| Theme Introduction

By Richard C. Kraus

fter five years, the Michigan Bar Journal returns to the theme of appellate practice. This time, however, the authors take a different focus. Four articles compare the legal standards, procedural rules, and recommended practices for handling appeals in state and federal courts. Liisa Speaker explains the different procedures and strategies for "Bringing Your Case to the High Court," while Solicitor General John Bursch describes his experiences arguing before the United States and Michigan Supreme Courts in "The Michigan and United States Supreme Courts: A Comparison." Jill Wheaton explores an obscure but vital topic, "The Differences in Interlocutory Appeals in State and Federal Courts." In a more specialized area, Philip DeRosier's article examines the differences and similarities of "Judicial Review of Arbitration Awards Under Federal and Michigan Law." The fifth article by Stephanie Simon Morita and Noel Massie offers helpful insights regarding "What Judges Say About How to Brief That Arcane Appeal."

Thank you to our authors for sharing their expertise and experience and to the State Bar of Michigan Appellate Practice Section for its assistance.

We invite appellate specialists and general practitioners to attend the Michigan Appellate Bench-Bar Conference, which will be held April 24–26 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. The conference is an excellent opportunity to join Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, staff of both courts, and other practitioners in discussing substantive and procedural aspects of appellate practice in Michigan. Detailed information is available at http://www.benchbar.org/.



Richard C. Kraus of Foster Swift Collins & Smith frequently handles appeals in federal and state courts. He is the chair of the American Institute of Appellate Practice and served as editor of this issue of the Michigan Bar Journal.