

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section promotes the use of alternative dispute resolution and desires collaboration with other sections, including exchanging speakers on mutually relevant topics. Please contact one of the section's 2013 Executive Committee members to discuss collaboration opportunities: Robert E. Lee Wright, chair; Antoinette R. Raheem, chair-elect; A. David Baumhart III, past chair; Joseph C. Basta, secretary; Anne L. Buckleitner, treasurer; and Kevin S. Hendrick and Martin C. Weisman, members-at-large.

## Appellate Practice Section

The 2013 Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference will be held April 24–26 at the St. John's Inn and Conference Center in Plymouth. This year's theme is "Appellate Advocacy in the 21st Century—Bench and Bar Working Together to Advance Justice Under Law." At a dinner banquet on April 25, the Appellate Practice Section will honor former Court of Appeals Clerk Sandra Schultz Mengel with its 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award.

## Criminal Law Section

It's not too late to register for the 36th Annual Mid-Winter Ski Conference, held February 16–18 at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire. This year's conference includes a review of high-impact court decisions, a discussion about accident reconstruction, and a presentation on electronic evidence, including the use of social media in criminal cases. Advance registration is only \$20 at

<http://e.michbar.org> (until February 11); on-site registration is \$25. For more information, contact Stephen Taratuta at [staratuta@co.wayne.mi.us](mailto:staratuta@co.wayne.mi.us) or (313) 224-5770.

## Environmental Law Section

Mark your calendar for the annual spring Joint Conference hosted by the ELS Air Committee and the Michigan Manufacturer's Association. The event takes place in Lansing and is planned for April. Information will be available on our website soon. The winter issue of the *Michigan Environmental Law Journal* is now available. Visit the ELS website at <http://www.michbar.org/environmental> for committee and membership information, upcoming webinars, events, and past presentation materials.

## Health Care Law Section

Over the coming months, the Health Care Law Section will sponsor teleconferences aimed at educating attorneys about health care law basics. The first teleconference was held January 23 and focused on electronic medical records. Additional teleconference topics include mandatory reporting requirements, certificates of need, and mergers and acquisitions. The section is cosponsoring ICLE's 19th Annual Health Law Institute March 7–8 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. The program is entitled "Keep Pace with Critical Changes in Health Care Law."

## Intellectual Property Law Section

The Intellectual Property Law Section's annual Spring Seminar on March 25 in Lan-

sing will include AIA practice tips, gTLDs, trademark enforcement strategies, and coordinated IP portfolio management. The council is discussing programs with the Detroit U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to support the office and benefit the IPLS membership. The council is also working to establish a pro bono program to assist Michigan entrepreneurs.

## Real Property Law Section

Register now! The Annual Winter Conference, "Jazz, Jambalaya, and Jeopardy—New Orleans, Katrina, and Lesser Casualties," will be held March 14–16 at the JW Marriott, New Orleans. The program coordinator is Nicholas P. Scavone Jr. of Bodman PLC in Detroit. For registration form and hotel information, visit the section website at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/winterconf.cfm>.

## Social Security Lawyers Section

On February 22, the Social Security Lawyers Section will present "A Cornucopia of Social Security Practice Tips" regarding representing clients before the Social Security Administration. We will also hold seminars in Grand Rapids and Livonia in June and October respectively. Please contact Aaron Sumrall at [aaron@sumrall-law.com](mailto:aaron@sumrall-law.com) for additional information or to receive registration materials.

## Taxation Section

On December 14, 2012, the SALT Committee of the SBM Taxation Section cosponsored a Tax Tribunal luncheon at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, featuring Chair Kimbal R. Smith and Chief Clerk Peter M. Kopke. Smith and Kopke gave an update on Tax Tribunal case processing, proposed changes to the MTT Rules, and the implementation of electronic filing in 2013. The proposed rules are available at <http://www7.dleg.state.mi.us/orr/Rules.aspx?type=Number&id=R+205.1101>. ■