# Section Briefs

#### Administrative & Regulatory Law Section

The section is sponsoring a luncheon with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission on Tuesday, March 8 at the University Club of Michigan State University in Lansing. Check out the section's website at http://connect.michbar.org/adminlaw/ home for details on all upcoming section events and other noteworthy administrative law issues.

### Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Nina Meierding will headline the ADR Section's annual spring summit on March 15 at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School's Auburn Hills campus. Register online at http://www.michbar.org to learn from this nationally acclaimed mediator and trainer. On March 23, the section will host another of its popular "Lunch and Learn" noon meetings for mediators at Henry's on the Square, 229 S. Washington Square, Lansing. Henry Spence and Hon. Paula Manderfield will host.

#### **Business Law Section**

Join us for the next council meeting on March 10 at 3 p.m. at the State Bar building in Lansing. The Business Law Institute and annual meeting will be held October 7 in Grand Rapids. Business Boot Camp II will be held in November in Grand Rapids and January 2017 in metro Detroit. Visit our website at http://connect.michbar.org/ businesslaw/home to be updated on section events. The section's many committees are looking for members. Sign up on our website to participate.

#### Consumer Law Section

The 2015-2016 council officers are Lorray S. C. Brown, chairperson; Lynn H. Schecter, chair-elect; Lawrence J. Lacey, secretary; and Terry J. Adler, treasurer. The section will hold its meeting and program on Thursday, September 22, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., at the SBM Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids. At the meeting, the Frank J. Kelley Consumer Advocacy Award will be awarded to Curt Guyette, ACLU-Michigan's investigative reporter, for his reporting that helped exposed the Flint water crisis.

#### Criminal Law Section

Save the date! It's almost time for the Criminal Law Section's 8th spring conference, which will be held June 3-4 at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth. Please join us for this popular biennial event; this year's program relates to evaluating truth. The conference is still in the planning stages, but more information will be posted in our newsletter and on our website. Questions? Contact Charlie Marr at (248) 596-1599 or marrlaw@msn.com.

# Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

The ELDR Section will hold its interdisciplinary conference October 5-7 at Crystal Mountain Resort in beautiful northern Michigan. Several exceptional national speakers will be featured. This conference is a must for those who wish to increase their legal technical knowledge and network among colleagues and providers.

#### Environmental Law Section

Join us April 14 for "Clearing the Air: An Overview of Federal, Regional, and State Air Quality Issues in 2016," cosponsored by the ELS Air Committee and the Michigan Manufacturers Association. This half-day event features views from experts in government, industry, advocacy groups, technical consultants, and the legal profession on regulatory issues facing Michigan-and what to expect in the coming year. For program information, contact Kurt Kissling at kisslink@ pepperlaw.com. Register online (early bird rate available through March 31).

## Information Technology Law Section

Save the dates! On March 16, the IT Law Section and council evening meeting will include a networking and educational session with the International Law Section at the Auburn Hills campus of Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. On September 8, the 9th Annual Information Technology Law Seminar will feature an all-day educational event and networking at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. Additional information will be provided on the IT Law Section's calendar at http://connect.michbar. org/itlaw/home.

### Litigation Section

The Litigation Section is excited to announce that trial superstar Mike Cash will present "Trials: Tips, Tactics and Tales" at the annual summer conference scheduled the weekend of July 22-24 at Crystal Mountain Resort. You won't want to miss this outstanding program and the opportunity to network with your fellow litigators at a beautiful, full-service, northern Michigan resort. Watch for details or contact Marcy Tayler, section chair, at Marcy.Tayler@Kitch.com.

#### Marijuana Law Section

The Marijuana Law Section congratulates its recently elected council members: Chairperson Bernard Jocuns, Bernard Anthony Jocuns & Associates, PLLC; Chairperson-Elect/Vice Chairperson Daniel Grow, Daniel W. Grow, PLLC; Secretary/Treasurer Mary Chartier, Alane & Chartier, PLC; Bruce Block, Bruce Alan Block, PLC; Robert Hendricks, Wrigley, Hoffman & Hendricks, PC; Robert Hinojosa, Shiawassee County Prosecutor's Office; Michael Komorn, Komorn Law, PLLC; Barton Morris Jr., The Law Offices of Barton W. Morris; and Karl Numinen, Numinen, De-Forge & Mathieu, PC.

# Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Save the dates! Join the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section at the Detroit Zoo for the Walk for Justice on April 23. Next, the section is planning a Day of Education for Friday, May 6 at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School in Lansing. We will also celebrate the dedication of the Maple tree planted in front of the State Bar of Michigan for our 25th anniversary. For details, contact Denise Gau at denise.e.gau@gmail.com or (248) 568-4186.

# Probate and Estate Planning Section

The Probate and Estate Planning Section reminds members that registration is

Michigan Bar Journal

open for the 56th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute (cosponsored with ICLE), which will be held at two separate times and locations: May 12–14 in Acme and June 17–18 in Plymouth. Our next section meeting is March 12 at The University Club of MSU in Lansing. We continue to encourage all section members to attend and participate.

# Real Property Law Section

The next Groundbreaker Roundtable, "Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail: Due Diligence in Real Estate Deals," will be held April 20, 3:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m., at the Downtown Market in Grand Rapids. The program centers on topics involving crucial due diligence issues, including upcoming changes to ALTA survey standards, choosing the appropriate title insurance endorsements, and negotiating key provisions in purchase agreements and leases. A networking cocktail reception follows the program. Register at http://connect.michbar.org/realproperty/events/roundtables.

## **Taxation Section**

Regularly visit http://connect.michbar. org/tax/home for updated council and committee meeting dates and other events to meet your tax law preferences, including the eclectic ICLE webinar series continuing live on March 15 (thereafter on demand) with "Estate Planning Tax Considerations for 2016." The Young Tax Lawyers will meet in Detroit on March 24; council meetings on March 22, May 26, and April 21. In the longer term, hold May 19 for the 29th Annual Tax Conference.

### Workers' Compensation Law Section

The Workers' Compensation Law Section will hold its annual meeting and hall of fame reception June 16–17 at Boyne Mountain Resort. Section member Stephen Boehringer will give a presentation on the interrelationship between workers' compensation and auto no-fault claims. If you have not done so, make your reservations now for hotel accommodations and the reception

and dinner. It will surely be informative and a good time with friends and colleagues.

# Young Lawyers Section

The 9th Annual Young Lawyers Summit will take place at the Crowne Plaza in Novi

the weekend of June 3–4. Please join us for our signature event, which will be jampacked with substantive skills-based and practice-oriented programming, networking opportunities, and more! Registration details are available now on our SBM Connect page at http://connect.michbar.org/yls/home.



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# MONEY JUDGMENT INTEREST RATE

MCL 600.6013 governs how to calculate the interest on a money judgment in a Michigan state court. Interest is calculated at six-month intervals on January and July of each year, from when the complaint was filed, and is compounded annually.

For a complaint filed after December 31, 1986, the rate as of January 1, 2016 is 2.571 percent. This rate includes the statutory 1 percent.

But a different rule applies for a complaint filed after June 30, 2002 that is based on a written instrument with its own specified interest rate. The rate is the lesser of:

- (1) 13 percent a year, compounded annually; or
- (2) the specified rate, if it is fixed—or if it is variable, the variable rate when the complaint was filed if that rate was legal.

For past rates, see  $\label{lem:http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/other/interest.pdf.$ 

As the application of MCL 600.6013 varies depending on the circumstances, you should review the statute carefully.