STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Bar Year: 2007-2008

Section Name: Prisons & Corrections Section

Mission Statement:

PURPOSES. The purposes of the Prisons and Corrections Section are to:

a) study and debate

- 1) the operation of the criminal justice system as it affects incarcerated persons, their families, and the public;
- 2) alternatives to incarceration;
- 3) the functioning of jails, prisons and parole; and
- 4) post-incarceration issues;
- b) educate its members and the general public; and
- c) make recommendations to the State Bar, public officials, the Legislature and the Judiciary regarding the adoption of rational, effective and fair policies in these areas.

The Section will seek to achieve these purposes by publishing a newsletter, sponsoring and conducting conferences and training programs, educating the public, adopting positions on public policy decisions affecting matters within its jurisdiction, and promoting the development of a cohesive corrections policy through empirical research and cross-professional dialogue.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Michael J.	1131 Vail Court	517-242-4792	mjmarutiak@comcast.net
	Marutiak	Lansing, MI		
		48917		
Chair-Elect	Patricia Streeter			pas@patstreeter.com
Secretary	Rachel Waterbury			
	(non-attorney)			
Treasurer	Steve Gobbo			sjgobbo@aol.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Mike Barnhart	2008	Kevin Thom	2010
Patricia Streeter	2008	Cassanda Green (interim appointment)	2008
Michael Marutiak	2008	Richard Stapleton – Agency Liaison	
		Department of Corrections	
Adrienne Watts	2008	Robert Beracy – Agency Liaison	
		Michigan Sheriff's Association	
Sandra Girard	2009	Michelle VanDusen – Agency Liaison	
		Michigan Corrections Association	
James O'Donnell	2009	Rachel Waterbury – Associate	
		Non-attorney	
Steve Gobbo	2009	Kathleen Schaefer – Associate	
		Non-attorney	
Joseph Niskar (interim appointment)	2008	Natalie Holbrook – Associate	
		Non-attorney	
Barbara Levine	2010		

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David Moffitt (interim appointment)	2008	

Council Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Council meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Business	10/6/07	State Bar
Business	11/17/07	State Bar
Business	12/15/07	State Bar
Business	1/19/08	State Bar
Business	2/16/08	State Bar
Business	3/15/08	State Bar
Business	4/19/08	State Bar
Business	5/17/08	State Bar
Annual Meeting	9/19/08	Dearborn

General Budget Information: The Section currently has a balance of approximately \$4,000, with approximately \$3,000 in commitments and encumbrances for the remainder of the year. We expect to carryover about \$1,000 into the next year.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
"Balancing Our Priorities: Can we	5/2/08	Lansing, LCC West Campus
safely spend less on Corrections"		_

Legislative issues:

- 1. HB 4475: Support with recommended amendments;
- 2. HB 5213: Support in principle;
- 3. Medical Paroles Position (see report on Section's web page);

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4. Statement Regarding Extending Parole Terms for Parolees Who Owe Restitution (see report on Section's web page).

Recommendations for next Council: Establish goals and objectives for the Council at the beginning of the year.

Other Information:

The Section focused on three general topics during the year: medical paroles, mental health issues and the criminal justice system, and merit or incentive credits. The conference cosponsored by the Section in May focused on possible solutions to the budgetary issue of corrections spending. Numerous public officials and other guests with expertise in these areas addressed the Council at regular business meetings during the year.

The Section newsletter will be published and distributed in June of 2008. The Council's meeting minutes, Section bylaws, and additional information is available on the Section's web page.