

Carrie Sharlow - Franck Award [#1]

From: "State Bar of Michigan" <no-reply@wufoo.com>
To: <csharlow@mail.michbar.org>, <webmaster@mail.michbar.org>
Date: 3/18/2016 3:26 PM
Subject: Franck Award [#1]

Name of Nominee:	Lynn Chard
Title:	Executive Director
Firm or Organization:	Institute of Continuing Legal Education
Address:	1020 Greene St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Phone:	734-936-3421
E-mail:	lchard@umich.edu
Name of Nominator:	Jeff Kirkey
Title:	Education Director
Firm or Organization:	Institute of Continuing Legal Education
Address:	1020 Greene St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Phone:	734-936-3434
E-mail:	jkirkey@icle.org

Explain the merits of your nomination, submit any supporting materials for your nominee by e-mail, fax, or mail. Give specific examples.

Please see the attached nominating letter from ICLE's lawyers for a complete list of the merits of our nomination with specific examples.

For more than 30 years Lynn Chard has led ICLE to find new and better ways to provide support, guidance, and practical solutions for Michigan lawyers. Thanks to Lynn, Michigan has continuing legal education resources that are envied by practitioners throughout the United States and emulated by CLE organizations around the world. See supporting letters from Pat Nester, Barron Henley and Frank Harris.

Lynn has always focused first on the needs of Michigan lawyers. Her vision of ICLE as a partner with Michigan lawyers stands as ICLE's guiding principle and motto (Your Partner in Practice). Lynn is a strategic thinker who continually keeps ICLE moving forward to allow lawyers to succeed. She helps everyone at ICLE to understand that it is a privilege to work with Michigan lawyers who are dedicated to mastering their practice specialties and who unselfishly volunteer their time to develop resources to help others in the profession. She always inspires staff to put the customers' interests first. See supporting letters from Mary Hiniker, Craig Ross and Dirk Hoffius.

Long before any other CLE organization moved online, she foresaw that lawyers would need access to practical resources 24/7. Lynn envisioned online books, kits, and forms to help lawyers provide legal services to their clients more effectively and efficiently. And she insisted that ICLE develop ways to continually update its online resources so Michigan lawyers can always rely on them. Lynn led ICLE to collect all of these resources in a subscription “partnership” that enhances effective access to all of ICLE’s online resources and better meets the legal research and practice support needs of Michigan lawyers. See supporting letters from Jack Reilly, Kent Weichmann, and John Martin.

Lynn has been a visionary who has harnessed emerging technologies to better serve Michigan lawyers. ICLE had one of the very first websites for Michigan lawyers. Lynn collaborated with the State Bar of Michigan and its sections to develop early Internet resources for lawyers such as Michigan Law Online (database of Michigan caselaw). Thanks to Lynn’s investment in technology (including a state-of-the-art recording studio), lawyers from all over Michigan turn to ICLE’s webcasts and on-demand programs to receive the updates they need to keep up with changes and other developments in the law. After studying trends in social media, Lynn envisioned the ICLE Community, where Michigan lawyers could share insights and advice and mentor one another. Over 6,000 Michigan lawyers have now joined those discussions. Lynn continues to look forward as she helps ICLE to develop effective interactive online education that will allow lawyers to improve their skills and “learn by doing.” See supporting letters from Paul Reingold, Claudia Rast, and Steve Harms.

Lynn Chard has been a tireless volunteer, giving back to our profession. ICLE serves as the “Education Provider of the State Bar of Michigan,” and Lynn has spearheaded collaborations with the State Bar and many of its Sections to develop educational events ranging from boot camps to hands-on training to multiday institutes such as the Solo & Small Firm Institute. She regularly attends meetings of State Bar governing organizations. She served on search committees when the State Bar has looked for a new Executive Director. She often attends meetings of SBM Sections to learn what they need and how ICLE can assist them. She takes on every task presented to her by one State Bar president after another. She currently serves on the 21st Century Task Force where she plays an active role in thinking through where the legal profession is heading next. See supporting letters from Ed Pappas, Shel Stark and John Reed.

Lynn P. Chard
 1121 Pauline Boulevard
 Ann Arbor, MI 48103
[\(734\) 936-3421](tel:7349363421) (direct line)
 E-mail: lchard@umich.edu

Employment

1993–Present Director, Institute of Continuing Legal Education; Ann Arbor, MI
 1981–1993 Publications Director, Institute of Continuing Legal Education; Ann Arbor, MI
 1978–1981 Staff Attorney, State Appellate Defender Office; Detroit, MI
 1977–1978 Director, Legal Services Project, State Appellate Defender Office; Detroit, MI
 1970–1974 Associate Librarian, University of Michigan Graduate Library
 1971–1972 Adjunct Lecturer for School of Library Science, University of Michigan

Education and Scholastic Activities

University of Michigan Law School

Juris Doctor, Cum Laude, December 1976

Recipient of a case club award, junior clerk in the case club program, member of the steering committee for the Women Law Student's Association

University of Michigan, School of Information and Library Studies

A.M.L.S., Magna Cum Laude 1970

Recipient of Rackham Michigan College Fellowship, member of Beta Phi Mu honorary

Michigan State University

M.A. History, Magna Cum Laude, 1969

B.A. History, Magna Cum Laude, 1968

Member of the Honors College, member of the debate team

Professional Activities and Memberships

Member, State Bar Association of Michigan, admitted in 1977

Member, State Bar of Michigan 21st Century Task Force

Past Member, Annual Meeting Planning Committee

Past Member, Member Services Committee

Associate Member, Committee on Continuing Legal Education, State Bar of Michigan, 1994 – 1998

Associate Member, Committee on MCLE, Specialization and Lawyer Advertising, 1996 – 1999

Member, Committee on Libraries, Legal Research and Publications, State Bar of Michigan, 1991–1993

Member, Legal Services Technology Work Group, State Bar of Michigan, 1995–1998

Member, American Bar Association, 2004 to present

Member, Washtenaw County Bar, 1999– 2004

Member, Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, 1990–1993

Member, Women Lawyer's Association of Michigan, 1993–1998

Member, Association of Continuing Legal Education Administrators, 1982–present

Chairperson, ACLEA Publications Committee, 1983–1987

Director-at-Large, Association of Continuing Legal Education, 1990–1992 and 2013–2015

Member, American Society of Association Executives, 1995–2002

Advisory Board of the Child Welfare Law Center at UM Law School

Member, Training Advisory Board for the Michigan Poverty Law Program at UM Law School, January 1997–1999

Publications

Developer and editor, Focus on Michigan Practice Newsletter (quarterly) 1988–1993

Editor, Association of Continuing Legal Education Newsletter (quarterly) 1992–present

Lynn P. Chard, ed. Advising the Older Client (ICLE 1990) plus supplements 1991–1995

Barbara A. Ruga and Lynn P. Chard, eds., Wrongful Discharge Cases in Michigan, rev. ed. (ICLE 1987)

Lynn P. Chard and Judith A. Curtis, eds. Michigan Basic Practice Handbook, 2nd ed. (ICLE 1985)

Lynn P. Chard, 1984 supplement to Michigan Civil Procedure Before Trial (ICLE 1976); 3rd ed. and 1994–1995 supplements

Norman Robbins and Lynn P. Chard, eds. Michigan Family Law (ICLE 1983)

Lynn P. Chard and Mary Ellen LeBlanc, "ICLE's Web Site Gives Direct Access to Free On-line Legal Resources," ICLE Focus Newsletter, Jan/Feb 1996

Lynn P. Chard, ed. Michigan Civil Procedure During Trial, 2nd ed. and 1993 – 1996 supplements

Lynn P. Chard, ed. Michigan Probate Sourcebook, 2nd ed. and 1992 – 1996 supplements

Professional Presentations and Papers

Lecturer for ICLE and sections of Michigan Bar on use of the Internet by legal profession, including:

- "The Information Highway: How the Revolution in Communication Will Affect Probate Practice," The Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 1995 Annual Probate and Estate Planning Seminar
- "Only Connect.....": The Internet and Your Law Practice," The Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 1996 Upper Michigan Legal Institute
- "Top Ten Uses of the Internet for Lawyers," Washtenaw County Bar Association presentation on January 23, 1997

Frequent lecturer on numerous CLE topics for the Association of Continuing Legal Education on professional publishing, marketing, technology and strategic planning.

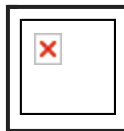
Frequent presenter and discussion leader at CLE CEO Strategic Forums.

Awards

ICLE has received 50 "ACLEA's Best" awards from the Association of Continuing Legal Education in the programs, publications, marketing, and technology categories. Recent awards include:

- Michigan Model Criminal Jury Instructions with ICLE Commentary (Publications, 2015)
- ICLE's No-Fault Summit – Transforming a Solid Performer into a Major Success (Programs, 2015)
- ICLE Partnership and Online Library Combine for Greater Success (Marketing, 2015)
- ICLE Responsive Web Design Efficiently Delivers Mobile From The Same Website (Technology, 2014)
- ICLE Online Community for ICLE Partners (Technology, 2013)

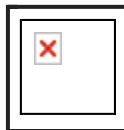
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THE INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION
The education provider of the State Bar of Michigan

March 18, 2016

Lynn P. Chard, Director

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Ann Arbor, MI

48109-1444

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www.icle.org

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

It is with great enthusiasm that we, the lawyers at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE), nominate Lynn P. Chard for the 2016 Michael Franck Award for her outstanding contributions to the improvement of the legal profession.

Following Lynn's successful career as a staff attorney at the State Appellate Defender Office, we were very fortunate to have her join ICLE as our Publications Director and then, in 1993, as Executive Director. We have seen firsthand how Lynn's leadership, vision, and commitment to excellence in legal education have had a dramatic and positive impact on lawyers and the legal profession.

Lynn has always focused first on the needs of Michigan lawyers. Her vision of ICLE as a partner with Michigan lawyers stands as ICLE's guiding principle and motto (*Your Partner in Practice*). Lynn is a strategic thinker who continually keeps ICLE moving forward to allow lawyers to succeed. She helps everyone at ICLE to understand that it is a privilege to work with Michigan lawyers who are dedicated to mastering their practice specialties and who unselfishly volunteer their time to develop resources to help others in the profession. She always inspires staff to put the customers' interests first. As a result, for more than 30 years Lynn has led ICLE to find new and better ways to provide support, guidance, and practical solutions for Michigan lawyers. Thanks to Lynn, Michigan has continuing legal education resources that are envied by practitioners throughout the United States and emulated by CLE organizations around the world.

Under Lynn's leadership, ICLE's publications became *the* resource that Michigan lawyers turn to for practical and reliable information. She did this by assessing the needs of Michigan lawyers and then working with top practitioners to develop an extensive array of books that provide "how to" guidance. She hired legal editors and lawyers to handle supplements and ensure that books were updated timely. But Lynn didn't stop there. Long before any other CLE organization moved online, she foresaw that lawyers would need access to practical resources 24/7. Lynn envisioned online books, kits, and forms to help lawyers provide legal services to their clients more effectively and efficiently. And she insisted that ICLE develop ways to continually update its online resources so Michigan lawyers can always rely on them. Lynn led ICLE to collect all of these resources in a subscription "partnership" that enhances

The State Bar of Michigan

*The University of Michigan
Law School*

*University of Detroit Mercy
School of Law*

*Wayne State University Law
School*

*The Thomas M. Cooley Law
School*

*Michigan State University
College of Law*

effective access to all of ICLE's online resources and better meets the legal research and practice support needs of Michigan lawyers.

Lynn has been a visionary who has harnessed emerging technologies to better serve Michigan lawyers. ICLE had one of the very first websites for Michigan lawyers. Lynn collaborated with the State Bar of Michigan and its sections to develop early Internet resources for lawyers such as *Michigan Law Online* (database of Michigan caselaw). Thanks to Lynn's investment in technology (including a state-of-the-art recording studio), lawyers from all over Michigan turn to ICLE's webcasts and on-demand programs to receive the updates they need to keep up with changes and other developments in the law. After studying trends in social media, Lynn envisioned the ICLE Community, where Michigan lawyers could share insights and advice and mentor one another. Over 6,000 Michigan lawyers have now joined those discussions. Lynn continues to look forward as she helps ICLE to develop effective interactive online education that will allow lawyers to improve their skills and "learn by doing."

Many lawyers think of ICLE's Institutes and other live events as outstanding contributions to the profession. Lynn has overseen the development and growth of these live educational events that attract thousands of Michigan lawyers annually thanks to their focus on current issues and the problems faced by practitioners. Many of these events have multiple tracks and interactive features to meet the needs of both new and experienced practitioners. They are the go-to events for Michigan lawyers in many practice areas. The level of attendance achieved is quite remarkable for a state that has no mandatory CLE requirements. ICLE's live events are a testament to Lynn's success in providing education that meets lawyers' needs.

ICLE serves as the "Education Provider of the State Bar of Michigan," and Lynn has spearheaded collaborations with the State Bar and many of its Sections to develop educational events ranging from boot camps to hands-on training to multiday institutes such as the *Solo & Small Firm Institute*. Lynn recognizes that partnering with like-minded organizations can produce extraordinary results, and her efforts have helped to expand the options for lawyers in many practice areas. Certificate programs developed under Lynn's leadership, in cooperation with the Probate and Estate Planning Section and the Family Law Section, have provided a way for more than a thousand lawyers to deepen their knowledge and skills in these practice areas.

Lynn has reached thousands of Michigan lawyers through her tireless leadership and commitment to quality education. She has been a leader in the development of the most extensive and practical resources for Michigan lawyers. Possibly the best proof of Lynn's impact on the improvement of the legal profession can be found in the comments we regularly hear from hundreds of Michigan lawyers, including the following:

"[The ICLE Partnership] allows me to confidently represent my clients."

"The Partnership has increased my competence and confidence exponentially."

"You can get the experience and wisdom of hundreds of practitioners all in one place."

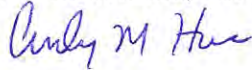
"Allows me to help more people, and be more successful."

It is difficult to think of anyone else who has done more to improve the legal profession. We are honored to nominate Lynn for the Michael Franck Award.

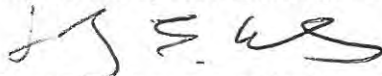
Sincerely,



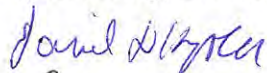
H. Lalla Shishkevish, Associate Director



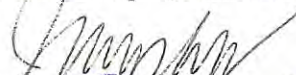
Cindy M. Huss, Publications and Online Resources Director



Jeffrey E. Kirkey, Education Director




Daniel D. Kopka, Senior Staff Attorney



Jeanne E. Murphy, Senior Staff Attorney



Lisa F. Geherin, Senior Staff Attorney



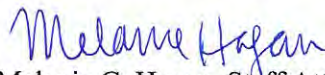
Rebekah Page-Gourley, Senior Staff Attorney



Rachael M. Taylor, Staff Attorney



Stephanie L. Stenberg, Staff Attorney



Melanie C. Hagan, Staff Attorney



John B. Swift II, Staff Attorney

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
LAW SCHOOL
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109-1215

JOHN W. REED
THOMAS M. COOLEY PROFESSOR EMERITUS

TELEPHONE: 734.763.0165
E-MAIL: reedj@umich.edu

March 16, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re Michael Franck Award/Lynn Chard

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

I write to support the nomination of Lynn Chard, Director of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education, to receive this year's Michael Franck Award.

As you may know, I was an early director of ICLE and I have been a member of its Executive Committee in the 45 years since. In that capacity, I have closely watched Lynn's rise and management of the Institute. It is difficult to find the adjectives with which to characterize her stunningly excellent leadership and its importance to the bar and service to the State of Michigan.

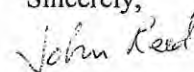
Her number one talent is creativity. Clearly preeminent among CLE organizations, ICLE is a leader in developing new ways of service to the practicing bar in a time of rapid change and even turmoil in the profession. And that leadership is attributable to Lynn's constant (and successful) probing for new and better vehicles for helping lawyers serve the public with highest professionalism and efficiency.

Number two, Lynn is a near genius in assembling a staff who can, and more importantly who will, buy in to her creative vision. The staff and Lynn together have great synergy and are responsible for the repeated national awards for excellence.

Finally, number three: Lynn has been a hands-on representative of the Institute to the bar. Her excellent relations with bar groups and individual lawyers and judges have enhanced ICLE's influence and the willingness of the bar to accept its countless innovations . . . and also have contributed to the esprit and sense of unity of the bar at large.

I worked with Mike Franck when I was ICLE's director, and I feel sure that he would have been delighted to know that Lynn Chard had been recognized with an award bearing his name. Their visions of professionalism, their dedication, their influence are much the same.

Sincerely,



John Reed

March 14, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Dear Carrie:

I am writing this letter to support Lynn Chard for the State Bar of Michigan's Michael Franck Award. I highly recommend Lynn for this award because she has worked tirelessly for many years to provide quality education to the members of the State Bar of Michigan. She has also worked with the State Bar of Michigan and local bar associations not only to plan superb programs for their members, but also in other matters, including most recently the State Bar's 21st Century Task Force.

On a personal note, I got to know Lynn very well when she served as my editor for my first book, Michigan Business Torts. Lynn was a very tough, but fair, editor, and it was only with her help that the book was well received.

Lynn is very deserving of the Michael Franck Award. I thank you for your consideration of her for this award.

Very truly yours,



Edward H. Pappas

EHP:bic

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC

CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC

March 10, 2016

Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Lynn Chard

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

I am writing to recommend Lynn Chard for this year's Michael Franck Award. Lynn is retiring in December after having worked at Michigan's Institute of Continuing Legal Education for (I believe) 34 years, the last 23 years as its director. In that capacity she took what was a slightly moribund CLE organization and transformed it into what is widely regarded as one of the best CLEs in the country. She grew ICLE in good times and in bad, providing top-quality courses, publications, and on-line resources for Michigan lawyers.

When Lynn started back in 1982, ICLE was a little shop housed on the fourth floor of Hutchins Hall in the U-M Law School. The Publications Department consisted of a small group of self-taught copy-editors sharing an office they affectionately called "The Pit." In 1983, Lynn became publications director. She immediately set to work to "change how things got done." She didn't have much publishing background, but she did have practice experience with an emphasis on research and writing, a library degree, and *a great feel for business*.

Lynn quickly went to work: (1) she set up a system for automatic renewals of print supplement subscriptions; (2) she understood the importance of updating materials and keeping them current; (3) she took control of research and writing by hiring ICLE's first legal editors; and (4) she identified the major topics that Michigan lawyers needed. During her tenure she added dozens of titles and topics to the book collection, and increased revenue by 600 percent.

Ten years later, in 1993, Lynn applied for the director's job. By chance I was a member of the search committee that hired her. My memo to the committee and the dean noted that although by then Lynn and I knew each other well:

[S]he insisted that I do a real interview. She was all business, and I must say that ... she was the most prepared and the most concrete [of the seven candidates]. I found her to be amazingly persuasive. She made two strong claims: (1) that she knows the CLE business as well as anyone out there; and (2) that she has earned the right to the job.

Lynn was the overwhelming choice of the ICLE staff. The executive committee recommended her, and never regretted it.

Awards Committee
March 10, 2016
Page Two

As director, Lynn was a juggernaut. Her business acumen is legendary. She grew ICLE to close to 50 employees, with an annual budget of \$6 million. On the publication side she did something I thought was impossible given the size of the staff: she made all of ICLE's books available on line, with all of them updated *nearly in real time*. Any book you access on ICLE's website is current within weeks (not months or years).

Lynn also was prescient about the role of the web in law and legal education. She made sure that ICLE was at the forefront of change, but safely so. Today no CLE agency in the U.S. has the on-line resources that ICLE has – books, seminars, list-serve communities, how-to kits, *etc.* – all available at reasonable prices, from your office, your laptop, your notebook, or your phone. Lynn insists on having a long-term plan for ICLE, which her team constantly revises.

ICLE is a joint venture of Michigan's law schools and the State Bar, but it is also a unit of the University of Michigan. Lynn thus has to serve many masters. She has done so with enthusiasm and aplomb. She is diplomatic, savvy, and direct, but she also has considerable backbone when it is required. Her executive committee meetings and materials are models of the form. Her budgets are conservative and nearly always on target.

Of course she cannot do all of these things alone. But Lynn has hired and promoted a great cadre of skilled people at ICLE. She creates an environment that makes her co-workers want to excel. Almost no one ever leaves, and people rave about working with and for Lynn. (I chaired one of her three-year review committees, and the comments from her staff were off the charts.) Lynn has also provided opportunities for women to move into upper management. At ICLE, most of the senior staff positions have been occupied by women over the years.

Lynn has formed lasting relationships with contributors, cosponsors, other CLEs, and the State Bar and its sections, and community leaders. She brought out a great motto: "Your Partner in Practice." During her tenure, ICLE has garnered more than 40 awards from the Association of Continuing Legal Education (ACLEA), in every category: courses, publications, marketing, and technology.

Lynn is the Steve Jobs of CLE (without the difficult personality). She took ordinary products and made them fun, and authoritative, and easy to work with, and instantly accessible. In short, she made ICLE indispensable – every Michigan lawyer who can afford to be an ICLE Partner signs up, and most renew religiously every year. I think Mike Franck would have been delighted to honor Lynn Chard with the award named for him.

Yours truly,



Paul D. Reingold
Director
(ICLE Board Member since the 1990s)

March 11, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Landing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Recommendation of Lynn Chard for the State Bar of Michigan's Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

When I heard that the Institute of Continuing Legal Education intended to nominate Lynn Chard for the distinguished Michael Franck Award, I jumped at the opportunity to add my thoughts – and praise – to the many others that I am sure you will receive from Lynn's colleagues around the country.

As Executive Director of Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) since 1980, my tenure has overlapped in its entirety with Lynn's. Over these many years, I have come to know Lynn very well, and cherish her both as a CLE colleague and good friend. I am sure that you are aware of what she means to ICLE and the education of lawyers in Michigan, but you may not be as familiar with her contributions to the world of CLE beyond your state's borders and her influence on those of us around the country who have been fortunate to work with her.

Under Lynn's leadership, ICLE has become arguably the best CLE operation in the nation, and certainly a model organization, to which all others (including mine) repeatedly look for guidance. She's been a trailblazer and a visionary, always willing to push the envelope and take risks to improve the way lawyers (whom she refers to as her partners) learn and develop professionally. As the times changed, she stayed on the cutting edge so as to change and adapt with them. As lawyers shifted learning preferences, she shifted too to respond in kind. As technology began to revolutionize the way people learn and to challenge those of us who have been at this business for a long time, she did not shy away, but instead embraced it as yet another way to accomplish our educational mission. She was among the first of our number to see the benefits and innovative uses of the continuing advances in technology in delivering information and education.

She is a passionate learner, reading about and taking courses on how to be a better leader and manager, how to improve the efficiency of her organization and those who work there, and how to better teach others. And she is always very willing to share that knowledge with others. As a result of that same passion and forward-thinking mindset, she naturally became a leader in the CLE world.

Lynn has been the go-to person for many of us in our business. Always willing to lend an ear and a helping hand, she has been instrumental in my own career and, in many ways, MCLE's success and prominence. I sought Lynn's strategic and learned advice on many occasions and often find

myself wondering what Lynn would do (or, likely, already did) if confronted with the same issue. For example, as we expanded our publishing program throughout the 1990s, I called on Lynn for her advice. More recently, in developing our comprehensive online subscription product a few years ago, I again craved her advice and used ICLE's long-standing Partnership program as a guiding example of success. I like to think that we have learned from each other, but, truth be told, I am pretty sure more knowledge flowed eastward than westward.

I consider myself pretty sophisticated as a CLE provider and, after nearly 40 years in the business, I feel like I've learned a few things. That said, despite all those years of experience, I still learn from Lynn and continue to be inspired by what she has accomplished at ICLE, by her example, and by her passion. I trust her instincts, her experience, and her wisdom. There are but a few people about whom I can say that.

I am honored to have been asked to share my comments with the awards committee. I can think of no one more deserving than Lynn for an award that reflects outstanding contribution to the improvement of the legal profession. Her impact on the legal profession – both in and beyond Michigan – has been immeasurable. Please feel free to contact me at 617-896-1240 or jreilly@mcle.org if you have any questions or require any additional information as the committee considers the candidates. I truly hope that you decide to bestow this award on Lynn Chard for all she has done for the legal profession as an innovative and admired leader in continuing legal education.

Sincerely,



John M. (Jack) Reilly, Esq.
MCLE Executive Director

SHELDON J. STARK

Mediator and Arbitrator

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Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

February 20, 2016

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

RE: Nomination of Lynn P. Chard for the Michael Franck Award

I am writing to support the nomination of Lynn P. Chard for the Michael Franck Award. It is a distinct honor and pleasure to do so. She has my enthusiastic and unconditional recommendation. I have known Lynn Chard for many years and in various capacities. During the years I was in practice representing clients, I was a regular volunteer speaker and presenter for ICLE, the Institute of Continuing Legal Education and came to know Lynn Chard well. From 1999 to 2010, I joined the staff and reported to her first as Director of Education, then Director of Specialty Programs. As a member of the Administrative team managing ICLE I was able to observe her commitment and passion. We have been friends and colleagues more than 30 years. I cannot think of a single person more deserving of this award. No one has been more devoted to improving the practice of law, enhancing the ability of lawyers to access the finest legal resources available or raising the quality of representation for the public than she.

First, Lynn Chard is a visionary. She has been uncannily accurate in predicting where the practice of law is heading – and always manages to position ICLE to be ready to meet lawyer needs before the lawyers even know themselves. ICLE was one of the first CLE organizations in the world, for example, to create an online presence. Today, ICLE's Online Partnership offers the richest database of online legal resources available anywhere. This single ICLE program has won multiple awards over the years for innovation, power and depth from ACLEA, the international Association of CLE Administrators. Lynn Chard has also sponsored the most helpful, creative and useful seminars offered anywhere along with creation of a video replay and online network to make these programs available statewide. When the Michigan Supreme Court adopted new alternative dispute resolution rules in 2001, ICLE under her leadership, offered the first 40-hour, hands-on, general civil mediation training approved by the State Court Administrative Office. Twelve years later, that program has trained more than 1100 potential mediators and continues to attract top registrants.

In addition to offering seminars and online resources, ICLE publishes more than 50 practical, how-to books for Michigan lawyers. Many of them have been

prizewinners in and of themselves. When other CLE organizations around the country were simply posting PDF pictures of their books on line, Lynn Chard had the vision and drive to create dynamic online books with links to primary sources featuring continuous updating. She works extremely hard to price ICLE resources to make them affordable for every lawyer from the rural solo practitioner to the partners of the largest urban law firms. Today, ICLE is focused on studio-produced CLE programs that busy lawyers can participate in easily and quickly from the comfort of their own offices. ICLE is “the” go-to source for “how-to” solutions to the practical problems Michigan lawyers face every day. This is no accident. It is the result of Lynn Chard’s vision and drive.

Second, Lynn Chard is collaborative. She has successfully partnered with every law school and the State Bar of Michigan to create one of the most admired and respected CLE program in the world. The volunteers, who present the courses, develop the resources and write the books are the best of the best in Michigan practice. It is considered a high honor when ICLE invites someone to contribute. That is a tribute to Lynn Chard’s commitment to collaboration and quality. Virtually every CLE organization around the United States and Canada has paid a visit to ICLE or consulted with Lynn to improve its own programs and practices. Today, ICLE is the official CLE provider of the State Bar. In a state without mandatory CLE, she has developed an operation totally independent and self-sustaining. ICLE does not receive funding from any organization, yet more than meets the needs of lawyers in every geographic region of Michigan. In virtually every other state in the country, the law schools offer CLE in competition with organizations like ICLE. Lynn Chard has been an outstanding steward, maintaining the operating agreement first signed in the 1950s between the Bar, the law schools and ICLE to present all CLE programs *through* ICLE.

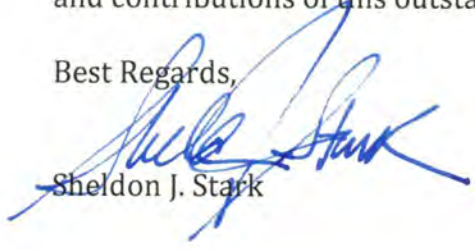
Third, Lynn Chard has been a tireless volunteer, giving back to our profession. She regularly attends meetings of State Bar governing organizations. She served on search committees when the State Bar has looked for a new Executive Director. She often attends meetings of SBM Sections to learn what they need and how ICLE can assist them. She takes on every task presented to her by one State Bar president after another. She currently serves on the 21st Century Practice Committee where she plays an active role in thinking through where the legal profession is heading next.

Finally, Lynn Chard is an extraordinary leader and tireless worker. As Executive Director of ICLE she invests significant time and energy. No one in the organization puts in as many hours as does she. She is a brilliant businessperson who “gets” business practice and economics, keeping the organization fiscally stable during the darkest days of the economic recession in Michigan. She recognizes talent among her staff and helps individuals in every way she can to reach their full potential. She is honest, direct, principled and straightforward. What you see with Lynn Chard is

lawyer in the state. She is upbeat, full of enthusiasm and vigor, has a good sense of humor and is always willing to listen and learn from others. Lynn Chard is someone I am proud to say was my boss and remains my friend.

It is my fervent hope that the Representative Assembly will recognize the talents and contributions of this outstanding individual!

Best Regards,



Sheldon J. Stark

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March 15, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Nomination of Lynn Chard for the SBM Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

This letter will commend Lynn Chard to your favorable attention as a recipient of the State Bar of Michigan's Michael Franck Award. Michael Franck was known for his tremendous service to the Bar, focusing on improvements to lawyer education and regulation, and this focus is one of the main criteria for recipients of this award. With her early years at the State Court Appellate Defender's Office followed by over thirty years at the Institute for Continuing Legal Education (ICLE), Ms. Chard certainly exemplifies and embodies this award criterion.

I recall meeting Lynn over 25 years ago when I gave a presentation to the Law Administrators Section of the Michigan Bar on how lawyers could use the Internet to leverage their practice. To appreciate how forward-thinking Lynn was at the time, this was before we had the "World Wide Web" as we called it back then. That meeting began a long association with Lynn and her work at ICLE, where she was a driving force for implementing new ways to reach and educate lawyers via print publications and the ICLE website, as well as offering a continuous and varied menu of in-person programs and ultimately webinars.

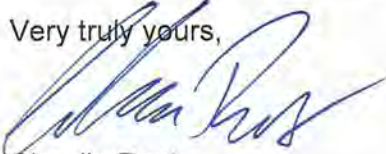
Another example of Lynn's prescience was her idea of an Internet Guide for Lawyers. ICLE published this book specific for Michigan lawyers in 1996, and published revised editions in 1997-99. In a true compliment to her concept, the states of Illinois, Massachusetts, California, Tennessee and Pennsylvania all licensed adaptations of this book for their lawyers.

As a lawyer whose practice is heavily weighted in the technology area, I have always been impressed with how ICLE—with Lynn's leadership and direction—has kept current both in the programs it has offered over the years and the methods and media it has used to deliver those programs.

March 15, 2016

In sum, Michigan lawyers owe much to Lynn Chard and her insightful and innovative approaches to legal education. It seems only natural to acknowledge Lynn's tremendous contributions by naming her as a recipient of the Michael Franck Award.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Claudia Rast', written in a cursive style.

Claudia Rast

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

March 11, 2016

Re: Lynn Chard,
Nominee for Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

I am writing in support of Lynn Chard's nomination for the Michael Franck Award. Lynn has led the Institute for Continuing Legal Education for over 20 years, and she has transformed ICLE into the leading provider of legal education in the country. Michigan does not mandate continuing legal education for its attorneys, yet ICLE provides a broad array of educational programs for every area of practice and achieves record breaking attendance for its seminars. Lynn embraces the voluntary aspect of continuing legal education, and views it as one of ICLE's strengths; their programs must be of a high enough quality that attorneys are not only willing to come to the seminars, they are willing to pay for the privilege.

Under Lynn's guidance, ICLE has focused on methods to improve delivery of legal education to attorneys. We can access the entire ICLE library online, view on demand webinars, and exchange ideas and advice in the online ICLE community. It is hard to imagine any greater contribution to the betterment of our profession than the Lynn's dedication to improving the accessibility and quality of legal education. Lynn Chard would be a worthy recipient of the Michael Franck Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Weichmann". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kent Weichmann, P30891



TexasBarCLE

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Lynn Chard's nomination for the State Bar of Michigan's Michael Franck Award

I have been a cross-country colleague of Lynn Chard for more than twenty years now, and when I heard that she might be nominated for this prestigious award, I wanted to add my observations of her.

Lynn is regarded by her CLE colleagues in the United States, Canada, Australia, and other English speaking venues as one of the profession's foremost leaders. Michigan is one of the very few states left that hasn't imposed a mandatory CLE requirement on its lawyers. As a result, Michigan lawyers do precisely what they want in terms of continuing education--nothing more, nothing less. Through pure free enterprise then, ICLE under Lynn's leadership has managed to attract a remarkable portion of the state's lawyers to a Cadillac form of CLE that provides comprehensive and detailed coverage of almost all areas of practice, unquestionably raising the level of practice throughout Michigan.

For amazingly reasonable prices, the ICLE "Partnership," that Lynn and her staff invented gives its subscribers 24/7 access to a variety of resources from treatises to practice manuals to highly produced videos and live seminars. Its focus is entirely pragmatic: how to solve the lawyer's specific problem, *right now*. In its scope, timeliness, and general level of quality, nothing like the Partnership exists anywhere else, in my view.

Lynn has also engineered entirely new patterns of staffing, focusing on recruitment of excellent, far-sighted administrators and lawyers to her staff who are constantly planning the next initiative and who, virtually in real time, keep the Partnership resources up to date.

Whenever I get the chance, I've made a point to sit next to Lynn at dinner or during the breaks at a conference to hear what she is up to next. She stays remarkably acquainted everything from the *Harvard Business Review* to the latest research on MOOCs or strategic planning.

When Lynn speaks at a conference—and she is frequently in demand to speak—Lynn has impressed us all with the values she stands for in the CLE universe. The core value towards which ICLE strives, she says, is not economic success or a reputation for excellence or continuous innovation, although ICLE has achieved all those things. It is the trust of Michigan lawyers. Enough said.

Patrick A. Nester

Patrick A. Nester
Director, Professional Development Division



March 10, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: SBM Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

I would like to nominate Lynn Chard, the Executive Director of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education ("ICLE") in Michigan. Lynn has been with ICLE for more than 30 years and if this award should be given to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the legal profession, I can't imagine a more deserving candidate.

On a macro level, the fact that she's built one of the most admired and emulated continuing legal education ("CLE") organizations in North America in a state where lawyers aren't even required to take CLE is amazing by itself. I have taught classes for ICLE for roughly 18 years and I'm always amazed at the size and enthusiasm of the audiences that attend ICLE events. In the highly competitive CLE world, ICLE succeeds by understanding what lawyers (of every age) need educationally and delivering value. Those things are a direct reflection of Lynn's leadership.

For an example of Lynn's contributions on a micro (personal) level, Lynn and I were discussing life over dinner one evening many years ago. During the conversation, I complained about my lifelong difficulty in controlling my anger and general over-reaction to almost everything. As you can imagine, this problem can be amplified in the sometimes combative world of law. Anyway, Lynn said she had experienced similar issues earlier in her life and that she learned to control it through meditation. She explained what meditation was, how it worked and how it helped her. Her comment inspired me to try meditation and over the intervening years, it has made a *tremendous* difference in my life, both personally and professionally. I'm thankful for her advice literally every single day.

In view of Lynn's hall-of-fame contributions to the legal profession, I hope you'll consider her for this award.

Sincerely,

AFFINITY CONSULTING GROUP



Barron K. Henley, Esq., Partner



Minnesota Continuing Legal Education

2550 University Avenue West, Suite 160-S • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114
Phone: (651) 227-8266 • (800) 759-8840

www.minncle.org

March 11, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

I write in support of the nomination of Lynn Chard as this year's recipient of the Michael Franck award. Her association with and support for the State Bar of Michigan runs deep, reflecting a lifelong personal commitment to excellence in education.

Throughout her career, Lynn has established a national reputation as an expert in continuing legal education and continues to be a sought-after resource in this regard. Specifically, her work extending the concept of the "practitioner partnership" model is something which other organizations throughout the United States are studying and adapting to their advantage. She continues to identify and design the most innovative education experiences for lawyers and judges both in Michigan and nationally.

I've had the remarkable good fortune to have known and worked with Lynn for 30 years. Throughout this time I have considered her a friend, a valued collaborator, and a role model. In my opinion, she is simply one of the most innovative minds in the field of education for practicing attorneys. For the past 20 years Lynn has been a key architect of the CLE CEO Strategic Leadership Forum, a strategies-based think tank bringing together leaders from major North American CLE Providers. Her leadership skills and easy familiarity with the critical issues driving change in our CLE world has set the standard for others to follow.

Lynn Chard's professional accomplishments and service to the legal community are unparalleled. Her entire career has been an ongoing commitment to her profession, to the Bar, and to the broader community. Receipt of the award would be well justified recognition of that service.

Best regards,

Frank V. Harris
Executive Director
Minnesota Continuing Legal Education

Mary I. Hiniker
2989 Hickory Lane
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
March 9, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Nomination of Lynn P. Chard for the Michael Franck Award

I am writing to strongly support the nomination of Lynn P. Chard for the 2016 Michael Franck Award from the State Bar of Michigan. I worked with Lynn for over 30 years at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. The length and variety of my experience gives me a unique perspective on her contributions.

I remember vividly when Lynn was hired in 1980 as Publications Director at ICLE. Her background included a degree in library science as well as one in law, and several years at the State Appellate Defender Office as an attorney. At the time, ICLE was a small outfit located on the fourth floor of the Michigan Law School. On the publications side, we published a limited number of books of varying degrees of interest to practicing lawyers. Some were treatises, a few were practical, and a number were on arcane or federal topics. They were updated when their authors could find time to do so.

When she was hired, Lynn "hit the ground running." Her strong guiding principles were to find out what **practicing lawyers** needed, and then apply the best business principles to meet those needs. She talked to customers and found out what they needed to help them practice law. She identified successful Michigan practitioners who were willing to share their expertise with fellow lawyers. She hired legal editors to do regular updating. Over time, our book collection grew to over 60 titles that met the needs of Michigan lawyers for practical "how to" guidance and reliable, current information.

Those two principles – customer needs assessment and business acumen – guided Lynn's work at ICLE. In 1993, she became Director and her focus broadened. This was a time of major technological changes. Lynn quickly realized the impact of those changes -- and the Internet in particular -- on publishing and businesses. ICLE developed what was probably the first web site for lawyers in the state of Michigan. We collaborated with the State Bar of Michigan to develop a free database of Michigan caselaw (Michigan Law Online), of great benefit to Bar members. We put books and courses online, developed continual updating, and launched the ICLE Partnership.

Lynn has also been a force for developing educational resources of great value to Bar members. Under her guidance, ICLE worked with the Probate and Estate Planning Section to develop the Probate and Estate Planning Certificate Program, followed by a similar program with the Family Law Section. Recently, she has led the charge to develop more effective online education for Michigan lawyers.

Lynn's hallmark in her years at ICLE has been strong customer focus, clear business sense, attention to global trends, and a willingness to take risks. In her over 35 years at ICLE, Lynn has developed ICLE into one of the leading CLE organizations in the country. I can't tell you how many lawyers from other states have said to me, "I only wish we had what you have in Michigan."

Lynn has been a strong director at ICLE, and Michigan practitioners have greatly benefitted. She very much deserves this year's Michael Franck Award.

Sincerely,



Mary I. Hiniker
Former ICLE Associate Director; retired in 2013

Steven A. Harms

Attorney at Law
3269 Kilburn Road W.
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48306
248-802-7386
steve@saharms.com

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

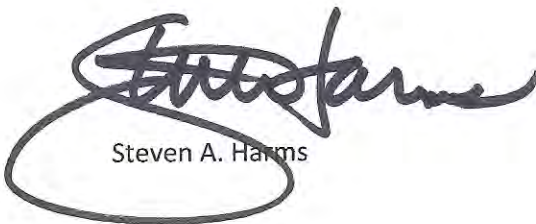
Re: Nomination of Lynn Chard

Dear Ms. Sharlow,

I am pleased to support the nomination of Lynn Chard for the SBM Michael Franck Award. I have known Lynn for all of her 30+ years with the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) and, as an author and frequent lecturer for ICLE, I've witnessed first-hand just how significant her achievements have been over the years. Indeed, in comparing ICLE's around the country, my take is that Michigan has the best ICLE in the country. Lynn has shaped and molded the organization to correspond with her vision of professionalism and service to the legal community, as well as the community at large.

Lynn has literally devoted her professional career to continuously improve ICLE and Michigan lawyers and the people of Michigan are the direct beneficiaries of her time and talents in this regard. It certainly has not been an easy task to keep pace with rapidly changing technologies and yet the ICLE studios are literally the latest and greatest. The web site is state-of-the-art. Attorneys can conduct research for a very reasonable price with a few clicks of a mouse. The materials produced by ICLE are edited by professionals she has hired and worked with. The seminars are all top notch. I've been honored to have been associated with ICLE, doing my part in the area of creditors' rights for all these years...working closely with the finest people available...all due, in large part, to Lynn's efforts. Ethics and professionalism come from the top on down. Lynn is the top. She is worthy of this award.

Very truly yours,



Steven A. Harms

Lou Kasischke
3491 North Lakeshore
Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740

Representative Assembly Awards

State Bar of Michigan

306 Townsend St.

Lansing MI 48933

This is a letter of support for Lynn Chard to receive the SBM Michael Franck Award.

I have known Lynn Chard since she first joined ICLE. Over the past 30 years or so, she has been an exceptional leader at ICLE serving the needs of the Bar. With passion and commitment, she has always made certain that SBM lawyers were on the cutting edge of developments in the methods of delivering continuing legal education and law practice resources. Ask any lawyer if they are not better prepared to serve the profession, specifically because of the resources made available to us from ICLE. This is to the credit of Lynn Chard's leadership.

I am proud to be among those supporting Lynn Chard for the SBM Michael Franck Award.

Lou Kasischke

Retired partner in the Dykema Gossett firm

John H. Martin
18911 N. Fruitport Road
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

March 10, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933-2012

Re: Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

This letter is in strong support of the nomination of Lynn P. Chard of Ann Arbor to be recipient of this year's Michael Franck Award. This recommendation comes from years of close observation of Lynn Chard, as I served on the ICLE Executive Committee for two terms and served as Chair of the Executive Committee. I also have worked closely with Lynn as my editor on a book and other ICLE publications.

Lynn Chard has served as Executive Director of The Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) for several decades. In this leadership position she has brought significant innovation to the delivery of legal education at a time of revolutionary change in the media routinely used by lawyers and courts.

The old model of continuing legal education provided lawyers with live lectures and books on pertinent legal topics. As the electronic and digital ages approached and arrived, Lynn realized that the old model could not survive. ICLE had to change or become irrelevant. The old model would not satisfy the needs of practicing attorneys nor would it provide the revenue that ICLE needed in order to generate the materials required in a new environment. She saw the challenge as the need to re-invent completely the delivery of pertinent educational materials so that they arrived in an acceptable format, at an acceptable cost, with a monetary return to ICLE that would allow it to continue to be the primary source of continuing education for Michigan attorneys.

Lynn's solution was to develop the ICLE Partnership – basically a subscription service that incorporated both online resources and innovative in-person educational programs. Of course, significant investment in qualified staff had to be made and significant monetary resources were required. Lynn managed both admirably. It worked! Michigan lawyers are extremely well served by the non-profit ICLE at modest cost to the attorneys.

ICLE and Lynn in particular are recognized nationally for having taken a leadership role in transforming continuing legal education. The Michigan ICLE approach is followed by many other CLE organizations throughout the country.

With Lynn scheduled to retire from ICLE at year end, the State Bar should enthusiastically recognize Lynn's significant accomplishments on behalf of the Michigan Bar and salute her for the outstanding service she has delivered to all Michigan lawyers. This can best be done by awarding her the Michael Franck Award for 2016.

Very truly yours,



John H. Martin
P 17149



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March 18, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933-2012

Re: Support for Nomination of Lynn P. Chard for the 2016 Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

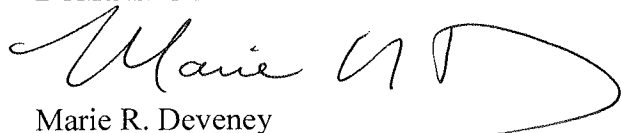
I write in enthusiastic support of the nomination of Lynn P. Chard to receive the 2016 Michael Franck Award. Through her more than twenty years of skillful leadership of the Institute for Continuing Legal Education (“ICLE”), Ms. Chard has enabled every attorney in the State of Michigan to improve his or her subject expertise and practice. This is an unparalleled contribution to the improvement of the profession.

During Ms. Chard’s tenure as Director of ICLE, I have benefited immeasurably from the courses and other resources provided by ICLE. The best education in my field, estate planning and administration, is available through ICLE. I have also had the pleasure of teaching many courses and serving on the board of professional advisors to ICLE in my area of expertise. Through this personal experience I can attest to the deep contribution Ms. Chard has made to my area of practice.

With great pleasure I recommend Lynn P. Chard to you as a most worthy recipient of the 2016 Michael Franck Award.

Sincerely,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC



Marie R. Deveney

4828-0537-6303.1
ID\DEVENEY, MARIE - 019956\000999

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: SBM Michael Franck Award

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

I support Lynn Chard as a recipient for the Michael Franck Award.

Lynn worked in public service at SADO for many years, and I know that she didn't treat it like a 40 hour job, working long hours to make sure quality representation was provided through the appellate processes.

Since SADO she has worked for more than 25 years at ICLE. She guided that organization from a "paper and pencil" support service through the daunting technological changes of the past 20 years. When I started practice as a family law attorney there was little in the way of "help" for a young attorney trying to understand the landscape of the law. Indeed, it would be no exaggeration to say that Family Law was, essentially, the Moon, a seat of the pants and airless arena of practice. Since that time, ICLE has been a major mover in helping to define an area of practice that is breathing and evolving (it seems) monthly. In ICLE's support of my work (software design and algorithmic standards in alimony, child support, business valuation, pension valuation, et. al) Lynn/ICLE went out on a limb in perceiving that technology could be a solution to everyday problems. In 1995 this wasn't obvious to the mainstream of lawyers or courts. In the Family Law arena in particular, Lynn and ICLE have seen that technologies of all sorts (old fashioned publishing, lectures, software) could be used to help younger and more established lawyers to represent their clients in more efficient and qualitative ways. My guess is, prior to Lynn, ICLE, like most such organizations, would only have been looking in the rear view mirror. Lynn has been able to see the directions in our culture and has helped to create an organization that is ahead of the curve in its thinking, in its support of our profession.

She would be an excellent choice for this award.

Craig

Craig Ross
Ann Arbor



Bridgewater Place • Post Office Box 352
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501-0352

Telephone 616 / 336-6000 • Fax 616 / 336-7000 • www.varnumlaw.com

Dirk Hoffius

Direct: 616 / 336-6807
dchofflus@varnumlaw.com

March 17, 2016

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Re: Michael Franck Award

Dear Carrie:

I write in support of the nomination of Lynn Chard for the State Bar of Michigan's Michael Franck Award in 2016. I am a past chair of the Probate and Estate Planning Section of the State Bar of Michigan in 2002 – 2003.

The Institute of Continuing Legal Education has a particularly close relationship with the Probate and Estate Planning Section of the State Bar, and Lynn Chard was in attendance at virtually all of the meetings I chaired. We worked closely with Lynn and the Institute in creating the first Certificate Program in the state, which continues to provide the education necessary for making sure that the attorneys in our practice are of the highest caliber.

ICLE also works closely with the Section in providing seminars and training throughout the year on issues that are critical to practitioners on a daily basis. Our Annual Probate and Estate Planning Institute is a responsibility of the chair elect. I had an opportunity to apply some of my strategic planning background to that event, and it resulted in my being a consultant to ICLE for six years on their annual strategic planning process. As a result, I worked closely with Lynn in that process in order to be certain that the programs and the services to the Bar met current and future needs. ICLE constantly surveys the bar membership, utilizes focus groups to learn more about the changing needs in all areas of practice, and Lynn personally prepares a five year vision each year.

The Annual Strategic Planning process has taken into consideration all of the information available to the Institute and engages every employee in the process and makes sure that every voice is heard. An important focus in the last 20 years has been the adoption of technology to make learning an integral part of each attorney's practice. Lynn Chard is a true believer in continuous improvement. She would be the *perfect* recipient of the Michael Franck Award in 2016!

Yours very truly,



Dirk Hoffius

DH/df

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