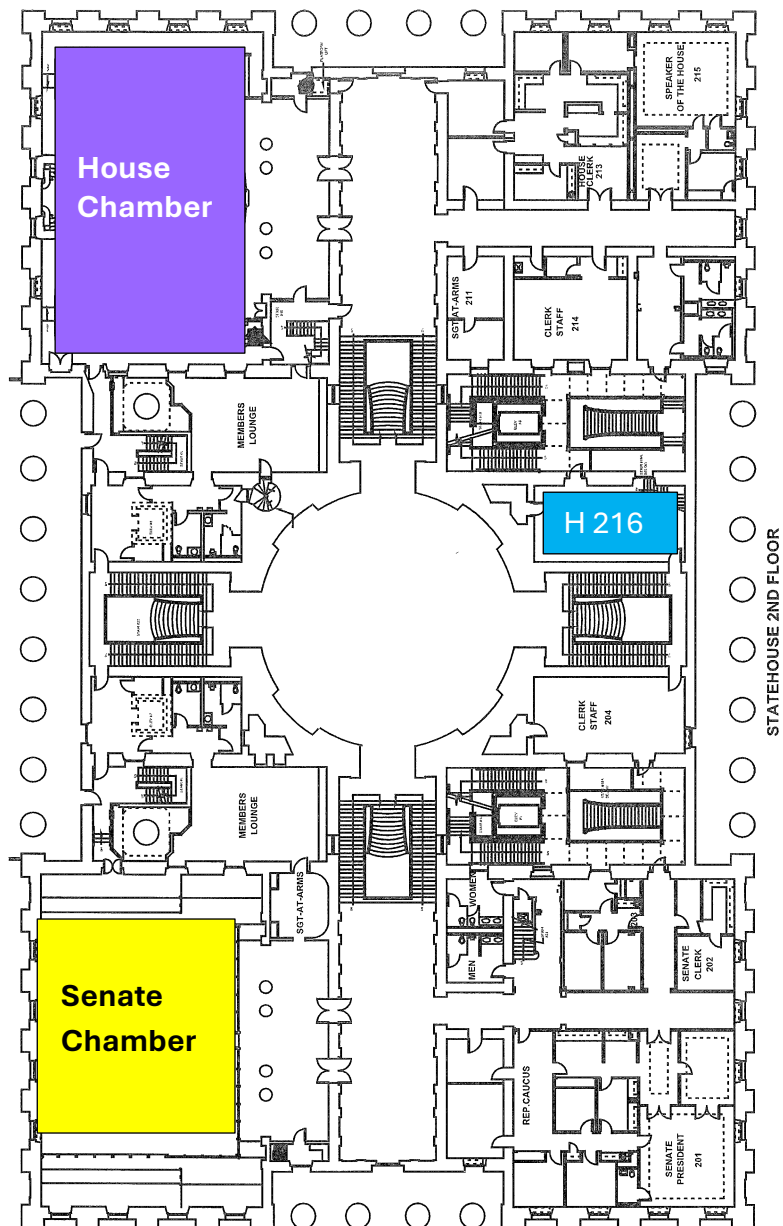
Sidney Keslar
Chief of Staff
South Webster

Photo not available at time of printing.

Kydin Whitmore
House Co-Clerk
Western

Statehouse Chambers, Bill Coordinator, Meeting Rooms

Bill Coordinator	House 216
YLA Office	Senate Members Lounge - near the Senate Chamber
House Chamber	2 nd Floor
Senate Chamber	2 nd Floor



The following rooms are on the 1st Floor of the House side of the Statehouse

House Committee 1	House 116	Benjamin Harrison Hearing Room
House Committee 2	House 121	William McKinley Hearing Room
House Committee 3	House 114	Rutherford B. Hayes Hearing Room
House Committee 4	House 122	William Howard Taft Hearing Room
Lobbyist	House 115	James A. Garfield Hearing Room
Page	House 115	James A. Garfield Hearing Room
Press	House 113	William H. Harrison Hearing Room

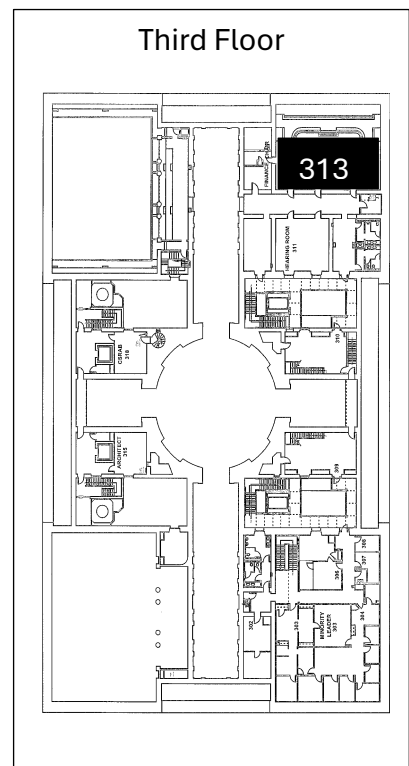
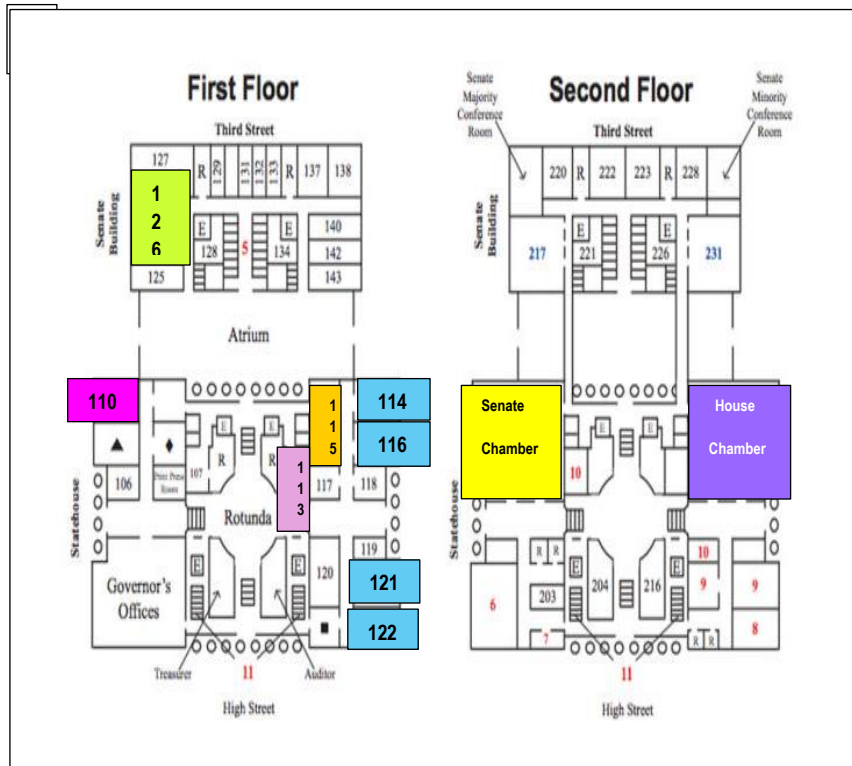
First Floor Senate side of the Statehouse

Senate Committee 1	Senate 110	Ulysses S. Grant Hearing Room
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First Floor Senate Building

Senate Committee 2	Senate 126	Finan Hearing Room
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Judicial	House 313	House Finance Hearing Room
Judicial Deliberation	Back of House 313	





Welcome to the 74th Ohio Youth in Government!

Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association

We're Ohio's original Youth in Government! C. William O'Neill was Ohio's Attorney General when he and Oliver Ocasek met around the coffee table in Bill Eells' home in Delaware to begin planning our first YG. They quickly involved other state leaders, teens, and our staff. Their work convened our first OYG in 1952 at the Statehouse. The founding principles they built into OYG remain our foundation today – integrity, volunteer service, responsibility, and citizenship.

Ohio YLA Youth in Government is distinctly different. We're about citizenship, not politics, political careers, talk, or debate. OYG seeks solutions for the common good as we lift others up to become their very best, work to change conditions so all succeed, and to make our make our schools, communities and state better than we found them.

In these three days in the Statehouse, experience the process of state government, make decisions to move Ohio forward, create connections with peers and adults from across our state, and have a great time with a purpose. Make friends, learn all you can, put your best ideas forward, and make differences for good now and throughout your life.

YLA began as a State YMCA in 1867. Today we're an association open to all. New doors of opportunity are opening for more youth to benefit in all YLA programs. YLA youth will make even greater contributions to improving our communities, states, and nation.

***Now – enjoy, learn, help others, and make lasting differences
for good!***

Check in Hotel, Statehouse Meeting Rooms

Check In 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. The Plaza Hotel Columbus at Capitol Square

Delegation Leaders only register delegations at the YLA Youth in Government table in The Plaza Hotel lobby, **not the hotel front desk.**

YLA Youth in Government staff provide hotel keys to the Delegation Leader. Hotel rooms may not be available until the hotel's normal 3:00 p.m. check-in time. ***Please have your delegation members dressed for the program when you arrive at the hotel. There will be rooms to store luggage until hotel rooms are available.***

Dress

Youth in Government is a model of government in action. Included is the way we act, speak, conduct ourselves, and the way we dress. Youth in Government sessions require professional business attire.

Men wear coats and ties during the program sessions. No sport shirts or blue jeans. Women wear professional business attire. No spaghetti straps or exposed midriff allowed. Women may wear nice pants outfits.

Casual dress including blue jeans is appropriate at recreation and the hotel.

Meals

Two breakfasts are provided. All other meals are "on your own."

Housing

Everyone is required to stay at the Youth in Government hotel. Two nights' lodging are included in your program fee. Additional information is available in the Participation Agreement. Please note that if a group does not have enough students to fill up a room, expect your student(s) to be housed with students from another delegation or you may "buy out" rooms for your students. Contact the YLA office for costs to buy out one or more rooms.

Parking

Parking is at your expense. Parking is available at your cost at the hotel or in nearby parking lots.

Cancellations and Refund Policy

The best laid plans can go awry. However, since all our program fees are set below our actual costs, we have no flexibility to provide refunds. Therefore, **our policy is NOT to provide refunds for the Participation Agreement or the Final Fee.** Actually, the person cancelling should reimburse the program for the costs the program has incurred on their behalf by paying the scholarship received back to the program. The program does permit delegations to send a replacement.

1. Delegations who want to provide refunds need to set aside money to provide refunds to their students.
2. Delegations don't refer parents to the YLA Office with billing/refund questions. Handle these locally.
3. After a delegation is registered, it is responsible for the entire payment for that number of student/adult delegates.
4. Remember, no refunds from the Youth Leadership Association so do not ask nor have others call to ask.

Code of Conduct: YLA Family of Programs

Participants – youth and adults - in YLA programs demonstrate responsibility and the highest levels of personal and group character. Due to that, few rules are required.

In general, our rules are summarized in these three (3) points:

1. Treat others as one wants to be treated.
2. Do not fail to do something that would help others, make the place we are using cleaner, safer, and a better experience for all.
3. Do not do anything that hurts or could potentially harm another person, place, or thing.

Some specifics may be helpful –

1. Attend all sessions of the program;
2. Wear name badges as called for by the program;
3. Names of anyone absent from a session are referred to the program director and the appropriate advisor;
4. Adult sponsors and chaperones are responsible for the supervision of their Delegation;
5. ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD, DRINK, or GUM are permitted in the House, Senate, Committee rooms, Supreme Court, or other government facilities used at YG;
6. Not permitted at YLA programs are tobacco, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or weapons;
7. There is no coed visiting in housing rooms;
8. All delegates are in their own room, observe quiet hours at the time indicated by the curfew and will not leave their room until the end of curfew;
9. Room changes are not made unless made by YLA staff;
10. Participants do not invite or receive visitors unless approved by the Advisor and YLA staff. Visitors, alumni, etc. are not permitted in the lodging facility guest sleeping rooms at any time. Guests are restricted to lobbies and visitor areas.

Use & Care of the Statehouse/Capitol

Use of the Statehouse/Capitol requires the highest level of care and respect for the facility, its furnishings, equipment and its traditions. Each student participant and adult is to exercise the **highest level of individual responsibility for the Statehouse/Capitol and to hold everyone else to that same level of responsibility.**

No chewing gum in the Statehouse/Capitol.

No food, snacks, candy or drinks (including water bottles) in any Statehouse/Capitol room.

The **desks**, chairs and other furniture in the Senate and House are easily scratched or marred. Use deliberate caution in placing items on the desk or lifting things off. Do not slide anything as they easily can scratch the finish. Do not “toss” books, purses, brief cases or anything on a desk as that can easily damage the finish of the desk. Staples are a problem too. Do not put a stapler on a desktop. *Do not write on any single sheet of paper on a desk as the pencil/pen can leave an impression on the desk finish.*

Do not sit or lean on any desktop or desk.

Check the desk, chair, tables, and rooms one is using. Report any damage observed to the Advisor in that room and/or YG Staff. Advisors pass on damage reports in writing to YG Staff.

Extend to all members of the Senate and House of Representatives/Delegates as well as to all Statehouse/Capitol staff every courtesy including *Thank you*.

Clean up! Straighten up any room one uses. Any papers one no longer wants, put in trash can. Leave every room clean.

Thank you for all your efforts to follow these guidelines.

Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association



Introduction and Purpose

Both Ohio and West Virginia's Youth in Government programs grew out of and continue to extend the impact of our youth programs in our two states. Ohio's program began in 1952 and West Virginia's in 1958.

YLA Youth in Government reflects the idea that *"democracy must be learned by each generation"* and is based on Thomas Jefferson's belief that, *"the purpose of education is to create good citizens of the community"*.



C. William O'Neill, 1952 founder of Ohio HI-YLA Youth in Government.

Our founders, the late C. William O'Neill, the only person in Ohio history to serve as Attorney General, Speaker of the House, Governor and Chief Justice, and the late Governor Cecil Underwood, West Virginia's youngest and then oldest Governor, worked with our students, volunteers and staff to create Youth in Government in each state. Both leaders recognized our unique role in engaging teenagers in improving their homes, schools, and communities. They responded to teenagers who wanted to extend this influence and leadership statewide.

"This is truly a seedbed of leadership," said O'Neill. *"We produce much needed local and state leadership,"* Governor Underwood stated when helping launch West Virginia's Youth in Government. He went on to say, *"The future of our nation depends upon the caliber of young people who will soon assume positions of leadership in our country. Youth in Government will provide a year-round laboratory experience in practical politics. Youth will be able to study public issues, debate public policies, write legislation, and actually participate in the process of government."*



WVYG Founder Governor Cecil Underwood, 40th Youth Governor Laurel Lackey Basil and 1st Youth Governor Rebecca Colebank Duckworth at YG's 50th anniversary.

Both founders wanted Youth in Government to be more than just passing legislation. In fact, both thought the last thing needed to solve a problem was more legislation. What was needed were young people seeing what needs done to make their communities better, figuring out what to do and then doing it. Legislation is a last resort. Student

legislation proposed to Youth in Government would come out of a student's real life and volunteer experience.

O'Neill and Underwood believed in and supported our approach to leadership development. They saw lives changed as teens changed their world. Our time-tested learn by doing model of leadership development works as teens identify the kind of school and community they want, create, and carry out initiatives to achieve their vision and reflect on their work to strengthen future action. Both of our Youth in Governments continue to build on this foundation.

Citizenship is our Purpose

Simply put, YLA Youth in Government is about citizenship, not politics or political careers. Everyone's job is citizen. After that comes our life's work. From presidents to governors and janitors, we all have the same job – citizen. Youth in Government brings together students of all backgrounds, interests, and experience to broaden our understanding of democratic citizenship by engaging in the process of state government.

Youth in Government is one of YLA's programs offered to every school and community by the Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association. YLA is a resource providing technical assistance, program development, manuals, materials, training, newsletters, idea exchanges, state and national youth leadership conferences and camps.

YLA Philosophy of Leadership

YLA believes each person is responsible for the life of their community and to help others as well as the community achieve their potential.

YLA believes that civic leadership has little to do with power and everything to do with responsibility. What counts is individual and group character. YLA promotes *Respect - Responsibility - Caring - Trustworthiness - Honesty - Fairness - Citizenship*.

Learning Style

YLA's service-learning approach enables students to connect classroom lessons, life experience and active engagement in community building to their service as Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Officers, Lobbyists, Press or Page delegates to the Model Legislature or Supreme Court. The American governmental process unfolds with deeper understanding as students seek to solve pressing issues through the Student Legislature and Supreme Court.

Board and Committee

A volunteer board of twenty members governs the Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association. Board appointed committees and volunteers secure the resources our programs require to succeed, work to achieve YLA's mission and goals, and extend YLA programs to every interested community.

Staff

The YLA Board employs an Executive who is responsible to employ other staff and to engage volunteers to carry out Board policies, the work of committees and volunteers as well as our youth programs.

Contact YLA at www.ylaleads.org; 304.675.5899



Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association
Preparing the Next Generation of Civic Leaders
Leadership Character Service Entrepreneurship Philanthropy

YLA

YLA youth groups are incubators of civic leadership! Teens learn what it takes to plan, organize, and work out-through trial and error-how to make their schools, communities, and world a better place to live. *This is the best thing I've done in school. I've learned so much, gained confidence I never dreamed I could have, got involved and now I am ready for the future!*

Youth in Government

Where else do teenagers get to "take over" the state capitol for three days? *This is great! We get to be legislators sitting in the same seats and using the same facilities they use. I've learned more about civics and state government this way than from any book or classroom. We take what we learn in class and get to apply it. Some of the laws we propose have actually become state law. Judicial is great! We get to see how the judicial system works. I don't want to be an attorney, but I need to understand the court.*

Youth & Government Seminars

Youth & Government Seminars offer West Virginia 8th graders and Ohio middle school students an opportunity to witness first-hand how their state government works through observation and interaction with government officials during a legislative session.

Model United Nations

YLA Model United Nations offers a "window on the world" opportunity for students to participate and experience a personal perspective in solving global and international issues. *Model UN is a great way to learn about the world. I came into this program with no knowledge about the UN or my nation. I left with that knowledge plus the ability to think as my nation and a greater appreciation for other nations.*

Horseshoe Leadership Center

Nestled in West Virginia's Appalachian Mountains, *Horseshoe's Teen Entrepreneurship and Leadership-Service Summits* are exceptional experiences for teens to network, work together, and learn how they can "make a difference" in their world for a better future. *This literally was the best week of my life. I'm going home a new person; I know who I am!*

Later in the season, *Youth Opportunity Camps* help low income 7 - 12-year-old boys and girls get on the path toward success. *I see differences Horseshoe makes to kids' lives in just one week. They feel safe here, they get to be themselves here, they can forget about their worries here. Kids may come with nothing but are given something priceless that lets them know someone cares!*

Cave Lake

Cave Lake, a place of rare natural beauty in Ohio's Appalachian region, is being transformed into a nationally significant year-round-learning center for youth, adults, and families. Cave Lake's 700 acres offer unsurpassed opportunities for leadership development, as well as a peaceful atmosphere for personal and group growth, enjoyment of the out-of-doors, the arts, music, entrepreneurship, civic responsibility, and stewardship of our natural heritage. Cave Lake will strengthen and expand the base of effective family, organizational and community leadership across Ohio.

Alumni

Alumni bring commitment, experience, and new support to all our youth programs. Our new Alumni Program offers many ways to stay involved, to share leadership advancing all our programs and to offer YLA experiences to many more young people.

<p>Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association YLA Chapters, Youth in Government, 8th Grade Youth & Government Seminars, Model United Nations, Horseshoe, Cave Lake www.ylaleads.org YLA is an equal opportunity provider.</p>		
<p>Youth Leadership Association Fiscal office: 522 Sandhill Road Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550 P: (304) 675-5899 F: (304) 675-5977</p>	<p>Cave Lake Leadership Center 1132 Bell Hollow Road Latham, OH 45646 P: (937) 588-3252 F: (937) 588-3252</p>	<p>Horseshoe Leadership Center 3309 Horseshoe Run Road Parsons, WV 26287 P: (304) 478-2481 F: (304) 478-4446</p>



Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association Ohio – Preamble to the Constitution - 1851

We, the people of the State of Ohio, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings and promote our common welfare, do establish this Constitution.

United States of America – Preamble to the Constitution - 1787

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America.

Bill of Rights

The first ten Amendments to the Constitution of the United States Ratified effective December 15, 1791

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be

deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, then according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Ohio Constitution – Preamble – 1851

We, the people of the State of Ohio grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to Secure its blessings and promote our common welfare, do establish this Constitution.

Student Judiciary Overview

The Supreme Court considers an appeal of a lower court decision. The presiding officer of the Supreme Court is the Chief Justice.

	Ohio	West Virginia
Official Name	<i>Supreme Court of Ohio</i>	<i>West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals</i>
Number of Justices	7	5
Length of Term	<i>6 years</i>	<i>12 years</i>

- Decisions of the Supreme Court are a majority vote of the Justices. These decisions are the final word.
- A case appealed to the Supreme Court is an appeal only on errors claimed to have occurred in the local trial. It is NOT a retrial of the local trial.
- The authority of the Supreme Court comes from the individual state's Constitution.
- The appellant is appealing the decision of a lower court.
- The appellee is supporting the decision of the lower court.
- The Brief summarizes the validity or lack of validity of the lower court's decision. An
- Assignment of Errors lists the mistake(s) that either the Judge or Jury made in lower court decision.
- Arguments made in an appeal describe laws or precedent cases that support the argument.
- The concluding presentation to the Supreme Court summarizes arguments in the appeal and a conclusion the Supreme Court should reach.



Writing Your Appeal

When you register as a Judicial Delegate through the Participation Agreement, your advisor will receive the sample case for each judicial team. Our program picks up at the conclusion of the local trial. Students will choose a side to represent. The losing side (Appellant) will appeal the decision of the lower court and the winning side (Appellee) will be asking the Supreme Court to uphold the existing decision of the lower court.

The appeal IS NOT A RETRIAL, but rather is an opportunity to insure that justice is served in regard to the process of the local trial. At the appeal hearing, you will argue points of law. It is the Appellant's responsibility to research precedent cases and other laws that would show error in the local trial verdict.

The Assignment of Errors lists the Appellant's reasons the case is being appealed to the Supreme Court. The appellants will argue that these errors in the lower court trial, if corrected, could have changed the outcome of the lower court's verdict. Therefore, they appeal. Students may research previous cases at college or local law libraries or through the LEXUS/NEXUS computer system. Local attorneys are also excellent resources.

On the other side, the Appellees seek to support the lower court's verdict.

Your written brief should be between 2-6 pages in length. This is your first impression on the justices and should concisely and logically progress through your arguments to convince the Justices of your Conclusion.

When you appear before the Supreme Court in April, you will have additional time for Oral Arguments. Each side will have 10 minutes (approximately 5 minutes per attorney) to argue your side of the case. Your opponents will also have ten minutes. It is your responsibility to decide how you will split the time with your partner – but, both attorneys must share in the presentation. The appellants may reserve a portion of their time for rebuttal, if desired.

Purpose and Contents of a Brief

The purpose of the Brief is to summarize the validity or lack of validity of the Lower Court's decision. Unless otherwise noted, the format for the brief is as follows: Paper size – 8.5" x 11" (one side only, DO NOT staple and remember to sign your name), Margins – 1", single spaced (except between sections -see sample brief), Type size – 10 or 12 point. There must be one (1) booklet and it must contain the following:

1 COVER PAGE: The Cover Page has the following information: Name of the Case
Names and Positions of both pairs of Youth Attorneys

1 STATEMENT OF FACTS Must be agreed upon by both sets of Youth Attorneys

1 APPELLANT'S BRIEF Written by the Youth Attorneys that LOST the local trial. Must be between 2 – 6 pages. Each brief contains:

Assignment of Errors – the problem that either the Judge or Jury made in their Lower Court decision.

Arguments – Laws and/or precedent cases that support your Assignment of Errors.

Conclusion – A closing summary of the case and a conclusion that the Model Supreme Court should overturn the Lower Court's decision.

1 APPELLEE'S BRIEF Written by the Youth Attorneys that WON the local trial. Must be between 2 – 6 pages. Each brief contains:

Arguments – Laws or precedent cases that support the Lower Court's decision.

Conclusion – Summary of arguments in the case and a conclusion that the Model Supreme Court should therefore uphold the Lower Court's decision.

ALL OF THIS CONSTITUTES ONE BOOKLET. THE BOOKLET IS TO BE ASSEMBLED IN THE ORDER LISTED AND STAPLED ONCE IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER. EIGHTEEN (18) COPIES OF THE BOOKLET ARE TO BE ASSEMBLED AND SUBMITTED TO THE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT OFFICE BY THE DEADLINE (OHIO-JAN 28 • WV - FEB 10).

Case Rating

All cases submitted will be rated for position on the docket of the Student Supreme Court. Only those cases that are received in the Youth in Government office by the due date will be rated.

Student Supreme Court Procedures

When the Justices enter, everyone rises. The Marshal (Ohio) or Clerk (WV) calls the Court to order.

OHIO

All Rise. . .The Honorable Chief Justice and Justices of the Supreme Court of Ohio Once they have reached their seats, continue with...)
Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Supreme Court of Ohio is Now in Open Session Pursuant to Adjournment. . .

WEST VIRGINIA

All Rise. . .OYEZ! OYEZ! The Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court of West Virginia, the Honorable Chief Justice _____, presiding. Silence is now commanded under penalty of fine or imprisonment, while the Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia are now sitting. All those having motions to make or appeals to prosecute, come forward and you shall be heard. GOD SAVE THIS STATE AND THIS HONORABLE COURT.

The Chief Justice will direct the audience to be seated.

The Chief Justice then calls on the Appellant attorneys. The first attorney for the Appellant informs the Marshal/Clerk whether or not there will be a rebuttal and if so, how much time is to be reserved. The Appellant attorneys then present their argument. The reasoning in their argument is that the verdict of the lower court was incorrect because _____. (Each side has 10 minutes – approximately 5 minutes per attorney in which to present their case.)

The Appellee's attorneys then present their argument. The reasoning in their argument is that the verdict of the lower court was correct and the Appellant is incorrect because _____.

The Appellant's attorneys then have an opportunity for rebuttal after the Appellee's attorney's presentation. Following this, the Chief Justice adjourns the Court to decide the Appeal. The reversal of the lower court's decision requires at least a majority vote for reversal. When directed by the Chief Justice, the Marshal will call the Court to adjournment.

OHIO

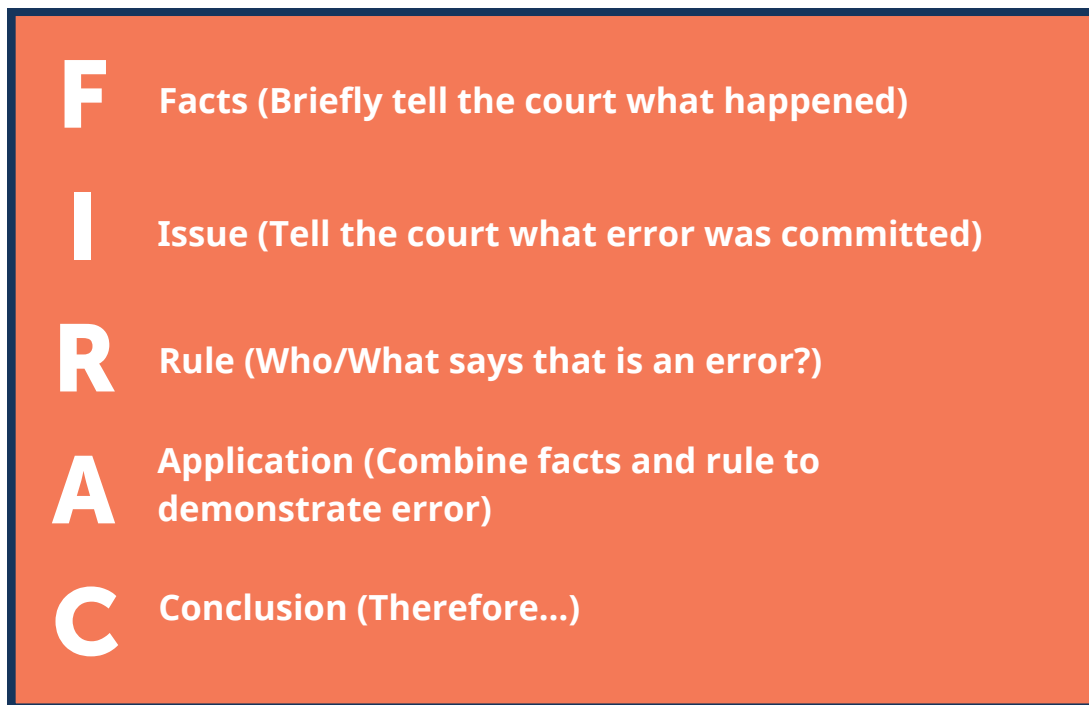
All Rise. . .Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! This Open Session of the Honorable Supreme Court of Ohio Now Stands Adjourned. (After the last Justice is off the Bench, strike the gavel once.)

WEST VIRGINIA

All Rise. . .Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! This Open Session of the Honorable Supreme Court of West Virginia Now Stands Adjourned. (After the last Justice is off the Bench, strike the gavel once.)

Time organization is a very important part of your appeal. The job of the Supreme Court Marshal/Clerk is to time the oral presentation of each attorney – informing the attorney when one minute is left in the allotted time and when the time is up. Both sets of attorneys need to decide how much time each attorney on their side will take. Also, attorneys for the Appellant must decide how much time to reserve for rebuttal.

Attorneys will prepare the majority of their oral arguments before reaching Youth in Government. Time at Youth in Government will be used to sharpen those arguments. A simple method to use to organize a brief or an oral argument is the **FIRAC method**.



- F** Facts (Briefly tell the court what happened)
- I** Issue (Tell the court what error was committed)
- R** Rule (Who/What says that is an error?)
- A** Application (Combine facts and rule to demonstrate error)
- C** Conclusion (Therefore...)

Attorneys should be prepared to be interrupted by questions from the Justices. In organizing an oral presentation, an attorney should be prepared to speak persuasively for the full amount of time, but the attorney should be flexible enough to rearrange their presentation at the podium in order to cover all of the important points, in addition to answering questions from the Justices.

The attorneys start their presentation with the statement May it please the court. My name is (state your name) and I am the attorney for or representing (state your client's name)

Always keep your perspective. Act zealously for your client, but remember you are an officer of the court.

You are to attend all judicial program events. They are designed to give you the opportunity to learn more about our judicial system. You will also watch the appeals of other students. Much can be learned by watching others.

Your case will be put on a calendar and assigned a time to be heard by the Model Supreme Court. Attorneys for the local trial must be the same ones to present the case at the Model Supreme Court.

Justice's Written Opinions

The Opinion is the written decision of the Supreme Court. It is the official document that records for history the decision and all of the relevant circumstances that influenced that decision. The opinions are reviewed by each Justice sitting on the case and are not disclosed to other participants until they are officially “released” during the closing session.

During deliberation, immediately following the case, you will have an opportunity to discuss and argue the points of law addressed in the case. One or more Justices will volunteer to write the opinion for the majority. The opinion is given to each Justice to study and accept. If it is accepted, the Justice will sign the opinion and it is passed on as the opinion of the court. If not, a concurring opinion may be written (same result, but with a different line of reasoning).

Those who do not agree with the Majority Opinion summarize their views in the Dissenting Opinion. All of the opinions are presented to the public, but only the majority opinion affects the parties involved in the case.

Opinions will be written on standard legal paper (or forms provided by the Court Coordinator). The opinion will then be submitted to the Chief Justice or Associate Justices assigned to the case. Each opinion must contain a statement defining the reasons for the verdict and a narrative of why those reasons were chosen.

Youth in Government Supreme Court Majority Opinion

_____ Case Number
_____ All Justices who agree with this
_____ Majority opinion are to sign their
_____ Names to the left
_____ Opinions will be announced on
_____ Saturday Morning. Until then,
_____ The decisions of the Court are not
_____ to be discussed with anyone.

Youth in Government Supreme Court Minority Opinion

_____ Case Number
_____ All Justices who agree with this
_____ Minority opinion are to sign their
_____ Names to the left
_____ Opinions will be announced on
_____ Saturday Morning. Until then,
_____ The decisions of the Court are not
_____ to be discussed with anyone.

Officer Responsibility

Officers are elected at Youth in Government to serve through the next year's program. Their service throughout the year provides student leadership to the program, helps strengthen the program for everyone, and better prepares officers for their duties during the Student Legislature/Court.

Officers put Youth in Government first. They must have and take the time required to effectively serve the program.

In addition to Youth in Government at the Statehouse/Capitol, the officers "do their jobs" at the annual Sr. Leadership-Service Conference in June at Horseshoe, the Fall Program Conference in November and the February Officer/Committee Chair Training – Bill and Case Rating Session.

Additional responsibilities/qualifications include:

Chief Justice

- Appoint qualified Associate Justices as needed,
- Serve on the Youth in Government Committee,
- Study all cases before the Student Supreme Court,
- At Youth in Government
 - Present an opening address,
 - Give a closing summary of the Supreme Court,
 - Announce the new youth Chief Justice,
 - Assist Judicial Coordinator as necessary.

Associate Justices

- Study all cases before the Student Supreme Court,
- Preside over cases assigned to you by the Chief Justice and summarize the opinions of the panel

Elections and Appointments for State Office

Nominations

Each delegation may nominate one (1) candidate for Chief Justice. Nominations are due and to be submitted on the Officer Candidate Form by 7 pm at Youth in Government Office on Saturday. Nominees must meet the qualifications listed for their office.

Officer Qualifications

Qualifications common to the office of Chief Justice include:

1. One year's experience in Youth in Government as a judicial delegate. Unlike other elected offices in Youth in Government, Chief Justice Candidates may count their current year toward this requirement.
2. Will attend the Leadership-Summit Camp at Horseshoe in June, the Officer Training/Bill Rating session in February, Fall Conference in November and the Youth in Government program at the Statehouse/Capitol.
3. Positive group work skills and attitudes that help all others succeed.
4. Effective public speaking and presentation skills.
5. Understands the Youth in Government procedure and is able to implement it.
6. Has leadership skills appropriate to the purpose of Youth in Government. Understands,
7. supports, and practices the values of leadership through service promoted by YLA.

Election Procedure at Youth in Government

Candidates demonstrate their ability to carry out the responsibilities of the position they seek by "doing" what the office requires. There is no campaign, campaign speech, or campaign material.

Having demonstrated their effectiveness to their peers throughout the weekend, Chief Justice Candidates will have 3 minutes to summarize their vision of the Judicial Program to the Student Supreme Court participants. The candidate receiving the majority of votes is declared the winner. Only Judicial delegates vote for the Chief Justice.

Associate Justices

Associate Justices are appointed by the Chief Justice from those qualified applicants who submit their application no later than one week after Youth in Government.

Definition of Terms

Appellant [uh-pel-ent] – The party who loses the local trial and appeals to the Supreme Court.

Appellee [a-puh-lee] – The party who won the local trial and responds to the appeal of the appellant.

Argument - The persuasive reasoning by the attorney to the deciding body (judge or jury) stating why the case should be decided in favor of his client. Arguments, whether oral or written, should present clear thinking and logical statements that lead to only one conclusion.

Bailiff - The officer of a trial court who opens, recesses, reconvenes and closes each session of the court.

Bill of Exception -The verbatim transcript of everything that is said at the local trial relevant to the issues being appealed.

Brief - The formal written statement prepared by both parties of an appeal listing the errors (appellants only), their arguments and conclusions.

Chief Justice - The presiding Justice of the Supreme Court.

Conclusion - Making a definite statement within your facts. The logical end to a line of reasoning.

Court Reporter - The officer of the court who records everything said by everyone at each session of the court.

Damages - In most cases, the reward received by the plaintiffs, if they win.

Defendant - The party being charged with the alleged wrongdoing.

Dissenting Opinion - The written decision of the judge(s) in the minority on a case.

Expert witness - A witness who, because of their knowledge or experience, can offer technical expertise to the court within their area or profession.

Evidence - Information obtained by testimony of witnesses or introduction of objects or documents at a trial which the jury considers in reaching its verdict.

Judge - The one who presides at a trial and, if there is no jury, also decides the case.

Jury (Panel) - A group of citizens who hear the evidence at trial and decide disputed questions of fact (verdict). The group is known as a panel during the voir dire and after taking the oath as jurors, is known as the jury.

Justice - The formal name given to a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Marshal - The officer of a trial court who opens, recesses, reconvenes, and closes each session of the court.

Narrative Bill of Exceptions - A written statement of the facts according to testimony at the local trial agreed upon by opposing Attorneys. This is used in lieu of the Bill of Exceptions when a court reporter is not present.

Notice of Appeal - Statement asking for a reversal of the lower court's judgment.

Objection - Any oral statement to the judge voiced by an attorney during trial showing why a certain question or answer constitutes improper evidence.

Opinion - The written decision of the judge or judges, supported by their reasoning, of a case which has been argued on appeal.

Peremptory Challenge - Prerogative of counsel to object to a member of the panel during voir dire.



2025 Ohio Supreme Court



April 10 - 12, 2025

CASE	YOUTH SUPREME COURT DOCKET
1	<p style="text-align: center;">Dana Barr v Ohio Department of Corrections</p> <p>Drew Neff Attorney for the Appellee</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ryan LeFever Attorney for the Appellant</p> <p>JUSTICES: Kollier Fulton, Zoe Ervin, Ava Valentine, Sophie Williams, Bralee Lyons</p> <p>MARSHAL: Jordan Swackhammer</p>
2	<p style="text-align: center;">Coryell v Bank One Trust Company</p> <p>Ava Valentine Attorney for the Appellant</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Braylee Lyons Attorney for the Appellee</p> <p>JUSTICES: Kollier Fulton, Zoie Ervin, Jayce Moore, Ryan LeFever, Drew Neff</p> <p>Marshal: Tayler Williams</p>
3	<p style="text-align: center;">Marcus Jackson v State of Ohio</p> <p>Sophie Williams Attorney for the Appellant</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tayler Williams Attorney for the Appellee</p> <p>Justices: Kollier Fulton, Zoie Ervin, Jordan Swackhammer, Ryan LeFever, Ava Valentine</p> <p>Marshal: Jayce Moore</p>
4	<p style="text-align: center;">State of Ohio V Jeremy Johnson</p> <p>Jayce Moore Attorney for the Appellant</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jordan Swackhammer Attorney for the Appellee</p> <p>Justices: Kollier Fulton, Zoie Ervin, Drew Neff, Tayler Williams, Bralee Lyons</p> <p>Marshal: Sophie Williams</p>

OHIO YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT 2025

Practice Cases



PRICE v. LOGAN CO. BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF FACTS

The superintendent of the Logan County Board of Education was disturbed by the level of fear that was present in her schools. She noted that the fear was an obvious result of the recent violence in America's schools. In an effort to curb fear and prevent her schools from becoming the site of violence the administrator proposed this rule:

Any student who participates, actively, verbally or in writing, in any unsuitable behavior that incites violence, threatens violence, or alludes to violence is subject to punishment by the school's principal. The punishment will be reflective of the level of action, or threat that is engaged in by a student.

In February of 2017 a senior at Meadowlark High School in St. Paris named Matthew Price posted a creative writing story on his personal web site. The task was completed on Matthew's home computer. The plot of the story centered around a shooting at a high school. The setting and contents of the story are strikingly similar to Meadowlark High School. Characters in the story are easily identified as actual students and faculty at the school. The main character, that is the shooter, is very obviously Matthew Price himself.

A concerned faculty member logged onto Matthew's site after hearing the discussions between the students about the site. The teacher, Mr. James Lowery then notified the Principal Anthony Simms about the site. Later that day Matthew was pulled out of class and suspended until further notice. After a ten day suspension, under the justification of not taking school violence lightly, Logan County Board of Education expelled Matthew from school permanently. Matthew's fellow students were outraged by the action taken by the Board and since Matthew's suspension have been protesting the expulsion.

They argue that the story was a creative writing piece meant to shed light on the fear present in America's schools. The story was also intended to show the point of view of the shooter and hope that would educate parents, teachers and classmates about what it would be like to know this person and how they could be identified. Matthew put a great deal of research into his essay and believed it to be his finest work. Matthew's future plans include attending the State University on a scholarship for creative writing.

Matthew's parents who have strong ties to the ACLU brought suit against the Board claiming they had violated Matthew Price's right to freedom of speech and expression. The Board presented a case at the local level that contended that the story rose to the level of presenting a danger in the school. They claimed it activated exceptions to the freedom of speech that allowed it to be censored and Matthew to be sanctioned for his participation in the threatening behavior.

The suit was settled in favor of Logan County Board of Education at the local level. The judge argued that the Board has an obligation to the safety of the student body and that overrides the right to free speech. Matthew Price, represented by the ACLU does not agree with the decision by the lower court judge, and the ACLU has opted for appeal at the State Supreme Court level.

ISSUES

1. Were Matthew Price's first amendment rights violated?

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**

INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Assistant Prosecutor
FROM: M. Meyer
DATE: December 18, 2019
RE: State of Ohio v. Patrick Benson

Assistant prosecutor, you may well be aware of our success in the Ohio v. Patrick Benson case. Unfortunately, Mr. Benson and his legal counsel have decided to appeal the case to the Ohio Supreme Court. Although I am confident the Court will uphold the appellate (lower) court's decision, we must be ready for anything Benson's legal team may argue. I would like you to research and prepare a brief on the issues I have included below. If everything goes as expected, you should expect to present oral arguments to the Justices of the Ohio Supreme Court sometime in April.

Because of the time that will be required on this case, I have assigned another first year associate to assist you in the case. I am confident in your ability to argue this case. Good Luck!

//
Matthew J. Meyer
Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County

**CARTER, GONZALEZ, & HUGHES
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Associate
FROM: H. Carter
DATE: December 17, 2019
RE: State of Ohio v. Patrick Benson

Associate, as you may have already heard, we failed to receive the judgment we sought in the Benson case. This was a surprise considering the strong arguments we presented to the appellate (lower) court. Due to the questionable ruling, and with Mr. Benson's consent, we have filed an appeal with the Ohio Supreme Court. Unfortunately, due to my case schedule, I am unable to continue with this case. Enclosed are the facts and ruling of this case. Please look at the facts carefully and prepare a court brief discussing the issues I have indicated below. If everything goes as planned, you should expect to present your arguments orally to the Justices of the Court sometime in April.

With the amount of work that will be needed, I have decided to assign another first year associate to assist you in this case. I realize this is your first case in front of the Ohio Supreme Court, but with the type of work the two of you have already produced for this firm I have no doubt that you will do well.

//
Henry P. Carter

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On August 16, 2018, the appellate (lower) court upheld the Cuyahoga County juvenile court's decision granting temporary custody of appellant, Patrick Benson's ("Father") daughter Zoey Benson to the Cuyahoga County Children Services agency. Father now appeals the appellate court's ruling.

Patrick and Shawna Benson ("Father" and "Mother") are the parents to Zoey Benson born 7/12/2014. In January of 2018, Zoey's day care teacher contacted the Cuyahoga County Children Services ("CCCS") after she found Zoey in the bathroom, suffering extreme pain from lesions on her rectum and vagina. The teacher contacted CCCS. A CCCS investigator interviewed Zoey in the presence of her teacher. Zoey reported that Father stuck his "wee-wee" in her bottom and in her mouth.

CCCS obtained an emergency custody order with regard to Zoey, and filed complaints alleging that she was abused, neglected and a dependent child. R.C. 2151.04(C) provides that a child is dependent if the child's "condition or environment is such as to warrant the state, in the interests of the child, in assuming the child's guardianship." A pediatric nurse examined Zoey and determined that Zoey has Type 1 Herpes. The nurse testified before the trial court that Type 1 Herpes can be spread via genital to genital contact, but also can be spread from a mother to her child via the birth canal, or via autoinoculation, i.e. from a person touching the lesion on their mouth and then touching her hand to her genitals. The nurse also opined that Type 1 Herpes lesions are excruciatingly painful, and that Zoey had the lesions for five to seven days before the examination. Finally, she testified that while no cure for herpes exists, the painful lesions are treatable under a doctor's care. There was no evidence presented to determine whether either the Father or Mother had ever contracted Type 1 Herpes.

The juvenile court conducted a competency hearing to determine whether Zoey could testify in court. During the hearing, the court permitted Zoey to wander around the room. Zoey became distracted several times by things such as the microphone, her shoes, a strange voice, and the sight of a police officer outside. The court permitted Zoey's counsel to interact with Zoey to a limited extent in order to keep Zoey on task. During the competency hearing Zoey correctly gave her first and last name, the names of her siblings and parents, her age, her birth month, and her age at her next birthday. When asked whether she remembered what she had done on her last birthday, she responded that she did not. She knew that her visitation days with Mother were on Wednesdays and Fridays, that the visitation days changed recently, and that Father did not attend visitation. Several times throughout the hearing, the judge asked Zoey whether she understood the difference between truth and falsity. Zoey's response every time she was asked was that "truth is when you tell somebody something that really happened, and a lie is when you tell them something happened when it didn't really happen." Ultimately, the juvenile court determined that Zoey was able to understand the distinction of truth and falsity and therefore deemed her competent to testify. Father, who was present with his legal counsel, raised no objections during the competency hearing.

Father now contends that the CCCS investigator did not follow established protocols for interviewing children under age ten (*State v. Frazier*) and the Zoey's testimony is merely a story she was led to construct by the investigator. The CCCS investigator admitted that she failed to follow the established protocols, and in particular failed to tape record the initial interview of Zoey. Zoey's teacher, who witnessed the entire interview, testified that the CCCS investigator did not put words in Zoey's mouth. The teacher testified that Zoey volunteered the information that Father put his "wee-wee" in her bottom and in her mouth.

At the start of the juvenile court proceedings, the Prosecutor for the City made a motion that Father not be present in the courtroom while his daughter Zoey testified. The City presented evidence in the form of expert testimony that Zoey would suffer at least moderate trauma if she were forced to testify in front of Father. Father objected, but was overruled. Father's counsel was allowed to remain in the courtroom while Zoey testified. The court provided Father with a closed circuit television so that he could observe Zoey's testimony, and simultaneously allowed Father to maintain continuous communications with his counsel. The closed circuit television system allowed Father's counsel to raise objections to the testimony as well as to confer with his client during the questioning.

Upon her being found competent to testify in court, Zoey testified in detail regarding the sexual abuse she alleged was perpetrated upon her by Father. She stated that the abuse occurred in her parents' bedroom while Mother was not home. She described the position of her body relative to Father's during the abuse. She stated that Father used a pink lotion on her bottom, which he would wipe off with a towel when he finished. Father told Zoey not to tell Mother about the incidents. According to Zoey's nurse, who specializes in treating abused children, Zoey's knowledge of sexual positions is not typical for a four year old.

On cross-examination, Father's counsel asked Zoey about the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus. Zoey reported that the Easter Bunny spoke to her and that Santa Clause took her on a sleigh ride to the North Pole. She testified that she observed green and brown elves making pink lotion at the North Pole. She also provided details about her visit to the North Pole, such as the number of elves in each room and what they were wearing.

After listening to all of the evidence presented to him, the juvenile court judge ruled that Zoey Benson was an abused, neglected, and dependent child. The court found that Father was the perpetrator of the abuse on Zoey. Mother informed the court that she was filing for divorce from Father. The court granted temporary custody to CCCS, and instated a case plan that includes visitation for Mother, but not Father.

Father appealed the juvenile court's ruling granting temporary custody of Zoey to CCCS to the state appellate court. The appellate court confirmed the juvenile court's ruling. Father now appeals his case to the Ohio Supreme Court. Father contends that the appellate court failed to find that the juvenile court abused its discretion when it determined that four-year-old Zoey Benson was competent to testify. He also contends that the appellate court failed to determine that the juvenile court's finding that Zoey is an abused, neglected, and dependent is against the manifest weight of the evidence. Finally, Father contends that the appellate court failed to find that the juvenile court improperly excluded him from the courtroom during Zoey's testimony.

ISSUES

I. WHETHER OR NOT THE APPELLATE COURT WAS WRONG IN NOT FINDING THAT THE JUVENILE COURT ABUSED ITS DISCRETION WHEN IT DETERMINED THAT THE FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILD WAS COMPETENT TO TESTIFY.

* To make this determination you will need to review the “Plain Error Doctrine.”

Cases & statutes to research for this issue:

Ohio Evidence Rule 601

State v. Clark (1994), 71 Ohio St.3d 466

State v. Allard, 75 Ohio St. 3d 482

State v. Frazier (1991), 61 Ohio St.3d 247

State v. Mayhew (1991), 71 Ohio App.3d 622

In re Johnson, Franklin App. No. 03AP-1264, 2004 Ohio 3886

Goldfuss v. Davidson (1997), 79 Ohio St.3d 116

II. WHETHER OR NOT THE APPELLATE COURT WAS INCORRECT IN RULING THAT THE JUVENILE COURT’S FINDING THAT ZOEY BENSON WAS AN ABUSED, NEGLECTED AND DEPENDENT CHILD WAS AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE.

Cases & statutes to research for this issue:

R.C. 2151.35(A)

R.C. 2151.031(A)

R.C. 2151.03(A)(3)

R.C. 2151.04(C)

C.E. Morris Co. v. Foley Construction Co., (1978), 54 Ohio St.2d 279

In re Baby Girl Doe, 149 Ohio App.3d 717

In re Estate of Haynes, (1986), 25 Ohio St.3d 101

III. WHETHER OR NOT THE APPELLATE COURT WAS WRONG NOT TO DETERMINE THAT THE JUVENILE COURT IMPROPERLY EXCLUDED FATHER FROM THE COURTROOM DURING CHILD’S TESTIMONY.

Cases & statutes to research for this issue:

In re Henderson, (Nov. 28, 1997), Lake App. No. 96-L-68, 1997 Ohio App. LEXIS 5333

In re Burchfield, (1988), 51 Ohio App.3d 148

RELEVANT DEFINITIONS

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2151.03(A)(3) provides that a neglected child is one whose parents neglect or refuse to provide proper or necessary medical care to the child.

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2151.04(C) provides that a child is dependent if the child's condition or environment is such as to warrant the state, in the interests of the child, in assuming the child's guardianship.

CASE #1



Dana Barr v Ohio Department of Corrections

The Model Supreme Court of the State of Ohio

Dana Barr
Prosecution (appellee)

vs

Ohio Department of Corrections
Defendant (appellant)

Drew Neff

Attorney for the Appellee

Ryan LeFever

Attorney for the Appellant

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Until recently, Dana Barr, was a corrections officer in the John Brown Correctional Center. The facility holds close to 1,300 people and is crowded to the extent that it exceeds the number of inmates it was designed to house. Many of the inmates have been convicted of violent crimes and the inmates' sentences range from 3 to 20 years.

Several years ago, Officer Barr was injured in an accident and required several blood transfusions. About six months ago, he received a notice from the blood bank which provided the blood recommending that he be tested for HIV antibodies. Officer Barr spoke to a staff doctor at the prison, who explained that the test is used to indicate exposure to the AIDS virus, and that the blood bank probably was recommending the test because at the time Barr received the transfusions, donations to the blood supply were not screened for high risk donors or presence of the AIDS antibodies.

Officer Barr was tested twice; the results on both administrations of the test were positive. Soon after he got the results, an incident occurred on his cell block involving several inmates. A fight broke out, and escalated until Officer Barr was unable to control it without assistance. Barr called for help and before it was over, two inmates and one officer had to be hospitalized for minor injuries. Since then there has been one more violent incident involving the inmates on the same block.

Officer Barr was called into the Administrator's office to discuss the incident and was informed that he was being terminated. The Administrator, Kit Zuff, told Barr that he had investigated the incident, and had discovered that the inmates knew of the results of the HIV antibody test. He said that the reason Officer Barr couldn't handle the problem alone was that the inmates objected to being in contact with someone they perceived as having AIDS and would refuse to cooperate with Barr in the future. Zuff ended by saying that he had no choice but to fire Officer Barr.

The Department's position was that in order to preserve security at the prison they had no alternative but to terminate Barr. Additionally, the Department argued that as a person who tested positive on the HIV antibody test, Officer Barr posed a serious risk of infection to the inmates if he continued as a corrections officer. They claimed that the nature of the work, which requires close contact with inmates, increased the possibility that Barr could spread AIDS throughout the prison population. As proof, they cited the incident in his unit, during which Officer Barr had to administer first aid to an inmate who was bleeding, and could have been injured himself.

Officer Barr claimed that the prison is able to make reasonable accommodations to allow the Officer to continue employment. This would entail instituting an AIDS education program among the residents and staff of the prison, to inform them of the realities of AIDS infection and reduce unwarranted fear.

Barr contended further that the prison fired him because of personal conflicts with a supervisor, and that the issue of fear of AIDS was simply an excuse.

After the required hearings and administrative appeals, Officer Barr was terminated by the Department of Corrections. Barr filed suit against the Ohio Department of Corrections and was awarded in the trial reinstatement into his former position, lost wages in the amount of \$25,000 and punitive damages in the amount of \$150,000. The case was heard by the Eleventh District Court. They also upheld the lower court's decision. The case is now before the Supreme Court of Ohio.

APPELLEE'S BRIEF

Argument #1 – The Department of Corrections violated Ohio’s anti-discrimination laws by wrongfully terminating Officer Barr.

The Ohio Revised Code (O.R.C.) 4112.02(A) states that it is unlawful for an employer to discriminate against an individual based on a disability. Under O.R.C. 4112.01(A)(13), a “disability” includes any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. The Eleventh District Court correctly ruled that Officer Barr was wrongfully terminated due to his HIV-positive status, a recognized disability under Ohio law and federal precedent.

Argument #2 – The Department of Corrections failed to provide reasonable accommodations as required by law.

Under O.R.C. 4112.02(A) and applicable case law, employers are required to make reasonable accommodations for employees with disabilities unless doing so would impose an extreme hardship. Officer Barr proposed a reasonable accommodation: implementing an AIDS education program to eliminate myths and fears among staff and inmates. The Department of Corrections refused to consider this option and instead chose to terminate him.

Argument #3 – Officer Barr did not pose a legitimate safety risk.

The Department of Corrections claimed that Officer Barr’s condition created a health risk in the prison environment. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health have long established that HIV is not transmitted through casual contact, and the risk of transmission in a corrections setting is negligible.

Conclusion:

The trial court and Eleventh District Court correctly ruled in favor of Officer Barr. His termination was based on discrimination rather than legitimate workplace concerns. The Department of Corrections failed to consider reasonable accommodations and relied on baseless fears instead of medical evidence. For these reasons, the Supreme Court of Ohio should uphold the lower court’s decision, ensuring that employees are protected from unlawful discrimination.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Neff

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

Argument #1: The court erred in considering the accommodations necessary to make Barr an effective employee 'reasonable'.

According to Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), "An employer is required to make a reasonable accommodation to the known disability of a qualified applicant or employee if it would not impose an 'undue hardship' on the operation of the employer's business." What the court has asked the Department of Corrections to do is in no way reasonable, as it hinges on the prisoners responding well to education on HIV and changing their feelings toward working with an infected person.

Argument #2: The court unjustly placed the burden of accommodating employees on the prison.

The Ohio Department of Corrections, like any other employer, hires its staff based on their suitability to the position and ability to complete the job effectively. The HIV status of Barr has proven to be a detriment to his effectiveness as an employee as multiple violent fights have broken out since he has tested positive. Additionally, the prisoners have stated that they would no longer cooperate with Barr because of this. The prison cannot reasonably accommodate an employee faced with these issues.

Argument #3: The court failed to recognize that Barr's employment was no longer beneficial to the prison and could serve as a detriment to its operations.

Employing Barr provided affected the prison in a way that is perfectly described with the phrase 'undue hardship'. A duty of a prison is to safely house its prisoners, which takes precedence over accommodating employees. Barr's presence and HIV status has already caused two violent outbreaks and unrest amongst prisoners. If they no longer cooperate with Barr, there is no way for the Department of Corrections to reasonably remedy that. Furthermore, in the environment of a prison, Barr creates a serious threat of infecting prisoners. These issues certainly fall under 'undue hardships'.

Conclusion:

The lower court unjustly found that Barr's employment fell under the ADA. The accommodation that the Department of Corrections would be required to make was not reasonable and would cause hardship to the prison's effectiveness. Because the accommodations required would be too great and would not be guaranteed to solve the issue, it was completely within the Department of Corrections' rights to terminate Barr's employment and the decision should be overturned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan LeFever

CASE #2



Coryell v Bank One Trust Company

The Model Supreme Court of the State of Ohio

**Coryell
Prosecution (Appellant)**

v

**Bank One Trust Company
Defendant (Appellee)**

Ava Valentine

Braylee Lyons

Attorney for the Appellant

Attorney for the Appellee

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Bank One Trust Company hired James L. Coryell in 1992. He worked as an Investment Advisor in their Columbus, Ohio office. His annual performance review for 1993 and 1994 indicated that he was an above average employee. His supervisor described him "as being a quick learner"; "bright"; "a real asset for the bank".

In 1995, Mr. Coryell was promoted to the position of Senior Investment Advisor. His annual performance review again rated him as an above average employee. The comments contained in the review were "superior attitude"; "exceeded goals"; "works well with others".

In 1999, Mr. Coryell was promoted to Senior vice President/Managing Director of National Accounts for Institutional Clients Advisory Services at Bank One Trust Co. As part of his job responsibilities, Mr. Coryell, managed the Corporate Large Accounts Group for Bank One. In 2001, Mr. Coryell approached John Able, Director of Institutional Advisory Services for Bank One with the suggestion that the Corporate Large Accounts Group be transferred to Bank One Investment Advisors. Mr. Able agreed with the suggestion. In February 2001, the Corporate Large Accounts Group became a part of Bank One Investment Advisors. Two members of the Corporate Large Accounts Group were transferred. They were Pam Rages, 36 years old and John Kozak, 42 years old. Bank One terminated Mr. Coryell's position with the bank. John Kozak was given Mr. Coryell's former position. At the time of termination James Coryell was 49 years old. Mr. Coryell argues that Mr. Kozak should not have been promoted because his performance reviews were not good. Mr. Kozak was rated as an average employee. Performance problems were noted in his record. Mr. Coryell further argued that he had no such performance problems. Mr. Coryell sued Bank One for wrongful termination under R.C. 4112. He claimed that Bank One had discriminated against him on the basis of age. Bank One filed a Civ. R. 12(C) motion on the pleadings, claiming that Mr. Coryell failed to set forth a prima facie case of age discrimination. The trial granted the motion. It held that although a younger person had replaced

Mr. Coryell, no prima facie case of discrimination had been proven, since Mr. Kozak was not a person outside the class of individuals protected by R.C. 4112.14(A).

Mr. Coryell appealed the trial court's decision to the 10th District Court of Appeals. He argued that regardless of class membership, a prima facie case of age discrimination may exist if the favored (or replacement) employee is "substantially younger" than the protected (or terminated) employee. The Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of the trial court. Mr. Coryell appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court, which accepted the matter as a discretionary appeal.

Issue: Was James L. Coryell wrongfully terminated?

APPELLEE'S BRIEF

Argument #1- The lower court was right regarding the termination of James L. Coryell because Coryell failed to set forth a prima facie case of age discrimination.

After Coryell sued the Bank for “wrongful” termination, the Bank filed a Civ. R. 12(C) motion on the pleadings due to Coryell failing to have a prima facie case of age discrimination.

Argument #2- The lower court was correct in terminating James L. Coryell because it is not required in the state of Ohio to require a warning when terminating an employee.

Since Ohio is an “at-will” employment state, any employer in Ohio can terminate an employee without reason or a warning. That shows Bank One didn’t “wrongfully” terminate Coryell.

Argument #3- The lower court was right in terminating James L. Coryell because even though he was known as an “above average” employee and Mr. Kozak, who replaced him, was known as an “average” employee; it doesn't matter because he violated the rules of the job.

How far one moves up in a job is based on their performance. So, since Coryell was known as an “above average” employee, in 1999, he moved up to the position of Senior vice President/Managing Director of National Accounts for Institutional Clients Advisory Services at Bank One. When Mr. Coryell was terminated, he argued that he had no such performance problems. That doesn’t relate to violating a job responsibility, though. He failed to set forth a prima facie case of age discrimination, so he was terminated rightfully.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bralee Lyons

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

Argument #1- The lower Court was incorrect about the Age Discrimination James. Coryell Faced in the workplace

Employers must ensure that termination decisions are based on legitimate business reasons rather than discriminatory factors. If an older employee with a strong work record is replaced by a younger individual without a clear justification, it raises concerns about whether age played an improper role. Courts have recognized that such circumstances can serve as indirect evidence of discrimination. (Mauzy v. Kelly Services, Inc., 75, Ohio St.3d 578(1996).

Ohio Revised Code Section 4112.02(A)- This law prohibits employers from discharging or otherwise discriminating against employees based on age if they are 40 years or older. If an employer cannot provide a legitimate, non-discriminatory reason for replacing an older employee with a younger one, it may constitute a violation of this statute.

Argument #2- The lower court was wrong in terminating James L. Coryell because the employer's justification was not legitimate and consistent.

Ohio courts have established that if an employer claims poor performance as the reason for termination, there must be evidence supporting that claim. If an employee has consistently received positive evaluations and no prior disciplinary actions, a sudden claim of performance issues could be viewed as pretextual. Courts have ruled that inconsistencies in an employer's justification can indicate an improper motive.

Ohio Revised Code Section 4112.14(A)- This section protects employees over 40 by prohibiting their termination without just cause if they are performing their job satisfactorily. If an employee can demonstrate a strong work record and the employer cannot provide documented reasons for dismissal, it may be grounds for a wrongful termination claim.

Argument #3- The Lower Courts were wrong in terminating James L. Coryell because the employer's justification was inconsistent and prefectural.

Employment laws protect workers from being terminated based on unfair or retaliatory reasons. If an employee's work history includes promotions and positive feedback, yet they are suddenly dismissed in favor of a younger individual, it suggests potential bias. Ohio courts have ruled that sudden negative treatment of an employee following years of strong performance can indicate unlawful employment practices.

Ohio Revised Code Section 4112.99- This section provides remedies for individuals who have been subjected to unlawful employment practices, including age discrimination. Employees who have been wrongfully terminated due to age may seek reinstatement, back pay, or other legal remedies under this provision.

Conclusion

The facts surrounding Mr. Coryell's termination raise significant legal concerns that warrant further examination. His strong performance record, coupled with his replacement by a younger employee, suggests that age may have been a factor in his dismissal. Ohio law explicitly protects employees over 40 from discriminatory terminations, and his employer has not provided a clear or well-documented justification for his firing. Given these circumstances, the court should allow Mr. Coryell's claim to move forward, ensuring that all relevant evidence is considered and that his rights under Ohio law are upheld.

Respectfully submitted,

Ava Valentine

OHIO YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT 2025

CASE #3



Marcus Jackson v State of Ohio

The Model Supreme Court of the State of Ohio

**Marcus Jackson
Defendant (appellant)**

v

**State of Ohio
Prosecution (appellee)**

**Sophie Williams
Attorney for the Appellant**

**Tayler Williams
Attorney for the Appellee**

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Defendant-appellant Marcus Jackson, appeals from his conviction following a jury verdict of child endangerment of his son on several counts in violation of R.C. 2919.22 (Ohio Revised Code). Appellant claims the indictment failed to charge the requisite culpable mental intent and that the evidence was insufficient to sustain the convictions.

On March 23, 2019, the appellant was concerned when his ten-year-old child, Dameon Jackson, did not come home after school, which dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Appellant went to his son's local Greene County public school. Appellant approached the school's principal and was notified that his son was in detention. Appellant demanded to know why he was not notified; he was told that a notice of the detention should have been brought home by his son. Appellant went to search his son's school desk to determine if he had received the notice but had decided not to show it to his father. On the way to his son's classroom, the appellant saw his son exiting the detention room. Appellant ordered his son to "come here," and the appellant then flipped his arm out and hit his son in the chest. He said, "let's go," and led his son out of the school and to the family car. Both the father and son testified that, upon entering the car, the appellant verbally chastised his son for his conduct. In response, the child pulled down his ski mask so as to hide his face from his father. The appellant moved to pull up his son's ski mask, and hit his son in the left eye. This caused the eyelid to develop a bruise.

Upon returning home, the appellant disciplined his son by whipping his buttocks and legs with a belt. The son moved his arms and hands to his rear end to deflect the blows and his arm and hands were hit by the belt. However, the boy testified that his swollen hand, which was examined by a doctor the next day, was caused by a skateboarding accident which occurred prior to the corporal punishment administered by his father.

When the appellant's son went to school the next day, the principal noticed that the boy had a black eye and a swollen left hand. She called for the school nurse who observed welts left by the appellant's whipping which occurred the day before.

The principal suspected child abuse and called Social Services. Nancy Gray, a social worker, arrived at the school at 3:00 p.m. and transported the boy to children's services.

Once again, the appellant went to the school when his son did not return home from school on time. He was told his son had been removed from school by children's services. Appellant drove to Children Services to recover his son. However, he was informed that his son would be held in custody by the agency until an investigation could be completed. After the appellant left the agency, the boy was treated at University Hospital.

At University Hospital, ER. Lisa Baker, M.D., examined the boy. The doctor testified there were bruises and swelling on his buttocks and legs. She stated that the sides of his arms and backs of his hands were swollen and bruised. He also had a few open cuts on his right buttock area. She also noted that he had older bruises that he told her were from prior beatings. She also stated that there was a scrape of indefinite origin and age on the boy's chest that could have been caused by the appellant, when he escorted his son out of school the previous day. The doctor also stated that regarding the boy's swollen left hand, she had not seen skateboarding injuries like that before, and admitted that she did not ask the boy how he received this injury.

The doctor stated that the black eye was consistent with being punched by a fist. She did not know whether being struck with a finger could cause the same bruising. The doctor found no evidence of new or old fractures and immediately released Dameon Jackson without prescribing any medication or dressing of any of his bruises. No subsequent appointment was scheduled.

The boy was released to Mrs. Gray, a representative of Children Services. She placed him in a foster care home as she believed, due to the extensive nature of the bruises, Dameon would be at risk if left with his father.

Prior to commencement of the trial, Dameon Jackson was interviewed by Edwin James, a clinical social worker at the Juvenile Court Psychiatric Clinic, James testified that in a confidential interview the appellant's son verified that the black eye he sustained on March 23, 2001, was caused by his father's removal of his ski mask. He also testified that Dameon was hesitant when he first saw his dad, but relaxed quite a bit as the interview progressed.

Appellant and his son were also interviewed by Samuel Selekman, a child abuse specialist.

Selekman stated that Dameon Ivey did not fear living with his father, and that the boy was playful and loving with his father during the interview. Furthermore, the boy told Selekman that his hands were injured by a skateboard accident which occurred prior to the whipping his father administered to him. Selekman also testified that although the pictures showed "serious" injury, they did not clearly show the child was excessively punished. He stated that other circumstances must be considered, including the type of rough activities boys Dameon's age participate in.

When testifying at trial, Selekman was shown pictures taken of Dameon March 23, 2019.

Selekman stated that he had not seen the pictures before trial and that they were "upsetting."

A jury trial commenced on April 7, 2020. The appellant was represented by James Brolen, an attorney with the Greene County Public Defender's Office. While preparing for trial, Mr. Brolen mentioned to appellant that the requisite intent of recklessness had not been added to the charge of Child Endangering as required. Appellant asked Brolen if this fact was significant, to which Brolen replied "it's not enough to have the charges dropped, if that is what you're asking."

Transcripts of the Court proceedings show that neither prior to nor during trial did appellant or his counsel move to dismiss the indictment or challenge the counts for failure to include the requisite mens rea (guilty intent) element of recklessness. When explaining the law to the jury, the judge explained the mental culpability standard of recklessness. Counsel for appellant stated at this time that he was satisfied with the court's explanation of the charge to the jury. Later testimony from the attorney representing the State of Ohio, shows that had the appellant raised

the issue prior to the starting of the trial, the state of Ohio would have amended the indictment pursuant to Crim.R. 7(D). On April 9, 2020, the jury returned a verdict against appellant on all counts of Child Endangerment. Appellant now requests that the Ohio Supreme Court hear his appeal regarding what he believes were three fatal errors committed by the lower court.

APPELLEE'S BRIEF

State of Ohio

Argument #1- The jury was correct in indicting Marcus Jackson on all counts of Child Endangerment.

There was visible evidence to prove that Marcus Jackson put the safety of his child in danger.

Lisa Baker, M.D. stated that the black eye that Dameon Jackson received was “consistent with being punched by a fist.” Along with this piece of information, Dr. Baker testified that older bruises on the body of Dameon were from, as he told her, prior beatings from his father.

According to Ohio Revised Code Section 2919.22, no person shall abuse a child under the age of eighteen.

Argument #2- The victim was abused both physically and verbally.

As noted in Section 2151.032 of the Ohio Revised Code, the classification of an abused child can be, but is not limited to, a child who suffers physical or mental injury due to the acts of the child's parent or guardian. Both Marcus and Dameon Jackson testified that the appellant verbally reprimanded his son in a severe nature. In addition, Dameon noted that on March 23, 2001 he received a black eye from his father's actions. These instances prove that the appellant abused his son verbally and physically.

Argument #3- The jury was aware of the mental culpability standard of recklessness.

In the jury's decision, they were notified of the prerequisite prior to making their ruling.

Although the prerequisite was not in writing, the jury took it into consideration and still found the appellant guilty on all counts of Child Endangerment.

Respectfully submitted,

Tayler Williams

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

ASSIGNMENT OF ERRORS

There was an error in the court in the following manners:

1. The Trial Court committed “plain error” by not dismissing the charge of Child Endangering, when it was show that the required mental state (recklessness) had not been alleged by the state
 - A. The culpable mental state of recklessness must be alleged in the Indictment in order to charge the criminal offense of child endangering.
 - B. Counsel's failure to file a motion to dismiss the Indictment for failure to state the requisite culpable mental state deprived the defendant of the assistance of competent counsel.

2. The trial court committed error in denying appellant's motion for acquittal as requested at the close of the case where the state failed to prove through sufficient evidence that the defendants acts created a substantial risk of serious physical harm to the child as require for the charge of Child Endangering

ARGUMENT 1- Ohio Laws & Administrative Rules, Section 2151.421 (A)(1)(a) states, “The person making the report shall make it to the public children services agency or a peace officer in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. If the person making the report is a peace officer, the officer shall make it to the public children services agency in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. In the circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the report shall make it to the entity specified in that section.” Marcus

Jackson was not informed by the school when his child did not return home either time of his child's whereabouts.

ARGUMENT 2- According to the statement of facts, Lisa Baker, M.D. claims the scrape across the boy's chest "could have been caused by the appellant". She also states that she did not ask the child to confirm where the wounds came from. Baker should not be used as a reliable source considering she could not determine proof of any intentional abuse on the child. Images shown in court did not show anything to prove the child was being "excessively punished."

CONCLUSION- In the original trial there were multiple errors that were left unaddressed. Those including the previous arguments stated. Without sufficient evidence to prove Marcus Jackson guilty, the jury ruled him guilty anyway. Further investigation to uncover any possible evidence should have taken place rather than these fatal errors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sophie Williams

OHIO YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT 2025

CASE #4



State of Ohio v Jeremy Johnson

The Model Supreme Court of the State of Ohio

State of Ohio
Prosecution (appellant)

v.

Jeremy Johnson
Defendant (appellee)

Jayce Moore

Jordan Swackhammer

Attorney for the Appellant

Attorney for the Appellee

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Jeremy Johnson was charged with harassing a police dog in violation of Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2921.321(B)(1) and resisting arrest in violation of Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2921.33. The facts are as follows:

On September 29, 2004, at approximately 3:00 a.m., Jeremy Johnson (hereafter Johnson), along with several friends, exited an apartment in Dayton, Ohio. Most of the group proceeded north on Court Street, walking on the west side of the street. At that time, Dayton City Police Officers were searching a vehicle parked on the east side of Court Street. The officers had completed "sweeping" the vehicle with a police dog and had returned the dog to a marked police car. The police car, which was parked directly behind the vehicle being searched, was clearly labeled as a "K-9 Unit." While in the police vehicle, the police dog barked continuously.

Shortly after coming out of the apartment, Johnson heard the police dog barking and responded to the dog by making barking noises from across the street. Johnson's barking caused the police dog to become excited, jump around the inside of the police vehicle, and bark more. One of the police officers on the scene, Officer Scott Tanner (hereafter Tanner) approached Johnson and informed him that he was being arrested for harassing a police dog. Tanner forced Johnson against a wall and started to handcuff him, placing Johnson's hands behind his back. Johnson protested and attempted to turn to face Tanner. Tanner responded by forcing Johnson to the ground and handcuffing him.

Johnson was charged with harassing a police dog, in violation of R.C. 2921.321(B), and resisting arrest, in violation of R.C. 2921.33. Johnson pleaded not guilty and moved for dismissal of the charges. Johnson asserted that enforcement of the police dog harassment under the factual scenario before the court would amount to a violation of his First Amendment right to free speech.

The trial court conducted a hearing on Johnson's motion to dismiss. Several witnesses testified at the hearing, including Johnson, some of his friends, and Officer Tanner, the police dog's handler. Johnson and his friends generally testified that they had been drinking and were joking around with each other when Johnson began barking at the police dog. They further testified that they were walking down the street when Johnson made his barking noises. Finally, Johnson testified that he was not warned about making the barking noises prior to being arrested. According to Tanner's testimony, Johnson began struggling and attempted to pull himself free. Tanner then forced Johnson to the ground in order to have better control. During the entire arresting procedure, Johnson was cursing at Tanner.

During the arrest the dog continued to bark and behave erratically. The dog began jumping from the back seat to the front seat of the police car. During one such attempt, the dog tripped and fell. A later examination by a local veterinarian determined that the dog had broken its leg. The dog was unable to return to duty for three months while the leg healed.

Officer Tanner did not contest Johnson's recollection that he was not warned about the barking before the arrest was made.

Initially, the trial court noted that although many jurisdictions have enacted statutes such as the one in Ohio, there is no case law dealing with a similar factual situation. Specifically, the trial court noted that most prosecutions involving police dog protection statutes involve the defendant making physical contact with, or causing physical harm to, the animal. Further, the trial court noted that, "It is difficult to conclude that the statute or the enforcement action herein 'is narrowly drawn' to achieve protection from a clear and present danger to the police dog in this case." The trial court also noted that Johnson was not warned and that no attempt was made to control the dog prior to Johnson's arrest. Thus, the trial court found that "the enforcement of R.C. 2921.321 in response to 'barking' with or at a police dog is prohibited where the defendant is at

least thirty feet removed from the animal and there is no possibility of any physical contact with the police dog." The trial court dismissed the charges against Johnson.

The State of Ohio asserts that the trial court's decision to dismiss the harassment charges was erroneous because the court misinterpreted R.C. 2921.321 by adding an element of proximity (30 feet) not found in the statute. In addition, the state asserts that regardless of whether the dismissal of the harassment charges was proper, the resisting arrest complaint was erroneously dismissed.

APPELLEE'S BRIEF

1. Argument#1; Johnson was in fact not in violation of 2921.321

According to Ohio Revised Code.2921.321, a person has to be within 30 feet for this code to be put into effect.

2. Argument#2: Officer Tanner arrested Johnson without probable cause

Officer Tanner stated that Johnson was in violation of Ohio Revised Code.2921.321, which he was not. Therefore, Officer Tanner did not have probable cause to arrest Johnson, which means that Tanner is in violation of the fourth amendment.

3. Argument #3: Johnson should never have been charged with resisting arrest.

Due to all the previous evidence, Johnson was not in violation of Ohio Revised code 2921.33 (Resisting arrest). Therefore, the charges should be dropped.

Conclusion:

The trial court correctly found the defendant Johnson not guilty for the harassment of a police animal. They missed the 30 feet rule statute in 2921.321. Therefore, the charges for resisting arrest were erroneously dismissed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Swackhammer

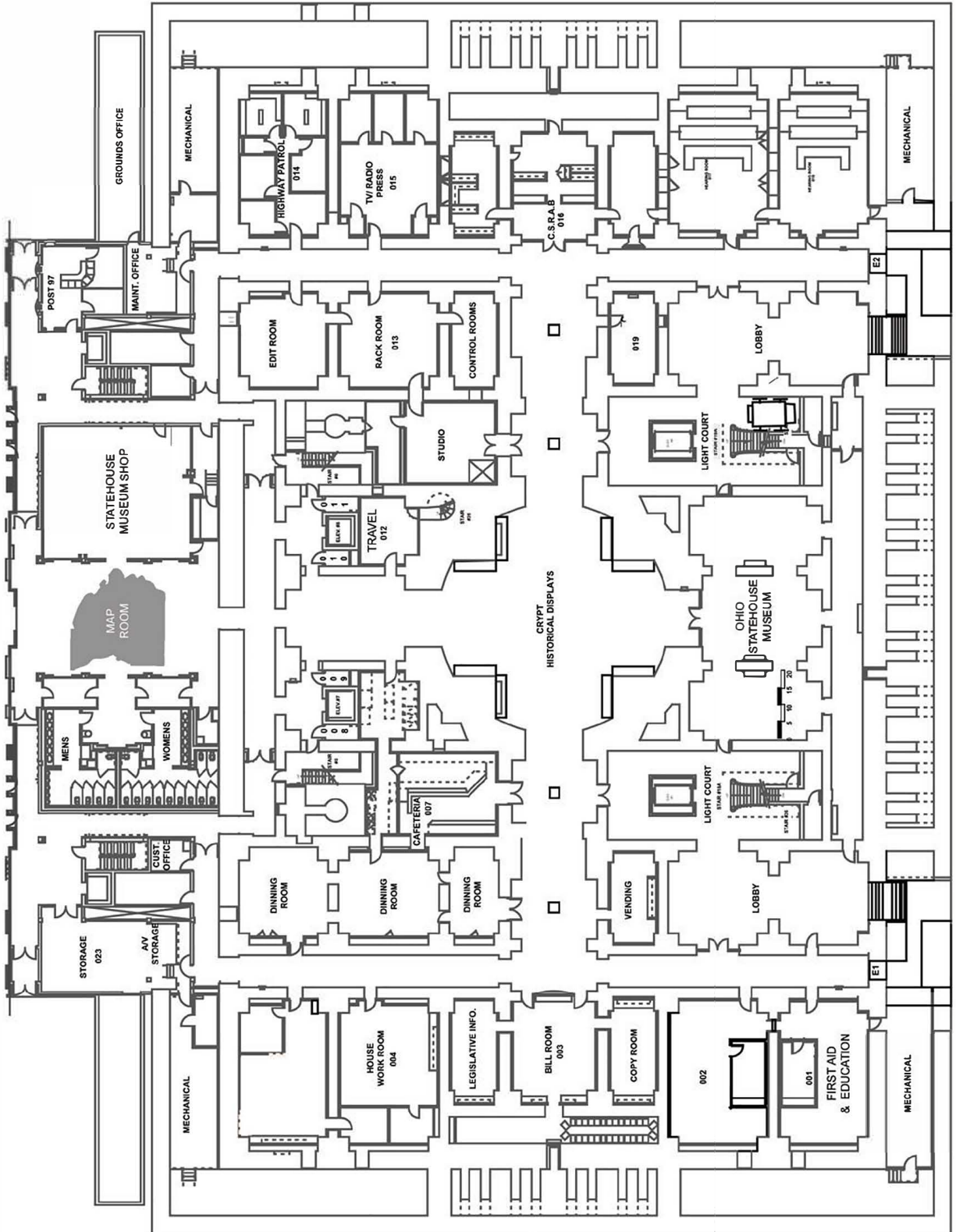
APPELLANT’S BRIEF

1. Jeremy was resisting officer Tanner when being arrested which is breaking the revised code, section 2921.33, which states No person, recklessly or by force, shall resist or interfere with a lawful arrest of the person or another person and, during the course of or as a result of the resistance or interference, cause physical harm to a law enforcement officer.
2. Witnesses state that Jeremy and his friends had been drinking that night, which could lead to reckless behavior toward the dog.
3. Jeremy was harassing the dog by barking, and taunting at the dog, which is violating the revised code, section 2921.321, which states that the police dog or horse is assisting a law enforcement officer in the performance of the officer's official duties at the time the physical harm is caused or attempted.

Respectfully Submitted,

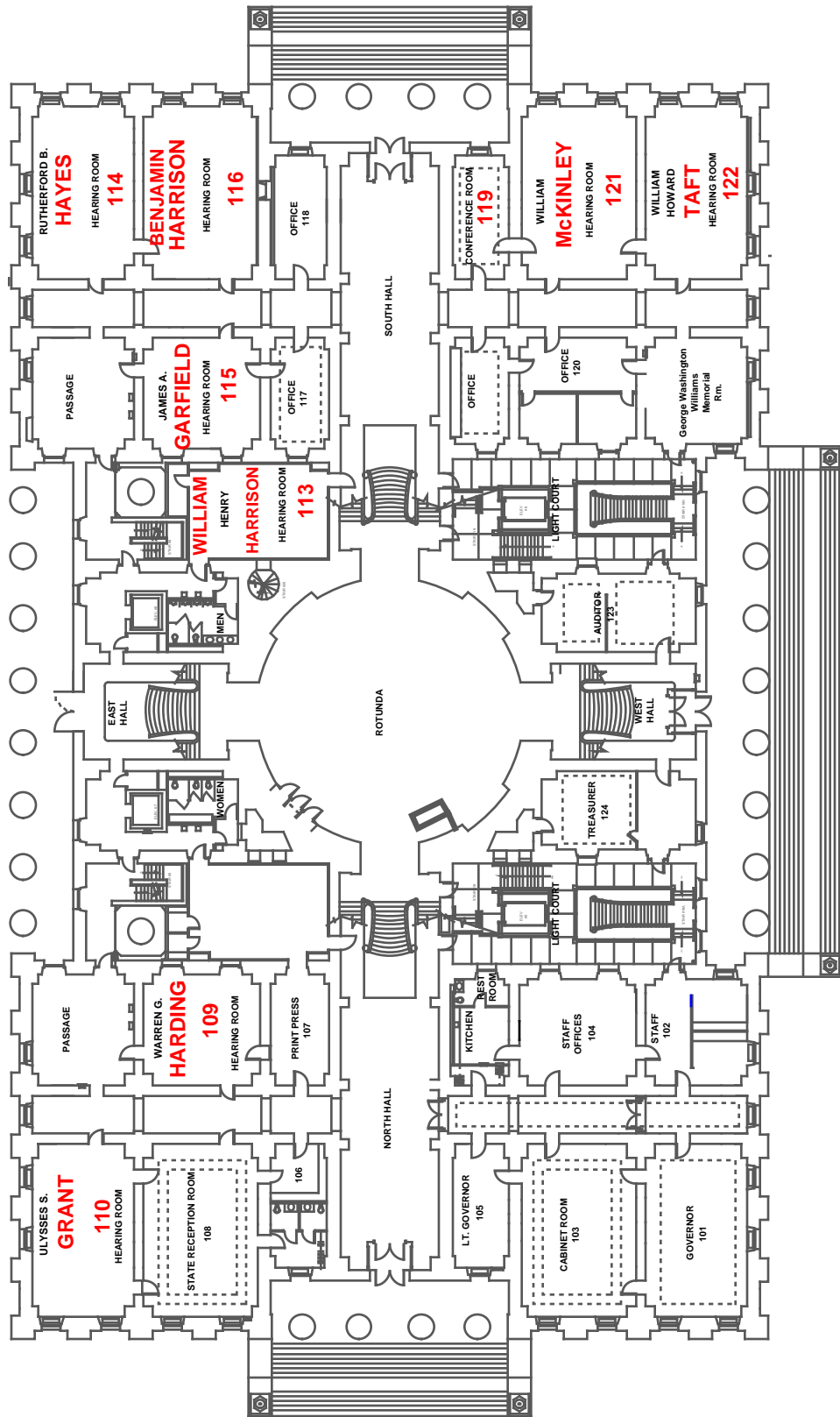
Jayce Moore

STATEHOUSE FLOOR PLANS

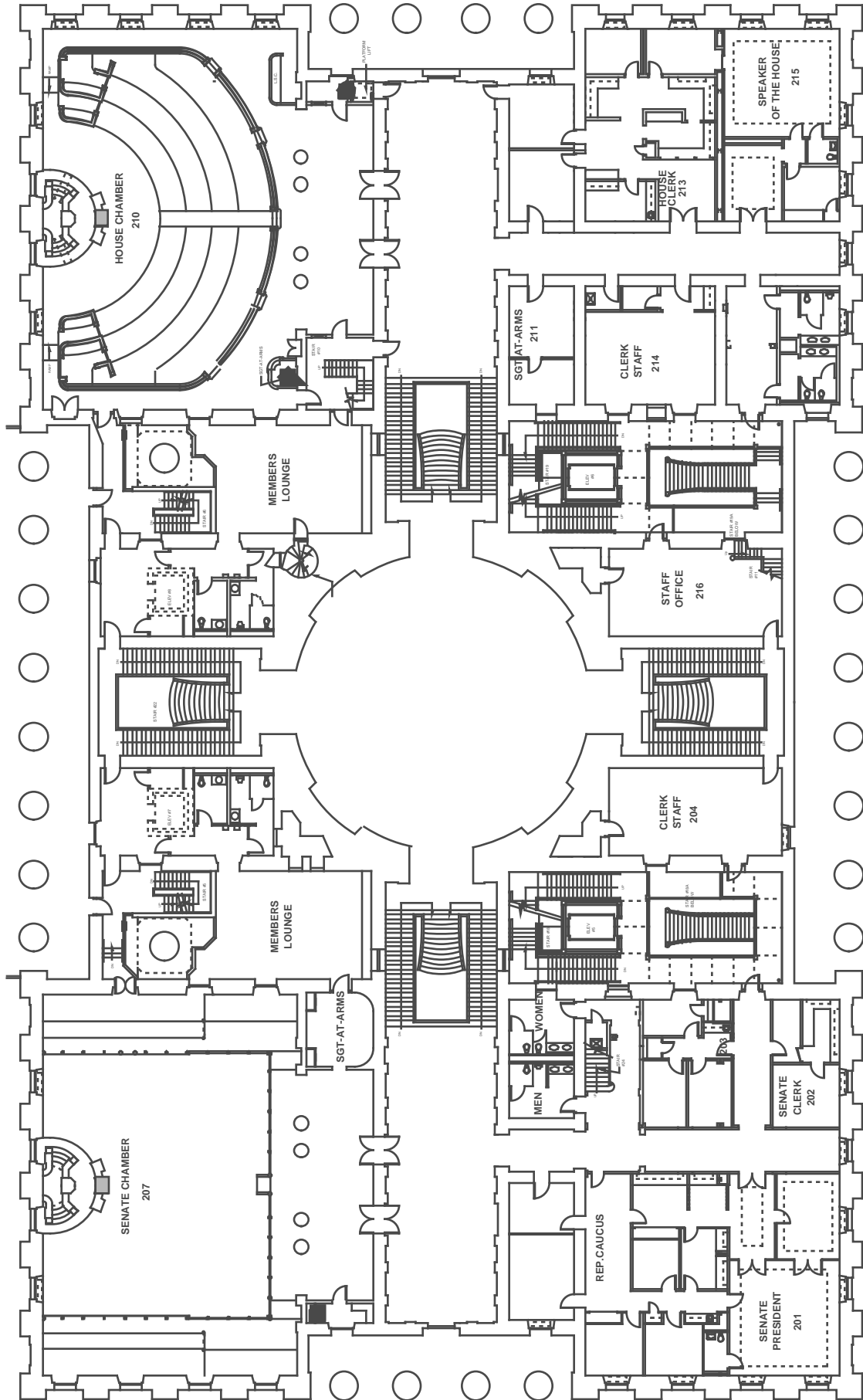


STATEHOUSE GROUND FLOOR

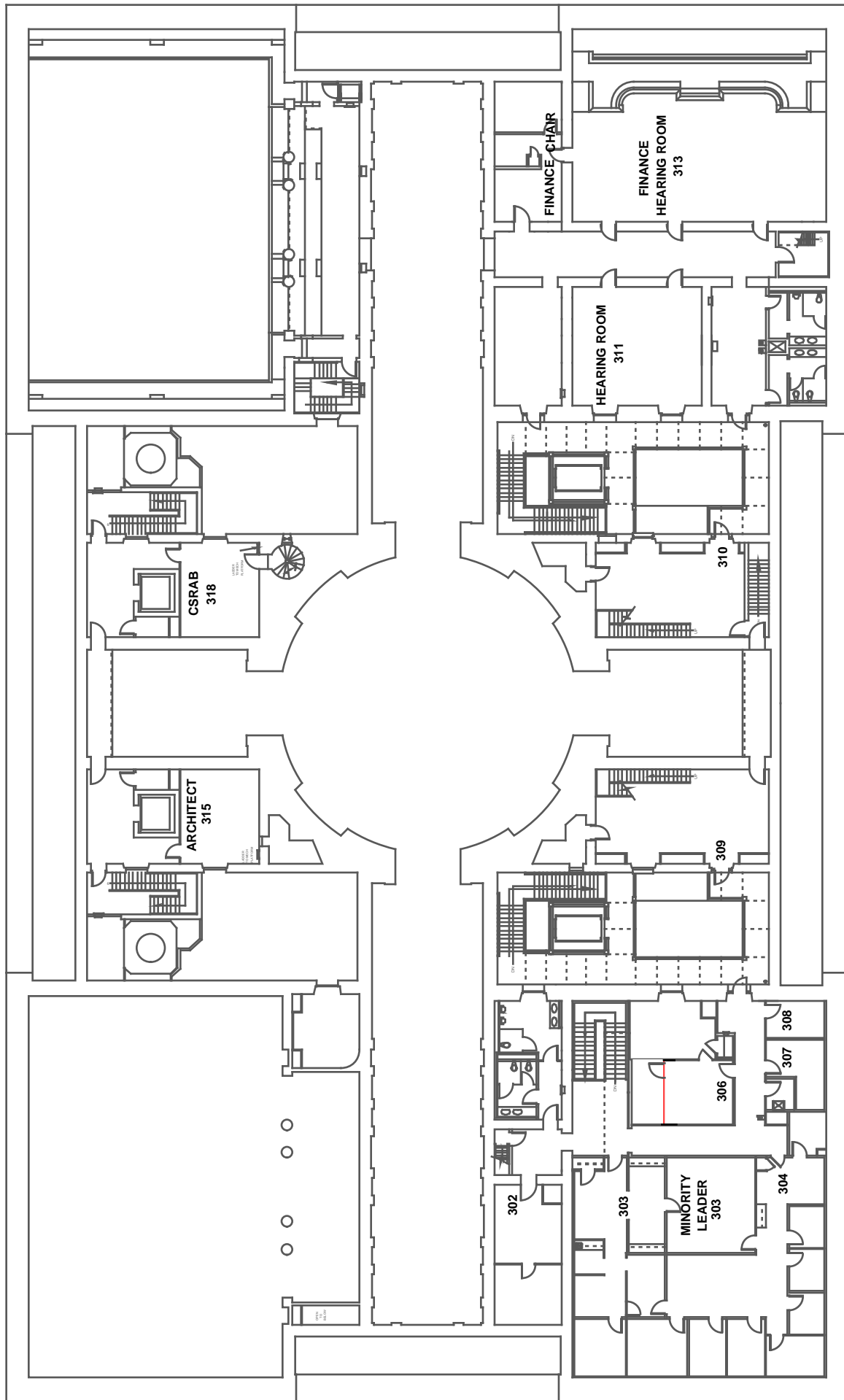
updated 6-23-09 CSRAB



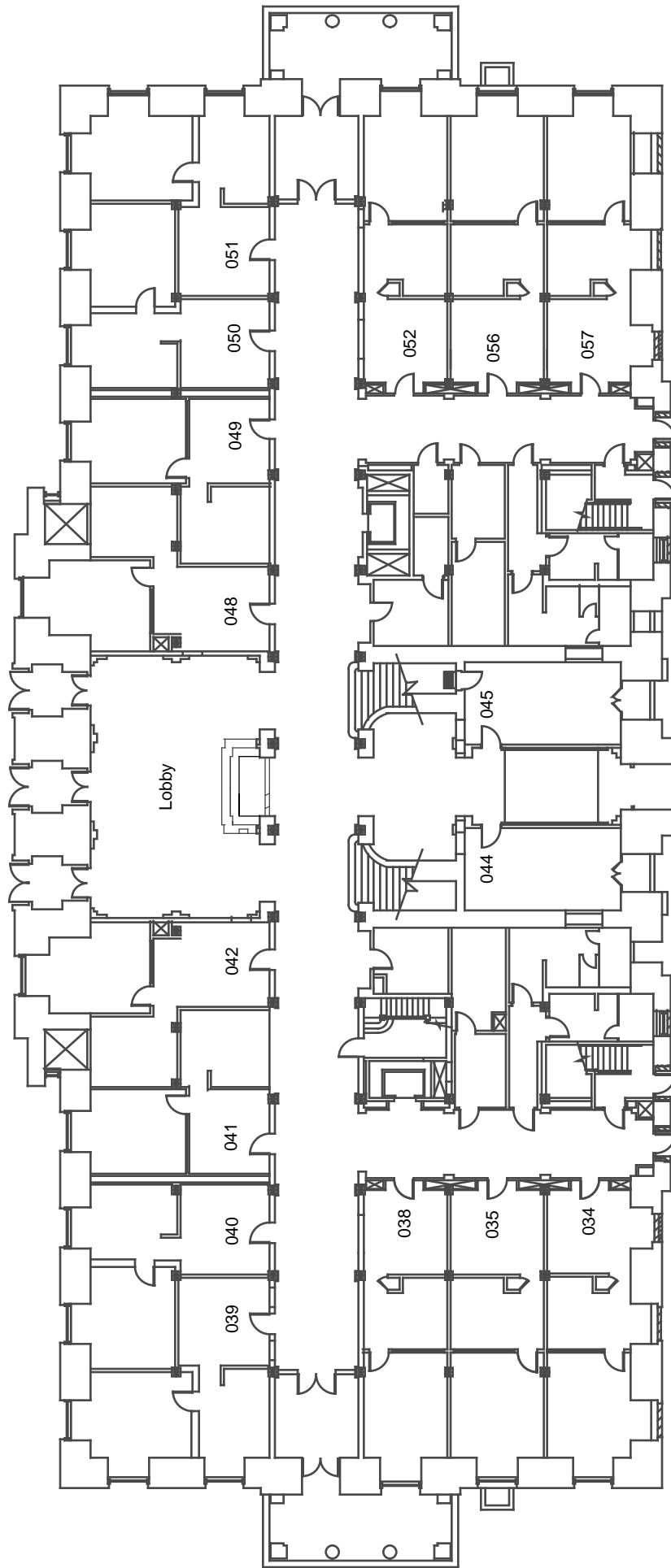
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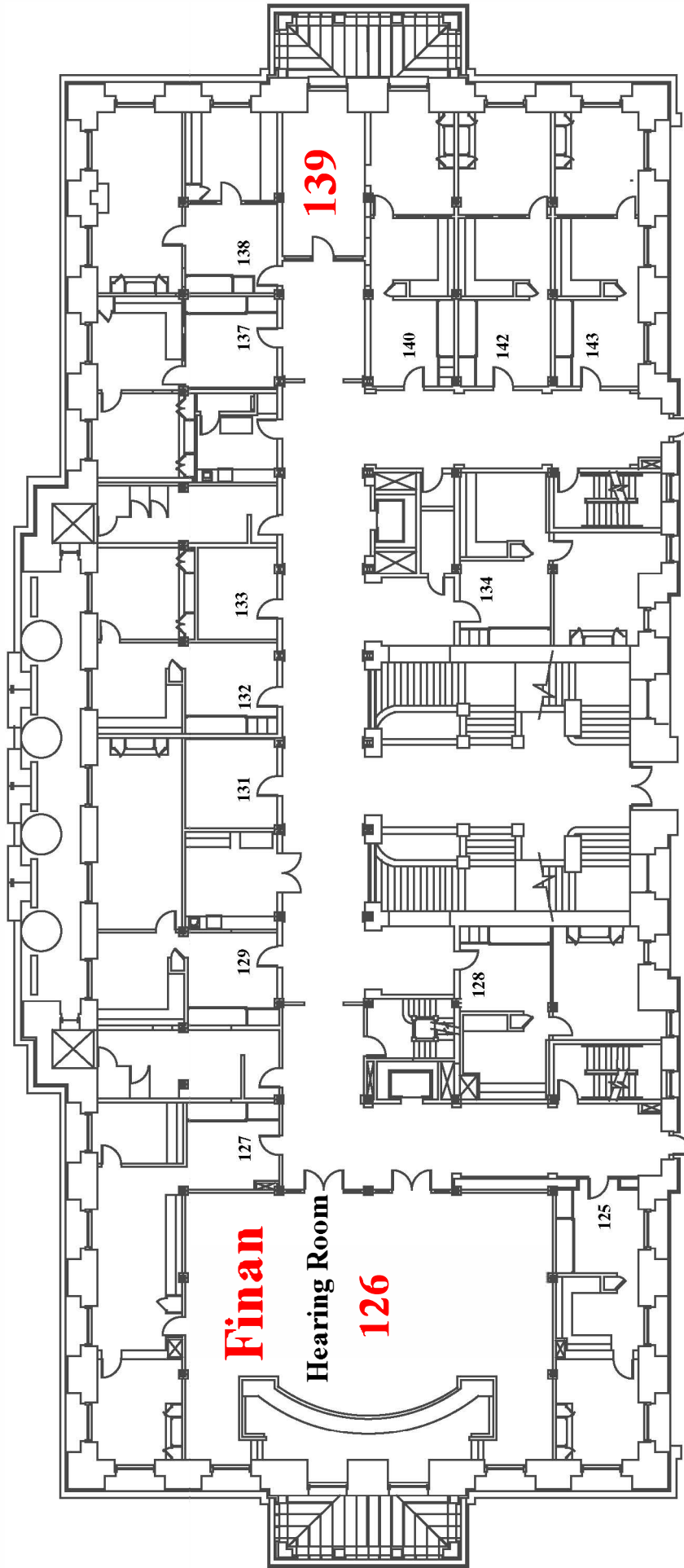
STATEHOUSE 2ND FLOOR



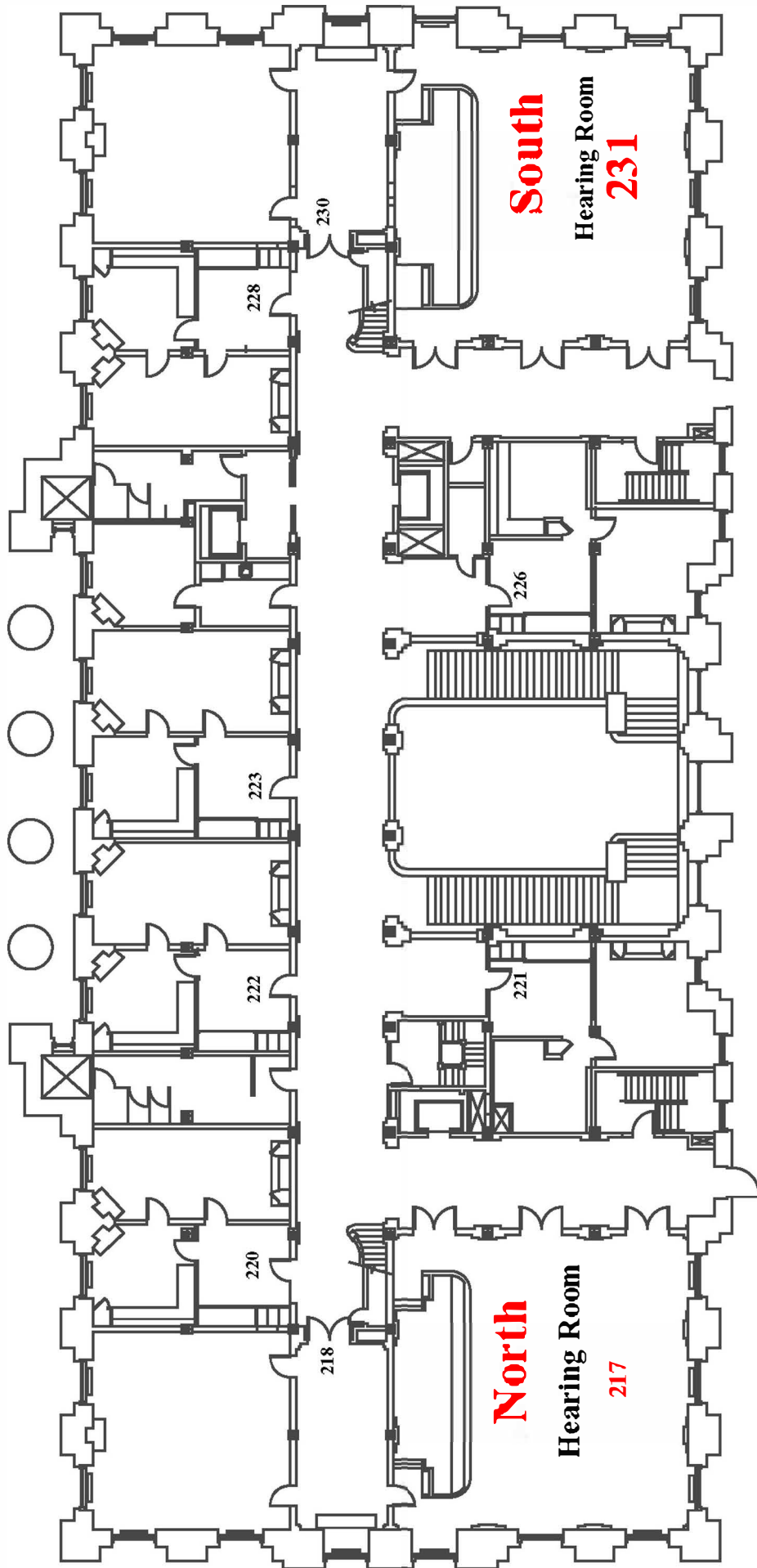
STATEHOUSE 3RD FLOOR



**SENATE BUILDING GROUND
FLOOR**



Senate Building 1st Floor



SENATE BUILDING 2ND FLOOR

2025 OHIO YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE		
NAME	TITLE	DELEGATION
Bautista, Ian	Director of Legislative Affairs	Jackson
Daulton, Daymion	House Co-Clerk	Washington Courthouse
Ervin, Zoie	Associate Justice	Jackson
Fulton, Kollier	Youth Chief Justice	Jackson
Jolly, Lucas	Youth Governor	Jackson
Keslar, Sidney	Chief of Staff	South Webster
Maybin, Chloe	Lt. Governor	South Webster
McCarty, Sabella	House Chaplain	Jackson
Mercer, Maddie	Senate Clerk	Jackson
Milliken, Liam	President of the Senate	Jackson
Ross, Haley	Speaker of the House	Jackson
Stephens, Beau	Senate Chaplain	So. Webster
Whitmore, Kyden	House Co-Clerk	Western
JUDICIAL		
NAME	DELEGATION	
LeFever, Ryan	Jackson	
Lyons, Bralee	Jackson	
Moore, Jayce	Jackson	
Neff, Drew	Jackson	
Swackhammer, Jordan	Jackson	
Valentine, Ava	Jackson	
Williams, Sophie	Jackson	
Williams, Tayler	Jackson	
LOBBYIST		
NAME	DELEGATION	
Mar Hoover, Kerrigan	Western	
Slack, Raylee	South Webster	
Smith, Eden	South Webster	
Teed, Arianna	Western	
PAGES		
NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DELEGATION
When not paging for committees, you are pages for your Floor Chamber		
Blackburn, Mason	House Committee 4	Western
Colburn, Macie	Senate Committee 2	Western
Kilgour, Cameron	House Committee 1	Jackson
Shores, Dana	Senate Committee 1	Butler County
Tackett, Breleigh	House Committee 2	Western
Walls, Chase	House Committee 3	Western
PRESS		
NAME	DELEGATION	
Gedeon, Ethan	Western	
Grooms, Jagger	Western	
Mar Hoover, Landon	Western	
Satterfield, Wesley	Western	
Stone, Emma	South Webster	
Triplett, Dylan	Jackson	

LEGISLATIVE

NAME	DELEGATION	SEAT	HEARD IN	MEMBER OF
Aldridge, Ava	Butler County	S 26	S 02	S 01
Allen, Lucy	Wellington	S 20	S 01	S 02
Allen, Madison	Washington Court House	H 52	H 02	H 04
Arthur, Abbott	Wellington	H 58	H 04	H 01
Awan, Ameer	Wellington	H 18	H 03	H 02
Bansal, Mansi	Wellington	S 24	S 02	S 01
Barton, Zac	Wellington	H 11	H 03	H 02
Becker, Henry	Wellington	H 15	H 04	H 01
Bernard, Will	Wellington	H 28	H 03	H 02
Blackburn, Dottie	Wellington	S 06	S 02	S 01
Bong, Phoebe	Wellington	H 26	H 01	H 04
Bong, Sabrina	Wellington	H 27	H 01	H 04
Bowling, Riley	Butler County	S 27	S 02	S 01
Brady, Isaac	Wellington	H 25	H 02	H 03
Braswell, Reid	Wellington	H 35	H 01	H 04
Braswell, Ross	Wellington	S 16	S 01	S 02
Braunsdorf, Emerson	Wellington	S 30	S 01	S 02
Browning, Eli	Jackson	H 55	H 01	H 02
Butler, Benjamin	Wellington	Senate K	S 01	S 02
Cartmell, Catherine	Wellington	S 32	S 01	S 02
Cellino, Eli	Wellington	H 17	H 03	H 02
Chong, Joowon	Wellington	H 43	H 04	H 01
Chuwan, Rohan	Butler County	H 71	H 02	H 01
Cios, Isabella	Wellington	H 32	H 01	H 03
Clark, Alice	Wellington	H 60	H 03	H 02
Cooke, Elizabeth	Wellington	H 69	H 03	H 04
Corso, Lorenzo	Wellington	S 03	S 02	S 01
Edwards, Kee	Butler County	Senate L	S 02	S 01
Edwards, Lane	Wellington	S 14	S 02	S 01
Ehlers, Micah	Wellington	H 33	H 01	H 03
Ehlers, Noah	Wellington	S 28	S 01	S 02
Evans, Deegan	Jackson	H 54	H 01	H 02
Farmer, Callie	Western	S 09	S 02	S 01
Fite, Leevi	Western	S 01	S 01	S 02
Fling, Emma	Wellington	H 68	H 03	H 04
Gavazzi, John	Wellington	H 04	H 02	H 03
Graham, Solomon	Wellington	H 16	H 04	H 01
Hashem, Lily	Wellington	S 11	S 02	S 01
Henry, Makenna	Wellington	H 46	H 02	H 04
Huang, Steven	Wellington	H 06	H 03	H 02

LEGISLATIVE - CONTINUED

NAME	DELEGATION	SEAT	HEARD IN	MEMBER OF
Humbert, Oscar	Wellington	H 47	H 02	H 04
Hunter, Kyra	Wellington	H 29	H 03	H 04
Johnson, Maxwell	Wellington	S 15	S 01	S 02
Johnson, Mika	Wellington	H 64	H 01	H 03
Jones, Tommy	Wellington	H 44	H 03	H 01
Judd, Sigal	Wellington	S 17	S 01	S 02
Kalyanam, Shivum	Wellington	H 48	H 01	H 02
Keller, Broden	Washington Court House	H 53	H 02	H 04
Kesani, Hashrith	Wellington	H 40	H 04	H 02
Kilgren, Hanna	Wellington	H 01	H 01	H 04
King, Cameron	Wellington	H 12	H 03	H 02
Kirsner, Ari	Wellington	H 57	H 04	H 01
Kwak, Koen	Wellington	H 49	H 01	H 02
Lanning, Charlie	Wellington	H 37	H 02	H 03
Leahy, Graciela	Wellington	S 21	S 01	S 02
Leahy, Mateo	Wellington	H 42	H 04	H 01
Lyons, Kelly	Washington Court House	H 73	H 01	H 03
Mahaffey, Jack	Wellington	H 45	H 03	H 01
Martin, Griffin	Wellington	S 18	S 01	S 02
Martinez, Amanda	Wellington	H 02	H 01	H 04
Michailidis, Nectarios	Wellington	H 24	H 02	H 03
Miller, Ethan	Wellington	S 31	S 01	S 02
Moore, Callee	Washington Court House	H 72	H 01	H 03
Obayuwana, Zalika	Wellington	S 25	S 02	S 01
Otcasek, Donovan	Wellington	H 21	H 02	H 01
Otcasek, Lincoln	Wellington	H 39	H 03	H 01
Peterson, Avery	Wellington	S 13	S 02	S 01
Price, Rio	Wellington	S 22	S 02	S 01
Raghunathan, Annika	Wellington	H 07	H 04	H 01
Raver, Coleton	Wellington	H 23	H 01	H 04
Reed, Gretchen	Washington Court House	H 09	H 04	H 01
Remley, Jackson	Wellington	H 19	H 03	H 02
Rosan, Stephen	Wellington	S 29	S 01	S 02
Ruegsegger, Taj	Wellington	S 10	S 02	S 01
Rufus, Parker	Wellington	H 59	H 04	H 01
Schrader, Lillian	Wellington	H 03	H 02	H 03
Shaver, Nicholas	Wellington	H 41	H 04	H 02
Shen, Annie	Wellington	S 04	S 02	S 01
Shihab, Isabel	Wellington	S 08	S 01	S 02
Shores, Caleb	Butler County	H 13	H 04	H 03
Singh, Dea	Wellington	S 07	S 02	S 01

LEGISLATIVE - CONTINUED

NAME	DELEGATION	SEAT	HEARD IN	MEMBER OF
Smith, Maxwell	Wellington	H 38	H 03	H 01
Sniderman, Asher	Wellington	H 36	H 02	H 03
Sodhi, Jay	Wellington	H 34	H 01	H 04
Sodhi, Lauren	Wellington	H 66	H 04	H 03
Srishti, Shubhangi	Butler County	H 14	H 04	H 03
Stern, Andrew	Wellington	H 22	H 01	H 04
Stiffler, Cannon	Jackson	H 31	H 02	H 03
Suchland-Winnubst, Micah	Wellington	H 65	H 01	H 03
Talbott-Boord, Jady	Wellington	H 30	H 03	H 04
Thompson, Caroline	Wellington	H 62	H 02	H 04
Thompson, Mary Claire	Wellington	H 67	H 04	H 03
Thompson, Paige	Wellington	H 63	H 02	H 04
Timsina, Sekhar	Butler County	H 70	H 02	H 01
Tong, Nadia	Wellington	H 61	H 03	H 02
Trubilowicz, Atticus	Wellington	H 08	H 04	H 01
Tubuo, Timchia	Wellington	Senate J	S 01	S 02
Uwaezuoke, Uchenna	Butler County	Senate M	S 02	S 01
VanDixhorn, Genevieve	Wellington	S 05	S 02	S 01
Varma, Ranvir	Wellington	S 23	S 02	S 01
Wade, Malcolm	Wellington	S 33	S 01	S 02
Ware, Chase	Western	S 02	S 01	S 02
Weaver, Brayden	Wellington	S 19	S 01	S 02
Wheeler, Finnegan	Wellington	H 20	H 02	H 01
Woods, Kendelle	Washington Court House	H 10	H 04	H 01
Yang, James	Wellington	H 05	H 03	H 02
Young, Riya	Wellington	S 12	S 02	S 01

ADVISORS

NAME	DELEGATION	ASSIGNMENT
Butler, Jackie	Wellington	House Committee 04
Cornett, Erin	Wellington	Senate Advisor
Fite, Rebecca	Western	Pages / Lobbyist
Geruntino, Nick	Washington Court House	House Advisor
Green, Cindy	Jackson	Court Advisor
Harper, Jessica	Jackson	House Committee 02
Hightower II, Stephen	Butler County	Senate Committee 01
Hill, Belon	Butler County	House Committee 03
Hunt, Sara	Western	Senate Committee 02
Hykes, Cyndy	South Webster	Governor Advisor
Raghunathan, Rishi	Wellington	House Committee 01
Shores, DeAnna	Butler County	Press

YLA STAFF		
NAME	POSITION	ASSIGNMENT
Cooper, David	Horseshoe / Program Staff	Court, Photographer
King, David	Executive Director	
Ridenour, Alicia	Fiscal Officer / Program Coordinator	Bill Coordinator



Thank you to all the advisors and volunteers for the help given to our youth and staff before, during and after Youth in Government.

We could not do this without your dedication!

To the YG officers and members, thank you for your hardwork in making this YG a success. We have enjoyed working with you this past year. We hope your weekend is everything you thought it would be and more.

We wish the graduating members much success in your future endeavors. Keep YLA a part of your life as an alum and mentor to those coming up behind you.

To the newly elected officers, we sincerely look forward to working with you in the coming year to make your 2026 YG a success.

Officer Leadership Corps

YLA groups, Youth in Government, Model United Nations Officers Lead in Building Better Futures

Officer Charter

Student officers strengthen, improve and expand all our youth programs to involve more students building better homes, schools and communities across our two states. Student officers are program leaders – in effect the youth program arm of our Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association Board.

Officers convene at a Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June to organize, identify and plan how to strengthen all our programs, increase the numbers of students involved and the impact students will have creating the future. The opportunity is there to make differences for good building on and adding to the legacy of officer and member accomplishments that already include –

- ◆ A network of YLAs developing more informed, involved and prepared teenagers capable of governance who take responsible volunteer actions tackling issues from hunger to literacy – homelessness- entrepreneurship – safety – elderly - environment – bullying and more;
- ◆ Building Horseshoe in West Virginia into a life changing experience for hundreds of teens and children each year that is renewing the base of volunteers and leaders for our communities, state and nation;
- ◆ Launching the creation of a new nationally significant Center for Community Leadership at Cave Lake in Ohio to renew family, organizational, community, and civic life across Ohio with on-site programs for 31,000 and a statewide outreach to 6,000 youth;
- ◆ Creating one of Ohio’s top ten Make A Difference Day projects at Cave Lake;
- ◆ Volunteer Teen Corps helping needy boys and girls at the Governor’s Youth Opportunity Camps turn their lives to achievement;
- ◆ Using real life experience to propose legislation to the annual YG Student Legislature that every year helps hundreds of teens understand the role of state government as they propose legislative solutions for a better state;
- ◆ Enhancing understanding of the judicial system as students appeal cases to YG’s Student Supreme Court;
- ◆ Opening windows on the world to teenagers presenting Resolutions in Model United Nations to solve international issues that impact the future as well as their communities, state, nation and world;
- ◆ Producing thousands of better citizens, local volunteers and leaders plus state and national leaders including former Ohio Governor and Peace Corps Director Richard Celeste, the late Ohio Chief Justice Tom Moyer, and Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services;
- ◆ 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting the vote to 18 year olds;

A Call for Officers – Now is the Time to Build the Future!

Students with the interest, commitment and time are called to step up as local YLA officers, YG and UN officers to lead YLA to increased participation, effectiveness and achievement locally and in our states. Officers begin in June’s Leadership Summit at Horseshoe.

Contact the YLA Leadership Center or your Advisor to get involved.

Officer Leadership Corps

Strengthening, Improving, Building Impact in our Schools, Communities and our Two States

The Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association Board counts on officers to lead YLA, YG and UN to success. Officers with the commitment, vision and time are needed. We need officers who want to make a difference! Our work begins at our Leadership Summits. The high school Summit and the middle school Summit are in June.

Officer Corps

YLA groups are real-life laboratories of citizenship where students learn how to organize and tackle issues confronting families, their schools and communities by creating, leading and governing local YLAs. Students apply classroom and life lessons to identify, plan and take volunteer actions to improve family, school and community life. YLAs build better futures by making differences for good!

Secure your Officers before May 20th and submit their names and contact information to YLA.

Have as many officers as possible – and for sure your new President – represents you at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. Assure success by getting your officers trained and on board as part of our Officer Corps.

Youth in Government Officer Corps

YG officers review the just completed program, identify ways to improve YG for the New Year, establish goals for the year and lay out a plan of action. Officers engage other students in YG sessions to motivate them to participate and to return home ready to recruit their peers.

YG officers challenge everyone at the Summit to identify issues that need solved by the volunteer actions back home. Out of tackling issues like hunger, homelessness, the environment, needs of seniors, and other problems, students propose Legislation to YG's Student Legislature.

Officer positions elected by students at YG are Governor, Lt. Governor (Ohio only), Speaker, President, Clerks of the House and Senate, Chaplains of the House and Senate, Chief Justice. Appointment positions are Governor's Cabinet, Associate Justices, Press Editor and Committee Chairs.

Model United Nations Officer Corps

UN officers review the just completed program, identify ways to improve UN for the New Year, establish goals for the year and lay out a plan of action. Officers engage other students in UN sessions to motivate them to participate and to return home ready to recruit their peers. YLA will offer separate high school and middle school UN Assemblies.

UN officers challenge everyone at the Summit to identify international issues that need solutions and gain understanding how world issues impact their communities and future. Resolutions presented by students to the Model UN extend YLA's impact beyond the community and state to the world. Hunger, the environment, illiteracy, health and energy are just some world issues confronting our communities that YLA students tackle.

Officer positions elected by students at UN are President of the General Assembly, Secretary General, and Council Presidents. Appointment positions are Vice President of Councils.

Officer Responsibilities and Qualifications

YG officers are members of a YLA currently affiliated with the YLA Leadership Center. Officers are elected at the end of a YG session to serve through the next YG. The year of service is an opportunity to develop and use one's skills, improve YG, help other students have a positive YG experience, involve new schools and students, and advance YLA's youth leadership program.

Local YLA Nomination

Before a YLA holds its nominating meeting, be sure every candidate has the competence, commitment, time, people and social skills as well as attitudes required for to develop and lead others. Officers must be at ease in diverse places including Horseshoe, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill/Case Rating and YG.

Candidates must win the nomination of their local YLA for the office sought.

In other words, a person cannot just decide to run for an office. The person must secure the nomination of their local YLA.

Delegations may nominate no more than one (1) candidate per office.

The local YLA must have an officer nominating meeting. Every candidate is to have a chance to seek nomination. If there is more than one candidate seeking the nomination for an office, their local YLA will take a vote. The winner of that vote becomes the nominee.

Delegations submit their official nomination (s) on the Officer Candidate Nomination form in the Legislative manual by the deadline in the YG Calendar.

Potential Candidates

Before seeking the nomination for an office, make sure –

- ◆ Officers lead YG for a year in diverse places and programs. An officer must be at ease in YLA Summits, conferences and retreats, Bill/Case Rating, and YG. These places are intentionally chosen for the unique ways each calls people to engage with people in community building. YG is much more than parliamentary procedure, passing laws and debate.

Governor and Cabinet, Speaker, President, Chief Justice and Associate Justices participate in the Summer Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. All other officers including the appointed Press Editor are invited and welcome to join them at the Summit!

YG is about being a citizen with others . . . and this takes place in real places where people must act to build community. Because these places and programs are reality – not a virtual reality – they require real people (officers) whose positive attitudes and actions build responsible and engaged citizens.

- ◆ One can commit the time, work and money the position requires. Check one's calendar, check with parents and be sure the family's calendar will allow the commitment of the significant time the office requires. Check one's financial position – that of the family and the local YLA to be sure the money is available. If both time and money are available, lock them in to assure they will still be available if the office is won.

Do not seek the office, get it, and later ask to be excused from any of the position' responsibilities. Other defeated candidates were fully prepared to carry out their duties at these four programs and there were others who did not run because they could not.

- ◆ An officer who does not fulfill their responsibilities may resign or may be removed from office. If that happens, another person will be appointed or elected to the position. The new officer will complete the term of office through April YG.

Nomination for Office

Responsibility of the Nominating YLA

Nominate candidates with the competence to do the job. Please see Officer Duties, Local Nomination and Potential Candidates information above and Officer Responsibilities below.

Officer Responsibilities

Lead from the bottom up – not the top down

Set the example:

- ◆ Do what one asks and/or expects others to do;
- ◆ Help others do and become their best;
- ◆ Assert the purpose of YLA Youth In Government to peers;
- ◆ Insist peers achieve the highest levels of competence, personal and group conduct, respect for others Youth in Government and in facilities our program uses;
- ◆ Practice our core values of Respect – Responsibility – Caring – Trustworthiness – Honesty – Fairness – Citizenship.

Attitude

- ◆ Positive, likes people, welcomes and involves others, helps others succeed.
- ◆ At ease in diverse places including Summit at Horseshoe, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill / Case Rating and at YG – each place is different and all are deliberately chosen to engage people with people
building understanding and community building – wants to be in these places to enjoy the experience.
- ◆ Puts others first, thinks and acts based on what is best for the group.

Responsible

- ◆ Accept and carry out responsibility;
- ◆ Recognize that Youth in Government is youth led and adult supported;
- ◆ Insist peers be responsible for their attitudes, decisions and actions and that they all support the purpose, procedures and conduct expected by YLA and its Youth in Government;
- ◆ Act responsibly – it is not acceptable to say “that is the Advisor’s job”;
- ◆ Capable and willing to carry out the responsibilities listed in this section of the manual.

Competence

- ◆ Know and understand your job;
- ◆ Know the procedures, carry them out and insist peers do too;
- ◆ Select others for leadership positions based on their competence;
- ◆ Teach peers how to use the procedures;
- ◆ Mature in attitudes and actions.

Involvement

- ◆ Involve others, encourage others, bring more schools and students into YG;
- ◆ Model the involvement expected by others

Term of Office - From election or appointment to the adjournment of the next YG; the job is done all year, not just at the spring YG session.

Officers at the Summer Leadership Summit

- ◆ Train for and practice one's responsibilities
- ◆ Review YG Exit Surveys
- ◆ Determine how to strengthen the program
- ◆ Present YG to all participants, encourage their participation, train students to return home ready to prepare their members
- ◆ Learn how to connect YLA's service civic engagement and values to Youth in Government
- ◆ Build a statewide network of peers practicing YLA's core values, advancing YG, and building better futures for all.

Officers at YLA Conferences and Retreats

- ◆ Be prepared in procedure, responsibility, how to do your job and do it so your example of competence sends the message everyone is to achieve the highest standards of conduct, competence, and participation.
- ◆ Involve and engage others—encourage new schools and students to participate.

At Bill/Case Rating

- ◆ Know your job so well and be able to perform it with competence that the level of performance by everyone is raised to the highest levels.

Leadership Team

Governor

Select Cabinet

- ◆ Up to 4 persons
- ◆ Only one from a school
- ◆ Ideally no one from the governor's home school
- ◆ Cabinet Applications accepted at YG and the week after YG
- ◆ YLA sends applications to Youth Governor two days after due date
- ◆ Youth governor's selections made and YLA informed one week after receipt of applications from YLA
- ◆ YLA office sends letters of appointment or not appointed
- ◆ Governor and Cabinet begin work at Horseshoe Summer Leadership Summit in June

Officers at Summit

- ◆ Governor and Cabinet review Exit Surveys to determine how to improve for next year
- ◆ With the assistance of the Cabinet, develop a legislative platform

- ◆ By week's end, Governor determines Cabinet assignments
- ◆ Assist in training peers to participate and to train their members back home
- ◆ Recruit new schools and students to participate

Public

- ◆ Serve as a member of the Youth in Government Committee
- ◆ Speak on behalf of the program at events as requested by YLA

President of the Senate and Speaker of the House

- ◆ At Leadership Summit review Exit Surveys to determine ways to improve the Student Legislature, prepare the Legislative training portion of summit, conduct the training, identify students not in YG and recruit their participation
- ◆ Lead other legislative officers present
- ◆ Preside over legislative sessions, insist all participate on an intellectual and productive level
- ◆ Involve and engage other students, encourage new schools and students to participate in YG

Lt. Governor

- ◆ Assist and support the Governor
- ◆ Preside over the Cabinet for the Governor and lead the Cabinet in its work
- ◆ Assist other students to have a successful YG experience. Encourage new school and student participation.

Clerks

- ◆ Know and practice your duties
- ◆ At the Summer Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill Rating, and YG perform your duties to assist in the operation of your House or Senate
- ◆ Assist your Speaker or President
- ◆ At YG, pick up Bills and the Order of the Day from the Bill Coordinator before legislative sessions
- ◆ Keep attendance at each session
- ◆ Read the Bills including amendments as directed by the Presiding Officer
- ◆ Count votes, report vote to Presiding Officer
- ◆ Record and sign all legislation
- ◆ Return Bills to Bill Coordinator, submit completed Bill Disposition and verbally report action taken on each Bill

Chaplains

- ◆ Prepare messages with an impact calling participants to YG's purpose
- ◆ Share your leadership at summer Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill Rating and of course YG
- ◆ Assist your Speaker or President

Press Editor

- ◆ Take the opportunity to join the officers at the Summer Leadership Summit, YLA conferences and retreats, Bill / Case Rating to make connections helpful to you at YG and to be in on "the ground floor" of YG preparations and operations
- ◆ Take a lead in creating outstanding YG Press Corps
- ◆ Encourage, lead, involve and insist all Press Corps members perform with competence

Cabinet

- ◆ Support and represent the Governor's view on proposed legislation
- ◆ Encourage new schools and students to participate in YG
- ◆ Help all participants succeed
- ◆ Report to the Governor legislative views of Committees, Legislature and members

Competence

An important goal is to raise the level of competence of Legislators, Committee Chairs and all Officers. Success requires a joint effort by Officers, Staff and Advisors. Officers must accept their responsibility to lead their peers in directions required for a successful YG. Officers must take on responsibility to stand up to their peers when needed to correct or re-direct them and must always stand up to lead in positive ways. Any officer who cannot do this is expected to resign so that a person who can do the job with the right attitude can be appointed to get the job done.

Before Seeking Office

Potential candidates are to be sure they have the attitudes to positively participate in and provide the leadership needed throughout the year. Candidates must be sure they can commit the time the position requires. Do not seek the office, get it and then later ask to be excused from any of the position's responsibilities. Others who ran and were defeated were fully prepared to carry out their duties and there were others who did not run because they knew they could not.

One year of previous Youth in Government experience required for Speaker and President. Governor Candidates must have two years of YG experience. Governor Candidates may count the current year participation as one of those two years.

It is not just to get the office – it is to carry out the commitments of the office.

Election Procedure at Youth in Government

Candidates demonstrate their ability to do the responsibilities of the position they seek. There is no campaign, campaign speech, campaign material, electronic or phone campaigns. Campaigning for office in the manner regularly observed in real-life politics is prohibited.

No person should be eliminated from running for office because of finances. Candidates do not "buy" an election because of "stuff" (i.e. buttons, giveaways, posters, flashy websites, business cards, etc.). It is also essential that the process of the election not overshadow the actual work being done at YLA Youth in Government or Model UN.

Candidates are to be elected based on their positions on issues, leadership and an informed electorate. We encourage members to explore the qualifications, leadership record, and character of each candidate seeking their support.

YLA reserves the right to rule on campaign-related issues that arise as a result of evolving technology. Candidates who do not follow approved campaign procedures may be disqualified from the election process.

Each YLA member is encouraged to take an active part (as a candidate, or as a voting member). Our purpose is to select the most qualified candidates for the job. Our purpose in running for offices to serve should never be overshadowed by the election process (campaigning).

Delegates are responsible to vote for the best candidate and are not to be influenced by their Advisor or other adults seeking to determine the outcome of an election.

Campaign Do's and Don'ts:

YES

- Conversations with delegates (one-on-one)
- Social Media use that is positive and does not attack other candidates. IF a candidate has a website, it must be created and hosted with absolutely no cost/expense associated with it whatsoever.
- Demonstration of abilities during each program

NO

- Speeches/campaigning during program (other than YLA-scheduled times)
- Buttons, posters, flyers, giveaways
- Social Media that attacks another candidate
- Signage/flyers at hotel or Capitol/Statehouse

Candidates Follow This Procedure

Chaplain candidates give a three (3) minute presentation that calls (challenges) the Legislature to its purpose. Chaplain candidates make presentations that demonstrate how they will perform their duties as Chaplain. Candidates for Chaplain may be asked to perform the duties of Chaplain during a session.

Clerk candidates sight read a Bill selected by the Presiding Officer.

Lt. Governor is an elected office in Ohio, not in WV. In WV YLA Youth in Government, the Senate President is the Lt. Governor. Candidates for Lt. Governor speak for 2 minutes on the "Role of the Lt. Governor in the Student Legislature."

President and Speaker candidates preside over a session of the Legislature using a Bill before the Legislature as determined by the Legislative Calendar or a Bill of their choice. The candidate selects the Bill, a person to be Clerk, Authors, Minority and Majority Reporters and Legislators to speak for and against the Bill. Candidates exhibit their knowledge of the procedure by conducting the session that lasts no more than five (5) minutes. The procedure used is:

"The Student Legislature is in session." (gavel to order)

"This being an extraordinary session, we will dispense with the Chaplain's message, and the reading of the Journal and the Order of the Day."

"Is the Author of the Bill present?" (Recognize the Author for a 30 second presentation of the Bill) "Is there a Majority Report?" (no more than 30 seconds)

"Is there a Minority Report?" (no more than 30 seconds)

"The question is, shall the Bill pass?"

After 3 to 5 minutes of discussion and debate, the Chair will call for the question and proceed with

the vote. "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" Those in favor say "aye." Those opposed, say "nay." (The Chair then declares the Bill passed or defeated.)

Governor candidates speak for 3 minutes on their "Legislative Agenda for the Student Legislature." A word of advice to Governor candidates – Avoid making "deals" with other Governor candidates to appoint each other to the Governor's Cabinet. Upon election, one may find that defeated officer candidates may not be the best person(s) to appoint. Don't get boxed in.

There is always an opportunity during the appointment period to appoint one or more defeated candidates if they apply and appear the best person(s) for the job.

Voting Procedure

A simple majority of these eligible votes determines the winning candidate.

Officer

Governor
Lt. Governor (Ohio only)
Clerk & Chaplain
Speaker
President
Chief Justice

Eligible to

Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Press, Lobbyists, Officers
Legislators, Supreme Court Justices, Press, Lobbyists, Officers
Legislators
Members of the House
Members of the Senate
Supreme Court Justices

Note – In case of an office with only one candidate, voters mark their ballot with a "Yes" if they vote in favor of the candidate or write "No" if they oppose. Write in and unmarked ballots are not counted.

Committee Chair & Vice Chair Qualifications & Responsibilities

Committee Chairs Qualifications

1. Ideally, one year experience as a Legislative Delegate;
2. Know the procedure, implement, and engage all committee members;
3. Effective facilitating groups;
4. Participates on an intellectual and productive level;
5. Organized, keeps accurate records, works with Bill Coordinator and Committee Advisor, has excellent verbal and writing skills.

Cannot be a Bill Partner with another Committee Chair or Vice Chair candidate.

Selection Procedure

1. Candidates submit an application that is endorsed by their Advisor.
2. The Speaker and President may begin Committee Chair appointments during the Summer Summit, at YLA conferences and retreats. In the event that Chair positions are open after these times, YLA staff may make appointments.

Opportunities to Learn and to Gain Leadership Experience as a Committee Chair

1. Committee Chairs are invited and welcome to participate in the Summer Summit as well as YLA conferences and retreats for training, practice, relationship building with other students, and experience leading including leading committees.

Bill Rating/Officer Training/Committee Chair Training in February needs the active participation of Committee Chairs. This is the first time Committee Chairs get to see the student legislation proposed for the April YG. Committee Chairs also play a key role in setting the Legislative Calendar (determining when Bills are considered) by participating in the Bill Rating Process.

Responsibilities

1. Prior to Youth in Government, study all Bills assigned to the Committee and review all Bills presented to YG. It is also helpful to contact the Bill Authors who will appear before the Committee, the Lobbyists, Cabinet members and Officers.
2. Represent the committee to the Bill Coordinator.
3. Carry out the Committee procedure.
4. Lead the Committee in active participation on the Floor in the debate on Bills referred by Committee. Get your Committee members to make the Committee's views known to all members during Floor sessions.

Committee Vice Chairs

Qualifications

- ◆ Able to preside in the absence of the Chair.

Selection

- ◆ Senate Vice Chairs may be appointed prior to YG or may be appointed by a Committee Chair at YG if their Committee needs a Vice Chair. Not all Committees may have a Vice Chair. Chairs who may be away from their Committee may ask a Committee member to preside in their absence.

Responsibilities

1. Serve as Clerk of the Committee.
2. Assist the Committee Chair.
3. Preside in the absence of the Chair. The Chair, Clerk or Vice Chair cannot be Legislative partners. Both cannot be absent from the Committee at the same time.

Youth Governor and Cabinet

Governor's Cabinet

The Governor appoints Cabinet members from those who meet the requirements for the office and who apply. Applications are accepted through the week after Youth in Government.

Cabinet members join the Governor and other officers at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. The Officer Leadership Corps reviews the just completed Youth in Government, identifies improvements for the new year, train for their responsibilities and engage other students at the Summit in Youth in Government sessions so they will want to participate in YG as well as return home to encourage others to participate.

The Governor seeks the advice of the Cabinet as the Governor creates a Platform. At the end of the Summit the Governor assigns Cabinet members to head a department and/or area of interest (environment, economic development, safety, education, etc.). Cabinet members are then responsible to become expert in their area.

During the year, at YLA conferences and retreats and at Bill/Case Rating the Cabinet serves as resource persons in those interest areas plus advance the position of the Governor on the issues.

At Youth in Government the Cabinet represents the Governor's interests in Committees and with Legislators. Cabinet members listen to Committee hearings and floor debates in their area of interest, act as the Governor's advocate on related legislation, and report to and advise the Governor on legislation that reaches the Governor's desk.

Successful Cabinet members –

- ◆ Are informed in the areas they represent
- ◆ Understand the legislative process
- ◆ Have excellent people skills
- ◆ Can work on their own and as part of a team
- ◆ Are good listeners and good communicators
- ◆ Help Student Legislators, Lobbyists, Press, Page, and others succeed

Youth Chief Justice and Associate Justices

Associate Justices

The Chief Justice appoints Associate Justices from those who meet the requirements for the office and who apply. Applications are accepted through the week after Youth in Government. Associate Justices join the Chief Justice and other officers at the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices review the just completed Student Supreme Court, identify improvements for the new year, train for their responsibilities and engage other students at the Summit in a Supreme Court session so they will want to participate in the Student Supreme Court at YG as well as return home to encourage others to participate in the YG Judicial program.

During the year, at Fall Conference and at Case Rating the Associate Justices assist the Chief Justice in rating the cases for consideration at YG.

Successful Associate Justices –

- ◆ Understand the YG Judicial process
- ◆ Have excellent people skills
- ◆ Can work on their own and as part of a team
- ◆ Are good listeners and good communicators
- ◆ Help others succeed



2026 Youth Governor Candidate

Haley Ross, Jackson YLA

I will bring leadership, time management, communication, dedication, work-ethic, accountability, and confidence should I be elected as your next Youth Governor.

Previous Youth in Government Participation:

- Freshman – Legislative
- Sophomore – Governor’s Cabinet – Secretary of Tourism
- Junior – Speaker of the House

For me, the most important style of leadership is accountability. I strongly believe in showing up and doing my part in whatever it is I have volunteered for or been asked to do. I would like to be held accountable to any task I am required to complete and do it to the best of my ability. This style of leadership will give delegates someone to count on and allow them to feel comfortable with the process of Ohio Youth in Government.

Community Activities:

- 4-H
- Jackson County Jr Fair Board
- Camp Counseling
- Volunteering at Elevate Ministries
- Attending my youth group every Sunday evening

School Interests and Activities:

- Volleyball
- Youth Leadership Association
- Leo’s Club
- Interact Club
- Student Council
- My Brother’s Buddy
- Drug Free Clubs of America
- Southeast Ohio Model United Nations
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club
- T.A.G.
- Business Professionals of America
- Yearbook

One of my most meaningful service experiences was having the opportunity to serve on the Jackson County Junior Fair Board. Although this is a seven-day event, there are countless hours of fairground preparation, planning, and organizing that goes on months before the fair. Being able to serve my community in this way means the world to me. I am able to help kids with their livestock and seeing them with a smile on their face after their hard work pays off is the most rewarding feeling. I also think that this experience has helped me grow as a person and as a leader. I had the opportunity to announce a livestock show in front of over 350 people. This whole experience has helped me show humility, become more confident in my speaking abilities, and helped me gain valuable leadership and life skills I will carry with me forever.

**2026 Youth Chief Justice Candidate
Zoie Ervin, Jackson YLA**



The skills that I will bring as an officer are leadership, communication, a dedicated work ethic, accountability, responsibility, and management.

Previous Youth in Government Participation:

- Freshman-Judicial
- Sophomore-Judicial
- Junior-Associate Justice

The most important style of leadership to me is dedication. I believe that it is my responsibility to show up to my position with a committed mindset. I believe that if one person is dedicated to their work, it spreads to everyone around them. Dedication is more than putting effort into one thing, it is putting effort into every aspect of life such as showing up as a leader, working your hardest, communicating with others, having accountability, showing responsibility, and managing your time. Other delegates, having the ability to see someone who is truly dedicated to their position will give them inspiration and confidence to step out of their comfort zone, allowing them to mature in their Youth in Government experience.

Community Interests and Activities:

- Volunteering at Liberty Baptist Church
- Tutoring at Southview Elementary
- Attending Liberty Baptist and Elevate Ministries Youth Group

School Interests and Activities:

- Volleyball
- Youth Leadership Association
- Southeast Ohio Model United Nations
- Leo's Club
- Student Council
- My Brother's Buddy
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club
- Youth Climate Action Team
- Track
- Youth in Government
- YLA Model United Nations
- Interact Club
- Student Health Council
- Drug Free Clubs of America
- T.A.G.

One of the most meaningful service experiences I have had was the ability to work at the after-school program of one of our local elementary schools. I had the opportunity to work with a group of Kindergarteners working on mathematics, reading, and comprehension skills. As well as doing crafts and activities that allow them to be kids. I worked with these students for multiple months and had the ability to build relationships with each and every one of them. Not only did I gain experience in teaching others, I learned how to work with different types of kids. This experience allowed me to grow as a person and a leader. I gained skills such as communication, responsibility, and dedication all from working with five- and six-year-olds. I will forever hold on to these skills and use them in my everyday life.

2026 Youth Chief Justice Candidate Kollier Fulton, Jackson YLA



My freshman year, I participated in Youth in Government as an appellant and argued a case. I toured the Ohio Supreme Courthouse, met and talked with judges, and tested my critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. This experience taught me a great deal about the judicial branch and state government, and I had a wonderful time. The following year, I planned to bring another case but was offered the position of Associate Justice instead. While preparing for this role, I learned that the chief justice could no longer attend just a week before YG; I was appointed to the position and stepped in as Chief Justice. I continue to hold this position for YG 2025. I have grown so much as a person through this position and this organization, and my senior year would feel incomplete without this title.

Following YG, I served as a student ambassador during an offsite Ohio Supreme Court session at Jackson Middle School. Afterward, I attended a luncheon with the Ohio Supreme Court justices, including the Chief Justice, and had meaningful conversations with them about their roles, their lives, and who they are beyond their positions. Around that time, I also joined classmates on a tour of the Ohio Supreme Courthouse, followed by lunch with a local judge. I recently attended the YLA Fall Conference and had an amazing time meeting new people and learning new things. Though I was initially nervous about being placed in a cabin with girls I hadn't met before, it turned into a wonderful opportunity to make new friends. At the conference, I attended two sessions: one on public speaking and another on community service, both topics I'm passionate about. I also participated in activities that challenged me to decipher cases, hear new arguments, and voice my opinions. These opportunities sharpened my critical thinking skills and gave me greater insight into the judicial process, much like my past experiences in YG.

I am one that is not afraid to voice my opinions; I support and care about those around me to help them succeed with genuinity and honesty. With my past experiences as Youth Chief Justice, I have learned how to communicate with fellow delegates and be as helpful as I can. I not only know how to lead – I know how to be a friend. Having built relationships with YG peers, I strive for us all to feel comfortable enough to ask questions, simple to complex, have conversations about our goals, and ultimately lead each other to success.

Outside of YG and YLA, I am involved in a multitude of activities. I am a member of the Varsity Soccer Team, Varsity Track team, multimedia lead for the Media Team, Leo's community service club, National Honors Society, Student Athlete Leadership Team, Business Professionals of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Women in Business, Student Council, and Student Health Council. Being heavily involved in my school has taught me the importance of balance and genuine effort. I care deeply about every club I partake in and I accept every responsibility that comes my way through them.

Throughout my years at JHS, I have had the amazing opportunity to be an officer for an organization called "My Brother's Buddy." Through this organization, members are able to attend field trips and events with multi-handicapped classes and a local developmental disabilities school. Members not only become friends with these kids; they become friends to us. My favorite trips were our days spent every year at the Jackson County Apple Festival where we are able to ride rides, win prizes, and eat delicious food. I was also tasked with designing the club shirt last year and I graciously accepted. Now, for every trip, every member and student is able to match and it is much harder for anyone to get lost.

With my past experience and passion for government and community service, I believe I have been prepared well, and I am confident in my ability to serve as the 2026 Ohio Youth Chief Justice. Thank you for your time and consideration!



2026 Certification of Officer Nomination for Ohio Youth in Government

Instructions

2. Certify by signature of the Delegation Leader that -
- A. Nominees meet the qualifications for the office,
 - B. Nominees will participate on an intellectual and productive level in the performance of their duties including attendance for the total time at the programs required of Ohio YG Officers.
 - C. The nominee(s) have won the nomination of our local Delegation.

Please Type

Delegation Name _____ Delegation Leader _____

School _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Nominee Name

President of the Senate _____

Speaker of the House _____

Clerk (Specify House or Senate) _____

Chaplain (Specify House or Senate) _____

Lt. Governor _____

Governor _____

Chief Justice _____

Nominations Closed

Nominations Closed

Must be in the Judicial Program to run for Chief Justice.

It is YLA policy that an officer who does not participate in the Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June will be removed from office since they are not there to perform their duties. The newly-appointed officer would then complete the term of office through the April YG Conference.



**2026 Officer Nomination Form - Ohio Youth in Government
Each Nominee Completes and Submits this form by 6:00 pm
on Fri. April 11, 2025 at OH YG to the Bill Coordinator**

Nominee Name _____ Office Seeking _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____

Delegation _____ School _____

Answer these questions (Attach additional sheet)

1. Past Youth in Government participation (years and position);
2. Qualifications for the office - what do you bring to the office?
3. Style of Leadership and how it will help other delegates succeed;
4. School interests and activities;
5. Community interests and activities;
6. An especially meaningful service experience.

It is YLA policy that an officer who does not participate in the Leadership Summit at Horseshoe in June will be removed from office since they are not there to perform their duties. The newly-appointed officer would then complete the term of office through the April YG Conference.

I attest that this information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that if elected I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined in the manual.

I have spoken with my parents about the responsibilities, time, commitments, and that if elected my first responsibility is mandatory participation in the June 15-21, 2025 Leadership Summit at Horseshoe. My parents understand and support me and the responsibilities of office.

Signature _____ Date _____
Student Candidate

This delegate has the qualifications for this office and has my support.

Signature _____ Date _____
Advisor/Delegation Leader



Application for 2026 Ohio YLA Youth in Government Governor's Cabinet
Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name: _____ Delegation: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____
Email _____ Year of Graduation _____
Previous Youth in Government Experience (list years and position): _____

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed to the Cabinet by the Youth Governor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return application to Youth in Government
522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 Phone (304) 675-5899



Application for 2026 OH YLA Youth in Government Associate Justice
Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name: _____ Delegation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____ Year of Graduation _____

Previous Youth in Government Experience (list years and position): _____

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed an Associate Justice by the Chief Justice, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return application to Youth in Government,
522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 Phone (304) 675-5899



Application for 2026 Ohio YLA Youth in Government Committee Chair
Submit no later than May 12th

Delegation Name _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Grad Year _____

Email _____

My previous Youth in Government Participation (years and position) include:

I am qualified to be a Committee Chair because:

I will help the Committee be a successful experience to all members and those who appear before the Committee by:

If selected I will make every effort to participate in the June Leadership Summit at Horseshoe and the Fall Conference. I will participate in the Bill Rating/Training in Columbus in February.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

On other side, this application, the Delegation explains why they so or do not support this application for Committee leadership. The explanation is to be signed by your Advisor.

Return application to Youth in Government
522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550
304-675-5899



Application for 2026 Ohio YLA Youth in Government Press Editor
Submit no later than May 12th

Applicant's Name: _____ Delegation: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
Zip _____ Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____
Email _____ Year of Graduation _____
Previous Youth in Government Experience (list years and position): _____

Explain how your leadership style, experience, commitment, time, and ideas for and about Youth in Government qualify you for this position. Include any experience you have in writing and with a newsletter or other publication. Attach an additional sheet with your answers as needed.

If appointed Press Editor, I will carry out my responsibilities as outlined above.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I support this application and understand the responsibilities expected of a Cabinet member.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return application to Youth in Government
522 Sandhill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 Phone (304) 675-5899

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

at CAMP HORSESHOE

June 15–21, 2025



Character · Leadership · Service · Entrepreneurship · Philanthropy



Who is Eligible?

ANY rising 9th– 12th grade students who want to learn, participate and build their futures are eligible.

Sponsorships

Students, parents, community organizations, or local sponsors may pay the total fee OR individual YLA chapters can organize fundraising events to help their members participate.

Leadership

Practice skills of organization to get things done, communication, teamwork, and how to help groups succeed through effective governance.

Friendship!

You'll make **friends for a lifetime** with people who care, listen, and encourage you.

Fun!

Be ready for days full of great times in active learning sessions with plenty time for **recreation, sports, music, the great outdoors, campfires, Variety Show, creek exploring , and much more!**

Service

You'll experience the value of doing good things for others, how to improve your school and community, and basically how to build a better world.

- ◆ **Brainstorm and network with youth from across Ohio and West Virginia**
- ◆ **Practice skills for Youth in Government and Model United Nations**
 - ◆ **Strengthen connections and friendships**
 - ◆ **Team-building leadership adventures**
 - ◆ **Explore the great outdoors**
 - ◆ **Best food of your life!**
- ◆ **Get ideas to help your community, school, and local YLA chapter**

JOIN US THIS SUMMER AT CAMP HORSESHOE FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE WEEK!



Prepare for Success

Gather with youth leadership officers, interested teens, and other service-minded people to make a real difference for good.

Discover your potential by expanding your mind and developing skills for leadership success. Plus, learn how to lead your student groups with excellence.

Invest one week at Horseshoe and you'll gain skills, friendships, adventures, and memories to last a lifetime.

Arrival/Departure

Sunday 2 pm to Saturday 9 am. Only register if you can and will attend for the **total time**.

To Register:

Register online at:
www.ylaleads.org

or mail registration form to:

Leadership Summit
Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029



Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
(304) 478-2481
www.ylaleads.org

Here's why teens say "It's time to get to Horseshoe!"

This camp and this program has changed my life for the better. I found a place where I could find my true self. I have the skills to speak out for what I believe in, engage in fun songs, and lead in groups. I have found that my future is limitless and I can do anything I set my mind to."

"I've learned so much about trust, teamwork, and leadership in the past few days and have made lifelong friends."

"I am so thankful for what I experienced here, my life really has changed after attending this camp. I learned, with the help of many others, that I can be whatever I want to be."

"This place has done more for me than probably anything else, it truly is a home away from home and I'm so thankful I have the privilege to come here every year."



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Youth Officer planning sessions
- Keynote speakers
- Variety Show
- Campfires
- Home-cooked meals
- Cabin living
- Creek exploring
- Hikes
- Hands-on workshops
- Nature exploration
- Service projects
- Team building adventures
- Youth in Government
- Model United Nations
- How to start a YLA chapter
- Community action ideas
- Dance
- Sports
- Music
- Goal Setting
- Camp Traditions
- Special Interest Time
- Fun, Friends, Learning!



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



Teen Leadership Summit Horseshoe Leadership Center June 15 – 21, 2025

1. To be completed by Student

Name _____ Home Phone _____ County _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ ___ Male ___ Female Grade in Fall _____

Camper E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____ School in Fall _____

Are you in a YLA group or HI-Y? ___Y ___N Group Name _____

Parent 1 Name _____ Parent 2 Name _____

Parent 1 Cell Phone & E-mail _____ Parent 2 Cell Phone & E-mail _____

Place of employment _____ Place of employment _____

Telephone (for emergency) _____ Telephone (for emergency) _____

Name & E-Mail Address of Local Newspaper (we try to recognize all participants with news releases)

2. Fee Per Student: **\$320 when paid by May 15** **\$365 when paid After May 15**

Note: Each session is limited to no more than eighty (60) male and eighty (60) female. Register early to secure a place.

Payment: ___*Check enclosed ___Master Card ___Discover ___VISA Amount Paid \$ _____

* make check payable to OH-WV YLA. All payments must be received at the Horseshoe office on or before May 15th to receive the discount, this includes those filling electronically.

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Card Holder Signature _____ Date _____

3. If part or all of your fee is paid to Horseshoe by a local sponsor, please list them here:

Name of Service Club, or other group _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Person for this group _____ Phone _____

Amount paid to Horseshoe \$ _____.

(Please complete the other side of this form.)

Horseshoe Is For Teens Who Are

- **Interested** in learning and developing social, civic, leadership, service, entrepreneurial skills;
- **Positive** in meeting and working with others, participating, helping others and groups succeed;
- **Doers – who do their part** to keep a place and activities clean, safe and positive for others;
- **Ready** to live away from home with more than 100 teens, to step out of their daily routine into a new world of activities and experiences;
- **Committed** to building real relationships by “unplugging” from the virtual world to meet face- to-face with other teens and adults without the distractions of the electronic world (cell phones, internet, television, etc.).
- **Able** to be a key part of the week’s success in the lives of others and to take what’s learned home to make their homes, schools, organizations and communities better places for all.

4. Agreements

I attest that if my application to attend is accepted, I will attend the total conference beginning Sunday afternoon and ending after breakfast on Saturday. I will not ask to come later or leave early. I will not take the place of a person who can attend the whole week so I can be accommodated for only part of the week. **YES** **NO**

Applicant Signature

Date

I support my son/daughter’s application and participation in this program at Horseshoe. I certify they are free of habits or attitudes that would make them a negative participant and that my child is amenable to positive group life in a camp setting. I authorize Horseshoe (Ohio-West Virginia Youth Leadership Association) to have and use the name, photographs, slides, digital images, or video tape of the person named on this application as may be needed for its records or public relations programs including its web site and news releases. **YES** **NO**

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

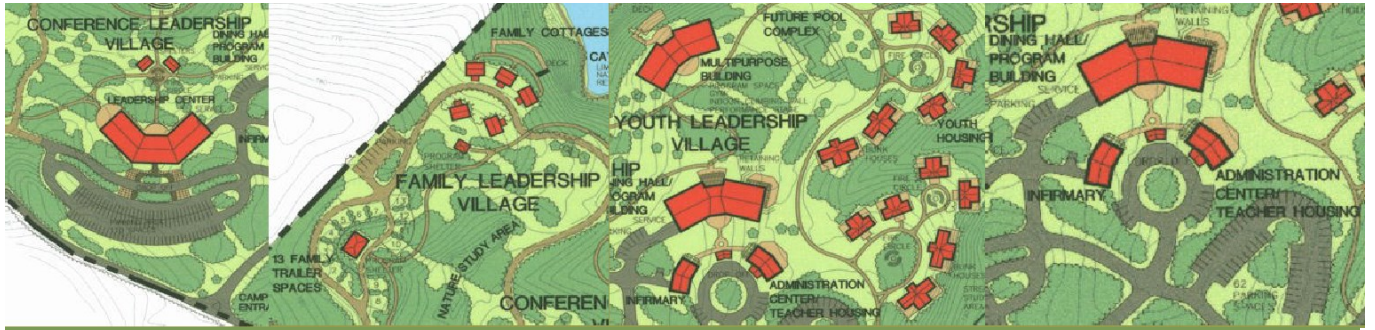
5. Send completed application to:

**Horseshoe Leadership Center
3309 Horseshoe Run Road
Parsons, WV 26287-9029
Phone (304) 478-2481**

To make Horseshoe affordable to as many as possible, Horseshoe fees are about one-half of our actual costs. The total fee of \$365 is reduced to \$315 for those who pay the total amount by May 15. Refunds: \$75 of the fee reserves a place and is for administrative/processing expenses. IT IS NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE. The balance of the fee may be refunded if Horseshoe is notified in writing two weeks prior to the camp week.



Horseshoe Leadership Center, a partner with the Monongahela National Forest and USDA, is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



YLA OHIO CAVE LAKE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP
1132 Bell Hollow Road, Latham, Ohio



Nature's Classroom

730 plus acres ~ 42-acre lake ~ Frost Cave ~ 150 species of birds ~ 160 species of trees and shrubs ~ 360 species of blooming plants ~ rare plants including *Sullivantia Sullivantii*

