

**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:** Law-related Education and Public Outreach Committee

**Jurisdiction:** Make recommendations concerning programs advancing lay understanding of law and the legal profession, with particular emphasis on community programs.

Develop a phased implementation process for the spring 2009 Plan developed at the Law Related Education Summit, identifying measures of success for the plan and evaluating outcomes and communicating progress annually. Make recommendations concerning programs advancing lay understanding of law and the legal profession, with particular emphasis on community programs.

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

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Margaret J. Krasnoff	320 N. Main St. Ste 410 Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1127	(734) 995-8310	<a href="mailto:mjkrasnoff@sbcglobal.net">mjkrasnoff@sbcglobal.net</a>
Staff Liaison	Nancy Brown		(517) 346-6350	<a href="mailto:nbrown@mail.michbar.org">nbrown@mail.michbar.org</a>
Staff Liaison	Candace Crowley		(517) 346-6319	<a href="mailto:ccrowley@mail.michbar.org">ccrowley@mail.michbar.org</a>
Commissioner Liaison	Samantha Meinke		(517) 346-6332	<a href="mailto:smeinke@mail.michbar.org">smeinke@mail.michbar.org</a>

Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
Kristin D. Arnett, member	Gary A. Kravitz, member
Sara J. Basso, member	Matthew E. Krichbaum, member
Walter H. Bentley III, member	Susan G. Learman, member
Aaron K. Bowron, member	Hon. Ronald W. Lowe, member
Hon. Paul J. Denefeld, member	Allan T. Motzny, member
Lawrence Ellassal, member	Monica Rachelle Nuckolls, member
Michael M. Ellis, advisor	Bart P. O'Neill, advisor
Marcia Femrite, member	Susan Patterson, MLA
Regina Crennan Goshorn, member	Jeffrey F. Paulsen, advisor
Roland Hwang, member	Mark E. Plaza, member
Rozlyn E. Kelly, member	Mark R. Smith, member
Teresa A. Killeen, member	Linda Start, advisor
Dawn Michelle King, member	David Sutherland, member

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**Committee Meeting Schedule:**

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
In-person	Nov. 5, 2012	SBM
Conference call	Jan. 14, 2013	Conference call
In-person	March 11, 2013	SBM
Conference call	May 6, 2013	Conference call

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

This committee has four subcommittees: Michigan Legal Milestones, Law Day, Constitution Day, and Law-Related Education. Here are the monetary, organizational and administrative support that is provided to them:

**For Michigan Legal Milestones Subcommittee:**

The 37<sup>th</sup> Michigan Legal Milestone, commemorating the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, was dedicated on August 28, 2012. The 38<sup>th</sup> Michigan Legal Milestone, commemorating Michigan's oldest county courthouse, the Berrien County Courthouse, will be dedicated June 26, 2013. For each milestone, the following list of activities is undertaken by SBM Staff:

- Keep a record of suggestions submitted for Michigan Legal Milestone status.
- Once a Milestone is decided upon, help the Milestone subcommittee to determine and contact key players, including partnering with a local bar association.
- Investigate and help determine site of milestone ceremony and where plaque will be placed.
- Finalize a date, time and place for the dedication after consulting with players involved. Make sure that SBM President and Executive Director can attend before finalizing the date.
- Arrange for plaque text to be written by the committee or write it and then circulate for committee input.
- Order the bronze plaque and make sure of delivery details. Check it when it arrives.
- Determine guest list and any other special programs to be held in conjunction with the dedication.
- Work on text for invitation and program
- Review graphic design and arrange for invitations to be mailed.
- Write speech for president and intros for executive director
- Compile short biographies of speakers.
- Work with subcommittee chair to draft a memo to the speakers and arrange for it to be sent to all speakers via email and hard copy on SBM stationary.
- Make arrangements for hotel stay, if needed for VIPs (speakers).

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- Work with Events Manager to finalize food and other related arrangements for the dedication ceremony.
- Publicity: Use a variety of media and disseminate information through internal and external sources as well as in and around city where the dedication is taking place. Invite local media to attend.
- Publicize event by writing an article or captions with photo, blurbs, press release, social media etc.
- Make sure technical aspects of event work – lighting, sound equipment, etc.
- Create video of the event. (In the past we have worked with MGTV to do this – but they have ceased to exist, so moving forward SBM staff will have to do it.)
- Take photographs at the dedication.
- Follow through with thank you notes, DVD, and after –event publicity.
- Make sure that the plaque is displayed where negotiated. Arrange for a photo opportunity if possible.
- On a continuing basis, make sure that the milestones website is updated and provide information for posting.

**For Law Day Subcommittee:**

**November:** Review and update brochure/nomination forms announcing competition. Take ABA theme and localize it for Michigan. Work with committee members to choose four Michigan Legal Milestones that will work best with annual theme.

**Early December:** Send press release and link to pdf of brochure/entry forms statewide to news media and various legal organizations. We also printed hundreds of brochures/entry forms for Master Lawyers Section and Detroit Public Schools to utilize. We also disseminated information via social media sites, SBM publications, and the SBM website.

**January-March:** Help committee members reach out to educators and attorneys across the state to encourage them to participate in contest. Answer questions from attorneys and educators who call. Print brochures/entry forms as needed for people who can't access them online.

**Mid-March:** Send out reminder news release about the upcoming submission deadline – give attorneys and groups one last change to enter the contest.

**April 5 is submission deadline.** Upload all entries/entry forms/permission forms to a special page on michbar.org, so committee members can judge them.

**Late April:** When committee members make their decisions, inform winners that they have won the contest.

**May 1:** Announce winners via press release, social media, and other outlets like michbar.org. Do this to coincide with Law Day. Note – in the future – it might work better to move the deadline of the contest to mid-May, to give local bar associations a chance to enter their law day activities to the contest.

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**Late May:** Work with winning groups and SBM leaders to try to arrange a time and place where a symbolic (and the actual) winning checks can be delivered to winning team.

**For Constitution Day Subcommittee:**

- Create and disseminate press release reminding people to participate in Constitutional Day.
- Post social media updates about Constitution Day.
- Offer advice and assistance with creation of Constitution Day video.
- Post materials gathered for lawyers to use in classrooms on Constitution Day to the Constitution Day portion of michbar.org.

**For Law Related Education Subcommittee:**

- Continue efforts to communicate the value of LRE to others.
- Develop and implement ten question electronic survey from State Bar president to 135 bar associations to assess level of law related education activities, identify most successful programs, understand challenges, assess interest in developing or strengthening an LRE program, and to offer State Bar support for LRE activities.
- Follow survey with phone calls to bar association leaders to make personal contact and offer resources.
- Maintain and improve the online Clearinghouse resource at <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/lawlinks.cfm>
- Offer Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary support to affinity bars.
- Successfully encourage State Bar president to make law related education the focus of his messages to bar associations; develop brochure to direct members and bar associations to the LRE Clearinghouse.
- Introduce LRE Subcommittee Chair and Lawyers Auxiliary member to Michigan Association of Bar Executives members to ask for input and advice on efforts to connect with affinity bars.
- Provide input and panelist for 2013 Bar Leadership Forum program on the value and importance of law related education.
- Assist with creation of May 2013 LRE edition of the Michigan Bar Journal featuring four articles on the topic.
- Consider partnering with the Equal Access Initiative and adopting “Educating for Everyday Democracy: The Jury Process” as a program to market to schools throughout the state.
- Explore the idea of a Civic Quiz Bowl for college students.
- Explore a possible partnership with the Michigan Indian Judicial Association, American Indian Law Section, and American Indian Law Committee to help educate bar members on the tribal court process.

**Committee Activities:**

**Michigan Legal Milestones Subcommittee:** The 37<sup>th</sup> Michigan Legal Milestone honoring the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) was dedicated on August 28, 2012. The subcommittee continues to follow-up on finding a permanent location for the plaque. The 38<sup>th</sup> Michigan Legal Milestone will commemorate the Berrien County Courthouse (Michigan’s oldest courthouse) on

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June 26, 2013. The committee members wrote the plaque text for this plaque, they have sought out speakers for the dedication ceremony and organizing in what order they will speak and on what topics, and they are working on a story for the Michigan Bar Journal in June.

**Law Day Subcommittee:** The Law Day subcommittee continues its new creative contest for the second year. The theme, “Realizing the Dream: Equality for All,” asks students and lawyers to apply the ABA theme for 2013 to Michigan specific cases and individuals as commemorated in the Michigan Legal Milestones situated throughout the state. Entries should be in an electronic format that can be posted on the SBM website and made available statewide. Entries will be judged by State Bar staff and members of the Law Day subcommittee on originality and creativity among other listed criteria. Awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$500 will be given to the winners for use promoting law-related education in their local communities. The goal of the video contest is to broaden the reach of the SBM Law Day contest to reach more lawyers and students across the state and increase the diversity of participants.

**Constitution Day Subcommittee:** In September, the Constitution Day subcommittee supported the efforts of many local bar associations and schools by creating the message, creating a timeline, developing materials and in organizing and running successful Constitution Day programs occurring across the state of Michigan. The subcommittee chair collected and evaluated lesson plans and activity ideas from around the state for posting on the SBM Constitution Day webpage and is exploring other technology based ideas to assist lawyers in classrooms on Constitution Day. He also started work on a Constitution Day video.

**Law Related Education Subcommittee:** This subcommittee worked to put together a special edition of the Michigan Bar Journal – the May 2013 edition – focused on Law-Related Education, and in honor of Law Day. The chair and advisor attended a MABE conference to discuss LRE. In addition, the subcommittee will present LRE efforts at the June incoming bar presidents meeting on Mackinac Island.

The LRE-PO committee continues to support and implement the SBM Diversity Pledge to ensure that individuals in all 83 Michigan counties have access to SBM activities and meaningful opportunities to participate.

**Future Goals and Activities:**

The LRE-PO committee will continue to look at ways to improve its subcommittee structure by ensuring that each lawyer member and each non-lawyer member are actively involved in activities that support the overall goals of the LRE-PO committee. Using this subcommittee structure, the committee continues to review, expand, and support public outreach programs in support of the committee's purpose and objectives to (1) implement programming that advances non-lawyer understanding of the law and the legal profession, with a particular emphasis on educational and community programs; and (2) review existing LRE programs for uploading to an online database, review potential collaborative activities amongst lawyers and educators, review the best methods of communicating the value of LRE in promoting an educated citizenry, as well as implementing evaluation strategies to gain input and feedback on LRE programming. Each of these efforts is aimed at developing a phased in process of implementing highly effective LRE programming.

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**Other Information:** Each of the subcommittee chairs provide regular (typically quarterly) written reports related to the activities and progress of their respective subcommittees and work groups and each LRE-PO meeting highlights one subcommittee for an in-depth progress report .