

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section is developing a short webinar on the new arbitration act, effective July 1, and rolling out the “Michigan Mediates!” public awareness campaign—promoting mediation to resolve disputes for businesses, government, and individuals. We enjoy collaborating with other sections to promote ADR tailored to your subject area. If you would like to discuss ideas for collaboration, please contact Section Chair Bob Wright at bob@thepeacetalks.com or (616) 682-7000 or Section-to-Section Chair Dick Barron at rmoreybarron@gmail.com or (810) 487-1368.

Appellate Practice Section

The Appellate Practice Section’s annual business meeting and program will be held on Thursday, September 19 at the Lansing Center beginning at 1 p.m. After a short

business meeting, the section will be joined at 2 p.m. by a panel of Michigan Court of Appeals judges and clerks who will discuss motion practice in the Court of Appeals, including special types of motions, how motions are processed and decided, common mistakes, and practice tips.

Criminal Law Section

The Second Amendment and gun control will be discussed during our biennial policy conference on June 14–16. Defense attorneys, prosecutors, judges, legislators, and policymakers will collaborate to draft a policy statement to guide future action on the issue. The Grand Hotel, which is hosting the conference, is offering special rates to conference participants. Register for the conference at <http://e.michbar.org>. More information is available at <http://www.michbar.org/criminal/news.cfm>. Questions? Contact Charlie Marr at (248) 596-1599 or marrlaw@msn.com.

Environmental Law Section

The ELS Summer Program will be held at the Bengal Wildlife Center on June 21, in conjunction with a Lansing-area council meeting, on a topic relating to renewable energy and sustainability. The wildlife center is near the town of Bath, northeast of Lansing. The ELS Webinar Series also will continue. The deadline for submissions in the Environmental Law Writing Contest is June 30. Visit the ELS website at <http://www.michbar.org/environmental> for the most up-to-date information.

Family Law Section

On June 7, the Family Law Section, with generous support from private donors, will host the Fourteenth Annual Family Court Forum. Judges, Friend of the Court referees and family counselors, attorneys, and mental health professionals will participate by invitation. The section will hold its annual Mid-Summer Conference July 18–21 at the newly refurbished Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island. There will be presentations by top-notch lawyers and other professionals on leading-edge topics.

Health Care Law Section

The Health Care Law Section will provide educational teleconferences in May and June. A multipart series on Medicare fundamentals titled “From Part A to Part D” runs May 7–21. On June 21, we will present a program on the legal issues involved with telemedicine. The HCLS will also host a program on the final rules of the Sunshine Act, tentatively scheduled for June 25 or 26. Visit <http://www.michbar.org/health/home.cfm> for updated information on all future HCLS programs.

Information Technology Law Section

We are pleased to announce the formation of a Privacy Committee. This committee will address a broad range of privacy and data security issues at the state, national, and international levels affecting multiple practice areas and client organizations as well as legal practices. This is a great opportunity to become involved in this quickly evolving area of law. Interested attorneys should contact Co-Chair Bob Rothman at rrothman@privassoc.com or Keith Cheresko at kcheresko@privassoc.com. For more information, visit <http://www.michbar.org/it/news.cfm>.

International Law Section

The ILS Annual Meeting Planning Committee is busy conferencing, finalizing topics, and inviting speakers to the section’s annual meeting and program, which will be held jointly with the International Transactions Clinic of the University of Michigan Law School to celebrate the clinic’s five-year anniversary. The event is scheduled for Thursday, September 5 at the University of Michigan Law School. Please mark your calendar and save the date now. More details to follow.

Master Lawyers Section

The Master Lawyers Section’s summer conference at Crystal Mountain Resort, August 16–18, focuses on career transition planning, marketing, and the wise use of tablet

technology and social media. Topics include cultivating business relationships, taking stock of professional assets and changing careers, developing a personal brand, using LinkedIn and iPad technology, and minimum distribution rules on retirement benefits paid to trusts and beneficiaries. For more information and to register, visit the section's web page at <http://www.michbar.org/mastersection/>.

Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

Mark your calendars: the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section's annual meeting will be held Friday, September 20 in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting at the Lansing Center. Officers and council members will be elected and announced. Assistant Attorney General Margaret Nelson will speak on the topic of governmental immunity. If you are interested in running for a council position, please see the declaration of candidacy form at <http://www.michbar.org/paralegal/pdfs/Declaration.pdf> or contact Cheryl Nodarse at cnodarse@hubbardlaw.com.

Real Property Law Section

Sign up now! The Annual Summer Conference, "Returning to Our Roots—Conventional Real Estate Fundamentals for 2013," will be held July 10–13 at the Crystal Mountain Resort & Spa in Thompsonville. Program coordinators are John D. Gaber, Williams Williams Rattner & Plunkett PC, Birmingham; and Leslee M. Lewis, Dickinson Wright PLLC, Grand Rapids. For registration form and hotel information, visit the section website at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/summerconf.cfm>.

Taxation Section

This year the Taxation Section Council awarded \$10,000 in grant funding to four applicants based on their outreach and the assistance they provide to the underserved members of the community. The recipients are: Accounting Aid Society, \$2,000; Baxter, \$2,500; U-M Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, \$2,500; and MSU Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, \$3,000. ■