

UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Mike Eidelbes

A Golden Milestone



This group of attorneys and judges marked their 50th year in the legal profession by attending the State Bar's popular Golden Celebration event May 11 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. Seventy-five honorees were commended for their years of dedicated service and commitment to the legal profession by State Bar President Ed Pappas. As in previous years, the chairpersons of the Senior and Young Lawyers Sections—John Barr and Chris Christenson III—took part in the celebration. ■



A lucky prize winner took home a Silverado Bonanza cowboy hat and a volume of the popular *Bonanza* television series, which made its debut in 1959—the year that all the honorees began their practice of the law. ■



More than 200 people attended the luncheon. The Forum Shoppers, a quartet of three lawyers and a judge, provided entertainment by singing parodies about the law. The event also featured a quiz show, individual recognition of the honorees, and special door prizes. ■



Left to right: State Bar Executive Director Janet Welch; Dennis Archer, chairman of Dickinson Wright PLLC; and SBM President Ed Pappas catch up before the luncheon. ■



**Congratulations
to these Fellows of the
Michigan State Bar Foundation
on their 50 years of dedicated
service as attorneys:**

John M. Barr
John D. Boyles
Shirley J. Burgoyne
Charles F. Clippert
David C. Coey
Harry Contos
Steven L. Dykema
Loren E. Gray
Hanley M. Gurwin
Verne C. Hampton
Donald A. Hines
Hon. Harold Hood
Dean S. Lewis
Hon. Tom H. Linck
Arthur T. Lippert
Themistocles L. Majoros
J. Lee Murphy
Harry M. Philo
Kenneth E. Prather
Donald L. Reisig
Paul A. Taglia
Thomas R. Winquist

The trustees, members, and staff of the Michigan State Bar Foundation express our great appreciation to these Foundation Fellows for their significant contributions to the legal profession and for their generous support for the Foundation's program of public service. ■

Subscribers Appreciate Quick and Easy Way to Stay Informed with Daily Newslinks

More than 97 percent of State Bar of Michigan NewsLinks subscribers responding to a recent online survey report that the daily e-mail featuring links to news stories of legal interest is a valuable and useful resource.

Of the more than 500 NewsLinks readers who took the survey, 93 percent said they read the e-mail every weekday and nearly two in three follow a link to an article daily. Readers indicated that news stories of primary interest dealt with United States Supreme Court rulings and cases, Michigan Supreme Court rulings and cases, Michigan Court of Appeals rulings and cases, and state government. Numerous respondents

cited NewsLinks as a quick and easy way to stay informed. Many readers said NewsLinks was their primary source for legal news, and attorneys originally from Michigan who now live and work elsewhere say it's the best way to keep abreast of legal goings on in this state.

NewsLinks is a summary of legal-related stories culled from newspapers across Michigan and national news outlets such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *USA Today* delivered daily via e-mail. SBM members can sign up for the free service at <http://www.michbar.org/publications/signup.cfm>. ■

LAW DAY 2009



Photo by Naseem Stecker

A live Law Day show was broadcast from the State Bar building in Lansing May 1. From left to right: host Michael Patrick Shiels of Michigan Talk Network's "The Big Show," attorney Jonathan Raven from Fraser Trebilcock Davis and Dunlap PC, State Bar President Ed Pappas, and President-Elect Charles Toy chatted about legal issues and answered questions from listeners. Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Tim Innes and Candace Crowley, SBM external affairs director, also appeared on the show. ■



Photo by Sarah Nussbaumer

An awards luncheon was held at the Michigan Hall of Justice in the afternoon to honor winners of a statewide Law Day essay competition on the theme, "A Legacy of Liberty—Celebrating Lincoln's Bicentennial." From left to right: Ed Pappas; third-place winner Philip Martin of L'Anse Creuse Middle School North, Macomb; first-place winner Mathew Weirick of the Gagie School, Kalamazoo; second-place winner Theresa Riggs of St. Thomas the Apostle, Ann Arbor; Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly of the Michigan Supreme Court; and Janet Welch, SBM executive director. ■

Stressing Ethics and Professionalism to New Law Students

Former State Bar of Michigan President Thomas Cranmer (left) and Mount Clemens attorney William Staugaard spoke to a group of incoming Thomas M. Cooley Law School students at the school's Auburn Hills campus on Friday, May 8, during the first ever professionalism orientation jointly sponsored by Cooley and the State Bar of Michigan. The highlight of the program was the small group discussions among veteran attorneys, judges, and incoming law school students on a range of topics related to ethics and professionalism in the field. ■



Photo courtesy of Thomas M. Cooley Law School

McCree Award Winners Honored at Journalism Hall of Fame Banquet



Photo by Naseem Stecker

Winners of the State Bar of Michigan McCree Awards for the Advancement of Justice were recognized for their talent and efforts at the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame induction ceremony April 19 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Journalists from the *Detroit Free Press*, *Detroit*

News, and *Metro Times* won top honors in the competition. The annual awards foster greater public understanding of the legal and judicial systems. They were presented by State Bar President Ed Pappas. Left to right, front row: Bill O'Brien (*Traverse City Record Eagle*—honorable mention),

Sandra Svoboda (*Metro Times*), Ed Pappas, Gary Heinlein (*Detroit News*), and Charlie Cain (*Detroit News*). Back row: Jim Schaefer and M. L. Elrick (*Detroit Free Press*). Elrick and Schaefer also won journalism's highest award, the Pulitzer, for their coverage of the Kwame Kilpatrick case. ■

Team Effort Results in Judge's Guide to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

The *Michigan Judge's Guide to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act* (SCRA) is a collaborative effort among the Thomas M. Cooley Law School and attorneys with the Detroit Office of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP. The guide is designed to bring clarity to SCRA's application for Michigan's courts and, ultimately, provide another layer of support to Michigan servicemen and women. From left to right: Partner Matthew S. Disbrow of the Detroit Office of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP; Heather Spielmaker, director of Cooley's Center for Ethics, Service and Professionalism; Honigman associate Shanta S. Anderson-Williams; and Cooley alumnus Ryan Plecha. ■



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