

# UpFront

By Samantha Meinke

## Diversity and Inclusion Committee Continues Work to Improve the Profession

The SBM Diversity and Inclusion Committee has been working since 2011 to support and implement actions and programs to aid the increase of diversity and inclusion within the legal profession. Committee members

have been seeking new signatories to the Pledge to Achieve Diversity and Inclusion in the Legal Profession in Michigan. They have also identified tools and strategies to create meaningful benchmarks to track and meas-

ure improvements and progress in the profession. To find out more about the committee, visit <http://www.michbar.org/diversity>. ■



Photo by Tammy Allen

Front row from left to right: Kimberly Jones, Hon. Cynthia Stephens, Elizabeth Joy Fossel, and Lawrence Nolan. Middle row: Jehan Grashara Crump-Gibson, Lori Frank, and Dewnya Bazzi. Back row: Kristin Vanden Berg, Chantez Pattman Knowles, Darren Nealy, Daniel Levy, Gregory Conyers, Emma Chen, Zenna Faraj Elhasan, and Tonya Rodriguez. Not pictured: Rodney Martin.

## Long-time Ingham County Legal News Editor Retires



Photo by Steve Thorpe

Roberta Gubbins, an editor and writer for the *Ingham County Legal News* since 2005, recently retired from the twice-weekly publication that is part of the Detroit Legal News Co. A luncheon to honor her was held on December 16, 2013, in Mason. Gubbins received her juris doctor from the former

Detroit College of Law. Before joining the *Legal News*, she spent 12 years in private practice and later served as an attorney with the American Bar Association's Central Europe and Eurasian Law Initiative and the Washtenaw County/Eastern Michigan Legal Resource Center. ■

Robert Gubbins (left) is pictured at her retirement luncheon with Julie McClellan, general manager of the *Ingham County Legal News* and four other *Detroit Legal News* publications; and Frank Weir, retired editor of the *Washtenaw County Legal News*.