Election Law

Theme Introduction

By John R. Runyan

The Michigan Bar Journal Standing Committee and our tireless editor, Linda Novak, are working hard to improve the quality and timeliness of the information we bring you. This month’s election law theme issue is only the latest example. We have recently published issues on elder law and disability rights, immigration law, women in the law, marijuana law, alternative dispute resolution, domestic violence awareness, American Indian law, children’s law, LGBTQ rights, and bankruptcy. Upcoming issues include poverty law, education law, military and veterans law, access to justice, civil rights, agriculture law, professionalism, and water law.

Usually we have the able assistance of an SBM section in developing theme issues. Not so this month; there is no election or campaign law section of the SBM. I would therefore like to thank and acknowledge the assistance of John Mayer, Sharon Dolente, and Khalilah Spencer, who helped us put together this issue.

Ronald Liscombe and Sean Rucker have contributed an article that tells you everything you need to know about redistricting in Michigan, including the recent adoption of Proposal 2 amending Article 4, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, most pertinently, by creating Michigan’s Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. Statutory ballot initiatives (like the one that brought us Proposal 2) are the subject of Christopher Trebilcock’s interesting historical overview. Finally, Doug Mains and Kevin Blair have written a very timely article about the effect of COVID-19 on election law.

Enjoy the issue and remember to vote!