

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
May 2008**

**Committee Name:** Standing Committee on Law and the Media

**Jurisdictional Statement:**

- ✓ Develop, recommend, and support programs that promote a positive relationship between the law and the media.
- ✓ Study and identify sources of friction between the courts, lawyers, and the electronic and print press, and recommend solutions.

**Officers and Membership:**

Andrew S. Doctoroff, Chair

**Members:**

Bryan J. Anderson	Cecil Jesse Green
Daniel J. Cherrin	Kevin A. Landau
Stephen C. Cooper	Charles E. Langton
Thomas W. Cranmer	Clifford Marko
Hon. Peter F. Deegan	Marcia M. McBrien
Cameron J. Evans	Mindy M. Schwartz

**Commissioner Liaison:**

Beverly Hall Burns

**Staff Liaison:**

Nancy Brown  
Naseem Stecker

**2007-08 Meeting Schedule:**

All teleconferences begin at 3:30 p.m. on the following dates:

Nov. 14, 2007

Dec. 12, 2007

Jan. 16, 2008

March 19, 2008

May 14, 2008

**Resources Provided by the State Bar of Michigan in Support of Committee Work:**

Agendas, minutes, seminar materials, setting up seminars, publicity, logistics involved with the McCree awards including brochure, press releases, getting judges, finalizing winners, ordering awards, liaising with MSU and award winners, speech for president, after-event publicity.

**Committee Activities:**

Provides as a public service "Newsroom Seminars" to news organizations statewide. These seminars help journalists to navigate the legal system. Conducted a newsroom seminar at WXYZ in Southfield on Jan. 18, 2008.

A May 9<sup>th</sup> seminar/workshop has been set for journalists working with Michigan Public Radio in Lansing.

"Dealing with the Media Seminars" – programs for attorneys so that they can learn how to deal with the media in a practical, solution-oriented way. Seminars are free and are moderated by attorneys with journalistic experience. A presentation is planned for a roundtable event on June 13-14 at Mackinac Island.

Chairperson responds regularly to media requests for interviews.

Committee started "Ask the Lawyer" radio broadcasts.

McCree Awards: This committee oversees the McCree Awards for the Advancement of Justice. Awards are given out to journalists each year in April in conjunction with the Journalism Hall of Fame event in East Lansing. Event date this year is April 27. Committee members and SBM leaders represent the State Bar at the banquet.

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The use of the Internet to host "webinars" to expand the number of newsrooms that can participate in the Committee's newsroom seminars; put more focus on the print media, including publishing articles in the Michigan Bar Journal. Investigate the use of social media like blogs and podcasts.

**Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:**

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