

STATE BAR of MICHIGAN

2006-2007 Annual Report Standing Committee On United States Courts

Committee Name: Standing Committee on United States Courts

Jurisdictional Statement:

The Committee shall concern itself with the administration, organization, and operation of the United States Courts for the purpose of securing an effective administration of justice. Two of its members shall be judges designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, and one of its members shall be a judge designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan.

Officers and Membership:

Chair: Marianne O. Battani

Members:

Term Expires 2007: Richard Bisio, Pamela Chapman Enslin, Jason Klingensmith, Matthew Lund, Michael Puerner, James Saalfeld, John Smietanka.

Term Expires 2008: Charles Chamberlain, Irene Bruce Hathaway, Thaddeus Morgan, Francis Ortiz, Andrew Portinga, John Ferroli, Sheldon Light, Mark McInerney, Robert Neaton, Christopher Tracy.

Non-Bar members: David Weaver, Ronald Weston

Designated by the Eastern District of Michigan: Hon. Paul V. Gadola, and Hon. Marianne O. Battani

Designated by the Western District of Michigan: Hon. Ellen S. Carmody

Commissioner Liason: Michael Riordan

Meeting Schedule:

October 18, 2006 - State Bar of Michigan Michael Franck Building
January 9, 2007 - State Bar of Michigan Michael Franck Building
March 13, 2007 - State Bar of Michigan Michael Franck Building
May 22, 2007 - Seldom Blues Restaurant, Detroit

Committee Activities:

1. Exchange of information between the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan regarding operational and administrative functions.
2. Participation in the State Bar of Michigan Attorney-Client Privilege Task Force.
3. Review and discussion on amendments to the Western District Local Court Rules.
4. Review and discussion on the amendments to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.
5. Extensive review and discussion regarding Federal Rule of Evidence 502.
6. Planning continued for a proposed 2008 Bench-Bar Conference.

7. The annual bench-bar dinner with the judges of the Eastern District (alternates yearly with the Western District) is scheduled for May 22nd. It will provide an opportunity for the judges to meet the members of the committee and to exchange ideas and discuss common issues.

Resources Provided by the State Bar of Michigan in Support of Committee Work:

The State Bar provided a room for meetings which was equipped with telephone conferencing at the State Bar of Michigan Michael Franck Building. Dinner was provided at each meeting. In addition, the Committee's Annual Bench-Bar dinner is funded by the Bar.

Future Goals and Activities:

1. The Committee plans to continue its participation in reviewing and commenting on amendments to the Federal Rules and submitting drafts when appropriate.
2. The Committee will continue the coordination and exchange of information between the Western and Eastern Districts of Michigan.
3. Continued participation with the State Bar of Michigan Attorney-Client Privilege Task Force.
4. The Committee will continue its planning for the proposed 2008 Bench-Bar Conference.

Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:

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