

Up Front

By Naseem Stecker and Mike Eidelbes



Registration time.



Left to right: Ron Keefe, Ed Pappas, Kurt Schnelz, and Bruce Courtade.



A grand reception.

A Grand Gathering

Upper Michigan Legal Institute and Bar Leadership Forum

June 13 and 14 — Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island

Photos by Naseem Stecker



Mother and daughter moment.



Rocking on the front porch—UMLI attendee Eugene Malanyn from Harrisville.



Nationally recognized expert and First Gentleman Dan Mulhern signing copies of his book *Everyday Leadership* after a general session.



Opportunities for learning, networking, and sharing draw many to this popular event each year.

Report on Public Defense in Michigan Unveiled at State Bar Press Conference



Photos by Mike Eichelbes

David Carroll, research director for the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, was at the center of media attention June 17 after he unveiled the findings of a long-awaited and extensive study about public defense in Michigan. ■



Mr. Carroll told a packed press conference at the State Bar in Lansing that Michigan is failing its citizens by not providing competent legal representation to criminal defendants who cannot afford counsel. According to the report, the state's denial of its constitutional obligations has produced a myriad of public defense systems that vary greatly in each of the 83 counties in Michigan. The study was conducted in 10 counties and was requested by the Michigan legislature. To read the executive summary and report, visit www.michbar.org. Also read SBM President Ron Keefe's column "Prime Time for Due Process?" on page 12, which addresses this issue. ■



Photo by Gregory Fox Photography

Ann Arbor Attorney Honored for Contributions to Gender Equity

Ann Arbor attorney Jean Ledwith King was among 30 women lawyers honored in New York last month by the Veteran Feminists of America for contributions toward the advancement of women's rights. Ms. King is a 2005 State Bar of Michigan Champion of Justice award winner.

The co-founder of Focus on Equal Employment for Women in 1970, King filed the first major sex discrimination complaint with the federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare against the University of Michigan. The challenge to the university employment practices resulted in female faculty members receiving double their salaries in 1971. She also is well known for taking on cases involving Title IX, a federal law requiring gender equity in schools.

King co-founded the Michigan Democratic Party Women's Caucus. She successfully challenged Democratic Party rules requiring half of the state's delegates be women. ■

Cooley Teams with Bar Groups to Provide Pro Bono Services to Deploying Marines



Lindsay Citrin, staff attorney for the Cooley-Auburn Hills Estate Planning Clinic, gave valuable help and advice to a deploying marine recently. She was one of a team of attorneys from Cooley Law School's Service to Soldiers Legal Assistance Referral Program. This year, program coordinators provided a three-hour training session to 28 volunteer attorneys and 21 law students. The volunteer lawyers included substantial contingents from the Macomb and Oakland Bar associations as well as Cooley's Southeast Michigan Alumni Association. The legal assistance referral program is now in its second year of operation. Funding was provided in part by the Michigan State Bar Foundation. ■

Heather Spielmaker, coordinator of Cooley's Center for Ethics, Service and Professionalism (shown), and professor Nancy Wonch led a team of volunteers to Camp Grayling recently to provide over 100 marines preparing to deploy to the Middle East with free wills and powers of attorney. This deployment was brought to Cooley's attention by the unit commanders at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and to the efforts of Macomb County Circuit judge Donald G. Miller. Attorneys interested in learning more about the program should contact Spielmaker at (517) 371-5140 ext. 4112 or at spiemah@cooley.edu. ■



Photos courtesy of Thomas M. Cooley Law School