# Section Briefs

### Administrative & Regulatory Law Section

The Administrative & Regulatory Law Section will host speaker Rick Henderson, field operations supervisor in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals, at its September 19 annual meeting at the Lansing Center. Among other topics of interest, Mr. Henderson will discuss natural gas hydraulic "fracking."

### Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Our section promotes the use of ADR in Michigan and enjoys collaborating with other SBM sections. On July 31, we presented our inaugural "Lunch-N-Learn" teleseminar with Martin Weisman on the Revised Uniform Arbitration Act, which took effect July 1 (audio copies available). The September 27-28 annual conference will feature speakers on a variety of topics for eight hours of CME credit. For more information, please contact Section Chair Robert Wright at bob@thepeacetalks.com or visit http://www.michbar.org/adr/.

# **Appellate Practice Section**

The Appellate Practice Section thanks Phillip J. DeRosier for his hard work and service as chair for the 2012-2013 year. The section's next meeting will take place on September 19 at 1 p.m. at the State Bar Annual Meeting in Lansing. After the business portion of the meeting, incoming Chair

Jill M. Wheaton will present a program on motion practice in the Court of Appeals.

#### **Business Law Section**

Join us on September 26 in Novi for our annual meeting event, which includes an educational seminar, business meetings, presentation of the Schulman Award to Daniel Minkus of Clark Hill, and cocktail reception. Business Boot Camp basic training for business lawyers will take place November 4-5 in Grand Rapids and January 23-24, 2014, in Plymouth. Visit our website, watch for our monthly e-newsletter, or join our LinkedIn groups to learn about section events.

#### Criminal Law Section

Together with the Equal Access Initiative and the Prisons and Corrections Section, the Criminal Law Section's annual meeting will be held on Friday, September 20 at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Avenue. The program begins at 9 a.m. with a panel discussion on mental health problemsolving courts that explores the follow-up assessment of pilot projects across the state and current legislation. The business meeting immediately follows at 11 a.m. with elections to the council.

## Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

Possible bylaw changes will be subject to general membership vote in October and are available in the section newsletter. In August, we reaffirmed general support for bills regarding Medicaid expansion; individuals with incomes of up to 133 percent of the poverty limit might qualify. We authorized an amicus brief to be filed regarding payment to an agent under a durable power of attorney. The section chose Mackinac Island as the fall 2014 conference site.

#### **Environmental Law Section**

Check out the section's revamped website pages, with materials and pictures from recent events, webinar links, details of upcoming events, and up-to-date section information, at http://www.michbar.org/ environmental. Plan to attend the fall conference and ELS council meeting in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting on September 19, and the joint conference with the Air Waste Management Association on November 6 at Lansing Community College. RSVP for both events to the section administrator at brian@attorneywordsmith.com.

## Family Law Section

The Family Law Section held its annual mid-summer conference July 18-21 at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island. The conference had record-breaking attendance and featured top presentations by members of the bar and the judiciary and leading experts in forensic accounting. The section will hold its annual meeting on September 19 in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting. Elections will be held for open council seats. All section members are encouraged to attend.

### Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

Our section's annual business meeting and program will take place on September 19 at 9:30 a.m. during the State Bar Annual Meeting at the Lansing Center. The business meeting, including council elections, will be followed by the program, "A 360 Degree Perspective on Reforming Auto Insurance in Michigan: Can We Find any Common Ground in the No-Fault Debate?" A distinguished panel of speakers from the forefront of the no-fault debate will share their perspectives.

### International Law Section

The ILS will hold its annual meeting and program on Thursday, September 12 at the University of Michigan Law School. The meeting will be held jointly with the law school's International Transactions Clinic to celebrate the ILS's 25-year anniversary and the clinic's 5-year anniversary. The program will feature three panels of distinguished speakers on international transactions and Rachel Robbins, former general counsel of the International Finance Corporation, as keynote speaker. Please save the date.

## Master Lawyers Section

After a great summer conference at Crystal Mountain, the section is preparing for its annual meeting at the Lansing Center on September 20 beginning at 9 a.m. The section will elect officers and present "Transitioning to Working Less: Toward a Graceful Retirement," addressing the psychological, biological, and financial transitions as we age, and also coping strategies. Come visit our booth in the Exhibit Hall.

# Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

The Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section's annual meeting will be held on Friday morning, September 20, in conjunction with the State Bar Annual Meeting at the Lansing Center. Assistant Attorney General Margaret Nelson will speak on the topic of governmental immunity. There is no charge to attend. Please join us!

### Real Property Law Section

Save the date! The next Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtable, "Construction Lending: Back in the Saddle Again," is scheduled for October 24, 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Glen Zatz of Bodman PLC is program chair. The program will cover the construction loan agreement, lien priority issues, the progress payment process, title insurance issues, and other important areas of construction lending. Online registration will be available at http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/roundtables.cfm.