

Important Notice

Regarding State Bar Committee
and Workgroup Appointments

The State Bar of Michigan EXTENDS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO

PARTICIPATE YOUR WAY

to implement the new State Bar of Michigan Strategic Plan

2017–2018 volunteer opportunities—more to come!

PROMOTE PROFESSIONALISM

Alternative Fee Agreements
Character and Fitness
Judicial Ethics
Professional Ethics
Regulatory Objectives
Strategic Collaboration
with Other Professions
Unauthorized Practice of Law

OPEN, FAIR, AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Civil Discovery Court Rule Reform
Civil Procedure and Courts
Criminal Jurisdiction and Practice
Diversity and Inclusion
Justice Initiatives
21st Century ADR
U.S. Courts

SERVICES TO CONTRIBUTE TO MEMBER SUCCESS AND SATISFACTION

Civic Education
Communications
(Publications and Website Advisory Committee)
First Responder Pro Bono
Innovations Implementation
Meaningful Mentorship
Media Relations
Online Legal Marketplace
Professional Education and Events
Social Media as a Membership Tool
Tech Tool Curation

Dear Colleague:

Through the vision, creativity, and selflessness of its members, the State Bar of Michigan has developed a national reputation as a leader and innovator. Guided heavily by the 21st Century Practice Task Force work, our newly adopted Strategic Plan (<https://www.michbar.org/file/generalinfo/pdfs/strategicplanreport17.pdf>) identifies a variety of new ways in which our members can help advance the core mission of the State Bar to promote the professionalism of lawyers; advocate for an open, fair, and accessible justice system; and provide services to members that enable them to best serve their clients.

The accelerating pace of change in the practice of law requires flexibility and agility. In taking advantage of the generous contributions of our members to advance the goals of the State Bar, we have begun to supplement the work of our traditional standing committees with many ad hoc workgroups that have tightly framed charges and short, concentrated time commitments. This has allowed us to engage more members in meaningful work and solutions. It also addresses the continued message we hear that members want to engage in shorter term projects in lieu of multiple-year commitments. The plan is to expand these opportunities in the coming year.

Look for a detailed description of the new volunteer opportunities in an upcoming SBM Today e-mail message. See the sidebar for an idea of the type of opportunities that will be available.

Information on our current committees and workgroups is at <https://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/committees>. We welcome your thoughts and ideas over the next two months as we create the new volunteer structure.

You'll receive an e-mail from me with a link to an electronic application in early May. I will review the applications and make appointments by September 1.

This is an exciting time in our profession. I sincerely urge you to consider applying for a committee or workgroup assignment. You can truly make a difference in our work together.

Sincerely,



Donald G. Rockwell
President-Elect, State Bar of Michigan