

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE
May 2008**

Committee Name: Standing Committee on Civil Procedure and Courts

Jurisdictional Statement:

Review proposed court rules and statutes related to civil practice in the courts and make recommendations concerning improvements in the administration, organization, and operation of Michigan state courts.

Officers and Membership:

Frank J. Greco, Chair

Members:

Curt A. Benson

Richard D. Bisio

Janet M. Brandon

Hon. Nanci J. Grant

Kaveh Kashef

Raymond M. Kethledge

Sara G. Lachman

Hon. David M. Lawson

Ronald S. Longhofer

Sean P. McNally

Thaddeus E. Morgan

John Wm. Mulcrone

Joey Scott Niskar

Jules B. Olsman

Gary R. Peterson

Daniel D. Quick

Karen H. Safran

Victoria A. Valentine

Peter H. Webster

Commissioner Liaison:

Brian D. Einhorn

Staff Liaison:

Elizabeth Lyon

2007-08 Meeting Schedule:

October 20, 2007 – State Bar of Michigan, Michael Franck Building

December 15, 2007 – Bush, Seyferth, Kethledge & Paige PLLC, Troy

February 16, 2008 – State Bar of Michigan, Michael Franck Building

May 3, 2008 – Dickinson Wright PLLC, Bloomfield Hills

Resources Provided by the State Bar of Michigan in Support of Committee Work:

The committee receives staff support from Elizabeth Lyon and Carrie Sharlow. The State Bar covers meeting expenses, and provided meeting space for two of the committee meetings. Bar staff provided information regarding actions by the Board of Commissioners and Representative Assembly and the status of pending legislation: circulated meeting materials and notices (both in hard copy and by email); and arranged for conference call participation for members who could not attend meetings in person.

Committee Activities:

The committee reviewed and discussed 10 court rule proposals (several of which involved proposed amendments of multiple rules) and 17 statutory proposals (covering a total of 25 bills and resolutions), and submitted public policy positions to the State Bar on those issues for consideration by the Board of Commissioners. Four other rule proposals and 2 legislative resolutions are scheduled to be considered at the May 3 meeting.

With the authorization of the Board of Commissioners, the Committee submitted comments to the Supreme Court on three court rule proposals, regarding the conduct of depositions (S Ct File 2007-09); effect of postjudgment motions on the time for appeal (File 2005-36); and compulsory counterclaims (File 2005-25). The Committee expects to send a representative to the Supreme Court's May 21, 2008, public administrative hearing to speak on these proposals.

Future Goals and Activities:

The Committee expects to continue both to review proposed rule amendments and legislation and to initiate its own proposals.

Chair Contact Information:

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