

# From the Desk of the Chairperson

By Michael S. Khoury

## Make the Most of Your BLS Membership



For the majority of you that receive and read the Business Law Section's E-Newsletter, you will have noticed the recurring theme of opportunities for participation and the coordination of our efforts with other sections

of the State Bar of Michigan.

Business Section participation is an option for each of you, but less than 10 percent of the Section's membership takes the opportunity to work with a committee, participate in legislative initiatives, or attend the Business Law Institute. For the other 90+ percent, the recent member survey results indicate that the Section is delivering sufficient value for you to continue to pay your dues and maintain your membership simply through the publication of the *Michigan Business Law Journal* and the attendance at periodic Section activities.

Despite the ever-increasing demands on our time, and the increasing complexity and challenges of law practice, I hope you will consider taking some time to participate in a Section committee. Our current committees are as follows:

- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Laws
- Debtor/Creditor Rights
- Financial Institutions
- In-House Counsel
- Nonprofit Corporations
- Regulation of Securities
- Uniform Commercial Code
- Unincorporated Enterprises

The committee leadership is listed near the front of each issue of the *Michigan Business Law Journal*, and you are encouraged to contact the committee chairs directly.

One of our activities that has generated significant interest are the periodic Small Business Forums that take place in southeast and western

Michigan. The purpose of our Small Business Forums is to bring together attorneys, consultants, other service providers and business representatives to discuss and network on common themes of interest. Check out the calendar for upcoming events.

## Michigan Business Law Institute

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Business Law Institute will take place on June 13-14, 2008. As a result of feedback from participants, the program chairs have decided to move the Institute from its typical resort location to the historic and classic Dearborn Inn in Dearborn, Michigan. This will make it easier and more accessible to people in southeastern Michigan but still provide an interesting venue and opportunity for lawyers from around the state to attend.

The program itself promises to be an interesting mix of updates and trends in the law, as well as business and financial topics that will make you a better counselor to your clients. I hope to see many of you there.

## Coordination with Other Sections

The Business Law Section E-Newsletter was launched in September 2007 and was discussed with other SBM section leaders during a conference in Lansing in October. As a result, several other sections are looking at launching a similar newsletter. We are making a concerted effort to tell you about interesting events being sponsored by these and other groups. In exchange, of course, those groups will highlight our events. We hope that by informing you of activities concerning business lawyers, you will see it as an additional value you receive from your Section membership.

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