

Sub-Committee: Family Law Sub-Committee

Key leadership

Chair: Sarah Yigit

Vice Chair: Jessica Morris

Secretary: Monica Bayas Inglis

Key Objectives for 2024 and 2025

- To increase member engagement through active and targeted communications, through networking opportunities and community development initiatives, through events and regular monthly hybrid meetings.
- To continue providing members with a wealth of opportunities to contribute to family law and policy reform, particularly through publications and engagement on any submissions including through our young lawyer representatives on the parent family law committee. This was achieved in 2024 through the chair, vice chair and submissions lead coordinating regular monthly discussions as to policy issues and proposed legislative reforms and feeding back a young lawyer insight by participating on working groups through the parent committee.
- To promote the wellbeing of our members and work to decrease the high turnover rate of young family lawyers. This was achieved in 2024 through promoting our member engaged network initiatives such as our family law sub-committee netball team and regular trivia events.
- To provide opportunities for skill development and knowledge through professional skills and substantive law CPDs targeted to young family lawyers. This was achieved in 2024 through our professional skills series focusing on trauma informed practice.

Key Sub-Committee Initiatives/Projects achieved since Mid-Year Assembly 2024 (include initiatives, projects, submissions and publications)

1. The Sub-Committee has had regular engagement from members at each monthly hybrid meeting.
For the October 2024 meeting - 11 online, 20 in person
For the September 2024 meeting - 8 online, 14 in person
For the August 2024 meeting - 5 online, 5 in person
For the July 2024 meeting - 5 online, 9 in person
For the June 2024 meeting - 15 online, 20 in person
For the May 2024 meeting - 11 online, 5 in person
For the April 2024 meeting - 7 online, 6 in person
For the March 2024 meeting - 8 online, 11 in person
For the February 2024 meeting - 12 online, 7 in person
2. In the 2024 calendar year, the Sub-Committee held a three part professional skills series for members and subscribers. This included:
 - A. Trauma Informed Practice theory presented by the Hon. Robert Benjamin AO and Michael Benjamin;
 - B. Consent Orders and Requisitions in the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia presented by Deputy Registrar Hannah Vickers; and
 - C. Trauma Informed Practice in a community legal centre lens by Rosetta Lee from the Women's Legal Service Victoria.
3. A standing item in the Family Law Sub-Committee monthly meetings is to discuss proposed changes or issues in the family law jurisdiction. Our Sub-Committee executives worked with our members to create and announce our Submissions Working Group. The Sub-Committee working group reports monthly to our Chair to discuss opportunities for submissions and/or whether the Young Lawyer representative (our Chair) in the parent committee is better placed to take our Young Lawyer views to

the parent committee. Our Chair, Vice Chair and Submissions lead (who all sit on the parent committee) have to date contributed to the Family law Amended submission working group, Family Law Amended (Information Sharing) submission working group, FCFCOA practice direction review working group, Family Law 2024 property amendments working group, Family Law 2023 property bill working group, Family Superannuation Regulation 2024 working group, to name a few.

4. The Sub-Committee holds various networking events throughout the year with the aim of bringing together early career family lawyers who may not otherwise confer with one another in a social setting.

For FY2024 the sub-committee created an informal young lawyers family law trivia team. We have attended trivia events in February, May, June and July 2024. The Sub-Committee also purchased 3 tables at the Young Lawyers Trivia Fundraising Event.

In late 2024, the Sub-Committee entered into a social netball league and established the "Law Ballers" team. We are currently mid-season and recently won our first game.

Further comments to the AA Forum

The Chair, Sarah, and Vice Chair, Jessica, have resigned from their roles effective end of the 2024 calendar year. Elections for these positions will be held in the first meeting of 2025.

The Family Law Sub-Committee is interested in hosting collaborative events for 2025 and working with our Sub-Committees to do so. We invite other Sub-Committees to confirm any interest in also collaborating so we can work together to bring an even better 2025 year for Young Lawyers.

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