

STATE BAR of MICHIGAN

2006-2007 Annual Report
Standing /Special Committee
on Unauthorized Practice of Law

Committee Name: Standing Committee on Unauthorized Practice of Law

Jurisdictional Statement: Shall investigate matters involving the alleged unauthorized practice of the law and, in accordance with applicable Rules of the Supreme Court of Michigan and with the authority of the Board of Commissioners, shall file and prosecute actions seeking to enjoin those engaged in unauthorized practice, and shall cooperate with local bar associations. The Committee shall also propose and implement measures to educate the public and the legal profession about unauthorized practice of law issues, and shall provide comment and analysis to the Board of Commissioners upon request of the Board.

Officers and Membership:

Chair: William J. Ard

Members: **Term Expires 2007:** Michael E. Boersma, Thomas S. Bridges, Christopher M. Brown, Elizabeth Luckenbach Brown, Alfredo Casab, Thomas J. Cory, Paul W. Jones, David J. Klippert, Michael D. Murray, Thomas P. Murray, Jr., Dennis M. Taubitz

Term Expires 2008: Kim Warren Eddie, Robert C. Gardella, Melissa F. Miller Manela, Mark F. Stuart

Term Expires 2009: Stephen J. Gobbo, Christopher G. Hastings, Meghan Kennedy Riordan

Associate Members: **Term Expires 2007:** Ramon F. Rolf, Jr.

2006-07 Meeting Schedule (date and location): October 18, 2006, January 30, 2007, April 24, 2007, September 10, 2007 at the State Bar of Michigan.

Committee Activities:

Review of UPL cases recommended for litigation by staff; Educational efforts including creating/updating pamphlets for consumers; Educational and outreach efforts to the public, lawyers, law enforcement, etc. regarding UPL. Educational seminars regarding Will and Trust Companies presented jointly with AARP, OFIS, and Attorney General; Outreach program to local bar associations to educate lawyers re: UPL; Created sub-committee to look at drafting rules and/or legislation to assist in reducing instances of UPL.

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6 - Reports: "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".

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

Staff support, telephone conferencing, printing educational materials, partial funding of will and trust seminars.

Future Goals and Activities:

Continue educational efforts; take more creative pro-active, public educational role in addressing the unauthorized practice of law. Work with law enforcement and private practice attorneys to address UPL problem through other avenues (criminal charges, consumer protection actions, etc.) Work with Governmental Relations department re: possible legislative options.

Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:

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Please return your report to:

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