



Section Annual Reports

2015-2016

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**The reports are posted online and can be read at
<http://www.michbar.org/sections/pdfs/annualreports2015-16.pdf>**

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Agricultural Law Section

Chair

P42386 Jeff G. Haarer
Michigan Dept of Agriculture and Rural Development
1920 Byrnes Rd
Lansing MI 48906-3401
Phone: (517) 284-5642
Fax: (517) 335-4540
e-mail: haarerj@michigan.gov

Vice Chair

P75385 Allison Lee Eicher, East Lansing

Secretary

P72240 Liza Catherine Moore, Lansing

Treasurer

P71769 Kristiana M. Coutu, Kalamazoo

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P49910 Kimberly A. Clarke, Grand Rapids
P35161 John R. Dresser, Sturgis
P67723 Todd W. Hoppe, Grand Rapids

Term Ending: 2017

P77855 Tyler Jacob Ernst, Lansing
P79800 Amanda M. Gregory, Riverview
P38306 Mark E. Kellogg, Lansing

Commissioner Liaison

P75327 Brian D. Shekell, Detroit

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Conference Call	October 21, 2015	call
Conference Call	November 25, 2015	call
Conference Call	January 20, 2016	call
Monthly meeting and Conference Call after Symposium	February 12, 2016	MSU Law School
Conference Call	March 23, 2016	call
Conference Call	April 27, 2016	call
Monthly meeting and conference call after Lunch and Learn	May 25, 2016	State Bar Office
Conference Call	June 22, 2016	call
Conference Call	July 20, 2016	call
Conference Call	August 24, 2016	call
Annual Meeting	September 22, 2016	SBM Annual Meeting GR

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

General Budget Information: As of April 30, 2016, the Section's year-to-date gross revenue was \$4,400. The Section's year-to-date expenses through April 30, 2016 were \$2,874.03. The Section may incur minimal expense for an upcoming

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Student Agricultural & Food Law Symposium	February, 22, 2016	MSU College of Law, East Lansing
Kristyn Carmichael - 1st place		
Ethan Shirley - 2nd place		
Daniel Oliva - 3rd place		
Jordan Ebert - 3rd place		
Food Safety Modernization Act Lunch and Learn	May 25, 2016	SBM Offices, Lansing
4th Ag law Section Annual Meeting and Program	September 22, 2016	Amway, Grand Rapids

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

During this term there have been several developments with Immigration enforcement, Michigan Water Use Reporting, Michigan Right to Farm Act, and implementation of the new Food Safety Modernization Act.

Recommendations for next Council:

The Section has surpassed 340 members as it defines its role in the \$101 billion Michigan Agriculture industry. The council must consider its limited budget as we partner as we educate the legal profession in ag practices.

Other Information:

November 2105 amended bylaws created a Council position for past chair, In 2016 Trent C. Hilding served in this role as our past Chair. We are in preliminary discussions with the Michigan Agri- Business Association to partner on a property issue seminar. There are also ongoing discussions to hold an ag law primer session in the metro Detroit area.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

e-mail form

**ANNUAL REPORT
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Mission Statement

To encourage conflict resolution by:

- 1) Providing training and education for ADR professionals;
- 2) Giving professionals the tools to empower people in conflict to create optimal resolutions;
and
- 3) Advancing the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in our courts, government, businesses, and communities.

**Council Members
by Classes and Terms
As of May 30, 2016**

Chair - Joe Basta (P24645)

Chair-Elect – Sheldon Stark (P23192)

Secretary - Lisa Taylor (P42403)

Past Chair - Martin C. Weisman (P22139)

Treasurer – William Gilbride, Jr. (P36830)

2016

Name	Term	
Hon. John Hohman (Shel Stark)	2015-2016	Partial Term
Peter B. Kupelian	2013-2016	First Term
* Michael S. Leib (Brian Pappas)	2015-2016	Partial Term*
Abraham Singer (John L. Tatum)	2015-2016	Partial Term
Howard Spence (Ralph L. Maccarone, III)	2015-2016	Partial Term
Marc M. Stanley	2013-2016	First Term
Lisa Taylor	2013-2016	First Term

2017

Name	Term	
William D. Gilbride, Jr. (Joe Basta, Chair)	2015-2017	Partial Term
Erin Hopper	2014-2017	First Term
Alan M. Kanter	2014-2017	First Term
Hon. Milton Mack, Jr.	2014-2017	First Term
Hon. Paula Manderfield (Jeanne Stempien)	2015-2017	Partial Term
Samuel McCargo	2014-2017	First Term
Abner Tansil (Melissa Matiash)	2015-2017	Partial Term

2018

Name	Term	
Hon. William J. Caprathe	2015-2018	First Term
Bernard Dempsey	2015-2018	First Term
Richard Hooker	2015-2018	First Term
Lee Hornberger	2015-2018	First Term
Steve Lett	2015-2018	First Term
Phil Schaedler	2015-2018	First Term
L. Graham Ward	2015-2018	First Term

*Filled vacancy for (person). Eligible to be elected to two full terms at the conclusion of this term.

Financial Report

The following is the financial report of the Section through April 30, 2016. Our ending balance of \$85,574.11 is the largest it has been in several years.

State Bar of Michigan			
Alternative Dispute Resolution			
For the Seven Months Ending April 30, 2016			
	Current Activity	Year To Date	Year To Date
	April	April	April
	2016	2016	2015
Revenue:			
1-7-99-150-1006 Sponsorships		5,050.00	3,950.00
1-7-99-150-1050 Alternate Dispute Res Dues	40.00	26,720.00	26,960.00
1-7-99-150-1055 Alt Dis Res Student/Affil Dues	5.00	715.00	760.00
1-7-99-150-1125 Seminar Revenue	330.00	17,480.00	13,140.00
1-7-99-150-1150 Annual Meeting		10,368.87	9,370.00
1-7-99-150-1310 Membership Certificates		8.00	8.00
	-	-	-
Total Revenue	375.00	60,341.87	54,188.00
	-	-	-
Expenses:			
1-9-99-150-1145 ListServ		270.00	315.00
1-9-99-150-1272 Spring Training Summit	6,001.25	9,525.01	7,624.95
1-9-99-150-1276 Meetings		842.83	466.06
1-9-99-150-1283 Seminars	125.00	4,613.73	547.21
1-9-99-150-1297 Annual Meeting Expenses		7,389.64	9,818.91
1-9-99-150-1493 Travel		79.75	94.50

1-9-99-150-1528 Telephone	35.24	476.99	478.47
1-9-99-150-1763 Publications		325.00	
1-9-99-150-1833 Newsletter		315.00	910.00
1-9-99-150-1861 Printing		3,241.51	
1-9-99-150-1868 Postage	22.42	25.26	34.04
1-9-99-150-1987 Miscellaneous	250.00	461.47	79.48
	-	-	-
Total Expenses	6,433.91	27,566.19	20,368.62
	-	-	-
Net Income	(6,058.91)	32,775.68	33,819.38
Beginning Fund Balance:			
1-5-00-150-0001 Fund Bal-Alternate Dispute Res		52,798.43	21,845.38
		-	-
Total Beginning Fund Balance		52,798.43	21,845.38
		-	-
Ending Fund Balance		85,574.11	55,664.76

Sections and Committees

ADR Section Action Teams and Task Force

Effective Practices and Procedures ("EPP")

Purpose: To improve ADR practices and procedures and review pending or proposed legislation for its impact on ADR. The EPP committee has worked hand in hand with the Automatic Mediation Task Force for the past year and a half, gathering research, court rules, protocols and statutes relating to the possibility of expanding the use of mediation and other ADR processes in Michigan. The committee also reviewed several alterations to court rules and proposed policy changes which could impact the mediation practice in our state. The task force team was led by Bill Weber. Mary Bedikian wrote the white paper, explaining the reasons for and detailing the proposed changes, and Bob Wright drafted proposed legislation for submission and recommendation to EPP.

Doug Van Epps, Director, Office of Dispute Resolution, SCAO, created a new committee from the Joint Domestic Relations filing idea presented by Lisa Taylor and her initial workgroup. The proposed court rule amendments were tabled by the Supreme Court, but the Court allowed Mr. Van Epps to convene a group to study what court rules may be needed, including joint filing, to support the collaborative law process, mediation and other ADR processes that occur pre-filing, possibly expanding to other areas of law beyond family law cases. Marc Stanley recommended EPP members and Lisa Taylor be appointed to the group for continuity and scope. Lisa was appointed and attended the first meeting in Lansing, on April 15, 2016.

EPP has also subscribed to the State Bar's policy research department so it can provide better updates on new policy or proposed changes to current policy/rules, which can impact our practices.

We ask that membership keep the committee updated on local and regional changes as well, so we can continue to work with our membership and promote best practices around the state. The Committee looks forward to providing advocacy for our membership for years to come, but to be the best advocates we can, we must know what membership wants, and where changes or obstacles are being placed. The Public Policy research updates are distributed to members on a weekly or by-weekly basis and reviewed for pertinent updates or questions that should be reviewed. There have not been a great many items that have needed discussion this year. The items that have been discussed and forwarded for recommendations were: the initiating of summary trials; the altering of the notice requirement in case evaluation; the use of arbitration in domestic matters; the development and implementation of a single state mediation roster; and confidentiality/privilege issues in mediated cases.

EPP looks forward to collaborating with the other committees over the next year of service, and looks to boost the membership of the committee to create optimal impact. The EPP feels that this is a good time to collaborate with Judicial Access and Section to Section. There appear to be changes in the attitude of the judiciary toward mediation, which suggest that there will be more increased use, beginning with the Business Courts. The other sweeping change that may affect ADR is new legislation proposed for use of restorative practices in all school districts for truancy and disciplinary action across the state.

For those interested, a number of bills have been introduced pertaining to restorative practices in schools:

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billintroduced/House/pdf/2016-HIB-5618.pdf>

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billintroduced/House/pdf/2016-HIB-5619.pdf>

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(tlnovioisu02f5zcoxuqnbhp\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectname=2016-HB-56](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(tlnovioisu02f5zcoxuqnbhp))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectname=2016-HB-56)

2015-2016 Chairs:

Marc Stanley

mstanley@uwjackson.org

Phil Schaedler

adratty@comcast.net

Government Task Force

Purpose: To influence legislation and urge state agencies, local units of government, and private and non-profit partnerships to use ADR methods in all dispute resolution practices. The Task Force will be folded into the Effective Practices and Procedures Action Team for formation on a project by project basis. EPP will continue to monitor, as part of its mission, pending legislation and public policy developments that might warrant activation of a Government Task Force.

2015-2016 Chair:

Bern Dempsey
bdempsey@mediation-wayne.org

Judicial Access Team (JAT)

Purpose: Develop programs and activities to promote the increased use of ADR procedures in the state's court system. The team has produced a PowerPoint program showing the benefits of ADR techniques. The Team undertook two projects this year.

First, to determine use of mediation in the probate courts, retired Probate Judge John Hohman conducted a survey on January 21, 2016 of Michigan Probate Judges. Over half of the Probate Judges responded. Of particular significance: 58% indicate that less than 25% of their contested matters are referred to mediation; 65% either do not have an ADR plan, or do not know whether they have one; 84 % indicate that a statewide roster of mediators would be helpful. As a result, we are communicating with probate judges regarding the availability of ADR services and their benefits to the justice system. We also plan to communicate with local attorneys regarding ADR use in the probate courts. Judge Hohman also published an article in the current edition of *Res Ipsa Loquitur* in Washtenaw County, with information about ADR services available in probate court cases. We will continue working on a strategy for disseminating information statewide regarding the use of ADR in probate courts.

Second, the Team investigated the feasibility of implementing a statewide roster of mediators to replace the current practice requiring circuit by circuit application for roster status. This work led to the passing of a resolution by the ADR Section, recommending that the SCAO manage a statewide mediator roster, in order to eliminate duplicative work on local court administrators and attorneys, while adding consistency and efficiency to the process. Mediators willing to serve in multiple locations would only have to apply once for all locations in Michigan. The list would be open to all trial courts, attorneys, mediators, and the public. We will continue to work with SCAO, the judge's associations, and SBM in designing a process to accomplish this objective.

2014-2015 Chair:

Hon. William Caprathe
bcaprathe@netscape.net

Outreach and Membership Action Teams

Focus:

The Committee is focused on two different objectives: Reaching out to those who work in alternative dispute resolution to build our membership and share resources; and reaching out to potential parties to ADR services to educate them about the processes and encourage their use.

Goals:

The Committee's current goal is to establish a social media presence. Currently, we are in the process of building and supporting pages on Twitter and Facebook. Through these social media sites, we hope to have easier access both to other sections and members of the bar and also to the community in general.

With our newly adopted mission statement, we can now move forward in creating a brochure to more easily disseminate information regarding our section and the benefits of membership.

2015-2016 Chair:

Erin EHopper
ehopper@whiteschneider.com

Nominating

Purpose: Recruit and propose attorneys for membership on the ADR Council as well as participation in the various section action teams and to nominate recipients for the various awards presented annually by the Section.

2015-2016 Chair:

Martin Weisman
mweisman@wyrpc.com

Publications

Purpose: Produce the Section's newsletter as well as other media communications for the Section and its members, such as communication via the Section's listserve and SBM Connect. The ADR Section produces *The ADR Quarterly* which explores various viewpoints in the developing field of dispute resolution.

This SBM year, the ADR Section has published three *ADR Quarterlies*. These were in October 2015 and January and April 2016. A fourth *Quarterly* will be published in July 2016.

The articles in these *Quarterlies* covered a wide range of ADR topics. These topics included ADR in the Business Courts: Early Expert Evaluation; Business Courts, Arbitration, and Pre-Suit Mediation: A Modest Proposal for the Strategic Resolution of Business Disputes; Educate, Explore and Engage: Pointers to Prepare Your Clients for Facilitative Mediation; Everything said in mediation is confidential. Really? Maybe; Limits of mediation confidentiality in Michigan; Mediation Matters: The 12 Steps of Mediation; Mediator Standards of Conduct and the Importance of Screening; and Michigan Arbitration and Mediation 2014-2015 Case Law Update. The articles in the July 2016 *Quarterly* will include Family Law Arbitration: Successful Strategies and Tactics; Mediators and Arbitrators: A 'Stark' Contrast; and Turf War: Arbitration v. NLRB.

At the ADR Section Annual Meeting on October 2, 2016, Susan Butterwick was presented with the Section's Distinguished Service Award to honor her significant contributions in the field of dispute resolution. Ms. Butterwick's insightful comments in accepting this Award were published in the January 2016 *Quarterly*.

The Team continued coordination of ADR SBM Connect, overview of the ADR Publication ListServ, and coordinated announcing of ADR Section events on the SBM ADR SBM Connect and the ADR Publication ListServ.

2015-2016 Chair:

Lee Hornberger

leehornberger@leehornberger.com**Section to Section**

Purpose: Explore collaborative opportunities with other State Bar sections to further the knowledge and appreciation of the use of ADR techniques. This includes joint educational programs, joint lobbying efforts, exchange of newspaper articles and other items of information.

Peter Kupelian spoke to new lawyers at the Federal Bar Association/State Law Program on December 9, 2015. Lee Hornberger presented to the Family Law Section Winter Conference in Puerto Rico the week of January 23, 2016, which was a reprise of his presentation at the State Bar of Annual Meeting in Traverse City, with updated cases and slightly stronger emphasis on family law relevant cases. Lee Hornberger also made a similar presentation on April 27, 2016 at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. The Team also undertook work with other sections including the Business Section, through team member Doug Toering, and the Team also collaborated with SCAO head Judge Milton Mack on case flow process, potential amendments of case evaluation sanction rules and potential reporting by courts of cases sent to mediation. The ADR Section will be presenting to the Young Lawyers Summit, June 4, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza in Novi. The Skills Action Team has assembled a mediation scenario and several section members will participate in the presentation.

2015-2016 Chair:

Peter B. Kupelian

pkupelian@clarkhill.com**ADR Task Force on Automatic Mediation**

Purpose: This task force was designed to explore whether the State of Michigan should have an automatic mediation or other ADR process in all civil cases. This task force consists of some of the most experienced ADR professionals in the state. The task force has completed a 50 state review of court rules and legislation containing mandatory provisions and has now drafted proposed legislation. The task force is currently seeking input from other SBM sections on the draft legislation. Information on task force leadership is in the report by EPP above.

2015-2016 Chair:

William Weber

williamlouisweber@msn.com**Skills Action Team**

Purpose: To develop and promote programs and activities to improve the skills of ADR practitioners.

In October 2015, the Section's annual meeting and training session occurred at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City, Michigan with sessions Friday afternoon and Saturday morning along with a short business meeting. Eight hours of ADR CLE was provided. Eight of 15 speakers practice in northern Michigan or have roots and family there. 77 people attended. The 2016 Annual Meeting will take

place at the Hilton Double Tree in Grand Rapids September 23-24, 2016. We currently have 16 proposals for CLE presentations. A meeting will be held May 9 at 10 am at the State Bar Building to select the final schedule.

On November 12, 2015, we offered a joint program with the Business Law Section concerning ADR in the Business Courts. We recruited 8 business court judges to join Dick Hurford, Doug Toering and Earlene Baggett-Hayes as presenters. We sold out the program with 60 people plus another 30 on a waiting list. We hope to offer the program a second time in 2016. All the judges have agreed to return.

On November 18, 2015, the Section offered a one-day Arbitration Training co-sponsored by the American Arbitration Association. The chief presenters were Sam McCargo and Mary Bedikian, with Marty Weisman and Jan Holdinski. 21 registrants attended.

We offered quarterly telephone seminars: **1)** August 18, 2015: The New Federal ADR Rules in the Eastern District with Judges David Lawson, Gershwin Drain and Laurie Michelson. **2)** November 16, 2015: Mediating Elder Law Cases with Susan Butterwick and Doug Chalgian. **3)** February 2, 2016: How Active Should a Mediator Be in Pushing for Resolution with Jim Coben, Margo Nichols, Tracy Allen and Robert Whims. **4)** May 5, 2016: Mediating Employment Disputes with Kathy Bogas, Dave Calzone, Paul Monicatti and Larry Murphy. We draw between 30 – 40 registrants per conference. We expect to offer 4 more in the coming year. The next program will be Dispositive Motions in Arbitration to be offered in the summer or fall.

The Section offered several Mediator Lunch Forums: On November 6, 2015, we offered one in Traverse City; and on March 23, 2016 we offered another in Lansing. The next one will be held in Ann Arbor.

In March of 2016, the Section put on its second March ADR Summit with Nina Meierding, a nationally renowned mediator and trainer. The program was highly rated and attended by 61 ADR Section registrants, 6 non-section members, 4 scholarship recipients from CDRCs and 3 Cooley students. We just about broke even financially.

On June 3 – 4, 2016, the Section will present a program on mediation advocacy to the Young Lawyers Section Summit at the Novi Crowne Plaza Hotel. Joe Basta, Peter Kupelian, Toni Raheem, Mike Leib and Shel Stark will be presenting. The Section will also serve as a gold financial sponsor.

The Section has also developed a new mediation advocacy program for the bar generally. We hope to offer it sometime in 2016.

2015-2016 Chair:

Shel Stark
shel@starkmediator.com

Awards

The ADR Section presents a Distinguished Service Award to an individual, program, or entity at the ADR Section's annual meeting, and it is given in recognition of significant contributions to the field

recipient of this award was Susan Butterwick. The Nancy S. Klein award is presented to an individual, program, or entity at the ADR Section's annual meeting and is given in recognition of exemplary programs, initiatives, and leaders in the field of community dispute resolution. The 2015 recipient of this award was the Brian Mattson Center for Restorative Justice. The George N. Bashara, Jr. award is an award selected by the current Chair of the Section to honor those who have provided extraordinary service to the ADR Section Council and to the Section during the course of the prior year. The recipient of the award for 2015 was Shel Stark.

Full Council Meetings

All full council meetings are held at the State Bar of Michigan Lansing, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Coffee, bagels and lunch are available. Council meetings are open to Section members and affiliates. The majority of the work of the Section is performed in action teams, which meet by telephone conference periodically. Action teams report to the Executive Committee and the full council. The 2015-16 full council meetings occurred on August 7 and November 13, 2015, and February 12 and May 13, 2016.

Executive Committee Telephone Conferences

The Executive Committee holds telephone conferences at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except those months when there are full council meetings. Call-in information can be found in your meeting e-mail notice. The Executive Committee for 2015-2016 consists of Martin C. Weisman, Joe Basta, Shel Stark, Lee Hornberger, Lisa Taylor, William Gilbride, and Erin Hopper.

Conclusion

As you can see, your Section Council and Action Teams have been hard at work in support of ADR in Michigan. Our membership continues to grow. Our finances are in great shape. Yet, we need and welcome you to participate in the work of our teams. Please contact a team leader to learn how you can become involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph C. Basta
Section Chair 2015-2016
2243 Twin Islands Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
313-378-8625
jcbasta@yahoo.com

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2015-2016

Section Name:

Antitrust, Franchising & Trade Regulation Section

Mission Statement:

The Antitrust, Franchising, and Trade Regulation Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Matthew L. Powell	500 Woodward Ave., Ste. 2500 Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 961-0200	mpowell@kerr-russell.com
Chair-Elect	David Steinberg	27777 Franklin Rd Ste 2500 Southfield, MI 48034-8222	(248) 351-3000	dsteinberg@jaffelaw.com
Secretary	Howard Lederman	838 W Long Lake Rd Ste 100 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2070	(248) 639-4696	hledermanlaw@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lance Young	1 Towne Sq Ste 1700 Southfield, MI 48076-3739	(248) 355-0300	LYoung@sommerspc.com

Member	Term
Brandon Nofar	2016
Rebecca Turner	2017

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Hassana Daouk	2018
Brian Witus	2018
Cody Rockey	2019
Cale Johnson	2019

Council Meeting Schedule:

June 5, 2015 In Person Meeting (Held)
 July 17, 2015 Telephone Conference (Held)
 August 28, 2015 In Person Meeting (Held)
 October 9, 2015 State Bar Annual Meeting In Person, Novi, Michigan (Held)
 November 20, 2015 Telephone Conference (Held)
 January 29, 2016, 12:00 Noon (Telephone Meeting) (Held)
 March 11, 2016, 12:00 Noon (In Person Meeting) (Postponed)
 April 22, 2016, 12:00 Noon (Telephone Meeting) (Held)
 June 3, 2016, 12:00 Noon (In Person Meeting)
 July 15, 2016, 12:00 Noon (Telephone Meeting)
 August 26, 2016, 12:00 Noon (In Person Meeting)
 September 23, 2016, Time TBD (In Person Meeting-State Bar Annual Meeting)
 October 28, 2016, 12:00 Noon (Telephone Meeting)
 November 18, 2016, 12:00 Noon (In Person Meeting)
 Holiday Season Event (TBD)

FRANCHISE PRACTITIONERS GROUP MEETINGS

May 29, 2015 (Held)
 July 31, 2015 (Held)
 September 11, 2015 (Held)
 November 13, 2015 (Held)
 January 22, 2016 (Held)
 April 1, 2016 (Held)
 May 13, 2016 (Postponed)
 June 10, 2016
 The group will set other meetings for the rest of the year.

General Budget Information:

As of May 11, 2016, our section's treasury has a balance in excess of \$16,000.

Events and/or Seminars:

PAST YEAR SECTION EVENTS

On September 25, 2015, Dean Heyl, Vice President of the International Franchise Association, and Kay Marie Ainsley, Managing Director, Michael H. Seid & Associates, spoke at the Franchise Practitioners Group's Developments in Franchise Law and International Franchising seminar.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

At the above October 9, 2015 section meeting, Richard Solomon, a controversial, nationally known franchise law and practice attorney and writer, spoke on franchise due diligence.

FUTURE YEAR SECTION EVENTS

During the September 23-25, 2016 State Bar Annual Meeting, the section will have an event.

Section authors will write articles for the May 2017 State Bar Journal theme edition.

Legislative Issues:

The Michigan Legislature passed, and Governor Snyder signed, a 6-bill package confirming that unless the franchise agreement or other law provides otherwise, the franchisee, not the franchisor, is the employer of the employees to whom the franchisee pays wages or provides benefits. These bills and enactment dates are:

Public Act 266 of 2015;
Public Act 267 of 2015;
Public Act 17 of 2016;
Public Act 18 of 2016;
Public Act 19 of 2016;
Public Act 20 of 2016.

Some members of the section believe that the Michigan Legislature should have asked the section to provide opinions or documents related to these bills.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue building interest in the section, encouraging people to become active in the section, and encouraging new people to run for section council positions. Develop new kinds of events to generate interest.

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Appellate Practice Section

Chair

P63233 Beth A. Wittmann
Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook
1 Woodward Ave Ste 2400
Detroit MI 48226-5485
Phone: (313) 965-7405
Fax: (313) 965-7403
e-mail: beth.wittmann@kitch.com

Chair-Elect

P68718 Gaetan Gerville-Reache, Grand Rapids

Secretary

P51288 Elizabeth L. Sokol, Birmingham

Treasurer

P53864 Stephanie Simon Morita, Farmington Hills

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P31590 Graham K. Crabtree, Lansing
P66026 Lauren DuVal Donofrio, Lansing
P27553 Richard C. Kraus, Lansing
P24269 Gerald F. Posner, Southfield
P33594 Joanne Geha Swanson, Detroit

Term Ending: 2017

P66901 Conor B. Dugan, Grand Rapids
P54818 Christina A. Ginter, Detroit
P64957 Lauren M. London, Ypsilanti
P75090 Mark J. Magyar, Grand Rapids
P28165 Larry J. Saylor, Detroit
P67762 Ann M. Sherman, Lansing
P51288 Elizabeth L. Sokol, Birmingham

Term Ending: 2018

P37150 Anne L. Argiroff, Farmington Hills
P31978 Judith A. Curtis, Grosse Pointe
P46290 Barbara H. Goldman, Southfield
P68924 Bradley R. Hall, Lansing
P47291 Valerie R. Newman, Detroit
P46888 Bridget Brown Powers, Petoskey

Commissioner Liaison

P43980 Hon. Michael J. Riordan, Detroit

Ex Officio

P55595 Phillip J. DeRosier, Detroit
P49921 Jill M. Wheaton, Ann Arbor
P54144 Nancy Vayda Dembinski, Farmington Hills

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual	10/8/15	Novi
Special	10/12/15	Conference Call
Special	10/14/15	Council ListServ
Monthly	11/20/15	Detroit
Monthly	12/18/15	Conference Call
Monthly	1/22/16	Southfield
Monthly	2/26/16	Lansing
Monthly	3/18/16	Detroit
Monthly	4/22/16	Plymouth
Monthly	5/20/16	Petoskey
Monthly	6/15/16	Brighton

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

The Section Council abided by the five-year rolling budget adopted by Council on 5/15/15. The budget was adopted to assist with the Section's financial planning and was based on the Treasurer's detailed analysis presented to Council.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Court of Appeals' Decisions & Post-Decision Practice	10/8/15	Novi
Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society Luncheon (sponsor)	4/14/16	Detroit
Bench Bar Conference (sponsor)	4/20-22/16	Plymouth
6th Circuit Appellate Practice: Appealing Tips from Appellate Clerks (sponsor)	5/3/16	Detroit
2015 Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Justice Michael Cavanagh	10/8/15	Novi
2016 Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Justice Maura Corrigan	4/21/16	Plymouth
Please see attached addendum		

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

Please see attached addendum to this report

Recommendations for next Council:

Please see attached addendum to this report

Other Information:

Please see Committee Reports in the attached addendum to this report

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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Appellate Practice Section of the State Bar of Michigan - Addendum

Events and/or Seminars:

Council also enjoyed a discussion about the new mediation pilot program in the Michigan Court of Appeals by Chief Judge Michael Talbot and court staff, at the January 2016 monthly meeting, which occurred in Southfield, MI.

Council also enjoyed a discussion about the new e-filing procedures in the Michigan Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, by members of the staff of those courts, at the February 2016 monthly meeting, which occurred at the Hall of Justice in Lansing, MI.

Legislative issues:

Comment on SB 0531 and SB 0533 – Council voted to support Legislation regarding a state-wide electronic filing system with comment relating to "service only" use of the e-filing system.

Comment on ADM File No. 2013-26 – Proposed Amendment of Rule 7.209 of the Michigan Court Rules – Council voted to support Alternative B to the proposed amendments relating to stay bonds, with further proposed amendments.

Recommendations for next Council:

The adoption of the rotating Section Council meeting locations has benefitted members who would otherwise have to travel greater distances to attend Council meetings and provides the opportunity for Section members to attend a meeting closer to their location.

Council continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with members of the appellate courts' bench and staff, which benefitted all involved.

The five-year rolling budget adopted in May 2015 has assisted in financial planning for future Appellate Practice Section officers, council, and members.

Committee Reports:

Court Liaison/Rules Comment - The committee analyzed and advised Council on the proposed amendments of MCR 7.209 (ADM 2013-26) (stay of proceedings), drafted suggested alternative language addressing various issues raised by Council and members of the Section, and appeared on behalf of the Section at the Supreme Court's September 2015 public hearing. The hearing covered the proposed amendments of both MCR 7.209 and MCR 7.215 (ADM 2014-09) (citation of unpublished opinions), on which the Section commented in May 2015. The committee also analyzed and advised Council on the proposed amendments of MCR 2.004, 3.705, 3.708, 3.804, 3.904, 4.101, 4.201, 4.202, 4.304, 4.401, 5.119, 5.140, 5.402, 5.404, 5.738a, 6.006, and 6.901 (expansion of videoconferencing in court proceedings). Finally, the committee evaluated and reported to Council on various issues raised during the Michigan Appellate Bench

Bar Conference, as well as the extent to which trial courts retain discretion under the newly adopted MCR 7.209 to stay money judgments without a bond or with a reduced bond.

Michigan Court Practice – The committee assisted the court rules committee and monitored pending proposals, including proposed court rule suggestions on MCR 2.315.

Publications – The committee worked to publish three issues of the Section Newsletter, including an electronic-only issue to be distributed summer 2016. Newsletters are available on the Section's webpage.

Technology - Members of the Technology Committee met with representatives of ImageSoft, Inc. to discuss recent changes and potential improvements to the e-filing system in use at the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

Federal Practice - The federal practice committee is working on planning a half day conference with members of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals staff and judges.

Legislative Action – The committee continued to follow legislation related to or affecting appellate practice and advised Council on same.

Good Deeds - The committee initiated two events for section members, appellate court personnel, family members and friends. On May 14, 2016, the group planted trees with **Greening of Detroit** on a stretch of Three Mile Drive from Bremen Street to Mack Avenue in the City of Detroit. Greening of Detroit is dedicated to restoring Detroit's tree-lined streets and parks following decades of loss due to Dutch Elm disease, storm damage, urban expansion, neglect, and more recently, the Emerald Ash Borer. Its mission today is to inspire a healthy urban environment enhanced by the many social, economic, and ecological benefits of planting trees. Section volunteers also assisted at the **Forgotten Harvest** warehouse on June 25, 2016, repackaging "rescued" food for redistribution to agencies and recipients in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The mission of Forgotten Harvest is to end hunger and prevent food waste in metro Detroit. The Forgotten Harvest team rescues fresh food from retail grocers, farms, wholesale distributors, and entertainment venues throughout the area.

Economics of Appellate Practice – The committee is planning an event for fall 2016 in Novi. The committee is considering making the event free to Section members or with scholarship opportunities to encourage attendance and also looking into sponsorship by law firms to cover expenses.

Annual Meeting – The committee is planning the event to take place on September 22, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids, MI. The panel discussion will involve issues relating to stays and bonds.

Bench Bar – The committee continued to meet as it worked with planning the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference, which occurred April 20-22, 2016, at The Inn at St. John in Plymouth, MI.

Ad Hoc Committee on Probate Appeals – The committee continued to work with and/or monitor draft legislation pertaining to probate appeals.

Submitted by,

Beth A. Wittmann (P63233)
Chair

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Arts, Communications, Entertainment & Sports Section

Chair

P75583 Anna Katherine Heinel
Brooks Kushman PC
1000 Town Ctr Fl 22
Southfield MI 48075-1183
Phone: (248) 358-4400
Fax: (248) 358-3351
e-mail: aheinel@brookskushman.com

Chair-Elect

P32115 Frederick J. Frank, Allen Park

Secretary

P70819 Jonathan Howard Schwartz, Southfield

Treasurer

P71649 Joseph Albert Bellanca, Bloomfield Hills

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P30942 Linda M. Bruton, Detroit
P77207 Ashley Lauren Justice, Bellaire
P60184 Jeffrey G. Richardson, Troy
P70819 Jonathan Howard Schwartz, Southfield

Term Ending: 2017

P76526 Jerome Crawford, Troy
P77246 John W. Mashni, Lansing

Term Ending: 2018

P66957 Matthew W. Bower, Detroit
P76320 Brian Catrinar, Southfield
P27169 Lawrence R. Jordan, Ann Arbor

Immediate Past Chair

P69010 Joseph L. Voss, Grand Rapids

Commissioner Liaison

P72470 Danielle Michelle Brown, Lansing

Ex Officio

P15669 John M. Kamins, Farmington Hills
P39770 Pamela Osborne, Southfield
P66947 Thomas N. Doty, Burlington
P69793 Todd Redden, Bloomfield Hills

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

None.

Recommendations for next Council:

Plan ALL quarterly meetings at the beginning of the year and do not reschedule meetings because of weather. Make a manageable list of goals and delegate!

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Business Law Section

Chair

P34329 Douglas L. Toering
 Mantese Honigman PC
 1361 E Big Beaver Rd
 Troy MI 48083-1956
 Phone: (248) 457-9200
 Fax: (248) 457-9201
 e-mail: dtoering@manteselaw.com

Vice Chair

P38733 Judy B. Calton, Detroit

Secretary

P56136 Kevin T. Block, Detroit

Treasurer

P48917 Mark W. Peters, Troy

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P56136 Kevin T. Block, Detroit
 P38733 Judy B. Calton, Detroit
 P38306 Mark E. Kellogg, Lansing
 P41017 Hon. Christopher P. Yates, Grand Rapids

Term Ending: 2017

P68496 Jennifer E. Consiglio, Bloomfield Hills
 P34523 Shane B. Hansen, Grand Rapids
 P43310 Daniel M. Morley, Traverse City
 P34329 Douglas L. Toering, Troy

Term Ending: 2018

P63904 Julia Ann Dale, Lansing
 P69996 John Thomas Schuring, Grand Rapids
 P65481 Aaron M. Silver, Warren
 P70033 James Robert Waggoner, Birmingham

~~P48917 Mark W. Peters, Troy~~
 Commissioner Liaison

P27732 Gregory J. Ulrich, Grosse Pointe Woods

Administrator

Terri A. Shoop, Farmington Hills

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	6/4/15	Southfield
Council Meeting	9/25/15	Grand Rapids
Annual Meeting	9/25/15	Grand Rapids
Council Meeting	9/26/15	Grand Rapids
Council Meeting	12/5/15	Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	3/10/16	Lansing

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

Treasurer's reports, budget information, and financial information can be found on the Section's website.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Presentation of Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award	9/26/15	Grand Rapids
27th Annual Business Law Institute, Cocktail Reception, and Pub Event	9/26/15	Grand Rapids
A (Habeas) Chorus-Line Social Event	10/24/15	Berkley
Changes To the Nonprofit Corporation Act	11/15	Webcast
Business Courts and Early ADR: The Latest from Bench and Bar	11/12/15	Troy
Trends in Business Court Practice	1/16	Webcast
International Business	4/16	Webcast
Update On Receivership Law Issues	5/11/16	Southfield
Crain's 2016 General & In-House Counsel Summit	5/17/16	Detroit

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

See attached for legislative activities in which the Section is involved.

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

See attached Addendum for further information regarding the Section.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT ADDENDUM**

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Business Law Section is to foster the highest quality of professionalism and practice in business law and to enhance the legislative and regulatory environment for conducting business in Michigan. To fulfill this mission, the Section shall: (1) expand the resources of business lawyers by providing educational, networking and mentoring opportunities; (2) review and promote improvements to Michigan's business legislation and regulations; and (3) provide a forum to facilitate service and commitment and to promote ethical conduct and collegiality within the practice.

SECTION COMMITTEES: Complete contact information for committee chairpersons is available on the Section's website.

Business Courts Committee

The Committee's objectives are to serve as a liaison between the Business Court Judges and the Business Law Section, to serve as a resource for the Business Court Judges, and to assist the Business Court Judges in whatever ways they and the Business Law Section deem appropriate.

Commercial Litigation Committee

The Commercial Litigation Committee assists litigators as well as business and corporate counsel in addressing issues that may lead to or arise in business-related litigation. The Committee sponsors seminars and other programs that address such issues and that are designed to enhance the practice of those involved in commercial litigation.

Corporate Laws Committee

The Corporate Laws Committee monitors and reviews matters relating to corporate law statutes and developments in the law of corporate governance. The committee also works with the Business Corporation Act Revision Subcommittee, which reviews the Michigan Business Corporation Act for the purpose of keeping it current with developments in corporate law and which assists from time to time in drafting and advocating proposed changes to the Act.

Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee

The Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee focuses on issues of insolvency, such as bankruptcy, state law alternatives to bankruptcy, secured lending (Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code), and state law exemptions.

Financial Institutions Committee

The Financial Institutions Committee focuses on legislative, regulatory and judicial developments and issues of interest to financial institutions (primarily banks) and their affiliates.

In-House Counsel Committee

The In-House Counsel Committee is committed to addressing the professional interests of in-house counsel by sponsoring continuing legal education programs, informing members about issues of particular interest to them, and offering social and professional networking opportunities.

Law Schools Committee

The Law Schools Committee is designed to promote an interest in business law among students at each of the law schools located in Michigan. The Committee represents a collaborative effort between the Section and the business law societies at the University of Michigan Law School, Michigan State University College of Law, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Wayne State University Law School and the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The Committee supports programs initiated by the business law societies within the law schools and provides a forum for networking among law students and members of the Section.

LLC and Partnerships Committee

The Committee remains active in conducting seminars regarding unincorporated enterprises, focusing principally on limited liability companies. The Committee has also assisted in informing members of the bar from other sections as to legislation affecting unincorporated enterprises.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT ADDENDUM**

Nonprofit Corporations Committee

The Nonprofit Corporations Committee's principal responsibility is to review and update laws relating to the organization of nonprofit corporations in Michigan. The principal focus has been on the Nonprofit Corporation Act, but it also reviews other legislation, such as bills regulating the solicitation of contributions by charities. The committee also assists with sponsoring continuing legal education programs directed at nonprofit organization issues.

Regulation of Securities Committee

The Regulation of Securities Committee is concerned with federal and state laws and regulations relating to the offer, sale and trading of securities. The Committee also supplies a liaison to the Securities Law Advisory Committee of the Michigan Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau. Activities are designed to inform members of current developments and issues and provide input to appropriate administrative and legislative bodies.

Small Business Forum

The Small Business Forum specifically caters to business owners, attorneys, accountants, and other professionals who work with closely held businesses. The Forum hosts two to three highly-productive, time-efficient and fun educational events throughout the year. Every event includes a networking portion to mingle with other business professionals.

Uniform Commercial Code Committee

The Uniform Commercial Code Committee monitors developments and issues under all Articles of the UCC and related commercial statutes. In October of each year, the Committee presents a seminar on recent developments in commercial law. Additionally, the Committee prepares an annual survey of case law involving the UCC and commercial law.

SECTION LEGISLATURE AND POLICY:

The Business Courts Committee worked with the Business Court Judges on amendments to the business courts legislation.

The Debtor Creditor Rights Committee filed an Amicus Brief in *Casa Bella Landscaping v Lee* (Mich. Ct. App. no. 326237); opinion issued 5/26/16.

The Debtor/Credit Rights Committee is advocating for amendment to MCL 600.60231(k) and (l).

The LLC & Partnership Committee filed an amicus brief in *Allard v Allard* (Michigan Supreme Court case no. 150891).

AWARDS: Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award

The Section established the Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award in 2006, to be presented annually. The award honors Michigan business lawyers who consistently exemplify the characteristics the Business Law Section seeks to foster and facilitate: the highest quality of professionalism, the highest quality of practice, and an unwavering dedication to service, ethical conduct, and collegiality within the practice of law. The Section honored Laurence S. Schulz at its Annual Meeting on September 25, 2015, at Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. The Award for 2016 will be presented at the Annual Meeting on October 7, 2016 in Grand Rapids.

PUBLICATIONS:

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT ADDENDUM**

The *Michigan Business Law Journal* is published three times per year and is sent to members via U.S. mail and electronically. The *Journal* is posted on the Section's website.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Members can follow the Section on LinkedIn.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES: See the Section's Strategic Plan revised in June of 2010. The Strategic Plan is currently being reviewed and is expected to be updated in late 2016.

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Consumer Law Section

Chair

P60753 Lorry S.C. Brown
Michigan Poverty Law Program
220 E Huron St Ste 600A
Ann Arbor MI 48104-1947
Phone: (734) 998-6100 x113
Fax: (734) 998-9125
e-mail: lorryb@mplp.org

Chair-Elect

P24845 Lynn H. Shecter, Birmingham

Secretary

P52751 Lawrence J. Lacey, Royal Oak

Treasurer

P31578 Terry J. Adler, Grand Blanc

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P64391 Andrew Lloyd Campbell, Flint
P49250 Daniel O. Myers, Traverse City
P24145 Gary M. Victor, Ypsilanti

Term Ending: 2017

P47068 Rex C. Anderson, Davison
P64190 Lisa M. Feistritzer, Grand Rapids
P23546 Michael O. Nelson, Grand Rapids
P60921 Stuart Sandweiss, Southfield

Term Ending: 2018

P54833 William J. Ard, Williamston
P55103 Kristen L. Krol, Lansing
P51498 Joon H. Sung, Detroit
P58467 Karen M. Tjapkes, Grand Rapids

Immediate Past Chair

P33713 Dani K. Liblang, Birmingham

Commissioner Liaison

P61773 Timothy J. Burns, Troy

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Regular Business Meeting	June 1, 2015	State Bar Building
Regular Business Meeting	July 9, 2015	State Bar Building
Regular Business Meeting	October 8, 2015	SBM Annual Mtg in Novi
Regular Business Meeting	Dec 10, 2015	State Bar Building
Regular Business Meeting	January 14, 2016	State Bar Building
Regular Business Meeting	March 10, 2016	State Bar Building
Regular Business Meeting	May 12, 2016	State Bar Building

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

See Financial Reports on file with the SBM

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Program/Seminar at SBM Annual Meeting	October 8, 2016	SBM Annual Mtg in Novi
Speaker - Howard Nusbaum, Mr. Nusbaum is the Admin of the Nat'l Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program		
Award Recipient: Mark Totten	October 8, 2016	SBM Annual Mtg in Novi
Frank J. Kelley Consumer Advocacy Award Mr. Totten received the award based on his advocacy around consumer protections.		

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

None this year

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue the work around developing a Michigan Consumer Law Handbook.

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Elder Law & Disability Rights Section

Chair

P35472 John B. Payne
Garrison Lawhouse PC
1800 Grindley Park St Ste 6
Dearborn MI 48124-2553
Phone: (313) 563-4900
Fax: (313) 583-3100
e-mail: jpayne@law-business.com

Chair-Elect

P53316 Michele P. Fuller, Sterling Heights

Secretary

P72152 Sara Ann Schimke, Southfield

Treasurer

P72956 Christopher William Smith, Jackson

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P68470 Cynthia Jill Goodell, Grand Rapids
P71609 Angela M. Hentkowski, Ishpeming
P15910 J. David Kerr, Mount Pleasant
P49520 Robert D. Mannor, Grand Blanc
P71780 Maria Rosaria Messina, Southfield

Term Ending: 2017

P30832 Michael A. Mestelle, Sturgis
P48221 Kelly J. McNerney Quardokus, Portage
P63722 David D. Sprague, Ann Arbor
P23098 James B. Steward, Ishpeming
P72724 Beth A. Swagman, Grand Rapids

Term Ending: 2018

P44945 Jane A. Bassett, Ann Arbor
P74165 Christine Caswell, Lansing
P52789 Howard H. Collens, Huntington Woods
P66033 Jacquelyn A. Rygiel-Sprague, Clinton Township
P52362 Erma S. Yarbrough-Thomas, Redford

Commissioner Liaison

P28958 Jules B. Olsman, Berkley

TYPE OF MEETING	DATE	LOCATION
COUNCIL MEETING	June 6, 2015	Bond Estate Planning & Elder Law, 400 Maple Park Boulevard, St. Clair Shores
COUNCIL MEETING	August 1, 2015	Steward & Sheridan, P.L.C., 205 South Main Street, Ishpeming
COUNCIL MEETING	September 12, 2015	Caroline Dellenbusch, PLC, 2944 Fuller Avenue NE, Suite 100, Grand Rapids
ANNUAL SECTION MEETING	October 2, 2015	Boyne Mountain Resort
COUNCIL MEETING	November 7, 2015	Jane Bassett & Associates, 2045 Hogback Road, Ann Arbor
COUNCIL MEETING	December 5, 2015	Caroline Dellenbusch, PLC
COUNCIL MEETING	January 9, 2016	Bond Estate Planning & Elder Law
COUNCIL MEETING	February 6, 2016	Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices, 1019 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing
COUNCIL MEETING	March 5, 2016	Jane Bassett & Associates
COUNCIL MEETING	April 2, 2016	Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, P.C., 27777 Franklin Road – Suite 2500, Southfield
COUNCIL MEETING	May 7, 2016	Mannor Law Group, PLLC, 8226 S. Saginaw, Grand Blanc
COUNCIL MEETING	June 4, 2016	Caroline Dellenbusch, PLC
COUNCIL MEETING	August 6, 2016	Steward & Sheridan, P.L.C.
COUNCIL MEETING	September 10, 2016	Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices
ANNUAL SECTION MEETING	October 7, 2016	Crystal Mountain Resort

**April ELDERS Meeting
FY 2015-2016 Budget Estimate**

Budget

July 1, 2015 Fund Balance \$ 78,031.84

Revenue

Attorney Dues \$ 35,070

Affiliate Dues \$ 280

Spring Conference \$ 14,000

Total FY Revenue \$ **49,350**

Expenses

Capitol Services \$ 19,510

Committed Litigation Expense \$ 15,000

List Serv \$ 780

Spring Conference Expenses \$ 10,000

Telephone \$ 1,500

Newsletter \$ 2,500

Misc. \$ 1,000

Total FY Expenses \$ **50,290**

Fall Conference FY 2016 Net Loss \$ **(851)**

FY 16 Budgeted Loss	\$	(1,791)
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EVENTS AND SEMINARS	DATE	LOCATION
ELDERS FALL CONFERENCE	September 30-October 2, 2015	Boyne Mountain Resort
ELDERS SPRING CONFERENCE	March 4, 2016	The Inn at St. Johns, Plymouth

Elder Law and Disability Rights Public Policy Positions

2015-2016

<u>HB4072</u>	Estates & Protected Individuals Code; FADAA – Support
<u>HB4645</u>	The General Property Tax Act, Definition of Transfer of Ownership; exclude LLCs – Oppose
<u>HB4674</u>	Mental Health Code; assisted outpatient programs -- Support
<u>HB4836</u>	The Insurance Code of 1956, Long-Term Care Partnership -- Support
<u>HB4930</u>	The General Property Tax Act; exclude certain transfers – Oppose with Recommended
<u>HB5034</u>	Fiduciary Access of Digital Assets – Support
<u>HB5139</u>	Of Alienation by Deed, and the Proof and Recording of Conveyances -- Support
<u>HB5140</u>	The General Property Tax Act, Transfer of Ownership of Property -- Support
<u>HB5141</u>	The General Property Tax Act, Definition of Transfer of Ownership -- Support
<u>HB5409-18</u>	The Revised School Code, State Policy on Schoolwide Positive Intervention -- Support
<u>SB0064</u>	Public Health Code, Patient Care Policies and Compliance Procedures; “best practices” -- Oppose
<u>SB0270</u>	Estates & Protected Individuals Code; guardian and conservator jurisdiction – Support in Concept
<u>SB0384</u>	The Social Welfare Act; arrest powers for investigators -- Oppose
<u>SB0385</u>	The Michigan Penal Code; arming investigators – Oppose
<u>SB0551</u>	Estates & Protected Individuals Code; funeral representative – Support H-1

SB0648-50 The General Property Tax Act, Definition of Transfer of Ownership

SB0835-38 The Revised School Code, State Policy on Schoolwide Positive
Behavioral Intervention -- Support

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
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Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Family Law Section

Chair

P35075 Carol F. Breitmeyer
Breitmeyer Cushman PLLC
40900 Woodward Ave
Bloomfield Hills MI 48304-5115
Phone: (313) 962-4600
Fax: (313) 962-3600
e-mail: breitmeyer@bcfamlaw.com

Chair-Elect

P25664 Hon. Richard B. Halloran, Detroit

Recording Secretary

P38364 Elizabeth K. Bransdorfer, Grand Rapids

Corresponding Secretary

P63873 Robert Charles Treat, Jr., Taylor

Treasurer

P30891 Kent L. Weichmann, Detroit

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P38364 Elizabeth K. Bransdorfer, Grand Rapids
P56102 J. Matthew Catchick, Jr., Southfield
P47550 Sahera G. Housey, Pontiac
P73367 Peter Michael Kulas, Grand Rapids
P48027 Anthea E. Papista, Detroit
P61498 Gail M. Towne, Kalamazoo

Term Ending: 2017

P35075 Carol F. Breitmeyer, Bloomfield Hills
P25664 Hon. Richard B. Halloran, Detroit
P45391 Mathew Kobliska, Farmington Hills
P63901 Vanessa Marie Moss-Wilson, Southfield
P45407 Steven D. Reinheimer, Bloomfield Hills
P37160 Rebecca E. Shiemke, Ann Arbor
P52044 Amy M. Spilman, Birmingham

Term Ending: 2018

P32475 Daniel B. Bates, Bloomfield Hills
P61706 James W. Chryssikos, Troy
P69624 Christopher J. Harrington, Novi
P56418 Kristen L. Robinson, Troy
P63873 Robert Charles Treat, Jr., Taylor
P29422 Randall L. Velzen, Grand Rapids
P55309 Tina M. Yost, Battle Creek

Commissioner Liaison

P41321 Victoria A. Radke, Escanaba

Ex Officio

P37160 Rebecca E. Shiemke, Ann Arbor

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

Reset Form

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting		
Annual Meeting (Immediate Post-Election)	10/08/15	Grand Rapids
Regular Meeting	11/13/15	Novi
Regular Meeting	12/05/16	Grand Rapids
Regular Meeting	02/06/16	Lansing
Regular Meeting	03/05/16	Novi
Regular Meeting	04/09/16	Ann Arbor
Regular Meeting	05/07/16	Lansing
Regular Meeting	06/04/16	Ann Arbor
Annual Meeting (Elections - upcoming)	09/22/16	Grand Rapids

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

Our budget is in good shape. After Journal changed from the print to digital version we have seen exactly the positive budget change we anticipated. The SBM Monthly Budgets as presented have been approved.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Mid-summer 2016 (upcoming)	July 28-31, 2016	Grand Traverse Resort
Mid-winter (past)	February 2016	Puerto Rico
Mid-winter (upcoming)	February 2017	Dominican Republic

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

See report attached.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue monitoring of legislative activity. Take initiative in developing gender neutral policy and laws given the constitutional change of last year. Continue to encourage participation by Council members with individual legislators.

Other Information:

Please see attached key committee reports from 2016.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

e-mail form

2015-2016 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT FAMILY LAW SECTION

COMMITTEE Legislative Committee

DATE: May 10, 2016

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Kent Weichmann

CO-CHAIR: Barbara Kelly

◦ Tel No. 313.224.6639

Tel No. 734.222.3345

◦ Email: weichmannk@att.net

Email: kellyb@ewashtenaw.org

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

◦ Amy Spilman

Dan Bates

◦ Bob Treat

Richard Halloran

◦ Carol Breitmeyer

James Chryssikos

◦ Chris Harrington

Mathew Kobliska

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Monthly on the Thursday immediately preceding the Council meeting.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : _____

During the 2015-2016 legislative term, the Legislative Committee has reviewed more than 80 bills and recommended that Council take positions on more than 50 bills. Members of the committee have testified before House and Senate committee to advocate for Council's positions.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: We are up to date on reviews of pending legislation. We are ready to mobilize opposition if the disguised version of the mandatory equal physical custody bill is introduced.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommended opposition to HB 4141, mandatory equal physical custody, and supported the package of bills for marriage equality.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):

Additional Committee members: Randy Velzen, Rebecca Shiemke, Ross Stancati, Sahera Housey, Sandy Glazier, Stephanie Benedict, Tina Yost, and Victoria Radke.

By: Kent Weichmann

Date: May 10, 2016

2014 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION

COMMITTEE Court Rules/Ethics **DATE:** 5/25/2016
COMMITTEE CHAIR: Chris Harrington **CO-CHAIR:** _____
◦ **Tel No.** 248-347-9620 **Tel No.** _____
◦ **Email:** cjh@jjharringtonlaw.com **Email:** _____

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| ◦ <u>Mathew Kobliska</u> | <u>Elizabeth Bransdorfer</u> |
| ◦ <u>Kent Weichmann</u> | <u>Lori Buitewig</u> |
| ◦ <u>Daniel Bates</u> | <u>Amy Spilman</u> |
| ◦ <u>Kristen Robinson</u> | <u>Dick Halloran</u> |
| <u>Bob Treat</u> | <u>Jennifer Johnsen</u> |

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 9/9/2015, 10/6/2015, 11/10/2015, 12/1/2015, 2/2/2016,
3/1/2016, 4/5/2016, 5/3/2016

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : Chairperson testified before
Supreme Court at the 9/16/2016 and 5/18/2016 public administrative hearings
regarding ADM File No. 2014-09 and 2014-27. Both appearances were believed
to have impacted Court's final Order on those issues. Public comment also filed on
ADM 2014-04.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: Discussion re: MCR 2.102(E) regarding dismissals for
non-service. Council-Approved amendment to MCR 7.215(D) still pending
committee approval.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):

By: Christopher J. Harrington
Date: 5/25/2016

**2014 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION**

COMMITTEE QDRO & Taxation

DATE: 5/11/2016

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Robert Treat

CO-CHAIR: Joseph Cunningham

o Tel No. (734) 675-8207

Tel No. (248) 631-8575

o Email: bob.treat@qdrexpressllc.com

Email: joecunninghampc@gmail.com

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

- o Robert Treat _____
- o Joseph Cunningham _____
- o Nancy Keppelman _____
- o Rebecca Shiemke _____

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 1/26/16

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : Our main action in 2016 was the continuation of the pro bono QDRO initiative. The pace is about the same as it was in 2015, with a projected number of pro bono QDROs around 50. This is administered through the State Bar by Rob Mathis and Jennifer Williams.

The committee continues to discuss a possible amendment to the EDRO Act, to eliminate the unusual recoupment policy/problem for State and Municipal pensions.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: 7/14/16 meeting

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Amend the EDRO Act to eliminate the recoupment problem

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):

Solving the Recoupment issue would be a huge accomplishment, and discussion will continue as to how the bill would read, and how best to find support, a sponsor, and a way to turn the bill into law.

By: Robert Treat

Date: 5/11/2016

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT:

The committee will continue to seek ways to make this complicated area of family law more user friendly to parties and their attorneys.

2014 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION

COMMITTEE Family Court Forum **DATE:** 05/05/2016
COMMITTEE CHAIR: Barbara J. Kelly **CO-CHAIR:** N/A
◦ **Tel No.** 734-222-3345 **Tel No.** _____
◦ **Email:** kellyb@ewashtenaw.org **Email:** _____

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

◦ <u>Carlo Martina</u>	<u>Margaret Nichols</u>
◦ <u>Lorne Gold</u>	<u>Elizabeth Sadowski</u>
◦ <u>Ed Gold</u>	<u>Archie Brown</u>
◦ <u>Naomi Woloshin</u>	<u>Linda Hallmark</u>

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: October 21, 2015, November 17, 2015, February 2, 2016.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : The committee puts on an interdisciplinary conference for about 200 people focusing on a single topic in family law. The Forum is designed to foster communication and knowledge sharing across the various professional disciplines involved in family court cases. Approximately 200 judges, therapists, lawyers and mediators meet for this daylong program. This year's conference is June 10, 2016

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: The final conference

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):
The Forum is sponsored by the Family Law Section and funded with contributions from the Section, several professional organizations, and various law firms and accounting firms.

By: Barbara J. Kelly
Date: 05/05/2016

**2014 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION**

COMMITTEE Alternative Dispute Resolution

DATE: _____

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Randall Velzen

CO-CHAIR: Gail Towne

◦ **Tel No.** 616-233-9160

Tel No. 269-381-8844

◦ **Email:** rvelzen@westmichigandivorce.com

Email: gtowne@lennonmiller.com

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

◦ Rebecca Shiemke

Zena Zumeta

◦ Veronica Thronson

Bill Capretne

◦ Lee Hornberger

Mary Lovick

◦ Toni Raheem

Deb Bereiz

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 05-21-2015, 09-17-2015, 10-15-2015,
11-19-2015, 12-10-2015, 12-17-2015, 01-21-2016,
02-18-2016, 03-17-2016, 04-21-2016, 05-19-2016

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : See attached.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: Domestic violence sub-committee working with SCAO and
scheduling listening sessions throughout the state. Working on automatic
mediation statute and continuing work regarding the attached.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

See attached.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):

See attached.

By: _____

Date: _____

Attachment to the Family Law Section Annual Report

1. Significant Committee Actions/Accomplishments

- **Domestic Violence and ADR** The committee presented on the domestic violence screening protocol at the annual state bar meeting. Because of the continued feedback from the bar, that the DV screening is not actively or accurately being used, this has been a continuing project for our committee. The committee has continued to present open table discussions throughout the state, the efforts to continue in the fall. The goal is to educate and ensure that this is a standard practice throughout the state, in all counties, in mediation. Now, with the recent enactment of PA 93, these endeavors to ensure that the DV screening is utilized is of even greater importance. The enactment of PA 93 has also given us more opportunity to spread the word and continue our efforts of public education regarding the screening protocol. This continues to be an ongoing project for the committee.
- **Mandatory (Automatic) Mediation** The ADR Section of the Michigan State Bar has drafted a statute proposing mandatory mediation in various practice areas, including domestic relations. This statute has been reviewed by the ADR Committee of the FLS and they are working with the ADR Section on this endeavor with input from the Domestic Violence Committee of the Family Law Section.
- **Friend of the Court ADR, Parent Coordination Act Training, Collaborative Court Rules, Family Law Case Captions**—The ADR Committee continues to be involved, monitoring these committees, with several members working on the various task forces or committees as described herein with input of the ADR members.

**2014 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION**

COMMITTEE Mid-Summer Seminar

DATE: 05-12-2016

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Elizabeth Bransdorfer

CO-CHAIR: Traci Rink

◦ **Tel No.** 616-632-8029

Tel No. 248-858-1840

◦ **Email:** ebransdorfer@mikameyers.com

Email: rinkt@oakgov.com

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

- Elizabeth Bransdorfer _____
- Traci Rink _____
- _____
- _____

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: phone / email only

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : Plan and execute Family

Law Section Mid-Summer Conference held (typically) in July each year.

Conference includes top-notch presentations by attorneys, Judges and other

professionals.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: 2016 Mid-Summer Conference will be the weekend of

July 28 - July 31st.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Continue to make this a must-attend yearly event for

practitioners and increase participation by younger and geographically-diverse

Michigan family law attorneys while generating a profit.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):

We are pleased to report that the 2015 Mid-Summer Conference made a net profit (after all expenses)

of \$3,683.00. The highest in recent memory -- or perhaps ever!

By: _____

Date: _____

2016

2016 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FAMILY LAW SECTION

COMMITTEE JOURNAL _____

DATE: May 27, 2016

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Anthea E. Papista

CO-CHAIR: _____

o Tel No. (313) 965-1688

Tel No. _____

o Email: aep@papistalaw.com

Email: _____

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE:

o Amy M. Spilman

Ryan M. O'Neil

o Daniel B. Bates

Shelley R. Spivack

o Sahera G. Housey

Lisa M. Damphousse

o James W. Chryssikos

DATES of COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 4/25/16 - Tel Conference Meeting & Several Monthly Email Communications over the year between committee members on issues relating to the monthly Journals.

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE ACTIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS : 1.) Streamlined approach to the Family Law Journal's editorial review and publication process; 2.) Two Special Editions published for the 2015-2016 season; 3.) greater variety of authors and topics; 4.) Review & implementation of methods to enhance e-Journal visibility, readership, and advertisement; and, 5.) Consideration for two (2) Special Editions for next year: Technology Issue and Transgender Issue.

PENDING COMMITTEE MATTERS: 1.) Improved turn-around time for publication; 2.) Better editorial communication in order to meet deadlines and to ensure quality; 3.) Enhance visibility and access issues

SIGNIFICANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:
Re-publish Journal on Listserve with Council "commentary" for each monthly issue; Implementation of strategies to enhance Journal access and visibility

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON (USE 2ND PAGE IF NECESSARY):
Although the publication process has improved greatly through editorial review, discussion and commendatory, the committee remains concerned about the the Journal's impact as an electronic document. Steps have been taken to publicize the Journal's monthly publication by means of a second "blast"

By: Anthea E. Papista

Date: May 27, 2016

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT:

through our Listserv by the editors who participated in the editorial process for that particular Journal. These editors would then "comment" on certain articles and try to spark chatter within the

Listserv about the articles contained in that month's Journal issue. Additional effort to get the "word out" would include

disseminating flyers to a variety of family law events, informing family law audience best how to access Journal & all that Journal has to offer,

include Journal information at our Section's tables at various ICLE & State Bar events, and to work with the Advertisement Committee to ensure a healthy advertisement budget.

We continue to strive to ensure quality submissions and enlisting interesting authors throughout the State of Michigan to write for our Section's Journal.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2015-2016

Section Name: Health Care Law Section

Mission Statement:

Serves as an educational resource for members of the Section for the purpose of fostering professional development and understanding of health care laws and issues;

Provide education to members of the State Bar, members of the health care community and the general public with regard to health care laws and related issues;

Advocate, comment on or provide input with respect to state and federal legislation, regulations and public policy that affect the practice of health care law, consistent with the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan;

Establish and maintain working relationships with attorney organizations and organizations of health care professionals, providers, consumers and other members of the health care community in this State and other states for the purpose of fostering better communication and understanding of health care laws and related issues and advocating Section interests; and

Promote awareness of the purpose and work of the Section among State Bar members, the health care community and the general public and encourage their participation in Section activities.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Mark S. Kopson	Plunkett Cooney 38505 Woodward Ave. Ste. 200, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5096	248-901-4061	mkopson@plunketcooney.com
Chair-Elect	Timothy C. Gutwald	250 Monroe Ave. NW Ste. 800, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2283	616-831-1727	gutwaldt@millerjohnson.com
Secretary	Cara L. Jansma	Spectrum Health Medical Group 444 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids MI 49503-2560	616-391-9566	cara.jansma@spectrumhealth.org

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Treasurer	Matthew R. Keuten	Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP 660 Woodward Ave. Ste. 2290 Detroit, MI 48226-3506	313-465-7510	mkeuten@honigman.com
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Member	Term Expires	Member	Term Expires
Mercedes V. Dordeski	2016	Cara L. Jansma	2018
Matthew R. Keuten	2016	Johanna M. Novak	2018
Mark S. Kopson	2016	Sheerin Siddique	2018
Deborah J. Williams	2016	Louis Szura	2018
Martha R. Boonstra	2017	Jennifer L. Benedict – Immediate Past President	
Patrick J. Haddad	2017		
John W. Hazewinkel	2017		
Joshua J. Moore	2017		
Patricia C. Schabath	2017		
Timothy C. Gutwald	2018		

Council Meeting Schedule: Council meetings are held monthly on the first Thursday of each month via teleconference.

General Budget Information: The Section received approximately \$34,000 in member dues during Fiscal Year 2016. The funds are used for the following purposes: (1) educational opportunities via webinars and an in-person Annual Meeting; (2) in support of the annual ICLE Health Law Institute; (3) scholarships for law students interested in a health law career; (4) membership outreach and networking activities; and (5) administrative services. Consistent with prior years, the financial position of the Section remains strong.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
HHS/OCR: Current State of HIPAA Enforcement	Tuesday, October 6, 2015	Webinar
Art Prize Tour – Networking Event	Thursday, October 8, 2015	Art Prize, Grand Rapids

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Veterans Law Clinic Volunteer Event	Wednesday, November 11, 2015	University of Detroit Mercy
Relator Issues and Relator Dynamics in Qui Tam Actions	Friday, November 20, 2015	Webinar
Recent Stark Law Developments	Wednesday, December 9, 2015	Webinar
Finding the Sweet Spot for Value-Based Care	Wednesday, January 27, 2016	Webinar
Advanced HIPAA Topics	Monday, February 22, 2016	Webinar
ICLE Health Law Institute & Appreciation Dinner	Thursday & Friday, March 10 & 11, 2016	Inn at St. John's, Plymouth
New Lawyers & Students - Piston's game Networking event	Wednesday, March 16, 2016	The Palace of Auburn Hills
Lansing Networking Event	Thursday, April 14, 2016	Troppo Restaurant, Lansing
Hospital-Physician Practice Transactions	Thursday, April 21, 2016	Webinar
Top 10 Employment Law Issues for the Health Care Employer	Wednesday, May 11, 2016	Webinar
Birmingham Networking Event	Wednesday, May 11, 2016	220 Merrill Restaurant, Birmingham
Tigers Game Networking Event	Friday June 24, 2016	Comerica Park
eHealth	June - TBD	Webinar
HCLS Annual Meeting	Thursday, September 29, 2016	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit

Legislative issues: The Section's Legislative Committee monitored and reported on Michigan legislation such as Senate Bill 68 (licensure for advance practice registered nurses), Senate Bill 320 (scope of practice of certified nurse anesthetists), Senate Bill 383 (licensing and regulation of nurse midwives), and House Bill 4207 (licensure for advanced practice registered nurses, nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists).

Section Committees: The Health Care Law Section features seven standing committees: Substantive Law, Publications, Legislative, Pro Bono, Fellows, New Lawyers and Law Students, and Membership. The work of each of those committees is summarized below:

Substantive Law Committee: The Substantive Law Committee is the Section Committee responsible for arranging educational programs throughout the year, typically presented in a teleconference/webinar format to benefit the Section's membership at no additional cost. Its work is accomplished through four subject matter subcommittees: Technology Subcommittee, Payors Subcommittee, Providers Subcommittee and Medical-Legal Subcommittee. The 2015-16 Substantive Law Committee was energetic and engaged and strengthened as the result of a formal call for

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

volunteers. It produced eight webinars on a wide variety of health care law topics with others planned for Summer and early Fall 2016. The topics and titles of the webinars are listed above under the heading "Events and/or Seminars."

Publications Committee: This year, the Committee published three new papers:

- "Data Breach Risks and Best Practices for Small and Mid-Size Health Care Providers,"
- "Protecting the Public: A Guide for Physicians, Healthcare Providers, and Attorneys on Quarantining and Isolating Patients With Communicable Diseases" and
- "Criminal Conviction Self-Reporting For Michigan Licensed Health Care Professionals."

Two additional publications are scheduled for released in Summer 2016:

- "The Unexpected Cost of Compliance for Institutions under the NPRM Revisions to the Common Rule" and
- "Licensure & Certification: Process & Investigations" (2016 revision)

The Committee has continued work to update the HIPAA Matrix reference guide and anticipates publishing a "Federal Law Resource" webpage for Section members later this year.

Legislative Committee: The Committee monitored Michigan health care legislative developments on an as-needed basis, reporting on such matters to the Section Council. The Committee's activities included monitoring and reporting on Michigan legislation such as Senate Bill 68 (licensure for advance practice registered nurses), Senate Bill 320 (scope of practice of certified nurse anesthetists), Senate Bill 383 (licensing and regulation of nurse midwives), and House Bill 4207 (licensure for advanced practice registered nurses, nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists).

Pro Bono Committee: The Pro Bono Committee continues its partnership with the Veteran's Law Clinic at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. This partnership seeks to pair Section members with an interest in serving veterans with the veteran population served by the Detroit Mercy Law clinic. All activities are coordinated through the clinic director and Detroit Mercy Law professor, Peggy Costello. Comprehensive training opportunities continue to be offered twice per year, with additional, more concise sessions offered on an ad hoc basis if enough membership interest is generated. The committee also periodically offers an educational presentation to increase awareness of the needs of the clinic and the pro bono opportunities available. Health care law section members continue to participate in review and summarization of veteran medical and military records to assist the clinic in its mission – no formal training is required to assist the clinic in the record reviews. A full-day training session was held on May 31, 2016.

Fellows Committee: The Section established a Fellows Program in 2011 to honor former Health Care Law Section leaders who have made sustained, outstanding contributions to the Section and the practice of health care law in Michigan. Fellows are recognized each year at the Section's Annual Meeting. The Fellows Committee administers the Fellows Program, which includes nominating Fellows for election by the Council, and handling all matters regarding the presentation of Fellows at the Annual Meeting. The Fellows Committee meets periodically to discuss nominations and other matters concerning the program. In 2015, the Fellows Committee nominated, and the Council elected, the following attorneys as Fellows: Thomas R. McAskin, Lisa Panah, Margaret Anne Shannon, Paul M. Shirilla, and Monica B. Wilkinson. The 2016 class of Fellows will be selected in early summer and

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

honored at a dinner following the Section's Annual Meeting on September 29, 2016. A list of all Health Care Law Section Fellows is posted on the Section's web page.

New Lawyers and Law Student Committee: As part of its mission to develop new health care lawyers, the Committee hosted a series of well-attended "Lunch & Learn" programs regarding the practice of health law at several Michigan law schools. The Committee also administered the Section's Academic Achievement program under which the Section awards \$1,500 scholarships to law students at eligible Michigan law schools who exhibits a high level of achievement in health care-related law courses. The recipients will attend and be honored at our Annual Meeting. A "meet and greet" for young lawyers also is planned as part of the Annual Meeting. In March 2016, the Committee hosted a well-attended networking event for new lawyers and law students at a Detroit Piston's game. Committee members also attended the Young Lawyers Section Annual Summit in June, for which the Section was a Gold Level Sponsor.

Membership Committee: Organized several networking events this year, ranging from happy hours in Lansing and Oakland County, to an Art Prize Tour in Grand Rapids and a Tigers game event in Detroit. The Committee also started an orientation process for new Section members and engaged Section members through the Section's new Twitter account. The Committee also administered a comprehensive on-line survey of Section members, the results of which will help us provide the content and events our members want. Key events and milestones included:

- August 7, 2015- Detroit Tigers Game social event held in Detroit, MI.
- October 2, 2015- Art Prize Pub Cruiser social event held in Grand Rapids, MI.
- December 8, 2015- Health Care Law Section sends out its first tweet from its twitter account @SBM_HCLS.
- April 14, 2016- Happy Hour Networking event held at Troppo in Lansing, MI.
- May 11, 2016- Happy Hour Networking event held at Merrill in Birmingham, Michigan.
- June 24, 2016- Detroit Tigers Game social event held in Detroit, MI.

Recommendations for next Council:

- Continue to provide specialized educational and networking opportunities to the Section's membership, via programs and written materials, with an enhanced focus on in-person events.
- Continue efforts to increase all types of diversity, including geographic, in the Section's membership and in all of its operations and programming.
- Continue to attract and develop health care lawyers and Section leaders through enhanced affiliations with Michigan law schools and encouraging senior lawyers to co-present with more junior Section members at education programs.
- Continue the Section's strong relationship with ICLE including continued co-sponsorship of the Annual Health Law Institute and Section Appreciation Dinner.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

- Continue to support the Fellows Program and develop additional opportunities for use of the Fellows' extraordinary experience and expertise.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the Section's Bylaws and make any necessary changes.

Other Information: It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Chair of the Section and to be a part of such a dedicated and hard-working team. I thank all Council members, officers, committee and subcommittee members and chairs, and the many volunteers who contributed so much of their time and talent to the Section this year. I would like to especially thank Jennifer Benedict and Deborah Williamson for their years of service and leadership on the Council and Jennifer's sage counsel as Immediate Past Chair. Finally, I offer special thanks and appreciation to our incredibly dedicated, hard-working, efficient and always positive Section Administrative Assistant, Susan Stokes, and the entire SBM staff, without whose help this year's successes would not have been achieved.

Mark S. Kopson
Chair, Health Care Law Section
State Bar of Michigan
2015-2016

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Information Technology Law Section

Chair

P67018 Susanna C. Brennan
 General Motors
 100 Renaissance Ctr Fl 21
 Detroit MI 48243-1114
 Phone: (313) 236-1102
 e-mail: susanna_brennan@yahoo.com

Chair-Elect

P68011 Christopher J. Mourad, Southfield

Secretary

P68649 Donna Kae Mallonee, Midland

Treasurer

P32663 Keith A. Cheresko, Milford

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P67018 Susanna C. Brennan, Detroit
 P32663 Keith A. Cheresko, Milford
 P74421 Clara Seymour Lopez, Detroit
 P68649 Donna Kae Mallonee, Midland
 P74858 Michael James McCandlish, Detroit
 P67644 Carla M. Perrotta, Detroit
 P23651 Robert L. Rothman, Novi
 P71941 Adam Satovsky Rubin, Southfield
 P46136 Joellen Shortley, Pontiac
 P71975 Isaac T. Slutsky, Southfield
 P72355 Nathan William Steed, Grand Rapids
 P25331 David R. Syrowik, Southfield
 P72253 Jeanne M. Whalen, Bloomfield Hills

Commissioner Liaison

P43714 Shauna L. Dunning, Lansing

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
IT Law Council and Section	8/15/15	Kelly Services, Troy, MI
IT Law Section Annual Meeting	9/10/15	St. John's Inn Plymouth, MI
IT Law Council	9/10/15	St. John's Inn Plymouth, MI
IT Law Council and Section	11/13/15	Kelly Services, Troy, MI
IT Law Council and Section	3/16/16	WMU Cooley Auburn Hills MI
IT Law Council and Section	5/12/16	DTE, Detroit, MI
		T

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

The Information Technology Law Section Expenses are expected to be within the amounts proposed in the 2015-2016 Budget, providing the Information Technology Law Council with a fund balance of approximately \$60,000.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
8th Annual IT Law Seminar	9/10/15	Inn at St. Johns Plymouth MI
Joint Event with International Law Section	3/16/16	WMU Cooley Auburn Hills MI

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

None

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to sponsor one or more events at Michigan Law schools to increase visibility. Add a speaker or presenter at Section and Council meetings held during the year to provide educational and networking opportunities to the Section.

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

e-mail form

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

Chair

P40506 Kathleen A. Lopilato
Auto-Owners Insurance Company
6101 Anacapri Blvd
PO Box 30660
Lansing MI 48909-8160
Phone: (517) 327-4850
Fax: (517) 391-1905
e-mail: lopilato.kathleen@aoins.com

Chair-Elect

P57900 Adam B. Kutinsky, Bloomfield Hills

Secretary

P26294 Larry W. Bennett, Farmington Hills

Treasurer

P40053 Augustine O. Igwe, Farmington Hills

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P26434 Barry M. Feldman, Southfield
P48742 Jason J. Liss, Farmington Hills
P59072 Laurretta A. Pominville, Farmington Hills
P55138 Kimberly J. Ruppel, Troy
P61904 Nicole E. Wilinski, Southfield

Term Ending: 2017

P11668 Hal O. Carroll, Pinckney
P49966 Steven A. Hicks, Lansing
P25629 James K. Thome, Troy
P43771 Renee T. Vander Hagen, Southfield
P43808 Douglas Young, Southfield

Immediate Past Chair

P60359 Elaine Murphy Pohl, Bloomfield Hills

Commissioner Liaison

P28714 E. Thomas McCarthy, Jr., Grand Rapids

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council	June 23, 2015	Farmington Hills, MI
Annual Meeting	October 8, 2015	Novi, MI
Council	January 26, 2016	Southfield, MI
Council	April 25, 2016	Bloomfield Hills, MI

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

The Insurance Section had revenue of \$17,300; Expenses of \$16,321 and had a balance as of \$32,359 as of 9-30-15

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Preholiday Event; Understanding Real Property Insurance	November 23, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Effective Facilitation of Insurance & Indemnity Disputes	October 8, 2015	Novi, MI
Participation in Young Lawyers Summit	May 30, 2015	Detroit, MI
Participation in Leadership Forum	June 12, 2015	Mackinac Island

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:**Recommendations for next Council:**

Review of Strategic Plan

Other Information:

The Section Council is proposing amendments to the By-laws which will be presented for vote at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Bar Year: 2015-2016

Submitted: May 31, 2016

Section Name: Intellectual Property Law Section (“Section” or “IPLS”)

Mission Statement: The purposes of this Section are to study the laws and procedures pertaining to federal and state patent, trademark and copyright laws and to promote the fair and just administration of such laws; to study and report upon proposed legislation; to promote the legal education of members of the bar, and the general public on the problems of patent, trademark and copyright law by sponsoring meetings, institutes and conferences devoted to the problems of patent, trademark and copyright law by the preparation and dissemination of pamphlets and brochures with respect thereto and by preparing, sponsoring and publishing legal writings in the patent, trademark and copyright field.

Officers and Council Members:

Chair

P60370 Kristen Isaacson Spano
FCA US LLC
800 Chrysler Drive
CIMS 483-02-19
Auburn Hills MI 48326-2757
Phone: (248) 512-6475
Fax: (248) 944-6537
e-mail: kristen.spano@fcagroup.com

Chair-Elect

P65605 David Charles Berry, Southfield

Secretary-Treasurer

P64116 Hope V. Shovein, Southfield

Council Members

Term Ending: 2016

P49241 Sharon K. Brady, Midland (resigned September 2015)
P70376 Tamara Ann Clark, Gregory
P56075 Eugene J. Rath, Kalamazoo

Term Ending: 2017

P34108 Lisabeth H. Coakley, Troy

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

P71221 Kendra Sue Mattison, Auburn Hills
P57284 Kristin L. Murphy, Southfield

Term Ending: 2018

P65709 Thomas J. Appledorn, Bloomfield Hills
P56165 Kimberly A. Berger, Detroit
P67837 Aaron J. Wong, Grand Rapids

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	June 11, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	August 13, 2015	Lansing Crown Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Section Annual Meeting	September 17, 2015	Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, MI
Council Meeting	October 8, 2015	Lansing Crown Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	November 12, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	December 10, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	January 14, 2016	Teleconference
Council Meeting	February 11, 2016	Teleconference
Council Meeting	April 21, 2016	Teleconference
Council Meeting	Scheduled for June 9, 2016	Teleconference
Section Annual Meeting	Scheduled for July 22, 2016	Grand Hotel Mackinac Island, MI

Minutes of all meetings are available at: <http://connect.michbar.org/iplaw/council/minutes>.

Intellectual Property Law Section Membership: 1234 Members

Intellectual Property Law Section Publication: As of this Report, the Section has published one issue of the *IPLS Proceedings* this year. A second issue is planned for summer 2016. In an effort to save costs and "go green," the *IPLS Proceedings* is now distributed electronically. Copies of the *IPLS Proceedings* are available at: <http://connect.michbar.org/iplaw/newsletter>.

General Budget Information: The Section continues to maintain a solid financial position, with a balance reported for April 30, 2016 of \$122,080.72. The balance includes \$28,249.01 in funds dedicated for the establishment of the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Project. The funds are attributable to excess sponsorship funds from the Elijah J. McCoy United States Patent and Trademark Office Detroit Office Grand Opening Gala, held on July 12, 2012 at the Henry Ford (Dearborn, MI). To date, \$6,691.20 has been incurred in connection with the pro bono program. The Section's most significant expenditure this year was associated with the IPLS Spring Seminar held at the Kellogg Center on March 14, 2016, which totaled \$15,735.00. This amount has not yet been deducted from the above noted balance as of the submission of this report due to the timing of the invoice.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Reception with U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) Chief Judge Gerard F. Rogers	August 7, 2015	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit, MI
41 st Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute	September 17-18, 2015	Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit MI
US Patent & Trademark Office Enhanced Patent Quality Roadshow and Reception	November 4, 2015	Thomas M. Cooley Law School Auburn Hills, MI
2016 Spring IP Law Seminar	March 14, 2016	Kellogg Center East Lansing, MI
42nd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute	Scheduled for July 21-23, 2016	Grand Hotel Mackinac Island, MI
IP Law Section Reception at SBM Annual Meeting	Scheduled for September 21-23, 2016	DeVos Place/Reserve, Grand Rapids, MI

Reception with U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) Chief Judge Gerard F. Rogers: On August 7, 2017, the IPLS hosted TTAB Chief Judge, Gerard F. Rogers for a discussion of current developments in TTAB proceedings. Chief Judge Rogers provided a presentation and discussed the state of the TTAB and the evolution of Board Proceedings.

41st Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute held September 17-18, 2016, Detroit, MI:

The 2015 IP Institute was held at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, Michigan. 212 people registered for the event, with 195 actual attendees. This was down from 252 registrants and 228 attendees in Mackinac in 2014; and 245 registrants and 224 attendees in Mackinac in 2013. However, it was up from the 181 registrants and 152 attendees in Traverse City in 2012. Evaluations of the speakers were positive. The overall rating for the seminar was 6.16 out of 7.0. The program included a wonderful reception at the Detroit Institute of Arts and outstanding presentations from nationally renowned speakers on a range of patent, trademark, copyright, and other related topics. The Section appreciates ICLE's support for this program.

2016 Spring IP Law Seminar, held March 14, 2016 in at the Kellogg Center, East Lansing:

Our annual Spring IP Law Seminar had 219 registrants and 195 attendees. Registration and attendance was up from the 188 registrants/170 attendees in 2015 and consistent with the 232 registrants/194 attendees in 2014. Programming for the Spring Seminar continued to focus on practical topics to benefit members' practice areas. This included a presentation on considerations in sending and responding to IP cease and desist letters, tips regarding how to avoid IP licensing issues and agreement mistakes, and a presentation providing the in-house perspective from the Senior Director, IP Legal Counsel for Abercrombie & Fitch.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

US Patent & Trademark Office Enhanced Patent Quality Roadshow and Reception held on November 4, 2016 at Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills: The Section was honored to host the United States Patent and Trademark Office's Enhanced Patent Quality Roadshow in Auburn Hills. This event was one of several that the USPTO conducted nationwide. Patent quality experts and executives were on-hand and in remote attendance to lead discussions on clarity of the record, improving global patent prosecution, measuring patent quality, enhancing examiner interviews and patent automation initiatives. The IPLS also hosted a reception following the presentation. Both events were free to the public.

42nd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute to be held July 21-23, 2016 at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island: The 42nd Annual IP Law Institute will return to the Grand Hotel in July, with advanced patent and copyright sessions Thursday afternoon, updates Friday morning, and various topics Saturday morning. The Section is very excited that the Honorable Kara F. Stoll and Honorable Gerard F. Rogers will speak and provide practical advice relevant to the Federal Circuit and the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB).

2016 Annual Business Meeting: The Section's annual business meeting will be held July 22nd at 8:00 a.m. at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island in conjunction with the 42nd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute.

Other Section Projects During 2016-2017

IP Pro Bono Initiative: The Michigan Patent Pro Bono Project (Project) is a service project of the IPL Section. The Project seeks to address the unmet need for patent legal services in Michigan by matching low-income inventors and innovators with volunteer patent attorneys. The Project was launched in November 2014, and is one of 18 regional programs providing pro bono patent legal services.

During 2015-2016, the Project expanded its operations, including:

In its first year of operation, the Project received requests for legal services from 42 persons. Of these, six were placed with volunteer attorneys and three more were placed with law school patent clinical programs.

On September 17, 2015, the IPLS formally amended its by-laws to establish the Project as a standing committee of the Section. The Section subsequently appointed a Steering Committee of seventeen IP professionals to administer the Project.

David C. Berry, who serves as chair of the Steering Committee, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Pro Bono Advisory Council, a not-for-profit corporation that coordinates patent pro bono programs nationwide.

Representatives of the Project have promoted the program to audiences across the state, including: the Small Business Legal Academy 2016 program (part of Detroit Entrepreneur Week); the USPTO Detroit Office Saturday Program at Detroit Public Library; and the

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

Cornerstone Alliance Community Program, in Benton Harbor, MI. The Project was featured in a blog post by USPTO Director Michelle K. Lee on the USPTO Director's Blog, on the Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency website, in a Law360 feature article by Jennifer M. McDowell, the USPTO Pro Bono Coordinator, and an article in the February 2016 Michigan Bar Journal.

In addition to coordinating with law firms and in-house law departments, the Project has coordinated with other IP legal resources. It has referred inquiries involving non-patent IP legal issues to Creative Many of Michigan, which operates the Lawyers for the Creative Economy ("LCE") program. It has referred clients to USPTO-certified law school patent clinical programs at Wayne State University Law School and University of Detroit Mercy Law School.

Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award: The IPLS created the Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award in an effort to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of a lawyer who had excelled in the intellectual property field and exemplified professionalism, excellence, and dedication to furthering opportunities and accomplishments in the area of intellectual property. In 2015, Judge Avern Cohn was the first recipient of the Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award. Nominations for the 2016 award are currently being received and reviewed. The 2016 recipient will be announced and presented with the award during the annual IP Law Institute meeting on July 22, 2016.

Looking Forward to 2016-2017:

Planned Activities:

- IPLS Reception at SBM Annual Meeting, September 2016, Grand Rapids
- Spring Seminar, March 2017, Lansing
- 43rd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute, July 2017, Mackinac Island

Recommendations for Next Council:

- Continue efforts to grow the IP pro bono program in Michigan.
- Continue to focus Spring Seminar sessions on topics designed to provide practical information/"best practices" and the Annual IP Institute sessions on topics that provide an annual review of IP law.
- Consider conducting another membership survey to assist in planning the 2018 Annual IP Institute (the next "off-year"/non-Mackinac Island location).
- Continue to partner with the USPTO to provide presentation, information and networking events with USPTO personnel through the USPTO's Detroit Regional Office.
- Continue efforts to increase IPLS's social media presence in order to improve communication and increase collaboration and networking between Section members.
- Create a share drive to archive historical Council documents and reference materials.
- Establish a form budget document/plan to be passed to future Council officers.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted on May 31, 2016 via PDF e-mail to:

Jennifer L. Williams
Administrative Assistant
Executive Office
State Bar of Michigan
Michael Franck Building
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933-2012
P: 517.367.6421 F: 517. 482.6248
jwilliams@mail.michbar.org

Report of Chair of the Judicial Council
2015-2016

The Judicial Council consists of representatives of each of the judicial organizations of the state. These organizations are the Michigan Judges Association, Court of Appeals and Circuit Judges; the Probate Judges Association; and the Michigan District Judge Association.

The Judicial Council meets quarterly and coordinates the activities of the organization.

One of the achievements of this year is the passage of Senate Bill 56, becoming 2016 PA 31. This represented the coordinated efforts of the Council, the Judicial Organizations, and the Supreme Court. This law both stabilizes and de-politicizes judicial salaries.

The Judicial Council also has worked closely with the State Court Administrator and Chief Justice in order to establish efficiencies in court operations to promote and achievements with the media.

The activities and expenses of the Council consist largely of travel and meeting expenses of our quarterly meetings.

TENATIVE
MICHIGAN JUDICIAL COUNCIL
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2015/2016 MEETING DATES

(Meetings at the State Bar Building unless specified otherwise.)

10-09-15 10:00 a.m. - Novi Suburban Collection, in Conjunction with SBM Annual Meeting

03-18-16 10:00 a.m.

08-14-16 Park Place Resort Traverse City, in Conjunction with the MDJA Annual Conference

09-23-16 Grand Rapids, in Conjunction with SBM Annual Meeting

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Latin American Bar Activities Section

Chair

P36429 Mayra A. Rodríguez
 Law Offices of Mayra A. Rodríguez
 18640 Mack Ave # 451
 Grosse Pointe Farms MI 48236-7700
 Phone: (313) 618-4992
 Fax: (313) 557-1904
 e-mail: marodriguez28@aicomcast.net

Chair-Elect/Secretary

P54890 Lawrence T. Garcia, Detroit

Treasurer

P31911 Francis R. Ortiz, Detroit

Council Member

Term Ending 2016

P57949 Jose P. Ceppi, Troy
 P76377 Amber Cervantez, Oak Park
 P75740 Kelsey Vidallet Switzer, Auburn Hills

Term Ending 2017

P31911 Francis R. Ortiz, Detroit
 P36429 Mayra A. Rodríguez, Grosse Pointe Farms

Term Ending 2018

P54890 Lawrence T. Garcia, Detroit
 P52985 Monica P. Navarro, Birmingham

Commissioner Liaison

P71025 Andrea Irons, Clinton Township

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

Reset Form

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
General Council Meeting	8/15/15	Oak Park, MI
General Council Meeting	10/24/15	Oak Park, MI
General Council Meeting	1/9/16	Oak Park, MI
General Council Meeting	3/5/16	Oak Park, MI
General Council Meeting	6/25/16	Oak Park, MI

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement \(FY 2015\)](#)

- \$3000-Fall Fundraiser
- \$950-Holiday Jingle & Mingle

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Co-Sponsor HBM Fall Fundraiser	11/10/15	Detroit, MI
Co-Sponsor Holiday Jingle & Mingle	12/9/15	Detroit, MI
Co-Sponsor Michael K Lee Diversity Event	3/10/16	Detroit, MI

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

None at this time.

Recommendations for next Council:

None at this time.

Other Information:

None at this time.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@asmil.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Law Practice Management & Legal Administrators Section

Chair

P54787 Rebecca Simkins Nowak
 Rebecca Simkins PLLC
 5119 Highland Rd # 266
 Waterford MI 48327-1915
 Phone: (248) 622-4338
 Fax: (248) 618-0667
 e-mail: rebeccasimkinsattorney@gmail.com

Chair-Elect

P70875 John Chau, Troy

Vice Chair - *vacant*

Secretary

P70735 ~~Steven Mark Feigelson, Okemos~~

Charles Fleece, Lansing

Treasurer

P25948 Vincent A. Romano, Grosse Pointe Park

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P75146 Robert D. Aicher, Lake Leelanau

P36745 Denise M. Glassmeyer, Troy

Term Ending: 2017

P35401 Charles A. Fleck, Lansing

P75964 Aneel Michael Trabilsy, Pinckney

P31970 David J. Vigna, Waterford

P61117 Robert A. Vozza, Grand Rapids

Term Ending: 2018

P58878 Laurie Denny Brewis, Manchester

P36176 Kathryn L. Ossian, Ferndale

Commissioner Liaison

P42006 Robert J. Buchanan, Grand Rapids

Ex Officio

P24285 Austin G. Anderson, Ann Arbor - *deceased*

P10472 Benson J. Barr, Bloomfield Hills

P41184 Gary P. Bauer, Lansing

P24740 Linda D. Bernard, Detroit

P26354 Barry L. Brickner, Farmington Hills

P38928 Wm Burt Burleson, Portland

P61684 Stacey L. Dinser-Hohl, Hamburg

P38054 Reginald G. Dozier, Detroit

P70735 Steven Mark Feigelson, Okemos

P33874 Mark R. Filipp, Troy

P36615 Michael J. Fraleigh, Troy

P14237 Howard J. Gourwitz, Bloomfield Hills

P42712 Elizabeth C. Jolliffe, Ann Arbor

P26071 Kenneth Lee Lewis, Detroit

P40690 Miles J. Postema, Big Rapids
P25948 Vincent A. Romano, Grosse Pointe Park
P42654 David C. Sarnacki, Grand Rapids
P54787 Rebecca Simkins Nowak, Waterford
P37062 Joan P. Vestrand, Auburn Hills
P33613 Cindy Rhodes Victor, Auburn Hills
P22446 Thomas R. Winquist, Grand Rapids

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Council Meeting Schedule:

Reset Form

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual meeting	10/9/15	Novi, MI
Council meeting	12/5/15	Troy, MI
Council meeting	2/6/16	telephone
Council meeting	4/16/16	teleportal

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

Events and/ or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Marketing in the 21 st Century	5/7/16	Lansing, MI
Repeat	6/4/16	Ferndale, MI

Reset Form

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Legislative issues:

None

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to offer programming

Other Information:

—

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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e-mail form

FY 2015 Budget Review & Proposed FY 2016 Budget

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS SECTION

March 11, 2016

CATEGORIES:	<u>Budgeted in FY 15:</u>	<u>Spent in FY 15:</u>	<u>Proposed FY '16 Budget:</u>
<u>Newsletter: (1833)</u>			
- Editor's stipend	\$ 750.00	\$ 780.00	\$ 750.00
- Other expenses	<u>225.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>225.00</u>
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 975.00	\$ 855.00	\$ 975.00
 <u>ListServ: (1145)</u>	 \$ 480.00	 \$ 400.00	 \$ 480.00
 <u>Council Meetings: (1276)</u>	 \$ 650.00	 \$ 653.60	 \$ 200.00
 <u>Teleconferencing: (1528)</u>	 \$ 175.00	 \$ 89.79	 \$ 100.00
 <u>Council Training: (1974)</u>			
- Bar Leadership Forum -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,439.25	\$ 1,500.00
- TechShow attendance -	1,500.00	867.32	- TechShow date passed, no one sent
- SSFI scholarships -	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,306.57	\$ 1,500.00
 <u>Annual Meeting: (1297)</u>			
- Room / AV / misc charges -	2,000.00	\$ 2,134.70	\$ 2,300.00 – GR always a little more expensive
- Appreciation plaques -	500.00	- 0 -	?
- Gavel	<u>75.00</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>75.00</u>
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,134.70	\$ 2,375.00
 <u>Member Benefit / Marketing: (1889)</u>			
- FY '14 ICLE SSFI sponsorship -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
- FY '14 ICLE P'shp giveaway -	<u>900.00</u>	<u>935.00</u>	<u>935.00</u>
- ICLE Mrktng total for FY 15 -	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,435.00	\$ 2,435.00
- Miscellaneous events	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>222.47</u>	<u>1,250.00</u>
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 2,657.47	\$ 3,685.00
 <u>Travel: (1493)</u>			
- Council travel	<u>1,800.00</u>	\$ 282.37	<u>1,500.00</u>
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 1,800.00		
 <u>Miscellaneous: (1987)</u>			
- Miscellaneous unknowns -	\$ 250.00	- 0 -	
- Chair's Discretionary Fund -	<u>500.00</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	
CATEGORY SUB-TOTAL -	\$ 750.00	- 0 -	
			\$ 10,815.00 – TOTAL of Proposed FY '16 Budget
			<u>\$ 10,230.00</u> – FY '16 Income
			(\$ 585.00) – Deficit , pay from fund balance
			-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x
 TOTALS:	 \$ 13,930.00	 <u>\$ 9,379.50</u>	 - FY '15 expenses paid
	<u>11,450.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,450.00</u>	- FY '15 Dues income
	(\$ 3,215.00)	\$ 2,070.50	- Positive balance to carry forward
	 \$ 23,564.30	 \$ 33,419.50	 - Fund balance at start of FY '16 (10-01-15)

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Law Student Section

Chair

LS087057 Aaron P. Sohaski
20924 Lakeland St
Saint Clair Shores MI 48081-3363
e-mail: sohaskia@gmail.com

Vice Chair

LS092662 Samantha J. Jonas, Durand

Secretary

LS093041 Michael Jon Olcese, II, Detroit

Treasurer

LS093264 Brandon Debus, Washington

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

LS089886 Christopher James Atallah, Farmington Hills
LS092269 Kaitlyn DelBene, Shelby Township
LS093811 William Cort DiSessa, East Lansing
LS092496 Matthew X. Hauser, Redford
LS093010 Ryan Jackson, Detroit
LS092662 Samantha J. Jonas, Durand
LS093949 Armisa Laze, Beverly Hills
Barb Sheppard,
LS089880 Deyana Simmons-Howard, Detroit
Justin C. Strayhorn, Detroit
Daniela Walters,

Commissioner Liaison

P71025 Andrea Irons, Clinton Township
P70678 Shenique A. Moss, Lansing

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Reset Form

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Litigation Section

Chair

P41685 Marcy A. Tayler
Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook
1 Woodward Ave Ste 2400
Detroit MI 48226-5485
Phone: (313) 965-2863
Fax: (313) 965-7403
e-mail: marcy.tayler@kitch.com

Chair-Elect

P31833 Michael J. Butler, Farmington Hills

Secretary

P69844 Paul Daniel Hudson, Kalamazoo

Treasurer

P69576 Brandon J. Evans, Marquette

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P69576 Brandon J. Evans, Marquette
P68793 Michael O. Fawaz, Royal Oak
P15554 Hon. Donald A. Johnston, III, Grand Rapids
P64371 Kevin J. Stoops, Southfield
P21083 James M. Straub, Saint Joseph

Term Ending: 2017

P30716 David L. Moffitt, Bingham Farms
P47394 Thaddeus E. Morgan, Lansing
P34295 Daniel P. Steele, Livonia

Term Ending: 2018

P78487 Jeffrey Alan Crapko, Troy
P76540 Rachel S. Croke, Detroit
P78374 R.J. Cronkhite, Livonia
P32497 Albert J. Dib, Saint Clair Shores
P66903 Kristopher K. Hulliberger, Royal Oak
P47678 Daniel J. McGlynn, Troy
P40114 Bernard C. Schaefer, Grand Rapids

Commissioner Liaison

P48109 Daniel D. Quick, Troy

Ex Officio

P45221 Michael P. Donnelly, Detroit

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Full Council - Telephone Conference	11/12/2015	via telephone
Full Council - Telephone Conference	1/21/2016	via telephone
Full Council - In Person Meeting	4/20/2016	PF Changs - Lansing, MI
Full Council - Telephone Conference	5/19/2016	via telephone

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

The Litigation Sections budget for 2015-2016 has remained consistent with the 2014-2015 budget.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Revisiting Younger's 10 Commandments	10/15/2015	Inn St. John - Plymouth, MI
Talking with Pictures: Courtroom Persuasion in the Media Dominated Age.	7/24-25/2016	Crystal Mountain Resort
Trial Evidence: Artistry & Advocacy in the Courtroom (T. Mavet)	7/22-24/2016	Crystal Mountain Resort
Expertly Handle Evidence Seminar - Evidence Basics	Planned for 10/2016	Inn St. John - Plymouth, MI

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

The Litigation Section has a Rules and Legislation Committee that keeps the governing council up to date on all pending legislation or rule changes that may affect our membership and the governing council will take the appropriate action.

Recommendations for next Council:

Fill council vacancies and attempt to reach out to section members to identify leaders. Continue excellent programming for membership.

Other Information:

Council approved funding for Michigan Center for Civic Education.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
Section Annual Report

Bar Year: 2015 – 2016

Section Name: Master Lawyers Section

Mission Statement: The Section's mission is to promote, plan and carry out programs, seminars and other activities of interest to members of this Section. Also, to coordinate programs of the Section with national and local bar associations, to protect the Public as lawyers transition from the practice of law to semi and full time retirement and to expand opportunities for contribution to the community.

Officers and Council Members:

Chair: Richard J. Ruhala of Flint

Chair-Elect: Cynthia L. Johnson of Wayne

Secretary: Ronald D. Keefe of Marquette

Treasurer: Kathleen Williams Newell of Southfield

Immediate Past Chair: J. David Kerr of Mount Pleasant

Other Council Members:

Richard F. Fellrath of Troy

George S. Lilly of Grosse Pointe Woods

Charlotte F. Shoup of Saint Johns

Alfred E. Gade of Bloomfield Hills

James H. Loree of Northville

Ruthmarie Shea of Oakland

Roberta M. Gubbins of Mason

Vincent A. Romano of Grosse Pointe Park

Robert G. Teeter of Stanwood

Note: See attached page on further details of members and staff

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meetings were held monthly, except for the month of July, starting usually at 12 noon and lasting about 1 hour and 15 minutes, depending on the Agenda topics. The Meetings were conference type, with about one half in-person and the other half by telephone conference; Meetings were generally held at the SBM location in Lansing.

General Budget Information:

The Members of this Section include active, inactive and emeritus SBM Members which total over 18,000 in number. Those members age 60 and over or those who have completed 30 years of practice automatically become members of the Section, all without any Section fee. Those members who are age 50 to 59 years who have completed 20 years of membership in the Bar may join this Section upon payment of an annual dues charge of \$25. The general fund of the SBM helps to finance the Section's budget.

Other Information:

The Mentor: This is a quarterly publication of the Section provided to all members of the Section through the Internet, free of charge.

Seminars:

This year's Seminar was held on June 23, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and was designed to help Section members and guests to learn more about the problems of the Elderly and what lawyers can do to assist them. This Seminar was held in downtown Rochester at the Mama Mia Tuscan Grille Restaurant. A registration fee of \$25 per person was charged.

Note: The program details are shown on the attached page.

Train Travel Tours:

Train Tours of Western Parks and other points of interest were sponsored by this Section for the benefit and enjoyment of the Section members and guests. All seats reserved for 2016 were sold out. Reservations for trip departures set for 5/19/2017 and 7/8/2017 are being scheduled with Amtrak Coach Accommodations.

Annual Meeting Program:

This year on September 23, 2016, the Master Lawyer Section at the SBM Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids will provide an educational program for its Section Members led by Trial Attorney Tom R. Pabst on the topic "Forced Arbitration." Following will be a Special Luncheon hosted by the Section for Bar Members with 50 years of membership since 1966.

Legislative Issues:

This Section does not take positions on legislative issues.

Recommendations for next Council:

It is recommended that this October a planning and learning meeting or retreat be held for members of the Council and its committee Section members. One or two one-day seminars should be held at different locations around the State, preferably in the Summer months of year 2017.

Respectively submitted,

Richard J. Ruhala, Chair

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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Master Lawyers Section

Chair

P19757 Richard J. Ruhala
6289 Tanbark Ct
Flint MI 48532-2157
Phone: (810) 733-5154
e-mail: aruhala@sbcglobal.net

Chair-Elect

P37027 Cynthia L. Johnson, Wayne

Secretary

P15782 Ronald D. Keefe, Marquette

Treasurer

P23365 Kathleen Williams Newell, Southfield

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P13365 Richard F. Fellrath, Troy
P16682 George S. Lilly, Grosse Pointe Woods
P49167 Charlotte F. Shoup, Saint Johns

Term Ending: 2017

P13779 Alfred E. Gade, Bloomfield Hills
P16799 James H. Loree, Northville
P44503 Ruthmarie Shea, Oakland TOWNSHIP

Term Ending: 2018

P39998 Roberta M. Gubbins, Mason
P25948 Vincent A. Romano, Grosse Pointe Park
P37357 Robert G. Teeter, Stanwood

Immediate Past Chair

P15910 J. David Kerr, Mount Pleasant

Commissioner Liaison

P14656 Edward L. Haroutunian, Bingham Farms

Administrator

Amy J. Castner, Lansing
Kari Thrush, Lansing

MASTER LAWYER SECTION SEMINAR

**June 23, 2016 – 9:30a.m. to 3:00p.m.
Mama Mia Tuscan Grille Restaurant
543 Main Street
Rochester, MI**

**“Learn more about the problems of the Elderly and
what Lawyers can do to assist them.”**

9:30a.m. Registration (coffee, seating; etc.)

Greetings – Chair of Master Lawyer Council, Richard J. Ruhala, J.D.

**10:00a.m. Dr. Peter A. Lichtenberg, PhD, Director of Gerontology and
Professor of psychology at
Wayne State University**

Topic: “New Assessment of Financial Decision Making”

**11:00a.m. Ruthmarie Shea, J.D., Health law attorney and Nursing Service
Administrator**

Topic: “Informed Health Care Decision Making: Know Before You Go”

12:00p.m. Luncheon Buffet

**1:00p.m. Tish Vincent, J.D. MSW, Program Administrator of the Lawyers and
Judges Assistance Program**

Topic: “Anxiety In Late Life : A Silent Struggle”

2:00p.m. Question and Answer Period, Closing Remarks, and Evaluation

3:00p.m. Adjournment

Maximum Capacity - 130

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Prisons and Corrections Section

Chair

P71214 Jacqueline Colette Ouvry
State Appellate Defender Office
645 Griswold St Ste 3300
Detroit MI 48226-4215
Phone: (313) 256-9833
Fax: (313) 965-0372
e-mail: jouvry@sado.org

Secretary

P24056 Ronald W. Emery, Lansing

Treasurer

P39731 Daniel E. Manville, East Lansing

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P24056 Ronald W. Emery, Lansing
P33274 Sandra L. Bailiff Girard, Lansing
P38304 Gary M. Kasenow, Northville
P37634 John A. Shea, Ann Arbor

Term Ending: 2017

P24207 Barbara R. Levine, Lansing
P27594 Paul D. Reingold, Ann Arbor
P38793 Richard B. Stapleton, Grand Ledge

Term Ending: 2018

P30104 Michael J. Marutiak, Lansing
P71214 Jacqueline Colette Ouvry, Detroit
P39827 Hon. Douglas B. Shapiro, Lansing
P30022 Patricia A. Streeter, Canton

Associate Member

Peter J. Martel, Ann Arbor
Monica Jahner, Lansing
Nicole T. George, Detroit

Commissioner Liaison

P23262 Hon. Clinton Canady, III, Lansing

Rep./MI Corrections Association

Michelle VanDusen, Coldwater

Rep./Michigan Sheriffs' Association

TO BE DETERMINED, ASAP

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	9/19/15	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	10/3/15	State Bar Building, Lansing
Joint Program with Criminal Law Section, State Bar Annual Meeting	10/9/15	Novi
Monthly Meeting	11/7/15	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	12/5/15	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	1/9/16	MSU School of Law, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	2/6/16	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	3/5/16	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	4/2/16	State Bar Building, Lansing
Monthly Meeting	5/7/16	State Bar Building, Lansing

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

This year the Section had approximately \$3,514.00 in revenue, \$2,280.64 in expenses, and increased its end-of-year Fund Balance to approximately \$6,353.02 (not including the expense or revenue from the planned 6/18/15 event).

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Mental Illness and Incarceration: Helping Families, Prisoners and Attorneys Navigate the MDOC	6/6/15	State Bar Building
Newsletter Publication, Prisons and Corrections Forum, Vol. 15, No. 2	Nov. 2015	
Newsletter Publication, Prisons and Corrections Forum, Vol. 15, No. 1	April 2016	
Family Matters: Parents in Prison	6/18/16	State Bar Building

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

The Section took positions on 38 bills: HBs 4069, 4080, 4081, 4083, 4135, 4138, 4169, 4419, 4420, 4463, 4467, 4866, 4947-4954, 4955-4956, 4957- 4959, 4965, 4973, 4974, 5078, 5079, 5081, 5273; and SBs 151, 191, 291, 487,576, 689.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue policy review relating to Michigan corrections practices, increase public awareness of the Section and its activities, increase overall membership (including associate), complete By-laws amendment process and update website.

Other Information:

This year the Section was very pleased to fill the vacant Department of Corrections Representative seat with Kyle Kaminski, Legislative Liaison & Special Projects. Mr. Kaminski's presence has greatly informed our discussion and debate. Members of the Council, including the Chair, testified before a House Committee in support HB 5273 regarding lifer parole veto power for successor judges which later passed the House. In addition, the Council formed a committee to review the implementation of electronic law libraries within the Department of Corrections, committed to writing a themed issue of the Bar Journal, and reviewed our Section's by-laws with proposed amendments ready for a vote next year.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

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Probate and Estate Planning Section

Chair

P54128 Shaheen I. Imami
 Prince Law Firm
 800 W Long Lake Rd Ste 200
 Bloomfield Hills MI 48302-2058
 Phone: (248) 865-8810
 Fax: (248) 865-0640
 e-mail: sii@probateprince.com

Vice Chair

P56603 Marlaine C. Teahan, Lansing

Chair-Elect

P23098 James B. Steward, Ishpeming

Secretary

P30583 Marguerite Munson Lentz, Detroit

Treasurer

P47015 Christopher A. Ballard, Ann Arbor

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P31301 Susan M. Allan, Bloomfield Hills
 P60070 Constance L. Brigman, Wyoming
 P39165 Michele C. Marquardt, Kalamazoo
 P68618 Richard Charles Mills, Jackson
 P32058 Lorraine F. New, Troy
 P64989 Geoffrey R. Vernon, Saint Clair Shores

Term Ending: 2017

P24647 George F. Bearup, Traverse City
 P47209 Hon. Michael L. Jaconette, Battle Creek
 P38306 Mark E. Kellogg, Lansing
 P71256 Michael G. Lichterman, Grandville
 P68762 Raj Anand Malviya, Grand Rapids
 P34533 Nancy H. Welber, Farmington Hills

Term Ending: 2018

P64928 Christopher J. Caldwell, Grand Rapids
 P49818 Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer, Saint Louis
 P30574 Kathleen M. Goetsch, Howell
 P34466 David P. Lucas, Battle Creek
 P72027 Katie Lynwood, East Lansing
 P58794 David L.J.M. Skidmore, Grand Rapids

Commissioner Liaison

P53594 Dana M. Warnez, Center Line

Ex Officio

P48271 Amy N. Morrissey, Ann Arbor

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

Reset Form

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	6/13/15	Lansing, MI
Annual meeting, followed by a Council meeting	9/12/15	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	10/10/15	Bloomfield Hills, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	11/07/15	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	12/19/15	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	01/16/16	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	02/13/16	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	03/12/16	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	04/16/16	Lansing, MI
Committee on Special Projects, followed by a Council meeting	06/04/16	Lansing, MI

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

See Addendum.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
See Addendum		

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

See Addendum

Recommendations for next Council:

See Addendum

Other Information:

See Addendum

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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**ADDENDUM TO 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PROBATE & ESTATE
PLANNING SECTION FOR THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Mission Statement:

The purpose of this Section is to enhance and improve the practice and administration of law pertaining to probate; trust and estate planning, and administration; guardianships and conservatorships (including planning alternatives); and tax planning.

General Budget Information:

The Section's expenses generally continue to be in line with revenues. As a result, there is no immediate plan to raise dues.

Over the past several years, the Section increased the balance of a dedicated "amicus" fund for expected increases in appeals involving the Michigan Trust Code and other legislative initiatives. The largest categories of expense are: (1) Council meetings; (2) lobbying on behalf of the Section; and (3) support for education initiatives (primarily in conjunction with ICLE). In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Section also advanced funds for an initial printing of updated brochures that purchasing Section members can use to give general information to clients and potential clients.

Events and/or Seminars:

The Section continues to maintain a strong partnership with ICLE by co-sponsoring, supporting, or otherwise contributing to numerous seminars on various probate, estate planning, and related administration topics each year. The Section also continues to co-sponsor the Probate Certificate Program with ICLE in an effort to assist practitioners, including those who do not belong to the Section, in developing proficiency in the areas of probate and estate planning. The Section does not offer any seminars independent of ICLE, but such seminars are offered live and via webcast. During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Section continued to enhance its outreach to Section members and also recruit new members through social and networking events developed by the Section's Membership Committee. Below is a partial list of the events and seminars (does not include webcast-only sessions):

<u>Event/Seminar Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
55 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	June 19-20, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Drafting an Estate Plan for an Estate Under \$5 Million	June 24, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Drafting an Estate Plan for an Estate Under \$5 Million	September 29, 2015	Plymouth, MI

Experts in Estate Planning: Leaving and Education Legacy	November 17, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Administration of Trusts Under the Michigan Trust Code	December 3, 2015	Plymouth, MI
25 th Annual Drafting Estate Planning Documents	January 21, 2016 February 18, 2016	Grand Rapids, MI Plymouth, MI
Drafting an Estate Plan Under \$5 Million	February 3, 2016	Plymouth, MI
Experts in Estate Planning: The Estate Planner's Definitive Guide to Business Entities and Income Tax	May 11, 2016	Acme, MI
56 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	May 12-14, 2016 June 17-18, 2016	Acme, MI Plymouth, MI
Mixer for Section Members and Non-Members (for attendees of the 56 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute)	May 13, 2016	Acme, MI
Speakers' Dinner for the 56 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	May 13, 2016	Traverse City, MI
Probate & Estate Planning Certificate Program	Ongoing	Various

Legislative Issues:

The Section continues to keep as a priority legislative and regulatory initiatives, as well as common law developments, that affect Section members. The Section is both proactive and responsive by drafting proposed legislation and providing comments on legislation drafted by others. The Section employs Public Affairs Associates, in Lansing, as its lobbyist.

The Section submitted public policy positions concerning the following:

- The Section filed an amicus brief in *In re Cliffman Estate*. The Section believes that the holding in *In re Combs*, 257 Mich App 622 (2003), *cert den* 469 Mich 1021 (2004), was too restrictive a reading of the Wrongful Death Act (MCL 600.2922) relative to the treatment of step-children.
- The Section drafted a proposal and is pursuing the passage of legislation to modernize the provisions concerning tenants by the entireties property.
- The Section drafted a proposal and is pursuing the passage of legislation to amend the Michigan Trust Code to permit community property trusts.
- The Section supported with proposed amendments Department of Treasury, Revenue Administrative Bulletin 2015-XX, regarding the taxability of income to estates, trusts, and beneficiaries.

The Section sought to influence and support the following:

- The Section was substantially involved in the drafting, negotiation, and passage of the Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act, PA 59 of 2016 (Eff. June 27, 2016).
- The Section was involved in the negotiation and passage of the Funeral Representative Act, PA 57 of 2016 (Eff. June 27, 2016).
- The Section drafted and proposed to the Michigan Legislature amendments to MCL 211.27a concerning relief from property tax uncapping in common estate planning transactions, which ultimately was passed as PA 243 of 2015 (Retroactive to December 31, 2014).
- The Section is involved in legislation proposed by Sen. Jones proposing the abolition of dower, SB 558-560.
- The Section drafted and proposed to the Michigan Legislature a Qualified Disposition in Trust Act (also known as domestic asset protection trusts), which would allow an individual grantor to protect from creditors certain transfers to qualified trusts. The bills originally were introduced in and passed by the Senate (SB 597-598), but eventually split with the House.
- The Section drafted and proposed to the Michigan Legislature legislation to restructure appeals from the Probate Court by removing review by the Circuit Court and moving appeals to the Court of Appeals and also modifying the automatic stay provisions contained in the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.308, MCL 600.861, MCL 600.863, MCL 600.867, and MCL 700.1303). The bills originally were introduced in and passed by the Senate (SB 632), but eventually split with the House. The bills have been passed out of the House Judiciary Committee.

The Section has an interest in, continued to engage in discussion on, or otherwise pursued the following:

- Legislation intended to update the Estates and Protected Individuals Code and the Michigan Trust Code.
- Legislation that, under certain circumstances, would provide exculpation of trustees of life insurance trusts from liability related to the administration of life insurance policies held in the trust, which would be a proposed amendment of MCL 700.1513.
- Legislation to address issues of succession in matters involving assisted reproductive technology.
- The concept of pre-death probate of wills and trusts.

Recommendations for next Council:

For fiscal year 2016-2107, the Section's Council should continue to pursue and update the Council's Biennial Plan of Work. More particularly, the Council should continue its support, monitoring, and pursuit of legislative initiatives that remain pending as of the date of the 2015-2016 Annual Report (i.e., qualified dispositions in trust, probate appeals, life insurance trusts, tenants by the entirety property, community property trusts, assisted reproductive technology, and updates to EPIC and the MTC).

The Council also should continue: (1) reviewing proposed updates and changes to EPIC and the MTC to reflect developments in the practice and the law (both legislative and common law); (2) its outreach to existing Section members to become active in the Section and on the Council; (3) seeking new members for the Section through recruitment and interaction with other sections and bar associations; (4) supporting continuing education of the legal profession in the areas of probate, estate planning, and related administration; (5) efforts to educate the public of the benefits provided by trained attorneys and the often false promises offered by commoditization; and (6) assisting in the prevention of "trust mills" from operating in Michigan.

Finally, the Council might consider revisiting and reviving the work done on specialization in light of certain work done by the SBM's 21st Century Task Force.

Other Information:

- The Section completed the update of several of the Section's pamphlets and advanced the cost of high-quality printing to provide hard copies to purchasing members. The Section also continues to work with the SBM to provide similar, web-based information to the public while maintaining the integrity of the information and the Section's proprietary rights in the product.
- The Section continues to review and draft proposed changes and improvements to SCAO forms.

- The Section continues to publish a Journal three times per year with articles of interest to Section members. The Journal is now electronic only, as a cost-saving measure and to reflect changes in the way information is conveyed and used.
- The Section continues to use the “Join a Committee” link on the Section SBM webpage to encourage involvement by Section members.
- The Section sent its Chair Elect and Vice Chair to the State Bar Leadership Forum in June 2015, and will do so again in June 2015.
- The Section regularly sends Council and other Section members to work with and testify before members of the Legislature on various initiatives.
- The Section regularly discusses practice developments that are occurring in other parts of the United States and how such developments might or should impact practice in Michigan.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shaheen I. Inami, Chair of the Probate
& Estate Planning Section

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2015-2016

Amicus Curiae Committee

Mission: To review requests made to the Section to file, and to identify cases in which the Section should file, amicus briefs in pending appeals and to engage and oversee the work of legal counsel retained by the Section to prepare and file its amicus briefs

David L.J.M. Skidmore, Chair
Kurt A. Olson
Patricia M. Ouellette
Nazneen H. Syed
Nancy H. Welber

Annual Meeting

Mission: To arrange the annual meeting at a time and place and with an agenda to accomplish all necessary and proper annual business of the Section

James B. Steward

Assisted Reproductive Technology Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To review the 2008 Uniform Probate Code Amendments for possible incorporation into EPIC with emphasis on protecting the rights of children conceived through assisted reproduction

Nancy H. Welber, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
Robert M. O'Reilly
Lawrence W. Waggoner
Edward Goldman
James P. Spica

Awards Committee

Mission: To periodically award the Michael Irish Award to a deserving recipient and to consult with ICLE concerning periodic induction of members in the George A. Cooney Society

Amy N. Morrissey, Chair
Robert D. Brower, Jr.
George W. Gregory
Phillip E. Harter
Nancy L. Little

Budget Committee

Mission: To develop the annual budget and to alert the Council to revenue and spending trends

Marguerite Munson Lentz, Chair
Marlaine C. Teahan
Christopher A. Ballard

Bylaws Committee

Mission: To review the Section Bylaws and recommend changes to ensure compliance with State Bar requirements, best practices for similar organizations and assure conformity of the Bylaws to current practices and procedures of the Section and the Council

Nancy H. Welber, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
David P. Lucas
John Castillo

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2015-2016

Charitable and Exempt Organization Committee

Mission: To educate the Section about charitable giving and exempt organizations and to make recommendations to the Section concerning Federal and State legislative developments and initiatives in the fields of charitable giving and exempt organizations

Christopher J. Caldwell, Chair
 Christopher A. Ballard
 Michael W. Bartnik
 William R. Bloomfield
 Robin D. Ferriby Richard C. Mills

Citizens Outreach Committee

Mission: To provide for education of the public on matters related to probate, estate planning, and trust administration, including the publication of pamphlets and online guidance to the public, and coordinating the Section's efforts to educate the public with the efforts of other organizations affiliated with the State Bar of Michigan

Constance L. Brigman, Chair
 Kathleen M.
 Goetsch
 Katie Lynwood
 Michael J. McClory
 Neal Nusholtz
 Jessica M. Schilling
 Rebecca A. Schnelz, (Liaison to
 Solutions on Self-help Task
 Force)
 Nancy H. Welber
 Melisa M. W. Mysliwicz
 Nicholas Vontroba

Committee on Special Projects

Mission: The Committee on Special Projects is a working committee of the whole of the Section that considers and studies in depth a limited number of topics and makes recommendations to the Council of the Section with respect to those matters considered by the Committee. The duties of the Chair include setting the agenda for each Committee Meeting, and in conjunction with the Chair of the Section, to coordinate with substantive Committee chairs the efficient use of time by the Committee

David P. Lucas, Chair

Community Property Trusts Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To review the statutes, case law, and legislative analysis of Michigan and other jurisdictions (including pending legislation) concerning community property trusts and, if advisable, to recommend changes to Michigan law in this area

Neal Nusholtz, Chair
 George W. Gregory
 Lorraine F. New
 Nicholas A. Reister
 Patricia M. Ouellette

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2015-2016

Electronic Communications Committee

Mission: To oversee all forms of electronic communication with and among members of the Section, including communication via the Section's web site, the Section listserv, and the ICLE Online Community site, to identify emerging technological trends of importance to the Section and its members, and to recommend to the council best practices to take advantage of technology in carrying out the section's and Council's mission and work

Michael G. Lichterman, Chair
 William J. Ard
 Nancy L. Little
 Amy N. Morrissey
 Jeanne Murphy (Liaison to ICLE)
 Neal Nusholtz
 Michael L. Rutkowski
 Serene K. Zeni

Ethics & Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee

Mission: To consider and recommend to the Council action with respect to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct and their interpretation, application, and amendment, including identifying the unauthorized practices of law, reporting of such practices to the appropriate authorities, and educating the public regarding the inherent problems relying on non-lawyers

Katie Lynwood, Chair
 William J. Ard
 Raymond A. Harris
 J. David Kerr Robert M. Taylor
 Amy Rombyer Tripp

Guardianship, Conservatorship, and End of Life Committee

Mission: To monitor the need for and make recommendations with respect to statutory and court rule changes in Michigan related to the areas of legally incapacitated individuals, guardianships, and conservatorships

Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer, Chair
 Katie Lynwood, Vice Chair
 William J. Ard
 Michael W. Bartnik
 Raymond A. Harris
 Phillip E. Harter
 Michael J. McClory
 Richard C. Mills
 Kurt A. Olson
 James B. Steward

Insurance Legislation Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To recommend new legislation related to insurability and the administration of irrevocable life insurance trusts

Geoffrey R. Vernon, Chair
 Stephen L. Elkins
 James P. Spica
 Joseph D. Weiler, Jr.

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2015-2016

Legislation Analysis & Monitoring Committee

Mission: In cooperation with the Section's lobbyist, to bring to the attention of the Council recent developments in the Michigan legislature and to further achievement of the Section's legislative priorities, as well as to study legislation and recommend a course of action on legislation not otherwise assigned to a substantive committee of the Section

Michele C. Marquardt, Chair
 Christopher A. Ballard
 Georgette E. David
 Mark E. Kellogg
 Sharri L. Rolland Phillips
 Harold G. Schuitmaker

Legislation Development & Drafting Committee

Mission: To review, revise, communicate and recommend Michigan's trusts and estates law with the goal of achieving and maintaining leadership in promulgating probate laws in changing times. May work alone or in conjunction with other substantive standing or ad hoc committees.

Geoffrey R. Vernon, Chair
 Susan M. Allan
 Howard H. Collens
 Georgette David
 Henry P. Lee
 Marguerite Munson Lentz
 Michael G. Lichterman
 Sueann Mitchell
 Kurt Olson
 Nathan Piwowarski
 James P. Spica
 Robert P. Tiplady, II

Litigation, Proceedings, and Forms Committee

Mission: To consider and recommend to the Council action with respect to contested and uncontested proceedings, the Michigan Court Rules, and published court forms, including the interpretation, use, and amendment of them

David L.J.M. Skidmore, Chair
 James F. ("JV") Anderton
 Constance L. Brigman (Liaison to SCAO for Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Protective Proceedings Workgroup)
 Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer
 Phillip E. Harter
 Michael D. Holmes
 Shaheen I. Imami
 Hon. Michael L. Jaconette
 Hon. David M. Murkowski
 Rebecca A. Schnelz (Liaison to SCAO for Mental Health/Commitment Workgroup)

Membership Committee

Mission: To strengthen relations with Section members, encourage new membership, and promote awareness of and participation in Section activities

Raj A. Malviya, Chair
 Christopher J. Caldwell
 Nicholas R. Dekker
 Daniel A. Kosmowski
 Julie A. Paquette
 Nicholas A. Reister
 Marlaine C. Teahan
 Joseph J. Viviano

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2015-2016

Nominating Committee

Mission: To annually nominate candidates to stand for election as the officers of the Section and members of the Council

Mark K. Harder, Chair
Thomas F. Sweeney
Amy N. Morrissey

Planning Committee

Mission: To periodically review and update the Section's Strategic Plan and to annually prepare and update the Council's Biennial Plan of Work

James B. Steward, Chair

Probate Institute

Mission: To consult with ICLE in the planning and execution of the Annual Probate and Estate Planning Institute

Marlaine C. Teahan

Real Estate Committee

Mission: To recommend new legislation related to real estate matters of interest and concern to the Section and its members

Mark E. Kellogg, Chair
George F. Bearup
Jeffrey S. Ammon
William J. Ard
Stephen J. Dunn
David S. Fry
J. David Kerr
Michael G. Lichterman
David P. Lucas
Katie Lynwood
Douglas A. Mielock
Melisa M. W. Mysliwicz
James T. Ramer
James B. Steward

State Bar and Section Journals Committee

Mission: To oversee the publication of the Section's Journal and periodic theme issues of the State Bar Journal that are dedicated to probate, estate planning, and trust administration

Richard C. Mills, Chair
Nancy L. Little, Managing Editor
Melisa M. W. Mysliwicz, Assoc. Editor

Transfer Tax Committee

Mission: To monitor developments concerning Federal and State transfer taxes and to recommend appropriate actions by the Section in response to developments or needs

Lorraine F. New, Chair
Robert B. Labe
Marguerite Munson Lentz
Geoffrey R. Vernon
Nancy H. Welber

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Public Corporation Law Section

Chair

P31783 Kester K. So
Dickinson Wright PLLC
215 S Washington Sq Ste 200
Lansing MI 48933-1888
Phone: (517) 371-1730
Fax: (517) 487-4700
e-mail: kso@dickinsonwright.com

Vice Chair

P53633 Mark E. Nettleton, Grand Rapids

Secretary-Treasurer

P60559 Karrie A. Zeits, Traverse City

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P36541 Michael P. McGee, Detroit
P52528 Catherine M. Mish, Grand Rapids
P53633 Mark E. Nettleton, Grand Rapids
P31783 Kester K. So, Lansing
P38154 James E. Tamm, Bloomfield Hills
P37067 Debra A. Walling, Dearborn
P33359 Eric D. Williams, Big Rapids

Term Ending: 2017

P13462 Gerald A. Fisher, Auburn Hills
P37834 Melvin Butch Hollowell, Jr., Detroit
P24260 Charles R. McKone, Flushing
P32288 Carol A. Rosati, Farmington Hills
P45006 Gregory T. Stremers, Port Huron
P38726 Michael J. Watza, Detroit
P60559 Karrie A. Zeits, Traverse City

Term Ending: 2018

P46908 Lori Grigg Bluhm, Troy
P37081 Philip A. Erickson, East Lansing
P37142 Mary J. Fales, Ann Arbor
P46097 Steven P. Joppich, Farmington Hills
P69693 Catherine A. Mullhaupt, Lansing
P29084 Stephen O. Schultz, Okemos
P39440 Jeffrey V. H. Sluggett, Grand Rapids

Commissioner Liaison

P65419 James W. Heath, Detroit

Ex Officio

P38726 Michael J. Watza, Detroit

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Section Meeting and PCLS Regular mMeeting	June 19, 2015	St. Joseph, MI
Special Meeting	July 17, 2015	Conference Call
Special Meeting	August 28, 2015	Conference Call
Regular Meeting	Sept. 12, 2015	Dickinson Wright, Lansing
Regular Meeting	Oct. 10, 2015	Miller Canfield, Lansing
Regular Meeting	Nov. 15, 2015	Conference Call
Regular Meeting	Dec. 5, 2015	Conference Call
Regular Meeting	Jan. 9, 2016	Conference Call
Regular Meeting	Feb. 12, 2016	The Henry, Dearborn
Special Meeting	March 4, 2016	Electronic
Special Meeting	March 12, 2016	Electronic
Regular Meeting	May 13, 2016	Conference Call

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

Monthly statements are reviewed by Council. See 9/30 and 4/31 statements, attached. Dues are sufficient to pay Section expenses on an annual basis. PCLS fund balance at the end of each fiscal year is generally modest.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Joint Seminar with MML	June 19, 2015	St. Joseph, MI
Winter Seminar	Feb. 12, 2016	Dearborn, MI
Joint Seminar with MML	June 24, 2016	Boyne Highlands, MI
See attached for details on topics and speakers		

Reset Form

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Legislative issues:

PCLS has an interest in big or dark box tax issues and marijuana legislation.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue implementation of a revamped Public Corporation Law Quarterly publication.

Other Information:

Accomplishments: 1) published the Public Law Issue (Sept. 2015 and coordinated by Mary Fales) in the State Bar Journal; 2) Appointment of Publications Committee (coordinated by Steve Joppich) and revival of Public Corporation Law Quarterly; 3) Honored Dan Matson, who retired from the Council; 4) Monitoring dark box tax legislation; 5) Volunteering for Bench Book re real property issues; 6) Submitted comments on MCR 2.403; 7) participating as amicus in International Outdoor v Livonia, Covert Township tax case, Shelby Twshp v Command Officers Association, Bitterman v Bolf (at invitation of MSC), Moody v Mich Gaming Control Board, among others.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

e-mail form

10/26/15

State Bar of Michigan
Public Corporation Law Section
For the Twelve Months Ending September 30, 2015

	<u>Current Activity September 2015</u>	<u>Year To Date September 2015</u>	<u>Year to Date September 2014</u>
Revenue:			
1-7-99-800-1050 Public Corp Section Dues		18,030.00	17,550.00
1-7-99-800-1055 Public Corp Student/Affil Dues		34.00	32.00
1-7-99-800-1240 Winter Seminar Revenue		5,900.00	6,625.00
Total Revenue		<u>23,964.00</u>	<u>24,207.00</u>
Expenses:			
1-9-99-800-1139 Professional Fees-Amicus Brief		13,284.37	32,956.95
1-9-99-800-1145 ListServ		135.00	540.00
1-9-99-800-1276 Meetings		132.32	162.20
1-9-99-800-1283 Seminar Expenses		6,367.62	8,383.55
1-9-99-800-1297 Annual Meeting		96.75	
1-9-99-800-1528 Telephone		50.97	77.31
1-9-99-800-1826 Copying			8.00
1-9-99-800-1833 Newsletter			280.00
1-9-99-800-1868 Postage		370.96	22.32
1-9-99-800-1987 Miscellaneous			272.49
Total Expenses		<u>20,437.99</u>	<u>42,702.82</u>
Net Income		3,526.01	(18,495.82)
Beginning Fund Balance:			
1-5-00-800-0001 Fund Bal-Public Corporation Sec		19,588.96	38,084.78
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>19,588.96</u>	<u>38,084.78</u>
Ending Fund Balance		23,114.97	19,588.96

05/11/16

State Bar of Michigan
Public Corporation Law Section
For the Seven Months Ending April 30, 2016

	Current Activity April 2016	Year To Date April 2016	Year to Date April 2015
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Revenue:			
1-7-99-800-1050 Public Corp Section Dues		17,640.00	17,760.00
1-7-99-800-1055 Public Corp Student/Affil Dues		14.00	28.00
1-7-99-800-1240 Winter Seminar Revenue		5,980.00	5,900.00
Total Revenue		<u>23,634.00</u>	<u>23,688.00</u>
Expenses:			
1-9-99-800-1139 Professional Fees-Amicus Brief		7,353.66	3,100.00
1-9-99-800-1145 ListServ			135.00
1-9-99-800-1276 Meetings		551.52	21.78
1-9-99-800-1283 Seminar Expenses		7,854.18	5,915.47
1-9-99-800-1868 Postage			218.87
Total Expenses		<u>15,759.36</u>	<u>9,391.12</u>
Net Income		7,874.64	14,296.88
Beginning Fund Balance:			
1-5-00-800-0001 Fund Bal-Public Corporation Sec		23,114.97	19,588.96
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>23,114.97</u>	<u>19,588.96</u>
Ending Fund Balance		30,989.61	33,885.84

17th Annual PCLS & MAMA Summer Education Conference
 June 19-21, 2015 ★ The Inn at Harbor Shores, Saint Joseph, Michigan

Schedule of Activities

Friday, June 19, 2015

12:30 pm **Check In and Registration**

1:00 pm **Programming** Break sponsored by Bloom Sluggett Morgan
Moderator: Kester So, Dickinson Wright, PCLS Chair Elect

- **Dialog & Debate Between Public and Private Interests on Municipal Topics**
Professor Gerald Fisher, WMU-Cooley Law School & Stephen Estey, Dykema Gossett
- **When Worlds Collide-Municipal Finance & Bankruptcy: Has the Dust Settled?**
Steven Howell, Dickinson Wright & Amanda VanDusen, Miller Canfield
- **A View From the Bench: Justice Bridget Mary McCormack**

4:30 pm **PCLS Annual & Council Organizational Meetings**

6:00 pm **Reception** Sponsored by Miller Canfield

Cook-Out Sponsored by Dickinson Wright & Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes

Saturday, June 20, 2015

8:30 am **Programming** Break sponsored by O'Connor, DeGrazia, Tamm, O'Connor
Moderator: Lori Grigg-Bluhm, Troy City Attorney, MAMA President

- **2014-15 Supreme Court Review**
Lani L. Williams, Local Government Lawyers Roundtable
- **Emerging Criminal & Civil Law Issues in the Electronic Age**
Prof. J. Richard Broughton, University of Detroit Mercy
- **A Primer of Revenue Sharing in Michigan**
Eric W. Lupher, Citizens Research Council of Michigan
- **Immigration Overview for Local Units of Government**
Miller Canfield
- **It's Not Too Late to Comply: FOIA**
Clyde Robinson, Kalamazoo City Attorney, MAMA Vice President
- **Cracker Barrel** (Bring Your Own Dilemmas and Delights)

Noon **Lunch**

2:00 pm **3rd Annual Berras Memorial Cup Bocce Ball Tournament** Sponsored by Peter Fales Law

6:00 pm **Reception and B-B-Q** Sponsored by Johnson, Rosati, Schultz & Joppich; Mika, Meyers, Beckett & Jones and Plunkett Cooney

7:00 pm **Bocce Ball Finals**

Sunday, June 21, 2015

8:00 am **3rd Annual Walk, Run, Bike or Crawl ~ 5k** Sponsored by Randall Brown & Associates

2016 Winter Seminar
Local Control Challenges
*Municipal ROW and Utility Issues, New Area of Housing Regulation under Federal Fair Housing Act
 and Medical Marijuana Regulation*

Agenda

- 8:30 a.m.** Registration / Continental Breakfast
- Morning Session**
- 9:00 – 9:05 a.m.** **Welcome**
Kester So, Chair, Public Corporation Law Section
- 9:05 - 9:45 a.m.** **The Legislative Initiative to Prevent Adverse Possession of Public Lands**
Speaker: Chris Frost, Assistant City Attorney, City of Ann Arbor
- 9:45 – 10:00 a.m.** **Networking Break**
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.** **Developing Issues in Right-of-Way Regulation**
Speaker: Ann McClorey McLaughlin , Johnson Rosati Schultz Joppich PC
- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.** **Sewer Backup Liability Legislation**
Speakers: Chuck Hersey, Oakland County Lobbyist and Michael Watza, DWSD/GLWA Counsel, Kitch
- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.** **Lunch**
- Presentation to Dan Matson, retired City Attorney for DeWitt, MI***
Professor Gerald Fisher, WMU Cooley Law School
- Afternoon Session**
- 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.** **Impact of *Texas v. Inclusive Communities Project, Inc.* on local zoning and housing regulation**
Speakers: David Long, Detroit HUD
Marlene Cain, Michigan Dept of Civil Rights
- 2:30 – 3:15 p.m.** **Medical Marijuana Legislation**
Speaker: Mike Fisher, Assistant City Attorney, City of Livonia
- 3:15 – 3:30 p.m.** **Cracker Barrel & Announcements**
Moderator: Professor Gerald Fisher, WMU Cooley Law School
Announcements:
Establishment of Sign Ordinance Committee – Professor Gerald Fisher
Opportunities for authors in PCLS publications – Steve Joppich

*PCLS Section Council Meeting Immediately Following Program

June 24-26, 2016 – Boyne Highlands Resort, Harbor Springs, Michigan

Schedule of Activities

Friday, June 24, 2016

- 12:30 pm **Check In and Registration**
- 1:00 pm **Programming** Break sponsored by Bloom Sluggett Morgan
Moderator: Mark Nettleton, Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones, PCLS Chair Elect
- 1:05 pm **The DOL Changes to the FLSA Overtime Exemptions: What Will Change & How Will it Impact Your Bottom Line**
Kurt Graham, Mika Meyers, & Lisa Brannan, Kalamazoo Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
- 1:50 pm **'Sign' of the Times: Content Regulation after Reed v Gilbert**
Professor Gerald Fisher, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School
- 2:35 pm **Networking Break**
- 2:50 pm **Do You Have a Bolt Problem?: How Bolt-Related Litigation Could Affect You**
Sonal Hope Mithani, Senior Principal, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC
- 3:40 pm **View from the Bench**
Hon. Clifford Taylor, Former Chief Justice, Michigan Supreme Court
- 4:30 pm **PCLS Annual & Council Organizational Meetings**
- 6:00 pm **Reception** Sponsored by Miller Canfield
- Cook-Out** Sponsored by Dickinson Wright & Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes

Saturday, June 25, 2016

- 8:30 am **Programming** Break sponsored by O'Connor, DeGrazia, Tamm, O'Connor
Moderator: Clyde Robinson, Kalamazoo City Attorney, MAMA President
- 8:30 am **Special Assessments; New & Innovative**
Steven Mann, Miller Canfield
- 9:15 am **Supreme Court Update**
Josephine A. DeLorenzo and Mary Massaron, Plunkett Cooney
- 10:30 am **Networking Break**
- 10:45 am **Legal Defense Fund Case Review**
William C. Mathewson, League General Counsel & Kim Cekola, League Research Specialist
- 11:00 am **More Regulations on Local Government by the Legislature?**
Representative Lee Chatfield (R) Michigan House of Representatives, District 107
- 11:45 am **Cracker Barrel** (Bring Your Own Dilemmas and Delights)
- Noon **Lunch** Sponsored by Kitch Drutchas
- 2:00 pm **4th Annual Berras Memorial Cup Bocce Ball Tournament** Sponsored by Peter Fales Law
- 6:00 pm **Reception & B-B-Q** Sponsored by Johnson, Rosati, Schultz & Joppich; Mika Meyers and Plunkett Cooney
- 7:00 pm **Bocce Ball Finals** Sponsored by Mika Meyers

Sunday, June 26, 2016

- 8:00 am **4th Annual Walk, Run, Bike or Crawl ~ 5k** Sponsored by Randall Brown & Associates

2015-2016 REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
As of October 1, 2015

Chair:

33876 Brian P. Henry
Orlans Associates PC
1650 W Big Beaver Rd.
PO Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041

Chair-Elect

47763 David E. Nykanen, Bloomfield Hills

Vice Chairperson:

51781 Melissa N. Collar, Grand Rapids

Treasurer:

47138 Nicholas P. Scavone, Jr., Detroit

Secretary:

32231 Catharine B. LaMont, Bloomfield Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2016

42564 Lorri B. King, Cadillac
19249 Richard D. Rattner, Birmingham
40470 Jeffrey D. Weisserman, Farmington Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2017

36034 Gregory J. Gamalski, Troy
54241 Leslee M. Lewis, Grand Rapids
67083 Melissa B. Papke, Grand Rapids
40960 Margaret Van Meter, Farmington Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2018

49097 Monica J. Labe, Troy
49041 Dawn M. Patterson, Troy
56927 Clay B. Thomas, Farmington Hills

Representatives from other Sections and Committees

CLE Committee

57798 Thomas A. Kabel, Bloomfield Hills

Land Title Standards Committee

41257 William E. Hosler, Birmingham
Editor, Real Property Review
40140 Lynda J. Oswald, Ann Arbor

EX-OFFICIO

Gail A. Anderson, Lansing
C. Leslie Banas, Birmingham
Robert A. Berlow, Royal Oak
Maurice S. Binkow, Detroit
Stephen A. Bromberg, Bloomfield Hills
James R. Brown, Grand Rapids
James N. Candler, Jr., Detroit
David W. Charron, Grand Rapids
Stephen E. Dawson, Bloomfield Hills
Nyal D. Deems, Grand Rapids
James W. Draper*
Lawrence M. Dudek, Detroit
William B. Dunn, Detroit
G. Norman Gilmore*
Vicki R. Harding, Arizona
Carl Hasselwander, Rochester Hills
Ralph Jossman*
Patrick A. Karbowski, Bloomfield Hills
Patrick J. Keating, Detroit
Mark P. Krysinski, Southfield
Mark F. Makower, Bloomfield Hills
Carol Ann Martinelli, Troy
Lawrence D. McLaughlin, Detroit
Ronn S. Nadis, Farmington Hills
Peter A. Nathan, Las Vegas, Nevada
Robert R. Nix II, Detroit
Jerome P. Pesick, Birmingham
David E. Pierson, Lansing (Immediate Past-Chair)
Allen Priestly*
Richard E. Rabbideau, Detroit
Ronald E. Reynolds, Bingham Farms
Allen Schwartz, Detroit
C. Kim Shierk, Bloomfield Hills
Lawrence R. Shoffner, Detroit
Jack D. Shumate, Detroit
Thomas C. Simpson, Bloomfield Hills
David S. Snyder, Southfield
Gary Taback*
James M. Tervo, San Francisco, CA
C. Robert Wartell*
Myron Weingarden*

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2015-2016

Section Name: Real Property Law Section

Mission Statement: The Real Property Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education and information about current real property issues through meetings, seminars, its website, pro bono service programs, a monthly e-newsletter, and quarterly publication of a peer-reviewed journal. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

As further stated in the Section's By-Laws, the Section's purpose is to study the laws and procedures pertaining to Real Property Law and to promote the fair and just administration of Real Property Law; to study and report upon proposed and necessary legislation, including, but not limited to, pending legislation and drafting and introducing legislation; to study and report on pending litigation, including, but not limited to, the filing of amicus curiae briefs; to promote throughout the State of Michigan the legal education of members of the Bar and the public on Real Property Law by sponsoring meetings, institutes and conferences devoted to Real Property Law, by the preparation and dissemination of books, booklets, materials, pamphlets and brochures with respect thereto and by preparing and sponsoring and publishing legal writings in this field.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Brian P. Henry P#333876	Orlans Associates PC 650 E Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48083	248-502-1400	bhenry@orlans.com
Chair-Elect	David Nykanen P#47763	Nykanen Dorfman PLLC 41000 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-629-0880	dave@nykanendorfman.com
Vice-Chair	Melissa N. Collar P# 51781	Warner Norcross & Judd LLP 111 Lyon Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	616-752-2000	mcollar@wnj.com
Treasurer	Nicholas P. Scavone, Jr. P#47138	Bodman LLP 1901 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48226	313-393-7580	nscavone@bodmanlaw.com
Secretary	Catherine B. LaMont P#32231	First American Title 100 Bloomfield Hills Pkwy, Ste 195, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-635-6019	clamont@firstam.com

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Member	Term	Member	Term
Gregory J. Gamalski P#36034	2017	Richard D. Rattner P#19249	2016
Lorri B. King P#42564	2016	Clay B. Thomas P#56927	2018
Monica Labe P#49097	2018	Margaret Van Meter P#40960	2017
Melissa B. Papke P#67083	2017	Jeffrey D. Weisserman P#40470	2016
Dawn M. Patterson P#49041	2018	Leslee M Lewis P#54241	2018
		William E. Hosler P#41257 (Land Title Standards)	
		Thomas A. Kabel P#57798 (CLE)	

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	September 16, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	October 8, 2015	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
Council Meeting	November 8, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	December 16, 2015	MEX, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	January 20, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	February 17, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	April 20, 2016	Downtown Market, GR
Council Meeting	May 18, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	July 15, 2016	Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne

General Budget Information: While the Section's finances remain strong, income and expenses are being closely monitored. In addition, the Section has been making efforts to lower its accumulated income account with the State Bar by pursuing new initiatives and educational programs focused on newer members of the State Bar and more effective technology for continuing education and involvement of older members of the State Bar.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Residential Real Estate - From Land Acquisition to Home Sales	October 15, 2015	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound:	November 3, 2015	St. John Conference Center,

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Construction for the Non-Construction Lawyer from Commencement to Completion (or Non-Completion)”		Plymouth
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast "The ABC's and more of Like Kind Exchanges"	December 3, 2015	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail: Due Diligence in Real Estate Deals	January 21, 2016	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – "On-Demand" Webcast "Salvaging Abandoned Properties"	February 4, 2016	"On-Demand" Webcast
RPLS/ICSC	February 11, 2016	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
2016 Winter Conference	March 3-5, 2016	Westin Kierland, Scottsdale
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail: Due Diligence in Real Estate Deals	April 20, 2016	Downtown Market, Grand Rapids
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Real Estate and Title Insurance: Top Things You Need to Know”	May 5, 2016	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
2016 Summer Conference "Taking Your Practice to the Summit"	July 13-16, 2016	Boyne Mountain Resort & Spa, Boyne Falls, MI
Other Programming: Meet & Greet Meet & Greet Quick Hits	October 29, 2015 May 19, 2016 June 16, 2016	Local Kitchen, Ferndale Local Kitchen, Ferndale Video-Conference Program at Dickinson Wright, 4 locations (Detroit, Troy, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids)

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues: In addition to monitoring new legislation and responding to requests from the Michigan Supreme Court and others to file amicus curie briefs on real estate issues of importance, the Section has initiated a series of meeting with legislators, particularly committee chairs, to inform them of the Section's mission and expertise so that the Section can get involved with legislative real estate initiatives before new legislation is introduced. In all cases, the Section tries to limit its comments and recommendations without bias toward any particular constituency (the Section strives to be neither pro borrower, pro lender, pro developer, nor pro municipality).

Recommendations for next Council: The next Council should continue working on its own and with the State Bar of Michigan on improving the Section's website and the online offerings available to the Section's members. It should also continue pursuing outreach and educational programs for newer members of the State Bar, as well as active participation by more experienced practitioners, and expand participation in the Section by real estate lawyers located outside of southeast Michigan.

The Real Property Law Section Technology Committee worked closely with the State Bar of Michigan to completely revise the RPLS website and its online newsletter. Each month, the eUpdate is published by the Section with links to cases, statutes and articles. Both the eNewsletter and the quarterly Real Property Review are posted on the Section website. Topics are easily located and easily searched online. Members are enthusiastic about these improvements.

The Real Property Law Section Membership Committed expanded its Next Level Initiative so that newer members could take their involvement with the Section "to the next level." Experienced lawyers are paired with newer lawyers to attend events, seminars and work on articles together. At the Annual Summer Conference, experienced lawyers are assigned to newer lawyers to provide introductions to others and accelerate interest in additional Section activities.

The Nominating Committee considers all areas of the State of Michigan when nominating member for both Council and Committee appointments. The current nominee for Section Secretary practices in Cadillac Michigan.

Other Information: We have a large number of Special Committees which hold educational and networking meetings throughout the State of Michigan. The following is a list of the Special Committees:

- Bankruptcy
- Commercial Leasing
- Commercial Development, Ownership and Finance
- Condominiums PUDs and Cooperatives
- Construction
- Eminent Domain
- Energy Law
- Residential Transactions and Finance
- Title and Conveyancing
- Zoning and Land Use

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2015-2016

Section Name: Social Security Lawyers Section

Mission Statement: The Social Security Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern for Social Security Law Practitioners through meetings, seminars, the SBM Connect Section Website, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Joseph F. Petrylak	4183 Maplewood Meadows Ave., Grand Blanc, MI 48439-3501	(810) 874-6150	jpetrylak@yahoo.com
Chair-Elect	Margaret A. O'Donnell	Troy, MI	(248) 839-5198	margaret@maolaw-pll.com
Secretary	Janice Livesay Stern	Marshall, MI	(269) 789-9535	simsandstern.jan@gmail.com
Treasurer	Julie A. Hubbard	West Bloomfield, MI	(877) 550-5959	juliehubbard4@icloud.com

Member	Term Ends	Member	Term Ends
Ronald A. Berridge	9/2016	Erika Pennil Thorn	9/2017
James T. Haadsma	9/2016	Charles A. Robison	9/2017
Annette E. Skinner	9/2016	Kimberly S. Young	9/2017
Nancy L. Anderson	9/2016	Joshua T. McFarland	9/2017
B. Thomas Golden	9/2016	Samantha J. Ball	9/2017
(Immediate Past Chair)		James R. Rinck	9/2017

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Section Council Meeting	07/29/2015	East Lansing, MI
Section Council Meeting	08/26/2015	East Lansing, MI
Annual Meeting	10/02/2015	Livonia, MI
Section Council Meeting	11/04/2015	East Lansing, MI
Section Council Meeting	12/16/2015	East Lansing, MI
Section Council Meeting	03/02/2016	East Lansing, MI
Section Council Meeting	05/11/2016	East Lansing, MI

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Summer Seminar	06/05/2015	Grand Rapids, MI
Fall Seminar/Annual Meeting	10/02/2015	Livonia, MI
Winter Seminar	02/05/2016	Okemos, MI
Summer Seminar	06/24/2016	Grand Rapids, MI

Legislative issues: None

Recommendations for next Council: Continue to expand practitioner training and recruit new Section members.

Other Information: None

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
 Administrative Assistant
 306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
 Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
 Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Solo & Small Firm Section

Chair

P64215 Mary Catherine Ericson
Law Office of Mary C Ericson
145 N Center St Ste A
Northville MI 48167-1472
Phone: (248) 425-3675
e-mail: marycericsonjd@gmail.com

Vice Chair

P71716 Tanisha Monique Davis, Southfield

Secretary

P71763 Lesley A. Hoenig, Mount Pleasant

Treasurer

P76460 Odey K. Meroueh, Dearborn

Council Member

Term Ending: 2017

P37075 Elizabeth A. Silverman, Farmington Hills

P75194 Joshua Ryan Van Laan, Mount Clemens

Term Ending: 2018

P38062 Maury Klein, Canton

P20796 Edward Sosnick, Bloomfield Hills

Editor

P37673 William L. Cataldo, Mount Clemens

Commissioner Liaison

P49219 Erane C. Washington, Ann Arbor

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Reset Form

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Regular Business Meeting	6/18/15	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	9/17/15	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Annual Meeting	10/9/15	Suburban Showcase, Novi
Regular Business Meeting	11/12/15	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	1/21/16	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	2/18/16	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	3/17/16	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	4/21/16	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield
Regular Business Meeting	5/19/16	Sweet Lorraine's, Southfield

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015

See attached Addendum.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Developing a Real Estate Practice	6/25/15	Andiamo's, Bloomfield Twp
Sponsor, Solo & Small Firm Institute	10/8-9/15	Suburban Showcase, Novi
Attorney - Judge Crossfire	10/9/15	Suburban Showcase, Novi
Arbitration and Mediation Case Law Update	4/27/16	U of D Mercy Law School
Co-Sponsor, Marketing in the 21st Century	5/7/16	State Bar Offices, Lansing
Co-Sponsor, 9th Annual Young Lawyer's Summit	6/3-4/16	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Novi
Drone Law Seminar	6/9/16	U of D Mercy Law School

Reset Form

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

MCR 2.403 - proposed change to MCR 2.403 to reduce the amount of time to respond to case evaluations. Council voted to object to the proposal and submitted comments to that effect.

Recommendations for next Council:

Follow up on survey results to provide greater value to Section members, particularly with regard to providing events and opportunities for member involvement at a variety of geographic areas within the State.

Other Information:

See attached Addendum.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

Reset Form

e-mail form

2015 – 2016 Annual Report
Solo & Small Firm Section
Addendum

General Budget Information:

The Section has met its budget objectives of (1) bringing in income through maintaining/increasing membership, (2) offering/sponsoring events at a cost to members that enables us to break even, and (3) spending money on activities (e.g., newsletter, member communications) that provide useful information to our membership.

Other Information:

1. Council updated our Section's Mission to better reflect our name change (from General Practice – Solo & Small Firm to Solo & Small Firm):

“The Solo and Small Firm Section of the State Bar of Michigan strives to enhance the quality of practice for the solo and small firm attorney as well as the lawyer who has interests beyond the bounds of a single professional specialty.”

2. Outstanding Achievement Award was presented to Thomas C. Rombach, then-president of the State Bar of Michigan, at the Annual Meeting on October 9, 2015.

3. A Survey of Section Membership was conducted this March and gleaned much useful information the Section Council will be implementing over the next year.

4. Section Member Professor Gary Bauer was recognized by Section Council for his receipt of the ABA's Small Firm Trainer Award.

5. The Newsletter continued its bi-monthly publication under new management with William L. Cataldo as Editor and Joshua R. Van Laan as Associate Editor.

6. Section Council Chair (Mike Gunderson) and Vice Chair (Mary Ericson) attended the Bar Leadership Forum on June 11-12, 2015 to strengthen their leadership capabilities.

7. A Networking Event will be held this summer to provide Section Members an opportunity to meet other Members.

8. The Mutual Mentorship Program will be officially launched this summer at the Networking Event.

9. A Council Retreat is planned for this summer where the Council will set an agenda for the upcoming year.

State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Young Lawyers Section

Chair

P70099 Mark William Jane
Butzel Long PC
301 E Liberty St Ste 500
Ann Arbor MI 48104-2283
Phone: (734) 995-3110
Fax: (734) 995-1777
e-mail: mwjane1980@yahoo.com

Chair-Elect

P70678 Shenique A. Moss, Detroit

Secretary

P72801 Syeda Farhana Davidson, Clinton Township

Treasurer

P73846 Kara Rachel Hart-Negrich, Lansing

Council Member

Term Ending: 2016

P75913 Katherine Jean Bennett, Lansing
P76526 Jerome Crawford, Troy
P77031 Tanya Nicole Cripps, Auburn Hills
P69572 Jade Jozzmenia Edwards, Burton
P74227 Stephanie Elena Farkas, Bloomfield Hills
P78327 Zachary Hallman, Clinton Township
P77123 Choi Tanaha Portis, Southfield
P74814 Erica N. Payne Roell, Marquette
P77379 Roberta Lynn Sacharski, Flint
P72107 Ryan Zemke, Utica

Term Ending: 2017

P78203 Elizabeth Kamm Abdnour, East Lansing
P76618 Matthew Paul Breuer, Farmington Hills
P76423 Amy Melissa Krieg, East Lansing
P76599 Laura M. Kubit, Caro
P70678 Shenique A. Moss, Detroit
P75369 Samantha Jolene Orvis, Southfield
P71957 Ryan Christopher Plecha, Birmingham
P78607 Coleman Luther Potts, Detroit

Law Student Liaison

LS087057 Aaron P. Sohaski, Hazel Park

Commissioner Liaison

NOT ASSIGNED, AT CURRENT TIME

Ex Officio

P71025 Andrea Irons, Clinton Township

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:**Reset Form**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Business Meeting	07/23/2015	Lansing
Annual Section Meeting	10/08/2015	Novi
Annual Council Meeting	10/08/2015	Novi
Planning Retreat and Business Meeting	10/24/2015	Detroit
Business Meeting	11/18/2015	Teleconference
Business Meeting	01/21/2016	Lansing
Business Meeting	04/29/2016	Lansing
Business Meeting	07/21/2016	Lansing
Annual Section Meeting	09/22/2016	Grand Rapids

General Budget Information: Please refer to p. 49 of the [SBM Final Audited Financial Statement FY 2015](#)

Annual allocation of \$62,100 from the SBM along with revenue from sponsorships and registration fees.

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
National Trial Advocacy Competition	10/09/2015	Lansing
ICLE/YLS Breakfast Basics	10/14/2015	Ann Arbor
Novemberfest	11/12/2015	Royal Oak
Courtroom Etiquette at Bird and the Bread	11/19/2015	Birmingham
Central Registry Expunction Training	12/02/2015	Lansing
Federal Bar Association New Lawyers Seminar	12/09/2015	Detroit
SADO Training	12/09/2015	Clinton Township
Representing Survivors of Assault	02/25/2016	Ferndale
Next Steps Diversity Challenge Mock Trial	03/12/2016	Detroit
Women's Leadership Forum	03/24/2016	Detroit
SBM YLS/BOC Challenge	04/29/2016	Lansing
ICLE/YLS Breakfast Basics	05/05/2016	Ann Arbor
See addendum for additional information		

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

None

Recommendations for next Council:

I strongly recommend continuing the expansion of YLS events/seminars to reach all areas of the state. We have a membership of over 8,000 attorneys and it is imperative that each member have access to the excellent YLS programs.

Other Information:

See addendum for additional information on YLS Committees, the ABA Young Lawyers Division Meetings, the Inter Alia Newsletter, and the YLS ABA Representatives

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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2015-2016 Young Lawyers Section Annual Report Addendum

EVENTS AND/OR SEMINARS

National Trial Advocacy Competition: October 9-11, 2015 in Lansing

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section hosted the 16th Annual National Trial Advocacy Competition. The competition took place at the Ingham County Courthouse in Lansing, with preliminary rounds held on October 9 and 10 and the semi-final and final rounds held on October 11.

The competition was designed for teams of four participants from law schools throughout the country, made up of two advocates and two witnesses. Participants had the opportunity to perfect their courtroom advocacy skills before judges and practitioners.

ICLE/YLS Breakfast Basics: October 14, 2015 in Ann Arbor

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section and the Institute for Continuing Legal Education presented the second iteration of the seminar series “Breakfast Basics.” Mark Jane of the YLS and Rebekah Page-Gourley of ICLE teamed up to host a seminar panel to help young attorneys create strong resumes and hone interview skills.

Attendees were treated to a continental breakfast while listening to the advice provided by three Michigan attorneys (Jerome Crawford and Grace Trueman of Dickinson Wright and Jason Gourley of Bodman). The panelists walked through key resume criteria and interview protocol, answering questions from the audience along the way. In addition to the panel presentation, the attorneys answered questions on possible “tough” interview questions and scenarios, and offered one-on-one resume advice to attendees.

NovemberFest: November 12, 2015 in Royal Oak

On Thursday, November 11, 2015, the State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section paired with the Oakland County Bar Association (“OCBA”) New Lawyers Committee to host the OCBA’s annual NovemberFest at the Detroit Zoo’s Ford Education Center. The event was well received with over 70 people in attendance.

This year, NovemberFest promoted the OCBA’s Pro Bono Mentor Match Program and Lakeshore Legal Aid. The Mentor Match Program is a program where a junior attorney is paired with a senior attorney as a mentor on a pro bono case. Young attorneys not only gain legal experience by working on cases, but also provide a valuable service to the general public. The program has expanded to include law students, and many law students attended NovemberFest to meet

their mentors. During the event, participants of the Mentor Match Program as well as the OCBA New Lawyers Committee's charity, Lake Shore Legal Aid, spoke about the program and how to get involved. By the end of the night, \$864.00 was raised for Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel and Advocacy Law Line.

Courtroom Etiquette at Bird and the Bread: November 19, 2015 in Birmingham

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section and the State Bar of Michigan Law Student Section teamed up to host a program on Thursday, November 19, 2015 designed to provide law students and newer attorneys with an informal atmosphere to discuss proper courtroom etiquette. On hand at the event to answer questions was the Honorable Cynthia Thomas Walker, Chief Judge of the 50th District Court.

Central Registry Expunction Training: December 2, 2015 in Lansing

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section and Children's Law Section hosted a program on Wednesday, December 2, 2015. The program, titled "Central Registry Expunction Training," took place at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing. Attendees had the ability to view three sessions geared towards informing attorneys on the recent changes in the process of removing names from the Department of Health and Human Services Central Registry. Featured speakers included Christine Piatkowski, Mike Hosford of Children's Protective Services, and the Honorable Zainab A. Baydoin of the Michigan Administrative Hearing System, Benefits Services Division.

Federal Bar Association New Lawyers Seminar: December 8-9, 2016 in Detroit

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section again served as a sponsor of the New Lawyers Seminar presented by the Federal Bar Association. Mark Jane provided a brief presentation on the benefits of participating in the YLS.

SADO Training – Identifying, Investigating, and Litigating Cases Involving “Abusive Head Trauma”: December 9, 2015 in Clinton Township

On Wednesday, December 9, 2015, lawyers gathered at the 41B District Court in Clinton Township for a presentation entitled, "Identifying, Investigating, and Litigating Case Involving Abusive Head Trauma." The seminar was presented by the State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section and the Criminal Defense Resource Center of the State Appellate Defender Office ("SADO"). The featured speaker was Erin Van Campen, an assistant defender at SADO. The presentation included basic definitions of key terms involved, a discussion of recent case law, and a discussion on current trends so that attorneys can be adequately prepared for these types of cases moving forward. Attendees were given an extensive packet of materials, including a list of well-recognized experts in this field as well as commonly filed motions in these cases.

Representing Survivors of Assault: February 25, 2016 in Ferndale

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section teamed up with #happyperioddetroit to organize an educational event about feminine hygiene products and the relation to women's shelters. A panel discussion on representing survivors of assault was held. The informative panel covered many aspects of the representation of survivors of assault. Jessica Bertollini of #happyperioddetroit kicked off the event by speaking of the need for these products in shelters. William Knight, Executive Director of Lakeshore Legal Aid, spoke about community responses to assault. Ashley Lowe of Wayne State University Law School then spoke about trauma-based practice, and the challenges of representation when your client has been traumatized. Heidi Sharp, a partner at Burgess, Sharp, & Golden, PLLC, elaborated upon this further by discussing the representation of traumatized survivors in avenues beyond the assault. Sarah Dobbyn of Turning Point then spoke about safety planning for all practitioners.

Next Steps Diversity Challenge Mock Trial: March 12, 2016 in Detroit

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section hosted for the third consecutive year a middle school and high school mock trial competition at the University of Detroit Mercy School Of Law. The project, overseen by the SBM YLS Diversity Committee, is an annual entrant in the ABA YLD Next Steps Diversity Challenge. The competition provides a great format for younger students to develop oral advocacy skills and learn more about the practice of law from local practitioners and judges.

Women's Leadership Forum: March 24, 2016 in Detroit

The Women's Bar Association and the SBM Young Lawyers Section hosted the Women's Leadership Forum on March 24, 2016 from 5:30-8:00 pm at Detroit Mercy Law School. A panel of six women leaders in the law answered questions about everything from their career paths to work/life integration to challenges women face in the legal field.

The panel featured Dean Phyllis Crocker of Detroit Mercy Law (non-practicing attorney), Judge Denise Langford Morris of Oakland County Circuit Court, Sarah Gale-Barbantini of Meemic Insurance Co. (in-house counsel), Erika Davis of Butler Davis (solo practitioner), Deborah Hebert of Collins Einhorn Farrell (small/medium firm partner), and Kathy Zelenock of Dickinson Wright (large firm partner). Kristin Murphy of Brooks Kushman served as the moderator.

SBM YLS/BOC Challenge: April 29, 2016 in Lansing

The SBM Young Lawyers Section challenged the SBM Board of Commissioners in 2016 to determine which side is more proficient in a multitude of games and

activities. At the State Bar Building, participants on each side enjoyed playing such favorites as Scrabble, Euchre, Pictionary, and many more. Proceeds from the event went to Access to Justice.

ICLE/YLS Breakfast Basics: May 5, 2016 in Ann Arbor

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section and the Institute for Continuing Legal Education presented the third iteration of the seminar series “Breakfast Basics.” Amy Krieg of the YLS and Rebekah Page-Gourley of ICLE teamed up to host a seminar designed to provide information important to managing student loan debt.

New Lawyers Orientation: June 3, 2016 in Novi

In conjunction with the 9th Annual Young Lawyers Summit, the State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section hosted the 4th annual New Lawyers Orientation. The seminar was designed to provide recently sworn-in attorneys to Michigan with helpful tips in navigating practice in the state.

9th Annual Young Lawyers Summit: June 3-4, 2016 in Novi

The State Bar of Michigan 9th Annual Young Lawyers Section Summit took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Novi from June 3-4, 2016.

Attendees participated in numerous events, including:

- Networking reception Friday night at the Crowne Plaza Hotel
- Vendor exposition, which included the opportunity to meet representatives from other State Bar of Michigan sections to learn more about the benefits of joining a substantive section
- Programming, which featured seminars on a wide range of topics designed to provide informational tidbits you can "take away" from the Summit
- Keynote speech delivered by State Bar of Michigan President Lori A. Buiteweg
- Presentation of the 2015-2016 Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award
- Afterglow reception Saturday night at DUEL Novi

* * * * *

COMMITTEES

Inter Alia Committee

“The Inter Alia Committee shall be led by the Chairperson-Elect, and shall be responsible for collecting content for and publishing the YLS Newsletter, *Inter*

Alia. The Chairperson-Elect shall name all other committee members and assign tasks.” *YLS Bylaws*, Article 7, Section 3(A).

- Chair – Shenique Moss
- Members:
 - Colemon Potts
 - Roberta Sacharski

Media/Marketing Relations Committee

“The Media/Marketing Relations Committee shall be established and shall be responsible for maintaining the YLS webpage, marketing and promotional materials, protocol regarding the YLS listserv, and initiating and maintaining any other media and/or marketing relations items. The Chairperson shall appoint a chair for the Media/Marketing Relations Committee, who will name all other committee members and assign tasks.” *YLS Bylaws*, Article 7, Section 3(B).

- Chair – Samantha Orvis
- Members:
 - Amy Krieg
 - Elizabeth Abdnour
 - Ryan Zemke

Diversity Committee

“The Diversity Committee shall be established and shall be responsible for promoting diversity, including initiating ideas for projects to promote diversity. The Chairperson shall appoint a chair for the Diversity Committee, who will name all other committee members and assign tasks.” *YLS Bylaws*, Article 7, Section 3(c).

- Co-Chairs – Jerome Crawford and Jade Edwards
- Members:
 - Aysha Kasham
 - Laura Kubit
 - Choi Portis
 - Stephanie Farkas
 - Matthew Breuer

Disaster Legal Services Committee

Chair – Choi Portis

Members:

- Kara Hart-Negrich
- Colemon Potts
- Zachary Hallman

National Trial Advocacy Competition Committee

Co-Chairs – Samantha Orvis and Laura Kubit

* * * * *

ABA YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION MEETINGS

The YLS represents Michigan young lawyers at the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“ABA-YLD”) meetings. As an affiliate of the ABA-YLD, the YLS representatives vote on resolutions considered by the ABA-YLD. YLD representatives were (or will be) at the following meetings:

- ABA YLD Fall Conference – Little Rock, Arkansas – October 15-17, 2015
- YLD Events at the ABA Midyear Meeting – San Diego, California – February 4-7, 2016
- ABA YLD Spring Conference – St. Louis, Missouri – May 5-7, 2016
- YLD Events at the ABA Annual Meeting – San Francisco, California – August 4-7, 2016

* * * * *

INTER ALIA NEWSLETTER

The YLS issues a newsletter, *Inter Alia*, to advise its membership of activities and to provide informative and educational material. Each edition of *Inter Alia* is available on SBM Connect webpage under “Newsletters” – <http://connect.michbar.org/yls/home>.

* * * * *

YLS ABA REPRESENTATIVES

The ABA Young Lawyers Division District Representative is Choi Portis and the ABA House of Delegates representative is Shenique Moss.