

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2009-2010 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 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:** Bar Leadership Liaison Advisory Committee

**Jurisdiction:** Provide assistance developing an annual leadership training seminar for affinity bars, section and committee chairs, and affiliated members.

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

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Daniel M. Levy	Daniel M. Levy Director for Law and Policy Michigan Dept of Civil Rights 3054 W Grand Blvd Ste 3-600 Detroit, MI 48202-6054	(313) 456-3812	<a href="mailto:levyd@michigan.gov">levyd@michigan.gov</a>
Staff Liaisons	Kari Thrush Nancy Brown Candace Crowley	State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 346-6371 (517) 346-6350 (517) 346-6319	<a href="mailto:kthrush@mail.michbar.org">kthrush@mail.michbar.org</a> <a href="mailto:nbrown@mail.michbar.org">nbrown@mail.michbar.org</a> <a href="mailto:ccrowley@mail.michbar.org">ccrowley@mail.michbar.org</a>
Commissioner Liaison	Elizabeth Mochle Johnson	Elizabeth Mochle Johnson 409 Plymouth Rd Ste 210 Plymouth, MI 48170-1834	(734) 455-9002	

Committee Members:	Others:
Brian D. Figot	
Timothy Tyrone Gardner, Jr.	
Denise m. Glassmeyer	
Douglas D. Hampton	
Michael S. Khoury	
Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens	

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Meeting	12/15/09	Conference Call
Meeting	01/26/10	Conference Call
Final planning/logistics meeting	TBD	Conference Call
Scholarship committee meetings	TBD	Conference Call

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2009-2010 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

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

This committee was formed is to develop and annually produce a program providing developing Bar Leaders with meaningful leadership tips & techniques and development training. The Annual Forum is also intended to provide upcoming leadership with the opportunity to network and get to know, most importantly the State Bar personnel they will be working with, but also other Bar leaders whose experience they can learn from and upon whom they can call for assistance.

The Bar Leadership Forum is by invitation only. Initially just Executive Directors of local Bar Associations the guest list grew to include Chairs of Sections and Committees. More recently emphasis was placed on involving Chairs-elect so as to maximize the benefits provided by the program. This change has proven most beneficial and should be continued in perpetuity. Early on, it was evident the forum must CONSISTENTLY contain valuable substance, important content, a desirable location, and beneficial networking opportunities to remain successful.

In order to ensure the success of this program, the Committee has historically been comprised of members, located throughout Michigan, who represent different facets of leadership. It is critical that BLF committee members have personally attended recent BLF programs in order to be able to not only maintain consistency but also to insure that programming remains fresh for persons who may attend annually. Membership size has varied over the years and the committee is currently comprised of seven members.

This committee was also formed to review and formulate recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on requests from lawyers' associations for State Bar recognition as local or special purpose bar associations. The committee no longer serves that function as a result of action taken by the Board of Commissioners in 2007.

The State Bar Staff offer invaluable services to this Committee and their contributions cannot be overstated. Among other things, the staff provides 1) assistance with identifying and obtaining speakers and sites; 2) administrative support; 3) registration of participants (offsite and onsite); 4) preparation, transportation and distribution of all forum materials and handouts; 5) securing prizes for annual attendees raffle; 6) preparation, dissemination, and summarization of feedback surveys from program participants.

**Committee Activities:**

The 2009 BLF was keynoted by Vince Crew. The founder of REACH Development Services, Crew is a noted advisor, speaker and author who has contributed to Fox Business TV, Fox Radio News, and is a national conference speaker. The program also included workshops, networking opportunities, and programs on legislation, public policy, media relations, law related education and strategic partnering.

This year's forum will be slightly different than those in years past. Instead of bringing in a professional expert in telling others how to lead, the Committee has chosen, in large part based upon the input received from previous forum attendees, to invite a keynote speaker who is himself an accomplished leader -- Dennis Archer.

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2009-2010 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

In addition to (and in this instance at least more important than), being a former Michigan Supreme Court Justice and Mayor of Detroit, the Committee turned to Dennis because he has also served as president of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, the Wolverine Bar Association, and the National Bar Association.

Following the keynote presentation, David Barrett will speak about using technology to both serve and increase membership. David, AKA “The LinkedIn Lawyer,” is a business litigation and employment law attorney with Berkent Legal Services, P.C. in Boston. He has been featured in legal publications around the country, including Michigan Lawyers Weekly and Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly, and he was named one of “20 Twitterers Lawyers Should Follow” by the Legal Intelligencer blog.

The forum will also feature break out sessions on everything from running an effective meeting to dealing with the media. We will also continue the tradition of devoting a session to SBM structure, policy, leadership, and legislative advocacy. Of course this is all in addition to the invaluable networking, the opportunities to learn from each other, and the “Grand experience” all attendees will enjoy.

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The future goal of this Bar Leadership Liaison Committee is to continue presentation of quality leadership forums on an annual basis. Through these forums, the committee hopes: 1) to enhance the quality of leadership within the legal community at large and in particular within the State Bar and its related entities, 2) to provide Chairs-elect of Bar sections with the tools and SBM contacts they need to maximize their success, 3) to engage and encourage potential future State Bar leaders through their section or local bar association activities and thereby ensure a continuity of exceptional State Bar leaders, and 4) to remain effective in its role as “liaison” and further enhance the relationship between all qualified associations of lawyers and the State Bar of Michigan.

In order to remain effective, the attendance of Bar Leadership Liaison Committee members at the Forum should be strongly encouraged and properly supported, so that the Committee (and individual committee members) can: 1) be effective in its role as liaison to outside lawyers associations, 2) continue to provide unique leadership opportunities geared especially for lawyers, and 3) do so on a consistent basis from year to year in a manner that allows attendees to build upon prior experiences and maintains the high expectation level critical to ensuring annual participation by the maximum number of invited entities.

The Committee has actively sought input, through informal discussions and formal surveys, from BLF attendees. With the assistance of SBM staff, an active effort is made each year to address this input when planning the next forum. While it is important to cover some basics for new Section leadership each year, it is also critical to provide something new for association leaders who may attend annually. The Committee is always seeking to maintain this balance.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2009-2010 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

**Other Information:**

It should be noted that for the last few years this committee has not had a co-chair. While this change has not presented any difficulties, it is my recommendation that in future years this committee should have both a Chair and a Chair-elect (or Vice-chair). This would permit the Chair's position to be rotated frequently (which I would also recommend), while also assuring that the future Chair will be someone who can insure continuity and who is aware of the position's expectations and well prepared to see them through.