

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2013-2014 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
LAW-RELATED EDUCATION AND
PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

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
Co-Chair	Allan T. Motzny	Assistant City Attorney City of Troy City Attorney's Office 500 W Big Beaver Rd Troy, MI 48084-5254	(248) 524-3324	motznyat@troymi.gov
Co-Chair	Monica Rachelle Nuckolls	Associate Professor Thomas M. Cooley Law School 2630 Featherstone Rd Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2814	(248) 751-7800 x7752	nuckollm@cooley.edu
Staff Liaison	Nancy Brown		(517) 346-6350	nbrown@mail.michbar.org
Staff Liaison	Candace Crowley		(517) 346-6319	ccrowley@mail.michbar.org
Staff Liaison	Samantha Meinke		(517) 346-6332	smeinke@mail.michbar.org
Commissioner Liaison				
Rep. Assembly Liaison	Nicholas M. Ohanesian			

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Member/Advisor/Other	Member/Advisor/Other
Kristin D. Arnett, member	Matthew E. Krichbaum, member
Sara J. Basso, member	Susan G. Learman, member
Aaron K. Bowron, member	Hon. Ronald W. Lowe, member
Hon. Paul J. Denefeld, member	Sterlin Mesadieu, member
Lawrence Elassal, member	Bart P. O'Neill, advisor
Michael M. Ellis, member	Susan Patterson, MLA non-Bar member
Roland Hwang, member	Jeffrey F. Paulsen, advisor
Rozlyn E. Kelly, member	Mark E. Plaza, member
Teresa A. Killeen, member	Stephan A. Savickas, member
Dawn Michelle King, member	Mark R. Smith, member
Margaret J. Krasnoff, advisor	Linda Start, advisor
Gary A. Kravitz, member	David A. Sutherland, member

Committee Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Description		
Meeting	November 4, 2013	SBM building
Conference call	January 27, 2014	
Meeting	March 10, 2014	SBM building
Conference call	May 5, 2014	

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 38th Michigan Legal Milestone, commemorating Michigan's oldest county courthouse, the Berrien County Courthouse, was dedicated June 26, 2013. The 39th Michigan Legal Milestone, commemorating Governor G. Mennan Williams and the Great Ferris Fire, will be dedicated on August 28, 2014. 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.

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- 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).
- 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

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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.

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 the first time, bar associations and others were asked to submit information about their 2014 Law Day events to the State Bar for posting on its Law Day website. This resulted in about 40 listings of Law Day activities around the state. See <http://www.michbar.org/programs/lawday/home.cfm>

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.
- Maintain and improve the online Clearinghouse resource at <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/lawlinks.cfm>

Committee Activities:

Michigan Legal Milestones Subcommittee: Since 1986 the Michigan Legal Milestone program has recognized significant legal people, places and events in the state's legal history. Plaques are found throughout the state – there are even a few up in the U.P. Committee members write text for these plaques, and write stories for the Bar Journal about each milestone dedication. They also vet

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speakers for the dedication ceremony, and help determine which speaker will cover what topic, to make for the most interesting dedication ceremonies possible. The 38th Michigan Legal Milestone plaque, on the Historic Berrien County Courthouse is available in Berrien County. It was dedicated

in a ceremony last June 26 at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University. The plaque has been installed outside the historic courthouse. The 39th Michigan Legal Milestone will commemorate Governor G. Mennen “Soapy” Williams and the great Ferris Fire. It will be dedicated during an August 28 ceremony at Ferris State University and the plaque will be displayed on the grounds of the university. The committee tried for 18 months to get the 37th Legal Milestone plaque, commemorating the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, installed in the state Capitol building. The Capitol Committee decided this past winter to reject that request. An alternate home for the plaque was found at the State Law Library in Lansing. A small dedication ceremony was held on April 25 to commemorate the plaques placement. The subcommittee also nominated the 40th Michigan Legal Milestone, to be dedicated in 2015. After considering roughly 20 different milestone nominations, the subcommittee chose to dedicate the Abolition of the Death Penalty. The subcommittee had three teleconferences throughout the year.

Law Day Subcommittee: The Law Day subcommittee continues its new creative contest for the third year. The contest asks entrants to apply the theme, “American Law and the Role of Democracy: Why Every Vote Matter,” 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. The chair made a big effort to publicize the contest – participating in an interview with Detroit Legal News, and speaking at a Livingston County Bar Association event about it. Despite these efforts, there continue to be very few entries into the program, although the entries that come in are of very high caliber. Entries were judged by members of the Law Day subcommittee on originality and creativity among other listed criteria. Awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$500 are given to the winners for use promoting law-related education in their local communities. The goal of the 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. Students at Cranbrook schools, along with their attorney partners Gerard Mantese, Theresamarie Mantese and Gregory Nowakowski won the contest for the third year in a row.

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. Currently the website hosts lesson plans for grades 5-12. The subcommittee collected data on this year’s Constitution Day and the metrics suggest an overall increase in lawyer participation. Some programs lost a little bit of participation, but the subcommittee is working to turn those around. One idea for the future is to start training lawyers to participate in the classroom. The subcommittee also completed a Constitution Day video. View the Constitution Day video at <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/constitutionday.cfm>.

Law Related Education Subcommittee: The May 2013 edition of the Bar Journal focused on Law-Related Education, and featured the work of many members of the subcommittee, and the content was overseen in its entirety by the LRE Subcommittee. The chair and advisor presented

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LRE efforts at the June Bar Leadership Forum on Mackinac Island. The committee is now evaluating whether or not the LRE Subcommittee has accomplished the goals as set forth in the 2009 LRE Summit, and is deciding whether or not there should continue to be an LRE Subcommittee, or if its efforts can fold into the other three subcommittees.

Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament: This committee also supports the efforts of the Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament, which is run by the Michigan Center for Civic Education. It was created over 30 years ago by SBM, Michigan government, and Michigan State Police as a collaboration to educate people about the law. The tournament has existed since 1982 and began as a one-day tournament in Detroit. Now there are three preliminary rounds across the state and a state final competition. Many members of the committee serve as judges in the competition.. For more information visit <http://www.miciviced.org/>.

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.

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 .