

## **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003**

The Labor and Employment Law Section was extremely active this year, serving its membership through high caliber programs, publications, and outreach projects. The Section provided many continuing legal education programs for our membership. Section members also received our premier quarterly newsletter, Labor and Employment Lawnotes (editor, Stuart Israel). A listserv was launched for members this year. The Section engaged in strategic planning, aided by results from a survey that was distributed to our membership. Further, to commemorate the Section's 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary a video was unveiled on Labor Law History in Michigan.

The first continuing education program of the year that the Section sponsored or co-sponsored was held during the September 26, 2002, Annual Meeting of the State Bar. The program included a presentation by Brent Rector of Miller Johnson Snell & Cumiskey on arbitration agreements. There was a mock Motion for Summary Judgment argument. Jennifer J. Stocker of Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett provided an analysis of the legal issues presented in the Motion for Summary Judgment. Thomas M. J. Hathaway of Brady Hathaway Brady & Bretz represented the Defendant and Stephen R. Drew of Drew Cooper & Anding represented the Plaintiff. Hon. Donald A. Johnston, III, of the State of Michigan 17th Circuit Court and Hon. Gordon J. Quist, U.S. District Judge, Western District of Michigan were the Presiding Judges who rendered their opinions. The Annual meeting was chaired by Deborah Gordon and David Khorey. David Calzone assisted in the preparation of the mock Motion for Summary Judgment.

During the business portion of the meeting Roy L. Roulhac was recognized for his service as Section chair during 2001-2002. Unanimously elected as officers were: Andrea Roumell Dickson, chair; David E. Khorey, vice-chair; James M. Moore, secretary; and Deborah L. Gordon, treasurer. Kathleen Bogas and Honora Lynch were elected to the Council. Yasmin J. Abdul-Karim and Reginald Turner resigned from the Council and were replaced by George Washington and Floyd Allen respectively. Subsequently, in March, 2003 Floyd Allen and George Washington submitted their resignations from the Council due to the demands of their respective practices. Stanley Moore III and Cary McGehee were elected in April, 2003 to fill the remainder terms of Floyd Allen and George Washington. Thus, the current members of the Council are: Joseph A. Barker, Kathleen Bogas, Daniel Bretz, David Calzone, Jeffery Donahue, David Kotzian, Michael Lee, Honora Lynch, Cary McGehee, Stanley Moore, Brent Rector and Joseph Ritok. Roy L. Roulhac, the outgoing chair, served as an *ex-officio* Council member.

On October 24, 2002, the Bernard Gottfried Memorial Labor Law Symposium was held at Wayne State University. The Section continued its co-sponsorship of the program and facilitated the attendance of law students specializing in labor and employment from area law schools.

The Mid Winter Meeting of the Section was held at the Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest. This year's January 31-February 1, 2003 event was organized by Daniel Bretz and David Calzone, along with assistance from subcommittee members Kathleen Bogas, Deborah Gordon and Jeffrey Donahue. The Section's 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary commemorative video on the history of labor law in Michigan was played during the reception before dinner. During dinner, the Section presented its Distinguished Service award posthumously to John F. Brady and Joseph C. Marshall III. The dinner keynote speaker was Howard Fineman, Newsweek Chief Political Correspondent, Senior Editor and Deputy Washington Bureau Chief and news analyst for NBC, MSNBC and CNBC. The education component of the mid-winter meeting was held on Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup>. It started with again showing the commemorate video. Then, it moved to featured updates on the national labor relations, public sector, and employment discrimination law case; differing treatment of discrimination claims in state and federal courts; acquisition planning and successorship issues in the labor/employment arena; Alternate Dispute Resolution: how, when and is it worth it. Presenters included Alexandra S. Matish, Dennis M. Devaney, Daniel J. Bretz, David A. Kotzian, John A. Entenman, Kathleen L. Bogas, Joseph A. Golden, Lawrence J. Murphy, Robert M. Vercruysse and Joseph Ritok.

The Section presented its annual continuing legal education program on April 8-9, 2003 when it co-sponsored the 28th Annual Labor and Employment Law Institute with the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. In addition to updates on EEO cases, FMLA, ADA and MPWDCRA, the program included simultaneous information-filled tracks on traditional labor law and employment law issues. On April 8<sup>th</sup> Special Guest Speaker was Honorable George C. Steeh III, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan. The next day, the Section sponsored an on-premise lunch that offered attendees an opportunity to network and hear guest luncheon speaker Marvin Krislov, General Counsel of the University of Michigan.

Under the direction and perseverance of Council member David Kotzian, the Section launched a listserv. It is a tool the Section hopes will enhance communication amongst our membership and foster a useful exchange of professional information.

A survey was distributed to our membership to determine if the Council was meeting expectations and how we could improve. The Council has used the feedback from the responses to plan for next year and spearhead some new outreach efforts.

Special thanks to Bob McCormick and Michigan State University College of Communication and Art for the 50th Anniversary Video which is truly an outstanding product. This video will be available for dissemination to the public and our membership to preserve the legacy of our profession.

Once again, the Labor and Employment Law Section is indebted to Stuart Israel and John Adams for their unerring skills as editor and assistant editor of the sterling product they produce, Labor and Employment Lawnotes.

Finally, the success of the Section's year is simply a sum of the efforts of a dedicated, talented and tenacious Council that always outdoes itself and by members of the Section who are committed to their profession. I thank all of them for their time, talent and continued support. They have made this year of service as Section Chair exhilarating and extremely gratifying.

Andrea Roumell Dickson  
Chair

524993