

# UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Samantha Meinke

## SBM Board of Commissioners 2011–2012



*Seated from left to right:* Thomas C. Rombach, Bruce A. Courtade, Julie I. Fershtman, Brian D. Einhorn, and Lori A. Buiteweg. *Standing from left to right:* Stephen J. Gobbo, Michael J. Riordan, Richard J. Siri-ani, Donald G. Rockwell, Angeliqne Strong

Marks, Edward L. Haroutunian, Lawrence P. Nolan, Felicia O. Johnson, Maureen M. McGinnis, Jennifer M. Grieco, Laurin' C. Roberts Thomas, Brandy Y. Robinson, Julie A. Sullivan, Donald E. McGinnis, David R. Brake, Dennis M. Barnes, Dana M. Warnez,

Richard L. Cunningham, Gregory L. Ulrich, David A. Perkins, Robert J. Buchanan, Kathleen M. Allen, Colleen A. Pero, Margaret A. Costello, and Jules B. Olsman. *Not pictured:* James N. Erhart. ■



## SBM Executive Board

*Seated from left to right:* Bruce A. Courtade, president-elect; Julie I. Fershtman, president; and Brian D. Einhorn, vice president. *Standing from left to right:* Thomas C. Rombach, secretary; Stephen J. Gobbo, Representative Assembly chairperson; Margaret A. Costello; Laurin' C. Roberts Thomas; Dana M. Warnez, Representative Assembly vice chairperson; Michael J. Riordan; and Lori A. Buiteweg, treasurer. ■

Photos by Dave Trumpie

## Newsmaker Moment for SBM President

Photographer: Colleen Ralph



State Bar President Julie Fershtman (right) was a Comcast Newsmakers guest in Lansing recently. The short interview with host Laurel Hess will air on the CNN news network. Fershtman was asked about the mission of the Bar, the delivery of justice in Michigan,

indigent defense, and the ways in which attorneys help the public. Officials and community leaders are often invited to appear on Comcast Newsmakers to share their thoughts on topical issues. ■

## State Bar and Cooley Law School Host Professionalism in Action Program

Photos courtesy of Thomas M. Cooley Law School



Left to right: Hon. Patrick C. Bowler, Cooley Associate Professor Victoria Vuletic, and SBM Vice President Bruce Courtade participated in the program at Cooley's Grand Rapids campus.



SBM Immediate Past President W. Anthony Jenkins speaks to the incoming class at Cooley Law School's Lansing campus.

The State Bar of Michigan and Thomas M. Cooley Law School presented the Professionalism in Action program to incoming law students on September 6. The program, launched in May 2009, allows first-year law students to interact with veteran lawyers and judges. The Michigan State University College of Law and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law both hosted the program on August 25. ■

## John A. Scott Receives 2011 Michael Irish Award



The Probate and Estate Planning Section has honored John A. Scott of Scott and Huff P.C. in Traverse City with its 2011 Michael Irish Award. The award is given for outstanding service to the section, the trusts and estates practice generally, and the community.

Among Scott's accomplishments is creating the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) Annual Drafting Estate Planning Documents seminar series, which he has moderated and presented for 20 years. He frequently presents at other seminars sponsored by ICLE and the Probate and Estate Planning Section, and co-authored the "Will Contests and Will Construction" chapter of *Michigan Probate Litigation* (ICLE).

Scott spent 12 years on the Probate and Estate Planning Section Council, holding all officer positions and serving as chair from 2001 to 2002. He is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and its current Michigan state chair. He is also a member of the Real Estate and Master Lawyers sections; the Colorado Bar Association; and the Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Association. Scott also serves on the boards of directors of Saving Birds Thru Habitat and the Leelanau Community Cultural Center. ■

## Michigan's Newest Lawyers Are Sworn In



Eighteen candidates who recently passed the bar exam were admitted to the State Bar of Michigan on November 1. The swearing-in ceremony was held at Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Lansing campus. ■

## Jessica Mullins is 2010–2011 Judge Marable Student of the Year



Courtesy photo

Flint 68th District Judge Herman Marable Jr. and his Citizens Advisory Committee selected Swartz Creek High School student Jessica Mullins as Student of the Year for 2010–2011. Jessica, 16, was chosen on the basis of her application and essay and receives a \$500 U.S. savings bond and a trophy for her efforts. Her name will also be engraved

on a plaque on permanent display at the 68th District courthouse.

Jessica, who wants to pursue a career in veterinary medicine, is a member of the Swartz Creek softball team, Peers Who Care, and the Power 100 anti-bullying program. She also serves as a tutor.

The Judge Marable Student of the Month and Student of the Year programs were established in 2004 to encourage Genesee County high school students to focus on academic achievement and career goals. Each month during the school year, one local tenth grader is honored and awarded a \$75 savings bond, a trophy, and a certificate. The Student of the Year is selected from the pool of monthly winners.

More information about this program is available at [www.judgemarable.net](http://www.judgemarable.net) or by calling (810) 597-7795. ■

## Social Media Resources for Bar Associations

Trying to figure out how to utilize social media for your local or specialty bar association? The American Bar Association has a website that can help you write a social media use policy, launch fan pages and groups, and effectively promote your bar association. To access these resources, visit [http://www.americanbar.org/groups/bar\\_services/resources/socialmedia.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/bar_services/resources/socialmedia.html). ■

## How to Use QR Codes



If you subscribe to magazines or have read any promotional materials lately, you've probably already seen a quick response code, better known as a QR code. These codes are similar to bar codes at supermarkets—they store information in a digital image that can be extracted when the image is scanned. If you have a smartphone or tablet computer with a camera, you can download applications that will allow you to scan QR codes and access their information with your own device. Scanner application options include QuickMark and Optiscan for the iPhone, Scan or Grafter Code Reader for the iPad, or Barcode Scanner or QuickMark for your Android phone or tablet.

To scan a QR code with your smartphone or tablet, simply open your newly downloaded scanner application, hold your device so the QR code you want to read is visible within the viewfinder on your screen, and you should be taken directly to information contained in the image. Try your scanner with the code pictured above. If your code scanner is working correctly, you should be taken to a page on the SBM website containing clickable links to all the State Bar's social media sites. Happy scanning! ■