



Tennessee Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

Election Guidelines

Election of Officers

A bylaws amendment adopted in June 2015 requires those running for officer positions to file a written petition signed by 25 or more TBA members in good standing. These positions include vice president, secretary, treasurer and three regional governors. A petition is available for download at <http://www.tba.org/resource/yld-election-guidelines>.

PRESIDENT

Length of Term: 1 year.

Election Procedures: The President-Elect ascends automatically to the position of President at the completion of President-Elect term.

Filling Vacancies: The President-Elect will assume the office of President and serve out the unexpired term. However, if the President-Elect is unable or unwilling to fill the vacancy, the Executive Committee will nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then approve or reject the new president. If the individual selected is not the current President-Elect then he or she will serve the remainder of the vacating President's term and then move to the position of Immediate Past President the following year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Length of Term: 1 year

Election Procedures: The Vice President ascends automatically to the position of President-Elect at the completion of the Vice President's term.

Filling Vacancies: If the office of President-Elect becomes vacant during the term of office, the Vice President will assume the office of President-Elect while continuing to serve as Vice President and chair of the Long Range Planning Committee. The individual will serve out the remainder of the former President-Elect's term and then serve his or her regular term as President-Elect the following year.

VICE PRESIDENT

Length of Term: 1 year.

Qualifications: Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency: The position rotates among the state's three grand divisions from Middle to East to West. Candidates must be residents of the grand division they seek to represent. For election in 2018, candidates must reside in the Middle Grand Division.

Filing Requirements: Candidates must file with the YLD Secretary, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing.

Election Procedures: Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to be elected on Feb. 28.

Contested elections will be decided by the division membership via an electronic voting process. Ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1. A successful candidate must receive a plurality (the greatest number) of votes. In the event of a tie vote of the membership, the YLD Board will elect one of the candidates. In the event of a tie vote of the board, the YLD President will break the tie.

Who Votes?

All members of the division.

Filling Vacancies:

If no one files for the post, a nominating committee chaired by the President-Elect and composed of the Executive Committee is to nominate a member of the division for the position. The committee is to complete its work and report its nominations to the Secretary no later than March 15. If a vacancy occurs during the term, the President is to nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then elect a member of the division to fill the unexpired term.

SECRETARY

Length of Term: 1 year.

Qualifications: Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency: State of Tennessee.

Filing Requirements: Candidates must file with the YLD Secretary, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing.

Election Procedures: Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to be elected on Feb. 28. Contested elections will be decided by the division membership via an electronic voting process. Ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1. A successful candidate must receive a plurality (the greatest number) of votes. In the event of a tie vote of the membership, the YLD Board will elect one of the candidates. In the event of a tie vote of the board, the YLD President will break the tie.

Who Votes?

All members of the division.

Filling Vacancies:

If no one files for the post, a nominating committee chaired by the President-Elect and composed of the Executive Committee is to nominate a member of the division for the position. The committee is to complete its work and report its nominations to the Secretary no later than March 15. If a vacancy occurs during the term, the President is to nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then elect a member of the division to fill the unexpired term.

TREASURER

Length of Term: 1 year.

Qualifications: Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency: State of Tennessee.

Filing Requirements: Candidates must file with the YLD Secretary, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing.

Election Procedures: Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to be elected on Feb. 28. Contested elections will be decided by the division membership via an electronic voting process. Ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1. A successful candidate must receive a plurality (the greatest number) of votes. In the event of a tie vote

of the membership, the YLD Board will elect one of the candidates. In the event of a tie vote of the board, the YLD President will break the tie.

Who Votes?

All members of the division.

Filling Vacancies:

If no one files for the post, a nominating committee chaired by the President-Elect and composed of the Executive Committee is to nominate a member of the division for the position. The committee is to complete its work and report its nominations to the Secretary no later than March 15. If a vacancy occurs during the term, the President is to nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then elect a member of the division to fill the unexpired term.

GRAND DIVISION GOVERNORS

Positions:

Middle Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate
East Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate
West Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate

Length of Term:

1 year.

Qualifications:

Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency:

Candidates must be residents of the grand division they seek to represent.

Filing Requirements:

Candidates must file with the YLD Secretary, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing.

Election Procedures:

Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to be elected on Feb. 28. Contested elections will be decided by the membership of the division via an electronic voting process. Ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1. A successful candidate must receive a plurality (the greatest number) of votes. In the event of a tie vote of the membership, the YLD Board will elect one of the candidates. In the event of a tie vote of the board, the YLD President will break the tie.

Who Votes?

Members of each division vote only for the candidates in their respective division.

Filling Vacancies:

If no one files for the post, a nominating committee chaired by the President-Elect and composed of the Executive Committee is to nominate a member of the division for the position. The committee is to complete its work and report its nominations to the Secretary no later than March 15. If a vacancy occurs during the term, the President is to nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then elect a member of the division to fill the unexpired term.

Election of District Representatives

Length of Term:

2 years

Qualifications:

Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency:

Candidates must reside in or maintain a principal office in the district they seek to represent.

Filing Requirements:

Candidates must file with the YLD Secretary, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition containing the individual's name and signature, firm/company, phone number and email address. A standard petition can be downloaded at <http://www.tba.org/resource/yld-election-guidelines>

Election Procedures: Odd numbered districts are elected in odd numbered years and even numbered districts are elected in even numbered years. Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to have been elected on Feb. 28. Contested elections will be decided by the division membership via an electronic voting process. Ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1. A successful candidate must receive a plurality (the greatest number) of votes. In the event of a tie vote of the membership, the YLD Board will elect one of the candidates. In the event of a tie vote of the board, the YLD president will break the tie.

Who Votes? All members of the division.

Filling Vacancies: If no one files for the post, a nominating committee chaired by the President-Elect and composed of the Executive Committee is to nominate a member of the division for the position. The committee is to complete its work and report its nominations to the Secretary no later than March 15. If a vacancy occurs during the term, the President is to nominate a member or members of the division to fill the unexpired term. The voting members of the Board then elect a member of the division to fill the unexpired term.

Election to Other Organizations

Individuals running for these positions must file with the TBA Executive Director a written petition signed by 25 or more TBA members in good standing. Petitions must be filed by Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held. A petition is available for download at <http://www.tba.org/resource/yld-election-guidelines>.

YOUNG LAWYER DELEGATES

TENNESSEE BAR ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Positions: Middle Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate
East Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate
West Tennessee Young Lawyer Delegate

Length of Term: 2 years (elected in odd numbered years)

Qualifications: Candidates must be members of the division at the time of nomination.*

Residency: Candidates must maintain their principal law office in the grand division they are seeking to represent.

Filing Requirements: Candidates must file with the TBA Executive Director, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing. A petition can be downloaded at <http://www.tba.org/resource/yld-election-guidelines>.

Election Procedures: Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to have been elected at the time of the filing deadline. For contested elections, ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1.

Who Votes? Young lawyers in the grand division where the contested election occurs.

Filling Vacancies: If no candidate files for delegate or if a vacancy occurs during the term of office, the YLD Board will fill the vacancy.

YOUNG LAWYER DELEGATE

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Position: Position 3

- Length of Term:** 2 years (elected in odd numbered years)
- Qualifications:** Candidates must be members of the American Bar Association and the Tennessee Bar Association, and be within their first five years of practice or under age 36 at the time they would assume office.
- Filing Requirements:** Candidates must file with the TBA Executive Director, no later than Feb. 28 of the year in which the election is held, a nominating petition signed by at least 25 TBA members who are in good standing. A petition can be downloaded at <http://www.tba.org/resource/yld-election-guidelines>
- Residency:** State of Tennessee.
- Election Procedures:** Candidates unopposed for a position are deemed to have been elected at the time of the filing deadline. For contested elections, ballots will be provided no later than March 1 and will be due back no later than April 1.
- Who Votes?** All TBA members.
- Filling Vacancies:** If no candidate files for delegate or if a vacancy occurs during the term of office, the TBA Board of Governors will fill the vacancy.

ELECTION CALENDAR

Publication of Election Notice	December issue of <i>Tn Young Lawyer</i>
Paper Ballot Preference Due+	Feb. 1
Nomination Petitions Due; Uncontested Candidates Deemed Elected	Feb. 15
Notice of Contested YLD Elections	February issue of <i>Tn Young Lawyer</i>
All Voting Begins Emailing of Electronic Ballots	March 1
Mailing of Paper Ballots	March 1
YLD Nominating Committee to Recommend Candidates If None File	March 15
All Voting Ends	April 1
Announcement of Election Results	As Soon as Possible After Electronic Voting Ends

+Under new guidelines adopted by the TBA Board of Governors at its June 2015 meeting, all members will receive an electronic ballot for any contested races. Any member who wishes to vote by paper ballot is to indicate so by separate written communication or by selecting this option in their member profile in the TBA membership database. Any member not indicating a preference for a paper ballot will be presumed to have opted for voting by electronic means.

* An individual is considered a member of the Young Lawyers Division for the current bar year if he or she:

1. Is a member in good standing of the Tennessee Bar Association AND

2. Is under 36 years of age or within the first five years of practice, whichever comes later, for the entire bar year OR
3. Turned 36 years of age during the bar year. In this case, the individual will continue as a member of the division through the next annual meeting in June.