

LJAC Annual Report - 2013

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: Lawyers and Judges Assistance

Jurisdiction: Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program

Chair(s) and Committee Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Hon. Donald Allen	55th District Court 700 Buhl St Mason, MI 48854	(517) 676-8402	dc_allen@ingham.org
Staff Liaison	Tish Vincent	306 Townsend St. Lansing, MI 48933	517-346-6337	tvincent@mail.michbar.org

Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
Linda Miller Atkinson (member)	Lawrence Dubin(member)
Kevin Anderson (member)	Emily Conway(member)
Kenneth Gonko (member)	Hon. Daniel Hathaway(member)
Dale Adams (member)	Racine Michelle Miller (member)
Hon. Roy G. Meink (member)	Joelynn Stokes (member)
Joan Odorowski (member)	

Committee Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
LJAC Meeting	October 4, 2012	SBOM, Hudson Room
LJAC Meeting	December 6, 2012	SBOM, Hudson Room
LJAC Meeting	February 7, 2013	SBOM, Hudson Room
LJAC Meeting	April 4, 2013	SBOM, Hudson Room
LJAC Meeting	June 6, 2013	SBOM, Hudson Room
LJAC Meeting	August 1, 2013	SBOM, Hudson Room

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

Staff time, meals, meeting facilities, technological support.

Committee Activities:

Supporting program administrator, LJAP staff, volunteers in outreach, and educational efforts to lawyers, judges, and law students, with regard to substance use, mental health, and general wellness, statewide. Supporting/advising program administrator and LJAP staff in oversight and facilitation of LJAP daily program functions as well as budgetary concerns.

Future Goals and Activities:

- 1.) Continue to act in a supportive/advisory capacity with regard to aforementioned educational and outreach activities. (e.g. monthly submissions for “Practicing Wellness” column in Bar Journal)
- 2.) Expand on/improve the quality of existing resources specific to attorney and student monitoring, mature lawyers, judicial outreach, and law students. (e.g. Program Administrator’s continued participation in Supreme Court Judicial Outreach Initiative and development of related resources and activities)
- 3.) Continue to engage in creative outreach to law school deans, judges and probation officers in an effort to attract more direct referrals for the LJAP assessment and monitoring services.
- 4.) Expand on/improve existing services pertaining to wellness in the general legal population, including but not limited to stress management, (e.g. continued development of video-taped web/streaming of “Wellness Bytes” to be posted to LJAP website for member access)
- 5.) Continue to work cooperatively with the PMRC and Publications Department toward development of programming and resources tailored to meet the needs of the specific groups within the legal culture, as identified above. (e.g. development of materials, resources, and programming designed to assist in facilitation of healthy transitioning for mature attorneys, in cooperation with PMRC and SBOM Senior Lawyer’s Initiative subcommittee)
- 6.) Work to expand the provider network throughout the State of Michigan. LJAP staff has identified Board Certified Addictionists throughout the state and will be approaching them in groups to expand our network. (LJAP has partnered with Member Services to put podcasts of Provider In-Services on the SBM website for our provider network to access for educational purposes.)

Other Information: Efforts to establish and maintain the Richard Steinberg Memorial Treatment Fund independent of any treating facility that may change their organizational goals are progressing. Information from the Arkansas Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program is that they have established an independent treatment fund. The fund is administered by an independent board and it hosts one special event in late October which is a formal dinner, with sponsorship, ticket sales and a silent auction. The director indicates that they raise a substantial amount each year.

A working group from LJAC with the Program Administrator is in the early planning stages for a Fun Run to raise money for the treatment fund. Communication with the Michigan Bar Foundation indicates that funds donated at the time attorneys pay their dues can be used to advertise for our events. The advertising will be considered educational to all attorneys in the state of Michigan. Money from the Michigan Bar Foundation cannot be used towards treatment but can be used toward information distribution.

The LJAP Program Administrator has presented to Wayne State University, Michigan State University, University of Detroit, Mercy, and Cooley Law Students five times on issues of wellness, substance abuse, and stress management. She has presented to the State Department of Corrections Officers on Dealing with Difficult Personalities and has continued work on judicial outreach through SCAO and through a number of Judicial Associations.

The LJAP clinical staff has presented to the Attorney Grievance Commission on procedures and case management at LJAP. The LJAP Program Administrator has presented to the Character & Fitness District Committee on how LJAP establishes a monitoring contract and how they monitor compliance versus non-compliance.