



Young Lawyers

Theme Introduction

By Mark W. Jane

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section is honored to sponsor this theme issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal*. Because of our membership criteria—all lawyers under the age of 36 or practicing less than five years, whichever occurs later, are automatic members—the more than 8,000 attorneys comprising the section bring diverse backgrounds and opinions which help strengthen our section.

The Young Lawyers Section is designed to provide unique opportunities to its members to accomplish the dual objectives of promoting service to the bar and the public. I also tend to view the section as offering a bridge for new attorneys between law school and the practice of law, assisting members as they navigate the waters of client representation, business development, and substantive section participation. We think the articles in this issue reflect that.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention that in addition to offering smaller, local programs for new attorneys, for the ninth straight year the section will host

the Young Lawyers Summit in May/June 2016. At this signature event, the section will continue its tradition of providing substantive seminars and ample networking opportunities for the numerous young lawyers throughout the state. Moreover, the section is excited that the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division has selected Detroit to host the 2016 fall conference, which will take place October 20–22. All members should keep abreast of developments regarding both of these major events taking place next year. ■



Mark W. Jane is a senior attorney at Butzel Long based in the Ann Arbor office. He practices primarily in the area of employee benefits. A graduate of the University of Michigan and Loyola University Chicago School of Law, he has been an active member of the Young Lawyers Section Executive Council since 2009.