

State Bar of Michigan | 2016-2017 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Article VI § 6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and sub entity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or sub entity.

United States Courts

Jurisdiction: · Make recommendations concerning the administration, organization and operation of the United States Courts for the purpose of securing the effective administration of justice.
· Two members are judges designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and one member is a judge designated by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan

Chair

P61501 Matthew W. Heron
Cummings McClorey Davis & Acho PLC
33900 Schoolcraft Rd
Livonia MI 48150-1314
Phone: (734) 261-2400
Fax: (734) 261-4510
e-mail: mheron@cnda-law.com

Clerk

P45777 David Weaver, Detroit
Thomas L. Dorwin, Grand Rapids

Member

Term Ending: 2017

P35869 John A. Ferroli, Grand Rapids
P61501 Matthew W. Heron, Livonia
P29411 Gregory V. Murray, Bingham Farms
P49237 John P. Nicolucci, Lansing

Term Ending: 2018

P53995 Dean M. Googasian, Bloomfield Hills
P47394 Thaddeus E. Morgan, Lansing
P41850 Michael W. Puerner, Hastings
P53319 Adam B. Strauss, Portage

Term Ending: 2019

P61375 Peter M. Falkenstein, Ann Arbor
P76765 Jan Meir Geht, Traverse City
P29077 Mark W. McNerney, Detroit
P57378 Julie A. Wagner, Ada

Member Appointed by U.S. Eastern District Courts

P40295 Hon. Terrence G. Berg, Flint
P55882 Judith E. Levy, Ann Arbor

Member Appointed by U.S. Western District Courts

Phillip J. Green, Grand Rapids

Federal Bar Association Advisor, Eastern District

P29411 Gregory V. Murray, Bingham Farms

Federal Bar Association Advisor, Western District

P79845 Tessa K. Hessmiller, Grand Rapids

State Bar Liaison

P37083 Clifford T. Flood, Lansing

State Bar Liaison Assistant

Janna Sheppard, Lansing

Committee Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

**Please keep meeting descriptions brief.*

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Meeting Type Regular Committee Meeting	10/19/2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type Regular Committee Meeting	12/07/2016	State Bar of Michigan
Description In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type Regular Committee Meeting	01/18/2017	State Bar of Michigan
Description In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type Regular Committee Meeting	03/15/2017	State Bar of Michigan
Description In-person/phone participation		
Meeting Type Bench-Bar Committee Dinner	05/18/2017	Grand Rapids
Description Dinner to be held at Judson's Steakhouse at The B.O.B. with Eastern and Western District Judges in attendance.		
Meeting Type		
Description		

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Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:

Besides providing the resources called for in Article VI, Section 7 of the State Bar Bylaws, the State Bar provided meeting space, equipped with telephone conferencing capabilities, and State Bar Liaisons Clifford T. Flood and Janna Sheppard provided administrative support, including attending each meeting and assisted in preparing and circulating meeting agendas and minutes. Further, the State Bar will incur the expenses for the Annual Bench Bar dinner.

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Committee Activities:

1. Continue to review proposed federal rule amendments (civil, bankruptcy, and criminal) and to submit comments when appropriate.
2. Promoted the exchange of information between the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan regarding operation and administrative functions and procedures and opportunities for cooperation.
3. Drafted an article that was published in the MBJ regarding en banc opinions of the 6th Circuit during the previous term (Committee member John Ferroli has single-handedly undertaken this project for several years).
4. Continued consulting with representatives from both Districts and each corresponding Federal Bar Association to develop beneficial common programs.
5. Developed a plan to have the respective Court Clerks from each district draft and publish an article in the Michigan Bar Journal discussing relevant local practices and providing useful information for the benefit of practitioners.
6. Worked with judges from both Districts in co-drafting articles for publication in the Michigan Bar Journal.
7. Brainstormed ways to create a Boot Camp program for new attorneys with Judges in each District.
8. Sponsored an annual bench-bar dinner with judges and magistrates of the Eastern and Western Districts (alternates yearly between the two Districts), currently scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2017 in Grand Rapids. The dinner is intended to provide an opportunity for the judges and Committee members to meet and discuss common issues.
9. Continue to monitor federal rule amendment proposals submitted in previous years.

Future Goals and Activities:

The Committee will continue to:

1. review and, when appropriate, comment on proposed amendments to the Federal Rules and to local rules.
2. educate members of the Bar of significant rule changes through articles or other means.
3. review 6th Circuit en banc opinions and when appropriate, publish a summary in the Michigan Bar Journal.
4. promote a statewide Bench/Bar Conference by coordinating activities of the Eastern and Western Districts FBA chapters.
5. sponsor an Annual Bench Bar dinner with judges and magistrate judges of the Eastern and Western Districts.

Other Information:

To promote continuity and assist in an orderly transition from year to year, the Committee will continue to elect a committee vice-chairperson at the first meeting of each year and at the appropriate time, respectfully request that the incoming SBM President appoint the vice-chair as the Committee's chairperson for the ensuing year.

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Approved by	Approved	Name
Chair		Matthew Heron
Co-chair		
Staff Liaison		Clifford T. Flood and Janna Sheppard
Other		Members

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