



MULTNOMAH BAR ASSOCIATION

EST 1906

A decorative graphic consisting of four squares: a light pink square, a dark red square, a medium red square, and a large olive green square. The olive green square is the largest and contains the text "2009 Annual Report".

2009 Annual Report

The Multnomah Bar Association (MBA) was founded in 1906 as a voluntary, nonprofit, professional association of lawyers and judges in the Portland metropolitan area. From the beginning, the MBA has provided metro-area lawyers with a forum for collegiality, judicial stewardship, continuing education, professional and business development and law-related community service. The mission of the MBA is to promote justice, service, professionalism, education and leadership to its members and to the community. The organization focuses its

efforts and activities in support of this mission in three key areas: service to the public through stewardship of the justice system, service to MBA members and service to the profession. The MBA has 4,442 members, up from 4,422 the year before. Members are primarily lawyers from the Portland metropolitan area and the remaining members are judges from the state and federal courts, lawyers outside the Portland area and non-attorney staff working in law-related positions. The MBA Young Lawyers Section (YLS) serves members under the age of 36 or in practice less than six years.

Letter from the President

Leslie N. Kay



The 2009 Annual Report summarizes the work of the MBA over the past year under the leadership of President Michael Dwyer and Executive Director Judy Edwards. The MBA was fortunate to have Michael's innovative approach to the work of the association, and Judy's commitment, professionalism and skill.

The MBA is a healthy organization. We continued to enjoy a sound financial position as we weathered the recession despite the drop in bank interest rates that has affected cash reserves for the association. We have increased membership enrollment, have strong affinity relationships with businesses and generous event sponsorships by members and area businesses.

In 2008-2009, the MBA continued to provide its members valuable benefits. We offered a variety of health plans at competitive rates in a turbulent healthcare sector. Our CLE programs, as well as our groundbreaking Futures CLEs envisioned by Michael Dwyer who brought in national speakers on stress reduction and conflict resolution, were very successful. Our social events enabled members to enjoy the company of colleagues and support CourtCare and the Volunteer Lawyers Project at Legal Aid Services of Oregon. At our spring awards dinner, we celebrated the achievements of our most deserving members, including the coveted Professionalism Award given to Judy Snyder.

Our committees worked hard to perform their multiple tasks, from screening judicial applicants, to seeking diversity in our profession, to advancing professionalism and a healthy dialogue between bench and bar. Our Pro Bono Pledge Task Force continued to implement the Pro Bono Pledge, enabling members to make a written commitment to offer legal services for citizens who would otherwise have no access to justice.

None of these many successes would be possible without the dedication of the MBA's staff led by Judy Edwards. Staff members Guy Walden, Kathy Maloney, Carol Hawkins, Ryan Mosier and Pamela Hubbs also must be recognized for the forward momentum of the association.

Ultimately, the MBA's vitality is a reflection of the efforts of our many involved members. To all of you who contributed to these efforts, I issue a sincere thanks.

Leslie Nori Kay is the Regional Director for the Multnomah County Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon and practices poverty and civil rights law. She attended Harvard and Willamette Law Schools.

MBA Leadership

2009-2010 MBA Board of Directors



MBA Board, taken at the May 2009 MBA annual meeting

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Leslie N. Kay, Legal Aid Services of Oregon

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Bonnie Richardson, Folawn Alterman & Richardson

YLS Leadership

2009-2010 Young Lawyers Section Board

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Bernadette D. Nunley, Multnomah County Attorneys Office

Yumi M. O'Neil, Multnomah County Circuit Court



YLS Board, taken at May 2009 MBA annual meeting

Letter from the Young Lawyers Section President

Justin D. Leonard



Our President (the one who lives in the White House) was on the radio this evening, fielding tough questions from the press corps. Whether or not one agrees with his politics, few dispute that Obama possesses exceptional leadership traits. Some of these traits, such as intelligence and charisma, are probably genetic. But most are skills that he honed over time, including in law school and during his time as a young lawyer in Chicago.

I'm not sure how active Obama was in the Young Lawyers Section of the Chicago Bar Association, but I do know that our own YLS is honing leadership skills for the next generation of Obamas. The *ABA Affiliate* featured an article on the YLS, commending the range of opportunities we provide for future leaders.

For example, our membership is active on six committees, increasing access to pro bono services, serving the public through community service, presenting CLEs on both fundamental skills and cutting-edge issues, hosting social and networking events for lawyers, expanding civics education in our youth through YouTube, and examining "futures" issues like e-filing, sustainability and contract lawyering. Beyond the committees, hundreds of attorneys make a difference through our Imprint (reading/mentorship) Program and Community Service Days. Last year, through the efforts of our president Andrew Schpak and many dedicated members, the Futures Committee was born and the first-ever young lawyer summit convened to address diversity and other issues of importance to new lawyers.

For example, our fall CLE series – addressing common legal issues in a down economy, such as bankruptcy, foreclosure, and collection – has been filling up fast. And we have an all-star lineup of committee chairs: Duke Tufty (Professional Development & Education), Jodie Ayura (Service to the Public), Rachel Amatuzzi (Membership), Sarah Petersen and Collin McKean (Futures), Ted Broberg (YOUthFILM), and Will Glasson (Pro Bono).

If you are a new lawyer, I hope you take the opportunity to join us during the committee year. If you are not so new to the practice, we thank you for encouraging the involvement of the new lawyers you know - our country's next generation of leaders.

Justin Leonard practices in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. He graduated from Lewis & Clark Law School.

Multnomah Bar Foundation

Executive Director's Report

Judy A.C. Edwards



Thank you for continuing your membership in the MBA and for volunteering to help make your organization stronger and more visible. Volunteers are the lifeblood of membership organizations. We value each member and their support. If you are not currently involved in the MBA, please consider volunteering.

The MBA leadership adopts important policy decisions and provides direction to the various committees, task forces and work groups so that together, we are able to expand and improve services to our membership. Please take time to read the short reports about each of the MBA and YLS committees and the Multnomah Bar Foundation.

Because of your generosity, the MBA is able to continue operations of Multnomah CourtCare. You also are making an important difference in the lives of people in crisis by donating significant money, time and expertise to pro bono legal services for low-income citizens in our community.

This year, MBA firms continued their participation in the pro bono pledge program that seeks to increase the number of firms and individuals donating pro bono legal work. You will find the pledge forms and a link to developing a firm pro bono policy at www.mbabar.org.

The redesigned and revamped MBA Web site makes a considerable amount of information available to the legal community and the public at large. Tips from the Bench are now searchable by topic area. A new section just for members was added to the Web site. It provides members with free access to the MBA Multnomah County Judges Trial Practices materials, written materials from 74 MBA CLEs and links to 64 articles on marketing, firm and practice management and technology. New articles are added continually. The Technology Corner includes an interactive forum for tech-related questions/answers and announcements.

It is an honor to serve as your Executive Director. If you have any comments, suggestions, opinions or questions, please contact me. The MBA staff is here to support you and the legal community.



MULTNOMAH BAR
FOUNDATION

Multnomah Bar Foundation Promoting community understanding of our justice system

Founded in 2005, the Multnomah Bar Foundation (MBF) is a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational nonprofit. The purpose of the foundation is to advance respect for the rule of law, promote civics education and participation and support programs related to the law. Two dedicated funds have been established. For more information about the funds, how to contribute to them or apply for a grant, please contact Pamela Hubbs at the MBA.



Hon. Adrienne C. Nelson,
President, Multnomah Bar
Foundation

This spring the foundation sponsored a half-day summit for nonprofits interested in expanding their civics education programs. The idea is to encourage the groups to work together to create new programs that reach citizens of all ages and to seek funding from the foundation for the joint programs. Representatives from City Club, League of Women Voters, The Bus Project, Urban League and Oregon Community Foundation participated.



Nonprofit representatives at MBF's Inspiring Engaged Citizens Summit

MBA 100th Anniversary Community Gift Fund

The fund makes grants to nonprofits for programs that promote civics education and participation. 2009 grants have been made to:

- **The Bus Project Foundation**, \$5,000 for PolitiCorps Community Training Initiative, which provides civics skills and leadership training to over 400 college students.
- **The Classroom Law Project**, \$15,000 to fund a series of Youth Summits that will involve over 1,200 middle and high school students in mock congressional hearings format to discuss controversial and timely legal issues. Funding also provides for training and lesson plans for teachers.



League of Women Voters' Student Leadership Initiative

- **Elders in Action**, \$10,000 for its Civic Education Awareness Project (CEAP), that will provide civics education through targeted outreach to adults age 60 and over. Speaking engagements, community events and online features will reach 9,000 citizens.
- **League of Women Voters of Portland Education Fund**, \$4,375 to organize Student Leadership Initiative – The Portland Plan, a workshop in partnership with Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods to introduce 48 students from six inner north/northeast high schools to Portland's efforts to update key city plans and receive instruction on how to effect those plans.
- **MetroEast Community Media**, \$5,000 to produce Community Involvement is Civic Engagement, a series of informational segments to educate the East County community about civic issues and encourage civic engagement.



• **YOUthFILM Project**, \$2,000 to purchase equipment for its digital camcorder lending program and to provide access to professional tools and support through Film Action Oregon. This annual Community Law Week project asks students to produce short films on civics-related themes.

Classroom Law Project
Youth Summit

Multnomah CourtCare Fund

The fund supports the annual operations of the free drop-in childcare center in the Multnomah County Courthouse, for children between the ages of six weeks and five years, whose parents have business in the courthouse and no other childcare. Since opening its doors in December 2001, over 7,400 young children did not witness disturbing courtroom scenes. Instead, they received one-on-one attention from a qualified childcare provider in a joyful environment. Through the efforts of the MBA, its board, members and Fun Committee, the "A Jungle Gym in the Jungle" CourtCare fundraising campaign and the generosity of the legal community, over \$100,000 was raised this spring for the program's 2009-10 operating year. The Multnomah County Circuit Court and Multnomah County each contribute \$25,000 annually. Volunteers of America Oregon operates the daycare.



2009 CourtCare Campaign Winners

MBA Programs

Judicial Outreach

For six years, we have assisted the Multnomah County Circuit Court's Judicial Outreach Committee with its legislative open houses and speakers' bureau. The speakers' bureau has completed 170 presentations to nonprofits, civic organizations, chambers of commerce, churches and neighborhood groups.

Multnomah County Courthouse

The MBA also continues to work on increasing the awareness and understanding of the need for a new Multnomah County courthouse, adequate funding for court operations and a fair and impartial justice system and its impact on our daily lives and community. In the past year, the MBA has continued to meet with Multnomah County commissioners and news media to keep the need for the courthouse visible. MBA representatives also attended the legislative interim committee's hearing on courthouses



An original electrical shaft in the Multnomah County Courthouse



File storage in the courthouse basement

to testify specifically about the reasons a new courthouse is necessary in Multnomah County. MBA Executive Committee members hosted numerous state legislators on tours of the courthouse basement so they could see firsthand the conditions in the

building. We also hired a professional photographer to provide us with a visual story for the MBA Web site. The photos are located on the Courts page, Multnomah County Courthouse Information.



Patchwork of electrical, plumbing and exposed masonry

Pro Bono - Volunteer Lawyers Project at Legal Aid Services of Oregon



Senior Law Project

The Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) at Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO) pairs volunteer attorneys with low-income clients in need of civil legal services. LASO coordinates five pro bono projects, including the OSB

Debtor-Creditor Section Bankruptcy Clinic, Domestic Violence Project, Pro Se Assistance Project, Senior Law Project and Legal Aid Night Clinic. Additionally, the VLP posts cases on the ProBonoOregon Listserv - an electronic direct placement project.

In its 28th year, the VLP continues to connect pro bono lawyers with low-income clients who otherwise would not receive legal representation. Over 250 volunteer lawyers provide assistance to nearly 1,900 clients each year through the VLP. Clients like Mateo, a father of two children who needed assistance filing for bankruptcy after a medical crisis left him with a mountain of debt and insufficient funds to care for his family and Maggie, a 72-year-old woman who needed representation in a restraining order hearing against her mentally ill son who was repeatedly violent towards her, are at the core of the work performed by the VLP.

VLP pro bono attorneys provide an array of legal services ranging from brief advice to contested litigation. Volunteer attorneys reported over 2,200 hours of pro bono service in 2008 and we know that the actual number of pro bono hours completed is significantly higher, as many attorneys do not report their hours to the VLP.

Coordinating such a large pro bono project requires time and staffing. VLP staff members screen cases for placement, provide advice and brief service to clients who cannot be placed with volunteer attorneys and recruit, train and support pro bono attorneys. VLP staff members worked with the MBA on the Pro Bono Pledge, sponsored numerous CLEs throughout the year and are working on the Pro Bono Fair to be held on October 27.

The VLP receives essential financial support through the MBA dues check off program, members' use of the MBA Bank of America credit card and the MBA Golf Committee's Annual Championship Tournament. Through the support of the MBA and its members, the VLP is able to increase access to justice to clients like Maggie and Matteo, who could not otherwise afford to obtain legal assistance.

MBA Social & Networking Events

Members tell us that they appreciate having opportunities to meet and get acquainted with their colleagues. Last fall's "Absolutely Social - A Grape Escape," featured wine tasting and was attended by 250 members. The "WinterSmash" focused on a family evening of bowling and pizza; 250 attended and it raised \$16,000 for Multnomah CourtCare. Twenty-three sponsors generously supported



Jeff Matthews and Lynn Nagasako recognized for service to the Multnomah Bar Foundation at the 2009 MBA Annual Dinner

the event. For the fifth year in a row, **Harrang Long Gary Rudnick**, the King Pin Sponsor, underwrote the evening's food and beverage. Members and friends attended the sixth annual MBA office open house in February. About 450 people attended the MBA annual meeting, dinner and judges reception in May at the Marriott.



Mentor John Connors with his mentee Sara Mulroy at the mentor program kickoff event



Laura Salerno and David Owens listen to Justice Walters speak at the January YLS Drop-in Social event sponsored by Gevurtz Menashe



Gevurtz Menashe firm won the award for "Best Bowling Shirts" at the 2009 WinterSmash



Sam Gamboa, Susan Hiler, Tyler Volm and Shane Swilley at the May 2009 YLS Wine Tasting Social



Tara Lawrence, Harl & Mary Lou Haas at the Absolutely Social

MBA Merit Award

The **Honorable Jerry LaBarre** was recognized for founding the Multnomah County Circuit Court Judicial Outreach Committee and its Speakers' Bureau. The **Judicial Screening Committee** received the award because it screened more than twice as many applicants as any previous committee. **Lisa Naito** was acknowledged for her efforts toward a new Multnomah County Courthouse. **Eric Waxler** brought the Pro Bono Pledge idea to the MBA and played a fundamental role in launching the Pro Bono Pledge Task Force. The **Honorable John Wittmayer** wrote "Tips from the Bench" for four years. **JoLynne Zimmerman** has had a key role with the annual CourtCare Fundraising Campaign since its inception in 2004.



2009 MBA Merit Award recipients

YLS Awards

Colin Andries, chair of the YLS Membership Committee, set a new standard for the networking socials hosted by the committee.

Cashauna Hill received the award for her work on the YLS Service to the Public Committee since 2005, including co-chairing the Imprint Program and planning Community Law Week activities. **Bernadette Nunley** served as chair of newly formed YLS Futures Committee, helped develop the committee's charge and ensured that it blossomed. **Dallas DeLuca** received the YLS Rookie of the Year Award for his outstanding efforts with the YLS Membership.



2009 YLS Merit Award recipients

Judy Danelle Snyder - The 2009 MBA Professionalism Award Recipient

Praised by both plaintiff and defense counsel, **Judy Danelle Snyder** has been described as "calm and respectful ... a model for how a professional lawyer should function ... accomplishing her client's goals without compromising the quality of her reputation." She is a "first rate lawyer who gets high marks for her honesty,

ethics and professionalism." She is cooperative and works through contentious situations. Her nomination included letters of support from co-counsel, opposing counsel, her client and a court staff person involved in a two-month long trial last summer - all of whom gave her high praise. The court staff person described Judy as

having "extreme intensity of forethought ... self-discipline exuded from her." Judy has been a trial attorney for 34 years and is active in many legal organizations including OTLA, OSB, Professional Responsibility Board and the Owen Panner Inn of Court and is noted for being a role model for young lawyers. She is a past president of the MBA.



2009 MBA Professionalism Award Winner, Judy Danelle Snyder

Continuing Legal Education

Bonnie Richardson, Chair

- Planned and presented 28 CLE accredited classes. The diverse panelists were experienced specialists. Topics included special requirements, such as child abuse reporting, in addition to annual classes on presiding court updates for the four area counties.
- Attracted over 900 members who attended at least one class. A calendar of CLE topics through December 2009 may be found on the MBA Web site.

Court Liaison

Anne Talcott, Chair

- Wrote profiles of judges and full-time referees, "News from the Courthouse" articles and continued "Tips from the Bench" column, now shared among five judges, for the newsletter.
- Reviewed and recommended improvements to the MBA Web site courts page.
- Held two judicial brown bag seminars.
- Received a presentation of the eCourts project.
- Formed a subcommittee to work with the court on how the MBA might best assist in light of the budget cuts.

Equality Committee

Linda Meng, Chair

- Communicated with and supported the OSB Affirmative Action Committee, OSB Diversity Section, OMLA and Opportunities for Law in Oregon.
- Published two articles for the newsletter featuring the diversity efforts of firms.
- Gave presentations to students at Tubman Middle School and PSU.
- Developed the Statement of Diversity Principles which was adopted by the MBA Board and is available for all legal employers and individuals to sign in order to publicly acknowledge their commitment to developing the diversity of the legal community.



Golf Committee

Kathy Root, Chair

- Held five golf outings for members, sponsors and non-members, including the annual Championship Golf Tournament raising \$5,000 for the Volunteer Lawyers Project at LASO.
- Scheduled golf outings only at courses that extend family benefits to all spousal equivalents per the MBA Board policy
- Held one scramble and one family-friendly tournament to appeal to a wider range of golfers.



2009 Edgefield Family & Friends Golf Outing prizes presented by member Cedric Brown and staffer Pamela Hubbs

Group Health Insurance

Stephen Connolly, Chair

- Monitored and negotiated a low-cost, quality, group health insurance program for MBA members; met with the two major medical providers.
- Negotiated a new Standard Insurance Disability plan to be offered to the membership.
- Covers approximately 2,200 attorneys and staff, plus their dependents, in the MBA plans

Judicial Screening Committee

Julia Hagan, Chair

- Screened 63 candidates for three judicial positions and six pro tem candidates. Former committee chairs and members were recruited to the regular committee to facilitate the screening of this very large pool of candidates.
- Sent a list of 16 names deemed to be "highly qualified" to the Governor. He appointed all three new judges from the MBA list.

Young Lawyers Section

Membership

Greg Moawad, Chair

- Placed members from under-represented member types, including public sector members, in-house counsel and ethnic minorities onto MBA committees.
- Fostered relationships with other attorney organizations like OADC, OTLA, OWLS, OMLA, OGALLA, OCDLA and the OSB.

Professionalism

Todd Cleek, Chair

- Planned a half-day “What you didn’t learn in law school” CLE with Judge Anna Brown and Jeff Batchelor as plenary speakers.
- Coordinated the Mentor Program; 58 mentor-mentee pairs participated.
- Presented four professionalism training sessions including one at Lewis & Clark Law School; distributed the MBA Professionalism Statement; published seven “The Corner Office” articles in the *Multnomah Lawyer*.
- Reviewed the nominations of 10 MBA Professionalism Award candidates and made finalist recommendations to the board.

Pro Bono Pledge Task Force

Eric Waxler, Chair

- Continued promoting the Pro Bono Pledge, Take a Matter that Matters, with the goal of increasing access to justice.
- Asked law firms to pledge to adopt a written pro bono policy and to encourage participation in the individual lawyer pledge.
- Asked firms and individuals to financially support legal service organizations; 40 firms and 161 individuals signed the 2009 pledge.

YLS Membership

Colin Andries, Chair

- Encouraged members to participate in the YLS through a wide range of social activities and services, including a tour of a Portland Art Museum exhibit, a social with Justice Martha Walters, wine tasting event, book reading and social, new admittee reception and a third year law student social.
- Held the “Meet the Judges” drop-in social in April featuring a raffle which raised over \$1,400 for CourtCare and collected toys for “Toys for Tots” at the December social.
- Published the *New Admittee Survival Guide*.



Andrew Schpak recognizes Dallas DeLuca for his work on the YLS Membership Committee.

YLS Pro Bono

William Penn, Chair

- Edited and distributed the Juvenile Rights and Domestic Violence handbooks.
- Held the Second Annual Pro Bono Wine Event to raise money for printing and distribution of the handbooks.
- Collaborated with representatives from other local pro bono organizations in the planning of the annual Pro Bono Fair.
- Established a single, long-term point of contact for access to the ongoing Nonprofit Project and Attorneys for Youth programs to reducing organizational difficulties experienced when transitioning between committee years.



In March 2009 the YLS held a Young Lawyers Summit. More than 80 people attended and talked about diversity in the profession as well as issues confronting young lawyers and the future of the practice of law. The event raised \$830 for the Campaign for Equal Justice.

Professional Development & Education

Yumi O’Neil, Chair

- Presented three, multi-part CLE seminar series in the fall, winter and spring. Topics included *Fundamentals of Employment Law*, *Young Litigators Forum* and *Litigation: Beyond the Basics*.
- Organized two timely stand-alone CLE accredited professional development events. “Sustainability in the Legal Profession” detailed how to translate environmental and social sustainability into beneficial business practices. The free “Surviving and Thriving in a Tough Economy,” was an opportunity for job seekers to listen to established legal professionals discuss different ways to build their career despite the economic downturn.

Futures Committee

Bernadette Nunley, Chair

- Developed a charge for the committee.
- Authored four articles on futures topics for the *Multnomah Lawyer*.
- Began to develop strategies to address issues of interest identified by the MBA generation gap report and the committee.

The YOUthFILM Committee

Laurie Hager, Chair

- Planned and organized The YOUthFILM Project video contest for students, culminating in an awards ceremony and public screening.
- To honor the work of these student filmmakers, Governor Kulongoski proclaimed April 28 as “Young Filmmakers’ Day.”



Chief Justice De Muniz with student filmmakers

Service to the Public

Olivia Zirker, Chair

- Continued Community Law Week programs, including legal information booths, “Tell it to the Judge,” a clothing drive for “Dress for Success” and a community roundtable event with Attorney General John Kroger.
- Visited local schools to give a video presentation and lead a discussion about the importance of staying in school.
- Organized Community Service Days with local nonprofits and coordinated volunteer attorneys who acted as judges in Multnomah County Animal Services hearings.
- Continued the Imprint Program, which helps students develop writing and analytical skills while discussing an assigned novel with their volunteer lawyer pen pals.



YLS Community Law Week Tell it to the Judge event

Thank You Affinity Partners & Sponsors!

MBA Financial Report

McDonald Jacobs Accountants and Consultants conduct a financial review each year and provide a consolidated report of the MBA and MBF financial activities. The organizations' fiscal years are the calendar year. The 2008 reviewed statements showed total combined assets for MBA and MBF, including cash, receivables, prepaid expenses and net equipment, at \$1,638,827. This number includes \$968,059 MBA and MBF assets, up from \$934,851 the previous year, plus the MBA health insurance premium cash of \$669,768. MBA revenue for 2008 was \$799,566 and expenses were \$771,246. Approximately \$395,155 came from dues, representing 49% of the total revenue. Non-dues income comes primarily from newsletter advertising, seminars, committee activities, events, sponsorships, interest and affinity programs. MBA dues for 2009 are \$100 for regular members; dues are waived for new admittees and full-time judges and are reduced for second year, retired or disabled and associate members. Dues remain the lowest nationally for voluntary bars of similar size.

Michelle S. Druce
Treasurer

MBA Staff

Judy A. C. Edwards, Executive Director
Guy Walden, Associate Executive Director
Kathy Maloney, Director, Events and Programs
Carol Hawkins, Executive Assistant and Communications Administrator
Ryan Mosier, Office and Membership Administrator
Pamela Hubbs, Office and Foundation Administrator

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Sather Byerly & Holloway



Juliette, Beau and Troy Moody and Ian and Dave Malcolm at WinterSmash

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