



## YLD Board Gives

# *Awards to Deserving Recipients*

**For our first Quarterly Luncheon, scheduled for October 7th, political strategists Bob Buckhorn and Adam Goodman will share their views and inside knowledge about the upcoming presidential election.**

Before turning to the exciting events that we have planned for this bar year, I would like to reflect upon two awards that the YLD Board presented at the end of the last bar year: The Robert W. Patton Outstanding Jurist Award and the Outstanding Young

Lawyer Award. The YLD Board has been honoring individuals with these awards for almost thirty years.

Judge William Fuente is the very deserving 2008 recipient of The Robert W. Patton Outstanding Jurist Award. Judge Fuente has devoted his career to criminal law—first as an Assistant State Attorney, then as a private practitioner. Governor Lawton Chiles appointed him to the County Court in 1994, and to the Circuit Court in 1997. Judge Fuente is Board Certified in Criminal Trial, having tried numerous cases both as a prosecutor and private practitioner, and Martindale Hubbell included him in its Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers in Criminal Law.

True to his roots, Judge Fuente loves presiding over criminal trials. He is a dedicated public servant to the citizens of the city in which he grew up, and a dedicated husband to his wife Maggie. According to Judge Fuente, "Whatever I am, whatever I have done, I owe it to my wife." Congratulations Judge Fuente.

Rachel May, an associate at Carlton Fields, was equally deserving of the 2008 Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. Rachel interned at the Federal Public Defender's Office during her last semester of law school. The office was so



Judge William Fuente



Rachel May

*Continued on page 9*

*Continued from page 8*

impressed with her work that she was offered a permanent position after law school. Rachel, in return, showed her dedication by working full-time while she studied for the bar exam at night. The vast majority of Rachel's work at the Federal Public Defender's Office was as a member of the team representing one of Sami Al-Arian's co-defendants in that highly publicized trial. Thereafter, Rachel was recruited to join Carlton Fields' white collar practice group.

Rachel's commitment to the HCBA is evident in the time that she has devoted to such projects as Lawyers for Literacy, Relay for Life, Law Week, and as co-chair of the Robert Simms Mock Trial Competition. Rachel also actively supports many local charities. In addition to this award, Rachel was selected for inclusion in the *Tampa Bay Business Journal's* 2007 30 Under 30, and was recently asked to deliver the commencement address at her high school.

Each year, our Board is honored to give these two awards. Throughout the year, we also organize luncheons and happy hours for our members plus plan such programs and events as the State Court Trial Seminar, Steak and Sports Day, Holidays in January, and the Attorney Ad Litem Program.

Our first event will be a happy hour in September. For our first Quarterly Luncheon, scheduled for October 7th, political strategists Bob Buckhorn and Adam Goodman will share their views and inside knowledge about the upcoming presidential election. I hope to see you not only at these events, but at many of the other programs and events we offer throughout the year.



## **Upcoming Political Election Insights**

**Featuring Political Strategists  
Bob Buckhorn and  
Adam Goodman**

Chester H. Ferguson Law Center  
1610 N. Tampa Street  
Tampa, FL 33602

RSVP  
221-7777 or [www.hillbar.com](http://www.hillbar.com)

This event is not only for Young Lawyers.  
All attorneys are invited to attend.

