

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The section's annual meeting was held September 23–24 in Grand Rapids. In addition to eight hours of CLE and the election of officers, we honored Robert E. Lee Wright with the Distinguished Service Award, Jo-Ann Lauderdale with the Nanci Klein Award, and Lisa Taylor with the George Bashara Jr. Award. Future educational programs include mediating probate disputes, a mediator forum, and our 3rd Annual ADR Summit with Andy Little, author of *Making Money Talk*.

## Business Law Section

The section is active in advocating improvements to Michigan's business legislation and regulations. For example, the Corporate Laws Committee is working with legislators to introduce amendments to the Michigan Business Corporation Act and proposed development of benefit corporation legislation. The Regulation of Securities Committee commented on proposed Corporate, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau regulations. The section will hold its biennial Business Boot Camp January 30–31, 2017.

## Criminal Law Section

Time for some fun in the snow! The 40th Annual Mid-Winter Ski Conference will be held over the President's Day Weekend, February 18–20, 2017. The revamped program, with conference sessions that are closer together in time on Sunday, will again be offered this year. Shanty Creek Resort is offering reduced all-inclusive rates, with ski and non-ski packages, and room-only rates for conference participants. More information will be posted in our newsletter and on our website.

## Environmental Law Section

The annual Joint Environmental Conference, a collaboration between the Environmental Law Section and the East Michigan and West Michigan chapters of the Air & Waste Management Association, was held December 1. MDEQ representatives, including Director Heidi Grether, spoke on a host

of environmental issues including, air, waste, water, and remediation. Other topics included recycling and an update of the RACER Trust five years into this innovative program. Visit the ELS website at <http://www.michbar.org/news/viewevent/eid/555> for event materials.

## Information Technology Law Section

Edward F. Langs Writing Awards provide a maximum of \$3,000 for distribution to up to six law students for essays contributing to the knowledge and understanding of information technology law. Winning essays are published in the *Michigan IT Lawyer*. For consideration, essays must be submitted by June 30, 2017. For more information, visit <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/newsletter/news>. Please share this opportunity with law school faculty and students who may be interested.

## Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

The Insurance and Indemnity Law Section holiday reception and educational program was held on Tuesday, November 29 at the Birmingham Athletic Club in Bloomfield Hills. The program began at 5 p.m. and cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were included for all attendees. A panel of experts discussed strategies for managing the professional responsibility challenges that lawyers face, including the grievance process, work-product doctrine, attorney-client privilege, insurance tri-partite relationship, and inadvertent disclosure.

## International Law Section

The International Law Section held its quarterly council meeting on November 16. The program, jointly sponsored with the Business Law Section, was entitled "The Brexit Effect: Potential Legal Impacts from Brexit on U.S. and Global Companies." The next quarterly meeting of the ILS will be on January 18, tentatively scheduled to be held at Wayne State University Law School. Save the date and stay tuned for more details on location and program!

## Real Property Law Section

The 2017 annual winter conference, "For St. Pete's Sake: Michigan Lawyers Talking Real Estate," will be held March 2–4, 2017, at Loews Don CeSar Hotel, St. Pete Beach, Florida. Dawn M. Patterson of First American Title National Commercial Services is the program coordinator. Register online at <https://e.michbar.org> or mail/fax the form at [https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/44611bbd-6711-42cd-b769-2e5d4860ad2a/UploadedImages/pdf/winter\\_conference/WC16\\_Reg.pdf](https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/44611bbd-6711-42cd-b769-2e5d4860ad2a/UploadedImages/pdf/winter_conference/WC16_Reg.pdf). To reserve your room, call (800) 282-1116 and ask for the Real Property Law Winter Conference special rate or reserve online at <https://aws.passkey.com/event/15716823/owner/13226514/landing>.

## Taxation Section

The Taxation Section will host its 30th Annual Tax Conference at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth on Thursday, May 25, 2017. Additional information regarding the conference will be available soon on the Taxation Section's web page at <http://connect.michbar.org/tax/home>. Please save the date for this wonderful event. We look forward to seeing you there! ■

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

### NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL RULES

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan publishes proposed amendments and approved amendments to its Local Rules on its website at [www.mied.uscourts.gov](http://www.mied.uscourts.gov). Attorneys are encouraged to visit the court's website frequently for up-to-date information. A printer-friendly version of the Local Rules, which includes appendices approved by the court, can also be found on the website.