

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The section recently held webinars on “Online ADR” and “Developments in Mediator Ethics.” Upcoming events include the June 23 webinar, “Facilitating Group Dynamics and Conflicts: Putting Your Mediation Skills to Use in New Contexts,” and the ADR annual conference and meeting on October 16–17 in Grand Rapids. Visit <http://connect.michbar.org/adr/home> for webinar recordings and the latest issue of *The Michigan Dispute Resolution Journal*.

Appellate Practice Section

The Appellate Practice Section is making some tools related to the Michigan Supreme Court’s new ebriefing pilot program available to all members of the State Bar during this difficult period. The new tools include pilot-program information and a Word template (more may follow). To access these tools, visit the Appellate Practice Section’s home page at <https://connect.michbar.org/appellate/practice/home>, select the Resources menu, and then select the Ebrief Pilot Program.

Criminal Law Section

The 10th spring conference was cancelled due to the pandemic; however, please join us for the annual meeting and program on October 17 at the University Club of MSU. A recent bylaw amendment—to require that no public policy position be taken without the approval of a majority of council members authorized to vote—was opposed by a vote of the section council. The amendment will be presented to the general membership at the annual meeting.

Environmental Law Section

Many of our webinars are available on the section’s website library and make for

good viewing during shelter-at-home. They are located at <https://connect.michbar.org/enlaw/communityresources/ourlibrary> under the webinar tab.

Family Law Section

Governor’s Executive Orders, MSC Administrative Orders, and SCAO notices provide guidance in family law during the COVID-19 pandemic: state of emergency, EO 2020-30; suspending in-person schooling, EO 2020-35; electronic signature and remote notarization, EO 2020-41; PPO extensions to July 21, 2020, AO 2020-11, EO 2020-63; 3-16-2020 MSC—custody et al remain in force; 3-18-2020 MSC—trial courts ordered to limit access; SCAO virtual courtroom standards and guidelines, rev 4-17-2020; and SCAO FAQs about custody and parenting time.

Information Technology Law Section

Save the date! On Thursday, September 10, plan to attend the 13th Annual Information Technology Law Seminar at The Inn at St. John’s in Plymouth. The seminar will include an all-day educational event of informative topics, the IT Law Section’s annual meeting, lunch, and a complimentary cocktail reception. When available, additional information will be provided on the section’s calendar at <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/home>. See you there!

Marijuana Law Section

The Marijuana Law Section appreciates the acknowledgment during the pandemic by the state of Michigan that cannabis production and distribution are essential services. The section is moving forward with plans for its annual conference to be held October 22–24 at Soaring Eagle Casino in Mt. Pleasant. This event will provide comprehensive, current information for marijuana

law practitioners. In the meantime, the section is hosting Friday afternoon topical Zoom sessions at 3 p.m., followed by end-of-the-week Zoom social sessions at 4 p.m.

Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 uncertainty, the section council believes it’s best to cancel the 2020 Day of Education. Let’s look forward to the 2021 Day of Education when we can safely meet and enjoy a variety of topics to enhance your well-being and professional development. The safety of our section members and presenters is our highest concern. Watch for smaller social opportunities later this year. Be safe and stay well until we meet again.

Real Property Law Section

Given overwhelming concerns regarding COVID-19, the RPLS summer conference, originally scheduled for July 15–18 at Mission Point, has been cancelled. Although we’re disappointed that we’re unable to hold this premier event for our members, we know it’s the right decision based on the information we have today. The summer conference is a great opportunity to learn and network with other section members. We hope to see you at next year’s conference.

Social Security Lawyers Section

The section has decided to cancel the June 2020 seminar. Fortunately, our speakers agreed to come to the 2021 summer seminar, which will be held at Boyne Mountain on June 13–15, 2021. If you have reserved a room for the 2020 seminar, you may cancel it without charge. We still plan to hold the annual meeting/fall seminar on September 11. Depending on the progress against the virus, this could change to a virtual meeting. ■