1. SBM President Thomas C. Rombach is sworn in by Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr.

2. Chief Justice Young swears in SBM Vice President Lawrence P. Nolan, President-Elect Lori A. Buiteweg, Treasurer Donald G. Rockwell, and Secretary Jennifer M. Grieco

3. SBM Representative Assembly Chair Vanessa Peterson Williams presents Immediate Past Chair Kathleen M. Allen with a plaque commemorating her service

4. Members of the SBM Representative Assembly

5. SBM Immediate Past President Brian D. Einhorn, Roberts P. Hudson Award winner Francine Cullari, and President Rombach

6. Immediate Past President Einhorn, Roberts P. Hudson Award winner Carl E. Ver Beek, and President Rombach

7.-8. Annual Meeting attendees enjoy the Diversity Reception

9. Soultivity, an all-lawyer band, performs at the Diversity Reception

10. 50-year honorees at the Golden Celebration
Congratulations on 50 Years as State Bar of Michigan Members!
John E. McSorley and Thomas R. Behm were honored with 2014 Respected Advocate awards at the State Bar of Michigan Awards Banquet September 17 in Grand Rapids. McSorley was chosen by the Michigan Association for Justice and Behm was chosen by the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel.

The MDTC and MAJ present Respected Advocate awards each year to a member of the plaintiff’s bar and a defense practitioner, respectively, with a history of success in civil litigation matters, unfailing adherence to the highest standards of ethics and candor in dealing with the court and with counsel, and the respect and admiration of counsel on the opposing side. Both candidates are awarded in recognition of their superb skills as courtroom adversaries whose civility and decorum distinguishes them as outstanding advocates on behalf of their clients.

Behm is an attorney with Gruel Mills Nims & Pylman PLLC in Grand Rapids who focuses his practice on personal injury law, wrongful death, complex commercial litigation, medical malpractice, and automobile no-fault law. He is the president of the Grand Rapids Bar Association, a council member of the SBM Negligence Law Section, and a board member of the Michigan Association for Justice.

McSorley is a shareholder at Garan Lucow Miller PC in Detroit who focuses his practice on medical malpractice defense, casualty insurance defense, municipal defense, professional liability defense, and family law. He has served on the SBM Board of Commissioners, as a director of the Association for Defense Trial Counsel, and as a member of the Detroit Bar Association Arbitration Committee.