

S T A T E   B A R   O F   M I C H I G A N



# Committee Annual Reports

2015-2016

# Standing Committees Annual Reports

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Note: To view the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Practice Task Force Report – Please visit

[http://www.michbar.org/file/future/21c\\_WorkProduct.pdf](http://www.michbar.org/file/future/21c_WorkProduct.pdf)

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### American Indian Law

Jurisdiction: · Review issues of American Indian law, focusing on the relationship between tribal courts, state courts, and federal courts, and on the promotion of positive relationships between the lawyers of Michigan and the American Indian Community.

#### Chair

P61654 Hon. Angela Kay Sherigan  
Wojnecka & Sherigan PC  
56804 Mound Rd  
Shelby Township MI 48316-4943  
Phone: (586) 822-4220  
Fax: (586) 992-3004  
e-mail: nwlacouncil@aol.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P66299 Kirsten Matoy Carlson, Detroit  
P61654 Hon. Angela Kay Sherigan, Shelby Township

##### Term Ending: 2017

P75985 Elaine Margaret Barr, Lansing  
P68122 Hon. Holly T. Bird, Traverse City  
P58482 Chad P. DePetro, Brimley  
P71403 Cameron Ann Fraser, Traverse City  
P55328 Hon. Melissa L. Pope, Fulton

##### Term Ending: 2018

P51446 Wilson D. Brott, Acme  
P27699 James A. Keedy, Traverse City  
P56903 Roy R. Kranz, Bay City  
P24837 Kathryn L. Tierney, Brimley  
P52802 Leslie E. Van Alstine, II, Manistee

#### Advisor

P66602 Vilija A. Bilaisis, Ludington  
P57750 James M. Kinney, Hastings

#### Supreme Court Representative Member

P68975 Maribeth Dickerson Preston, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison

Gregory P. Conyers, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Michelle Erskine, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	First Friday of every month		Teleconference
Description	Regular agenda items.		
Meeting Type	In person	June 2015	Mackinaw
Description	Presentation from federal prosecutor.		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

Telephone conferencing. Meeting space in June.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

Continue to work with the Tribal-State-Federal Judicial forum regarding conflicting order between Tribal and State Courts regarding custody of children.

Education regarding VAWA and TLOA.

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**Committee Activities:**

In the last year the committee has:

had 9 teleconference meetings and 1 in person meeting;

worked to put together an educational presentation regarding VAWA which we presented at the 2017 Upper Michigan Legal Institute;

worked with the Tribal-State-Federal Judicial Forum regarding conflicting tribal and state court orders;

continued to monitor changes to SCAO forms for the implementation of MIFPA;

continued to reach out to areas with Tribes.

**Other Information:**

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	5/4/16	Hon. Angela Sherigan
Co-chair		n/a
Staff Liaison		Gregory Conyers
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Awards

- Jurisdiction:
- Recommend attorney recipients qualified to receive awards made in the name of the State Bar of Michigan.
  - Recommend recipients of the annual Liberty Bell Award made to non-attorneys.
  - Recommend the establishment of new awards or discontinuation of existing awards.
  - The President-elect is a member of this committee.

### Co-Chair

- P33443 Brian D. Figot, Beverly Hills  
Law Office of Brian D. Figot  
31195 W Rutland St  
Beverly Hills MI 48025-5429  
Phone: (248) 594-5950  
e-mail: brian@attorneywordsmith.com
- P26723 Donald G. Rockwell, Flint  
Nill Rockwell PC  
G-4413 Corunna Rd  
Flint MI 48532  
Phone: (810) 732-3440  
e-mail: nrk@tir.com

### Member

#### Term Ending: 2016

- P57076 Jennifer S. Bentley, Ann Arbor  
P39282 Julie I. Fershtman, Farmington Hills  
P45006 Gregory T. Stremers, Port Huron

#### Term Ending: 2017

- P44120 Lori A. Buiteweg, Ann Arbor  
P29176 Nancy J. Diehl, Detroit  
P61757 Katherine A. Fox, Detroit  
P34884 Hon. Denise Langford Morris, Pontiac  
P65035 Solon M. Phillips, Detroit

#### Term Ending: 2018

- P12395 Gordon H. Cunningham, Holland  
P33443 Brian D. Figot, Beverly Hills  
P39817 Brian L. Morrow, Detroit  
P26723 Donald G. Rockwell, Flint  
P21809 Carl E. Ver Beek, Grand Rapids

### State Bar Liaison

Samantha Meinke, Lansing

### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Joyce Nordeen, Lansing  
Anne M. Smith, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Conference Call	11.18.15	
Description	Conference Call		
Meeting Type	Conference Call	1.21.16	
Description	Conference Call		
Meeting Type	Conference Call	4.13.16	
Description	Conference Call		
Meeting Type	Email/conference call after Liberty Bell deadline of May 13, 2016S		
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

Staff contacts co-chairs to schedule meeting and mailing dates, sends future meeting dates via email to committee members. Designs and updates language of Awards brochure and online nomination forms to reflect new awards, deadlines and any other changes. Prepares and issues news releases and brochures (printed and electronic) to legal newspapers, SBM Board of Commissioners, Representative Assembly, SBM Foundation, local and affinity bars, prosecutor and defender associations, law school deans, courts, large firms, SBM Sections and Committee chairs, etc. Prepares and posts announcement for Michigan Bar Journal, e-Journal, SBM eblast, SBMblog, social media sites and other publications. Prepares agendas and minutes and posts to SBM Connect prior to the meetings. Prepares excel table summarizing nominees accomplishments as applications are received. Conducts simple background checks on nominees before names are submitted for consideration. Compiles nominations for book to be printed for committee members. Creates and sends Survey Monkey to committee members to narrow down list of nominees and streamline the process for ultimate decision-making by determining the extent of support for each nominee prior to the commencement of formal discussions and to ascertain the early formation of any consensus as to support from the Committee as a whole for the various nominees both within the designated award nomination categories and as to the category in which each will be considered when the Committee confers and votes upon the award recommendations. Drafts memorandum from co-chairs to SBM Board of Commissioners with recommendations for award winners. Creates letters from SBM executive director to award winners and the non-winners. Prepares publicity for the award recipients and sends news releases and posts list on website, blog and social media. Orders Awards and works with video production company to produce videos of each award winner for banquet and for posting online. Writes short stories about each winner for Bar Journal. Writes scripts for how Awards banquet should proceed. Writes speeches for SBM presidents to present awards. Works with banquet facility to set up banquet. Drafts and designs an event program for the Annual Meeting Awards Banquet.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The committee members work very hard every year to seek out nominations, and ensure that they are submitted by the nomination deadlines. An important goal of this committee is to also make sure that the quality of the award recipients is always outstanding and that the winners represent diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

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**Committee Activities:**

The committee members go out and seek good quality nominations for SBM awards. For the coming year's awards cycle (coming to an end at the 2016 Annual Meeting, where the awards will be handed out), there are 25 nominations to consider for seven awards (some awards can have multiple recipients) In the last year's cycle, commencing at the 2015 Annual Meeting, the Committee gave out awards to 10 Michigan attorneys and the Liberty Bell Award to one non-attorney (awards were not selected prior to the due date of last year's annual report).

**2015 Award Winners:**

Roberts P. Hudson Award: Edward H. Pappas

Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award: James L. Shonkwiler (posthumous), Timothy A. Baughman, Adam A. Shakoor

Champion of Justice Award: David W. Christensen, Stephanie Dawkins Davis, Nora M. Hudson, Alicia J. Skillman

Kim Cahill Bar Leadership Award: St. Clair County Bar Association

John W. Reed Michigan Lawyer Legacy Award: Professor Joseph Kimble

John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award: Paul E. Scheidemantel

Liberty Bell Award: Matthew R. Branding

In this year's cycle, commencing at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Committee gave out awards to 10 Michigan attorneys and will give out one or more Liberty Bell Awards to one or more non-attorneys (the deadline is May 13 - after the due date of the annual report).

**2016 Award Winners:**

Roberts P. Hudson Award: Linda K. Rexer

Frank J. Kelley Award: William Forsyth and Wayne F. Pratt

Champion of Justice Award: Hon. Ulysses W. Boykin, Hon. Nanci J. Grant, Roland Hwang, Marla Mitchell- Cichon and H. Rhett Pinsky

Kimberly M. Cahill Award: Macomb County Bar Foundation

John Reed Award: George Roumell

Liberty Bell Award nomination deadline is May 13 - winner will be determined at a later date.

**Other Information:**

Note: The Awards Committee has one co-chair ex-officio as the President-elect of the SBM Board of Commissioners. The second co-chair is the operating co-chair appointed by the President of the SBM Board.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	yes 4/27/16	Brian D. Figot
Co-chair		Donald G. Rockwell
Staff Liaison	yes 4/28/16	Samantha Meinke and Anne Smith
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Character and Fitness

Jurisdiction: · Investigate the character and fitness of candidates for admission to the Bar pursuant to Rule 15, Section 1, of the Supreme Court Rules Concerning the State Bar of Michigan.

#### Chair

P30047 Robert B. Ebersole  
 PO Box 338  
 Holt MI 48842-0338  
 Phone: (517) 243-3054  
 e-mail: rbebersole@gmail.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P44054 Connell Alsup, East Lansing  
 P27905 Jeffrey O. Birkhold, Grand Rapids  
 P35075 Carol F. Breitmeyer, Bloomfield Hills  
 P55429 Jeanine Monique Brunson, Detroit  
 P33989 Cynthia C. Bullington, Detroit  
 P11781 Boyd E. Chapin, Jr., Detroit  
 P27034 David G. Chardavoyne, Farmington Hills  
 P33131 Scott E. Dwyer, Grand Rapids  
 P30047 Robert B. Ebersole, Holt  
 P30781 Linda M. Galbraith, Port Sanilac  
 P29905 Randall J. Gillary, Troy  
 P27696 Gregory M. Janks, Bloomfield Hills  
 P42954 Mary A. Kalmink, Detroit  
 P32136 Hon. Cynthia A. Lane, Port Huron  
 P24207 Barbara R. Levine, Lansing  
 P31668 Barbara A. Menear, Flint  
 P29278 Kathleen S. Schultz, Eastpointe  
 P33608 John M. Toth, Southfield

#### Advisor

P43178 David H. Baum, Ann Arbor  
 P55313 John C. Boufford, Troy  
 P55468 Karie Holder Boylan, Rochester  
 P47610 Phillip D. Churchill, Jr., Lansing  
 P72808 Brian Patrick Dowgiallo, Southfield  
 P61375 Peter M. Falkenstein, Ann Arbor  
 P33132 William H. Fallon, Grand Rapids  
 P65126 Ben K. Frimpong, Detroit  
 P64426 Darling A. Garcia, Lansing  
 P14745 Thomas M. J. Hathaway, Detroit  
 P55731 Suzanne K. Hollyer, Pontiac  
 P41257 William E. Hosler, Birmingham  
 P55145 Daphne M. Johnson, Lansing  
 P34754 Linda D. Johnson, Detroit  
 P42317 Berton K. May, Grand Rapids  
 P28714 E. Thomas McCarthy, Jr., Grand Rapids

P41317 Maria C. Miller, Detroit  
P51984 Sonal Hope Mithani, Ann Arbor  
P58346 Brian P. Morley, Lansing  
P33222 Thomas L. Saxe, Grand Rapids  
P44485 Wanda M. Stokes, Lansing  
P33955 Kimberley Reed Thompson, Detroit  
P37062 Joan P. Vestrand, Auburn Hills  
P24154 Keith D. Zick, Port Huron

**State Bar Liaison**

P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
Patricia Peyton, Lansing  
Diane K. VanAken, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Mary Sue Lester, Lansing  
Keith Wilkinson, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Hearings		
Description	Hearings are scheduled as mutually convenient between the Presiding Committee Member, State Bar Counsel, and Applicant/Applicant's Counsel.		
Meeting Type	Business Meetings		
Description	Business meetings are conducted on an as-needed basis.		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

Six full-time staff members of the Character and Fitness department process and investigate all applications, favorably recommend applicants whose files did not reveal information considered significantly adverse, designate and prepare files to be referred to district committees, and assist assigned State Bar Counsel and the Standing Committee in conducting de novo hearings. The Director of Professional Standards and the Professional Standards Assistant Counsel also assist the Committee with legal and ethical matters. Meeting space at the Michael Franck Building is provided, as are court reporting services for all hearings, and all materials and meals for hearings, meetings, and training sessions. Committee members and staff also attend hearings before the Board of Law Examiners, and staff prepares and distributes the hearing materials for those hearings.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

State Bar staff, in coordination with the Board of Law Examiners, are building a bar exam applicant portal and database that will update the current systems being used by the Character & Fitness Department and the Board. A primary goal of the portal and database is to expedite and enhance communications between both entities and to/from the applicants. Additionally, the new systems will keep the applicants up to date on the progress of their applications, and greatly reduce the use of paper, making the application process greener than ever.

The eCommerce "upload and pay" module and procedures were implemented for the February 2016 bar exam. The system is working very well and greatly reducing the hands-on paperwork for both the applicants and staff from the Board of Law Examiners, State Bar Character & Fitness and Finance & Administration Departments,

The Committee continues to work on Law Student Outreach, and analyze current questions on the Affidavit of Personal History, in addition to conducting hearings.

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## Committee Activities:

The primary work of the Standing Committee on Character and Fitness is to investigate and make recommendations with respect to the character and fitness of every applicant for admission to the bar by bar examination, with the assistance of assigned State Bar Staff and the District Character and Fitness Committees. The Standing Committee members review recommendations submitted by the District Committees, conduct confidential applicant hearings, and make recommendations to the Board of Law Examiners. One business-type meeting may be held during the year to address policy issues and train new members, if determined necessary by the Chairperson. Approximately 1300 applicants take the bar examination annually and each first time applicant must complete an Affidavit of Personal History and submit all required background information. Additionally, applicants must be recertified if the original application is over three years old and the applicant has not been successful on the bar examination, which involves submitting to another complete investigation. After the staff investigation is completed, an applicant is recommended favorably to the State Board of Law Examiners without referral to the Committee when investigation of past conduct discloses no significant adverse factual information. In all other instances, applicants are referred to a District Committee for a personal interview. Approximately 200 members of the Bar volunteer to serve on the nine District Committees. The District Committees issue a written report and recommendation on each applicant interviewed to the Standing Committee. Upon receiving a District Committee recommendation, the Standing Committee may: endorse the recommendation, take the recommendation under advisement pending additional information, remand the recommendation to the District Committee with instructions for further proceedings, or reject the recommendation and conduct a hearing de novo. All recommendations are ultimately transmitted to the Board of Law Examiners for final action.

The District Character and Fitness Committees conducted interviews for 46 applicants for the July 2015, exam cycle. To date, 4 files have been referred for District Committee interviews for the February 2016 exam cycle, and of those, 1 interview has either been scheduled or completed. It is expected that up to 40 additional files may be referred for the February 2016 exam cycle, based on the information received to date. New member training for District Committee members was conducted on March 9, 2016 by members of the Standing Committee and State Bar Staff, and was attended by 29 new members.

From May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016, the Standing Committee held 43 formal hearings before making recommendations to the State Board of Law Examiners. Additionally, 19 hearings are expected to be held during the remainder of the fiscal year. Five hearings before the State Board of Law Examiners were also conducted during this time frame, which required the presence of a member of the Committee acting as assigned State Bar Counsel as well as a member of the Character and Fitness Department Staff. Four additional hearings are currently pending.

The time commitment required to conduct formal hearings, including hearings spanning multiple days, establish policies, address individual applicant requests, and monitor the applicant processing system is significant. The Committee would be unable to function without the dedication, professionalism, and hard work of members of the District Committees and the members of the Standing Committee. It is a tribute to the legal profession that among its members are so many people who give substantially of their time to ensure that persons admitted as lawyers in Michigan are worthy of public trust.

**Other Information:**

In addition to conducting hearings, the Committee also designates Subcommittees to study and make recommendations regarding issues relevant to Bar Admissions when necessary. Members of the Outreach Subcommittee, an ongoing Subcommittee studying ways to further educate the law student community about the upcoming character and fitness process, give presentations when requested to do so by law school faculty.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Civil Procedure and Courts

Jurisdiction: · Review proposed court rules and statutes related to civil practice in the courts and make recommendations concerning improvements in the administration, organization, and operation of Michigan state courts.

#### Chair

P51317 Karen H. Safran  
Carson Fischer PLC  
4111 Andover Rd Fl 2  
West Bldg  
Bloomfield Hills MI 48302-1909  
Phone: (248) 644-4840  
Fax: (248) 644-1832  
e-mail: ksafran@carsonfischer.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P30246 Richard D. Bisio, Troy  
P64987 Sean F. Crotty, Detroit  
P43814 Hon. Michael J. Distel, Grand Rapids  
P43509 Lori J. Frank, Southfield  
P74222 Elisa M. Gomez, Jackson  
P55480 Joey Scott Niskar, Farmington Hills  
P69751 Thomas Daniel Siver, Grand Rapids  
P58546 Victoria A. Valentine, West Bloomfield  
P57556 Randy J. Wallace, Berkley  
P48783 Peter H. Webster, Troy

##### Term Ending: 2017

P34225 Daniel J. Bernard, Clinton Township  
P64680 Pamela C. Dausman, Lansing  
P34492 Kenneth B. Morgan, Bloomfield Hills  
P55180 Marcileen C. Pruitt, Southfield  
P48109 Daniel D. Quick, Troy  
P51317 Karen H. Safran, Bloomfield Hills  
P59649 George M. Strander, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2018

P73324 Alari Kristina Adams, Detroit  
P33366 Thomas H. Bannigan, Detroit  
P72367 Tobijah B. Koenig, Grand Rapids  
P66292 Sean P. McNally, Detroit  
P41613 Alan R. Sullivan, Bay City  
P71282 Matthew Arthur Tarrant, Saginaw

#### Advisor

P31139 Gary R. Peterson, Portage

#### State Bar Liaison

Peter Cunningham, Lansing



**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Carrie Sharlow, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	In Person	6/20/15	Dickinson Wright PLLC, Troy
Description	A general meeting		
Meeting Type	In person	1/16/16	Dickinson Wright PLLC, Troy
Description	A general meeting		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	4/11/16	Teleconference only
Description	A general meeting		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The committee receives staff support from Peter Cunningham and Carrie Sharlow. The State Bar coordinates meeting times, invites to the members, prepares and circulates (via hard copy, email, and portal access) the agenda and related materials included in a meeting book, provides meeting refreshments, and prepares minutes for review. Arrangements are made by the Bar staff for conference call participation for those that cannot attend in person. Bar staff provides information regarding actions by the Board of Commissioners and the Representative Assembly and the status of pending legislation and proposals before the Supreme Court.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Committee expects to continue to review proposed court rule amendments and legislation and to both initiate and further develop its own proposals.

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**Committee Activities:**

When the Civil Procedure & Courts Committee met in April 2015, it approved a proposal to go before the October 2016 Representative Assembly regarding MCR 2.116 and MCR 2.119. The matter was presented to the Assembly by committee chair Karen Safran and passed as amended.

At the June 2015 meeting, the committee discussed five proposed court rule amendment proposals published by the Michigan Supreme Court, and eight pieces of legislation.

At the January 2016 meeting, the committee discussed three proposed court rule amendment proposals published by the Michigan Supreme Court that the committee had previously proposed and presented to the Representative Assembly. The committee also discussed three other proposals, and three pieces of legislation. At the same meeting, the committee discussed and revised three separate proposals which were then submitted to the Representative Assembly for its April 30, 2016 meeting.

The committee expects to meet at least once during the summer months.

**Other Information:**

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Client Protection Fund

**Jurisdiction:** Make recommendations concerning the Client Protection Fund, including the investigation and analysis of claims, loss prevention programs, CPF rule changes, the distribution of payments authorized by the Board of Commissioners, and the institution and prosecution of all subrogation actions seeking to recoup monies paid from the Fund.

#### Chair

P57430 Starr M. Hewitt Kincaid  
Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority  
14001 Merriman Rd  
Livonia MI 48154-4262  
Phone: (734) 513-0300  
Fax: (734) 513-0318  
e-mail: skincaid@mrrma.org

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P44552 Laura A. Brodeur-McGeorge, Shelby Township  
P72633 Dionnie Wynter Pfunde, Riverview  
P34301 Mark L. Teicher, Bloomfield Township

##### Term Ending: 2017

P63962 Deborah Adenike AdeOjo, Lansing  
P69623 Alexander A. Ayar, Farmington Hills  
P55880 Michael P. Haddock, Saugatuck  
P40445 Diane Hutcherson, Detroit  
P43310 Daniel M. Morley, Traverse City  
P68725 Peter M. Neu, Holt

##### Term Ending: 2018

P68592 Julie H. Pfitzenmaier Cotant, Farmington Hills  
P65140 Jennifer M. Harvey, Ann Arbor  
P57430 Starr M. Hewitt Kincaid, Livonia  
P75189 Mya Marshall, Birmingham  
P69744 Rico D. Neal, Lansing  
P70308 Jane Frances Rusin, Allen Park

#### Advisor

P69338 David H. Goodkin, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison

Robin Lawnichak, Lansing  
P62825 Alecia M. Ruswinckel, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Amy Emmons, Lansing  
P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
Karen Spohn, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled Standing Committee meeting.	May 7, 2015	State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, MI489
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled Standing Committee meeting.	August 6, 2015	State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, MI489
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled Standing Committee meeting.	November 5, 2015	State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, MI489
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled Standing Committee meeting.	February 4, 2016	Erman, Teicher, Miller, Zucker & Freedman, P.C. 400 Galleria Officecentre, Suite 444 Southfield, MI 48034
Description			

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar provides a paralegal with primary responsibility for claims administration, a legal secretary who provides administrative support, and staff counsel who provides legal services and manages the State Bar's CPF Department. The State Bar also provides meeting facilities, food and beverages for meetings, SBM Connect, teleconference services, meeting materials, document production services, and financial management of the Fund. For public education, State Bar staff provides informational pamphlets to court administrators as requested to educate the public on how to find a lawyer and general information about the Fund. Additionally, State Bar staff assists in and manages subrogation activities, working with outside counsel to recoup some of the money paid by the Fund.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

SBM Rule Proposal - The CPF Standing Committee and Professional Standards Committee recommended approval and the Board of Commissioners approved proposed SBR 20, which would authorize the State Bar to (1) issue subpoenas to support CPF claim investigations; (2) provide absolute immunity from suit regarding statements and communications to the State Bar and issued by the State Bar regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Client Protection Fund; and (3) to disclose information regarding CPF claim applications and information obtained during investigation of CPF claims to persons or entities empowered and authorized to investigate and reimburse such claims in other jurisdictions. Proposed SBR 20 needs to be submitted to the Michigan Supreme Court.

CPF Web Pages – CPF Staff updated the CPF web pages to incorporate the revisions to CPF Rule 11(A), (E), (L), and (M), which amended the procedure and standard for review applied to requests for review.

The Client Protection Fund will be hosting the 2016 National Client Protection Organization's Fall Workshop in Detroit, beginning on September 26, 2016. This two-day, innovative and educational experience provides a platform for representatives of Client Protection Funds from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, and the Virgin Islands to discuss current trends and discover new developments in field of client protection law.

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**Committee Activities:**

During its regularly scheduled meetings, the CPF Committee reviewed claim reports prepared by staff, determined whether claims should be recommended for approval or denial, and made recommendations to the Board of Commissioners' Professional Standards Committee regarding the approval and denial of claims and the amount to be paid on claims recommended for payment.

**CPF Rule Amendments** - During the 2014/15 fiscal year, the CPF Committee recommended revisions to the CPF Rule 11 (A), (E), (L), and (M), which would amend the appeals procedure and standard for review applied to requests for review. These revisions will streamline the CPF administrative process. The revisions were reviewed by the Professional Standards Committee at its April 2015 meeting and approved by the Board of Commissioners at its July 2015 meeting.

**SBM Rule Proposal** - During the 2014/15 fiscal year, the CPF Committee recommended approval of proposed SBR 20, which would authorize the State Bar to (1) issue subpoenas to support CPF claim investigations; (2) provide absolute immunity from suit regarding statements and communications to the State Bar and issued by the State Bar regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Client Protection Fund; and (3) to disclose information regarding CPF claim applications and information obtained during investigation of CPF claims to persons or entities empowered and authorized to investigate and reimburse such claims in other jurisdictions. Proposed SBR 20 was reviewed by the Professional Standards Committee at its June 25, 2015 meeting and approved by the Board of Commissioners at its July 24, 2015 meeting.

**Adobe Form CPF Application** – CPF Paralegal Robin Lawnichak developed the CPF application using Adobe Forms to permit claimants to prepare and submit CPF claim applications electronically. The form has been posted on the CPF home page on the State Bar's website and can be submitted to a dedicated e-mail address: [cpf@mail.michbar.org](mailto:cpf@mail.michbar.org).

**Complete Claims Activity:** For the period April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016, a total of 227 claims were processed, which consists of 91 new claims and 136 claims which were pending at the beginning of this period. One hundred and thirty-three (133) claims remain pending.

The CPF Standing Committee reviewed 65 claims during this time period. Thirteen claims were denied. Thirty-eight claims totaling \$266,170.88 were approved by the Board of Commissioners and paid; two claims totaling \$88,399.35 have been approved by the Board of Commissioners and await executed subrogation agreements before payment; fourteen claims are being held pursuant to CPF Rule 12(C), because the total number of claims involving the dishonesty of a single lawyer are expected to exceed the aggregate limit and await Board of Commissioners review until the two year hold expires six of which were reviewed in the 2014-2015 fiscal year; and seven claims totaling \$94,199.35 are pending review by the Board of Commissioners. Six requests for review were requested by claimants regarding claims denied by the CPF Committee and one was submitted by a respondent regarding a claim recommended for approval, all are pending review by the Board of Commissioners' Professional Standards Committee.

Since the inception of the Fund, 1,237 claims have been paid totaling \$7,879,760.90, while 1,882 have been closed administratively, denied, or withdrawn.

**Other Information:**

The Client Protection Fund turned 50 on February 25, 2016!

Financial Activity – As of March 31, 2016, the Fund received \$318,390.00 from the 2015/16 membership dues assessment, \$6,840.00 in Pro Hac Vice fees, and \$17,551.00 reflecting contributions of abandoned lawyer trust funds and judicial campaign funds. In addition, the Fund received subrogation payments from respondents totaling \$46,644.00 during the period April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2016. There is \$88,399.35 in authorized, but unpaid claims awaiting receipt of executed subrogation agreements. The Fund balance as of March 31, 2016, was \$2,650,402.00.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		Starr M. Hewitt Kincaid
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		Staff Liaisons, Robin Lawnichak and Alecia Ruswinckel
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice

Jurisdiction: · Review proposed court rules and statutes related to criminal procedure and practice in state courts and make recommendations concerning improvements in the operation of criminal law and procedure to promote the fair and efficient administration of criminal justice, including the establishment and operation of systems for the representation of indigent persons charged with criminal offenses.

#### Co-Chair

P70220 Nichole Jongsma Derks, Holland  
Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC  
151 Central Ave Ste 260  
Holland MI 49423-2831  
Phone: (616) 796-2516  
Fax: (517) 367-7345  
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P44647 J. Kevin McKay, Grand Rapids  
63rd District Court  
1950 E Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525-7075  
Phone: (616) 632-7795  
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#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P70220 Nichole Jongsma Derks, Holland  
P44647 J. Kevin McKay, Grand Rapids  
P75038 Julia F. Norton, Lansing  
P49666 Gretchen A. Schlaff, Mount Clemens  
P27887 Samuel R. Smith, III, Lansing  
P45599 Michael A. Tesner, Flint  
P21465 Bruce A. Timmons, Okemos

##### Term Ending: 2017

P65936 Ryan Lee Berman, Bloomfield Hills  
P51446 Wilson D. Brott, Acme  
P57253 Opolla Brown, Detroit  
P54863 Thomas E. Evans, Ann Arbor  
P33863 Richmond M. Riggs, Detroit  
P41168 Lee A. Somerville, Redford

##### Term Ending: 2018

P52808 Jamie Scott Fields, Detroit  
P61932 Nimish R. Ganatra, Ann Arbor  
P55440 Jennifer J. Henderson, Southfield  
P67389 Jonathan Sacks, Lansing

#### Advisor

P47291 Valerie R. Newman, Detroit  
P62448 Julie A. Powell, Detroit

#### State Bar Liaison

Peter Cunningham, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Carrie Sharlow, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	In person	5/14/15	SBM
Description			
Meeting Type	In person	6/18/15	SBM
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	7/9/15	SBM
Description			
Meeting Type	In person	10/29/15	SBM
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	12/17/15	SBM
Description			
Meeting Type	In person	2/18/16	SBM
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The committee receives staff support from Peter Cunningham and Carrie Sharlow. The State Bar covers meeting expenses.

[Reset Section](#)

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The committee will continue its public policy work and continue to look into various special projects as the need arises.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

The committee also met on March 17, 2016 and April 21, 2016 and is expected to meet in May and June.

The committee offered the following recommendations to the Board of Commissioners:

2014-15 - Proposed Amendment of Rule 6.106 of the Michigan Court Rules  
Support.

2013-26 - Proposed Amendment of Rule 7.209 of the Michigan Court Rules  
Support Alternative A.

2014-40 - Proposed Amendment of Rule 2.506 of the Michigan Court Rules  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 25.6  
Support.

M Crim JI 11.37, 11.37a, b, and c  
Support.

M Crim JI 11.16 and 11.30  
Support.

M Crim JI 15.1, 15.1a, 15.5, 15.6, 15.6a, and 15.7a  
Support.

M Crim JI 12.3  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 20.40  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 35.8 and 35.9  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 23.17  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 20.38 through 20.38c  
Support.

M Crim JI 12.2 and 12.5  
Support with Amendments.

M Crim JI 7.11  
Support.

M Crim JI 11.3, 11.6  
Support with Amendments.

**Other Information:**

M Crim JI 19.1  
Support.

Jury Pool Selection Process HB 4406 - HB 4407  
Oppose.

HB 4505 Evidentiary Standard for Certain Drug Fforfeitures  
Support HB 4505 as it passed the House in Substitute H-1.

Video Recording HB 4548 - HB 4549  
Support.

HB 4561 Juror Compensation  
Support the bill in principle with the condition that the juror compensation fund used to reimburse the counties be fully funded.

HB 4766 Teen Court  
Support.

HB 4869 Physicians Exemption from Jury Duty  
Oppose.

SB 0251 Consent Calendar for Juveniles  
Support with Amendment.

SB 0386  
Support.

SB 0453 Residency Requirement for Magistrate in the Third Class District Courts  
Support.

Standard 1 – Education and Training of Defense Counsel

Standard 2 – Initial Interview

Standard 3 – Investigation and Experts

Standard 4 – Counsel at First Appearance

The motion was made to support the adoption of these proposed standards as presented by the MIDC.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Diversity and Inclusion Advisory

- Jurisdiction:
- Review concepts and ideas and make recommendations for support, implementation or other appropriate actions to SBM leadership, committees, and other bar-associated entities about SBM initiatives and programs addressing inclusion within the profession, and approaches to measuring progress concerning diversity and inclusion.
  - Provide guidance concerning efforts by bar associated entities such as the Diversity Project Workgroup of the Equal Access Initiative and subcommittees of SBM committees in seeking signatories to the "Pledge to Achieve Diversity and Inclusion in the Legal Profession in Michigan."
  - Identify tools and strategies to assess the current state of diversity and inclusion in the Michigan legal community that can be used to set meaningful benchmarks to measure improvements and progress.
  - Develop concepts for recognizing best practices and exceptional achievements.
  - Provide public support to the SBM leadership and staff regarding communications with members of the profession and others about the goals and outcomes of diversity and inclusion activities.

### Co-Chair

- P28417 Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens, Detroit  
Michigan Court of Appeals  
3020 W Grand Blvd Ste 14-300  
Detroit MI 48202-6020  
Phone: (313) 972-5708  
Fax: (313) 972-5717  
e-mail: cstephens@courts.mi.gov
- P25908 Lawrence Patrick Nolan, Eaton Rapids  
Nolan Thomsen & Villas PC  
239 S Main St  
Eaton Rapids MI 48827-1255  
Phone: (517) 663-3306  
Fax: (517) 663-4300  
e-mail: boardmem15@aol.com

### Member

#### Term Ending: 2016

- P73178 Jehan Grashara Crump-Gibson, Lathrup Village  
P67961 Zenna Faraj Elhasan, Detroit  
P41430 Elizabeth J. Fossel, Grand Rapids  
P39152 Daniel M. Levy, Detroit  
P25908 Lawrence Patrick Nolan, Eaton Rapids  
P28417 Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens, Detroit

#### Term Ending: 2017

- P76526 Jerome Crawford, Troy  
P56589 Charlotte Croson, Ann Arbor  
P60946 Maria Cesira Fracassa Dwyer, Detroit  
P69337 Hon. Prentis Edwards, Jr., Detroit  
P26440 Gregory T. Gibbs, Flint  
P73465 Mia D. McNeil, Lansing  
P70678 Shenique A. Moss, Lansing

P52985 Monica P. Navarro, Birmingham  
P70652 Alisa Parker, Battle Creek  
P72880 Salma Saley Safiedine, Rochester  
P72821 Nazneen Hasan Syed, Lansing  
P70767 Ronda L. Tate Truvillion, Detroit

Term Ending: 2018

P75310 Dewnya A. Bazzi, Dearborn  
Mary A. Ferguson, East Lansing  
P65126 Ben K. Frimpong, Detroit  
P74076 Victoria Bethany King, Pontiac  
Darren Nealy, Ann Arbor  
P62821 Tonya Lynn Rodriguez, Lansing  
P76293 Kristen D. Simmons, Lansing  
P68248 Felicia Marie Thomas, Detroit  
P71349 Maya K. Watson, Detroit

**Advisor**

P49845 Zenell B. Brown, Detroit  
P55039 Hon. Hala Y. Jarbou, Pontiac  
P61654 Hon. Angela Kay Sherigan, Shelby Township

**State Bar Liaison**

Gregory P. Conyers, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Michelle Erskine, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	DIAC committee meeting	09/22/15	State Bar building
Description	Meeting planning for the Bar year. The discussion regarding the short story contest was led by Executive Director Janet Welch.		
Meeting Type	Committee meeting	02/16/16	teleconference
Description	discussion of ongoing projects and November Blind spots program on implicit bias		
Meeting Type	Committee meeting	04/16/16	Detroit office of Dickinson Wright
Description	Discussion of ongoing projects and Brunch for Bars program		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

budget for meetings and special programs in addition to staff support

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The committee is divided into several work groups

- 1) Joint recommendations is working on getting information about how recommendations from the 1989 Task Force on Race and Gender are being implemented by various responsible entities.
- 2) Bar Associations/Sections and Committees held a Brunch for Bars program and is planning an Affinity Bar summit
- 3) Law School work group is updating the Law Schools in Michigan data for another report and working to update the Pipeline programs brochure.

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**Committee Activities:**

Ongoing activities include;

- Following up on recommendations from the Task Force on Race and Gender reports
- Developing programs to educate the profession about diversity and inclusion
- Sharing data regarding the demographics of the profession
- Gathering resources to share with key constituent groups.
- Annual gatherings celebrating diversity

**Other Information:**

The committee will be engaging in some assessment to review what has been accomplished since its inception and best ways to continue the mission going forward.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison	Gregory Conyers	
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Domestic Violence

- Jurisdiction:
- Make recommendations to increase attorney awareness of domestic violence.
  - Make recommendations and encourage training of attorneys and judges on legal remedies and community resources for victims of domestic violence.
  - Develop and distribute legal resources involving domestic violence and victims' access to the legal process.
  - Assist in the coordination of domestic violence programs and activities in Michigan.

#### Co-Chair

- P64426 Darling A. Garcia, Lansing  
Elder Law of Michigan  
3815 W Saint Joseph St Ste C200  
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e-mail: dgarcia@elderlawofmi.org
- P74562 Veronica T. Thronson, East Lansing  
Michigan State University College of Law  
610 Abbot Rd  
Legal Clinic  
East Lansing MI 48823-3369  
Phone: (517) 336-8088 x1014  
Fax: (517) 336-0646  
e-mail: veronica.thronson@law.msu.edu

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

- P55269 Robert William Mendham, Jr., Petoskey

##### Term Ending: 2017

- P72015 Melissa Maria Pearce, Milford  
P52485 Bruce E. Petrick, Saginaw  
P77499 Rebecca L. Veidlinger, Ann Arbor

##### Term Ending: 2018

- P78203 Elizabeth Kamm Abdnour, East Lansing  
P73812 Emily Ann Calabrese, Troy  
P64426 Darling A. Garcia, Lansing  
P25664 Hon. Richard B. Halloran, Detroit  
P55759 Marla A. Linderman, White Lake  
P77044 Reshma Madhukar Sambare, Lansing  
P32700 Kay A. Schwarzberg, Mount Clemens  
P37160 Rebecca E. Shiemke, Ann Arbor  
P69165 Katherine Karen Strickfaden, Detroit  
P74562 Veronica T. Thronson, East Lansing

#### Advisor

- P79126 Kimberly Buddin, Novi  
P55440 Jennifer J. Henderson, Southfield  
P40362 Mary M. Lovik, Lansing  
P45745 Kathleen M. Maine, Sault Sainte Marie

P43437 Audrey R. Monaghan, Plymouth  
P58021 Ashley E. Lowe, Detroit

**State Bar Liaison**

P66868 Robert G. Mathis, Jr., Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Jennifer Williams, Lansing

---

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	DV Committee	May 8, 2015	Teleconference
Description			
Meeting Type	Public Policy Subcommittee	June 9, 2015	Teleconference
Description			
Meeting Type	DV Committee	June 12, 2015	Teleconference
Description			
Meeting Type	Public Policy Subcommittee	June 25, 2015	Teleconference
Description			
Meeting Type	DV Committee	July 10, 2015	Teleconference
Description			
Meeting Type	DV Committee	August 14, 2015	Teleconference
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar of Michigan provides the Standing Committee on Domestic Violence with staff support and a modest budget to facilitate projects, trainings, and meetings.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

- Pro Bono Family Law Training – October 2017

The committee plans to conduct a pro bono training for attorneys who are new to the area of domestic violence family law in October 2017. Proposed subject matter of the training will include, but not be limited to, how to conduct the initial client interview with DV survivors, substantive legal issues, initial pleadings and service, pre-trial and trial practice, and trauma informed practice. In exchange for the free training, attorneys will agree to handle a domestic violence family law case, referred from their local legal aid organization, on a pro bono basis.

- Webinars

The DV Committee is reviewing training options to be provided by webinar to Michigan attorneys handling domestic violence family law cases. Webinar topics may include Trauma Informed Practice, Personal Protection Orders, Property Division Procedures (QDROs, retirement accounts, spousal support, etc), and others.

- Prepare Written Information Regarding Domestic Violence Issues

The DV Committee has discussed creating and distributing written materials regarding various domestic violence issues

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## Committee Activities:

### Meetings Continued.

DV Committee September 11, 2015 Teleconference  
 Pro Bono Training Event October 23, 2015 In-Person / Webinar  
 Publications Subcommittee October 28, 2015 Teleconference  
 DV Committee November 17, 2015 Teleconference  
 Publications Subcommittee December 17, 2015 Teleconference  
 DV Committee January 19, 2016 Teleconference  
 Training Subcommittee February 2, 2016 Teleconference  
 Publications Subcommittee March 10, 2016 Teleconference  
 DV Committee March 15, 2016 Teleconference  
 Public Policy Subcommittee April 12, 2016 Teleconference

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 The Domestic Violence Committee is a very active committee that seeks to explore areas in which change, education, training, and awareness can have a positive impact in reducing the incidents of domestic violence and increasing the safety of victims and their children as they proceed through the legal system.

The Domestic Violence Committee has created four subcommittees:

- Training and System Education
  - o Mission: Continue exploring and scheduling training opportunities; possibly develop training and education opportunities regarding understanding trauma of the victim and how that needs to be considered throughout the legal process.
- Public Policy
  - o Mission: Address public policy items that are sent to the full DV Committee for consideration.
- Publications
  - o Mission: Oversee the Family Law Journal assignments, topics, and reminders, as well as explore other publication opportunities.
- Resource (This subcommittee meets only as needed)
  - o Mission: Explore how to broaden the mission; to review how the criminal side of domestic violence intersects with the goals of the committee and attempt to have more involvement with those players (i.e., law enforcement, prosecutors, etc.).

o  
 The subcommittees meet on a regular basis (depending on need) focusing on their specific targeted areas. A reporting time is set aside at each monthly meeting of the DV Committee for each subcommittee to provide a report to the full committee for discussion or vote.

### Michigan Family Law Journal Articles

In response to a column in 2008 by the editor of the Family Law Journal calling for more action on preventing domestic violence, the committee contacted Norman Robbins and offered to coordinate a monthly “domestic violence column” in the Family Law Journal. As a result, beginning with the June/July 2008 edition, the committee has published a monthly article related to domestic violence and authored by committee members or guest experts in the field. The articles submitted for publication, with the general article topic, from May 1, 2014 to May 1, 2015 are as follows:

- May 2015 Issue – Title IX
- June/July 2015 Issue – Child Support and Domestic Violence
- August/September 2015 Issue – Domestic Violence as Grounds for Asylum
- October 2015 Issue– Promote Pro Bono Month Family Law Training
- November 2015 Issue – Sexual Assault Evidence Kits
- December 2015 Issue–Domestic Violence Enhancement to MiTEAM Practice Model
- January 2016 Issue – Batterers’ Intervention Programs
- February 2016 Issue – Adverse Childhood Experiences Focused on Domestic Violence
- April 2016 Issue – Impact of Domestic Relations Deadlines on DV Immigration Cases
- May 2016 Issue – LJAP and Services to Attorney-Survivors of DV/SA

**Other Information:**

Public Policy Positions – Positions taken by the Domestic Violence Committee, but not necessarily positions taken by the State Bar Board of Commissioners.

**-HB 4132**

This bill amends the Custody Act to allow a court to consider awarding the right of first refusal for child care to a parent with joint custody or parenting time.

Oppose

**-HB 4176**

This is a bill to expunge criminal history records if complaining witness recants.

Oppose

**-MCR 6.16**

The court may, in its custody order, limit or prohibit defendant's contact with any other named person or persons if the court determines the limitation or prohibition is necessary to maintain the integrity of the judicial proceedings.

Support

**-SB 0351**

Family; marriage and divorce; contacting a party to a divorce action; prohibit for a certain time period.

Support

**-HB 4622**

Adding trafficking to amendment to stalking statute.

Support

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	4/22/2016	Darling Garcia & Veronica Thronson
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Education & Events Committee

**Jurisdiction:** Provide assistance developing education events that include but are not limited to the Bar Leadership Forum, Upper Michigan Legal Institute, and the Annual Meeting. **Membership note:** The appointed members are limited to two two-year terms. May include non-State Bar members. Committee to include President, President-Elect and RA Vice Chair and should be made up of one quarter Upper Michigan attorneys.

#### Chair

P15782 Ronald D. Keefe  
Kendricks Bordeau Adamini Greenlee & Keefe PC  
128 W Spring St  
Marquette MI 49855-4608  
Phone: (906) 226-2543  
Fax: (906) 226-2819  
e-mail: keefer@kendricksllaw.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P49519 Fred K. Herrmann, Detroit  
P25793 David R. Peterson, Cadillac

##### Term Ending: 2017

P15782 Ronald D. Keefe, Marquette

##### Term Ending: 2018

P44120 Lori A. Buiteweg, Ann Arbor  
P32986 Kim A. Coggins, Marinette  
P40758 Marguerite Donahue, Southfield  
P67961 Zenna Faraj Elhasan, Detroit  
P30026 Hon. James N. Erhart, Petoskey  
P75287 Andrea Lynn Kahn, Grandville  
P36661 Anne B. McNamara, Escanaba  
P25908 Lawrence Patrick Nolan, Eaton Rapids  
P24771 Hon. Thomas J. Phillips, Traverse City  
P41677 Timothy C. Quinnell, Marquette  
P41321 Victoria A. Radke, Escanaba  
P26723 Donald G. Rockwell, Flint  
P72793 Kimberly M. Slaven, Troy  
Rick Troy, Mount Clemens  
P55335 Hon. Karl A. Weber, Marquette

#### Advisor

P54637 Jeffrey E. Kirkey, Ann Arbor

#### State Bar Liaison

P32078 Candace A. Crowley, Lansing  
Kari Thrush, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Committee Meeting	11/19/15	Teleconference
Description	The committee discussed the new E&E committee format, 2015 UMLI evaluation results and reviewed the 2016 UMLI draft program, 2015 Annual Meeting/SSFI evaluation results, and the 2015 BLF evaluation results.		
Meeting Type	BLF Scholarship sub-committee	4/4/2016	Teleconference
Description	Sub committee met to determine the winners of the scholarship. Ten State Bar scholarships and four Cohn scholarships were awarded.		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar staff provides all of the coordination of the meetings, preparation of meeting minutes, preparation of notices to be sent, and the preparation of the brochures, registration forms, and staffing at events. Staff also drafts the program content and suggests possible speakers for review by the committee. Staff members coordinate the sending of the forms and retrieval of the information and preparing statistics for review by the committee. Staff also coordinates registration and assists with the room reservations, as well as being on-site for the events themselves.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

To continue to develop and provided quality education events that include but are not limited to the Bar Leadership Forum, Upper Michigan Legal Institute, and the Annual Meeting.

The committee will finalize locations and dates for 2020-2023 Annual Meeting event locations.

Committee will look at changes for the 2017 Annual Meeting with the focus on goals of the 21st Century Task Force report.

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**Committee Activities:**

The committee met on November 19, 2015 to discuss the new E&E committee format, 2015 UMLI evaluation results, review the 2016 UMLI draft program, review the 2015 Annual Meeting/SSFI evaluation results, and review the 2015 BLF evaluation results.

Staff has communicated with the committee via email with updates on the UMLI and BLF programming.

The BLF scholarship sub-committee will meet on April 4 to determine the scholarship recipients.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Judicial Ethics

Jurisdiction: · Prepare written opinions on ethical conduct of judges at the request of the State Bar President, Board of Commissioners, Representative Assembly, Attorney Discipline Board, Attorney Grievance Commission, Executive Director, or individual members of the State Bar inquiring about their own contemplated conduct.

· Recommend amendments to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct, the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct and other standards of professional conduct, and review proposed amendments.

· The Michigan Judges Association, Michigan Probate Judges Association, Michigan District Judges Association, Michigan Association of District Court Magistrates, and the Referees Association of Michigan shall each nominate one member for appointment to the committee.

#### Chair

P32605 Hon. Terry L. Clark  
70th District Court  
111 S Michigan Ave  
Saginaw MI 48602-2019  
Phone: (989) 790-5371  
Fax: (989) 790-5589  
e-mail: d70-6@saginawcounty.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P32605 Hon. Terry L. Clark, Saginaw  
P47677 Hon. Pamela L. Lightvoet, Kalamazoo

##### Term Ending: 2018

P48885 Hon. Christopher S. Ninomiya, Iron Mountain

#### Michigan District Judges Association Member

P15661 Hon. Randy L. Kalmbach, Wyandotte

#### Michigan Association of District Court Magistrates

P33716 James B. Pahl, Mason

#### Michigan Probate Judges Association Member

P39644 Hon. Laura A. Frawley, Harrisville

#### Michigan Judges Association Member

P42275 Hon. Annette M. Jurkiewicz-Berry, Detroit

#### Referee Association of Michigan Member

P49526 Lorie Nancy Savin, Pontiac

#### State Bar Liaison

P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
P38916 Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn, Lansing  
P62825 Alecia M. Ruswinckel, Lansing  
Karen Spohn, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Amy Emmons, Lansing

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	June 19, 2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	The committee discussed the workgroup's draft opinion, approving it for publication; assigned a workgroup to prepare a draft opinion based on a common ethics helpline inquiry, discussed the ban on personal solicitation by judges, and received an update on referral made to the Professional Ethics Committee.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Nov. 6, 2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	Brief new member orientation occurred; overview of 21st Century Practice Task Force work was given; discussed a workgroup's draft opinion, approving it for publication; reviewed new opinion requests and decided how to informally respond through staff issued correspondence.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Jan. 15, 2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	Meeting canceled. No business to conduct requiring a meeting.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Apr. 15, 2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	Meeting canceled. No business to conduct requiring a meeting.		
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar provides staff support for the work of the committee through three staff counsel and the administrative assistance of a legal secretary. The State Bar also provides meeting facilities, food and beverage for meetings, SharePoint, SBM Connect, teleconferencing services, meeting materials, document production services, and other ethics resources as needed to support the work of the committee.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

The committee plans to continue responding to opinion requests and to review opinions that may need to be updated or replaced due to subsequent developments that may have impacted the continued appropriateness of any conclusions drawn. To the extent that the Committee's input is sought by the Board of Commissioners, the Representative Assembly, or the Supreme Court on discrete issues or projects, the Committee stands ready to respond with appropriate research and commentary.

The Committee's last quarterly meeting for this bar year is scheduled for June 19, 2015.

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**Committee Activities:**

During each committee meeting, members discuss pending opinion requests, new opinion requests, and proposed topics for ethics opinions to decide whether to prepare an opinion or other response. Additionally, members receive information about and discuss inquiries received through the State Bar's ethics helpline and address other matters as they arise, such as proposed changes to the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct. Between meetings, workgroups (identified during meetings) research and review materials on identified topics, may meet by teleconference, prepare draft opinions and/or memos for review, discussion, edits, and action by the committee.

Since its last Annual Report, the Committee approved two ethics opinion for publication

A sitting judge may make a private monetary donation to a nonjudicial candidate's campaign. Even though the candidate must publish a financial report of donations, the contribution would not amount to a "public endorsement" of the candidate. Given the amendments to Canons 2 and 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct allowing judges to be more involved in fundraising activities, a campaign contribution to a nonjudicial candidate, without more, is not ethically prohibited.

The Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 4(E)(4), prohibits judges and their family members from receiving gifts, except in certain limited circumstances. Prudence dictates that judges should require court staff under their direction to observe high standards to avoid any appearance that the official actions, decisions, or judgments of any court employee could be influenced by gifts. Based on the provisions of Canon 4E, a judge, a judge's staff, or a judge's family member should not accept gifts from persons who interests who have come or are likely to come before the judge.

**Other Information:**

Not applicable.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison	5/13/16	Danon D. Goodrum-Garland
Other		

[Reset Section](#)

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Judicial Qualifications

Jurisdiction: · Evaluate candidates for appointment to judicial vacancies and report in confidence to the authority requesting its assistance.  
 · The chief staff attorney of the Attorney Grievance Commission serves as reporter for this committee.  
 · The appointed members are limited to three two-year terms. Chairs of the committee may serve more than three two-year terms. This committee may have more than 15 members.

#### Co-Chair

P25164 Kathleen L. Bogas, Bingham Farms  
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P20977 Daniel T. Stepek, Mount Clemens  
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 Mount Clemens MI 48046-6877  
 Phone: (586) 228-7084  
 e-mail: d.stepek@comcast.net

#### Reporter

P39042 Ruth A. Stevens, Detroit

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2015

P63999 Hal G. Ostrow, Grand Rapids \*

##### Term Ending: 2016

P30470 Michael S. Leib, Bloomfield Hills  
 P27979 Mark J. Makoski, Warren  
 P37365 Kurt E. Schnelz, Birmingham  
 P20977 Daniel T. Stepek, Mount Clemens  
 P35418 Leonard A. White, Saint Joseph  
 P41181 Rock A. Wood, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2017

P25164 Kathleen L. Bogas, Bingham Farms  
 P43864 Darcie R. Brault, Royal Oak  
 P28235 David H. Fink, Bloomfield Hills  
 P54852 Kiffi Y. Ford, Lansing  
 P37426 Elizabeth P. Hardy, Birmingham  
 P45128 Darryl T. Johnson, Lansing  
 P22796 Donald E. McGinnis, Jr., Troy  
 P26903 Daniel M. Share, Detroit  
 P34648 Jeffery V. Stuckey, Lansing  
 P40700 Judith A. Susskind, Southfield  
 P32596 Betty R. Widgeon, Ann Arbor

#### State Bar Liaison



P38916 Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn, Lansing  
Janna Sheppard, Lansing

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\* resigned

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	See attached addendum		
Description			
Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

In support of the work of this Committee, the State Bar of Michigan provides a meeting room in the Michael Franck Building as well as a light breakfast and lunch for the Committee members. State Bar staff liaisons coordinate the interview schedule, report the Committee's ratings for each candidate directly to the Governor's Office in confidence, and handle administrative tasks and other matters as necessary.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

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**Committee Activities:**

As requested by the Governor, the Judicial Qualifications Committee interviews and rates candidates for appointment to judicial vacancies. A representative from the Governor's Office, the Reporter, and the State Bar staff liaisons also attend the meetings. The work of the Committee members, the Reporter, and the State Bar staff liaisons (which includes preparation for the interviews, candidate interviews, and the ratings reported by the State Bar directly to the Governor's Office) is confidential.

Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month and/or as requested. From May 2015 through April 2016, the Committee met 12 times and interviewed 111 candidates for judicial vacancies.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair	X	Co-Chairs, Kathleen L. Bogas and Daniel T. Stepek
Staff Liaison	X	Staff Liaisons, Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn and Janna Sheppard
Other		

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Committee Meetings held from May 2015 - April 2016

May 12, 2015

June 9, 2015

July 14, 2015

August 11, 2015

September 8, 2015

September 29, 2015

October 13, 2015

November 10, 2015

December 8, 2015

January 12, 2016

February 9, 2016

April 12, 2016

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Justice Initiatives

- Jurisdiction: · Develop and recommend proposals for the effective delivery of high quality legal services in Michigan, equal and fair to all. This committee will include several initiatives whose activities include:
- o Analyzing and making recommendations for positions on proposed legislation, court rules, and other policies relevant to the committee's jurisdiction.
  - o Developing policies and programs to benefit underserved populations, including juveniles and those with special needs.
  - o Encouraging and coordinating free or discounted civil legal services.
  - o Raising money for and otherwise working to increase resources for civil legal aid programs.
  - o Examining collateral civil consequences of criminal convictions and representational issues in the criminal justice system.

#### Co-Chair

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#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

- P34834 Michael J. Blau, Farmington  
P67583 Erika R. Breitbart, Auburn Hills  
P60753 Lorry S.C. Brown, Ann Arbor  
P73708 Aaron Vaughn Burrell, Detroit  
P59565 Erika Lorraine Davis, Detroit  
P29119 Robert Fair Gillett, Ann Arbor  
P60458 Kirsten A. Inquilla, Kalamazoo  
P47291 Valerie R. Newman, Detroit  
P28571 Linda K. Rexer, Lansing  
P71349 Maya K. Watson, Detroit

#### State Bar Liaison

- P32078 Candace A. Crowley, Lansing  
P42091 Janet K. Welch, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

- Gregory P. Conyers, Lansing  
Peter Cunningham, Lansing

P66868 Michelle Erskine, Lansing  
Robert G. Mathis, Jr., Lansing  
Carrie Sharlow, Lansing  
Jennifer Williams, Lansing

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## Committee Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Meeting Type	Regular	June 8, 2015	Teleconference
Description	At the June 8 meeting, members reviewed the civil right to counsel work undertaken by Equal Access Initiative (EAI) and moved to the 21st Century Practice Task Force. It reviewed a justice initiatives leadership development report prepared by EAI. It learned more about the progress of the 21st Century Practice Task Force, with a special focus on the Access Committee co-chaired by CJI co-chair Linda Rexer. It received concrete information about the new partnership with MSU College of Law and Frank J. Kelley Ethics Lecture Series to present the annual JI summit on October 28 at MSU Law. It received reports from each of the initiatives; more information on those is found in the separate initiative reports. It received a report from the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DIAC) with follow up from the Brunch for Bars. It looked forward to the booth and programs planned for the October Annual Meeting.		
Meeting Type	Regular	October 20, 2015	Teleconference
Description	Members received more information on the upcoming JI Summit and Kickoff combined event in partnership with MSU Law. It revised its process for reviewing policy to include review by the CJI co-chairs for their determination if items should be referred to additional initiatives and positions shared promptly with other initiatives before submitting to CJI for review. Members reviewed leadership development ideas and progress through activities like involvement at the Annual Meeting booth, partnership with the November 12 joint program between the State Bar Young Lawyers Section (YLS) and the Oakland County Bar with a focus on pro bono and access to justice. Members also agreed to tweet using the #sbmjusticeinitiatives throughout the year. It received reports from each of the initiatives.		
Meeting Type	Annual Summit and Kickoff - Legal Futurism and its Impact on Access to Justice	October 28, 2015	MSU College of Law
Description	New York Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman addressed over 150 lawyers, law students and law professors at MSU College of Law on the occasion of the 7th Annual Kelley Ethics Lecture and the JI 6th Annual Summit and Kickoff. The program combines two celebrated justice system events into a joint gathering to consider legal futurism and its impact on access to justice. Judge Lippman's remarks were inspiring and included "The judicial and the profession must stand for something, and even in the light of budget cuts and layoffs, financial support for legal services must continue because 'we might as well close the doors to the courthouse if it's not open to all.'" Judge Lippman's remarks and a written report can be viewed at <a href="http://www.michbar.org/programs/summit2015">http://www.michbar.org/programs/summit2015</a>		
Meeting Type	Regular	December 16, 2015	Teleconference
Description	Samantha Meinke, SBM communications manager, provided information on social media tools including three SBM blogs. She explained the use of hashtags on twitter and especially #sbmjusticeinitiatives. She cautioned people not to speak on behalf of the Bar as that role is reserved for the president and executive director. It received reports from the initiatives. It supported the CJI position on HB 4766 authorizing teen courts. It supported in concept HB 4406 and HB 4407 to make juries more representative of the community. It did not support the bill as drafted by suggested a legislative work group be formed to discuss the issue. It also heard of the CJI intention to follow up on the Annual Meeting program on collateral consequences of juvenile adjudications. It received a report from the DIAC and the November 9 Blind Spots training. It reviewed a power point presentation from Linda Rexer on the progress of the 21st Century Practice Task Force and the Access Committee.		
Meeting Type	Regular	February 17, 2016	Teleconference
Description	The committee received reports from the initiatives and from the DIAC. It heard a detailed progress report on the work of the 21CPTask Force, including the January 29 Town Hall meeting and the involvement there of Erika Davis, Angela Tripp, Chris Hastings and Maya Watson on behalf of the Access Committee. It identified possible topics for the 2016 JI Summit, with an emphasis on items supported by the Task Force recommendations. It reviewed information on the Equal Access Conference and attendance by Wendy Richards, Rob Mathis, and Erika Davis as our representative to the Access to Justice Chairs meeting there. It also heard of Greg conyers and Judge Cynthia Stephens as participations in this year's National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts. Committee members were introduced to Connect as our communication portal.		
Meeting Type	Regular	April 27, 2016	Teleconference
Description	CJI received reports from the initiatives and the DIAC. It conducted a preliminary review of its new policy review process. It received a report from Peter Cunningham on the SBM delegation to ABA Day. The delegation consisted of Reggie Turner, Lori Buiteweg, Judge Ward Clarkson, Bradley Gayton, Rob Mossel, and Thom Linn. They met with nearly the entire Michigan delegation, and support for LSC funding is stronger than ever among our congressional delegation. It received a more detailed report on the recommendations of the 21CPTask Force and the process going forward. It confirmed its interest in addressing the topic of unbundling, triage, and possible the Justice Innovations Guidelines for its 2016 Justice Initiatives Summit. If timing and resources allow, the Summit will likely occur in later June.		

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## Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:

The State Bar provides the Committee on Justice Initiatives (CJI) with staff support and a budget to facilitate phone and in-person meetings and a wide breadth of projects. CJI is an umbrella group comprised of the co-chairs of the Pro Bono Initiative, the Equal Access Initiative, the Criminal Issues Initiative, and the Justice Policy Initiative. The executive director of the Michigan State Bar Foundation is also a CJI member. The umbrella format is a resource to coordinate the efforts and interests of those most heavily involved in the State Bar's longstanding access to justice work. It also serves to identify common and emerging areas of focus among the initiatives, and coordinate and present programming and communications for those areas. The annual reports of those initiatives, including information on policy positions taken by CJI, are included with this cover report.

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## Future Goals and Activities:

CJI will continue contribute to the work of the 21st Century Practice Task Force as a focus for improving access to justice. It has identified unbundling/limited scope representation, triage, and the development of Justice Innovations Guidelines as immediate areas of focus. It remains interested in the challenge of collateral consequences of juvenile adjudications.

It continues its partnership with the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, and is still looking for the right opportunity to reexamine its structure and work to respond to the changing landscape.

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**Committee Activities:**

In addition to the activities and meetings described above, the CJI Co-chairs and staff met on August 27, 2015, in Brighton for the purpose of assessing its overall structure and work, reviewing the proposed CJI and initiative membership for the upcoming bar year, understanding the budget, and reviewing the robust proposals for leadership development provided by staff and the Equal Access Initiative.

To encourage leadership development within the initiatives, it was agreed that, among other items,

1. The chairs would ask members to sign up for the Annual Meeting booth.
2. They would encourage involvement in emerging substantive issues like the deaf/blind/hard of hearing matter brought to our attention by the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.
3. They would encourage attendance at events that focus on ATJ and pro bono, like the November 12 2015 Novemberfest sponsored by the Young Lawyers Section and the Oakland County Bar Association.
4. They would create opportunities for law students to attend the diversity reception.
5. We will use social media and A Lawyer Helps/Greater Expectations to publicize the work of CJI, and building from the popular national hashtag #justiceinitiatives, we will use #sbmjusticeinitiatives to publicize our work.
6. We will identify candidates to participate in the Bar Leadership Forum.

**Other Information:**

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Justice Initiatives: Criminal Issues Initiative

Jurisdiction: Examines collateral civil consequences of criminal convictions and representational issues in the criminal justice system.

#### Co-Chair

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P47291 Valerie R. Newman, Detroit  
State Appellate Defender Office  
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Detroit MI 48226-4215  
Phone: (313) 256-9833  
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#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P67583 Erika R. Breitfeld, Auburn Hills  
P74826 Nicole A. Evans, East Lansing  
P69552 Heather J. Garretson, Grand Rapids  
P45431 Hon. Katherine L. Hansen, Detroit  
P65387 Gennelia Capobres Laluna-Schaeffer, Saint Jose  
P41498 Hon. Mabel Johnson Mayfield, Saint Joseph  
P40633 Janet A. Napp, Royal Oak  
P47291 Valerie R. Newman, Detroit  
P61654 Hon. Angela Kay Sherigan, Shelby Township  
P54840 Jolene J. Weiner-Vatter, Grand Rapids

#### State Bar Liaison

Peter Cunningham, Lansing  
Carrie Sharlow, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	5/19/15	
Description	Collateral Consequences Workgroup		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	5/21/15	
Description	Regular Initiative Meeting		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	7/9/15	
Description	Regular Initiative Meeting		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	9/17/15	
Description	Regular Initiative Meeting		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	10/21/15	
Description	Regular Initiative Meeting		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	12/10/15	
Description	Regular Initiative Meeting		

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The Initiative receives staff support from Peter Cunningham and Carrie Sharlow.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Initiative will continue reviewing public policy items, discussing matters relating to Juvenile Justice, and looking for opportunities for UCCCA.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

The Criminal Issues Initiative also met January 14, 2016; February 11, 2016; March 10, 2016; and May 12, 2016. It expects to meet at least once in the summer.

The Initiative hosted a program at the State Bar's Annual Meeting in Novi on Friday, October 9, 2015. The program--titled "Collateral Consequences of Juvenile Adjudication"--included a panel of interested stakeholders, led by Judge Mabel Johnson Mayfield. The group focused on juvenile pleas a adjudications; collateral consequences to benefits, services, and rights due to a plea or criminal action; real-life lessons and examples from attorneys, judges, and parents; and ideas and movement for improvement.

The program was well attended, and there is ongoing discussion of the possibility of a repeat in different locations.

Throughout the year, the Initiative discussed various pieces of legislation and proposed court rule amendments, and submitted several position for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Justice Initiatives: Equal Access Initiative

Jurisdiction: Develops policies and programs to benefit underserved populations, including those with special needs, cognitive disabilities, and juveniles.

#### Co-Chair

P73708 Aaron Vaughn Burrell, Detroit  
Dickinson Wright PLLC  
500 Woodward Ave Ste 4000  
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P71349 Maya K. Watson, Detroit  
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Ford Field  
Detroit MI 48226-2310  
Phone: (313) 393-7502  
Fax: (313) 393-7579  
e-mail: mwatson@bodmanlaw.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P76302 Kerlyne Alexis-Pinkins, Detroit  
P79126 Kimberly Buddin, Novi  
P73708 Aaron Vaughn Burrell, Detroit  
P11596 Hon. William J. Caprathe, Bay City  
P33266 Raymond J. Carey, Detroit  
P42695 Mark A. Cody, Lansing  
P72801 Syeda Farhana Davidson, Clinton Township  
P59565 Erika Lorraine Davis, Detroit  
P74826 Nicole A. Evans, East Lansing  
P13367 J. Kay Felt, Grosse Pointe Shores  
P39787 Hon. Patricia P. Fresard, Detroit  
P78659 D'lorah Lynn Hughes, Detroit  
P62370 Phoenix J. Hummel, Lansing  
P34754 Linda D. Johnson, Detroit  
P39152 Daniel M. Levy, Detroit  
P70648 Sarah Ann Luke, Detroit  
P62064 Nicholas M. Ohanesian, Grand Rapids  
P71349 Maya K. Watson, Detroit  
P70699 Erica Lynne Zimny, Jackson

#### State Bar Liaison

Gregory P. Conyers, Lansing  
Michelle Erskine, Lansing

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P66868 Michelle Erskine, Lansing  
Robert G. Mathis, Jr., Lansing  
Carrie Sharlow, Lansing  
Jennifer Williams, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Committee Chair Orientation	October 16, 2015	SBM
Description	Orientation at the State Bar for Committee Chairs. Reviews processes and the year's calendar to prepare chairs for the bar year ahead.		
Meeting Type	Jl Summit	October 28, 2015	MSU
Description	In correlation with the Frank Kelley lecture series. Provides a common meeting for the Justice Initiatives and the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.		
Meeting Type	Blind Spots Program	November 9, 2015	Detroit MI
Description	Program in conjunction with DIAC to improve decision making and outcomes in regards to diversity and inclusion. Over 100 attendees.		
Meeting Type	Equal Access Initiative Meetings	November 30, March 16	teleconference, SBM
Description	The Equal Access Initiative has met twice this bar year, once in person and once by phone. EAI meetings provide an agenda for the coming months in the world of equal access and brings a diverse look to equal access in Michigan.		
Meeting Type	Workgroup teleconferences	see below	teleconferences
Description	Feb 8, Feb 12, Feb 25, March 7, March 22, March 25, April 4 The EAI Disabilities workgroup, Faces of Justice workgroup, Juvenile Outreach workgroup, and Underrepresented Populations workgroup have had phone conferences to move their work forward this bar year. The workgroups work to assist the larger group in meeting common goals and objectives.		
Meeting Type	Brunch for Bars	April 17, 2016	Detroit MI
Description	Event presented in conjunction with DIAC to bring bar associations together for collaboration, information sharing, and to raise awareness of diversity and inclusion.		

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar offers administrative assistance in planning in-person meetings and teleconferences as well as offers administrative support through each of the meetings. The Bar also provides record keeping and archiving for the Equal Access Initiative as well as the other Justice Initiatives as needed. State Bar staff continues to maintain and update the Equal Access area of the website and offers on-site support for events as well.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Equal Access Initiative is working with DIAC and the Grand Rapids Bar Association to host another Blind Spots program, this time on the west side of the state. All of the workgroups have monthly meetings running up to Annual Meeting and will be pleased to offer recommendations to the larger EAI and CJI. The Disabilities workgroup is working on a new version of the e-newsletter. The Faces of Justice workgroup is planning a day-long event in October at the Hall of Justice to help encourage students to consider the legal profession. EAI has also examined legislation according to the new public policy process and is set to report to CJI before the next meeting.

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**Committee Activities:**

There are four EAI workgroups for the 2015-2016 Year: Disabilities, Faces of Justice, Juvenile Outreach, and Underrepresented Populations. The Disabilities workgroup focuses on persons with disabilities having equal access in the justice system; they are currently working on mental health court issues, ADA policy implementation, school-to-prison pipeline, ongoing diversity and inclusion Outreach, and e-newsletters .

The Faces of Justice workgroup, formerly the Jury Curriculum workgroup is spearheaded by Hon. Michelle Rick and is adapting national programming to fit Michigan's outreach needs. Law Related Education and Public Outreach Committee members have joined the previous Jury Curriculum group as well as new Faces of Justice participants to promote diversity, civic engagement, and improvement of access to the legal system. The group is planning a pilot program focused on interacting with students to expose them to the legal profession. A new EAI workgroup, Juvenile Outreach, works on issues within the school systems, non-mental health based school to prison pipeline issues (probably in collaboration with Criminal Issues Initiative), workforce reentry, and is looking to address the treatment of juveniles. EAI's other new workgroup, Underrepresented Populations, is brainstorming and working to address issues that relate to underrepresented populations accessing the legal system.

On May 18, 2016 there is another EAI meeting to addressing furthering the goals and objectives of the group as a whole and as smaller workgroups.

On June 29 the group will be presenting another Blind Spots program on the west side of the state with assistance from the Grand Rapids Bar Association. EAI hopes to engage participants beyond the initial discussion that happened in Detroit on November 9, 2015 and to allow further evaluations and analysis of potential solutions. The original event had over 100 registered attendees and feedback can be found here: <http://www.michbar.org/file/diversity/pdfs/binderfactsfeedback.pdf>

on April 17, 2016 EAI in conjunction with DIAC presented the 2nd annual Brunch for Bars. There were over 70 people in attendance and the event received positive reviews. In addition to networking, discussions on bias, collaboration, and leadership were presented. We were also thankful to have ABA President Paulette Brown give the keynote address reviewing the ABA's Diversity 360 efforts.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Justice Initiatives: Justice Policy Initiative

Jurisdiction: Analyzes and recommends positions on proposed legislation, court rules, and other policies relevant to the Justice Initiatives.

#### Co-Chair

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#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P76762 Heather Renee Abraham, Traverse City  
P34834 Michael J. Blau, Farmington  
P60753 Lorry S.C. Brown, Ann Arbor  
P70937 Jessica S. Fox, Eaton Rapids  
P60260 James R. Gerometta, Detroit  
P39152 Daniel M. Levy, Detroit  
P44713 Nancy L. Mullett, Battle Creek  
P45371 Jill L. Nylander, Flint  
P73490 Olivia Marcella Paglia, Bloomfield Hills  
P30685 Kenneth C. Penokie, Escanaba  
P63475 Tonya Myers Phillips, Detroit  
P57571 Christine N. Seppala, Detroit  
P28417 Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens, Detroit  
P51498 Joon H. Sung, Detroit  
P46863 Thomas K. Thornburg, Kalamazoo

#### State Bar Liaison

Peter Cunningham, Lansing  
Carrie Sharlow, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	6/5/15	
Description	3 court rules amendments, 1 piece of legislation discussed.		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	10/22/15	
Description	5 pieces of legislation discussed.		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	12/11/15	
Description	1 court rule amendment, 4 pieces of legislation discussed.		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	2/12/16	
Description	1 court rule amendment, 11 pieces of legislation discussed.		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	5/13/16	
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The committee receives staff support from Peter Cunningham and Carrie Sharlow.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

JPI would welcome more opportunities to participate in discussions about important policy positions with other bar entities.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

The Initiative discussed twenty-six bills and proposed court rule amendments and offered several position recommendations to the Committee on Justice Initiatives.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

[Reset Section](#)

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Justice Initiatives: Pro Bono Initiative

Jurisdiction: Encourages and coordinates free or discounted fees for civil legal services.  
Pro bono service is a way that Michigan attorneys assist low-income individuals in need of legal assistance.

#### Co-Chair

P29119 Robert Fair Gillett, Ann Arbor  
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Fax: (734) 665-2974  
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P60458 Kirsten A. Inquilla, Kalamazoo  
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e-mail: kish@inquillalaw.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P41868 Margaret A. Costello, Detroit  
P74225 Daphne Short Cunningham, Auburn Hills  
P29119 Robert Fair Gillett, Ann Arbor  
P36880 Michele F. Hall, Detroit  
P28273 Hon. Denise Page Hood, Detroit  
P60458 Kirsten A. Inquilla, Kalamazoo  
P76029 Saima Rehman Khalil, Warren  
P58021 Ashley E. Lowe, Detroit  
P74142 Todd Michael Morgan, Adrian  
P66497 Keith L. Morris, Lansing  
P58783 Heidi A. Naasko, Ann Arbor  
P59026 Sandra D. Parker, Troy  
P57191 Kimberly A. Paulson, Detroit  
P28571 Linda K. Rexer, Lansing  
P67776 Wendolyn W. Richards, Detroit  
P67561 Marcy L. Rosen, Ann Arbor  
P70763 Amy L. Sankaran, Ann Arbor  
P63933 Khalilah Vonn Spencer, Detroit  
P62288 Sherry D. O'Neal Taylor, Detroit  
P28106 Robert L. Willis, Jr., Southfield

#### State Bar Liaison

P32078 Candace A. Crowley, Lansing  
P66868 Robert G. Mathis, Jr., Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	06/24/2015	n/a
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	9/23/2015	n/a
Description			
Meeting Type	JI Kick-Off	10/28/2015	In-Person / MSU Law School
Description	The 2015-2016 JI Kick-Off was held in conjunction with the Frank J. Kelley Lecture Series. The keynote speaker was Judge Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the State of New York.		
Meeting Type	Teleconference	12/17/2015	n/a
Description			
Meeting Type	Teleconference	3/17/2016	n/a
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar of Michigan provides the Pro Bono Initiative (PBI) with staff support and an initiative budget to facilitate projects and meetings.

Benjamin Ensroth and Eisha Vatsal, law student interns with the PBI, also provided staff support.

[Reset Section](#)

**Future Goals and Activities:**

Most of the project work described in this report occurs annually, and efforts will be directed to replicating and improving those projects. In the coming year, the PBI will continue efforts to improve the delivery of pro bono services to the poor throughout Michigan.

[Reset Section](#)

## Committee Activities:

The PBI has numerous committees and workgroups, including:

1. ABA Day (Governmental Relations)
2. Assessment of Pro Bono in Michigan Report and Implementation
3. ATJ Fund Eligible/PBI Approved Organization—Application Review
4. Circle of Excellence—Yearly Application Review
5. Homelessness Workgroup
6. John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award
7. MI-LAPP Malpractice Insurance for Pro Bono Administration
8. MI-LAPP Patent Pro Bono Project Administration
9. MI-LAPP Tax Pro Bono Program Administration
10. MI-LAPP QDRO Pro Bono Panel Program Administration
11. Celebrate Pro Bono Month
12. Pro Bono Reference Manual/Law Related Organizations Search Database
13. Spring Pro Bono Workshop
14. Veteran Resources Workgroup

The 2015 John W. Cummiskey Award was presented to attorney Paul Scheidemantel of Clark Hill at the SBM awards dinner at the SBM Annual Meeting in Novi. The award included a \$3,000 donation to an ATJ program to be made through the Access to Justice Fund. Paul asked that the award be designated to Legal Aid and Defender Association.

Nominations for the 2016 John W. Cummiskey Award were reviewed and a nominee identified in April 2016.

Michigan Pro Bono Assessment Report: The Assessment Report has been publicized and is now widely known by Michigan's pro bono community and other key stakeholders. Members of the PBI have been pleased with the reaction to the report.

With the guidance and support of consultant John Tull, the group continues discussions and anticipates the development of a self-assessment tool which will allow each program to look critically at its own delivery of pro bono services, one of the recommendations contained in the Assessment Report.

The Seventh Annual October as Pro Bono Month Celebration occurred in 2015, which included more than 60 events throughout Michigan during the Pro Bono Month 2015 season. The Pro Bono Month website included a list of upcoming pro bono month events, talking points, a sample speech, and many other resources. Looking forward to 2016, the work group wants to continue to increase the number of pro bono events and the promotion of the need for pro bono legal services for the poor. The work group will also explore expanded collaboration with law firms, attorneys, and LSPs on pro bono events.

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder signed a proclamation declaring October 2015 as Pro Bono Month.

The Eighth Annual October as Pro Bono Month is set for October 2016.

The 2015 JI Kick-Off was held in conjunction with the Frank J. Kelley Lecture Series on October 28, 2015. The event was recorded and is available on the Justice Initiatives website. The keynote speaker was Judge Jonathan Lippman, the current chief judge of the state of New York. Judge Lippman gave a compelling and moving speech on the need for and some of the steps the ATJ community can take to ensure access to justice for all. Initiative members and staff were also very pleased with the large number of law students that attended the event.

## Other Information:

The State Bar's "A Lawyer Helps" website continued to highlight the good work of many Michigan attorneys, with 28 stories posted on the website in 2015. "A Lawyer Helps" focuses first on the legal profession's priority of pro bono—free legal help for the poor and financial donations to help nonprofit legal aid agencies. But "A Lawyer Helps" also honors lawyers who additionally volunteer time to other efforts that benefit their communities. Please visit <http://www.michbar.org/alawyerhelps> for information on how to submit stories for inclusion on the website.

2015 was another successful year for MI-LAPP's QDRO Referral Program. In 2015, the program closed more than 40 QDRO cases and received more than 50 cases referred to the QDRO program by Michigan legal services providers. The great success of the program in 2015 was due in very large part to the program's dedicated volunteer drafters. In 2015, the program's volunteers included Joseph Cunningham, Robert (Bob) Treat, Nancy Keppelman, David and Jackie Roessler, and John Mooney. Each QDRO case that is prepared by a drafter, on average, requires four hours to complete. MI-LAPP continues to rely on the leadership of the QDRO Administration Committee, spearheaded by Joseph Cunningham of Joseph W. Cunningham JD, CPA, PC and Bob Treat of QDRO Express LLC.

Expansion of the MI-LAPP Malpractice Insurance Program continued. Lawyers without malpractice insurance coverage can apply for coverage through the State Bar/MI-LAPP Malpractice Insurance Program. Also, lawyers that accept cases from ATJ & non-ATJ programs without malpractice insurance can also be provided coverage. In 2014, many pro bono attorneys utilized the MI-LAPP malpractice insurance program, attorneys that otherwise would have been unable to offer pro bono legal services due to their lack of malpractice insurance.

The Seventh Annual Spring Pro Bono Workshop, "The Power of Pro Bono," occurred on May 19, 2015. More than 55 people attended the workshop, including pro bono attorneys and representatives from various legal aid agencies. The special guest speaker was State Bar of Michigan President-Elect Lori Buiteweg. The evaluations from the workshop were all very positive, with all attendees reporting that they would attend the 2016 workshop.

The Eighth Annual Spring Pro Bono Workshop is slated for May 24, 2016 at the State Bar building. The workshop sessions are designed to encourage interactive discussions, with increased opportunities for attendees to network to discuss strategies for increasing pro bono legal services in Michigan.

The 2015 Circle of Excellence has appeared in the Michigan Bar Journal multiple times throughout 2015. For the 2015 Circle of Excellence, which considers service and donations made in 2014, there were 50 firms and two corporations on the Circle. The 2015 COE also included the Leadership and Excellence Levels, which recognized firms whose aggregate financial contributions reflect \$300 and \$500 per lawyer, respectively. Of the 50 firms on the COE, about half of those firms are on the Leadership Level. In April 2016, personalized letters were mailed to law firms that have previously appeared on or applied to the COE. The letters, which included a message from SBM President Lori Buiteweg, were intended to advise firms of the 2016 COE applications, which were due on April 4, 2016.

In September 2015, Circle of Excellence luncheons were held in Detroit (09/22/15) and Grand Rapids (09/30/15). The COE luncheons were an effort championed by Thom Linn of Miller Canfield. The goal of the luncheons was to get the leaders at the larger law firms and corporations talking and more interested in the COE and pro bono. At the Detroit and Grand Rapids events, more than 30 firms were in attendance. At the Detroit luncheon, Thom facilitated a conversation among the group about the COE. At the Grand Rapids luncheon, Joy Fossel of Varnum facilitated the conversation. From the discussion, several thoughts and ideas were shared. There was a consensus that top management at firms and corporations must support pro bono for the effort to be successful. The Detroit and Grand Rapids luncheons were just the beginning of more COE discussions.

Tax Pro Bono Referral Panel Program. On Thursday, June 25, 2015, attorneys participated in the third annual program training. The training was offered via webinar. There are currently more than 100 attorneys on the Tax Program's pro bono panel. The program opened eight cases in 2013, 38 cases in 2014, and 48 cases open in 2015. Another tax training webinar is slated for June 21, 2016.

The work of the 21st Century Practice Task Force continued throughout 2015, looking at how the State Bar can best serve the public and support lawyers' professional development in a rapidly changing legal marketplace. The task force looked at the potential for modernizing Michigan's attorney regulation in response to those changes. SBM Past Presidents Bruce Courtade, of Grand Rapids, and Julie Fershtman, of Farmington Hills, co-chaired the Task Force. Task Force committees included the "Affordability of Legal Services: New Tools for Breaking Through the Access Barrier," "Building a 21st Century Practice—Developing & Maintaining Professional Excellence in a Dynamic Marketplace," and "Modernizing the Regulatory Machinery: Building Economic Resilience & Capacity in the Delivery of Legal Services." PBI member Linda Rexer served as co-chair of the Affordability/Access Committee, along with the Honorable Libby Hines.

On April 25, 2016, a reception was held at the State Bar building to thank the members of the 21st Century Practice Task Force and its three committees, and to celebrate the incredible work of the task force.

The Patent Pro Bono Project continued to grow throughout 2015, receiving more than 50 requests for assistance. The Patent Project has been able to place 11 low-income inventors with patent pro bono attorneys to assist in patenting their inventions.

Robert Mathis attended the 2015 ABA Equal Justice Conference in Austin, Texas, along with Justin Sheehan (Michigan Community Resources). Erika Davis attended the Access to Justice Chair's meeting on behalf of the CJL.

The Michigan Legal Help website ([michiganlegalhelp.org](http://michiganlegalhelp.org)) continued to help people handle simple civil legal problems without a lawyer. The website features articles for people to learn about a specific area of the law and toolkits to help them prepare for self-representation in court. Some forms available on the website are completed automatically once simple questions are answered. The Michigan Legal Help website does not provide legal advice, and it is not intended as a substitute for having a lawyer. PBI members applauded [MichiganLegalHelp.org](http://MichiganLegalHelp.org) as an incredible service that has proven to be very helpful for people that cannot afford an attorney and cannot get assistance from an LSP. MLH recently surpassed seven million total page views and receives 23,000 page views per week. MLH also recently received an LSC Technology Initiative Grant to support the development of a triage module and a legal health check-up tool.

The Pro Bono Reference Manual continues to offer the searchable Michigan Law Related Organizations Search function which allows users to search by legal service area and county. The information in the search function is verified and updated frequently.

The Homelessness Workgroup continues to research and determine what legal resources are available for Michigan's homeless, what barriers currently exist that prevent the homeless from accessing legal services, and suggest strategies for overcoming these barriers. The workgroup will continue to focus its attention on the coordination of efforts between pro bono lawyers and the existing legal services programs in each of the different areas of the state.

In March 2016, the PBI went live on the SBM Connect communication portal. SBM Connect is a program that allows sections, committees, and other organizations to share ideas and information. Connect will allow PBI members to access materials saved to the library. PBI members can also start discussion questions, and get notifications when discussion items are posted.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	4/18/2016	Bob Gillett and Kirsten Inquilla
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Law and the Media

Jurisdiction:     · Develop, recommend, and support programs that promote a positive relationship between the legal community and the media, and accuracy in the reporting of news concerning the law.  
                           · Study and identify sources of friction between the courts, lawyers, and the electronic and print press, and recommend solutions.

#### Chair

P46880           Robin Luce Herrmann  
                           Butzel Long PC  
                           41000 Woodward Ave  
                           Stoneridge West  
                           Bloomfield Hills MI 48304-5130  
                           Phone: (248) 593-3044  
                           Fax: (248) 258-1439  
                           e-mail: luce-herrmann@butzel.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P71924           Jienelle Raye Alvarado, Farmington Hills  
                           P34941           Abigail Elias, Ann Arbor  
                           P73900           Naomi N. Oglesby, Bingham Farms  
                           P57050           Lori K. Shemka, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2017

P53307           Daniel J. Cherrin, Royal Oak  
                           P77789           Laura B. Danielson, Grand Rapids  
                           P46880           Robin Luce Herrmann, Bloomfield Hills  
                           P28952           Neil J. Lehto, Berkley  
                           P76236           Jason C. Miller, Midland

##### Term Ending: 2018

P74898           Brett DeGroff, Lansing  
                           P77887           Daniel James DuChene, Ypsilanti  
                           P75900           Erin L. Emelander, Newaygo  
                           P77553           Heather Elizabeth Sumner, Okemos  
                           P33171           Cynthia F. Wisner, Livonia

#### Non-Bar Member

David Ashenfelter, Lathrup Village  
                           Patrick Shellenbarger, Rockford

#### State Bar Liaison

Samantha Meinke, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Joyce Nordeen, Lansing  
                           Anne M. Smith, Lansing

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## Committee Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Meeting Type	Conference Call	10.20.15
Description	Conference Call	
Meeting Type	Conference Call	11.17.15
Description	Conference Call	
Meeting Type	Conference Call	1.19.16
Description	Conference Call	
Meeting Type	Conference Call	1.26.16
Description	Conference Call - followed by follow-up call on 2.8.16	
Meeting Type	Conference Call	3.15.16
Description	Conference Call	
Meeting Type	Conference Call	5.17.16
Description	Conference Call	

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## Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:

Staff oversees the arrangement and coordination of seminars, preparing and providing materials for seminars, preparing media kits, and administering the Wade H. McCree Awards for the Advancement of Justice for journalists. This year the decision was made to transfer the McCree Awards to the Michigan Press Association Foundation. Wade H. McCree Awards for the Advancement of Justice process: November: Review, edit, update language and graphics of brochure announcing the McCree Awards competition and containing the entry form. Help committee find judges for the contest. Early December: Send press release containing a link to the McCree Award brochure and entry form to a list of journalists at over 845 media outlets, including dailies, weeklies, monthlies, legal news outlets, cable television outlets, local television stations, and radio stations across Michigan. Also mail printed brochures to 150 selected news outlets. Disseminate information via social media sites, SBM publications, SBM Blog, and the SBM website. Draft social media posts for committee members to share throughout the next few months to promote the contest. Early January: Extend formal invitation to judges. We have five judges – this year they included former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly, retired West Michigan newspaper publisher Paul Keep, retired West Michigan TV anchor Suzanne Geha, retired WWJ news reporter Pat Sweeting and journalism professor and former reporter and Detroit News executive Susan Bursynski. Get in touch with contacts at the journalism school at MSU to touch base about the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame Banquet, where the awards are handed out. February: Let awards supplier know that the awards are coming up again. Awards needed two weeks prior to banquet. Send out reminder news release about the upcoming submission deadline – give journalists one last chance to enter the contest. This year questions were raised by the Board about the contest in January - the Board felt all awards should be recommended to the Board, and the Board should be the final decision maker on the awards. The committee was concerned about having non-journalists judging a journalism contest. So in January staff helped the chairperson look for another home for the awards. February: Awards were transferred to the Michigan Press Association Foundation. SBM staff continued to administer awards, but MPAF would take over financial responsibility of purchasing awards for journalists this year, and will run the contest moving forward. First week of February was submission deadline for awards. Staff gathers entries and posts them online for judges. Staff sends judging criteria and score sheet along with entries to the judges. Try to give judges about two to three weeks to judge. First week in March: When score sheets are back, total the number of points received by each entry. Refer to list on how winners are decided (based on point totals). Determine winners. Let committee members know the results at the teleconference. Let the judges know the results. Let MPAF board know winners so they could purchase awards for them. Inform winners they've won. Draft news release announcing winners and send to MPAF so they can make announcement. Work with Journalism Hall of Fame to get reservations made for winners and SBM leaders and MPAF leaders. April – Awards Banquet: Send memo detailing what to expect at banquet to committee members, judges and winners of awards. Educational event support: SBM staff provides publicity for all educational events in news releases, on SBM website, on SBM Blog, and on social media sites. Prepare handouts to be given out at educational events. Staff participates in the seminar by offering help as media relations staff to both report and attorneys. Staff handle whatever audio/visual needs there are for the seminar – setting up requests for AV equipment, and making sure it is all functioning on site. Staff makes videos and takes photographs of all sessions, and then does follow-up publicity in the Bar Journal, on the SBM website, SBM Blog, social media sites and elsewhere. Website support: SBM staff updated the Law & Media portion of the website for the committee to make it work better for visitors by adding a pdf of a Guide to Legal terms booklet that can be downloaded for free now, rather than only purchased in printed form. SBM Staff also made committees easier to find based on a suggestion made by this committee – by putting committees on the home page of the website, along with sections. Now both sections and committees are available to find from the home page of the website.

[Reset Section](#)

## Future Goals and Activities:

Continue running, developing and updating educational events to keep them relevant and constructively achieving the goals of the SBM strategic plan into the future:

- Develop, recommend, and support programs that promote a positive relationship between the legal community and the media, and accuracy in the reporting of news concerning the law.
- Study and identify sources of friction between the courts, lawyers, and the electronic and print press, and recommend solutions.

[Reset Section](#)

## Committee Activities:

This year the committee was divided into two subcommittees: the McCree Awards Subcommittee and the New Educational Programs Subcommittee.

**McCree Subcommittee:** The members found five judges for the contest, and worked to promote the contest to journalists across the state on social media, by making phone calls and sending emails to their journalism contacts, and by attending journalism conferences and passing on materials about the contest. Because of their efforts there was an outstanding turnout in the contest. Three teams won top honors in the contest: a Bridge Magazine team, Ron French and Ted Roelofs, for their series, "Investigating Michigan's past practice of housing some juvenile inmates in adult prisons"; a WDIV team, including Kevin Dietz, Ro Coppola, Vanessa Ogletree, Ben Bell and John Pompeo, for a series called, "A Journey to Justice"; a Michigan Radio team, Joe Linstroth and Kate Wells, for a series called "Sexual Assault Investigations at MSU: A Broken System, and Efforts to Fix It." An Honorable Mention Award went to Detroit Free Press reporter John Wisely for a story, "Criminal tethers save money, but what about lives?"

This year's McCree Award work was complicated by a decision the Board made in January to no longer allow the panel of judges recruited by the committee to grant awards. The Board wanted the judges to make recommendations of award winners to the Board, who would then make the final decision about awards. The committee members were concerned about this because the contest has always been a professional journalism contest, and has been judged by professional journalists. So they decided to find another home for the contest. A series of three teleconferences, on January 19, January 26, and February 8, were convened to make this process possible. After a lot of hard work, especially on the part of Chairperson Robin Luce-Herrman, a replacement host was found for the McCree Awards. The Michigan Press Association Foundation agreed to take over the awards immediately. They agreed to purchase the actual awards for the journalists. To help with the transition, the State Bar staff continued to run the contest for this year and will transition the administration of the contest to MPAF next year, and the State Bar purchased the tables for contest winners, to support law-related journalism.

Ron Dzwonkowski, vice president of the Michigan Press Association Foundation, presented the McCree Awards at the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on April 17 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The McCree Awards are given each year to foster greater public understanding of the inherent values of the legal and judicial system. The 2016 McCree Awards were judged by former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly, retired West Michigan newspaper publisher Paul Keep, retired West Michigan TV anchor Suzanna Geha, retired WWJ new reporter Pat Sweeting and journalism professor and former reporter and Detroit News executive Susan Bursynski. The Wade H. McCree Jr. Awards for the Advancement of Justice are named for one of the most venerable lawyers and judges in Michigan's history. During his remarkable career, Wade H. McCree Jr. served as a federal judge, University of Michigan law professor, and solicitor general of the United States.

**Educational Program Subcommittee:** Hosted a panel discussion called "Body Cams: Competing Issues of Transparency, Privacy and Constitutional Rights" from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. on March 9 at the Spencer M. Patrich Auditorium at Wayne State University in Detroit. The Wolverine Bar Association co-sponsored the discussion. A panel moderated by chair, Robin Luce-Herrmann and comprised of M.L. Elrick, reporter for Fox 2 Detroit; Rodd Monts, field director for ACLU of MI; Benny Napoleon, Wayne County Sheriff; Mickey Osterreicher, general counsel of the National Press Photographers Association; and Christopher White, member of Detroit Coalition Against Police Brutality, discussed issues police departments face when creating policies to govern the implementation of body cameras. The panel addressed how the use of body cams could affect law enforcement, privacy protection for people caught on body camera footage, access to captured footage, costs related to handling the footage, rules for the proper use of the body camera by police officers and how to handle violations of those rules.

**Other Information:**

The committee reviewed proposed amendments of MCR 3.925, MCR 8.119 and MCR 8.302 and New MCR 5.133 and decided not to submit comments.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	yes 4.26.16	Robin Luce Herrmann
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison	yes 4.26.16	Samantha Meinke, Anne Smith
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Law Related Education & Public Outreach

Jurisdiction: · Make recommendations concerning programs advancing lay understanding of law and the legal profession, with particular emphasis on community programs.  
· Develop a phased implementation process for the Spring 2009 Plan developed at the Law Related Education Summit, identifying measures of success for the plan and evaluating outcomes and communicating progress annually.

#### Co-Chair

P37580

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#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P36511 Michael M. Ellis, Plymouth  
P32697 Roland Hwang, Northville  
P75357 Sterlin Mesadieu, Sterling Heights  
P37580 Allan T. Motzny, Troy

##### Term Ending: 2017

P64942 Kristin D. Arnett, Grand Ledge  
P39998 Roberta M. Gubbins, Mason  
P54333 Margaret J. Krasnoff, Ann Arbor  
Linda Start, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2018

P58386 Sherri L. Belknap, Flint  
P32267 Christina L. DeMoore, Petoskey  
P14020 William J. Giovan, Grosse Pointe Farms  
P74222 Elisa M. Gomez, Jackson  
P58240 Helen M. Haessly, Lansing  
P72508 Shannon Patricia Morton, Ann Arbor  
P62083 Monica Rachele Nuckolls, Auburn Hills  
P66038 Mark E. Plaza, Southfield  
P73705 Diana Shkreli, Detroit

#### Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary Non-Bar Member

Susan Patterson, East Lansing

#### Advisor



Amy Bloom, Waterford

**State Bar Liaison**

P32078 Gregory P. Conyers, Lansing  
Candace A. Crowley, Lansing  
P56508 Lynn P. Ingram, Lansing  
Samantha Meinke, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Joyce Nordeen, Lansing  
Anne M. Smith, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	In person/call in if you can't attend	11.9.16	SBM Lansing
Description			
Meeting Type	Conference call	1.11.16	
Description			
Meeting Type	Conference call	3.7.16	
Description			
Meeting Type	In person/call in if you can't attend	5.9.16	SBM Lansing
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			
Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

This committee has four subcommittees: Michigan Legal Milestones, Law Day, Constitution Day and Law Related Education. The State Bar of Michigan provides a great deal of monetary, organizational and administrative support to the committee and its subcommittees. Such support includes: For the Michigan Legal Milestones Subcommittee: Staff, with assistance of the subcommittee, prepares the text for the milestone plaque; orders the bronze plaque; drafts language for and designs the invitations and programs; assists the subcommittee in contacting key players, including local bar association partners, speakers, and other local dignitaries; compiles guest addresses; mails the invitations; investigates and helps determine site of milestone ceremony and where plaque will be placed; writes speeches for the president and introductions for other speakers; finds a location for a reception/lunch after the dedication; works with the vendor on menu; drafts news releases, blog posts and social media posts; works with local news media to cover the event and the history behind it; creates video of event; take photos; assures preview/and or follow-up coverage of milestone in the Michigan Bar Journal. For the Law Day Subcommittee: Posts a list of local bar association Law Day community events to the website, offers advice and assistance with outreach to schools and local bar associations to encourage participation in Law Day; posts materials gathered for lawyers to use in classrooms on Law Day and to the Law Day portion of www.michbar.org; assists committee with creation of new online Law Day resources; creates and disseminates news release about participation in Law Day. For the Constitution Day Subcommittee: Creates and disseminates press release reminding people to participate in Constitution Day; posts social media updates about Constitution Day; offers advice and assistance with outreach to schools and local bar associations to encourage participation in Constitution Day; posts materials gathered for lawyers to use in classrooms on Constitution Day and to the Constitution Day portion of www.michbar.org. For the Law Related Education Subcommittee: Continues efforts to communicate the value of LRE to others; publicizes the Michigan High School Mock Trial Competition with news releases, social media posts, blog posts; designs brochure for each of the Mock Trial local rounds, as well as the state final round of mock trial tournament; hires and assigns a photographer to capture the state final round of mock trial tournament; crafts post-mock trial news coverage and Michigan Bar Journal coverage. Works to assure more cooperation between LREPO Committee and Michigan Center for Civic Education. Maintains and improves the online Clearinghouse resource.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

The LRE-PO committee will continue to look at ways to improve its subcommittee structure by ensuring that each lawyer member and each non-lawyer member are actively involved in activities that support the overall goals of the LRE-PO committee, and by extension the State Bar of Michigan's strategic plan. Using this subcommittee structure, the committee continues to review, expand, and support public outreach programs in support of the committee's purpose and objectives to (1) implement programming that advances non-lawyer understanding of the law and the legal profession, with a particular emphasis on educational and community programs; and (2) review existing LRE programs for uploading to an online database, review potential collaborative activities among lawyers and educators, review the best methods of communicating the value of LRE in promoting an educated citizenry, as well as implementing evaluation strategies to gain input and feedback on LRE programming. Each of these efforts is aimed at developing a phased in process of implementing highly effective LRE programming. The LRE-PO committee continues to support and implement the SBM Diversity Pledge to ensure that individuals in all 83 Michigan counties have access to SBM activities and meaningful opportunities to participate.

[Reset Section](#)

## Committee Activities:

**Michigan Legal Milestones Subcommittee:** Since 1986 the Michigan Legal Milestone program has recognized significant individuals, places and events in the state's legal history. Bronze plaques commemorating the milestones are located throughout the state – there are even a few up in the U.P. Committee members with the assistance of the State Bar staff write texts for these plaques, and prepare articles for the Bar Journal about each milestone dedication. They also vet speakers for the dedication ceremony, and help determine which speaker will cover what topic, to make for the most interesting dedication ceremonies possible. The 40th Michigan Legal Milestone plaque commemorating The Kalamazoo Case: “Establishing High School For All” will be dedicated on June 21, 2016, and the plaque will be permanently placed in Kalamazoo outside of the Kalamazoo Courthouse. The next milestone will commemorate the fact that Michigan was the first English-speaking territory to ban the death penalty. The subcommittee had three teleconferences throughout the year to plan the next milestone, drafted and edited plaque text, selected speakers for the dedication ceremony, and assigned a Bar Journal article on the topic.

**Law Day Subcommittee:** Proposed permanently discontinuing the Law Day contest, and instead creating a new web page with links to lesson plans and educational materials so attorneys can grab the resources quickly and go into a classroom on Law Day. Potential resources include those prepared by the National Center for State Courts, iCivics.org, and some materials from the State Bar's website, including a comic book that received an award in the Law Day contest.

**Constitution Day:** The subcommittee is looking for ways to get more attorneys and schools involved in Constitution Day activities. The subcommittee has prepared a letter to the state superintendent of schools in order to open a dialogue. The subcommittee also plans on sending a survey to local bar associations in order to determine how this committee can better assist them in their Constitution Day programs in the future.

**Law Related Education:** The Faces of Justice Program is based on a program conducted by the National Association of Women Judges. The program has recruited the Equal Access Initiative, the Law Related Education Subcommittee and Greg Conyers for this effort. A pilot program with the Lansing School District and the Hall of Justice will be developed. The program will attract young people to meet lawyers, judges and law enforcement officers and learn about legal careers from them. The LRE subcommittee works to maintain and update the clearinghouse of law-related education links and resources. Members are going to work more closely with the Michigan Center for Civic Education to evaluate their clearinghouse, and see if the two clearinghouses can work better in closer collaboration. The subcommittee budget also supports the efforts of the Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament, run by the Michigan Center for Civic Education. This past year, four preliminary rounds were held across the state and a state final competition took place in Lansing. Many members of the committee serve as judges and volunteer in other capacities in the competition.

**Other Information:**

Each of the subcommittee chairs provide regular (typically quarterly) written reports related to the activities and progress of their respective subcommittees and provide a verbal report at each of the four regular committee meetings.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	yes 4.2816	Allan T. Motzny
Co-chair		Monica Nuckolls
Staff Liaison	yes	Samantha Meinke and Anne Smith
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Law School Deans

Jurisdiction: · Confer on issues and subjects that affect the law schools of Michigan and the practicing lawyers of Michigan and make recommendations.  
 · Make recommendations concerning legal preparation, law school admissions, education, standards, and testing of candidates for admission to the bar.  
 · The committee consists of the deans of the law schools in Michigan, the officers of the State Bar, and the chair of the Representative Assembly.

#### Chair

P44120 Lori A. Buiteweg  
 Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg PC  
 121 W Washington St Ste 300  
 Ann Arbor MI 48104-1300  
 Phone: (734) 994-3000  
 Fax: (734) 994-1557  
 e-mail: [buiteweg@nsssb.com](mailto:buiteweg@nsssb.com)

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P39401 Dennis M. Barnes, Detroit  
 P44120 Lori A. Buiteweg, Ann Arbor  
 P55501 Jennifer M. Grieco, Birmingham  
 P25908 Lawrence Patrick Nolan, Eaton Rapids  
 P68975 Maribeth Dickerson Preston, Lansing  
 P26723 Donald G. Rockwell, Flint

#### Law School Dean Member

P69342 Jocelyn Michelle Benson, Detroit  
 Phyllis L. Crocker, Detroit  
 Joan Howarth, East Lansing  
 P16496 Don LeDuc, Lansing  
 Mark D. West, Ann Arbor

#### State Bar Liaison

P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
 P42091 Janet K. Welch, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	No meetings were held during 2015-2016		
Description			
Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
Description			

[Reset Section](#)

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

[Reset Section](#)

**Future Goals and Activities:**

It is anticipated that the Law School Deans will meet during the 2016-17 year.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

This committee meets on an as-needed basis. Committee members were involved in the 21st Century Practice Task Force and will continue to advise on the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		Janet K. Welch
Other		

[Reset Section](#)



## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Lawyers & Judges Assistance

Jurisdiction: · Recommend and support programs that provide assistance to lawyers and judges faced with personal and professional problems related to substance use disorder and stress.  
· Review and make recommendations concerning proposed statutes and court rules affecting assistance to lawyers and judges faced with personal and professional problems related to substance use and stress.

#### Co-Chair

P12978 Lawrence Dubin, Detroit  
University of Detroit Mercy School of Law  
651 E Jefferson Ave  
Detroit MI 48226-4349  
Phone: (313) 596-0200  
Fax: (313) 596-0280  
e-mail: ladonlaw@aol.com

P30660 Kenneth M. Gonko, Chesterfield  
The Danielson Group PC  
55921 Gratiot Ave  
Chesterfield MI 48051-1221  
Phone: (586) 749-6400  
Fax: (586) 749-6441  
e-mail: kgonko@dgrouppc.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P76300 Carrie Ann Barnes, Grand Blanc  
P30660 Kenneth M. Gonko, Chesterfield  
P37717 Erwin F. Meiers, III, Flint  
P40890 Amy Neville, Detroit  
P75766 Robert Keith Ochodnicki, Lansing  
P55768 Sean M. Siebigteroth, Grand Blanc

##### Term Ending: 2017

P74174 Emily Conway, Lansing  
P12978 Lawrence Dubin, Detroit  
P35546 Kenneth F. Silver, Bloomfield Hills  
P69133 Larissa Ann Overley Zubac, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2018

P63068 Douglas W. Eyre, Troy  
P26320 Jacqueline George, Eastpointe  
P62781 Kevin Lynn Laidler, Lake Orion  
P22263 Richard T. White, Jr., Waterford

#### Advisor

P23345 Linda Miller Atkinson, Channing

#### State Bar Staff

Kristy Blackmer, Lansing

Jennifer Clark, Lansing  
Molly Ranns, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison**

Tish Vincent, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
Meeting Type		
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[Reset Section](#)

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar of Michigan provides the services of the Staff Liaison to report on LJAP’s activities and assist in leading the meeting, a room, a spider phone and sound system for the purpose of facilitating a conference call for those committee members who cannot attend in person, a meal, administrative services by the LJAP Administrative Assistant, email notification of scheduling of the meeting, emailing of agendas and minutes after the meeting. The State Bar of Michigan provides all administrative functions in support of the committee throughout the year.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

- \* Complete establishment of Lawyer Wellness Foundation treatment fund, a 501(c)(3) entity.
- \* Host second annual Lawyer Wellness Foundation Fun Run this time with a professional organizer.
- \* Host other special events to raise money for the Lawyer Wellness Foundation.
- \* Continue efforts to have law student representatives on the committee.
- \* With input from the Executive Director of SBM consider communication with the AGC about the advisability of limiting the monitoring of impaired attorneys to the LJAP program.

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**Committee Activities:**

- Increase outreach to Affinity Bars to educate on Wellness and Stress Management while putting a face on LJAP and decreasing resistance to reaching out for help.
- Increase outreach to the judiciary by contacting administrators and working with judges on the committee.
- Suggest topics for Wellness articles for The Michigan Bar Journal.
- Increase outreach to law students in the State of Michigan to raise awareness of wellness and stress management issues while providing a personal encounter with LJAP staff to decrease stigma and encourage communication of needs.
- Finalize the establishment of a 501(c)(3) entity that can serve to house and administer a Treatment Fund for attorneys in need of services who do not have the financial means to pay for the services.
- Facilitate communication and integration of services between LJAP and the AGC.
- Work on establishing an Alcoholics Anonymous rapid response team by recovering committee members to individuals calling in distress.
- Work on soliciting student representatives from the state's law schools.
- Work on developing a collection of law school courses for the Professional Responsibility course on Substance Use Disorders and Mental Illness.

**Other Information:**

With the input from the Lawyers & Judges Committee the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program has provided presentations on stress management, dealing with depression and suicide, wellness, conducting evaluations of people in need, monitoring people on contractual probation, and assisting law students who are facing inquiries with Character & Fitness and placing them in monitoring contracts as needed.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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**Article VI §6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan**

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and subentity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or subentity.*

**Committee Name:**

Libraries, Legal Research, and Legal Publications

**Jurisdiction:**

Assist in improving the legal resources at libraries, legal publications, and methods of conducting legal research.

**Chair(s) and Committee Members:**

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Kincaid C. Brown	801 Monroe St Ofc S-110E Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1210	(734) 647-1529	kcb@umich.edu
State Bar Liaison	Lynn P. Ingram	306 Townsend St Lansing, MI 48933-2012	(517) 346-6347	lingram@mail.michbar.org

Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
Nancy Loukus Ballast	Audra Rose McClure
Bernadette Bartlett	Joseph Anthony Novak
Jan Bissett	Ryan C. Painter
Kimberly A. Breitmeyer	Janice K. Selberg
Geraldine Anne Brown	Heather J E Simmons
Kincaid C. Brown	Ruth S. Stevens
Marlene W. Coir	Virginia C. Thomas
Randy E. Davidson	George E. Ward
Barbara H. Garavaglia	Thomas H. Weiss
Barbara H. Goldman	Lance M. Werner
Laura Mancini	Erica Lynne Zimny

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please describe the meeting type and purpose, including the date, time and location. Any additional information required should be attached as an addendum.

Regular Meeting, November 21, 2015, Michael Franck Bldg., Lansing

Virtual Meeting, February 27, 2016

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

Use of meeting room for the November meeting for the year, provision of continental breakfast for the onsite meeting, provision of IT support for the onsite meeting, staff assistance with arrangements, staff assistance with updating the Committee web page and the Michigan Online Legal Resource Center.

**Committee Activities:**

Members and Committee advisors write a monthly column in the MBJ supporting legal research based on the theme of the monthly issue. Articles written in the past year include:

May 2015: Jan Bissett & Margi Heinen, "The Shoulders on Which We Stand"

June 2015: Kim Breitmeyer, "Removing "Bureaucratse" from Government Agency Documents and Orders"

July 2015: Kincaid C. Brown, "Michigan Craft Beer Legislation"

August 2015: Heather J. E. Simmons, "Practical Magic: How the Ancient Art of Storytelling Can Make Us Better Lawyers"

September 2015: No article

October 2015: Janice Selberg, "The 1972 No-Fault Act: Revisiting the Literature"

November 2015: Jan Bissett & Margi Heinen, "Accurately Instructed in the Law"

December 2015: Ryan Painter, "The Drones Have Arrived: Now What?"

January 2016: Randy E. Davidson, "Michigan Appellate Practice Resources"

February 2016: No article

March 2015: No article

April 2015: Bernadette Bartlett, Directory Issue

The Committee updated and made revisions to the Michigan Online Legal Resource Center and added a section on Veterans' Law.

This year, the Committee completed gathering information and discussing the lack of availability of ICLE e-books to libraries and wrote a letter to ICLE requesting discussion on this issue. The Committee also continued our discussion of UELMA (Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act).

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Committee is concerned with the transition of primary legal documents and information to electronic-only formats. We will continue to discuss UELMA and possible steps the Committee might be involved with that can help to maintain the availability of legal information.

The Committee will continue to update the Michigan Online Legal Resource Center.

The Committee will continue to write a monthly column for the Michigan Bar Journal.

**Other Information:**

None.



## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Membership Services

Jurisdiction: · Evaluate and make recommendations concerning the selection, retention, development and marketing of State Bar services and products.  
· Make recommendations concerning programs and services to meet the needs and interests of lawyers in the Upper Peninsula.

#### Chair

P23199 Max R. Hoffman, Jr.  
Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap PC  
124 W Allegan St Ste 1000  
Lansing MI 48933-1736  
Phone: (517) 377-0880  
Fax: (517) 482-0887  
e-mail: mhoffman@fraserlawfirm.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P65327 Mary Chartier-Mittendorf, Lansing  
P63107 Shawn P. Eyestone, Grandville  
P26723 Donald G. Rockwell, Flint  
P42906 Peter R. Tochman, Southfield

##### Term Ending: 2017

P35343 Sharon Alston Ellis, Lansing  
P53907 Linda K. Kisabeth, Auburn Hills  
P71393 Michelle Marie McLean, Grandville

##### Term Ending: 2018

P68359 Sarah E. Henderson, Marquette  
P23199 Max R. Hoffman, Jr., Lansing  
P69809 Joseph L. Hohler, III, Kalamazoo  
P47181 Robert C. Rutgers, Jr., Grand Rapids

#### State Bar Liaison

Kari Thrush, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Amy J. Castner, Lansing  
Tracy L. Sproul, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Committee Meeting	1/7/16	Teleconference
Description	The committee met to review the yearly program report and to discuss new developments in membership services.		
Meeting Type	Committee Meeting	4/22/16	Teleconference
Description	Reviewed new programs to bring to Programs & Services Committee for approval by the BOC.		
Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The Membership Services Committee has worked with State Bar Liaisons, Kari Thrush and Nancy Brown. State Bar staff have routinely provided historical information from records maintained by the State Bar as needed to facilitate the activities of the Membership Services Committee. Thus, we were able to obtain guidance from the past in planning for future programs and services and evaluating State Bar endorsed programs and services. In addition, staff have performed administrative assistance in scheduling meetings and circulating information to committee members for our meetings. Through the collective efforts of the State Bar staff, they have ensured preparation of meeting agendas, minutes, and detailed reports, and they have gathered information to facilitate committee meetings. They have also promptly responded to action items articulated during our meetings to facilitate further committee action.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

To continue to provide quality programs, services, and discounts to State Bar members by making recommendations concerning the selection, retention, development and marketing of State Bar services and products.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

On January 7, 2016 the committee met to review the yearly program report and to discuss new developments and programs to work on for the upcoming year.

Committee met on April 22 to discuss 3 new programs: Credible, a one-stop-shop for student loan refinancing. This program would allow members to search different loan option on one website. It allows the borrower to customize their student loan terms and payment amount based on their individual circumstances allowing them to find the best fit for their needs; Hartsville Pet Insurance, a program that allows members to purchase pet insurance at group rates; LawPay, credit card processing program developed specifically for lawyers that integrates with some of the law practice management software currently being used by our members.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

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### Past Presidents' Advisory Council

Jurisdiction: · Provide counsel and recommendations on all matters concerning the State Bar, at the request of the Board of Commissioners.

#### Chair

P29176 Nancy J. Diehl  
1300 E Lafayette St Ste 1206  
Detroit MI 48207-2921  
Phone: (313) 354-6399  
e-mail: diehlnancyj@sbcglobal.net

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P10237 Dennis W. Archer, Detroit  
P24891 Scott S. Brinkmeyer, Grand Rapids  
P11492 Alfred M. Butzbaugh, Saint Joseph  
P41946 Bruce A. Courtade, Grand Rapids  
P25252 Thomas W. Cranmer, Troy  
P12506 Julia Donovan Darlow, Ann Arbor  
P12709 Michael Hayes Dettmer, Traverse City  
P29176 Nancy J. Diehl, Detroit  
P13130 Brian D. Einhorn, Southfield  
P39282 Julie I. Fershtman, Farmington Hills  
P14185 George A. Googasian, Bloomfield Hills  
P14634 Joseph L. Hardig, Jr., Walloon Lake  
P33975 W. Anthony Jenkins, Detroit  
P15560 Hon. Charles W. Joiner, Naples  
P15782 Ronald D. Keefe, Marquette  
P15945 Thomas G. Kienbaum, Birmingham  
P16265 John A. Krsul, Jr., Troy  
P18035 Eugene D. Mossner, Saginaw  
P18138 Jon R. Muth, Belmont  
P18198 Bruce W. Neckers, Grand Rapids  
P23224 Edward H. Pappas, Troy  
P19340 Hon. Donald L. Reisig, Leland  
P19451 Wallace D. Riley, Grosse Pointe Farms  
P26591 Hon. Victoria A. Roberts, Detroit  
P40392 Thomas C. Rombach, New Baltimore  
P19700 George T. Roumell, Jr., Detroit  
P19808 Thomas J. Ryan, Sylvan Lake  
P33116 Charles R. Toy, Lansing  
P40543 Reginald M. Turner, Jr., Detroit  
P22546 Fred L. Woodworth, Washington

#### State Bar Liaison

P42091 Janet K. Welch, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Annual Meeting	10/8/2015	Surburban Collection, Novi
Description	The SBM Past Presidents Advisory Council met during the SBM Annual Meeting in Novi, MI. At the meeting they received information on past presidents' involvement in the 21st Century Practice Task Force, and on the termination of the SBM Short Story Contest.		
Meeting Type			
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Meeting Type			
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[Reset Section](#)

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

With the assistance of the Chair, prepared the agenda, notified the members of the meeting, and prepared materials. Arranged members' attendance at the Annual Meeting Inaugural Luncheon.

[Reset Section](#)

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The SBM Past Presidents Advisory Council plans to meet during the 2016 Annual Meeting.

[Reset Section](#)

**Committee Activities:**

This committee meets on an as-needed basis. Committee members have provided guidance throughout the year on various issues.

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		Janet K. Welch
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

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### Professional Ethics

**Jurisdiction:** Prepare written opinions on professional ethical conduct at the request of the State Bar President, Board of Commissioners, Representative Assembly, Attorney Discipline Board, Attorney Grievance Commission, Executive Director, or individual members of the State bar inquiring about their own contemplated conduct.  
Recommend amendments to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct and other standards of professional conduct, and review proposed amendments.

#### Chair

P17865 Kenneth M. Mogill  
Mogill Posner & Cohen  
27 E Flint St Ste 2  
Lake Orion MI 48362-3220  
Phone: (248) 814-9470  
Fax: (248) 814-8231  
e-mail: kmogill@bignet.net

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P25499 Patrick M. Barrett, Birmingham  
P24756 Charles W. Borgsdorf, Ann Arbor  
P31680 Keefe A. Brooks, Birmingham  
P71410 Andrew Carl Goetz, Detroit

##### Term Ending: 2017

P46908 Lori Grigg Bluhm, Troy  
P60431 Kevin L. Francart, Lansing  
P53658 Kristen L. Getting, Battle Creek  
P61042 Tina S. Gray, Williamston  
P42953 Edward J. Hood, Detroit  
P38904 Martha D. Moore, Auburn Hills  
P62064 Nicholas M. Ohanesian, Grand Rapids

##### Term Ending: 2018

P13130 Brian D. Einhorn, Southfield  
P57346 Thomas H. Howlett, Bloomfield Hills  
P74652 Ebony Renee Hughes, Berkley  
P57138 Richard T. Karcher, Ypsilanti  
P76029 Saima Rehman Khalil, Warren  
P70510 Sarah Suzanne Prescott, Northville  
P72190 Linda Jeanetta Rawls, Flint

#### State Bar Liaison

P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
P38916 Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn, Lansing  
P62825 Alecia M. Ruswinckel, Lansing  
Karen Spohn, Lansing

#### Attorney Discipline Board Liaisons

Mark A. Armitage  
Wendy A. Neeley

#### Attorney Grievance Commission Liaisons

Alan Gershel  
Rhonda Pozehl

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	May 8, 2015	State Bar building
Description	The committee reaffirmed its opposition to value-added provisions in family law matters, approved two draft opinions, formed a workgroup to consider recommendations of the ABA 20/20 Commission, and decided on how to respond to new opinion requests.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	June 26, 2015	Teleconference
Description	The committee was updated on the BOC's decision declining further communication on the value-added amendments to MRPC 1.5, discussed two workgroup reports regarding draft opinions in progress, and decided on how to respond to new opinion requests.		
Meeting Type	Specially scheduled meeting	Sept. 25, 2015	State Bar building
Description	The Committee received an update on the 21st Century Practice Task Force, approved one draft opinion, and discussed three workgroups reports regarding draft opinions in progress and revisions to the MRPC based on the ABA 20/20 Commission proposals.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Oct. 25, 2015	State Bar building
Description	Brief new member orientation occurred, overview of 21st Century Practice Task Force work was given, discussion of two workgroups reports regarding draft opinions in progress, and approved recommendations to adopt ABA Model Rules 1.18 and 4.4(b).		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Mar. 4, 2016	State Bar building
Description	Brief update on the BOC's consideration of a proposed formal opinion was given, discussion of two workgroups reports regarding draft opinions in progress and the ABA proposal to amend Model Rule 8.4, and decided how to respond to new opinion requests.		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled quarterly meeting	Apr. 22, 2016	State Bar building
Description	Reviewed BOC modifications to a proposed formal opinion, discussed two workgroup reports on a draft opinion and FAQs, formed a workgroup for a new opinion request, and received an update on the ABA's work on proposed amendments of Model Rule 8.4.		

[Reset Section](#)
**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar provides staff support for the work of the Committee through three staff counsel and the administrative assistance of a legal secretary. The State Bar also provides meeting facilities, food and beverage for meetings, SharePoint, SBM Connect, teleconferencing services, meeting materials, document production services, and other ethics resources as needed to support the work of the Committee.

[Reset Section](#)
**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Committee continues to identify issues of interest to Michigan lawyers based on questions presented by letter or through the ethics helpline that might be the appropriate subject of an opinion either because the topic has not previously been addressed, changes in the area requires updates to existing opinions, and innovative use of technology to enhance the delivery of legal services. To the extent that the Committee's input is sought by the Board of Commissioners, the Representative Assembly, or the Supreme Court on discrete issues or projects, the Committee stands ready to respond with appropriate research and commentary. The Committee's last quarterly meeting for this bar year is scheduled for June 24, 2016. The Committee has also reserved August 12, 2016, if a special meeting is needed to complete any ongoing projects or address new matters requiring attention before its fall meeting.

[Reset Section](#)

## Committee Activities:

During each committee meeting, members discuss proposed topics for ethics opinions to decide whether to prepare an opinion or other response; receive updates about pending matters; and discuss and debate opinions in progress. Additionally, members receive information about and discuss inquiries received through letter requests and the State Bar's ethics helpline and address other matters as they arise, such as proposed changes to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct. Between meetings, workgroups (identified during meetings) research and review materials on identified topics, meet by teleconference, and prepare memos and/or draft opinions for review, debate, edits, and action by the committee.

Since its last Annual Report, the committee has approved a recommendation to the BOC to amend the MRPC to include Model Rules 1.18 and 4.4(b) with relevant revisions and approved four ethics opinions for publication addressing the ethical concerns described below.

Where a lawyer enters into a contingent-fee agreement with a client in a personal injury case—and charges the maximum one-third fee permitted by law—the lawyer may not ethically charge an additional contingent fee for resolving a related medical lien. Resolving a medical lien is part of the same “claim or action” as the underlying personal injury case under MRPC 1.5(c) and MCR 8.121 and is therefore covered by the original contingent fee.

Internet domain names and website addresses are a form of public communication concerning legal services that must comply with MRPC 7.1.

A lawyer representing a client in a matter seeking recovery of personal protection No-Fault benefits may submit proof of loss on the client's behalf to the insurer, even when the insurer is represented by counsel without running afoul of MRPC 4.2. Any communications with a represented insurer beyond submission of the proof of loss violate MRPC 4.2.

Michigan lawyers are strongly encouraged to prepare a comprehensive succession plan specific for their law practices to protect their clients and to uphold their duties under the MRPC should they become unavailable due to death, disability, discipline, disappearance, or any other circumstance.

The committee also recommended two of its opinions for approval as formal opinion by the Board of Commissioners (BOC). The BOC approved formal opinion R-22 which opines that a lawyer cannot ethically abdicate the lawyer's responsibilities under MRPC 1.15 and 1.15A by establishing and relinquishing control of a dedicated client trust account to a client. The BOC continues to consider a proposed formal opinion pertaining the issue of a lawyer including provisions in their fee agreements to require arbitration of future disputes regarding the representation and shortening the statute of limitations within which the client might assert a malpractice claim.

**Other Information:**

Not applicable.

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison	May 13, 2016	Danon D. Goodrum-Garland
Other		

[Reset Section](#)

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Publications and Website Advisory

Jurisdiction: · Provide editorial guidance concerning the Michigan Bar Journal, the State Bar of Michigan website, and other regular State Bar publications for the general membership or public.  
· Provide guidance to the Practice Management Resource Center (PMRC) in the development, maintenance and evaluation of resources, programs, and services designed to help members build and strengthen their law practices, with particular emphasis on the use of online resources as the primary vehicle to market and disseminate PMRC services.

#### Chair

TO BE DETERMINED  
ASAP MI

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P54833	William J. Ard, Williamston
P55883	David M. Cohen, Detroit
P24871	Stephen D. Conley, Jackson
P41868	Margaret A. Costello, Detroit
P66167	David R. Dyki, Troy
P70937	Jessica S. Fox, Eaton Rapids
P70893	Brendan Henry Frey, Southfield
P37042	John O. Juroszek, Lansing
P34018	Joseph Kimble, Lansing
P27553	Richard C. Kraus, Lansing
P34424	Gerard Mantese, Troy
P17238	John P. Mayer, Grosse Ile
P30223	Neal Nusholtz, Troy
P19763	John R. Runyan, Jr., Detroit
P55685	Rebecca A. Schnelz, Pontiac
P65372	Christopher R. Trudeau, Grand Rapids
P45320	Linda M. Watson, Birmingham
P52715	Roberta J. F. Wray, Flint
P57129	Tyra L. Wright, Detroit

#### State Bar Liaison

Nancy Brown, Lansing  
Linda Novak, Lansing

#### State Bar Liaison Assistant

Sandra Barger, Lansing

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## STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Meeting Type	General Meeting	9/16/15
Description	The committee held only one meeting during the past year. Meetings are usually scheduled by the chair, and the committee was hampered during the past year by the absence of a chair following Francine Cullari's resignation in September. Nevertheless, the committee continued its work seamlessly.	
Meeting Type		
Description		
Meeting Type		
Description		
Meeting Type		
Description		
Meeting Type		
Description		
Meeting Type		
Description		

[Reset Section](#)**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The SBM staff is nothing short of incredible, providing consistent, timely service to PWAC. The committee has had services beyond the call of duty from the following staffers this year:

Nancy Brown, Director of Member & Communications Services, continued excellence on a professional and personal level  
 Linda Novak, Editor, the once-and-always-queen of the Michigan Bar Journal  
 Diane Ebersole, Law Practice Solutions column  
 Mike Eidelbes, Copy Editor/Writer and PWAC reporter, who takes flawless minutes and has edited many legal brochures this year  
 JoAnn Hathaway, Law Practice Solutions column  
 Chelsea Huber, Citation Support  
 Stacy Marciniak, Advertising  
 Samantha Melinko, Communications Manager  
 Joyce Nordeen, Editorial Assistant  
 Sarah Nussbaumer, Contributing Graphic Designer  
 Sus Oudeema, April Directory  
 Carrie Shadow, excellent MBJ Michigan Lawyers In History articles  
 Karl Thrush, member services ads/Annual Meeting materials  
 Tish Vincent, Practicing Wellness

The SBM also provides a website for members, publications for members and the public, and a PWAC web forum for committee work in addition to teleconferencing capability, meeting rooms, and refreshments.

[Reset Section](#)**Future Goals and Activities:**

On August 5, 2015, Nancy Brown and Jim Horsch issued a report and recommendation entitled "Alternatives to a Free Printed Bar Journal Directory as a Standard Member Benefit, and Recommendation to Change this Member Benefit" (attached). A poll of PWAC members was taken and the committee narrowly favored recommended Option 3. The committee will undoubtedly be involved in implementing this change during the remainder of 2016 and during early 2017.

[Reset Section](#)

## STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Committee Activities:**

The committee is a recommending body to the SBM Board of Directors and staff regarding many print and online services and communications to members. PWAC continually monitors and updates the SBM website, develops the Bar Journal, the Practice Management Resource Center, the April Directory, and various legal publications of the Bar.

In 2015–2016, SBM President Lori A. Bulteweg appointed three new members with exceptional credentials to PWAC: David Dyki of Troy, Neal Nusholtz of Troy, and Rebecca Schnelz of Pontiac. Vice Chair John Runyan also received the Distinguished Service Award from the SBM Labor and Employment Law Section.

**WEBSITE**

The new SBM website was fully implemented in May 2015. The new site offers a fresh look and feel, 100 percent mobile-friendly web pages, three main-content buttons for easy navigation, a home-page banner carousel, management tools for multiple administrators, and load balancing servers for peak usage time.

The online member directory is used as a trusted resource for accurate information. Through the SBM partnership with ZeebBee, members can build an expanded profile, pull in a profile already built on LinkedIn, add videos and articles, and link to blogs and websites—all for free. When SBM rolled out the new member directory in January 2015, staff heard positive and negative comments from many members about the new design. Since that time, significant improvements have been made: searches are faster, the directory is easier and more intuitive to navigate, it is cleaner in appearance, and members can choose the format of the search results that best fit individual preferences.

The PWAC Web Subcommittee, composed of Brendan Frey and John Mayer, completed a review of the new website and reported on the positive changes to the full PWAC at the September 2015 meeting.

**BAR JOURNAL**

Under the continued unparalleled editorship of Linda Novak, MBJ published four general issues\* and seven theme issues this year, including:

Public Corporation Law (September 2015)  
 Master Lawyers (October 2015)  
 Young Lawyers (November 2015)  
 Aviation Law (December 2015)  
 Appellate Practice (January 2016)  
 Intellectual Property Law (February 2016)  
 Marijuana Law (August 2016)

\* In August 2015, the Bar Journal published the top four entries in the biennial short-story contest. The contest was marred this year when it was discovered that one of the entries—not included in the Journal but a link to which was briefly published on the website—was written by an admitted white supremacist. PWAC deeply regrets any embarrassment or damage to the reputation of SBM caused by the attention briefly afforded this story.

Various committee members have written articles or columns and edited theme issues:

Authors: Margaret Costello, "The Evolution of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association" (February 2016); Francine Cullari, "Local and Special Purpose Bar Associations, Introduction" (February 2016); Richard Kraus, "Appellate Practice Theme Introduction" (January 2016); Gerard Mantese, "Lights, Camera, Action! The Power of Video Depositions in Business Litigation (February 2016);" John Runyan, Do The Right Thing: Make Ethics Your Brand, book review (October 2016)

Column Editors: Joseph Kimble, Plain Language; and Gerard Mantese, Trial Practice

General Issue Editors: Richard Kraus (March 2016); John Mayer (March, May, and July 2016); Christopher Trudeau (June 2016)

Theme Issues Editors: William Ard (November 2015); Jessica Fox (November 2015); John Juroszek (December 2015); Richard Kraus (January 2016); John Runyan (October 2015)

In 2015–2016, committee members reviewed 31 unsolicited articles, with Richard Kraus at the helm of the review process, identifying subject matters experts and secondary reviewers for each article.

**PMRC**

The Practice Management Resource Center manages an Overdrive Digital Library and a hardcover library, adding several new titles this year.

The following seminars, webinars, and podcasts were held:

- 45 in 45! Tips, Sites, Gadgets, Tools for Your Firm—UMLI 05/11/15
- 21st Century Boot Camp—State Bar of Michigan 05/11/15
- How to Do More in Less Time—Webinar 06/19/2015
- The Paperless Office: No Document Left Behind! —2015 SBM Annual Meeting/SSFI 09/15
- Malpractice Insurance for Lawyers—UDM College of Law 10/28/15
- Voice Recognition Technology for Lawyers—Webinar 11/10/15
- Digital Dictation for Lawyers—11/17/15
- What Paralegals Need to Know About Going Paperless—Legal Talk Network 02/17/16
- 21st Century Boot Camp—MSU Law School 01/15/16
- Law Practice Technology Essentials: Young Lawyers Oakland County—Bloomfield Hills 02/04/16

Upcoming:

- iPad and iPhone Tips, Apps, and Accessories for the Indispensable Paralegal—NBI, Inc. 04/27/16
- iLitigate on My iPad—SBM/UMLI 06/10/16
- Cybersecurity Insurance for Lawyers—2016 SBM Annual Meeting/SSFI 09/16
- The Road Warrior's Briefcase—2016 SBM Annual Meeting/SSFI 09/16

In addition to general training, the PMRC conducted mandatory practice management consultations at the request of the AGC or ADB for members in the disciplinary process.

In partnership with the ABA Law Practice Division, the PMRC syndicates and sends to its mailing list the e-zine Law Practice Today. It also oversees and authors monthly articles for the Law Practice Solutions column in the Michigan Bar Journal.

Additionally, the PMRC has updated its website with more than 100 resources (purging and adding) and revitalized its "opt-in" e-mail list for practice management updates.


**Legal Publications**

As part of an ongoing effort, PWAC members and SBM sections and staff members continued updating the collection of more than 20 print brochures, which cover topics ranging from probate matters to serving on a jury. Most notably, the brochures were completely redesigned; a system was also created to better track publication dates.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Other Information:**

[Reset Section](#)

Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		
Co-chair	John Runyan	John Runyan
Staff Liaison	Linda Novak 	Linda Novak
Other		

e-Mail Form

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## **Alternatives to a Free Printed Bar Journal Directory as a Standard Member Benefit, and Recommendation to Change this Member Benefit**

Currently, a printed directory is distributed for free to all members, law students and affiliates. The printed directory consists of name and contact information listings of all members, as well as the following information:

- Advertising (Lawyer to Lawyer referral ads – fields of practice)
- Lawyer Associations
- Listing of Michigan Law Schools
- Lawyer Discipline
- ICLE information
- Sections of the State Bar (web addresses)
- Dispute Resolution Programs
- Foreign Consular Offices
- Geographic Roster (both inside and outside of Michigan)
- Legal Programs by County
- Litigator's List
- Michigan Courts Directory
- Federal Courts and agencies
- Tribal Courts
- Michigan Government
- Michigan Lawyer Distribution
- Military Legal Assistance

The number of pages in the member directory for the current year totals 646 pages (85%) and the additional information as noted above consists of 118 pages (15%), out of a total of 764 pages.

A total of 30,132 members (60%) and 566 (87%) of law students and affiliates still receive the printed April directory, and the remainder have voluntarily "opted out" of the printed directory. All members have access to and are included in the on-line member directory powered by ZeekBeek (which provides for pictures, bios and other enhanced directory information), as well as the online "classic" SBM directory. The additional information provided in the April print directory can also be located on the SBM website.

In past surveys, some members have reported they find the print directory valuable, while others (especially those who have opted out) do not value the print directory. A vast majority of members have online access, as about 96% of dues paying members (active and inactive) have e-mail addresses.

The main problem with the printed directory of members is that as soon as the list of members is compiled in January for publication in April, the directory is out of date due to new members, deceased members, status changes (including going on or coming off of disciplinary status, and changes between active, inactive, emeritus and resignation status), address and contact information changes, changes of firm, name changes, and other changes.

The other issue with the printed directory is that its direct revenues does not cover its direct costs. For the FY 2016 budget, the revenue totals \$81,500, (including display and classified ads of \$47,000, fields of

practice of \$20,000, and sales of directory of \$14,500); whereas the expense is \$151,000, (including artwork, illustration and typesetting of \$16,000, printing, addressing and mailing of \$ 40,000, paper of \$60,000, and postage of \$35,000), not including staff time, for a net cost of \$69,500.

A number of other state bars have eliminated their printed member directory, including Wisconsin, Oregon, and Minnesota.

In response to the review by the Finance Committee during their meeting on July 7, 2015, there are some viable alternatives to the printed directory as a standard member benefit that would help address these issues:

Option 1 - Discontinue printed directory as a free member benefit. Members would have the option to use the online member directory, as well as view the additional information online, or purchase a printed directory for a fee.

Option 2 - Continue providing a printed version of the additional information as a repackaged publication, without the member directory, as a free member benefit. Members would be able to use the online member directory only.

Option 3 - Continue providing a printed version of the additional information as a repackaged publication, without the member directory, as a free member benefit. Members would have the option to use the online directory, or purchase a printed directory for a fee.

A financial and member impact analysis for each option is shown below:

**Option 1 - Discontinue printed directory as a free member benefit. Members would have the option to use the online member directory, as well as view the additional information online, or purchase a printed directory for a fee.**

This option would significantly reduce the advertising revenue. If we assume that the cost of paper, printing and mailing is reduced by 100%, and only 10% of the current ad revenue is retained, and that the revenue from directory sales covers the cost of paper, printing and mailing the directories, then the net cost would be reduced by over \$60,000 annually. From a member standpoint, it is likely that there would be some members who complain, as there were with other bars when they discontinued the paper directory, but that over time the complaints have subsided.

**Option 2 – Continue providing a printed version of the additional information as a repackaged publication, without the member directory, as a free member benefit. Members would be able to use the online member directory only.**

This option would retain the advertising revenue, and reduce the cost of printing, paper and mailing by about 80% based on the pages. With these assumptions, the net cost would be reduced by about \$108,000, making the publication profitable on at direct cost net of direct revenue basis. From a member standpoint, the member would still be receiving a publication with information they may find helpful, but would need to be comfortable using the online directory.

**Option 3 – Continue providing a printed version of the additional information as a repackaged publication, without the member directory, as a free member benefit. Members would have the option to use the online directory, or purchase a printed directory for a fee.**

This option would retain the advertising revenue, and reduce the cost of printing, paper and mailing by about 80% based on the pages. In addition, it is assumed that the revenue received from purchase of a printed directory would cover the direct cost of paper, printing and mailing. With these assumptions, the net cost would be reduced by about \$108,000, making the publication profitable on a direct cost net of direct revenue basis. From a member standpoint, the member would still be receiving a publication with information they may find helpful, and if they wanted a paper member directory, they could order it for a fee. This option would be the best option from a financial and member standpoint.

### **Conclusions**

From a financial and member benefit standpoint, it is recommended that option 3 be considered.

### **Implementation**

We recommend reviewing the recommendation with the BOC Finance Committee and the BOC Programs and Services Committee (as well as the Publications and Website Advisory Committee and Membership Services Committee that feed into the Programs and Services Committee). The Finance Committee and Programs and Services Committee would present their final recommendation to the BOC at its November or January meeting for approval. Assuming approval, the membership would be notified in early 2016 that this would be the last printed free member directory, and explain the reasons for the change which is not only financial and environmental, but for more accuracy of the attorney information, as the printed directory is out of date before it is printed, and may provide erroneous attorney status and contact information. The communication of the change and the reasons for the change would continue in FY 2016 and early FY 2017, and then preorders could be taken for the printed member directory for a fee in January 2017. The repackaged informational publication would be printed in April, 2017, and would end the free printing of the member directory as we know it today.

Sincerely,

Nancy Brown, Director of Member Services and Communications

Jim Horsch, Director of Finance & Administration

August 5, 2015

## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.*

### Unauthorized Practice of the Law

Jurisdiction: · Provide guidance concerning matters involving the alleged unauthorized practice of the law, including the filing and prosecution of actions seeking to enjoin the unauthorized practice.  
· Propose and support measures to educate the public and the legal profession about unauthorized practice of law issues.

#### Co-Chair

P52724 Barbara BakerOmerod, Owosso  
Aamazon Legal Services PLLC  
312 N Water St  
Owosso MI 48867-2810  
Phone: (989) 723-8222  
Fax: (989) 723-8223  
e-mail: bbo@attybbo.com

P72511 Sean Michael Cowley, Detroit  
Us Dept of Justice US Trustee Office  
211 W Fort St Ste 700  
Detroit MI 48226-3263  
Phone: (313) 226-3432  
Fax: (313) 226-7952  
e-mail: Sean.Cowley@usdoj.gov

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P30102 Robert C. Anderson, Marquette  
P52724 Barbara BakerOmerod, Owosso  
P11444 James Booth Burr, Jr., Grand Rapids  
P59050 Katherine Sue Gardner, Frankenmuth  
P40861 Christopher G. Hastings, Grand Rapids  
P58801 Lisa M. Robinson Martin, Novi  
P44184 Meghan Kennedy Riordan, Detroit  
P53974 Kandra K. Robbins, Lansing  
P35047 Phillip A. Schaedler, Adrian  
P71603 Corey J. Wiggins, Cadillac

##### Term Ending: 2017

P61778 David M. Dell, Bloomfield Hills  
P47904 Richard M. Delonis, Plymouth  
P66167 David R. Dyki, Troy  
P72255 Ronald D. Griffith, Jr., Saline  
P28487 Michael A. Gunderson, Detroit  
P73382 Christine Marie Heckler, Brighton  
P33991 Nora M. Hudson, Detroit  
P56994 David S. McDaniel, Ann Arbor  
P17874 Philip M. Moilanen, Jackson

##### Term Ending: 2018

P80152 Farah Raid Hashim Al-khersan, Troy  
P38633 David R. Brake, Lansing  
P72511 Sean Michael Cowley, Detroit  
P75132 Kathleen M. Hawkins, Jackson

P68725 Peter M. Neu, Holt  
P20667 James Albert Smith, Clinton Township

**Advisor**

P69745 Howard H. Brauckmuller, Troy  
P56521 Stephen J. Gobbo, Lansing  
P38857 Theresa Valentine, Bloomfield Hills

**State Bar Liaison**

Amy Emmons, Lansing  
P53603 Danon D. Goodrum-Garland, Lansing  
P45515 Laurin' C. Roberts Thomas, Lansing

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled meeting	July 23, 2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	See brief description on page 5 under "other information."		
Meeting Type	Regularly scheduled meeting	October 22, 2015	Teleconference
Description	See brief description on page 5 under "other information."		
Meeting Type	Follow-up meeting to October 22, 2015	December 3, 2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	See brief description on page 5 under "other information."		
Meeting Type	Regularly schedule meeting (canceled)	January 21, 2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	Based on the progress of investigations on UPL complaints, the January meeting was canceled with direction from the Co-Chairs that Subcommittees should continue their work and plan to report during the next regularly scheduled meeting.		
Meeting Type	Regularly schedule meeting	April 21, 2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	See brief description on page 5 under "other information."		
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

The State Bar provides staff support via the administrative assistance of a paralegal and two staff counsel who provide legal services and manages the State Bar's UPL Department.

The State Bar also provides meeting facilities, food and beverage for meetings, SharePoint, SBM Connect, teleconferencing services, meeting materials, document production services, and a small budget to support the UPL Committee's community outreach projects. In addition, the State Bar staff provides informational pamphlets to SBM members, the general public, and to other institutions serving the public to educate the public and legal profession about the UPL.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Committee will continue to expand its community outreach activities to educate the public and State Bar members regarding the UPL and develop and use creative and proactive measures in addressing the UPL. The UPL Committee once again embraced educational and outreach efforts through UPL Subcommittees as part of its strategic planning process in August 2014. The current Subcommittees are as follows: UPL Trust Mills/Estate Planning Outreach (Chair to be determined based on program in 2016, every other year), UPL Family Law Outreach (Co-chairs Katherine Sue Gardner and Barbara Baker Omerdo), UPL Immigration Subcommittee (Chair Meghan Riordan Kennedy), UPL Real Property Outreach (Chair David Brake), UPL Communication (Chair Sean Cowley), UPL Social/Web-based Media (David Dyki), and Strategic Planning Subcommittee (UPL Standing Committee Co-Chairs for next bar year). All of the Subcommittees have regularly met telephonically and are actively working on educational materials that will be disseminated in a variety of ways in the upcoming months.

As result of the efforts of Member Meghan Riordan, the Committee has formed an active partnership with USCIS – Detroit Office to address persons engaged in the unauthorized practice of law regarding immigration matters. The USCIS' fraud unit does the initial investigation based on information presented to it and then submits the UPL Complaints to the State Bar with its investigative information. Plans for a community outreach program focusing on a specific immigrant community is underway.

In preparation of the 2017 "Who Should You Trust" seminar, the will subcommittee reconvene Summer of 2016.

The UPL Committee's last quarterly meeting for this bar year is scheduled for July 21, 2016.

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**Committee Activities:**

On July 22, 2015, the UPL Immigration Subcommittee met with ACCESS (a nonprofit organization focusing on community service, cultural and social entrepreneurship, healthy lifestyles, education, and philanthropy) representatives at its facilities in Dearborn sharing purposes and goals for providing assistance to immigrants and discussed possible outreach efforts, such as town hall forums, local television and talk radio programming, and communication in community-based newspapers and newsletters.

**Other Information:**

July 23, 2015, Meeting Description: The Committee reviewed and discussed UPL complaints, requested additional follow-up by staff counsel on a two matters to informally resolve them, and recommended two matters for litigation. The six subcommittee chairs, David Dyki for UPL Social Media and Web-based Media, Sean Cowley for UPL Communications, Christine Heckler and Barbara BakerOmerod for Guardianships Petitions, Patsy Holmes for UPL Real Property, Megan Kennedy Riordan for UPL Immigration, and Katherine Gardner for UPL Family Law gave a brief overview of activities and projects underway. After review and discussion of a letter from the Elder Law & Disability Rights Section requesting an opinion or adoption of the Florida UPL opinion regarding nonlawyer Medicaid planners, the Committee declined to take any action as the request exceeded its jurisdiction.

October 22, 2015, Meeting Description: Co-Chairs reviewed the quarterly meeting dates and gave an overview of goals to be achieved during the bar year. The UPL Strategic Planning Subcommittee Chaired by Co-Chairs Sean Cowley and Barbara BakerOmerod gave a brief overview of the strategic goals for the bar year and its recommendations regarding subcommittees to continue activity during the new bar year. Staff Counsel gave an update on the work of the State Bar's 21st Century Practice Task Force and the possible implications of the work of the UPL Committee. Staff Counsel discussed accessibility of meeting materials on SBM Connect and SharePoint.

December 3, 2015, Meeting Description: Co-Chairs conducted new member orientation and reviewed the quarterly meeting schedule. The Committee reviewed and discussed UPL complaints, directed additional follow-up by staff counsel on several matters to informally resolve them, and recommended three matters for litigation. Staff counsel gave a brief update on the "Future of Legal Services" program. The five subcommittee chairs, David Dyki for UPL Social Media and Web-based Media, Sean Cowley for UPL Communications, David Brake for UPL Real Property, Megan Kennedy Riordan for UPL Immigration, and Katherine Gardner for UPL Family Law gave a brief overview of activities and projects underway.

April 21, 2016, Meeting Description: The Committee reviewed and discussed UPL complaints, requested additional follow-up by staff counsel on several matters to informally resolve them, and recommended four matters for litigation. The five subcommittee chairs, David Dyki for UPL Social Media and Web-based Media, Sean Cowley for UPL Communications, David Brake for UPL Real Property, Megan Kennedy Riordan for UPL Immigration, and Katherine Gardner for UPL Family Law gave a brief overview of activities and projects underway. Staff counsel gave an overview on several ABA Futures reports, the SBM 21st Century Practice Task Force recommendations and reveal reception, and several articles.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	May 10, 2016	Sean Cowley and Barbara BakerOmerod
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		
Other		

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## State Bar of Michigan | 2015-2016 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

### Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

*Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.*

### United States Courts

Jurisdiction: · Make recommendations concerning the administration, organization and operation of the United States Courts for the purpose of securing the effective administration of justice.  
· Two members are judges designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and one member is a judge designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan

#### Chair

P76765 Jan Meir Geht  
Bowerman Bowden Ford Clulo & Luyt PC  
620 Woodmere Ave Ste A  
Traverse City MI 49686-3397  
Phone: (231) 941-8048  
Fax: (231) 941-8192  
e-mail: geht@traverselaw.com

#### Member

##### Term Ending: 2016

P76765 Jan Meir Geht, Traverse City  
P63337 Kelley Megan Haladyna, Detroit  
P29077 Mark W. McInerney, Detroit  
P24845 Lynn H. Shecter, Birmingham

##### Term Ending: 2017

P35869 John A. Ferroli, Grand Rapids  
P61501 Matthew W. Heron, Livonia  
P29411 Gregory V. Murray, Bingham Farms  
P49237 John P. Nicolucci, Lansing

##### Term Ending: 2018

P53995 Dean M. Googasian, Bloomfield Hills  
P47394 Thaddeus E. Morgan, Lansing  
P41850 Michael W. Puerner, Hastings  
P53319 Adam B. Strauss, Portage

#### Non-Bar Member

David Weaver, Detroit

#### Member Appointed by U.S. Eastern District Courts

P40295 Hon. Terrence G. Berg, Flint  
P55882 Judith E. Levy, Ann Arbor

#### Member Appointed by U.S. Western District Courts

Phillip J. Green, Grand Rapids

#### Advisor

P61375 Peter M. Falkenstein, Ann Arbor

#### Federal Bar Association Advisor, Eastern District

P29411 Gregory V. Murray, Bingham Farms

#### Federal Bar Association Advisor, Western District

P75651 Elinor Ruby Jordan, East Lansing

**State Bar Liaison**

P37083 Clifford T. Flood, Lansing

**State Bar Liaison Assistant**

Janna Sheppard, Lansing

**Non-Member**

P45777 Thomas L. Dorwin, Grand Rapids

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type		Date	Location
Description			
Meeting Type	Regular Committee Meeting	10/21/2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type	Regular Committee Meeting	11/18/2015	State Bar of Michigan
Description	In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type	Regular Committee Meeting	01/20/2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type	Regular Committee Meeting	03/16/2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description	In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type	Bench-Bar Committee Dinner	05/12/2016	Detroit
Description	Dinner to be held at Traffic Jam & Snug with Eastern and Western District Judges in attendance.		
Meeting Type			
Description			

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**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:**

Besides providing the resources called for in Article VI, Section 7 of the State Bar Bylaws, the State Bar provided meeting space, equipped with telephone conferencing capabilities, and State Bar Liaisons Clifford T. Flood and Janna Sheppard provided administrative support, including attending each meeting and assisted in preparing and circulating meeting agendas and minutes. Further, the State Bar incurred the expenses for the Annual Bench Bar dinner.

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**Future Goals and Activities:**

The Committee will continue to:

1. review and, when appropriate, comment on proposed amendments to the Federal Rules and to local rules.
2. educate members of the Bar of significant rule changes through articles or other means .
3. review 6th Circuit en banc opinions and when appropriate, publish a summary in the Michigan Bar Journal.
4. promote a statewide Bench/Bar Conference by coordinating activities of the Eastern and Western Districts FBA chapters.
5. sponsor an Annual Bench Bar dinner with judges and magistrate judges of the Eastern and Western Districts.

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**Committee Activities:**

1. Reviewed proposed federal rule amendments and with approval of the State Bar, submitted to the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, a proposed amendment to the FRCP 45(b)(1).
2. Promoted the exchange of information between the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan regarding operation and administrative functions and procedures and opportunities for cooperation.
3. Published an article in the Michigan Bar Journal regarding December 1, 2015 amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
4. Drafted an article that was published in the MBJ regarding en banc opinions of the 6th Circuit during the previous term.
5. Sponsored an annual bench-bar dinner with judges and magistrates of the Eastern and Western Districts (alternates yearly between the two Districts), currently scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 2016 in Detroit. The dinner is intended to provide an opportunity for the judges and Committee members to meet and discuss common issues.

**Other Information:**

To promote continuity and assist in an orderly transition from year to year, the Committee will continue to elect a committee vice-chairperson at the first meeting of each year and at the appropriate time, respectfully request that the incoming SBM President appoint the vice-chair as the Committee's chairperson for the ensuing year.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair	X	Jan Meir Geht
Co-chair	n/a	
Staff Liaison	X	Clifford T. Flood and Janna Sheppard
Other	x	Members

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