

**State Bar of Michigan
Representative Assembly
April 9, 2022**

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

The following is a summary of proceedings of the State Bar Representative Assembly session held Saturday, April 9, 2022, via Zoom Meetings and in-person at the Crowne Plaza in Lansing.

1. Call to order by Chair Nicholas M. Ohanesian.
2. Clerk Yolanda M. Bennett declared a quorum (50+ members) was present.
3. As provided in Rule 4.8, the Summary of Proceedings of the September 18, 2021 meeting was deemed approved.
4. Mark W. Jane, Chair of the Nominating and Awards Committee, addressed the Assembly on filling vacancies for the current meeting. Upon a motion made and seconded, Blair M. Johnson (2nd Circuit), Rita O. White (3rd Circuit), Clarence M. Dass (6th Circuit), Alec M. D'Annunzio (6th Circuit), Morgan E. Stage (17th Circuit), Lesya N. Dull (19th Circuit), Becky J. Bolles (21st Circuit), Matthew C. Lozen (24th Circuit), and Nicholas Gobbo (30th Circuit) were appointed to fill immediate vacancies within their respective Circuits.
5. Mark W. Jane, Chair of the Nominating & Awards Committee, addressed the Assembly concerning the 2022 Award Nominations. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved the 2022 Award Recipients. The Unsung Hero Award will be presented to Angela M. Cole. The Michael Franck Award will be presented to George W. Gregory.
6. Nicholas M. Ohanesian, Chair of the Representative Assembly, addressed the Assembly.
7. Peter Cunningham, Executive Director of the State Bar of Michigan, addressed the Assembly regarding the State Bar Strategic Plan.
8. Toi E. Dennis, member of the State Bar of Michigan Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee, and Ashley E. Lowe, member of the State Bar of Michigan access to Justice Committee, addressed the Assembly for consideration of a proposed amendment to Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.8 that would allow an attorney representing an indigent client to assist with needs that frustrate the client's access to the justice system, such as providing transportation to and from court sessions, meals needed during long court sessions, and clothing appropriate to appear in a court proceeding. After discussion and vote, the Assembly voted 101 to 13 with 2 abstentions to adopt the proposal.
9. Alecia Chandler, State Bar of Michigan Professional Responsibility Programs Director, Mark A. Armitage, Executive Director of the Attorney Discipline Board,

and Jennifer M. Bentley, Executive Director of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, addressed the Assembly for consideration of a proposed amendment to Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15 and 1.15A and accompanying commentary to clarify the requirements for attorneys managing client trust accounts. After discussion and vote, the Assembly voted 93 to 10 with 5 abstentions to support the proposal with amendment.

10. Adjournment.

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