

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT  
STANDING COMMITTEE**

**Committee Name: Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics**

**Jurisdictional Statement:**

- Prepare written opinions on ethical conduct of judges at the request of the State Bar President, Board of Commissioners, Representative Assembly, Attorney Discipline Board, Attorney Grievance Commission, Executive Director, or individual members of the judiciary inquiring about their own contemplated conduct.
- Recommend amendments to the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct and other standards of professional conduct, and review proposed amendments.
- The Michigan Judges Association, Michigan Probate Judges Association, Michigan District Judges Association, and the Referees Association of Michigan shall each nominate one member for appointment to the committee.

**Officers and Membership:**

*Chair:* Hon. Elwood L. Brown, Port Huron

*Members:*

Hon. Patricia J. Boyle, Birmingham  
Hon. Theresa Doss, Detroit  
Hon. Laura A. Frawley, Harrisville  
Hon. Randy L. Kalmbach, Wyandotte  
Hon. W. Wallace Kent, Jr., Caro  
Hon. M. Richard Knoblock, Bad Axe  
Lorie Nancy Savin, Pontiac

**2009-2010 Meeting Schedule (date and location):**

October 30, 2009, Lansing, Michigan  
June 18, 2010, Lansing, Michigan

**Committee Activities:**

The committee held its inaugural meeting on October 30, 2009, which included a brief introduction to members who had not previously served on the combined Standing Committee on Professional and Judicial Ethics Committee about the committee's operations. The committee discussed and adopted rules for the committee and agreed upon subsequent meeting dates, with the understanding that the committee would meet when and if there were sufficient opinion requests to warrant an in-person meeting. As result, planned meeting dates in January and April were not utilized.

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

The committee has been assisted in its work by staff liaisons Dawn Evans, Danon Goodrum-Garland, and Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn, as well as staff member Karen Spohn.

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The committee plans to continue responding to opinion requests and to address revisiting any opinions identified as in need of review due to subsequent developments that may have impacted the continued appropriateness of any conclusions drawn. To the extent that the Committee's input is sought by the Board of Commissioners, the Representative Assembly, or the Supreme Court on discrete issues or projects, the committee stands ready to respond with appropriate research and commentary.

**Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:**

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