

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2008-2009 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Committee Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
BLF Committee	12/16/08	Conference Call
BLF Committee	01/22/09	Conference Call
Committee member calls with Crew (keynote)	Week of 05/4/09	Individual Calls
Scholarship Committee	05/7/09	Conference Call
Scholarship Committee	05/12/09 (tent.)	Conference Call
BLF Committee	Week of 05/18/09 (tent.)	Conference Call
BLF Committee	Week of 06/01/09 (tent.)	Conference Call

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

This committee was formed is to develop and annually produce a program providing developing Bar Leaders with meaningful leadership tips & techniques and development training. The Annual Forum is also intended to provide upcoming leadership with the opportunity to network and get to know, most importantly the State Bar personnel they will be working with, but also other Bar leaders whose experience they can learn from and upon whom they can call for assistance.

The Bar Leadership Forum is by invitation only. Initially just Executive Directors of local Bar Associations the guest list grew to include Chairs of Sections and Committees. More recently emphasis was placed on involving Chairs-elect so as to maximize the benefits provided by the program. Early on, it was evident the forum must CONSISTENTLY contain valuable substance, important content, a desirable location, and beneficial networking opportunities to remain successful. In order to ensure the success of this program, the Committee has historically been comprised of members, located throughout Michigan, who represent different facets of leadership. It is critical that committee members have personally attended recent BLF programs in order to be able to not only maintain consistency but also to insure that programming remains fresh for persons who may attend annually. Membership size has varied over the years and the committee is currently comprised of seven members.

This committee was also formed to review and formulate recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on requests from lawyers' associations for State Bar recognition as local or special

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purpose bar associations. The committee no longer serves that function as a result of action taken by the Board of Commissioners in 2007.

The 2008 Bar Leadership Forum featured Michigan's First Gentleman, Daniel G. Mulhern, a nationally noted speaker, author and radio host focusing on leadership development and related issues. Feedback provided by attendees was overwhelmingly favorable.

The 2009 BLF will take place June 12-13. It will be keynoted by Vince Crew. The founder of REACH Development Services, Crew is a noted advisor, speaker and author who has contributed to Fox Business TV, Fox Radio News, and is a national conference speaker. The program will also include workshops, networking opportunities, and programs on legislation, public policy, media relations, law related education and strategic partnering.

Committee Activities:

The State Bar Staff offer invaluable services to this Committee and their contributions cannot be overstated. Among other things, the staff provides 1) assistance with identifying and obtaining speakers and sites; 2) administrative support; 3) registration of participants (offsite and onsite); 4) preparation, transportation and distribution of all forum materials and handouts; 5) securing prizes for annual attendees raffle; 6) preparation, dissemination, and summarization of feedback surveys from program participants.

Future Goals and Activities:

The future goal of this Bar Leadership Liaison Committee is to continue presentation of quality leadership forums on an annual basis. Through these forums, the committee hopes: 1) to enhance the quality of leadership within the legal community at large and in particular within the State Bar and its related entities, 2) to provide Chairs-elect of Bar sections with the tools and SBM contacts they need to maximize their success, 3) to engage and encourage potential future State Bar leaders through their section or local bar association activities and thereby ensure a continuity of exceptional State Bar leaders, and 4) to remain effective in its role as "liaison" and further enhance the relationship between all qualified associations of lawyers and the State Bar of Michigan.

In order to remain effective, the attendance of Bar Leadership Liaison Committee members at the Forum should be strongly encouraged and properly supported, so that the Committee (and individual committee members) can: 1) be effective in its role as liaison to outside lawyers associations, 2) continue to provide unique leadership opportunities geared especially for lawyers, and 3) do so on a consistent basis from year to year in a manner that allows attendees to build upon prior experiences and maintains the high expectation level critical to ensuring annual participation by the maximum number of invited entities.

Additionally, it should be noted that I was a co-chair last year, but a decision was subsequently made that there should be a single chair for this committee and I thus have no co-chair at present. This change presented no immediate problems and I had no problem functioning as a solo chair. However, it is my recommendation that in future years this committee should have both a Chair and a Chair-elect (or Vice-chair). This would permit the Chair's position to be rotated every year (which I would also recommend), while also assuring that it will be filled by someone who is aware of the position's expectations and well prepared to see them through.