
YUBA SUTTER BAR ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

April 2025

www.yubasutterbar.org

Courtney E. Gengler, President

Sutter County's Ban on Industrial Hemp

Tuesday, April 22, 2025, noon – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Sutter County Courthouse, 1175 Civic Center Blvd., Yuba City, CA

Former Sutter County Assistant County Counsel will present on Sutter County's recent decision to enact a moratorium on the cultivation and processing of industrial hemp in Sutter County. Sutter County allowed for industrial hemp processing and cultivation until last December, when it halted its ordinance that grants permits for these activities. This presentation will walk through the previous ordinance, the moratorium, the legal criteria around such ordinances, and the political landscape around hemp.

Taylor Kayatta is currently Deputy General Counsel at the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), an advocate and service provider for rural county needs which is made up of 40 rural counties including Yuba and Sutter. Taylor was previously Assistant County Counsel, Deputy County Administrator, and Deputy County Counsel with Sutter County. Prior to his work in county governance, Taylor was an attorney, auditor, and analyst for the State of California. Taylor, who is both an attorney and a CPA, received a bachelor's from UCLA, a JD from McGeorge, an MBA from Sacramento State, and an associate's in accounting from American River College. He also serves on the Sacramento City Unified Board of Education.

MCLE: This meeting qualifies for 0.5 hours of MCLE

YSBA will provide a pizza lunch.

Please RSVP to mpoulos@suttercourts.com, by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

YSBA BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Board member elections for 2025 were held at the March 18 meeting. Your 2025 YSBA Board is:

President: Courtney Gengler
Vice President: Omar Figueroa

Treasurer: Melissa Poulos
Secretary: Melissa Poulos

Thank you all for your support!

REMINDER NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our May meeting will be on Thursday, May 22, 2025. We will be meeting the new Colusa County and Sutter County Judges.
 - There will be no meetings scheduled in June or July. We will return from the summer break with a legislative update from Assemblymember James Gallagher on Tuesday, August 12, 2025.
 - Each year, YSBA awards scholarships to high school seniors graduating from local high schools. This year, applications are due on April 11, 2025. We will be looking for volunteers to present the scholarships to the selected students at the awards ceremonies for each school in late May and early June.
 - If anybody has any ideas for meeting topics and speakers, please let us know!
 - All of our newsletters and events are posted on our website: www.yubasutterbar.org, as well as our Fee Arbitration program information.
-

2025 YUBA SUTTER BAR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Janet Bender	Courtney Gengler	Amanda Pedrett	Ami Scarfe
Eleanor Bordsen	Robert Gengler	Donna Peter	Kelly Smith
Joe Carrico	Stephanie Hansel	Melissa Poulos	Tamara Squires
Judge Chandler	Tom Hill	Andrew Ramos	James Vasquez
Omar Figueroa	Sukhraj Pamma	Mindi Reid	Corina Yetter

Membership dues for 2025 are \$100. Mail a check payable to YSBA to P.O. Box 204, Marysville, CA 95901, or bring cash or check with you to the next meeting.

Yuba Sutter Bar Association Meeting Minutes

1. Courtney Gengler called the meeting to order.
2. Courtney Gengler made announcements:
 - We are now accepting annual dues for 2025. \$100 per member. Our dues are used to pay for P.O. Box, website, accountant for tax preparation, MCLE provider renewal fees, and supplementing our lunch meetings.
 - Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 22 (to avoid spring break). Taylor Kayatta, formerly with Sutter County Counsel, will be presenting on Sutter County's ban on industrial hemp.
 - Our meeting in May is on Thursday, May 22. We will be meeting the two new Colusa County Judges and Sutter County's newest Judge, Fritz Javellana.
 - We will take our regular summer break in June and July, and come back in August with Assemblymember James Gallagher providing a legislative update.

- Scholarship applications are available to local high school seniors with a due date of April 11, 2025. The Board will be selecting scholarship recipients from each school and will be asking for volunteers to present at the school award ceremonies in May and June. We try to find YSBA members that have connections to the local high schools.

3. State of the Yuba Sutter Bar Association.

Courtney Gengler introduced the speakers for this meeting: the current Board Members, Courtney Gengler, YSBA President since 2018 (and Vice President in 2017); Melissa Poulos, YSBA Secretary since 2017 (and also acting Treasurer since 2022); and, Omar Figueroa, YSBA Treasurer since 2024 (running for Vice President for 2025).

Courtney provided a brief history of the YSBA and the YSBA Foundation, explaining where the funds for the Foundation's Edward Jones account came from, how they have increased, and that they are to be used only for scholarships for local students in furtherance of a higher education. We talked about amending the By-Laws to expand the allowed use of the funds, while still keeping in line with the original purpose of supporting local students and education.

Courtney then talked about the issues with the taxes and the previous tax preparers, and the requirements of a public charity (33% of income from public donations). It was explained that because of the investment account, we will have to file as a private foundation, where 67% of the investment return must be distributed each year. Different ways to use the money were discussed: increase in scholarship awards, increase in number of scholarships, awarding scholarships to students over multiple years, offering a scholarship for local students to attend law school. Another suggestion was to support local high school mock trial teams, however this would probably require the By-Laws to be amended to broaden the terms.

Melissa Poulos provided a Treasurer's update regarding the funds in the Tri Counties checking account, for regular YSBA business, and also the funds in the Edward Jones Investment account.

Melissa Poulos also provided an update regarding MCLE provider requirements. Because YSBA is a Multiple Activity Provider, we are required to submit a renewal application, which has increased from every 3 years to every 2 years, with an increased cost. Melissa also explained the new MCLE sign-in sheet upload process and how important it is for everyone to sign in when MCLE is being offered at the meetings.

- ### 4. YSBA Board Elections: All positions are open. Courtney is willing to stay on as President, Omar Figueroa is running for Vice President, Melissa Poulos is willing to stay on as Secretary and is willing to continue to do the Treasurer duties, in an official capacity as Treasurer.
- Courtney asked for nominations.
 - No nominations, No opposition, unanimous decision:
 - 2025 YSBA Board Members are:
 - i. President: Courtney Gengler
 - ii. Vice President: Omar Figueroa
 - iii. Treasurer: Melissa Poulos
 - iv. Secretary: Melissa Poulos
- ### 5. Courtney Gengler thanked the attendees for their support and adjourned the meeting.