

# UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Samantha Meinke

## Human Trafficking is Theme of Community Discussion



Photos courtesy of Thomas M. Cooley Law School

Left to right: Thomas M. Cooley Law School Professor E. Christopher Johnson Jr.; Forrest Pasanski, assistant attorney general, Human Trafficking Unit; and Sarah Warpinski, Michigan State University School of Law Modern Abolitionist Legal Society.

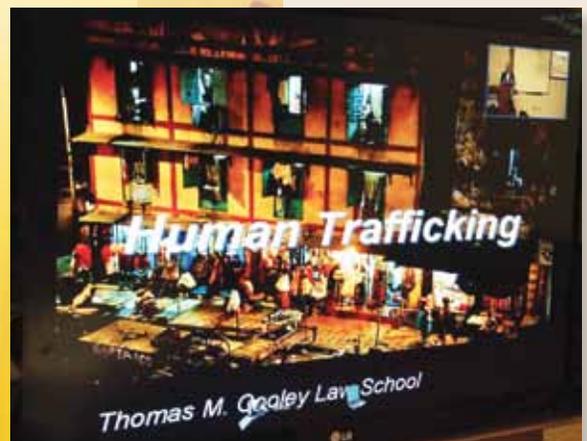


Left to right: Cooley Professor Mike McDaniel; Stephanie Hamilton, International Justice Mission; Dr. Sabrina Black, Michigan Rescue and Restore vice chair; Pastor Bonnie Laudeman, Clarkston Community Church; and Cooley students Kristen Suarez-Junquera, James Springer, and Elijah Buxo.

The Thomas M. Cooley Law School recently led a community-wide discussion to shine the light on the topic of human trafficking. The law school hosted a live video simulcast discussion at its campuses in Lansing, Ann Arbor, Auburn Hills, and Grand Rapids. There are an estimated 27 million slaves around the world, including some in Michigan. Cooley professor E. Christopher Johnson Jr. is heading the school's efforts to raise awareness and help find solutions to human trafficking in conjunction with the International Law Society and the American Constitution Society. He is also reaching out to organizations and corporations to assess how the private sector addresses human trafficking as part of its business practices. ■



JOIN THE  
FIGHT  
AGAINST  
HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING!



Photos courtesy of John Meiu of the Legal News

## Howard & Howard Donates \$2,000 to Ted Lindsay Foundation for Autism Research

Photo courtesy of Howard & Howard



Howard & Howard employees present former Detroit Red Wings great Ted Lindsay, holding the check (left), with a \$2,000 donation for his Ted Lindsay Foundation.

Former Detroit Red Wings great and NHL Hall of Famer Ted Lindsay stopped by the offices of Howard & Howard in Royal Oak in February to accept a \$2,000 check for his Ted Lindsay Foundation, an organization that funds autism research. Howard & Howard's contribution was made through the generous

donations of the firm's employees and as part of its Community Reinvestment Fund. To date, the firm's Community Reinvestment Fund has raised more than \$3 million to support United Way education and other charitable organizations throughout southeastern Michigan. ■

## Name Change Reflects an Expanded Role

Community Legal Resources—an organization that has provided pro bono legal assistance to nonprofit organizations serving low-income Michigan residents since 1998—has a new name: Michigan Community Resources. The change reflects the organization's more diversified role, which now includes technical planning and educational assistance. The Detroit-based organization has grown to 17 employees and also operates a branch office in Lansing. Michigan Community Resources was one of 11 organizations honored in 2011 by the *Huffington Post Detroit* with the HuffPost Detroit Impact Award. Recently, the group worked with the Detroit Vacant Property Campaign to help develop creative solutions to one of the city's most persistent problems. ■

## Don't Miss Out on the Conversation

The State Bar offers many ways for you to connect with your colleagues online. More than 2,500 attorneys are already interacting in our LinkedIn group at [http://linkd.in/sbm\\_members](http://linkd.in/sbm_members). Only State Bar members are granted access to this group, which offers a safe, dynamic space to seek answers to questions, invite others to events, post and seek jobs, and network professionally.

SBM also hosts a fan page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sbm.news](http://www.facebook.com/sbm.news) where fans can read the latest SBM news, see photos from recent SBM events and track upcoming events, and take part in conversations about legal news.

Members of the Bar who are interested in finding out about legal news as it breaks should follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/sbmnews](http://twitter.com/sbmnews). Our feed offers links to the latest SBM news and SBM Blog posts, and our lists will keep you updated on breaking statewide and legal news. ■

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Guidelines available at [www.michbar.org/journal/about/artguidelines.pdf](http://www.michbar.org/journal/about/artguidelines.pdf).

SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 11



## Environmental Law Section Hosts Mixer



Left to right: Scott Hubbard, Yasmeeen Qadimasil, and Dennis Donahue.

The State Bar Environmental Law Section recently hosted a reception for new members, attorneys, and law school students at GP Sports in Grand Rapids. The section and the Michigan Manufacturers Association are also co-sponsoring a May 16 conference titled "The Changing Environmental Landscape," the third year the organizations are holding a joint event. For more information or to register, contact LeAnn Hicks at (517) 487-8557 or [hicks@mma-net.org](mailto:hicks@mma-net.org). ■

Photo courtesy of the SBM Environmental Law Section