

2025 Annual Report for the Lycoming Law Association Foundation

Foundation Meeting and Governance: The 9-Member Board met quarterly in person and via Zoom for a Special Meeting in November. The 2025 Board Members were: Judge Skip Arbuckle, Fred Holland (Treasurer), Paul Roman, Julieanne Steinbacher, Sean Gingerich (Secretary), Adrian Lee, Robin Read (President), Judge Ryan Gardner (President of the LLA) and Jeana Longo (President Elect of LLA).

Foundation's Charter and Mission: Since its organization in 1989, the Foundation has served as the giving arm of the LLA. The Foundation's Charter and Mission is to educate the general public about, and promote improvement in, the legal process and jurisprudence.

Fund Management and Fund Raising: Woodlands Bank continued to manage the Foundation's funds in 2025 and, after a review of the account and investment strategy with Bank representatives in July, the Board continued its historical conservative investment policy and goal to grow the principal to make the fund self sustaining.

The Board continued with its fund raising efforts this year resulting in several additional members to make and pledge donations. Also, the Foundation received multiple donations in memory of LLA members who died in 2025.

Additionally, Joe Rider's wife, Barbara, and his sister, Marilyn Rider Neyhart, made substantial donations in support of the Joseph L. Rider Scholarships, which they both agreed is a wonderful way to memorialize Joe Rider.

Matching Funds from the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation: The Foundation received \$4,500 for grants and Scholarships made in 2024 and \$2,000 Scholarships made in 2025 from the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation pursuant to its Unit County Grant Matching Program.

Joseph C. Rider Scholarships: In 2023 the Board voted to implement an annual program to fund scholarships to Lycoming County residents attending law school and named it in honor and memory of Joseph L. Rider. In 2025, the Board awarded eight \$1,000 scholarships including the following new recipients: Carlee Weber (Pittsburgh School of Law); Stephanie Steinbacher (Quinnipiac University School of Law); Jacob Ryan Schaffer (Maurice A. Deanne School of Law at Hofstra University); Joshua Rieders (DePaul University College of Law); and Daniel J. Rogers III (Penn State Law School).

Also, in April, the Foundation voted to consider awarding Scholarships to law school applicants who had previously received Rider Scholarships, but delayed consideration of previous recipients' applications until the last meeting in October to ensure availability of funds to grant. At its regular meeting in October and a Special Meeting in November, the Foundation voted to award Scholarships to the following previous recipients: Eli Wilk (Drexel Kline School of Law); Abigail McCoy (Franklin Pierce Law School); and Emily Wolfgang (Widener University Commonwealth Law School).

Formula for calculating available funds for Granting and Funds Available for Granting: In 2025, the Board followed the same formula historically adopted for calculating the Maximum Allowance of funds available for grants, to wit: 4% of the net

(gross less fund expenses) fund balance at the year-end of the previous year, plus any carry over of remaining funds from the previous year.

Grants Awarded: In addition to the eight Rider Scholarships awarded, the Foundation awarded the following grants in 2025:

- a) \$7,280 to North Penn Legal Services which was 80% of the \$9,100 Arbitration Fees donation by LLA members. This is consistent with the Foundation's historical award to North Penn Legal Services of Arbitration Fees with the Foundation retaining 20% of the donated Fees as Administrative Expenses.
- b) Based on the recommendation of the Outreach Committee, the Board voted to award the LLA Young Lawyers Division \$1,600 to fund the Wills for Heroes Program.
- c) Based on the recommendation of the Outreach Committee, the Board awarded the Jersey Shore School District Mock Trial Team \$1,000 to assist with transportation to competitions.
- d) Based on the recommendation of the Outreach Committee, the Board awarded Thrive International \$2,000 to assist with registration and transportation fees for 3 staff members and one intern to attend a Clinic in San Antonio, Texas relative to the changing field of Immigration Law with the requirement that Thrive attorneys/staff give a one-hour CLE to pass on information obtained at the Clinic. Thrive's staff conducted the CLE for the LLA in August, 2025.

2026 Scheduled Meeting Dates: The Foundation plans to meet Quarterly again in 2026 with scheduled meeting dates of January 21st, April 22nd, July 22nd and October 21st at noon at the LLA office.

Special Thank Yous: Once again, the Foundation Board thanks LLA Executive Director Michele Frey for her continued assistance in 2025 and for her eternal enthusiasm and optimism for the Foundation's operations and goals. The Board also thanks the Members of the Outreach Committee who vet the Grant Awards Applications and provide the Foundation Board with recommendations on funding each Application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin A Read, LLA Foundation President