

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2012-2013 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 subentity 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 subentity.

Committee Name: American Indian Law Committee

Jurisdiction: Review issues of American Indian law, focusing on the relationship between tribal courts, state courts, and federal courts, and on the promotion of positive relationships between the lawyers of Michigan and the American Indian Community.

Chair(s) and Committee Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Hon. Angela Sherigan	56804 Mound Rd Shelby Township, MI 48316-4943	(586) 822-4220	nwlacouncil@aol.com
Staff Liaison	Gregory Conyers	306 Townsend Lansing MI 48933	(517) 346-6358	gconyers@mail.michbar.org

Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
Jenny Lee Kronk, Paradise John J. Lemire, Dearborn Heights Hon. Angela Kay Sherigan, Shelby Township Chad P. DePetro, Brimley Cameron Ann Fraser, Traverse City Kimberly G. McGrath, Manistee Hon. Melissa L. Pope, Fulton	Hon. Holly K. Thompson, Traverse City Hon. Timothy P. Connors, Ann Arbor James A. Keedy, Traverse City Barbara Colby Tanase, East Tawas Kathryn L. Tierney, Brimley Vilija A. Bilaisis, Ludington William J. Brooks, Manistee James M. Kinney, Hastings Maribeth Dickerson Preston, Mason

Committee Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.
First Friday of each month.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
AIL mtg.	Friday, May 10th - 10:00 a.m.	Conference call

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AIL mtg.	Saturday, June 15 th – 1:00 p.m.	Mackinac Island

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

- Assistance in getting conference call for meeting set up.
- Liaison to resources at ICLE.
- Guidance on State Bar requirements for Committee activities.
- Assistance in scheduling/facilities for Committee meeting at Annual Upper Michigan Legal Institute.

Committee Activities: The Committee focused on the following topics:

SCAO Rules Update: implementation of ICWA Court forms

Support for the following Judicial Crossroads Task Force AJT Committee Recommendations

1. “Institutionalize ongoing partnerships between Michigan Supreme Court, its administrative office, the tribal courts, the Michigan Indian Judicial Association, lawyers and other stakeholders” pp. 9-10.
2. “Establish programs to foster awareness, acceptance and compliance by state courts with current tribal law.” Pg. 10.
3. “Support the enactment of federal ICWA concepts into Michigan law.”

- National Tribal Law Library
- County Agreements
- Supreme Court Sub-committee activities: Drafting State Indian Child Welfare Act
- Efforts to improve relations between Tribal Courts and Local Bar
- Review of Tribal Website information compiled by the Bay Mills Indian Community.
- ICWA Training for State Court personnel.

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Future Goals and Activities:

- Continue efforts to monitor implementation of revisions to Michigan Court Rules designed to implement responsibilities under the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act.

- Continue to develop relationships with other Committees/Sections within the Bar to raise the profile/familiarity with Indian Law and the role/jurisdiction of Indian tribes and Tribal Courts in the State.

Other Information: