

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Register now for the 5th annual Advanced Negotiation & Dispute Resolution Institute on March 16 at The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth. Keynote speaker and presenter Nina Meierding is a nationally recognized leader in conflict resolution and mediation. Twenty-four breakout sessions will cover negotiation, mediation, arbitration, marketing, and the judiciary. There will be ample time for networking. ANDRI is the place to be to keep your negotiation, mediation, and arbitration skills sharp and current!

Animal Law Section

"Disaster Preparedness for Animals: The Roles of Attorneys and Veterinarians," a symposium co-sponsored with the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association, will be Friday, March 17, 1–5 pm, in the Lansing area. A reception follows the program. Speakers include Minnesota attorney Barbara Gislason, founding and current chair of the ABA's Animal Law Committee. Details are available on the section's website at www.michbar.org/animal.

Appellate Practice Section

Effective January 1, 2006, the Michigan Court of Appeals has made significant changes to the summary disposition track, including transcript orders, motions to remove, and filing deadlines. For more information, see the court's website or contact John Bursch at (616) 752-2474.

Business Law Section

The section's 3rd annual Scholarship Award program is underway. The winner receives \$2,500 and has his/her article published in the *Business Law Journal*. Information on the contest is at <http://www.michbar.org/business/activities.cfm>. The section's next council meeting is March 9 in Lansing. Look for the upcoming exciting announcement on the section's new annual Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award. Interested in becoming involved in section activities? Contact an officer (<http://www.michbar.org/business/leaders.cfm>) or attend the March meeting.

Law Practice Management Section

The Law Practice Management Section has been busy planning two presentations of its popular program, "The Nuts & Bolts of Successful Law Practice Management." The half-day program will be offered at southeast and western Michigan venues during 2006; watch for specifics and register early. The section council has several openings; anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact section chair Vincent Romano at varomano@comcast.net.

Probate & Estate Planning Section

The November 2005 probate court rule amendments resulted in new and/or revised forms: PC 671, Order for Administrative Closing (Conservatorship); PC 646, Petition for Approval of Sale of Real Estate; 558, Application for Informal Probate; PC 559, Petition for Probate; PC 577, Inventory; PC 670, Minor Guardianship Social History; PC 669, Proof of Restricted Account and Annual Verification of Funds on Deposit (Conservatorship of Minor); and PC 634,

Annual Report of Guardian on Condition of Legally Incapacitated Individual.

Real Property Law Section

Still time to register for the 2006 Winter Conference! The March 16–18 conference, "What We Can Learn from Success in the West: Emerging Trends in Michigan Development" will be held at The Wynn, Las Vegas. Program coordinators are Ronn Nadis and Larry Shoffner. Further information on all section activities can be found on our website at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/> or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7378.

Taxation Section

The next seminar in the After Hours Series will cover the estate and gift tax audit process and will be held February 21 in Troy. Upcoming committee meetings include Estates and Trusts, February 16; Employee Benefits, February 16; and Practice Procedure, March 8. The annual Tax Conference will be held May 11 in Plymouth with a schedule covering recent developments and current tax topics. For information, contact Deb Michaelian at (248) 263-3727 or dmichaelian@raypro.com. ♦