

United States Courts – Standing Committee

Jurisdiction

Provide advice and recommendations concerning the State Bar of Michigan's interaction with federal courts in Michigan and on practice of law in those courts by:

- Reviewing and making recommendations on proposed federal court rule amendments.
- Proposing court rule, legislative, or policy changes to improve practice in federal courts in Michigan.

Committee Chair: Dean Googasian

Staff Liaison: Clifford Flood

Meetings: In-person: 4; Electronic or phone: 0

Committee Activity and Strategic Plan Goal

1. Continue to review proposed local and federal rule amendments (Civil, bankruptcy, and criminal) and to submit comments when appropriate.
Goal 1: Strategy 2: Supporting each active member's professional competence and continuing professional development
2. Worked with the authors of the Handbook on Local Practice in the Eastern District of Michigan to arrange a series of summary articles to be printed in the Michigan Bar Journal.
Goal 1: Strategy 1: Helping new lawyers to be practice ready
3. Drafted an article that was published in the MBJ regarding en banc opinions of the 6th Circuit during the previous term.
Goal 1: Strategy 2: Supporting each active member's professional competence and continuing professional development
4. Sponsored an annual Bench Bar dinner at the Michigan Hall of Justice with judges and magistrate judges of the Eastern and Western Districts, currently scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2019 in Lansing. The Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court are invited and Justice Markman has agreed to provide remarks.
Goal 2: Strategy 6: Providing timely, targeted messages to promote understanding of the rule of law and role of judiciary and the legal profession
5. Surveyed federal judges for input regarding where the Committee could improve its services and efforts.
Goal 1: Strategy 4: Promoting greater member engagement to connect members with the bar, its resources and each other

Additional Comments

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.

Special Committee Characteristics

This committee may have more than 15 members. This committee may include non-State Bar members. The Federal Bar Association Eastern District and the Federal Bar Association Western District may each nominate an advisor for appointment to the committee. 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.