

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

On March 21, the ADR Section is once again sponsoring ICLE's Advanced Negotiation & Dispute Resolution Institute. Learn the latest techniques, strategies, and approaches to negotiating and resolving disputes. Earn 6.5 CLE, 8 hours of advanced mediation, or 5 hours of ACE credits. Supercharge your practice with Michigan's ADR leaders at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. Register today: <http://www.icle.org/ANDRI> or (877) 229-4350. Hope to see you there!

## Appellate Practice Section

The 2013 Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference will be held April 24–26 at The Inn at St. John's 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

Save the date! The Mackinac Policy Conference is scheduled for June 14–16. Together with a distinguished panel of professionals, attendees will examine issues related to criminal law and draft a policy statement. Please join us for this important

biennial conference at the Grand Hotel. The conference is still in the planning stages, but more information will be posted in our newsletter and our website at <http://www.michbar.org/criminal/news.cfm>. Questions? Contact Charlie Marr at (248) 596-1599 or [marrlaw@msn.com](mailto:marrlaw@msn.com).

## Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

The Elder Law and Disability Rights Section will monitor and support legislation and legislative changes of interest to section members, particularly SB 61 and 62. The goal: affordable Medigap policies for the elderly and disabled even if Blue Cross and Blue Shield converts to a mutual. In addition, the 11th Annual Spring Conference will be held March 15 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. Program and registration details are available at <http://www.michbar.org/elderlaw/>.

## Family Law Section

The Family Law Section welcomes our newest council member, Peter M. Kulas of Grand Rapids, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Donna Mobilia. The section remains actively involved in responding to pending legislation and requests for amicus briefs. In addition, the section is exploring the idea of transitioning to an online journal. Our Mid-Summer Conference will be held at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, July 18–21.

## International Law Section

The section will hold its March council meeting and dinner program on Wednesday, March 20 at 4:30 p.m. at Dykema's Bloomfield Hills office, 39577 Woodward Ave., Suite 300. Invited speakers will discuss "Doing Business in Russia." Please mark your calendar and save the date. Watch for announcements of the program for the section's May 15 meeting.

## Law Student Section

The Law Student Section will host the Annual 1L Oral Advocacy Competition on

Saturday, March 23 at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. The topic is "Right to Work" in Michigan. Ten students from Michigan law schools will compete, and practicing attorneys will judge. If you are interested in judging, please contact Marina Haddad, section chair, at [marinahaddad86@gmail.com](mailto:marinahaddad86@gmail.com). All are welcome to attend!

## Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Save the dates: Thursday and Friday, May 4 and 5, for the Annual Day of Education cosponsored by the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section and the Association of Litigation Support Professionals. Thursday evening's networking event will be held at the Lexington Lansing Hotel and Friday's seminar will be held at Lansing Community College's West Campus. Registration form and details will be posted to the section website when available.

## Real Property Law Section

Save the date! The next Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtable, "Dealing with Distressed Properties, Part III—The Lawyer's Guide to Negotiating/Renegotiating Commercial Leases," is scheduled for April 18 at the Detroit Athletic Club from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. This program will explore the impact of distressed real estate on the world of commercial leasing. Program co-chairs are Thomas A. Kabel, Butzel Long PC; and Emily A. Minns, Emily A. Minns PLC. Register online at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/roundtables.cfm>.

## Taxation Section

The Taxation Section thanks Margie Gell for her efforts in writing and submitting the amicus curiae brief in *Estate of Wheeler v Dept of Treasury*, currently pending before the Michigan Supreme Court. Our annual tax conference is scheduled for May 23. Stay on top of evolving issues in tax law and get complete coverage of changes on the national front, including revisions to Circular 230. Attend in person at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, or watch via live webcast. ■