

## Administrative & Regulatory Law Section

The section is hosting a luncheon with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission on Tuesday, February 21 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Given the many changes in the makeup of the LCC and in the state's regulatory environment, this will be a must-see event. Registration information is being circulated. You may contact Mark Burzych at [MBurzych@fsblawyers.com](mailto:MBurzych@fsblawyers.com) with any questions.

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section is working on several major projects for 2012, including the Michigan Mediates! campaign to make the general public aware of the benefits of mediation, effective mediation and negotiation skills trainings for the Attorney General's office and MDNR, passage of the Revised Uniform Arbitration Act, and joint programs with other sections. Please contact A. David Baumhart, section chair, at (248) 338-8848 or [dave@adradvantages.com](mailto:dave@adradvantages.com) for details. Join our section to learn more! Visit [www.michbar.org/adr/news.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/adr/news.cfm).

## Business Law Section

The next council meeting will be held on March 8 at the SBM in Lansing. Business Boot Camp II will be held January 23–24 in Plymouth. The Business Law Institute will be held May 4–5 in Grand Rapids. Get involved in section activities at <http://www.michbar.org/business/activities.cfm>. Visit our website, watch for our monthly e-newsletter, join our LinkedIn Group, or visit us on Facebook to learn about section events and for registration information.

## Criminal Law Section

Join us February 18–20 for some fun in the snow and a little legal business during the 35th Mid-Winter Ski Conference. Timothy Baughman and Hon. Bill Caprathe will be just two of the many featured speakers. The popular event offers several long breaks for skiing, sleigh rides, and snowboarding at Shanty Creek Resort. More information about the program, including registration,

can be found at <http://michbar.org/criminal/news.cfm>. For questions, contact [jonposner@bignet.net](mailto:jonposner@bignet.net) or call (313) 962-7210.

## Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

ELDRS announced the date and venue for its spring conference—March 16 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. This conference will bring together an outstanding faculty to present the latest information on Medicaid, long-term care, estate planning, and health care at a time when crucial changes are happening. The state's unfolding budget negotiations and the continuing upheaval in health care will make this conference vital to practitioners in many areas of the law.

## Environmental Law Section

The 2011 Joint Environmental Conference, sponsored by the East and West Michigan Chapters of the Air & Waste Management Association and the Environmental Law Section, was a huge success! Attorneys, consultants, and other industry leaders attended a full day of interactive learning. Current environmental hot topics and regulatory programs were presented and discussed. Visit our website at [www.michbar.org/environmental](http://www.michbar.org/environmental) to view the presentations, current activities, and membership information for the Environmental Law Section.

## Health Care Law Section

A program on mental health parity requirements was presented on October 18 by Lisa Varnier and moderated by Carl Pate. A program on financial incentives for “meaningful use” of electronic health records was presented on November 29 by John Haze-winkel and moderated by Cindy Wisner. The Annual Health Law Institute, jointly sponsored by the HCLS and ICLE, will be held March 8–9 in Plymouth. To register, visit [www.icle.org/health](http://www.icle.org/health) or call (877) 229-4350.

## Information Technology Law Section

Mark your calendars! The Information Technology Law Section has set the date of May 17 for its spring networking event. Once again we will hold the event in con-

junction with the Detroitnet.org IT networking organization. We are also planning section meetings for late January and late March. Please watch the section listserv for details in the near future.

## Labor and Employment Law Section

The Labor and Employment Law Section's Mid-Winter Meeting will be held at the Detroit Athletic Club on the evening of January 20 and the morning of January 21.

## Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Save the dates: Annual Day of Education, May 4 (location TBD); and annual meeting, September 21, Grand Rapids. For more information, contact Kathy Ann Blunck, chair, or visit [www.michbar.org/paralegal](http://www.michbar.org/paralegal). Do you know a shining star? Shining stars are paralegals who have demonstrated outstanding charitable or community service works. To submit a nomination or view a list of past winners, visit [www.michbar.org/paralegal/shiningstaraward.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/paralegal/shiningstaraward.cfm).

## Real Property Law Section

Register today! The Annual Winter Conference, “Redevelopment after the Great Recession: Lessons from the Sunshine and Great Lakes States,” will be held March 15–17 at the Loews Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal Orlando®, Florida. Program coordinators are Melissa B. Papke of Varnum Law in Grand Rapids and Nicholas P. Scavone Jr. of Bodman PLC in Detroit. Visit the section website at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/winterconf.cfm> for registration form and hotel information.

## Taxation Section

The Employee Benefits Committee will sponsor a half-day seminar on March 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at a location to be determined. The seminar will feature Mr. Sal Tripodi of TRI Pension Services. Mr. Tripodi, a nationally recognized employee benefits expert, will provide a current developments update. Please mark your calendar and check our website at <http://www.michbar.org/tax/> for details and location so you don't miss the opportunity to join us. ■