

State Bar of Michigan | 2016-2017 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.

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 vice-president is a member of this committee.

Co-Chair

- P44120 Lori A. Buiteweg, Ann Arbor
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Member

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, Farmington Hills

Term Ending: 2018

- P33443 Brian D. Figot, Farmington Hills
P39817 Brian L. Morrow, Detroit
P21809 Carl E. Ver Beek, Grand Rapids

Term Ending: 2019

- P31358 Nan Elizabeth Casey, East Lansing
P41868 Margaret A. Costello, Detroit
P55501 Jennifer M. Grieco, Birmingham
P67570 Elizabeth A. Kitchen-Troop, Ann Arbor

State Bar Liaison

Samantha Meinke, Lansing

State Bar Liaison Assistant

Joyce Nordeen, Lansing
Anne M. Smith, Lansing

Committee Meeting Schedule:

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

**Please keep meeting descriptions brief.*

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Meeting Type Conference Call	11.16.16	
Description	Introductory call explaining annual process	
Meeting Type Conference Call	1.25.17	
Description	Call to finalize outreach efforts	
Meeting Type Conference Call	3.29.17	
Description	Call to determine award winners in all categories but Liberty Bell	
Meeting Type Email/Conference Call after Liberty Bell deadline date	5.24.17	
Description	Call to determine Liberty Bell award winner	
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 meetings 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 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 tables 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 online survey to committee members to help streamline the decision-making process during the final teleconference by determining the extent of support for each nominee prior to the commencement of formal discussions and to ascertain the early formation of consensus 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 drafts emails to non-winner nominators.

Prepares publicity for the award recipients and sends news releases and posts list on website, blog and social media sites. Orders Awards and oversees video production company to produce videos of each award winner for the 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 production portion of banquet. Drafts and designs an event program for the Annual Meeting Awards Banquet.

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Committee Activities:

Committee members seek high quality nominations for SBM awards.

For the coming year's awards cycle, starting Oct. 1, 2016, and coming to an end at the 2017 Annual Meeting, where the awards will be handed out, there are 38 nominations to consider. Of these nominations, the committee can recommend eight award recipients.

In the last year's cycle, commencing at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Committee gave out awards to nine Michigan attorneys and one bar association, and the Liberty Bell Award to two non-attorneys (awards were not selected prior to the due date of last year's 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: David Britten and Teresa Weatherall Neal

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. The committee will continue to work to achieve these goals into the future.

Other Information:

Note: The Awards Committee has one co-chair ex-officio as the Vice President 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		
Co-chair	3.22.17	Lori Buiteweg and Jennifer Grieco
Staff Liaison	3.22.17	Samantha Meinke and Anne Smith
Other		

e-Mail Form
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