

# UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Samantha Meinke

## Courting Change: Crossroads Task Force Unveils Recommendations



Alton Davis, former justice of the Michigan Supreme Court; and Ed Pappas, former State Bar president and attorney at Dickinson Wright



Janet Welch, executive director of the State Bar of Michigan; and Barry Howard, former chief judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court

Photos by Tammy Allen

The work of justice in Michigan took a big step forward January 26. The report and recommendations of the Judicial Crossroads Task Force—a diverse group of leaders from the bench, bar, and the wider justice community—was unveiled at a press conference at the State

Bar of Michigan in Lansing. Over the course of 18 months, the group examined our court structure and resources, business impact, access to justice, and technology. Broadly, the report and recommendations call for streamlining and modernizing our courts and fostering

cost-saving collaborations, harnessing technology to meet urgent and emerging needs more cost effectively, and fixing fundamental problems before they worsen. The full report and recommendations can be found at <http://www.michbar.org/judicialcrossroads/>. ■

## Revealing the History of Michigan's County Courthouses

History lovers descended on the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center on January 21 to take in a temporary exhibit highlighting Michigan's county courthouses.

The exhibit opened in conjunction with the release of a new book, *Michigan's County Courthouses*, written by Michigan Assistant Attorney General John Fedynsky. Fedynsky spoke at the opening and signed copies of his book, which features a forward by Michigan Supreme Court Justice Stephen Markman.

The exhibit runs through March 18. The book is available for \$40 from the University of Michigan Press at [www.press.umich.edu](http://www.press.umich.edu). ■



Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr. introduces (seated, left to right) Justice Stephen J. Markman and John Fedynsky.



A detail of the Marquette County Courthouse from a temporary exhibit about Michigan's county courthouses at the Hall of Justice Learning Center

SBM photos