

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The Government Task Force continues to meet with members of the executive branch regarding the use of ADR processes as a means of impacting the state's financial constraints. We are developing ADR trainings for some agencies, while other agencies have asked for documents such as sample ADR contract clauses. The task force is also developing an application that will be provided to our members and affiliates should an agency need a mediator, arbitrator, or facilitator.

Business Law Section

A panel discussion on "Acquiring Distressed Assets" will be held June 3 in Traverse City. The annual meeting will be held September 13 at 3 p.m. at the Sheraton Detroit Novi. It will include an educational seminar, presentation of the Stephen Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award, and cocktail reception. 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

Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act will be examined during our biennial policy conference June 17–19 on Mackinac Island. Defense attorneys, prosecutors, judges, legislators, and policymakers will collaborate to draft a policy statement about the legislation. The Grand Hotel, which is hosting the conference, is offering special rates to conference participants. Mission Point Resort and the Murray Hotel also offer reduced rates. More information is available at <http://www.michbar.org/criminal/news.cfm>. For questions, contact Charlie Marr at (248) 596-1599 or marrlaw@msn.com.

Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

The ELDRS recently succeeded in litigation over Medicaid's failure to allow a deduction for pre-eligibility medical expenses

from the monthly payment responsibility of Medicaid-eligible long-term care consumers. This case is *Miller ex rel Morrish v Olszewski*, Docket 09-CV-13683 (ED Mich), which resulted in an amendment to the state's Medicaid plan and a revision to the Medicaid policy manual to conform the state's policy to federal requirements.

Environmental Law Section

Our Michigan *Environmental Law Journal* electronic publication can be found at www.michbar.org/environmental/lawjournal.cfm. While on our website, check out our networking through Facebook and LinkedIn and look for information and materials on upcoming programs on greenhouse gas permitting, Asian carp litigation, and other timely topics. Our annual meeting and program will be held September 15 in Dearborn. We also hope to see you at the Environmental Law Section's 30th anniversary celebration event on October 6 in Lansing.

General Practice—Solo and Small Firm Section

The section conducted the first of four luncheon seminars. Fifty-two attorneys attended "Secrets of Short Sales and Foreclosures—How to Represent Your Clients in Today's Market." Our presenters, attorneys Craig A. Aronoff and Richard D. Linnell, concentrate in short sales and foreclosures. They provided an extensive outline of the considerations and necessary steps for successfully completing a short sale and discussed how to analyze and negotiate the best results for your client.

Labor and Employment Law Section

The Labor and Employment Law Section and ICLE partnered to present the Labor and Employment Law Institute in April. A record crowd attended the informative and collegial event. The LELS *Springboard* meeting is June 9 at the Big Rock. The seminar's focus will be on in-house counsel. Please attend!

Master Lawyers Section

The members of the Master Lawyers Section welcome you to our section meeting, which will be educational, entertaining, and socially rewarding, August 26–28 at Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa. Be sure to join us! In addition, our annual meeting and program will be held in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 15. Check us out and see how we can help you transition your practice.

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 Plymouth. For more information, visit the section website at www.michbar.org/realproperty/summerconf.cfm or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7478. Register online at <http://e.michbar.org>.

Taxation Section

The Taxation Section's annual meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on September 22 at the St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth for the purpose of electing members to fill vacancies on the council; cocktail reception and dinner to follow, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively. There will be a nominal charge for the dinner. Please indicate your attendance at the dinner by completing the reservation form on the section's website.

Young Lawyers Section

The Young Lawyers Section would like to thank all the sponsors of the 4th Annual Young Lawyers Summit, which was held May 20–22 at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids: LexisNexis; Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione; Brooks Kushman PC; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Grand Rapids campus; Records Deposition, Inc.; West; Miller Canfield; and the Paul Goebel Group. To see highlights from the conference, please visit the SBM YLS Facebook page. ■