

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section announces its ongoing governmental task force efforts to introduce the use of ADR processes to state governmental agencies as a means of cutting costs and resolving issues. Task force members have met with numerous state agencies in the past few weeks. The section's membership committee is now developing a uniform experience sheet that may be used by ADR resolvers to get their experience in front of government users as needs arise.

## Appellate Practice Section

The Economics of Appellate Practice Seminar will be held May 20, 1 p.m.–4 p.m., at the Embassy Suites, Livonia. Join us for a presentation on the Economics of Appellate Practice Survey as it pertains to appellate practitioners and a panel discussion featuring practicing appellate attorneys. Topics include setting attorney's fees, costs of appeal, recovering fee awards from an opposing party, and collecting from your client. Register at the State Bar website or e-mail [lspeaker@speakerlaw.com](mailto:lspeaker@speakerlaw.com) for more information.

## Business Law Section

"The Business of Being a Business Lawyer" was held April 12 in Southfield. The Crain's General/In-House Counsel Awards & Summit will be held May 3 in Novi. The 23rd Annual Business Law Institute will be held May 6–7 in Plymouth. Register at [www.icle.org](http://www.icle.org). The next council meeting is scheduled for May 6 in Plymouth. Watch for our monthly e-newsletter, visit our website at <http://www.michbar.org/business/>, or become a friend on Facebook to learn more about these and other section events.

## Criminal Law Section

The Criminal Law Section's classic biennial policy conference will be held at Mackinac's Grand Hotel June 17–19. Conference participants, with the assistance of a distinguished panel of professionals, will examine issues surrounding Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act. Join us and help adopt a position statement to guide future action. The Grand

Hotel, Mission Point Resort, and the Murray Hotel are offering special rates for the conference. For questions, contact Charlie Marr at (248) 596-1599 or [marrlaw@msn.com](mailto:marrlaw@msn.com).

## Environmental Law Section

We are very excited that our section will celebrate its 30th anniversary on October 6 at the Lansing University Club; watch for details at [www.michbar.org/environmental](http://www.michbar.org/environmental). On April 12, our Air Quality Committee presented with the Michigan Manufacturers Association "Air Quality Regulations in 2011: Greenhouse Gases and Beyond," featuring updates on urgent air quality regulatory issues. Our Energy Committee also hosted on April 12 the first in a series of webinars exploring Michigan laws relevant to new energy development.

## Health Care Law Section

The section is pleased to announce the 2011 Thomas J. Trenta Memorial Law School Writing Competition. Students will address issues pertaining to the individual mandate provisions of the Health Reform Act. The section will award a total of \$3,500 in prizes for the two best papers. The topic is posted on the Health Care Law Section website at <http://www.michbar.org/health/writingcompetition.cfm> and submissions are due August 1. Please encourage law school students you know to consider this competition.

## Labor and Employment Law Section

Need an excuse to leave work early on June 9? Join the SBM Labor and Employment Law Section for a series of roundtable discussions followed by an evening of networking, beer/wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Three 45-minute roundtable sessions allow you to interact with the presenters and your peers regarding "The Role of In-House Counsel, From Both a Plaintiffs' Counsel and Defense Perspective." Details: Big Rock Chop House/ 4:30 p.m./\$50 in advance.

## Master Lawyers Section

The Master Lawyers Section is a new section recently created to assist Michigan at-

torneys age 60 and older or those with 30 years' experience as well as attorneys who wish to benefit from membership in our section. Please join us August 26–28 at Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa for our section meeting, which will be educational, entertaining, and socially rewarding. Our annual meeting and program will be held in conjunction with the SBM Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 15.

## Real Property Law Section

The 36th Annual Summer Conference, "Finding the Silver Lining: Real Estate Opportunities Arising from the Economic Crisis," will be held July 20–23 at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa near Traverse City. Program chairs are Monica J. Labe of Dickinson Wright PLLC in Bloomfield Hills and Clay B. Thomas of Law Office of Clay B. Thomas PLLC in Bloomfield Hills. For more information, visit the section website at [www.michbar.org/realproperty/summerconf.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/summerconf.cfm) or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7478. Register online at <http://e.michbar.org>.

## Social Security Lawyers Section

Mark your calendars for the next seminar on Friday, June 3. This seminar will be held in Grand Rapids and will focus on technology issues such as online access to client e-folders, electronic submission of records, encrypted CDs, and the use of technology in hearings. Watch for the registration materials and don't miss out on the latest in technology for the disability practitioner.

## Taxation Section

On March 15, the section filed an amicus brief in support of a taxpayer's motion for leave to appeal in *General Motors Corporation v Department of Treasury* (MSC Docket No. 142533). The case involves a retroactive change in the tax law enacted in response to a prior decision of the Michigan Supreme Court that nullifies the taxpayer's refund claim. A copy of the brief will be posted on the section's website at [www.michbar.org/tax/publicpolicy.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/tax/publicpolicy.cfm). ■