

Appellate Practice Section

On October 25, the Appellate Practice Section will host a seminar focusing on stories and themes in appellate writing in conjunction with its annual business meeting at 1:00 p.m. The daylong event will be held at the Hall of Justice in Lansing and will include a morning writing workshop, an afternoon session with plenary presentations and judges' panel, and a networking and membership reception to close the day. Contact Brad Hall with questions at bhall@sado.org or (517) 334-1206.

Business Law Section

The 31st Annual Business Law Institute will be held on October 4 in Grand Rapids. The section's annual meeting will be conducted as part of the Institute. Congratulations to Eric Lark, recipient of the 2019 Schulman Award. Eric will be presented with the award on October 4. Business Boot Camp I will be held in Grand Rapids on November 4-5 and in Plymouth on January 30-31, 2020. Visit <http://connect.michbar.org/businesslaw/home> to learn about section events.

Children's Law Section

The section has launched the John H. McKaig II Child Welfare Scholarship. The recipient of the first annual award will be announced in November. The theme for the November issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal* is Children's Law. The section appreciates the many offers of articles and looks forward to publication of the issue.

Criminal Law Section

The Criminal Law Section Council thanks its members for another successful annual meeting and program and welcomes new chair Mike Marutiak. The names of other officers and newly elected council members are listed in our newsletter and on our website. The council looks forward to another productive year with many events for members.

Environmental Law Section

The section recently held its annual business meeting and program on September 18 at the State Bar offices in Lansing.

Program materials and the latest *Michigan Environmental Law Journal* are available at michbar.org/environmental.

Real Property Law Section

Limited space is available, so register today for the "Real Estate Outlook 2020" program on October 17 at the Detroit Athletic Club. The keynote speaker is Robert A. Dye, Ph.D., senior vice president and chief economist, Comerica Bank. Focused roundtable discussions to follow. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m.; program runs 8:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Register online at <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=478770&> or mail the form at https://higher.logicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/44611bbd-6711-42cd-b769-2e5d4860ad2a/UploadedImages/pdf/breakfast_roundtable/GRbkr_OctReg.pdf.

Social Security Lawyers Section

The Social Security Administration has reinstated the reconsideration step of the disability process, which means that for Michigan residents who apply for SSDI/SSI and who receive an initial denial determination on or after October 1, 2019, the first step of the appeals process will be to request for reconsideration appeal. The primary reason given by the SSA for reinstating reconsideration is to have a national, unified disability process that affords all disability claimants the same appeal rights in all states.

Taxation Section

The Third Annual Fundamentals of Taxation Boot Camp will be held Wednesday, November 13, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn, 660 Woodward Ave., Ste. 2290, Detroit. Multiple tracks will be available to cater to all levels of tax knowledge, from law student to seasoned practitioner. A happy hour/mixer, sponsored by the Young Tax Lawyers Committee, begins at 4:00 p.m. Registration information is available at <http://connect.michbar.org/tax/home>. Space is limited. Contact Rebecca Pugliesi at rebecca.pugliesi@plantemoran.com with questions. ■



MONEY JUDGMENT INTEREST RATE

MCL 600.6013 governs how to calculate the interest on a money judgment in a Michigan state court. Interest is calculated at six-month intervals in January and July of each year, from when the complaint was filed, and is compounded annually.

For a complaint filed after December 31, 1986, the rate as of July 1, 2019 is 3.235 percent. This rate includes the statutory 1 percent.

But a different rule applies for a complaint filed after June 30, 2002 that is based on a written instrument with its own specified interest rate. The rate is the lesser of:

- (1) 13 percent a year, compounded annually; or
- (2) the specified rate, if it is fixed—or if it is variable, the variable rate when the complaint was filed if that rate was legal.

For past rates, see <http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/other/interest.pdf>.

As the application of MCL 600.6013 varies depending on the circumstances, you should review the statute carefully.