

Connections

Linking

State, Local, and Special Purpose Bar Associations

LINKS TO HELP

State Bar New Comprehensive Master Calendar

<http://www.michbar.org/news/calendar.cfm>

In Memoriam

<http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/memoriam.cfm>

Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program

<http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/ljap/>

Diversity and Inclusion Resources

<http://www.michbar.org/diversity/>

October is Pro Bono Month

<http://www.michbar.org/probono.cfm>

Local and Special Purpose Bar Association Website

<http://www.michbar.org/resources/local-specialbar.cfm>

Find Your Elected Official

<http://www.michbar.org/publicpolicy/elected.cfm>

Connections is an electronic newsletter published three times a year by the State Bar of Michigan and distributed without charge to recognized Michigan local and special purpose bar associations and the State Bar Board of Commissioners.

Announcements, articles, and pictures for Connections are highly encouraged. Please send suggestions to Candace Crowley at ccrowley@mail.michbar.org. The State Bar of Michigan reserves the right to edit for clarity and suggests that submissions be kept at 500 words or fewer.

Submission Deadlines:

June 15, 2011

October 15, 2011

February 15, 2012

A Lawyer is Missing, Incapacitated, Disabled, Disbarred, Deceased or Suspended: What Role Does a Bar Association Play?

Candace Crowley

In October of 2010, members of the Michigan Association of Bar Executives (MABE) gathered to hear a presentation by Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission's Rhonda Pozehl about what to do when attorneys are missing, incapacitated, disabled, disbarred, deceased, or suspended (MIDDDDS). Motivated by a growing number of instances where lawyers are unaccountable and clients left in peril are contacting the local bar association for help, MABE invited the Attorney Grievance Commission to provide information on its role in resolving this dilemma. As a result of that meeting, I wrote an article with a summary of some of the AGC information and a guide for bar associations and individual attorneys about what to do and what resources are available to use in case of a MIDDDDS attorney. The article emphasizes advance planning, encourages local bars to be proactive when an attorney is MIDDDDS, asks that those willing to act as inventory attorneys and file receivership actions be identified, and asks that you notify the State Bar and the AGC in these circumstances. In addition, the article also advises that you remove such attorneys from your LRIS panels and revoke membership if necessary. Resources to address these situations are also included in the [article](#) which can be viewed on the State Bar's Local and Special Purpose Bar Association website.

Attorney Grievance Commission Seeks Volunteer Receivers

The Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission seeks licensed attorneys to serve as volunteer receivers pursuant to MCR 9.119(G), to assist in winding up the practice of lawyers who are deceased, incapacitated, missing, suspended, or disbarred. Attorneys interested in serving in such capacity should submit a letter of interest to Rhonda S. Pozehl, Senior Associate Counsel, Attorney Grievance Commission, 243 W. Congress, Ste. 256, Detroit, MI 48226.

Calendar of Events

Board of Commissioners Meetings

July 22, 2011

September 14, 2011, Dearborn

November 18, 2011

January 20, 2012

Representative Assembly Meeting

September 15, 2011

Bar Leadership Forum

June 10–11

Upper Michigan Legal Institute

June 10–11

ABA Annual Meeting

August 5–10, 2011

Toronto, Canada

State Bar Annual Meeting

September 14–16, 2011

Dearborn

UP Tour

October 3-6

Read the newsletter online at

http://www.michbar.org/resources/pdfs/connections_Sp11.pdf

Upon a Member's Death

The State Bar is not always informed by a member's family when a death occurs, and this has led to unintended consequences such as suspension of license upon failure to pay dues. Needless to say, this is a painful event for a family. We ask for your help in letting us know when you learn of the death of one of your members, because we may or may not independently learn of it. Please alert us to this information by sending a brief e-mail to Joan Kruetzman at jkruetzman@mail.michbar.org. Thanks for your help.

Engaging the Next Generation of Leaders

On April 11, 2011, the State Bar's Committee on Justice Initiatives hosted over 50 thoroughly diverse legal professionals from around the state to address the question of "What actions, strategies and approaches can the State Bar of Michigan take to engage the next generation of lawyers in justice initiatives work?" Participants were presented with demographic information on the State Bar of Michigan membership that included generational and gender factors. General attributes of the generations were identified, including communication preferences, and a "Social Media Basics" session was presented. An interactive conversation on "Where and How Leadership Occurs" was facilitated between the audience and several participants who agreed in advance to offer provocative thoughts on the topic. Participants then worked in breakout sessions to address the day's question. The results of those sessions were presented in a final plenary gathering and will be helpful to the JI community in addressing the specific issue.

Taken as a whole, the day produced five positive and productive points that will be useful for many bar groups. Those five points, and the entire [Summit report](#) are available online.



President Tony Jenkins gathers with Downriver Bar Association



Ottawa County courthouse staff members honored by Ottawa Bar at Law Day celebration



President Tony Jenkins joins members of the Ottawa County Bar Association for Law Day celebration



Genesee County Bar Association Law Day poster contest entries

Out and About

On Friday, June 24, the **Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers** will enjoy a **Detroit Tigers** outing at Comerica Park. Watch out, Arizona Diamondbacks!

Look out, Seattle Mariners, as the **Oakland County Bar Association** watches the **Tigers** play on Friday, June 10 with an on-field presentation to Forgotten Harvest.

The **D. Augustus Straker Bar Association** will honor State Bar President **W. Anthony Jenkins** at its June 16 **Annual Trailblazer's Dinner** at PI Banquet Hall in Southfield.

Chief Judge Gerald E. Rosen will moderate the June 23 **Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan's "Federal Practice 2011"** seminar at the Westin Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit.

The **Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association** celebrates its **175th anniversary** on June 7 at Greektown Casino. **Elizabeth Jolliffe** will be sworn in as DMBA president at the event.

Golf Outing 2011 will be hosted by the **Genesee County Bar Association** on June 3 at Sugarbush Golf Club.

The **Grand Rapids Bar Association golf outing** is set for August 11 at Thornapple Pointe Golf Club.

The **Muskegon County Bar** will hold its annual **golf outing** at Moss Ridge Country Club on Wednesday, June 8.

The **Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Association** announces its 2011-2012 officers: President **Corey J. Wiggins**, President-Elect **Deborah Rysso**, Secretary **Laura Garneau**, and Treasurer **Peter Cummings**.

The **Ingham County Bar Association Foundation** seeks to promote access to justice, expand the availability of legal services to the public at large, support local charitable organizations, promote continuing legal education, and foster the honor and integrity of the profession of law. Membership is available by making a contribution of at least \$25 per year.

The **Hispanic Bar Association** will hold its **annual meeting** on June 25. All vacant board positions will be filled and dues collected with AffiniPay available for the first time for credit card payment of dues.

The **Women Lawyers Association of Michigan** announces the Fourth Annual **Bench Bar Culinary Challenge for Charities** event to be held on June 14. This is not an official WLAM event, but it benefits the WLAM Foundation Scholarship Fund and other charities. Six or more of the organizing committee members are WLAM members.



Bar leaders gather for second annual "Celebrating Diverse Bar" event in Detroit's Greektown



President Tony Jenkins greets retired Judge Wally Kent at the Tuscola County Bar Association lunch in Caro



Washtenaw County Bar Association Executive Director Kyeena Slater with newly elected President Peter Falkenstein



Berrien County Bar President David Grumbine, State Bar Vice President Bruce Courtade, and Commissioner Julie Sullivan gather at Bar dinner in Stevensville



Myron Lloyd, President, Straker Bar Association, leads "Race for a Cure" team