

# State Bar 2011 Election Results

## SBM Judicial Tenure Commission

**Nancy J. Diehl** won re-election for a third term on the Judicial Tenure Commission. Diehl's three-year term will begin January 1, 2012, and expire December 31, 2014. She was first elected to the JTC in 2005.



Nancy J. Diehl

An independent legal services professional in Detroit, Diehl previously worked for 28 years in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office as chief of the trial division, overseeing general trials, child and family abuse, homicide, auto theft, and major drugs charges. Diehl, who served as SBM president from 2004 to 2005, continues to be active on many SBM committees and was on the Judicial Crossroads Task Force. She also served on the boards of directors of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association and Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. She devotes a great deal of her time to working on behalf of children and families; serving on the Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Wayne County Kids-TALK Advisory Board, and the Archdiocese of Detroit Sexual Abuse Review Board; and co-authoring four booklets for children related to family violence.

The JTC is a constitutionally created body that promotes the integrity of the judicial process and preserves public confidence in the courts.

## SBM Board of Commissioners

Five attorneys—**Margaret A. "Peggy" Costello, Richard L. Cunningham, Jennifer M. Grieco, Richard J. Siriani, and Gregory L. Ulrich**—won contested seats in this year's SBM Board of Commissioners elections. All will serve three-year terms ex-

piring at the close of the 2014 Annual Meeting. The State Bar Board of Commissioners provides oversight to the various operations of the Bar, such as finance, public policy, and member services.



Margaret A. Costello

**Costello** won in District H, representing Lenawee, Monroe, and Wayne counties. She is assistant clinical professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, where she was instrumental in establishing the Veterans Law Clinic and Project Salute. Costello has served on the SBM Board of Commissioners since 2005, co-chairs the SBM Pro Bono Initiative, and was awarded the 2002 John W. Cummiskey Pro Bono Award for coordinating pro bono services at Dykema Gossett PLLC. She was a member of the SBM Representative Assembly from 1996 to 2002 and chaired the Drafting Committee and the Rules and Calendar Committee. She is past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association and currently serves on the Detroit Bar Foundation board. She is also a member of the Federal Bar Association, Wolverine Bar Association, and Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers. Costello was a member of Dykema's litigation department for more than 20 years and previously worked as a licensed psychologist.

**Cunningham** also won in District H. He is chief of the criminal division of the Michigan Department of Attorney General. He was first elected to the SBM Board of Commissioners in 2005. Cunning-



Richard L. Cunningham

ham is a fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and served three two-year terms on the SBM Representative Assembly, representing the Third Judicial Circuit. He is a former chair of the SBM Criminal Law Section and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association's Criminal Law Section. Before working with the state attorney general, he spent most of his career working as a litigation specialist and was associate counsel for the U.S. Veterans Administration, staff counsel for the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission, assistant Wayne County prosecutor, a criminal defense attorney in private practice, and a recorder's court judge. Cunningham has served on the boards of directors of Save our Sons and Daughters and the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children. He is a military veteran.



Jennifer M. Grieco

**Grieco** won in District I, representing Oakland County. She is a partner at Neuman Anderson PC, concentrating in complex commercial litigation and professional malpractice. This will be her first term on the SBM Board of Commissioners. Grieco has just concluded her term as president of the Oakland County Bar Association, where she spearheaded the Pro Bono Mentor Match program, which pairs new lawyers with seasoned practitioners willing to mentor them through pro bono cases. She also co-chaired the OCBA Bench-Bar Conference and the OCBA Public Service Committee and was the inaugural chair of the OCBA New Lawyers Council. Grieco is a fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and the Oakland County Bar Foundation, and a member of the SBM Negligence Law Section Council. She also served as president of the Oakland County region of the Women Lawyers Association

of Michigan and on the executive committee of the Michigan Association for Justice.

**Siriani** also won in District I. He is senior counsel in the Troy office of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC, where he concentrates on probate and trust administration, probate and



**Richard J. Siriani**

trust litigation, and estate planning. This will be his second term on the SBM Board of Commissioners. Siriani is co-chair of the SBM Committee on Special Projects for the Probate and Estate Planning Section and a member of the SBM Committee for Practice Management, Specialization, and Certification. Before joining Miller Canfield, he spent 29 years in private practice and served as a special assistant attorney general in the collection division under Attorneys General Frank J. Kelley and Jennifer M. Granholm. He also worked as an attorney in the estate and gift tax division of the Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Service and as an attorney in the trust tax department of National Bank of Detroit.



**Gregory L. Ulrich**

**Ulrich** also won in District H. He practices law at Ulrich Law PLC in Grosse Pointe Woods, focusing on business, finance, and governmental litigation. This will be his seventh term on the

SBM Board of Commissioners; he also currently represents the Third Circuit on the SBM Representative Assembly and served as its chair in 1991. Ulrich is a member of the Bar Leadership Liaison Advisory Committee, a District H panel member of the Character and Fitness Committee, and a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates. He is a past member of the SBM Judicial Ethics Committee and past chair of the Nominating and Membership Services Committee. Ulrich is a life fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and a member of the SBM Real Property Law and Business Law sections. He co-chaired the Master Lawyers Section Planning Group, chaired

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the Young Lawyers Section, worked on task forces focused on establishment of a law practice and gender and race/ethnic issues, and served on the councils of the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Information Technology Law sections.



David R. Brake



Donald G. Rockwell

Two attorneys won uncontested races for the 32-member SBM Board of Commissioners. They are **David R. Brake** of Lansing, who won in District E, representing nine counties in mid-Michigan; and **Donald G. Rockwell** of Flint, who won in District B, representing eight counties in eastern Michigan's tri-cities and Thumb area.

### SBM Representative Assembly

Forty-five attorneys won unopposed races in the State Bar Representative Assembly. These new members are:

#### 2nd Circuit—Berrien County

Laurie Wightman Schmidt

#### 3rd Circuit—Wayne County

Terrence R. Haugabook  
Katherine Kakish  
Solon M. Phillips  
John C. Philo  
Margaret M. Van Houten

#### 6th Circuit—Oakland County

Dennis M. Flessland  
J. Scot Garrison  
Alana M. Glass  
LaNita R. Haith  
Krista L. Haroutunian  
John Mucha III  
Ava K. Ortner  
Pratheep Sevanthinathan  
Mark L. Teicher  
Vanessa P. Williams

#### 7th Circuit—Genesee County

Shayla D. Blankenship

#### 8th Circuit—Ionia and Montcalm Counties

S. Tutt Gorman

#### 10th Circuit—Saginaw County

Alan S. Ells  
Terri L. Stangl

#### 11th Circuit—Alger, Luce, Mackinac, and Schoolcraft Counties

Brian D. Rahilly

#### 12th Circuit—Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties

David R. Mechlin

#### 17th Circuit—Kent County

Martin J. Hillard  
E. Thomas McCarthy Jr.  
Victoria A. Vuletich

#### 20th Circuit—Ottawa County

Lynn L. Corgan

#### 21st Circuit—Isabella County

Becky J. Bolles

#### 22nd Circuit—Washtenaw County

Elizabeth C. Jolliffe  
Erane C. Washington-Kendrick

#### 25th Circuit—Marquette County

Nels A. Christopherson

#### 28th Circuit—Missaukee and Wexford Counties

Eilisia G. Schwarz

#### 29th Circuit—Clinton and Gratiot Counties

Kristen L. Krol

#### 30th Circuit—Ingham County

William J. Ard  
Kimberly A. Breitmeyer  
Shenique A. Moss

#### 31st Circuit—St. Clair County

Daniel A. Damman  
T. Allen Francis

#### 37th Circuit—Calhoun County

Alisa Parker

#### 38th Circuit—Monroe County

James P. Bartlett

#### 42nd Circuit—Midland County

Joseph G. Sepesy

#### 45th Circuit—St. Joseph County

Christine M. Everson Yancey

#### 46th Circuit—Crawford, Kalkaska, and Otsego Counties

Everette E. Ayers III

#### 48th Circuit—Allegan County

Matthew W. Antkoviak

#### 49th Circuit—Mecosta and Osceola Counties

Peter G. Mekas

#### 56th Circuit—Eaton County

Jessica S. Fox

The 150-member Representative Assembly was created in 1972 to increase the proportion of members who actively participate in Bar policy; it serves as the SBM final policymaking body.

### SBM Young Lawyers Section Executive Council

Six attorneys—**Jennifer M. Harvey, Kara Hart-Negrich, Felicia O. Johnson, Donald Rencher, Lori Smith, and R. Paul Vance**—won contested elections in Districts 1 and 3, representing all of Michigan's counties but Oakland County. Their two-year terms expire in 2013.

**Syeda F. Davidson, Nicholas G. Even, Hope V. Shovein, and Dionnie S. Wynter** won uncontested elections in District 2, representing Oakland County, for two-year terms expiring in 2013.

The Young Lawyers Executive Council governs the members of the Young Lawyers Section, one of the State Bar's largest sections. The section provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, public service programs, and newsletters. The section has won numerous awards for its public service and educational programs. ■