

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2008-2009 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:** Awards Committee

**Jurisdiction:** Recommend attorney recipients qualified to receive awards made in the name of the State Bar of Michigan. Recommend recipients of the annual Liberty Bell Award made to non-attorneys. Recommend the establishment of new awards or discontinuation of existing awards. Recommend rules for how awards should be given in the future.

**Chair(s) and Committee Members:**

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Co-Chair	Thomas W. Cranmer	Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone PLC 840 W Long Lake Rd Ste 200 Troy, MI 48098- 6358	(248) 267-3381	cranmer@millercanfield.com
Co-Chair	W. Anthony Jenkins	Dickinson Wright, PLLC 500 Woodward Ave., Suite 4000 Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 223-3156 (Ext. 3635)	<a href="mailto:wjenkins@dickinsonwright.com">wjenkins@dickinsonwright.com</a>
Staff Liaison	Nancy Brown	306 Townsend St., Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 346-6350	<a href="mailto:nbrown@mail.michbar.org">nbrown@mail.michbar.org</a>
Staff Liaison	Samantha Meinke	306 Townsend St., Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 346-6332	<a href="mailto:smeinke@mail.michbar.org">smeinke@mail.michbar.org</a>
Commissioner Liaison	W. Anthony Jenkins	Dickinson Wright, PLLC 500 Woodward Ave., Suite 4000 Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 223-3156 (Ext. 3635)	<a href="mailto:wjenkins@dickinsonwright.com">wjenkins@dickinsonwright.com</a>

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Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
John M. Barr, member	Michael J. Blau, member
Nancy Brown, advisor	Francine Cullari, member
Kathryn M. Day, member	Peter J. DeRose, member
Nancy J. Diehl, member	Elias J. Escobedo, Jr., member
Nino E. Green, member	Lee Hornberger, member
Kathleen A. Lang, member	Calvin A. Luker, member
Daniel P. O'Neil, member	Hon. Victoria A. Roberts, member
Curtis W. Smith, member	Janet K. Welch, advisor

**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
Teleconference	Jan. 21, 2010	
Teleconference	March 18, 2010	
Teleconference	May 13, 2010	

**Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work and Committee Activity:**

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| December, second week | Staff contacts co-chairpersons to schedule meetings and mailing dates. Staff updates Awards Brochure.  |
| January, second week  | Staff sends future meeting dates via e-mail to Committee<br><br>Staff posts Awards Brochure 2010 online<br><br>Staff prepares and issues press release to legal newspapers and SBM Board of Commissioners, Representative Assembly, State Bar Foundation, local and affinity bars, prosecutor and defender associations, law school deans, courts, large law firms, SBM Section and Committee chairpersons etc.<br><br>Staff prepares announcement for Michigan Bar Journal, e-Journal, and SBM newsletter<br><br>Staff emails Committee the following documents one week before first teleconference: |

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1. Announcement of first meeting, agenda attached
2. Mission and member list
3. Links to SBM By-Laws Articles VI, VIII  
<http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/bylaws.cfm#6>  
<http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/bylaws.cfm#8>
4. Procedures and Policies
5. Awards Committee Schedule
6. Previous year's Annual Report
7. Copy of Award Nomination Brochure
8. Copy of press release
9. Listing of all previous award recipients

**Jan. 21, 2010**

**First teleconference meeting takes place**

February – April, first week

Staff prepares EXCEL matrix for nominees as applications are received.

Second week in March

Staff sends out second meeting notice, with agenda attached

**March 18, 2010**

**Second teleconference meeting takes place**

Committee and staff discuss nominations (number and diversity - age, race, gender, geography, etc.), and determine where additional solicitation is needed

April 2

Deadline for nominations for SBM awards

April, first week

Staff acknowledges receipt of nominations by mail, e-mail or phone call to nominator

Staff conducts background checks on nominees before names are submitted for consideration

April, second week

Staff compiles booklet in April

May 3

Deadline for nominations for Liberty Bell Award

Staff acknowledges receipt of nominations by mail, e-mail or phone call to nominator

May, first week

Staff sends last meeting notice, along with agenda; staff creates Zoomerang poll to help committee members see trends to facilitate decisions in final meeting

**May 18, 2010**

**Final teleconference**

Awards recommendations are made

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	Staff drafts memorandum from co-chairpersons to SBM Board with recommendations
June	After SBM Board meeting, staff prepares letter from State Bar Executive Director to nominees who were chosen, and letters to nominators of non-winners with mention of carryover of nomination for a second year
Summer	Staff prepares publicity for the awards recipients
September, first week	Staff sends press release, prepares coverage/cover photographs for Michigan Bar Journal, e-Journal, and SBM newsletter
	Staff orders Awards and write speeches for the Annual Meeting Awards ceremony.
September, last week	Operating co-chairperson prepares e-mail from co-chairpersons to Committee thanking members for their participation

**Future Goals and Activities:** The committee works on a yearly cycle, so once the process is wrapped up at the annual meeting, and it must begin again for the next year soon thereafter. The committee continually works to ensure the awards process is fair and as removed from political lobbying as possible.

**Other Information:** The committee recommended a change to the bylaws this year that would try to make awards as apolitical as possible. They requested that anyone involved in deciding award winners (i.e. sitting committee members and Board of Commissioner members) be ineligible to be nominated for awards, and also ineligible to nominate anyone for awards. This was passed by the committee, and is awaiting approval from the Board of Commissioners.