

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Bar Year: 2008 – 2009

Section Name: Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Mission Statement: The Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this sit, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to qualified legal assistant and to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Nicole M. Cook	701 N. Oakland Laingsburg, MI 48848	517.896.1016	Hba1977@yahoo.com
Chair-Elect	Marianne Delaney, CLA	15041 Commerce Dr S, Dearborn, MI 48120	313.253.7510	Mdelane6@ford.com
Secretary	Jeanne Nyhuis	25 W. 8 th St, Ste 200, Holland, MI 49423	616.396.1803	nyhuis@butzel.com
Treasurer	Kathy Ann Blunck	202 E. State Street, Suite 100, Traverse City, MI 49684-5783	231.929.4878	kblunck@shrr.com

Member	Term
Nicole M. Cook - Chair	'08-09
Marianne Delaney – Chair Elect	'08-09
Cheryl J. Nodarse – Ex Officio	'08-09
Jeanne M. Nyhuis - Secretary	'07-09
Kathy Ann Blunck – Treasurer	'07-09
Ida Rose Farhat	'07-09
Rebecca C. Oipari	'07-09
Jaxine L. Wintjen	'07-09
Virgie Roth	'08-10
Elsie Morren	'08-10
Casie Mobley	'08-10

Section Committees:

Annual Meeting Committee – Denise Gau

Education Committee –Nicole Cook

Job Bank – Jeanne Nyhuis

Membership Committee – Denise Gau

Policies Committee –Kathlenn D. Kasiorek, CP & Jaxine L. Wintjen, CLA

Pro Bono Committee –

Public Relations Committee - Linda S. Jevahirian

Scholarship Committee – Rebecca Opipari

Section name Change Ad Hoc Committee – Vicki Voisin, ACP

Website Committee – Kathleen D. Kasiorek, CP

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
First Meeting of New Council	November 1, 2008	Hubbard Law Firm, Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	December 13, 2009	Hubbard Law Firm, Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	February 21, 2009	Hubbard Law Firm, Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	March 21, 2009	Via Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	April, 30, 2009	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Council Meeting	June 23, 2009	Via Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	August 8, 2009	Via Telephone Conference
Last Meeting of the Council	September 17, 2009	Dearborn, Michigan

General Budget Information: As of April 30, 2009 (prior to the Annual Day of Education event), the Fund Balance was \$30,774.70

Events and/or Seminars:

Events or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Intersection	April 30, 2009	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Annual Day of Education	May 1, 2009	Davenport University, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Annual Meeting	September 18, 2009	Dearborn, Michigan
Scholarship Award Ceremony	September 18, 2009	Dearborn, Michigan

Intersection – This was a vendor/networking event between the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section and ALSP held the evening prior to the Annual Day of Education. The event was well received between both organizations. The event was attended by approximately 50 people, including council members. This event was coordinated with the assistance of State Bar staff. Heather Anderson, in particular, helped with this event.

Annual Day of Education – This year’s 19th Annual Day of Education was held in Grand Rapids at Davenport University. It had a broad range of subject matter and was held in conjunction with ALSP. Vendors were present for this event during this event and attendees had an opportunity to visit with the various vendors during the scheduled breaks. The event was attended by approximately 82 people, including council members and student members.

Annual Meeting/Scholarship Award Ceremony – As in past years, this year’s Annual Meeting and Scholarship Award presentation will be held on the same date as the State Bar Annual Conference. If room permits, it will also be held in the same location. The Scholarship Award recipients will be notified and invited to attend the event.

Legislative issues – Pursuant to Governor Proclamation, May, 1, 2009, was declared “Paralegal/Legal Assistant Day” in the State of Michigan.

Section Members – As of February 21, 2009, the Section had a total of 487 members.

Section Bylaws – Additional revisions are needed to the Bylaws to reflect the name change of the Section from “Legal Assistant” Section to “Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section”.

Section Publications – Were broadcast to all Section Members via electronic distribution.

Section Scholarships – Each year the Section awards scholarships to college students currently enrolled in a Michigan paralegal/legal assistant program of study. Scholarship applications were awarded to three individuals for this current year. During the 2009 Annual Meeting, these scholarships will be presented to those recipients who are available to attend the event.

Recommendation for next Council: The next council should continue to work on the Bylaw changes needed to completely incorporate the Section’s name change. It should also continue its work on developing and implementing its strategic plan.

Reports must be submitted before May 31 of each year, to :

Heather K. Anderson
Sections and Committees Administrator
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: handerson@mail.michbar.org
Phone: 517-346-3414 Fax: 517-372-1139