

2023-2024 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

OFFICERS

Yolanda M. Bennett, Chair—Ingham (30th Circuit)
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John W. Reiser, III, Vice-Chair—Washtenaw (22nd Circuit)
jreiser@a2gov.org

Nicole A. Evans, Clerk—Ingham (30th Circuit)
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Assembly Review (5)

Chair:

Julia A. Gilbert—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
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(313) 452-1855

Members:

Melissa Goodrich—Cheboygan & Presque Isle (53rd Circuit)
mgoodrich@cheboygancounty.net

Rudolph F. Perhalla—Gogebic & Ontonagon (32nd Circuit)

Jonathan L. Paasch—Kent (17th Circuit)

Reh Starks-Harling—Kalamazoo (9th Circuit)
reh@starks-law.com

7.6 Assembly Review. The Assembly Review Committee, consisting of five (5) members, each of whom shall be a different judicial circuit, shall periodically review the functions of the Assembly, and shall from time to time make recommendations for amendments or other matters or procedures to improve Assembly effectiveness and activity.

Outreach & Hearings (12)

Chair:

Karen R. Geibel—Oakland (6th Circuit)

Karen_Geibel@staffdefense.com

(248) 614-9200

Members:

Christina L. DeMoore—Emmet (57th Circuit)

christinademore@gmail.com

Katarina L. DuMont—Lenawee (39th Circuit)

Macie D.A. Gaines—Wayne (3rd Circuit)

macie@gaineslawyers.com

Elizabeth C. Jolliffe—Washtenaw (22nd Circuit)

elizabeth@yourbenchmarkcoach.com

Tracie L. McCarn-Dinehart—Lake & Mason (51st Circuit)

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Donald L.R. Roberts—Kalamazoo (9th Circuit)

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Richard M. Soranno—Wayne (3rd Circuit)

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Anna C. White—Ottawa (20th Circuit)

awhite@miottawa.org

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7.3 Outreach and Hearings. Upon referral from the Representative Assembly or its Chairperson, the Committee on Hearings, consisting of twelve (12) members, not more than two (2) of whom shall be members from the same judicial circuit, shall hold hearings on any matter referred and shall report any outreach matters to the Assembly on which non-members of the Assembly ask for an opportunity to present their views. Upon referral of a matter to the Committee or as a part of outreach activities, each Committee member shall be assigned one or more judicial circuits or a geographic region near their judicial circuit.

REGULAR MEETINGS: The Committee shall meet no less than twice per calendar year. Meetings shall be scheduled during the April and September Representative Assembly meetings. A Regular Meeting may be dispensed with if, in the judgment and agreement of a majority of the Committee, there is no need for the meeting. No Regular Meeting may be dispensed with if a non-member has requested an opportunity to present his or her views to the Committee. The Chair of the Hearings Committee shall notify each member of the Committee of the purpose and agenda of the meeting at least 48 hours in advance of the Regular Meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS and HEARINGS: The Committee shall call Special Meetings or schedule and assign a Committee member or members to conduct a hearing upon the referral of a matter to the Committee or upon the request of a non-member of the Representative Assembly after review and recommendation by a Committee member of the same judicial circuit or assigned region (the “Assigned Committee Member”). A Special Meeting or hearing may be held only after reasonable notice is provided to the Committee members. If it is decided by the Committee that a hearing on a matter of complexity or controversy may be benefited by assigning multiple members to a hearing panel, three (3) Committee members shall make themselves available for such a hearing: Chair of the Committee, the Assigned Committee Member, and an additional Committee member. Any Special Meeting or hearing may be attended by teleconference via telephone or video if convenient to the parties and will be facilitated by the State Bar of Michigan. The Committee may invite any person to attend. It shall report as soon as possible and make appropriate recommendations to the Assembly at its next meeting on the hearings so held. The report shall be calendared to permit prompt consideration.

Drafting (5)

Chair:

Courtney E. Cadotte—Crawford, Kalkaska & Otsego
(46th Circuit)
ccadotte@lsnm.org
(989) 705-1067

Members:

J. Scot Garrison—Oakland (6th Circuit)
SGarrison@vgpclaw.com

Brent T. Geers—Kent (17th Circuit)
bgeers@kcod.org

Blair M. Johnson—Berrien (2nd Circuit)
blair@blairjohnson.law

Kimberley A. Ward—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
kimwardesq@gmail.com

7.4 Drafting. The Committee on Drafting, consisting of five (5) members, each of whom shall be from a different judicial circuit, shall consider and report to the Representative Assembly on any resolution, report, recommendation, or other matter referred to it by the Assembly, or the Chairperson of the Assembly if the Assembly is not in session, for revision as to structure, organization, grammar, diction, and punctuation.

Nominating/Awards (5)

Chair:

Philip L. Strom—Kent (17th Circuit)
pstrom@grand-rapids.mi.us
(616) 456-4000

Members:

Mark W. Jane—Washtenaw (22nd Circuit)
jane@butzel.com

Chad W. Peltier—Alger, Luce, Mackinac & Schoolcraft
(11th Circuit)
peltierc123@gmail.com

Dawn M. King—Oakland (6th Circuit)
dking@cityofsouthfield.com

Judge Christopher S. Ninomiya—Dickinson, Iron &
Menominee (41st Circuit)
cn@dickinsoncountymi.gov

Associate Members:

Robin E. Dillard—Wayne (3rd Circuit)

7.5 Nominating. The Nominating and Awards Committee shall consist of five (5) members, each of whom shall be from a different judicial circuit. The Committee shall perform the functions provided for in Rule 8.

Rules & Calendar (5)

Chair:

Deborah K. Blair—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
dblair@waynecounty.com
(313) 224-8861

Members:

Mary A. Bowen—Oakland (6th Circuit)
mabowen@agcmi.com

Becky J. Bolles—Isabella (21st Circuit)
bbolles@hallandbolles.com

Duane L. Hadley—Alcona, Arenac, Iosco & Oscoda
(23rd Circuit)
duanehadleylaw@gmail.com

Timothy Hilton Havis—Eaton (56th Circuit)
thavis@eatoncounty.org

7.2 Rules and Calendar. The Committee on Rules and Calendar, consisting of five (5) members, each of whom shall be from a different judicial circuit, shall consider and report to the Representative Assembly on all proposals to amend these Rules of Procedure. It shall prepare a calendar for each meeting of the Assembly in accordance with these Rules of Procedure and the Clerk shall distribute it to the Assembly members, together with reports to be considered, at least thirty (30) days before the meeting. It shall make appropriate recommendations to the Assembly relating to special orders of business and changes in the calendar.

Special Issues (7)

Chair:

Dennis L. Perkins—Livingston (44th Circuit)
attyperkins@sbcglobal.net
(517) 546-6623

Members:

Fatima M. Bolyea—Oakland (6th Circuit)
fbolyea@taftlaw.com

Stephan M. Gaus—Bay (18th Circuit)
Gaus@Garskelaw.com

Bernard A. Jocuns—Lapeer (40th Circuit)
Bernard@jocuns.com

Marc D. Morse—Genesee (7th Circuit)
mmorse@thewilliamsfirm.com

Joshua M. Pease—Ingham (30th Circuit)
jpease@sado.org

Lauren M. Wickman—Delta (47th Circuit)
lwickman@deltacountymi.org

Associate Members:

Shanika A. Owens—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
owens.shanika@gmail.com

7.7 Special Issues. The Special Issues Committee, consisting of seven (7) members, each of whom shall be from a different judicial circuit, shall consider and report to the Officers of the Assembly on specific issues or matters that may merit attention by the State Bar and/or the Assembly, and consider and report to the Assembly on any matter referred to them by the Officers of the Assembly.

Diversity (11)

Chair:

Tracey L. Lee—Oakland (6th Circuit)
attorneytlee@gmail.com
(248) 531-8346

Members:

Michael J. Blau—Oakland (6th Circuit)
mikeblau924@gmail.com

Judge Troy B. Daniel—Ogemaw & Roscommon (34th Circuit)
tbdaniellaw@gmail.com

Toi Dennis—Washtenaw (22nd Circuit)
tdennis@lsscm.org

Lesya N. Dull—Benzie & Manistee (19th Circuit)
ldull@manisteecountymi.gov

Judge Kristina Robinson-Garrett—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
kgarrett@courts.mi.gov

Kara R. Hart-Negrich—Ingham (30th Circuit)
hartnegrichk@michigan.gov

Lisa W. Timmons—Wayne (3rd Circuit)
attorneytimmons@gmail.com

Jessica L. Zimbelman—Ingham (30th Circuit)
jzimbelman@sado.org

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7.8 Diversity. The Committee on Diversity, consisting of eleven (11) members, not more than two (2) of whom shall be members from the same judicial circuit, and no more than three (3) associate members, shall ensure meaningful diversity and inclusion in the ranks of the Representative Assembly; make proposals and craft policy that will enhance diversity and inclusion in the greater bar community; and make appropriate recommendations to the Representative Assembly.