

Administrative & Regulatory Law Section

A luncheon meeting with the Tax Tribunal in conjunction with the Taxation Section is tentatively set for December 17 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The program committee is also planning additional events in February and April and our annual luncheon with the Public Service Commission. Ideas include programs involving the Secretary of State and some form of energy conference. You will receive notice of particular programs when they materialize.

Business Law Section

Business Boot Camp will be held January 27–28 in Plymouth. For more information, visit <http://www.michbar.org/business/calendar.cfm>. The next council meeting will be held December 4 at the Grand Rapids campus of Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Watch for our monthly e-newsletter, visit our website at <http://www.michbar.org/business/>, or become a friend on Facebook, <http://www.facebook.com/SBMBusinessLawSection>, to learn of upcoming section events. Join our LinkedIn group at <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=3251208>. To get involved in the section, visit <http://www.michbar.org/business/involved.cfm>.

Criminal Law Section

The 34th Annual Mid-Winter Ski Conference is offered over the President's Day

Weekend, February 19–21, 2011. The conference, which begins on Saturday this year, offers several long breaks for winter activities and will again be held at the recently renovated Shanty Creek. Featured speakers include Patrick Barone, Timothy Baughman, and Steve Fishman. Free for members of the Criminal Law Section; nominal fee for nonmembers. For details, send an e-mail to smtaratuta@gmail.com or call (313) 224-5770.

Environmental Law Section

The 2nd edition of the *Michigan Environmental Law Deskbook* is now available at <http://www.michbar.org/environmental/deskbook.cfm>. This is a dynamic resource essential to anyone encountering Michigan environmental issues. On November 9, the section co-sponsored a full-day conference in Lansing with speakers from MDNRE and U.S. EPA Region V. Elected as officers at the September 30 annual meeting were Charlie Denton, chair; Anna Maiuri, chair-elect; and Dustin Ordway, secretary-treasurer. New council members are Cortney Goldberg, Sara Gosman, Robert Reichel, and Scott Steiner.

Family Law Section

The Family Law Section Council conducts monthly meetings September–June. The council has many active committees, with Amicus, Court Rules, and Legislation as our most demanding. Two important family law decisions were published in 2010. In *Rose v Rose*, the Court of Appeals re-

versed the trial court's modification of an agreed, nonmodifiable spousal support obligation. In *Pierron v Pierron*, the Supreme Court ruled that not every best interest factor applies to a school change.

Labor and Employment Law Section

The LELS welcomed new council members Jeff Steele and Ron Robinson at the SBM Annual Meeting. We thanked outgoing Chair Jeff Donahue for his leadership and good humor and elected a slate of officers. The educational program featured an excellent presentation on social media. The section co-sponsored the Bernard Gottfried Seminar in October and is hosting the Section Holiday Reception on December 9 (reprising our story-telling contest, which was wildly successful last year).

Litigation Section

The section recently amended its bylaws to encourage greater diversity and participation in the council. The amendments provide that (1) no law firm may have more than two council members at one time, (2) the two preceding chairs may vote at council meetings, and (3) council may vote by e-mail. The amendments also created the Public Service Committee, which recommends legal aid programs, non-legal charitable organizations, and pro bono activities for the section's support.

Master Lawyers Section

As the newest SBM section, we may be the "new kids on the block," but we bring experience, knowledge, and perseverance to the practice of law. As we continue to contribute to the profession of law and to our communities, we can take pride in what we have achieved and look forward to continuing our contribution to our fellow members and those we assist. Our section will help your practice in all ways possible.

Real Property Law Section

The next Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtable, "Energy is Here to Stay," is scheduled for January 13, 2011, at the Townsend Hotel,

Birmingham, 7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m. The program chair is Shaun M. Johnson, Dykema Gossett PLLC, Lansing. The speaker is Christine Mason Soneral, vice president and general counsel of Utility Operations, ITC Holdings Corp. For a list of discussion leaders, visit the section website at www.michbar.org/realproperty/roundtables.cfm or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7378. Register online at <http://e.michbar.org>.

Taxation Section

The section is looking for persons interested in writing articles for publication in the section's law journal, *Michigan Tax Lawyer*. The section is also encouraging members to consider writing articles for publication in the next tax law theme issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal*, scheduled for July 2012. For information about joining one of the section's committees—Business Entities, International, Estates and Trusts, Employee Benefits, Practice and Procedure, and SALT—please contact one of the committee chairs.

Workers' Compensation Law Section

Save the dates: Our winter section meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 3, from 8 a.m. to noon. The meeting will be held at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Our formal annual meeting is scheduled for June 16–18, 2011. This meeting and social event will be held in downtown Traverse City at the Park Place Hotel. Details on each meeting will be forthcoming.

Young Lawyers Section

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section Council attended its annual strategic planning retreat on October 22 at Soaring Eagle Hotel and Casino in Mt. Pleasant. Returning and new council members convened to review policies and procedures, create new committees, and discuss program planning. New council members Shenique Moss of Lansing and Marissa Wiener of Bloomfield Hills were first-time attendees. Council members were also given a special orientation from SBM staff members Candace Crowley and Heather Anderson. ■