



Section Annual Reports

2014-2015

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**The reports are posted online and can be read at
<http://www.michbar.org/sections/pdfs/annualreports2014-15.pdf>**

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Administrative & Regulatory Law Section

Mission Statement: The Administrative & Regulatory Law Section provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, programs, the State Bar of Michigan website, social media and publication of a newsletter.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Richard Aaron	Dykema, Gossett PLLC 201 Townsend Street, Suite 900, Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 374-9198	raaron@dykema.com
Chair-Elect	Christine Mason Soneral	ITC Holdings Corp 27175 Energy Way Novi, MI 48377	(248) 946-3553	csoneral@itctransco.com
Secretary	Shaun Johnson	Dykema, Gossett PLLC 201 Townsend Street, Suite 900, Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 374-9100	sjohnson@dykema.com
Treasurer	Timothy Lundgren	Varnum LLP 333 Bridge Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49501	(616)336-6750	tjlundgren@varnumlaw.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
J Patrick Howe	9/30/2017	Laura A. Chappelle	9/30/2017
Christine Mason Soneral	9/30/2017	Ford J H Turrell	9/30/2017
Richard J. Aaron	9/30/2015		
Jon P. Christinidis	9/30/2015		
Timothy J. Lundgren	9/30/2015		
Michael F. Matheson	9/30/2015		
Mark J. Burzych	9/30/2016		
Gary P. Gordon	9/30/2016		
Shaun M. Johnson	9/30/2016		
Richard A Patterson	9/30/2016		

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	September 18, 2014	Grand Rapids
Regular Council Meeting	October 22, 2014	Lansing
Regular Council Meeting	January 21, 2015	Lansing
Regular Council Meeting	February 12, 2015	Lansing
Regular Council Meeting	March 10, 2015	Lansing
Regular Council Meeting	April 15, 2015	Brighton
Regular Council Meeting	May 12, 2015	Lansing

General Budget Information: As of April 30, 2015, the Section’s ending fund balance was \$48,707.48.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting – John Bursch on appearing before the US Supreme Court	September 18, 2014	Grand Rapids
MIT Luncheon	January 21, 2015	East Lansing
Liquor Control Commission Luncheon	March 10, 2015	Lansing
MPSC Commission Luncheon – Sen. Nofs Featured Speaker	May 12, 2015	Lansing
Effective Presentations in Administrative Proceedings	To be scheduled in August	Lansing

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues: The Section Council continually monitors pending legislation and rulemaking and acts consistent with the interests of the Section. The Council has a committee designated to monitoring relevant legislation and proposed rules. The Council also publishes in social media information that addresses these issues. This year, the Section did not comment on any proposed legislation.

Recommendations for next Council: Programs with regulators are an integral part of the success of the Section and should be constantly evaluated for ways to improve the offerings. A new program was implemented in June of 2014 and will be continued this year; namely, Effective Presentations in Administrative Proceedings. Additional programs are under discussion by the Section Council to expand the Section's outreach.

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Agricultural Law Section

Mission Statement: To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among members engaged in the practice of law serving agricultural clients, with the goal of improving the practice of law in Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Trent C. Hilding (P68189)	6824 E. Lake Montcalm Road, Edmore, MI 48829	(989) 427-3436	Hildingagservices@yahoo.com
Chair-Elect	Jeff G. Haarer (P42386)	1920 Byrnes Road, Lansing, MI 48906-3401	(517) 241-2865	HaarerJ@michigan.gov
Secretary	Liza C. Moore (P72240)	313 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 371-8281	lmoore@fosterswift.com
Treasurer	Kristiana M. Coutu (P71769)	251 N Rose Street, 4 th Floor, Kalamazoo, MI 49009	(269) 330-4576	kmcoutu@varnumlaw.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Allison L. Eicher (P75385)	2013-2015	Mark E. Kellogg (P38306)	2013-2015
Steven D. Weyhing (P30749)	2013-2015	Kimberly A. Clarke (P49910)	2014-2015
John R. Dresser (P35161)	2014-2015	Todd W. Hoppe (P67723)	2014-2015
Trent C. Hilding (P68189)	2014-2015	Jeff G. Haarer (P42386)	2014-2015
Liza C. Moore (P72240)	2014-2015	Kristiana M. Coutu (P71769)	2014-2015

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Legislative issues: During this term there have been several developments with Michigan Water Use Reporting, Michigan Right to Farm Act, and implementation of the new Federal Farm Bill. Our legislative committee is tracking and updating as information becomes available to changes in the law and new developments in implementation and understanding of existing programs.

Recommendations for next Council: The Council is still relatively green in its programs and underfunded in its budget compared to other Sections who have a much longer history of existence. The programming for must continue to be developed to attract new members. This year, the Council needs to address how we can accomplish this given the budget constraints. Program requirements and costs should be reviewed closely so the young Council can implement as opportunities that arise without having to say no because of costs.

The next Council should continue to plan programs for existing membership, law students, and look at opportunities to educate clients and partners in the agricultural field. The first few years of this Council have benefited from bright and glory years in Agriculture with unprecedented profitable commodity prices. Now, the industry and many of the section members' clients are bumping against a change in the economics of agriculture with commodities priced at or below the cost of production. The Council needs to be conscious of the ever-changing situation and address the needs of members accordingly.

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**ANNUAL REPORT
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Mission Statement

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Section provides members of the State Bar of Michigan and the general public with creative leadership in the dispute resolution field. The Section fosters diversity in the profession, develops and offers educational programs, promotes access to dispute resolution alternatives, monitors legislative and judicial activity, and provides policy guidance, information and technical assistance on ethical issues, dispute resolution techniques and training design. The Section produced publications which promote wider use and excellence in the provision of alternative problem solving techniques and dispute resolution services

**Council Members
by Classes and Terms
As of May 1, 2015**

Chair - Martin C. Weisman (P22139)

Chair-Elect - Joe Basta (P24645)

Secretary - Lisa Taylor (P42403)

Past Chair - Toni Raheem (P36474)

Treasurer - Anne Buckleitner (P59832)

2015

Name	Term	
Earlene Baggett-Hayes	2012-2015	Last Term
Anne L. Buckleitner	2012-2015	First Term
Lee Hornberger (James A. Christopherson)	2012-2015	Partial Term
Hon. William J. Caprathe (Cara F. Debbaudt)	2012-2015	Partial Term
Bernard Dempsey (Donald J. Gasiorek)	2012-2015	First Term
David M. Lick	2012-2015	First Term
Celeste S. McDermott	2012-2015	First Term

2016

Name	Term	
Peter B. Kupelian	2013-2016	First Term
*Howard Spence (Ralph L. Maccarone, III)	2013-2016	First Term
Brian Pappas	2013-2016	Last Term
Marc M. Stanley	2013-2016	First Term
Shel Stark	2013-2016	Last Term
John L. Tatum	2013-2016	First Term
Lisa Taylor	2013-2016	First Term

2017

Name	Term	
William D. Gilbride, Jr. (Joe Basta, Chair-Elect 2015-2016)*	2014-2017	Partial Term*
Erin Hopper	2014-2017	First Term
Alan M. Kanter	2014-2017	First Term
Sam McCargo	2012-2017	First Term
Hon. Milton Mack, Jr.	2014-2017	First Term
Hon. Milton Mack, Jr.	2014-2017	First Term
Abraham Singer (Melissa Matash)	2014-2017	Partial Term*
Hon. Jeanne Stempien, Retired	2014-2017	First Term

* Filled vacancy and will be eligible to be elected to two full terms at the conclusion of this term.

Financial Report

The following is the financial report of the Section through April 30, 2015. Our ending balance of \$55,664.76 is the largest it has been in several years.

State Bar of Michigan
Alternative Dispute Resolution
For the Seven Months Ending April 30, 2015

	Current Activity April 2015	Year To Date April 2015	Year to Date April 2014
Revenue:			
1-7-99-150-1006 Sponsorships		3,950.00	
1-7-99-150-1050 Alternate Dispute Res Dues	120.00	26,960.00	26,900.00
1-7-99-150-1055 Ad Dir Res Studen/WATH Dues	5.00	760.00	660.00
1-7-99-150-1125 Seminar Income	30.00	13,140.00	260.00
1-7-99-150-1150 Annual Meeting		9,370.00	50.00
1-7-99-150-1310 Membership Certificates		\$ 00	32.00
Total Revenue	<u>205.00</u>	<u>\$4,180.00</u>	<u>27,892.00</u>
Expenses:			
1-9-99-150-1245 List Serv	45.00	315.00	315.00
1-9-99-150-1272 Spring Training Summit	1,275.97	7,624.95	1,400.00
1-9-99-150-1276 Meetings	42.67	466.06	769.76
1-9-99-150-1283 Seminars	60.00	547.21	630.75
1-9-99-150-1297 Annual Meeting Expenses		9,818.91	462.63
1-9-99-150-1493 Travel		94.50	
1-9-99-150-1528 Telephone	71.17	478.47	385.13
1-9-99-150-1833 Newsletter	335.00	910.00	892.00
1-9-99-150-1868 Postage	2.76	14.04	97.33
1-9-99-150-1987 Miscellaneous		79.48	106.98
Total Expenses	<u>2,032.57</u>	<u>20,268.62</u>	<u>3,052.18</u>
Net Income	(3,627.57)	33,819.38	22,742.82

Beginning Fund Balance:		
1-5-00-150-0001 Fund Bal-Alternate Dispute Res	<u>21,845.38</u>	<u>1,919.41</u>
Total Beginning Fund Balance	<u>21,845.38</u>	<u>1,919.41</u>
Ending Fund Balance	55,664.76	28,702.23

Sections and Committees

ADR Section Action Teams and Task Force

Effective Practices and Procedures ("EPP")

Purpose: To improve ADR practices and procedures and review pending or proposed legislation for its impact on ADR. Sample projects in recent past include: spearheading the Section's efforts to pass the Revised Uniform Arbitration Act; work towards establishment of a basic training program for arbitrators; supporting and working with the Family Law Section of the State Bar for passage of the Collaborative Law Statute and working with the Section's Task Force exploring automatic or mandatory ADR procedures.

2014-2015 Chair:

Mark Stanley

mstanley@uwjackson.org

Government Task Force

Purpose: To influence legislation and urge state agencies, local units of government, and private and non-profit partnerships to use ADR methods in all dispute resolution practices. In 2014-2015 the Task Force published an Ann Arbor transit authority OP-ED in the Bridge, which was picked up and distributed throughout Michigan by mlive.com. The Task Force also met with Eugene Driker to raise awareness about the Government Task Force and explored avenues for collaboration. A subcommittee was provided an initial proposal for approaching the Michigan Municipal League and for next year, it is hoped that there would be face-to-face meetings to refine the MML proposal with the goal of presenting at their annual meeting in September. We are also examining the best ways of bringing diverse groups together to create meaningful momentum towards greater use of mediation in government and to re-approach many of the past contacts to see if they can move forward with any of the initial proposals made over the course of years.

2014-2015 Chair:

Brian A. Pappas, Esq.

pappasb@law.msu.edu

Judicial Access Team (JAT)

Purpose: Develop and promote programs and activities to promote the increased use of ADR procedures in the state's court system. The team has developed a PowerPoint program for use in presentations showing the benefits of ADR techniques.

2014-2015 Chair:

Hon. William Caprathe

bcaprathe@netscape.net

Outreach and Membership Action Teams

Purpose: Outreach and Membership have been combined into a single action team which is focused on two different goals by reaching out to mediators to build our Section's membership and to share resources and reaching out to potential parties for mediations to educate them about the process. For 2015, the Action Team is in the process of developing a new mission statement that is informative as well as attention grabbing. The Action Team has begun to develop a brochure that can be distributed to lawyers and non-lawyers giving them information about the Section and encourage membership and participation. It is our intention to continue to approach non-Section members to attend ADR conferences and to inform them of the benefits of membership. There is a concerted effort to work with other task forces to develop and improve a mediation website that makes the Section's Council information as well as general mediation information and resources readily available to the general public.

2014-2015 Chair:

Erin EHopper
ehopper@whiteschneider.com

Nominating

Purpose: Recruit and propose attorneys for membership on the ADR Council as well as participation in the various Section Action Teams and to nominate recipients for the various awards presented annually the Section.

2014-2015 Chair:

Antoinette R. Raheem
arlaw@sbcglobal.net

Publications

Purpose: Produce the Section's newsletter as well as other media communications for the Section and its members, such as communication via the Section's listserv and SBM Connect. The Publications Action Team this year published *The ADR Quarterly* in October, January, April and July and these quarterlies are available at <http://connect.michbar.org/adr/newsletter>. The team created an ADR Section members ADR related blog list in the SBM ADR website which is also available at <http://connect.michbar.org/adr/home/memberblogs>. The Publications Action Team completed submissions of articles for the ADR theme June 2015 Michigan Bar Journal, the articles in the theme edition are "First Offer", "Is Med/Arb the Process for You?", "Judicial Intervention in Arbitration Proceedings Pre-Award", "Tribal Court Peacemaking: A Model for the Michigan State Court System?" and "Uniform Collaborative Law Act Michigan Not Left Behind". The team continued coordination of transition to ADR SBM connect, continued the overview of ADR publication listserv and worked with the ADR Section Secretary, Lisa Taylor, and SBM on an archive directory and a work directory for the posting of action team reports.

2014-2015 Chair:

Lee Homberger
leehomberger@leehomberger.com

Section to Section

Purpose: Explore collaborative opportunities with other State Bar sections to further the knowledge and appreciation of the use of ADR techniques. This includes joint educational programs, joint lobbying efforts, exchange of newspaper articles, etc. The Section to Section Action Team has

begun collaboration efforts with other sections including labor, probate, real property and litigation and are planning to play a role in the 2016 annual meetings of other sections including litigation and real property.

2014-2015 Chair:

Peter B. Kupelian

pkupelian@clarkhittl.com

ADR Task Force on Automatic or Mandatory Mediation

Purpose: This task force was designed to explore whether the State of Michigan should have an automatic or mandatory mediation or other ADR process. This task force consists of some of the most experienced ADR professions in the state and is pursuing a dual path of a possible court rule amendment or legislative activity to provide for automatic or mandatory mediation. The task force completed a 50 state review of court rules and legislation containing mandatory provisions and is in the process of developing materials on why have mandatory provisions.

2014-2015 Chair:

William Weber

williamlouisweber@msn.com

Skills Action Team

Purpose: To develop and promote programs and activities to improve the skills of ADR practitioners. In March of 2015, the Section put on its first March ADR Summit as a replacement for ICLE's Annual Advance Negotiation and Dispute Resolution Institute. The program was well received and attended and was also a financial success. In March of 2016, a second annual March ADR Summit will take place with the nationally renowned trainer, Nina Meierding, as the presenter. In October of 2015, the Section's annual meeting and training session will take place at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City, Michigan with sessions Friday afternoon and Saturday morning along with a short business meeting. Eight hours of ADR CLE is offered. Eight of the 15 speakers that will present during the course of the educational program practice in northern Michigan or have roots and family there. Eugene Driker will be the initial speaker and will talk about the use of mediation in Detroit bankruptcy. The Skills Action Team developed quarterly "Lunch and Learn" telephone seminars. In April, a telephone conference seminar was presented by Zenell Brown on Mediating Cases For The Never Married. A new telephone seminar is scheduled for August by the Hon. David Lawson of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan on the newly adopted ADR rules for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and related topics. In February, a telephone conference took place in which Edward Pappas, Dick Hooker, Tony Raheem and Shel Stark presented top techniques that could be used in mediations. In August of 2014, another telephone seminar was presented by Laura Athens on Bullying in The Schools. If that alone was not enough, the Skills Action Team launched a luncheon forum where ADR providers can get together and discuss any topic that may be of interest and import to them, networking and informally exchanging ideas with other members of the profession. The next luncheon will be in Grand Rapids in June. The Skills Action Team has also taken on the responsibility for creating a one day basic arbitration training course to be offered on November 18, 2015. This course is being offered jointly with the American Arbitration Association and the trainers will include Sam McCargo, Mary Bedekian, Martin Weisman and Jan Holdinski. The Action Team is also continuing to solicit blogs and blog posts and currently there are seven bloggers listed on its website. The Skills Action Team is also encouraging its members to take full advantage of SBM Connect by posting

individual blog articles to encourage discussions. The Skills Action Team continues to discuss potential ADR programs with ICLE and ICLE has stated they would consult with the Section for ADR topic suggestions for its substantive law programs such as the probate and estate planning family law institute, business law institute, etc. in the future

2014-2015 Chair:

Shel Stark

shell@starkmediator.com

Awards

The ADR Section presents a Distinguished Service Award to an individual, program, or entity at the ADR Section's annual meeting and it is given in recognition of significant contributions to the field of dispute resolution. Current council members are not eligible to receive this award. The 2014 recipient of this award was Richard L. Hurford. The Nancy S. Klein award is presented to an individual, program, or entity at the ADR Section's annual meeting and is given in recognition of exemplary programs, initiatives, and leaders in the field of community dispute resolution. The 2014 recipient of this award was the Marquette-Alger Resolution Service. The George N. Bashara, Jr. award is an award that is awarded by the current Chair of the Section to honor those who have provided extra ordinary service to the ADR Section Council and to the Section during the course of the prior year. The recipient of the award for 2014 was Lee Hornberger.

Full Council Meetings

All full council meetings are held at the State Bar of Michigan Lansing from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Coffee, bagels and lunch are available. Council meetings are open to Section members and affiliates, the majority of the work of the Section is performed in action teams which meet by telephone conference periodically. Action teams report to the Executive Committee and the full council. The 2015 full council meeting occurred on February 13, May 8 and will take place on August 7 and November 13, 2015.

Executive Committee Telephone Conferences

The Executive Committee holds telephone conferences at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the second Friday of each month, except those months when there are full council meetings. Call-in information can be found in your meeting e-mail notice. The Executive Committee for 2014-2015 consists of Martin C. Weisman, Joe Basta, Toni Raheem, Lee Hornberger, Lisa Taylor, Anne Buckleitner and Celeste McDermott.

Conclusion

As you can see, your Section Council and Action Teams have been hard at work in support of ADR in Michigan. Our membership has grown over the course of a year by one-third. Our finances are now in the best shape that they have been in in several years. The important thing to take away from this year is that we need you to participate in the action of any of our teams. Please contact a team leader to learn how you can become involved. Although some of the leaders will change in October

of 2015, they can certainly put you in touch with the new team leader and help you get involved with the work of the team.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin C. Weisman
Section Chair 2014-2015
30100 Telegraph Road, Suite 428
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
248.258.2700
mweisman@wyrpc.com

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: American Indian Law Section

Mission Statement: The American Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Lynnmarie A. Johnson, P54108	4488 W Bristol Rd., Flint, MI 48507-3111	810-820-2791	laj@trustlynnmarie.com
Chair-Elect	Hon. Tanya S. Wanageshik, P72933	2605 N. West Bay Shore Drive Peshawbestown, MI 49682	231-534-7718	tanya.wanageshik@gtbindians.com
Secretary	Elizabeth J. Cook, P74014	1485 Mno-Bmadzewen Way, Fulton, MI 49052	269-704-8380	lcook@nhbpi.com
Treasurer	Richard Scott Ryder, P24673	7594 Stablebrook Circle, Kalamazoo, MI 49009	269-873-3160	rsryder049@gmail.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Stanette J. Amy, P55260	09/30/15		
Hon. Timothy P. Connors, P31762	09/30/15		
James A. Keedy, P27699	09/30/15		
Philip H. Tinker, P79249	09/30/17		
Douglass A. McIntyre, P76421	09/30/16		
Hon. Wenona T. Singel, P61008	09/30/16		
Tanya M. Gibbs, P78619	09/30/17		
John J. Lemire, P23814	09/30/17		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Section Meeting	January 26, 2015	Phone Conference
Annual Meeting & Tecumseh Award Presentation – Annual	October 8, 2015	Novi, MI

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Program: The Indian Child and MI Family Law: MIFPA & ICWA.		
Strategic Planning	TBD	TBD

General Budget Information: As of September 18, 2014, Annual Meeting: \$13,676.58.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Program – Collaboration Between Tribal, State, and Local Governments	October 7-9, 2015	The Suburban Collection Showplace Diamond Center, Novi, MI

Legislative issues: The American Indian Law Committee provides an update to the AILS at the annual meeting, if needed.

Recommendations for next Council: AILS received recommendations for more education opportunities and also recommendations for the section to address criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country.

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Other Information: The Section will be meeting in its strategic planning session to discuss the recommendations for educational activities on topics of importance to the section and the public.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Animal Law Section

Mission Statement: The Animal Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, the Section's area of the State Bar Connect, public service programs and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Jennifer Pierce	32750 S. River Road, Harrison Township, MI 48045	(586) 764-7059	jpierce333@mc.com
Chair-Elect	Laurie Hrydziusko	925 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48909	(517) 313-1244	hrydziuszkol@courts.mi.gov
Secretary	Mary Ann Kozlowski	176 E. Hickory Grove Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	(248) 647-9779	makozlow@aol.com
Treasurer	Anna Scott	P.O. Box 1828, East Lansing, MI 48826		anna.m.scott@gmail.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Beatrice M. Friedlander	2015	Margo E. Miller	2015
Alice Anna Phillips	2015	Richard Angelo	2016
Thomas M. Boven	2016	Sara R. Chiswell	2016
Kieran Patrick Marion	2016	Ann M. Griffin	2017
Rajesh Krishna Prasad	2016	Andrea Lynn Sebring	2016
Don Garlit (Immediate Past Chair)		Kate Brindle (student advisor)	
Alycia Prygoski (student advisor)		Chelsea Rider (student advisor)	
Christy Lawrence (student advisor)			

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Business / Quarterly Meeting	September 19, 2014	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Business / Quarterly Meeting	December 6, 2014	Lansing, Michigan

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Business/Quarterly Meeting	March 10, 2015	Teleconference
Business/Quarterly Meeting	June or July 2015 TBD	TBD

General Budget Information: The Section's financial status is healthy and strong. The Council receives updates at all meetings and is aware of all expenditures. As of April 30, 2015, the section fund balance was \$16,474.04.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
"Making Your Case: Investigation and Prosecution of Animal Cruelty Crimes".	October 9, 2014	Cooley Law School, Lansing, MI
Screening of The Ghosts in Our Machine (Co-Sponsor)	January 24, 2015	Cooley Law School, Lansing, Michigan
Screening of The Ghosts in Our Machine (Co-Sponsor)	April 2, 2015	Michigan State University College of Law
Humane Education Training	March 22, 2015	Michigan State University College of Law
Wanda Nash Award Ceremony	April 20, 2015	Michigan State University College of Law
Animal Law Section's 20 th Anniversary: the Past, Present and Future	October 9, 2015	Novi, Michigan
Animal Law Summit	July 24, 2015	Seattle Washington
Legislative Aide Luncheon	May 12, 2015	Lansing, Michigan

Legislative issues: Our legislative committee is very active and meets almost once a month. The committee identifies legislation important and relevant to animal law. They hold an annual legislative aide luncheon to develop relationships with current legislators and legislative aides. A list

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

of bills that the Section voted to support and/or oppose are attached hereto and can be found at www.michbar.org/publicpolicy Use the searchable database and search the animal law section.

Recommendations for next Council: Involve more section members in activities and planning. Develop relationships with other sections regarding important and relevant legislation, programs and conferences. Find ways to increase membership and increase participation from current members. Work on further development of the prosecutor committee. Continue to work with legislators in drafting bills, testifying at committee hearings in furtherance and in support of all issues related to animal law. Develop a firm timeline for award nominations and ceremonies.

Other Information: The Section has assisted various Michigan residents with legal issues involving animals via our Animal Legal Lifeline at 866-2121-6257. The Section also publishes quarterly (or more) newsletters.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248



Member Area | SBM Connect |

Public Policy Search Results By Section

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Animal Law

2015-2016

- HB4251 Repeal Prohibiting the Sale of Dyed or Artificially Colored Baby Chicks, Rabbits, Ducklings or Other Fowl
- HB4353 An Act to Regulate Animal Control Shelters, Allow Animal Shelters to Consider Prior Criminal History Before Adoption
- HB4355 An Act to Regulate Animal Control Shelters, ICHAT Search by Animal Control Shelters
- HB4478 Revised Judicature Act of 1961, Personal Protection Orders
- SB0028 The Michigan Penal Code, Penalties for Crimes Against Animals
- SB0029 The Code of Criminal Procedure, Sentencing Guidelines for Crimes of Animal Cruelty

2015-2016 **HB4251 Repeal Prohibiting th** 15

- SB0219 The Michigan Penal Code, Ownership of Animals
- SB0220 An Act to Prescribe a Method for Fingerprinting, Access by Animal Shelter to Certain Criminal History Record Information via ICHAT
- SB0239 Prohibit a Local Unit of Government From Enacting an Ordinance that Regulates a Dog Based Solely on Breed

2013-2014

- HB5658 Revised Judicature Act of 1961, Personal Protection Orders
- SB0990 Michigan Penal Code, Animal Shelters
- HB4300 The Michigan Penal Code, Nonhuman Primates as Pets
- HB4534 An Act to Regulate Pet Shops, Animal Control Shelters, and Animal Protection Shelters
- HB4535 Animal Abuse Offenders Registry
- HB4552 Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act, Designating Species as Game
- HB4852 Trap-Neuter-Return Programs

HB5062	Fingerprinting of Residents, Access by Animal Shelter to Certain Criminal History Record Information
SB0029	Hazardous Substances, Addition of Bittering Agent
SB0048	Large Carnivore Act
SB0285	The Michigan Penal Code, Penalties for Crimes Against Animals
SB0286	The Code of Criminal Procedure, Sentencing Guidelines for Crimes of Animal Cruelty
SB0288	Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act, Designate Species as Game
SB0354	Regulating Pet Shops, Animal Control Shelters, and Animal Protection Shelters
SR0386	The Michigan Penal Code, Ownership of Animals
SB0603	Fingerprinting Residents of the State, Access by Animal Shelter to Certain Criminal History Record Information
SB0604	An Act to Regulate Pet Shops, Animal Control Shelters, and Animal Protection Shelters

2011-2012

HB5789	Revised Judicature Act of 1961, Property on Which Animal Fighting is Conducted
HB4714	Regulation of Ownership, Possession, Sale, and Breeding of Pit Bulls
HD4804	Dog Law of 1919, Euthanizing of Unlicensed Dogs
SB0209	Wolf-Dog Cross Act
SB0210	Large Carnivore Act
SB0356	Revised Judicature Act of 1961, Forfeiture of Real Property Used in Animal Fighting
SB0357	Revised Judicature Act of 1961, Property Used for Animal Fighting
SB0358	The Michigan Penal Code, Animal Fighting
SR0423	Methods of Use for Euthanizing Animals
SB0424	Public Health Code, Euthanizing Animals
SB0574	An Act to Regulate Pet Shops, Animal Control Shelters, and Animal Protection Shelters
SB0826	Dog Law of 1919, Transport of Unlicensed Dogs

2009-2010

HB5762	Possession on Non-human Primates as Pets
HB6042	Euthanizing Animals
HB6043	Euthanizing Animals
HD4263	Euthanizing Animals
HB4570	Sex Offender Registration
HB4663	Regulation of Research Facilities
HB4803	Euthanizing Animals
HB5127	Livestock Animal Health and Welfare
HB5128	Animal Care Advisory Council
HB5655	Animal Fighting
HB5656	Animal Fighting

2007-2008

HB5598	Placement of Pets by the Court in a Divorce
HB4139	Sex Offender Registration: Sodomy of an Animal
HB4552	Penalties for Animal Cruelty
HB4741	PPO: Include Animals
HB4742	Penalties for abuse of animals in perpetration of domestic violence
HB5263	Prohibiting the Purchase/Sale of Random Source Animals
SB0350	Create Animal Welfare Fund

2005-2006

HB4254	Requires Teacher to Provide Alternative for Students with Moral Objection to Dissection
HB4465	Prohibits Internet Hunting
S.Res.33	Federal Resolution Urging Government of Canada to End Commercial Seal Hunt
SR0373	Prohibits Computer-Assisted Hunting From Remote Location

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ANTITRUST, FRANCHISING & TRADE REGULATION SECTION

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014-2015

Section Name: The Section's name remains the same.

Mission Statement: Provide events and a forum for the exchange of ideas and networking to members in Antitrust, Franchise, or Trade Regulation Law and Practice to enable them to practice more effectively.

SECTION COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Chairperson: Derek McLeod (P66229), 27777 Franklin Road, Suite 2500, Southfield, Michigan 48034, (248) 355-3000, dmcLeod@jaffelaw.com.

Vice Chairperson: Matthew Powell (P69186), 500 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2500, Detroit, Michigan 48226, (313) 961-0200, mpowell@kerr-russell.com.

Secretary: Howard Lederman (P36840), 838 West Long Lake Road, Suite 100, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302, (248) 639-4696, (248) 561-0559, hledermanlaw@gmail.com, hylederman@wowway.com.

Treasurer: Frank Hamidi (P57713), 5151 Corporate Drive, Troy, Michigan 48098, (248) 312-2340, frank.hamidi@flagstar.com.

TERM EXPIRING 2015:

1. Diana Gjonaj (P74637), 777 Woodward Avenue, Suite 300, Detroit, Michigan 48226, (313) 309-1760, dgjonaj@milberg.com.
2. Adam Wenner (P75309), 231 West Lafayette Boulevard, Room 718, Detroit, Michigan 48226, (313) 234-5199, adam.wenner@mied.uscourts.gov.
3. Sean Hamacher (P56604), 901 44th Street, SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508, (616) 247-3070, shamache@steelease.com.

TERM EXPIRING 2016

1. Brandon Nofar (P77380), 3525 Rochester Road, Troy, Michigan 48083, (248) 524-1700, bnofar@gmail.com.

TERM EXPIRING 2017

1. David Steinberg (P32247), 27777 Franklin Road, Suite 2500, Southfield, Michigan 48034, (248) 361-3000, david@steinbergattorney.com.

2. Rebecca Turner (P63909), 28400 Northwestern Highway, 2nd Floor, Southfield, Michigan 48034, (248) 208-0718, rturner@maddinhauger.com.

OTHER SECTION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Immediate Past Chairperson: Lance Young (P51254), 1 Town Square, Suite 1700, Southfield, Michigan, 48076, (248) 355-0300, lyoung@summerspc.com.

Michigan Department of Attorney General Member: Vacant.

SECTION COMMITTEES

Franchise Practitioners Group: This group focuses on Franchise Law and Practice. On October 24, 2014, the Franchise Practitioners Group held its (now) annual Franchise Law Update. Before the event, the group, with financial assistance from the Section, successfully planned and carried a major publicity campaign. The event's main subject was Wage & Hour issues –overtime, employee-versus franchisee classification, exempt employee versus nonexempt employee classification, minimum wage. The event also included updates on major federal and state franchising bills and laws, regulations, and court decisions. The two event speakers were Dean Heyl, Vice President of the International Franchising Association, and George Ward, an adjunct law professor at Wayne State University and Michigan State University. The event was a rousing success: the speakers, the panel interaction, and audience participation received high marks from attendees. Group members contributed three Franchise Law and Practice articles to the Section's December 2014 *Michigan Bar Journal* Theme Issue.

The group is also planning September and October 2015 events. The September 25, 2015 event – the annual Franchise Law Update—will focus on international franchising and other franchising subjects TBD. Kay Ainsley, a national franchise advisory firm principal, speaker, and writer, is tentatively slated to speak on international franchising issues. A second speaker, perhaps Dean Heyl, will speak on the other franchising topics. Discussion will follow.

The October 9, 2015 event, which coincides with the SBM Annual Meeting, will focus on franchisee due diligence issues. The speaker will be Richard Solomon, a nationally known franchise law and practice lawyer, speaker, and writer. Discussion will follow.

Section Membership: Based on the current section roster derived from SBM Connect (as of May 31, 2015), the Section has 297 members.

Section Bylaws: In 2011-2012, the Section overhauled its bylaws. On October 1, 2012, the new bylaws became effective. But they have not yet migrated to the Section's website.

Section Publications: Section members contributed five articles to the Section's December 2014 *Michigan Bar Journal* Theme Issue, including three Franchise Law and Practice articles and two Antitrust Law and Practice articles. The Section's next *Michigan Bar Journal* Theme Issue will be published in May 2017. The Section has implemented SBM Connect, but few members using it with any regularity.

Meetings, Activities, and Seminars: The Section Council met or conferred by telephone on June 27, 2014, August 8, 2014, September 19, 2014, October 26, 2014, October 31, 2014, January 30, 2015, March 13, 2015, and April 24, 2014. On December 5, 2014, the Section held its annual holiday season event. On November 10, 2014 and November 13, 2014, the Section held outreach events at Cooley Law School-Auburn Hills and Wayne State University Law School. The first event was successful, while the second was not. The Section's Secretary, Mr. Lederman, has conferred with the Business Law Section's Vice Chairperson, Mr. Toering, and secured an agreement on joint outreach efforts at law schools. Planning for these joint outreach events will begin in August 2015. On June 20, 2014, August 15, 2014, September 15, 2014, October 13, 2014, November 21, 2014, January 16, 2015, February 27, 2015, April 17, 2015, and May 29, 2015, the Franchise Practitioners Group met. On October 24, 2014, the group held its above Franchise Law Update event.

Section-Related Legislation and Policy: The Section Council reviewed Michigan House Bill 4198 proposing to bar noncompetition agreements or provisions in employment agreements. After substantial discussion, the Council decided not to take any position on the bill. The Section did not take any positions on any legislative issues and did not file any amicus briefs.

Awards: The Section did not present any awards.

Financial Report: See Attached Section Treasurer's Report (Exhibit 1).

Future Goals and Activities: The Franchise Practitioners Group will hold its above September 25, 2015 and October 9, 2015 events. The Section will plan and hold law school outreach events with the Business Law Section. The Section needs to attract more members, especially Section Council Members. The Section also needs to increase use of SBM Connect to increase communication among Section members.

Recommendations for Next Council: Carry out the above.

FUTURE SECTION COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

June 5, 2015 In Person Meeting

July 17, 2015 Telephone Conference

August 28, 2015 In Person Meeting

October 9, 2015 State Bar Annual Meeting In Person, Novi, Michigan

November 20, 2015 Telephone Conference

December 2015 (Holiday Season Party)

After December 2015: T13D

Trust, franchising, trade reg. section - annual report into 06/01/15

EXHIBIT 1

Exhibit 1

State Bar of Michigan Antitrust, Franchise & Trade Regulation Section Treasurer's Report
 (Seven Months Ending April 30, 2015)

	<u>Current Activity</u> April 2015	<u>Year To Date</u> April 2015	<u>Year to Date</u> April 2014
Revenue			
1-7-99-225-1050 Anti-Trust, Franchise Dues		6,900.00	6,460.00
1-7-99-225-1055 Anti-Trust/ran Stud/Affil Dues	5.00	25.00	10.00
Total Revenue	<u>5.00</u>	<u>6,925.00</u>	<u>6,470.00</u>
Expenses			
1-9-99-225-1203 Seminars			235.00
1-9-99-225-1528 Telephone	3.60	22.96	11.02
1-9-99-225-1987 Miscellaneous		175.00	350.00
1-9-99-225-2458 Speakers & Entertainment		1,335.69	321.35
Total Expenses	<u>3.60</u>	<u>1,534.65</u>	<u>923.37</u>
Net Income	1.40	5,390.35	5,546.63
Beginning Fund Balance			
1-5-00-225-0001 Fund Bal-Anti-Trust/franch Sec		17,340.24	12,010.37
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>17,340.24</u>	<u>12,010.37</u>
Ending Fund Balance		22,730.59	17,557.00

Submitted by: Frank A. Hamidi Secretary, Section Treasurer

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Appellate Practice

Report Prepared by: Nancy Vayda Dembinski, Chair

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Appellate Practice Section is to promote the skillful, efficient and effective practice of appellate law. The Section promotes the legal education of members of the Bar and the public concerning appellate law practice. The goal of the Section's activities is to advance the administration of justice in the appellate courts so that the Bench and Bar may better serve the public interest.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Nancy Vayda Dembinski	Farmington Hills	(248)476-6900	ndembinski@lmdlaw.com
Chair-Elect	Beth A. Wittmann	Detroit	(313)965-7405	beth.wittmann@kitch.com
Secretary	Gaetan Gerville-Reache	Grand Rapids	(616)752-2207	greache@wnj.com
Treasurer	Stephanie Simon Morita	Farmington Hills	(248)489-4100	smorita@jrsjlaw.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Anthony F. Caffrey, III	9/30/15	Judith A. Curtis	9/30/15
Barbara H. Goldman	9/30/15	Ronald S. Lederman	9/30/15
Bridget Brown Powers	9/30/15	Larry J. Saylor	9/30/15
Graham K. Crabtree	9/30/16	Lauren DuVal Donofrio	9/30/16
Richard C. Kraus	9/30/16	Gerald F. Posner	9/30/16
Joanne Geha Swanson	9/30/16	Geoffrey M. Brown	9/30/17
Conor B. Dugan	9/30/17	Mark J. Magyar	9/30/17
Marla R. McCowan	9/30/17	Ann M. Sherman	9/30/17
Elizabeth L. Sokol	9/30/17	Liisa R. Speaker	Ex Officio
Phillip J. DeRosier	Ex Officio	Jill M. Wheaton	Ex Officio
Hon. Michael J. Riordan	Comm. Liaison		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual	9/18/14	Grand Rapids
Monthly	10/17/14	Novi
Monthly	11/21/14	Detroit
Monthly	12/19/14	Conference Call
Monthly	1/16/15	Detroit

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Special	1/23/15	Conference Call
Monthly	2/20/15	Lansing
Special	3/2/15	Council ListServ
Monthly	3/20/15	Detroit
Monthly	4/17/15	Grand Rapids
Monthly	5/15/15	Petoskey
Special	5/21/15	Conference Call
Monthly	6/17/15	Brighton

General Budget Information: On 5/15/15, the Section Council adopted a five year rolling budget to assist with the Section's financial planning. The budget was based on the Treasurer's detailed analysis presented to Council of the Section's past and anticipated future revenues and expenditures. The Section's Year to Date Activity through 4/30/15 is:

Beg. Balance: \$18,459.87
Revenue: \$18,450.00
Expenses: \$ 9,994.23
End Balance: \$26,915.64.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Preserving and Presenting the Record on Appeal	9/18/14	Grand Rapids
The Virtual Law Office	10/17/14	Novi
Appellate Advocacy in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals (sponsor with Federal Bar Association, ED of Mich Chapter)	2/19/15 (cancelled due to weather; rescheduled date TBD)	Ann Arbor
50 th Anniversary of the Court of Appeals (sponsor)	4/30/15	Lansing
20 th Anniversary of the Appellate Practice Section	6/17/15	Brighton

The Council also enjoyed a presentation and discussion about the new e-filing provider in the Michigan Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, by members of the staff of those courts, at the February 2015 monthly meeting, which occurred at the Hall of Justice in Lansing, MI.

Legislative issues: None.

Court Rules/Policy Positions:

Comment on ADM 2013-36 – Proposed Amendments of Subchapter 7.300 of the Michigan Court Rules. Council voted unanimously to support the Court's efforts to clarify the 7.300 rules and conform to the organization of the 7.200 rules, but had certain suggestions for proposed changes to MCR 7.305(A)(2), MCR 7.305(F), MCR 7.307(B), MCR 7.312(D)(2), and MCR 7.312(G).

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Comment on ADM 2014-09 – Proposed Amendment of MCR 7.215. Council voted unanimously to oppose the proposed changes to MCR 7.215(C), regarding treatment of unpublished Court of Appeals opinions, for the reasons stated in Justice Markman’s partial dissent to ADM 2014-09, and because the overbreadth and vagueness of the language and concerns about the effect on appellate advocacy. Four volunteer Section members met with the Court of Appeals Rules Committee to discuss the proposed amendments. Council offered alternative suggested language for MCR 7.215(C) in its position letter to the Michigan Supreme Court.

The Section is currently working on:

Comment on ADM 2013-25 – Proposed Amendment of MCR 7.209 relating to stay of proceedings and stay bonds.

Committee Reports:

Court Liaison/Rules Comment – The committee analyzed and advised Council on the proposed amendments of (1) subchapter 7.300 of the Michigan Court Rules (ADM 2013-36), and (2) MCR 7.215 (ADM 2014-09). Several members of the committee also met with judges from the Court of Appeals Rules Committee to discuss the proposed amendments of MCR 7.215, and the committee drafted suggested alternative language addressing the use of unpublished opinions. Finally, the committee prepared draft comment letters on both sets of proposed amendments.

Michigan Court Rules Practice – The committee submitted proposed court rule suggestions on MCR 2.315, and monitored other proposals still pending, such as delayed application rule.

Publications – The committee worked to publish three issues of the Section Newsletter, including a fourth spring/summer edition to be distributed prior to the annual meeting in October 2015. The committee worked with the State Bar of Michigan to analyze how it may best serve our Section members with regard to print and/or electronic publications, while also keeping the expenses of these options in mind. Newsletters are available on the Section’s webpage.

Technology – The committee examined the possibility of converting intra-section communications for both the Section and Council listservs to the SBM Connect discussion board. The committee also added comment to the discussion on the new e-filing provider in the Court of Appeals and Michigan Supreme Court, and administrators for those Courts were present to discuss the same at the Section Council’s February 2015 meeting in Lansing. The committee is also investigating into different providers for the Section’s conference call-in number, seeking improvement of meeting call-in communication reliability.

Federal Practice – The committee analyzed and advised Council on the proposed amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, including the proposed amendments to brief word counts.

Legislative Action – The committee continued to follow legislation related to or affecting appellate practice and advised Council on same.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Good Deeds – The committee coordinated volunteers to distribute food for the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church shelter week, which the church unfortunately had to cancel for unrelated reasons. The committee also worked to recruit donations for purchasing healthy snacks and beverages for 8th graders at the Academy of the Americas in Detroit, who were traveling to Washington D.C. The committee will also be seeking volunteers to host a dinner for the Ronald McDonald House in Detroit in June 2015. This has become an annual tradition for the Good Deeds Committee.

Economics of Appellate Practice - The committee presented and hosted a seminar at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi in October 2014, entitled “The Virtual Law Office.” The seminar had a very engaged audience and knowledgeable panelists. The Clerk of the Michigan Court of Appeals also presented on the topic of the change in e-filing providers in that Court, as well as the arrival of e-filing in the Michigan Supreme Court.

Bench Bar Conference Liaison- This committee continued to meet as it worked with planning the upcoming Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference, scheduled for April 20-22, 2016 at the St. John’s Inn and Conference Center in Plymouth, MI.

Ad Hoc Committee on Probate Appeals – The committee continued to work with and/or monitor draft legislation pertaining to probate appeals, as well as issues involving adoption appeals on the Court of Appeals website.

Recommendations for next Council: The adoption of the rotating Section Council meeting locations has benefitted members who would otherwise have to travel greater distances to attend a Council meeting, particularly members in Lansing and Grand Rapids, and this year, in Northern Michigan/Petoskey. The rotating locations also allow the opportunity for members of the bench and/or court staff to attend a meeting that is more local for them. The Council enjoyed an excellent relationship this year with members of the appellate courts bench and staff, which hopefully benefitted all involved.

The adoption of the five-year rolling budget this year is expected to assist with financial planning for future Appellate Practice Section officers, council, and members.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Arts, Communications, Entertainment and Sports

Mission Statement: The Arts, Communications, Entertainment & Sports Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars and public service programs.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Joseph Voss (P69010)	200 Ottawa AVE NW Suite 500 Grand Rapids, MI 49503	616-608-1146	jvoss@clarkhill.com
Chair-Elect	Anna Katherine Heinl (P75583)	1000 Town Ctr Fl 22 Southfield, MI 48075-1183	(248) 358-4400	ahcinl@brookskushman.com
Secretary	Frederick J. Frank (P32115)	15907 Pleasant Ave Allen Park, MI 48101-1192	(313) 303-1937	frederick.j.frank@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jonathan Howard Schwartz (P70819)	2000 Town Ctr Ste 1500 Southfield, MI 48075-1148	(248) 353-7620	jschwartz@seyburn.com

Member	Term
Joseph Albert Bellanca	Ends 9/30/15
Linda M. Bruton	Ends 9/30/15
Duane M. Lewis	Ends 9/30/15
Ashley Lauren Justice	Ends 9/30/16
Jeffrey G. Richardson	Ends 9/30/16
Vacant	Ends 9/30/16
Jerome Crawford	Ends 9/30/17
Vacant	Ends 9/30/17
Vacant	Ends 9/30/17

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	October 9, 2014	Conference Call

General Budget Information: As of April 30, 2015, the ACES fund balance was \$12,221.84. A formal budget was not adopted for the year.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
“Meet the MI Film Office” Reception	April 22, 2015	Studio Center (Farmington Hills)
“Meet the MI Film Office” Reception	April 29, 2015	Compass College (Grand Rapids)

Legislative issues: None, although the states Film and Digital Media Incentive program was closely watched by the members.

Recommendations for next Council: If it can be mustered, the effort to recruit new members and engage with the current council and membership can make the Section a more meaningful and beneficial organization than it has been this year.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

BAR YEAR: 2014-2015

SECTION NAME: Business Law Section

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Business Law Section is to foster the highest quality of professionalism and practice in business law and to enhance the legislative and regulatory environment for conducting business in Michigan. To fulfill this mission, the Section shall: (1) expand the resources of business lawyers by providing educational, networking and mentoring opportunities; (2) review and promote improvements to Michigan’s business legislation and regulations; and (3) provide a forum to facilitate service and commitment and to promote ethical conduct and collegiality within the practice.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	James L. Carey P67908	Carey Law Offices PC 23781 Point O Woods Ct South Lyon, MI 48178-9069	(248) 605-1103	jcarey@careylaw.us
Vice Chair	Douglas L. Toering P34329	Toering Law Firm PLLC 888 W. Big Beaver Ste 750 Troy, MI 48084	(248) 269-2020	dtoering@toeringlaw.com
Treasurer	Judy B. Calton P38733	Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn, LLP 660 Woodward Ave, Ste 2290 Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 465-7344	jcalton@honigman.com
Secretary	Mark W. Peters P48917	Bodman PLC 201 W Big Beaver Rd Ste 500 Troy, MI 48084-4160	(248) 743-6043	mpeters@bodmanlaw.com

Council Member	Term Expires	Council Member	Term Expires
James L. Carey P67908	2015	Matthew P. Allen P57914	2017
Julia Ann Dale P63904	2015	Marla Schwaller Carew P58525	2017
D. Richard McDonald P37220	2015	Jennifer Erin Consiglio P68496	2017
Thomas R. Morris P39141	2015	Shane B. Hansen P35523	2017
Mark W. Peters P48917	2015	Gail H. Straith P70952	2017
Kevin T. Block P56136	2016	Douglas L. Toering P34329	2017
Judy B. Calton P38733	2016		
Mark E. Kellogg P38306	2016		
Christopher P. Yates P41017	2016		

SECTION COMMITTEES: Complete contact information for committee chairpersons is available on the Section’s website at: <http://www.michbar.org/business/leaders.cfm#council>

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Commercial Litigation Committee

The Commercial Litigation Committee assists litigators as well as business and corporate counsel in addressing issues that may lead to or arise in business-related litigation. The Committee sponsors seminars and other programs that address such issues and that are designed to enhance the practice of those involved in commercial litigation.

Corporate Laws Committee

The Corporate Laws Committee monitors and reviews matters relating to corporate law statutes and developments in the law of corporate governance. The committee also works with the Business Corporation Act Revision Subcommittee, which reviews the Michigan Business Corporation Act for the purpose of keeping it current with developments in corporate law and which assists from time to time in drafting and advocating proposed changes to the Act.

Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee

The Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee focuses on issues of insolvency, such as bankruptcy, state law alternatives to bankruptcy, secured lending (Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code), and state law exemptions.

Financial Institutions Committee

The Financial Institutions Committee focuses on legislative, regulatory and judicial developments and issues of interest to financial institutions (primarily banks) and their affiliates.

In-House Counsel Committee

The In-House Counsel Committee is committed to addressing the professional interests of in-house counsel by sponsoring continuing legal education programs, informing members about issues of particular interest to them, and offering social and professional networking opportunities.

Law Schools Committee

The Law Schools Committee is designed to promote an interest in business law among students at each of the law schools located in Michigan. The Committee represents a collaborative effort between the Section and the business law societies at the University of Michigan Law School, Michigan State University College of Law, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Wayne State University Law School and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The Committee supports programs initiated by the business law societies within the law schools and provides a forum for networking among law students and members of the Section.

LLC and Partnership Committee

The Committee remains active in conducting seminars regarding unincorporated enterprises, focusing principally on limited liability companies. The Committee has also assisted in informing members of the bar from other sections as to legislation affecting unincorporated enterprises.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Nonprofit Corporations Committee

The Nonprofit Corporations Committee’s principal responsibility is to review and update laws relating to the organization of nonprofit corporations in Michigan. The principal focus has been on the Nonprofit Corporation Act, but it also reviews other legislation, such as bills regulating the solicitation of contributions by charities. The committee also assists with sponsoring continuing legal education programs directed at nonprofit organization issues.

Regulation of Securities Committee

The Regulation of Securities Committee is concerned with federal and state laws and regulations relating to the offer, sale and trading of securities. The Committee also supplies a liaison to the Securities Law Advisory Committee of the Michigan Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau. Activities are designed to inform members of current developments and issues and provide input to appropriate administrative and legislative bodies.

Small Business Forum

The Small Business Forum specifically caters to business owners, attorneys, accountants, and other professionals who work with closely held businesses. The Forum hosts two to three highly productive, time efficient and fun educational events throughout the year. Every event includes a networking portion to mingle with other business professionals.

Uniform Commercial Code Committee

The Uniform Commercial Code Committee monitors developments and issues under all Articles of the UCC and related commercial statutes. In October of each year, the Committee presents a seminar on recent developments in commercial law. Additionally, the Committee prepares an annual survey of case law involving the UCC and commercial law.

SECTION MEMBERSHIP: The Section consists of about 3,470 members.

SECTION BYLAWS: The Section’s Bylaws were last revised on November 18, 2011. A copy of the Bylaws can be found on the Section’s website at:
<http://www.michbar.org/business/pdfs/bylaws.pdf>.

SECTION PUBLICATIONS: The *Michigan Business Law Journal* is published three times per year and is sent to members via U.S. mail and electronically. The Journal is posted on the Section’s website. The Section publishes an e-newsletter which is distributed monthly to members.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES AND SEMINARS:

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council	December 6, 2014	Birmingham, MI
Council	March 12, 2015	Lansing, MI

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Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council	June 4, 2015	Southfield, MI
Council and Annual	September 25, 2015	Grand Rapids, MI

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Crowdfunding and the Practitioner -- Practical Perspectives on Offerings, Regulation and Legislation	September 11, 2014	Novi
Drafting an LLC Operating Agreement (S Corp Tax Treatment)	September 30, 2014	Webcast
Business Boot Camp II – Basic Training for Every Business Lawyer	November 3-4, 2014 January 22-23, 2015	Grand Rapids Plymouth
A (Habeas) Chorus Line	November 8, 2014	Birmingham/Berkley
Governmental and Internal Investigations: What In-House and Outside Counsel Need to Know”	November 20, 2014	Troy
Crowdfunding	December 9, 2014	Webcast
Electronically Stored Information Discovery for Bankruptcy Practitioners	May 14, 2015	Southfield
Entrepreneur Law Institute	May 28-29, 2015	Detroit
Crain’s 2015 General & In-House Counsel Summit	June 10, 2015	Detroit
Municipal Bankruptcies/2015 Supreme Court Bankruptcy Opinions	July 15, 2015	Southfield
27 th Annual Business Law Institute	September 25, 2015	Grand Rapids
Advising Your Clients on Data Security	TBD	Webcast
Handling Contract Disputes	TBD	Webcast
Trends in Business Court Practice	TBD	Troy and Grand Rapids

Information concerning future events and seminars is available on the Section’s website at:
<http://www.michbar.org/business/calendar.cfm>

SECTION LEGISLATURE AND POLICY: The Corporate Laws Committee is in the process of developing the next round of amendments for the Michigan Business Corporation Act. The Committee has identified topics to be addressed in the amendments and the Committee’s reporter is preparing a draft of amendment language. The activity of the Committee is directly related to the Strategic Plan mission of promoting improved legislation and regulation for business and the goal of

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

reviewing Michigan laws affecting business formation, capital raising, corporate governance and related legal matters. The Committee attempts to keep Michigan corporate law current with national trends and competitive with the business law environments of other jurisdictions.

The Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee worked on drafting proposed official forms for use by Michigan courts in receivership cases. The Supreme Court Administrative Office held a public hearing on the forms on March 12, 2015.

The amendments to the Nonprofit Corporation Act and the related amendments to the statute on dissolution of charitable purpose corporations and the LLC Act, which were SB 623, SB 624 and SB 929 of the 2013-2014 legislative session, received final approval by the Michigan House and Senate on December 18, 2014. They were signed by the Governor on January 10 as 2014 Public Acts 557, 558 and 559 of 2014 and took effect on January 15, 2015. Copies of the bills (which show the changes) and the Public Acts (which do not) are available on the Michigan Legislature's website.

The Regulation of Securities Committee reviewed a draft of the proposed Michigan securities rules at the request of the Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau and provided a written report. The Committee's comments will be reviewed by the State and will commence the formal rulemaking process under the Michigan Act.

AWARDS: Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award

The Section established the Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award in 2006, to be presented annually. The award honors Michigan business lawyers who consistently exemplify the characteristics the Business Law Section seeks to foster and facilitate: the highest quality of professionalism, the highest quality of practice, an unwavering dedication to service, ethical conduct, and collegiality within the practice of law. The Section honored Diane Akers at its Annual Meeting on September 26, 2014, at the Sheraton Detroit Novi. The Award for 2015 will be presented at the Annual Meeting on September 25, 2015 in Grand Rapids.

FINANCIAL REPORT: General Budget Information: See the December 2014 Treasurer's Report at: <https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/b9ce80e4-e186-43c3-8353-05ff8118d3e0/UploadedImages/pdfs/treasurer%20reports/treasurer0315.pdf>

SOCIAL MEDIA: Members can follow the Section on LinkedIn.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES: See the Section's Strategic Plan revised in June of 2010 at http://www.michbar.org/business/pdfs/Strategic_Plan.pdf.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
CHILDREN'S LAW SECTION
ANNUAL REPORT
2014-2015**

INTRODUCTION

The Children's Law Section has made great strides this year in developing and creating ways for the juvenile law practitioner to better service clients and the community. One of the biggest achievements occurred in the area of technology. The Children's Law Section redesigned its website to provide quicker access to statewide information. Some of the key features of the new design include, but are not limited to, a library for housing county specific resources; a place for case law and legal updates; and the development of a seminar, training and event central hub for all things juvenile related. The Children's Law Section is also planning conferences and trainings that will take place in the upcoming year. Work has been done on the newly offered Mentor-Mentee program that was started last year to assist attorneys in all areas of juvenile legal representation. Other interesting and exciting accomplishments are highlighted in this report.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Children's Law Section is to serve and protect the interests of children, families, and legal professionals that are involved in juvenile justice, child welfare proceedings, adoption, and other related areas of legal practice affecting the rights of parents and children. The mission is two-fold in that 1) the Children's Law Section serves and protects the interests of children and families in legal proceedings by initiating and monitoring legislation; adopting positions on issues of public concern; writing and submitting amicus briefs to the Michigan Supreme Court; providing public service programs, training and outreach; and initiating, participating, and monitoring agency actions, policies and developments; and 2) The Children's Law Section functions to promote and protect the interests of attorneys and legal professionals that represent children and families by offering education, training, resources and tools to competently represent clients; offering mentoring and networking opportunities for legal professionals; adopting positions on legal issues of importance to attorneys that practice juvenile law; and initiating and monitoring court rule changes to effectuate proper implementation of legal mandates.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Officers:

Chair, Christine Piatkowski
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1054
Brighton, MI 48116
(810) 231-2628
piatkowski.law@chartermi.net

Chair-Elect, Tobin Miller
Office of Children's Ombudsman
124 W. Allegan St., Suite 100
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 241-4511
millert@gtlaw.com

Secretary, Megan Mertens
Mallory, Lapka, Scott & Selin, PLLC
321 W. Lake Lansing Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 482-0222
mmertens@mcslpc.com

Treasurer, Jack McKaig II
Attorney at Law
103 E. State Street
P.O. Box 330
Mancelona, MI 49659
mckaig@aol.com

Council Members:

Term Expires 9/30/2015
John Cici, P64636, Brighton
Karen Gulberg Cook, P26141, Beverly Hills
Alicia Fabiano, P62872, Grand Rapids
Deborah McNabb, P41440, Grand Rapids
Lynn Perry, P36406, Grand Rapids

Term Expires 9/30/2016
Stephanie Cardenas, P71306, Grand Rapids
Erin House, P65203, Lansing
Joseph Kozely, P33327, Farmington Hills
Robbie Powelson, P43326, Ishpeming
Stacey Truesdell, P69311, Elk Rapids

Term Expires 9/30/2017
Paula Aylward, P60757, Marshall
Noah Bradow, P74147, Lansing
Meredith Cohen, P74464, Detroit
Tracy Green, P56488, Detroit
Eric Scott, P63902, Sandusky

SECTION STANDING COMMITTEES

AMICUS COMMITTEE:

The Amicus Committee is responsible for responding to invitations from the Michigan Supreme Court for preparation of amicus curiae briefs related to issues concerning the mission of the Children's Law Section. The Amicus Committee is accountable for reviewing and monitoring pending Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Court of Appeals and local county cases for possible intervention in matters affecting the practice of juvenile law and public policy concerns. The Amicus Committee reviews requests from individuals and organizations for potential support and/or opposition in cases that have systemic impact and/or cases of global importance. The Amicus Committee researches, drafts and files the necessary legal documents on behalf of the Children's Law Section. This year, under the direction of Elizabeth Warner, the Amicus Committee reviewed several requests for Amicus briefs. The majority of reviewed cases were resolved without formal CLS briefing.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Committee conducts analysis of pending legislation and identifies, prioritizes, and organizes legislation that should be considered for action by the Children's Law Section. The members of the Legislative Committee are actively engaged in drafting bills, attending legislative meetings and hearings, and lobbying for positions taken by the Children's Law Section. The Children's Law Section employs the support of a lobbyist, William Kandler of Kandler, Cusmano & Reed, who handles the coordination of the Committee's legislative events. The committee provided funding for an event sponsored by Senator Emmons concerning human trafficking. This year, the legislative committee, led by Jack McKaig, continued work on revising proposed legislation concerning the development of Best Interest Factors. The Legislative Committee partnered with law students and law professor, Deborah Paruch, from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law regarding research for the factors. The Legislative Committee also advanced the position of CLS concerning faith based adoption bills, interstate compact, school truancy, consent calendar, raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction, and a host of other legislative topics presented throughout the year.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Subcommittee is charged with the task of developing and implementing educational programs, trainings, brochures and informational materials, and conferences for legal professionals and the public concerning juvenile topics. The Education Committee, led by Stephanie Cardenas, is planning two events which will take place in the upcoming year. The first event will be the Children's Law Section Annual Conference which will take place on October 22nd and October 23rd, 2015, and will be held at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. The second event is expected to focus on the topic of removal from the Child Abuse Central Registry. Additionally, the Education Committee has actively worked on revisions to the L-GAL protocol. The group anticipates updating the Parent Attorney Protocol in the same manner.

BY-LAW COMMITTEE

The By-Law Committee monitors the by-laws of the Children's Law Section and ascertains and drafts provisions for inclusion and/or exclusion that effect the functioning of the section. The By-Law Committee, led by Lynn Perry and Deborah McNabb, is currently revising the section's by-laws for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Publications Committee is responsible for producing the Michigan Child Welfare Journal. The Child Welfare Journal is a quarterly publication edited by Joseph Kozakiewicz from the Michigan State University Chance at Childhood Program. The Publications Committee, led by Karen Cook, drafts articles, recruits writers for journal entries, edits articles, reviews submissions, and ensures the dissemination and distribution of each edition. This year, there was a temporary budget issue precluding dissemination of the journal. The budget issue has since been resolved and the committee is putting together future editions. The Child Welfare Journal is supported with funding from the Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

AGENCY COMMITTEE

The Agency Committee is responsible for reviewing policies, procedures and practices of agencies and professionals that handle juvenile law matters. The Agency Committee identifies, analyzes, recommends, and implements actions on behalf of the Children's Law Section to protect the interests of children, families and legal professionals affected by systemic practices in the area of juvenile law. Tobin Miller is the Agency Committee leader. This year, the Agency Committee monitored Policy Bulletins; Medical Marijuana policies; Medicaid Provider issues; Performance Based Funding; and advocated for CLS members to participate in a survey on the prevention of sexual abuse of children.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee serves to recruit new members and to maintain existing members of the Children's Law Section. This year, the Membership Committee supported advertising of the committee during the Young Lawyer's Section event. Michigan Law Schools were contacted to arrange scheduling for future recruiting opportunities. Active efforts were made to partner and participate with other sections and groups in a variety of capacities. Tracey Green was appointed to review the newly created Mentor-Mentee Program for further development and improvement. Expansion of the Mentor-Mentee program is expected to occur in the upcoming year.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee plans and arranges social events for Children's Law Section members. The Social Committee, led by Erin House, held its second annual Holiday Party in December. The committee added a summer outing to its agenda this year. Members attended a baseball

game for the Lansing Lugnuts. The social committee worked on the purchase of promotional items. The items will be used by the Children's Law Section at upcoming events.

COURT RULES COMMITTEE

The Court Rules Committee monitors proposed court rule changes, administrative orders and existing court rules for the Children's Law Section. The Court Rules Committee prepares analysis, drafts proposed rules and changes, and brings information concerning court rule support, opposition, and changes to the attention of the Children's Law Section, State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly and others to facilitate the improvement and/or enhancement of juvenile legal proceedings. This year, the Court Rules Committee submitted comments and recommendations for several proposed court rule changes including, but not limited to, MCR 5.531a regarding the marking and filing of clinical certificates as confidential; MCR 7.215(C) concerning the publishing of unpublished opinions from the Court of Appeals; and MCR 3.903, 3.920, 3.961 and 3.965 addressing changes based on the recent Supreme Court ruling *In re Sanders*.

NEW INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

The New Initiatives Committee identifies areas of patterns, trends, and forward-thinking themes to create new ways to handle juvenile law issues. This committee is responsible for proposing ideas that may be addressed through policy, procedure and practice invention and reform. The New Initiatives Committee was led by Paula Aylward. The New Initiatives Committee developed a list for monitoring national and local awareness months. This new list will assist the Section with advance planning and support for child-related causes. The New Initiatives Committee identified mental health issues as a top priority for additional committee efforts.

LIAISON PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN COMMITTEES

REFEREES ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN
CRIMINAL LAW SECTION
FAMILY LAW SECTION
YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

SECTION MEMBERSHIP

The Children's Law Section is comprised of approximately 657 members per the State Bar of Michigan Section Count. In the past year, membership has increased by approximately 112 persons. Members are employed in a variety of roles and capacities. Judges, referees, attorneys for parents, attorneys for children, prosecutors, agency leaders and representatives are among the identified persons that participate in the Children's Law Section.

MEETINGS

The Children's Law Section Council meets on the third Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are typically held at the State Bar of Michigan building located at 306 Townsend,

Lansing, MI 48933-2083. Members and potential members are invited and encouraged to attend council meetings. Anyone wishing to attend a council meeting may locate information on the State Bar of Michigan Children's Law Section website in order to secure future meeting dates, locations, and directions for participation in upcoming council meetings.

SECTION AWARDS

Section awards are given to members at the Children's Law Section Annual Meeting held in October. Additional Awards have been distributed throughout the year at council meetings to recognize members making outstanding contributions in the area of juvenile law and on behalf of the Children's Law Section. Awards were given to Alicia Fabiano, Deborah McNabb, Stephanie Cardenas, Erin House, Meredith Cohen and Paula Aylward for their extraordinary efforts to support projects offered by the section.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In April 2014, the Children's Law Section held a fund balance of \$10,880.00. In April 2015, the Children's Law Section account reflects a fund balance of \$17,116.03. This past year, expenses primarily consisted of costs to the Section lobbyist, listserv, meetings, telephone services, promotional items and Section advertising.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

The Children's Law Section has built a new foundation for the future. By creating new committees, revising the mission statement, and renovating outdated ways of handling section business, the Children's Law Section is on its way to achieving its goals. There still remains much work to be done. The newly created website is a testament to the importance that technology plays in making information accessible to members and non-members. Moving forward, the website will become even more important as additional resources are added and updated. Webinars and creative ways to introduce presentations and trainings will need to be considered as the areas of child welfare and juvenile justice become more complex. Completion of the Mentor-Mentee program is essential to providing a balance to the use of technology by offering members a personal connection when needed. Along with this, the Section will need to address the changing needs of the juvenile law practitioner and other professionals. Attorney funding and access to resources for clients continue to be issues that require section attention. Systemic factors often mandate consistent monitoring and review as legislation, court rules, agency policies and other practices continue to be implemented, at times, without notice. These changes must be met by the Children's Law Section in an expedient, yet through manner. Existing Section bylaws, protocols and requirements will need to continue to undergo revision to cover requirements for instantaneous decision making and reply. Finally, membership growth, interaction with other sections and groups, and yearly budget priorities should be continued as the Section progresses.

SUMMARY

The Children's Law Section welcomes everyone to join. We hope that the Annual Report

encourages you to participate in the many activities that the section has to offer. Information concerning upcoming events and meetings can be found on the Children's Law Section website. The Children's Law Section welcomes your input and suggestions on any and all juvenile law matters and section issues. Thank you for your interest in the Children's Law Section.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Piatkowski
Chair, Children's Law Section
P.O. Box 1054
Brighton, MI 48116
piatkowski.law@chartermi.net

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Consumer Law Section

Mission Statement: The Consumer Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Dani Liblang	346 Park St., Ste 200, Birmingham, MI 48009	(248) 540-9270	danil@lemonlawlawyers.com
Chair-Elect	Lorray Brown	220 East Huron Street, Ste 600A, Ann Arbor, MI 48104	(734) 998-6100 x 113	lorrayb@mplp.org
Secretary	Adam Taub	17200 W. Ten Mile Rd, Ste 200, Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 746-3790	adamgtaub@clgplc.net
Treasurer	Lawrence J. Lacey	26080 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067-0914	(248) 584-2170	ljlacey@juno.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
William J. Ard	2015	Joon H. Sung	2015
Andrew L. Campbell	2016	Gary M. Victor	2016
Lisa M. Feistritz	2015	Karen M. Tjapkes	2015
Daniel O. Myers	2016	Rex C. Anderson	2017
Michael O. Nelson	2017	Stuart Sandweiss	2017
Lynn H. Shecter	2017		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Regular Council Meetings	Bi-Monthly on the 2 nd Thursday of the month	Michael Franck Building
Annual Meeting	Thursday afternoon in conjunction with the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting	At the same location as the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting

General Budget Information: The Consumer Law Section generated \$8,565.00 in revenue through April 15, 2015; expenses through April 15, 2015 were \$2,963.31; ending fund balance was \$20,788.80.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location

Legislative issues: (1) The council opposed SB551, 5he bill amending Section 9-625 of the UCC. SB 551 effectively eliminated any penalty for the creditor’s failure to comply with the UCC Article 9. The bill was passed and it became law April 10, 2014. (2) The council signed a letter (along with my other consumer organizations) composed by Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) opposing SB 1138 which would open the door to auto title lending in Michigan allowing lenders to charge more than 200% APR. This bill was discharged at the end of the legislative session.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendations for next Council: Plans have been initiated and are underway to complete a Judicial Bench Book on consumer law focused toward the bench and bar. The seminar program currently under consideration that is focused on attorneys would be a trial practice type of seminar using a consumer issue as the background case. The presentation would cover the “nuts and bolts” of a case, from initial intake interview through trial of a case. The council also has plans for a series of “Peoples Law School” webinars focused on the general public. It is contemplated that members of the council will present the topics on the fields of consumer law that is in their area of practice concentration and that the presentations will be video-taped so that the presentations can be repeated in various venues throughout the State.

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Criminal Law Section

Mission Statement: To study the criminal law and procedure of the State of Michigan, making recommendations to the State Bar of Michigan, the Executive, legislative and judicial branches of Michigan government and the general public of this State concerning alterations, innovations, and improvement therein so as to promote justice and the efficient administration of justice, and to protect the public and the rights of each individual; to promote means of reducing the volume of crime in the State of Michigan; and to promote in cooperation with other Sections or Committees of the State Bar of Michigan, the effective institutional and non-institutional correction and rehabilitation of individuals convicted of violating criminal laws of the State.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Charles H. Marr P 36289	302 West Main Northville	248-596-1599	tmattlaw@msn.com
Chair-Elect	Stephen J. Gobbo P56521	Lansing	517-241-2631	gobos@michigan.gov
Secretary	Hon. William J. Capra P 11596	Bay City	989-225-6407	bcapra@netscape.net
Treasurer	Stephanie E. Farkas P74227	Bloomfield Hills	248-636-2595	attorneyfarkas@gmail.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Stephanie Farkas P 74227	2015	Michael J. Brady P 30410	2017
Opolla Brown P 57253	2015	Sherrie P. Guess P 34004	2017
Jonathon Sacks P 67389	2015	LaNira R. Haith P 38189	2017
Graham L. Teall P 40645	2015	Michael J. Nichols P 59391	2017
William J. Winters III P 35975	2015	Charles D. Sherman P 33045	2017
Joshua A. Blanchard P 72601	2016	Eric Gregory Scott P 63902	appt
Ward F. McDonough, Jr. P 17381	2016	Kenneth M. Malkin P 36547	appt
Matthew P. Smith P 38147	2016	Heather J. Garretson P 69552	appt
Stephen M. Taratuta P 46935	2016	Bruce A. Timmons P 21465	appt
Kimberly Reed Thompson P 33955	2016	Hon. Paula J. Manderfield P 34319	appt
		Michael J. Marutiak P 30104	appt
		Hon. David A. Hoot P 28492	ex-offic
		Shauna Dunnings P 43714	appt
		Elaine Spiliopoulos P 66674	Editor

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	October 21, 2014	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	November 18, 2014	Copper, Lansing

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting	December 16, 2014	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	January 20, 2015	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	February 17, 2015	Copper, Lansing ***
Council Meeting	March 24, 2015	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	April 21, 2015	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	May 19, 2015	Copper, Lansing
Council Meeting	June 28, 2015	Farmington Hills, Michigan ***
Annual Meeting	October 9, 2015	Novi, Michigan

General Budget Information: Our budget is very healthy this year, due in part to the postponement of the Policy Conference.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	September 19, 2014	Grand Rapids, MI
Mid-Winter Ski Conference	February 14-16, 2014	Bellaire, MI
Annual Meeting	October 9, 2015	Novi, MI

Legislative issues: As a council, we reviewed countless bills and court rule amendments, taking positions, and advising the appropriate sponsor.

Recommendations for next Council: The Council should maintain efforts to appropriately influence proposed legislation based upon the collective experience of our members, and remain active in the legislative process.

Other Information: See Attached

LAW OFFICES OF
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MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 530037
LIVONIA, MI 48153-0037

June 4, 2015

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933

**Re: Criminal Law Section
Annual Report, 2015**

Dear Ms. Williams:

On behalf of the Criminal Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, I am honored to present the attached Annual Report of Section activities.

It has been my privilege and honor to have served as Chair of the Section. In addition to the information in the template, I submit the following items. Beginning in July of 2014, our Section worked in collaboration with several other Sections of the Bar to prepare comprehensive recommendations on Voluntary Section Advocacy for consideration by the Supreme Court. The report was submitted in response to the Bar Task Force Recommendations on Advocacy submitted around mid May. We are awaiting final word from the Supreme Court, but are hopeful that as voluntary Sections of the Bar, we will be able to continue our efforts to promote specific causes, legislation, and regulations.

With the exception of the summer months, the Council generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month at Copper restaurant in Lansing. An agenda is circulated prior to the meeting, and the meetings are open to all of our members. If the Section has a scheduled conference or seminar, the scheduled Council meeting is generally moved to the conference itself for efficiency, and to allow members the opportunity to more conveniently attend one of our monthly meetings, if they choose.

We provide a seminar at the Annual Meeting each year, immediately following our general business meeting and elections. This year will be no exception, and the committee is hard at work choosing an appropriate topic and securing the necessary speakers and presenters.

Over presidents weekend, we hold a mid winter ski conference at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, Michigan. We have enjoyed this venue for many years, and the last conference was extremely topical and informative. The conference provided an opportunity for our members to meet casually as well as in regular sessions. Speakers included an Assistant United States Attorney involved in the Kilpatrick case, as well as the defense counsel for a Detroit police

officer charged with the unfortunate death of a youngster during the execution of a search warrant.

Every odd numbered year, we convene a policy conference to address a topic of interest to our members, and one we feel will be timely for the legislature. This year, a number of factors prevented us from being able to properly conduct the seminar, and it has been postponed. In an effort to attract more members at a more reasonable cost, the committee researched alternate locations and chose to hold the conference in Traverse City, rather than on Mackinac Island. We anticipate rescheduling the conference shortly, and intend to address the issue of court funding, taking into consideration the anticipated impact of increased indigent defense costs.

Each conference or seminar requires the hard work and dedication of a committee. All committees are made up of volunteers, selected by the Chair. Because our members are committed to promoting the goals of our Section, we have had no shortage of volunteers.

Our policy conferences were the brainchild of one of our former Chairs, James Shonkwiler, who previously was the Editor of our Newsletter. Unfortunately, Mr. Shonkwiler passed away this year. The Section nominated him for the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award. We were joined in our nomination by the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, and are confident that he will be chosen as the recipient. Due to his many years of service to the Section, I have appointed a committee to recommend an appropriate memorial in Jim's memory. We have discussed the possibility of an annual award, renaming a conference in his memory, or perhaps renaming our newsletter.

Largely because we postponed the Policy Conference, our financial position is solid. As a result of our sound fiscal position, we will not need a dues adjustment.

As our summer break begins, our final meeting is held at the residence of a former Chair, to provide a less formal atmosphere. Even though no additional meetings are scheduled over the summer months, the Officers and Council continue to monitor activities across the State in the event a topic needs our immediate attention.

Please feel free to contact me in the event you need any further information.

Very truly yours,

Charles H. Marr
CHARLES H. MARR
Chair,
Criminal Law Section -

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ELDRS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Elder Law and Disability Rights Section

Mission Statement: The Elder Law and Disability Rights Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through monthly meetings, annual seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter.

Officers and Council Members:

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Chair	Patrick J. Bond	St. Clair Shores, Michigan	586-447- 3717	pbond@bondelderlaw.com
Chair-Elect	John B. Payne	Dearborn, Michigan	313-563- 4900	jpayne@law-business.com
Secretary	Michele P. Fuller	Shelby Township, Michigan	586-803- 8500	michele@michiganlawcenter.com
Treasurer	Sara Ann Schimke	Southfield, Michigan	248-381- 3000	sschimke@jaffelaw.com

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Term</u>
See Attached			

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

<u>Meeting Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
See Attached		

General Budget Information:

The fund balance for the section at the end of April 2014 was \$82,647.98. Receipts are comprised of approximately \$35,000 in dues. With most of the balance consisting of receipts relating to our two yearly conferences.

Our annual expenditures have remained relatively consistent over the past few years. Our section has previously authorized significant expenditures for litigation beneficial to seniors and those with disabilities. But expenditures from the Fall and Spring Conferences make up about sixty-percent of the yearly expenses. Dues remain consistent at \$35/year.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ELDRS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

<u>Event or Seminar Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
2014 Spring Conference	March 14, 2014	The Inn at St. Johns Plymouth, Michigan
2014 Fall Conference	October 1-3, 2014	Mission Point Mackinac Island, Michigan
2015 Spring Conference	March 6, 2015	The Inn at St. Johns Plymouth, Michigan
2015 Fall Conference	September 30 – Oct. 2, 2015	Boyne Mountain Resort Boyne Falls, Michigan

Legislative issues:

We have had a busy year addressing legislative issues. We have taken positions on a number of different pieces of legislation and other various policy concerns, including: (a) Special-Needs Trust Fairness Act; (b) Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act; (c) Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE Act); (d) property-tax uncapping legislation; (e) SBO-Trust policy matters; (f) pooled-trust concerns; (g) various litigation matters regarding medicaid policy (i.e., SBO-Trust concerns, Estate Recovery Hardship-Exemption concerns; and, (h) unauthorized practice of law concerns.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue a strong tradition of excellent interdisciplinary conferences to provide education and support for those who serve seniors and persons with disabilities.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**ELDER & DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION
OF THE
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

5/31/2015

MEETING SCHEDULE
(YEAR 2014-2015)

Meeting No.:	Date:	Time:	Venue:
1	November 1, 2014	10:00 AM	State Bar of Michigan 306 Townsend Street Lansing, Michigan 48933 800-968-1442
2	December 6, 2014	10:00 AM	Bassett & Associates PLLC 2045 Hogback Road Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108 734-930-9200
3	February 7, 2015	10:00 AM	BOND Estate Planning & Elder Law PC 400 Maple Park Avenue, Suite 402 St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48081 586-447-3717
4	March 7, 2015	10:00 AM	BOND Estate Planning & Elder Law PC 400 Maple Park Avenue, Suite 402 St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48081 586-447-3717
5	April 4, 2015	10:00 AM	BOND Estate Planning & Elder Law PC 400 Maple Park Avenue, Suite 402 St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48081 586-447-3717
6	May 2, 2015	10:00 AM	Caroline Dellenbusch PLC 2944 Fuller Avenue NE, Suite 100 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505 616-451-4242
7	June 6, 2015	10:00 AM	BOND Estate Planning & Elder Law PC 400 Maple Park Avenue, Suite 402 St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48081 586-447-3717
8	August 1, 2015	10:00 AM	Somewhere in the Upper Peninsula - Assimilate with the culture and dialect of this unique and native land. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yooper_dialect
9	September 12, 2015	10:00 AM	Caroline Dellenbusch PLC 2944 Fuller Avenue NE, Suite 100 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505 616-451-4242
10	October	7:30 AM	TO BE DETERMINED

ELDER LAW DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION

ANNUAL REPORT
(2014-2015)

	Council Members			Term Expires:	Term No.:
1	Jane	A.	Bassett	2015	1
2	Patrick	J.	Bond	Chair	n/a
3	Rosemary	H.	Buhl	Ex-Chair	n/a
4	Christine		Caswell	2015	1
5	Howard	H.	Collens	2015*	1
6	Michele	P.	Fuller	Secretary	n/a
7	Cynthia	Jill	Goodell	2016	1
8	Angela	M.	Hentkowski	2016	1
9	J.	David	Kerr	2016	1
10	Robert	D.	Mannor	2016	1
11	Maria	R.	Messina	2016	1
12	Michael	A.	Mestelle	2017	2
13	John	B.	Payne	Chair-Elect	n/a
14	Kelly	McNerney	Quardokus	2017	2
15	David	D.	Sprague	2017	1
16	Sara	Ann	Schimke	Treasurer	n/a
17	Christopher	William	Smith	2017	2
18	James	B.	Steward	2017	2
19	Beth	A.	Swagman	2017	2
20	Erma	S.	Yarbrough-Thomas	2015	1

* Took the place of resigning council member William David Lucius

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION

MISSION STATEMENT: The Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, our website, public service programs, and publication of the Michigan Environmental Law Journal. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan and to law students. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

OFFICERS 2014-2015

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	E-mail
Chair	S. Lee Johnson P48907	660 Woodward Ave., Ste. 2290 Detroit, MI 48226	(313)465-7432	sljohnson@honigman.com
Chair-Elect	William R. Schikora P53862	125 Walnut St Northville, MI 48167	(248) 974-4376	wrschikora@gmail.com
Secretary-Treasurer	Dennis J. Donohue P47229	111 Lyon St NW Ste 900 Grand Rapids, MI 49503	(616) 752-2192	ddonohue@wnj.com

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION COUNCIL 2014-2015

Member	Term	Member	Term
George F. Curran, III, P31328	2015	Scott J. Steiner, P42490	2016
James P. Enright, P46355	2015	Scott Michael Watson, P70185	2016
Tammy Lyn Helminski, P69431	2015	Rebecca J. Cassell, P64456	2017
Kurt A. Kissling, P61937	2015	Ross A. Hammersley, P70105	2017
Kelly Marie Martorano, P66968	2015	Steven C. Kohl, P28179	2017
Robert P. Reichel, P31878	2016	AnnMarie B. Sanford, P44166	2017
Nicholas Joseph Schroeck, P70888	2016	Brad H. Sysol, P58138	2017
Scott J. Sinkwitts, P56107	2016		

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT**

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	,October 28, 2014	Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	February 24, 2015	Grand Rapids, MI
Council Meeting	April 21, 2015	Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	June 12, 2015	Lansing, MI
Council Annual Meeting	October 8, 2015	Novi, MI

GENERAL BUDGET INFORMATION: As of April 30, 2015, the Section has an ending Fund Balance of **\$44,530.84**. Budget expenses seem to be in line for this point in the year.

EVENTS AND SEMINARS:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
2014 Joint Conference of the Air Quality Committee together with the East and West Michigan Chapters of the Air & Waste Management Association	October 28, 2014	Lansing, Michigan
Hazardous Substances and Brownfields Committee Open Conference Call	February 17, 2015	Conference Call
Environmental Litigation and Administrative Practice and the Energy, Sustainability, and Natural Resources Committees: "Natural Resources Permits and Administrative Challenges"	February 18, 2015	Webinar
Hazardous Substances and Brownfields Committee: "2015 Statutory Update"	February 25, 2015	Webinar
"Clearing The Air 2015: An Overview of Federal, State & Regional Regulation Air Quality Issues" Sixth Annual Joint Program with the Michigan Manufacturers' Association	April 21, 2015	Lansing, Michigan
"Energy & Sustainability Committee Open Conference Call	April 23, 2015	Conference Call
ELS Great Lakes and Inland Waters Committee: Lake Erie Algae Update: Background on the Problem and Michigan's Response	April 28, 2015	Webinar
ELS/FBA Joint Program on Allocation/ Apportionment and Agreements in Cleanups for Superfund and Similar Sites	May 27, 2015	Webinar
ELS Annual Summer Program: Panels on "The Grand River Restoration Project" and a "Part 301/303 Update," with a midday keynote address from Valerie Brader	June 12, 2015	Bath, Michigan
Fourth Wednesday Webinar: Topic To Be Announced	June 24, 2015	Webinar
Fourth Wednesday Webinar: Topic To Be Announced	July 22, 2015	Webinar
Fourth Wednesday Webinar: Topic To Be Announced	August 26, 2015	Webinar
Annual Meeting: Program, Elections and Council Meeting	October 8, 2015	Novi, Michigan

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN ANNUAL REPORT

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: Numerous individual members of the Section actively work on legislative issues, as advocates, spokespersons and experts. Those members regularly share their experiences with the Section and offer their opinions and outlooks. However, the Section itself is not presently active with respect to any pending legislative issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT COUNCIL: The next Council is encouraged to continue the focus on the growth and diversity of Section membership, starting with law school students and continuing through newer practitioners. Continued outreach through multiple media adds value for the existing members and encourages new members to be involved as recipients and providers of a wide spectrum of programming. Cooperative efforts with other sections of the State Bar and other affinity organizations, as well as among the Committees of this Section, can bring synergistic effects. Also, continuing the ongoing efforts to secure more stable committee leadership and to develop more committee/section member interaction and continuing to increase value for section members, with a focus on effective transitioning from committee membership to effective leadership, should remain in the forefront to assure continued growth for the Section and its membership.

OTHER INFORMATION: The Section is on a sound financial footing despite a net loss of membership during the economic downturn. Several multi-year initiatives continue to show progress, including significant headway toward completion of a second edition of its online Deskbook and the transition of the Deskbook to systems preferred by the State Bar of Michigan.

Reports must be submitted by May 31, 2015, to:

Heather Anderson
Sections & Committees Administrator
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: hkanderson@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-346-6414 Fax: 517-372-1139

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

SECTION NAME: Have there been any changes in the section name? Details provided may be interesting to the public and other readers.

There have been no changes to the section name.

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT: A section's mission statement is a critical description of the goals the section sets for the whole of its membership. Including the statement in an Annual Report serves as a yardstick by which to measure progress.

See above.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS: Including P#s; accurately identifies officers and the council.

See above.

SECTION COMMITTEES: Descriptions of the various committees provides a clearer picture of a section's work, especially if the name of the chair and description of committee activities are included. Including meeting schedules allows potential future volunteers for committee work to better understand the frequency with which the committee meets.

THE AIR COMMITTEE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION is composed of attorneys interested in federal, state, and local air pollution control laws and policy. Air laws and policies continue to evolve and raise significant issues for government, business, and citizen organizations in Michigan. The Air Committee meets several times a year to discuss emerging air-related topics, organize air-related programs, and conduct other types of outreach to Environmental Law Section members, including sponsoring site visits.

The Air Committee welcomes any Environmental Law Section member interested in air issues to participate in upcoming activities, which are typically publicized through the Environmental Law Section e-mail distribution list, calendar, and social media outlets.

THE DESKBOOK COMMITTEE is responsible for completion of a second edition of "Michigan Environmental Law Deskbook, 2nd Edition," an online publication which is in the process of revision and transition to systems preferred by the State Bar of Michigan.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE COMMITTEE is responsible for legal issues that relate to environmental disputes in administrative, state, and federal jurisdictional forums. The committee periodically arranges programs on these topics. The environmental litigation committee welcomes any Section member interested in the foregoing issues and maintains an e-mail list to notify members of meetings and events.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

THE GREAT LAKES AND INLAND WATERS COMMITTEE closely follows environmental developments regarding the Great Lakes and tracks developments in federal, state, and local regulation of discharges to and use of surface water and groundwater. The Committee periodically arranges programs in which experts in these areas discuss important developments. These programs also offer an opportunity for Section members to meet and benefit from learning about other attorneys' experiences in working on water-related matters. The Great Lakes and Inland Waters Committee welcomes any Environmental Law Section member interested in the foregoing issues and maintains an e-mail list to notify members of meetings and events.

THE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND BROWNFIELDS COMMITTEE is responsible for legal issues that relate to the treatment, storage, disposal, and remediation of hazardous substances (including hazardous wastes) under both federal and state law, including CERCLA, RCRA subtitle C, and Parts 111 and 201 of NREPA. It is also responsible for the topics of liability under those statutes for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs and natural resource damages, related contribution actions, and associated claims for insurance coverage. Finally, it is responsible for the topic of managing transactions that are complicated by the real or potential presence of hazardous substances by environmental investigations, baseline environmental assessments and related mechanisms, environmental insurance, and incentives for brownfield re-development.

The Hazardous Substances Committee welcomes any Environmental Law Section member interested in the foregoing issues and maintains an e-mail list to notify members of meetings and events.

MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL/PUBLICATIONS: The Journal Committee publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter that includes scholarly articles about environmental issues, as well as information about section activities and events, important decisions by Michigan and federal courts in environmental cases, and new Michigan environmental regulations and legislation. The committee increases the level of interest in environmental law by sponsoring an annual writing competition among law students at all Canadian and U.S law schools. Winners of the writing competition receive generous cash awards and have their articles published in the section's Michigan Environmental Law Journal.

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE mission is to: (1) assist the Section and each of the other committees in their respective functions by providing useful information about the membership of the section and its needs and interests; (2) increase Section membership; and (3) promote race/ethnic and gender diversity in the membership and leadership of the section. The Membership Committee encourages any interested Environmental Law Section members to join this committee or attend the next meeting.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

THE NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY and SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE tracks developments in federal state and local laws and regulations that relate to issues and topics concerning natural resources and energy, including wetlands, oil and gas, mining, forestry, and fisheries. The Committee periodically arranges programs on these topics.

THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE plans educational programs for the benefit of Section members. The Committee meets monthly by phone for about an hour to discuss the needs and interests of the members. The programs are designed to provide members with information on important new developments and opportunities for socializing and networking with other Section members. The length and content of programs vary widely, from informal lunch roundtables covering one topic to multiple day seminars that cover numerous topics. The committee selects dates, locations, and general themes for the programs, and one or two committee members will chair or co-chair the programs. The chair/co-chairs arrange for speakers and other details of the programs. Certain program committee members also function as liaisons to the subject matter committees to facilitate programming for those committees. This year the Committee has increased the Section's utilization of webinars as one of its programming methods.

In short, the Program Committee provides opportunities for members to be kept informed on important new developments in the environmental legal landscape. Planning those opportunities is an effective and fun way to participate in Section activities. The Program Committee welcomes any Environmental Law Section member interested in keeping Section members up to date on current events and maintains an e-mail list to notify members of meetings and events.

THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE supports the Section's use of Bar-provided resources such as the list serve and the website, and investigates, develops and supports the use of newer communications technologies as suggested by the Section. The Technology Committee also investigates and prepares presentations for the Section on new environmental technologies. The Technology Committee welcomes any Environmental Law Section member interested in the section's technology related issues, and maintains an e-mail list to notify members of meetings and events.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

SECTION MEMBERSHIP: Section membership fluctuates from year to year. Tracking the membership numbers at a set time of year, such as the Annual Report deadline, can provide a good picture of changes in the section membership.

We have initiated a new form of outreach to section members about lapsed membership and the benefits for members of participating in the section listserv, and are seeing positive results from that outreach.

651 Members as of May 28, 2015

SECTION BYLAWS: Awareness of bylaw changes can be critical for understanding a section's operation. Including the most recent revision date of the bylaws will allow readers familiar with the bylaws to ensure they have the most current version at hand. Additionally, if there are any forthcoming changes, this is a good opportunity to summarize plans briefly.

Visit "Bylaws" <https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/d8e19628-0b26-46ee-980a-1e1e37978900/UploadedImages/pdfs/bylaws.pdf> to obtain the most current version. There have been no recent revisions.

SECTION PUBLICATIONS: Some of the most frequent questions for sections are in regard to publications the section has produced. Providing a list including publication information for journals, newsletters, and other publications creates a valuable resource.

The Section has published the second edition of the Michigan Environmental Law Deskbook, consistent with our educational mission and this valuable resource is available electronically and is being updated for the benefit of all interested readers. Similarly, our respected Environmental Law Journal is in electronic format and with renewed energies and talents has been published regularly during the Bar year. Access to both publications is available on our website.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND SEMINARS: This is critical information for the Annual Report. Describing meetings, activities and seminars can be detailed, or brief. Suggestions for information to include are the date, location, and a minimum of one paragraph describing the event.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

Current and past event information is available on our website. Events are shown above on the template.

SECTION LEGISLATURE AND POLICY: The section's involvement in legislature, policy, or *amicus curiae* is a matter of great interest, many questions are asked regarding the sections involvement in such. A brief description of any such involvement is requested, as this falls under the heading of section activities.

See above.

AWARDS: Many sections present awards, honors, or scholarships. The Annual Report is another opportunity to laud the recipients, as well as detail any awards presented to the section itself. A description of the history of the award, or why the award is given, is useful.

The Environmental Law Section sponsors an annual environmental law essay contest open to students in U.S. and Canadian law schools. This year, the first place prize was \$2,000, second place was \$1,000 and third place was \$500.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Section finances vary from simple to complex. A brief statement of general budget information would be very appropriate to include in any Annual Report, or a reprinting of an annual treasurer's report if the section feel it is necessary.

See above.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES: Because the Annual Report is often used as a resource for future planning, and is viewed by members of the public who may be considering membership in the section, a brief description of future goals and activities is recommended. This may also serve as a recommendation to the next council.

See above.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Family Law Section

Mission Statement: The Family Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Rebecca E. Shiemke	Ann Arbor, MI	(734) 998-6100 ext 127	rshiemke@mplp.org
Chair-Elect	Carol F. Breitmeyer	Detroit, MI	(313) 962-4600	breitmeyer@bcfamlaw.com
Secretary: Recording	Robert Treat, Jr	Taylor, MI	(734) 675-8207	bob.treat@hantzgroup.com
Corresponding	Kent L. Weichmann	Detroit, MI	(734) 997-9465	weichmannk@att.net
Treasurer	Hon. Richard B. Halloran	Detroit, MI	(313) 224-7430	Richard.Halloran@3rdcc.org

Member	Term	Member	Term
Daniel B. Bates	2015	Peter M. Kulas	2016
Christopher J. Harrington	2015	Anthea E. Papista	2016
Kristen L. Robinson	2015	Gail M. Towne	2016
Robert Treat, Jr	2015	Carol F. Breitmeyer	2017
Randall L. Velzen	2015	Hon. Richard B. Halloran	2017
Tina M. Yost	2015	Mathew Kobliska	2017
Kent L. Weichmann	2016	Colleen M. Markou	2017
Elizabeth K. Brandsdorfer	2016	Vanessa M. Moss-Wilson	2017
J. Matthew Catchick, Jr	2016	Steven D. Reinheimer	2017
Sahera G. Housey	2016	Rebecca E. Shiemke	2017
		Amy M. Spilman	2017

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	September 18, 2014	Grand Rapids, MI
Council Meeting	October 4, 2014	Grand Rapids, MI
Council Meeting	November 1, 2014	Novi, MI
Council Meeting	December 4, 2014	East Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	January 24, 2015	East Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	March 7, 2015	Ann Arbor, MI
Council Meeting	April 11, 2015	Novi, MI

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting	May 2, 2015	Grand Rapids, MI
Council Meeting	June 6, 2015	Ann Arbor, MI
Council Meeting	September 12, 2015	Novi, MI

General Budget Information: The Family Law Section began the 2014-2015 Bar year in September 2014, with a budget surplus of approximately \$20,000. During the 2013-14 Bar year and continuing into the current year, Council made a concerted effort to decrease expenses in order to increase our fund balance. Beginning in January 2014, we converted the Family Law Journal from an expensive paper Journal to an electronic Journal. The effect was a savings of more than 50% in publication costs, while continuing the high quality of the Journal product. Our efforts have paid off as evidence by an increase in our fund balance to approximately \$143,000 in April 2015.

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting: Representing Unaccompanied Minors	September 18, 2014	Grand Rapids, MI
Family Law Institute (co-sponsor with ICLE)	November 13 & 14, 2014	Novi, MI
Mid-Winter Seminar	January 31-February 7, 2015	Mexico
Family Court Forum	June 5, 2015	Ann Arbor, MI
Mid-Summer Seminar	July 16-19, 2015	Boyne Mountain, MI

Legislative issues:

The Legislative Committee of Council includes: Kent Weichmann (chair), Barbara Kelly (co-chair), Randall Velzen, Robert Treat, Carol Breitmeyer, Sandra Glazier, Stephanie Benedict, Sahera Housey, Ross Stancati, James Chryssikos, Daniel Bates, Rebecca Shiemke, Christopher Harrington and Tina Yost. This committee meets every Thursday before each Council meeting.

Several bills initiated by the Section became law during the 2014 legislative session: The Uniform Collaborative Law Act and the Parenting Coordination Act. The Section also helped refine the newly-enacted Genetic Parentage Act and the Summary Paternity and Support Act. Since January 2015, the Legislative Committee has reviewed 38 newly-introduced bills that impact the practice of domestic relations. The Section has taken positions on nearly all of those bills. Of note, the Section took a position on the Deployed Parents bills and was invited to work with the sponsor to address concerns raised by the Section. The Section continued its long opposition to a bill that would mandate equal physical custody with few exceptions. The Section also took positions opposing a bill to exclude veteran's disability benefits from consideration in a divorce, supporting most of a package of bills addressing domestic violence and supporting a bill requiring marriage equality. The Section was successful this legislative term with a reintroduction of a bill to prevent a practice

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

referred to as “trolling” where attorneys search court databases for new divorce filings and sent direct solicitation for legal services to defendants, often before service, which can cause safety concerns for domestic violence survivors. The bill was re-introduced after time to consider the bill ran out in the legislature last term.

Court Rules & Ethics Committee:

Members include: Chris Harrington (co-chair), Mathew Kobliska (co-chair), Daniel Bates, Elizabeth Bransdorfer, Kent Weichmann, Lori Buitewig, Jennifer Johnsen, Amy Spilman, Kristen Robinson, Richard Halloran, Bob Treat and Andrew Littman.

The committee is working on a draft proposal to amend domestic relations court rules that address pleadings and captioning to replace our current captions of “plaintiff v defendant” with “in re the family of ...” The committee recommended – and the Section adopted – a position opposing a proposed amendment to MCR 7.215, which would significantly limit the ability to cite unpublished appellate decisions. The committee has also recommended that the same court rule be amended to permit sections and committees of the Bar request publication of an appellate decision. The Committee recommended support of amendments to MCR 3.215 that would result in improvements in some counties’ FOC hearing recordings. The Committee also plans to work with the Bar as it tackles the issue of unbundling legal services as part of the Bar’s Futures Committee.

Amicus Committee:

Members include: Anne Argiroff (co-chair), Gail Towne (co-chair), Elizabeth Bransdorfer, Judith Curtis, Trish Haas, Katherine Root, Kent Weichmann, Liisa Speaker and Saraphoena Koffren.

This committee met on a number of occasions, primarily to wrestle with the legal issues raised in the Supreme Court’s invitation to the Section to file an amicus brief in *Helton v Beaman*, Docket No. 148927. Ultimately, the Amicus Committee drafted an amicus brief for the Section on the four issues raised by the Court. The Court ultimately issued an order in lieu of an opinion, which was consistent with the Section’s position.

In honor of the Court of Appeals 50th anniversary, Sections were asked to identify the most significant decision affecting the section. The Amicus Committee solicited suggestions from the Section, discussed those submitted and provided a list to Council – which chose *Hanaway v Hanaway*, 208 Mich App 278 (1995), the pivotal case recognizing the partnership theory of marriage, and *Vodvarka v Grasmeyer*, 259 Mich App 499 (2003), the seminal case articulating the appropriated threshold standards applicable to modification of custody orders.

The Committee worked with Court Rules Committee reviewing proposed amendments to MCR 7.215 in ADM File NO. 2014-09 regarding the citation of unpublished Court of Appeals decisions, and in proposing broader opinion publication standards. Finally, the Amicus Committee continues to draft summaries of significant appellate family law decisions, which are published monthly in the [Family Law Journal](#).

Adoption Committee:

Members of the Adoption Committee include: Stephanie Benedict (chair), Herbert Brail, Luran Howard, Dion Roddy, Teri Rosenzweig, Ken Rathert, Joanne Lax, Keela Gracey, Donna Medina, Mark Pellecchia, and Jennifer Grahek. The Adoption Committee worked with the Legislature through the Committee on Families, Seniors and Children on amendments to the Adoption Code to allow out of court consents and releases, bringing Michigan into line with the vast majority of others states. The Committee assisted with drafting, reviewing and testifying on behalf of the legislation

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

and assisted with drafting new forms. The Committee hopes to work in the future on issues related to the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee:

Members of this committee include: Randall Velzen (co-chair), Gail Towne (co-chair), Zena Zumeta, Deb Berecz, Rebecca Shiemke, Veronique Liem, Toni Raheem, Bill Caprathe, Nina Abrams, Robin Omer, Colleen Markou, Mary Lovik, and Veronica Thronson. The committee meets the third Thursday of each month, excluding summer months.

The ADR Committee created a new domestic violence subcommittee and added new members with expertise in the area. The Committee is investigating the use, or non-use, of the SCAO domestic violence screening tool recommended for use in all cases referred to mediation. The committee plans to hold listening sessions with mediators about the tool, beginning with a session at the ADR Section's annual meeting in October and the ICLE Family Law Institute in November. The committee has been invited to participate in the SCAO committee reviewing the history and future of ADR in Michigan and hopes to be part of another committee setting protocols for the Parenting Coordination statute. On behalf of the Section, the committee was instrumental in the drafting and passage of the Uniform Collaborate Law Act.

Domestic Violence Committee:

Members include: Daniel Bates (chair), Hon. Richard Halloran, Steve Reinheimer, Kent Weichmann, Rebecca Shiemke, and Ashley Lowe. This committee began a collaboration with the State Bar of Michigan Domestic Violence Committee to assist with that committee's submission of articles related to domestic violence to the Council's Family Law Journal. The committee also reviewed and submitted comments to Council regarding a package of domestic violence related bills proposed by Senator Warren.

Family Law Journal:

The newly formed editorial board for the Family Law Journal includes: Anthea Papista (chair), Amy Spilman, James Chryssikos, Daniel Bates, Lisa Dampousse, Sahera Housey, Shelley Spivack, Colleen Markou, and Ryan O'Neil. The Board has achieved the following goals: 1) Developed protocols and procedures for the electronic Journal which includes article submission, coordinating advertisers, family law related announcements and notifications. 2) Developed protocols for article formatting, citations, and best practices for editing. 3) Published a "custody and support" special issue edited by Sahera Housey, Amy Spilman, and Shelley Spivack. 4) Increased the variety of articles and authors. 5) Developed a broader network of potential authors.

This has been an exciting and productive year for the Journal. The success is attributable to the collective efforts of the Editorial Board, which has worked tirelessly to improve the Journal's quality and the scope of authors and issues. The Board continues to strive to enhance quality and broaden the variety of authors and hopes to explore relationships law school professors as contributing authors and enhancing advertising opportunities.

Journal Advertising Committee:

Kristin Robinson works closely with the Family Law Journal Committee to ensure the Journal is well supported by appropriate and useful advertisements. Her work includes: soliciting advertisers for individual ads as well as increasing sponsor of the Great Lakes Honor Roll, creating advertisements, proof readings ads before publication, billing and collecting fees, and working to increase advertising revenue for the Journal.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Membership Committee:

Members include: Steven Reinheimer (co-chair), Elizabeth Sadowski (co-chair), Christopher Harrington (co-chair), Matthew Catchick, Vanessa Moss-Wilson and Hon. Richard Halloran. As a result of the hard work of this committee, membership in the Family Law Section now stands at 2,945. Significant accomplishments of the committee include: increased section membership by 3,000 from the previous year, drafted a “welcome letter” for all new Section members, investigated and proposed by-law amendments to permit free membership to law students and reduce free membership to new attorney members from two years to one year, promote membership through vendor tables at the Family Law Institute and the Young Lawyers Summit and providing a speaker at the Young Lawyers event.

QDRO Committee:

Members include: Robert Treat (chair), Joseph Cunningham, Nancy Keppelman and Rebecca Shiemke. The QDRO committee works closely with the QDRO Pro Bono Program of the State Bar. This program connects legal aid attorneys in need of a QDRO or EDRO for a low income divorce client, with volunteer attorneys who will draft a QDRO at no cost. The program is an important service to the legal aid community. The first three listed members of this committee actively accept pro bono QDRO cases from the State Bar and additionally have made themselves available to any legal aid attorney with pension-related questions.

Seminars:

Mid-Summer Seminar:

The co-chairs of the mid-summer seminar, Traci Rink and Elizabeth Bransdorfer, had an outstanding success with the 2014 seminar at Boyne Mountain. Topics included: the intersection of probate and divorce, mental health issues, marriage equality update, updates on the new Uniform Collaborative Law Act and the parenting coordination statute. The 2015 mid-summer seminar will return to Boyne Mountain July 16-19, 2015, and sessions will include: mediation of high conflict financial issues, property update,, trust and estate issues, using GALs and parenting coordinators, threshold issues for changing custodial arrangements and hopefully an update on the US Supreme Court decision in the marriage equality cases.

Mid-Winter Seminar:

Long-time solo chair of the mid-winter seminar, Judith O'Donnell, once again planned an exciting, scenic and educational seminar in Mexico from January 31-February 7, 2015. As in past seminars, outstanding speakers were on hand. The 2016 seminar planning is already underway and will be taking place at a beautiful resort in Puerto Rico. After countless years of service to Council, Judith has announced her plans to retire as the mid-winter chair and planner. She has turned the reins over to Kristen Robinson who is in the midst of learning all she can from Judith's years of experience.

Family Court Forum:

Committee members include: Barbara Kelly (chair), Margaret Nichols, Naomi Woloshin, Carlo Martina, Ellen Taylor, Edward Gold, Elizabeth Sadowski, Loren Gold, Bill Lynch, Jack Haynes, Pamela Ludolph, Richard Roane, Meri Stowe, Linda Hallmark, and Hon. Archie Brown. This committee works tirelessly to plan the annual Family Court Forum, an interdisciplinary, day-long conference focused on a specific legal issue with relevance to attorneys, mediators, mental health practitioners and financial planners. This year the Forum is scheduled for Jun 5, 2015 and the topic is cultural differences in family law cases and there are nearly 240 people signed up to attend. The Forum is very popular as evidenced by the increasing number of people who accept the free

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

invitation to attend. This year the committee used electronic invitations for the first time, which created a significant savings in time and expense.

Awards, Scholarships and Recognitions:

On November 13, 2014, at the 13th annual Family Law Institute, the Section presented the Blaine B. Johnson Jr. award posthumously to John Mills to honor his devotion to continuing legal education as well as his commitment to the Family Law Section. His wife, Kathy Mills, was on hand to accept the award on John's behalf.

Additionally, the Section recognized the efforts of Michigan's legal aid attorneys who represent those unable to afford legal services by providing 13 scholarships to legal services attorneys to attend the Family Law Institute at no cost. The Section has been committed to this effort for the past several years and hopes to continue it.

Recommendations for next Council:

For the remainder of the 2015-16 Bar year and into the 2016-17 year, Council hopes to update and modernize the webpage for the Section as a result of the Bar's recent launch of its new format for all Bar entities. A re-vitalized website will benefit current members and encourage new membership. Along with the website, Council plans to increase its presence on social media with increased use of its facebook page. Finally, Council has plans to launch a new award recognizing the commitment of judges who serve on the family court.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
HEALTH CARE LAW SECTION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014-2015**

Dear Section Members:

The Section is in the middle of another busy and successful year. This report summarizes Section activities over the past year.

Section Purposes:

Serve as an educational resource for members of the Section for the purpose of fostering professional development and understanding of health care laws and issues;

Provide education to members of the State Bar, members of the health care community and the general public with regard to health care laws and related issues;

Advocate, comment on or provide input with respect to state and federal legislation, regulations and public policy that affect the practice of health care law, consistent with the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan;

Establish and maintain working relationships with attorney organizations and organizations of health care professionals, providers, consumers and other members of the health care community in this State and other states for the purpose of fostering better communication and understanding of health care laws and related issues and advocating Section interests; and

Promote awareness of the purpose and work of the Section among State Bar members, the health care community and the general public and encourage their participation in Section activities.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	E-mail
Chair	Jennifer Benedict	Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP 660 Woodward Ave, Ste 2290 Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 465-7326	jbenedict@honigman.com
Chair-Elect	Mark Kopson	Plunkett Cooney, P.C. 38505 Woodward Ave., Ste 2000 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	(248) 901-4061	mkopson@plunkettcooney.com
Treasurer	Thomas McGraw	Spectrum Health Medical Group 444 Michigan St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503	(616) 486-6651	thomas.mcgraw@spectrumhealth.org
Secretary	Cara Jansma	Spectrum Health Hospital Group 100 Michigan Street NE MC-005 Grand Rapids, MI 49503	(616) 391-9566	cara.jansma@spectrumhealth.org

Council Members	Term Expires
Steven B. Bender	2015*
Timothy C. Gutwald	2015
Cara L. Jansma	2015
Thomas J. McGraw	2015*
Laura M. Napiewocki	2015*
Monica P. Navarro	2015*
Donna A. O'Connor	2015*
Jennifer L. Benedict	2016*
Mercedes V. Dordeski	2016
Matthew R. Keuten	2016
Mark S. Kopson	2016*
Deborah J. Williamson	2016*
Martha R. Boonstra	2017
Patrick J. Haddad	2017
John W. Hazewinkel	2017
Joshua J. Moore	2017
Patricia C. Schabath	2017

* Council member is term limited and not eligible for re-election.

Council Meetings: Council meetings are held monthly on the first Thursday of each month via teleconference.

General Budget Information: The Section received approximately \$35,000 in member dues during Fiscal Year 2015. The funds are used for the following purposes: (1) educational opportunities via teleconferences and an in-person Annual Meeting; (2) in support of the annual ICLE Health Law Institute; (3) scholarships for law students interested in a health law career; and (4) in support of the Section's commitment to diversity by providing support to various Michigan pipeline programs. See attached unaudited interim financial report for the month ended March 31, 2015.

Events and/or Seminars:

Date:	Event:
December 10, 2015	Webinar: Medicare Payment Principles: Quick Hits On What Every Health Attorney Should Know
January 21, 2015	Webinar: Physician and Patient Appeal Rights in the Face of Commercial and Medicaid Managed Care Adverse Actions
February 3, 2015	Webinar: Private Use: A Practical Guide for Real World Problems
March 23, 2015	Webinar: EHR Incentive Program: Tips, Traps and Emerging Issues for Meaningful Use
April 14, 2015	Webinar: The PHO Regulatory Environment
April 22, 2015	Webinar: Veterans Law Clinic

May 19, 2015	Webinar: Demystifying the 340B Drug Program
May 28, 2015	Webinar: Krusac vs. Covenant: What's Old is New Again
June 4, 2015	Webinar: The Heroin Epidemic: Why it Happened, What We're Doing About It and How Law & Government Policy Can Effect Change
June 22, 2015	Webinar: NPDB Guidebook
June 30, 2015	Webinar: HIPAA 101: Compliance Basics
September 24, 2015	HCLS Annual Meeting and Educational Session at Detroit Athletic Club

Section Committees: The Health Care Law Section features a Substantive Law Committee with four subcommittees consisting of the Medical Legal Subcommittee, Payors Subcommittee, Providers Subcommittee, and Technology Subcommittee. These Substantive Law Subcommittees are responsible for organizing various educational programs, which typically are given as teleconferences and benefit the Section's membership. In addition, the Health Care Law Section Council has a Publications Committee, a New Lawyers and Law Student Committee, a Legislative Committee, a Pro Bono Committee, an Annual Meeting Committee, a Nominating Committee, and a Fellows Committee. This year the Section formed a new Membership Committee to focus on developing an on-boarding process for new members and engaging existing members through social events and otherwise.

Publications Committee: The Committee is preparing a whitepaper entitled "Troubleshooting the ACA: War Stories and Lessons from the Trenches Following ACA Implementation." Publication is expected during summer 2015.

New Lawyers and Law Student Committee: The Committee offered "lunch and learns" regarding the practice of health law at all Michigan law schools. These programs were well attended. Each year, the Section provides scholarship awards for the best health law student at qualifying Michigan law school programs. These awards are presented during the Annual Meeting. A "meet and greet" for young lawyers is planned as part of the Annual Meeting.

Legislative Committee: The Committee monitored Michigan health care legislative and regulatory developments on an as needed basis, reporting on such matters to the Section Council. The Committee's activities included reporting on the Public Health Code Review Project, Senate Bill 68 of 2015 (regarding advanced practice registered nurses), and the Michigan Department of Community Health's project to develop and implement a standard release form for behavioral health information per Michigan Public Act 129 of 2014.

Fellows Committee: The Section established a Fellows Program in 2011 to honor former Health Care Law Section leaders who have made sustained, outstanding contributions to the Section and the practice of health care law in Michigan. Fellows are recognized each year at the Section's Annual Meeting. The 2014-2015 class of fellows will be selected this summer.

Recommendations for 2015-2016 Council:

- Continue to provide educational and networking opportunities to the Section's membership, via programs and written materials and in-person events.
- Continue to focus on engaging Section Members through the Membership Committee.
- Continue efforts to attract new lawyers and further enhance affiliations with Michigan law schools.
- Continue to support the Fellows Program

Closing Remarks:

It has been a pleasure to serve as Chair of the Section this year. The Health Care Law Section is a dynamic, active section of the State Bar of Michigan. Its size, programs, and success are due to the countless hours of hard work by section members. In particular, I'm proud of the establishment of the Membership Committee this year which will focus on engaging new and existing Section Members.

I thank my fellow Council members, officers, committee members and chairs, our dedicated Section Administrative Assistant, Susan Stokes, and the many volunteers who have contributed so much of their time and talent to the Section. I especially want to thank Tom McGraw, Steve Bender and Laura Napiewocki for their leadership and contributions to the Section. I know our Section will be in good hands with Mark Kopson as our next Chair.

Jennifer Benedict
Chair, Health Care Law Section
State Bar of Michigan
2014-2015

State Bar of Michigan Information Technology Law Section – Annual Report

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Information Technology Law Section

The Information Technology Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the section is to review, comment upon, and apprise members of the State Bar of Michigan and others of developments in the law relating to information technology, including:

- the protection of intellectual and other proprietary rights;
- sale, leasing, distribution, provision, and use of, hardware, software, services, and technology, including computer and data processing equipment, computer software and services, games and gaming, information processing, programming, and computer networks;
- electronic commerce
- electronic implementation of governmental and other non-commercial functions;
- the Internet and other networks; and
- associated contract and tort liabilities, and related civil and criminal legal consequences.

Bylaws: The Information Technology Law Section bylaws were last amended November 16, 2012, and are available at <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/council>

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Michael Gallo	2700 Renshaw Dr Troy, MI 48085	313-667-0031	michael@gallo.us.com
Chair-Elect	Susanna C. Brennan	Kelly Law Registry 3331 W Big Beaver Rd Suite 310 Troy, MI 48084	248-952-0539	brennsc@kellyregistry.com
Secretary	Christopher J. Mourad	269 Ridgemont Rd Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236	313-330-3455	cjmourad@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Donna K. Mallonee	PO Box 2265 Midland, MI 48641	989-793-5080	donnamallonee@yahoo.com

Council Members with a term that expires September 30, 2015

Steven D. Balagna – P33230

Christopher J. Mourad – P68011

Dalpreet Singh Saluja – P72292

Council Members with a term that expires September 30, 2016

Susanna C. Brennan – P67018

William Henry Hartwell – P73847

Donna K. Malonee – P68649

State Bar of Michigan Information Technology Law Section – Annual Report

Carla M. Perrotta – P67644
 Robert L. Rothman – P23651
 James McCauley Seitz – P23654
 Clara Lauren Seymour – P74421
 Nathan William Steed – P72355
 David R. Syrowik – P25331

Council Members with a term that expires September 30, 2017

Keith A. Cheresko – P32663
 Daniel John Henry – P68296
 Jeanne Marie Moloney – PP72253
 Isaac T. Slutsky – P72253

Meeting Schedule:

Minutes from all Information Technology Section meetings are available at
<http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/council>

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Privacy Law Committee	October 29, 2015	Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, P.C., Southfield
IT Law Council	November 13, 2015	Bejin Bieneman PLC, Detroit
IT Law Council and Section	February 12, 2015	Teleconference
Privacy Law Committee	February 20, 2015	Kemp Klein Law Firm, Troy
IT Law Council and Section	May 14, 2015	Kemp Klein Law Firm, Troy
IT Law Council and Section	August 13, 2015	Kelly Law Registry, Troy
IT Law Section Annual Meeting	September 10, 2015	The Inn at St. John’s, Plymouth
IT Law Council	September 10, 2015	The Inn at St. John’s, Plymouth

General Budget Information: The Information Technology Law Section continues to be in excellent financial shape. Expenses are expected to be within the amounts proposed in the 2014/2015 budget, providing the 2015/2016 Information Technology Law Council with a fund balance of approximately \$50,000.

Events and Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
First Annual Entrepreneurial Law Institute	May 28-29, 2015	Detroit
8 th Annual Information Technology Law Seminar	September 10, 2015	The Inn at St. John’s, Plymouth

Legislative issues: None

Recommendations for next Council:

As always, new members can invigorate the Section and bring new ideas and programs alive. The 2015-2016 IT Law Section Council may wish to sponsor one or more events at Michigan Law schools to increase visibility.

Although the annual IT Law Seminar is doing well, improvements are always possible. By identifying a ‘Topics and Speakers’ committee earlier in the Council year, the Section could get a jump start on

State Bar of Michigan Information Technology Law Section – Annual Report

identification of that year's speakers and topics, which would allow for earlier development of flyers and communications, which may lead to an increased number of attendees and sponsors.

Adding a speaker or presenter at Section and Council meetings held during the year, combined with advertising of the presentation topic, may increase attendance by Section members, and encourage more volunteers for Council members and Section leadership positions.

The Council may wish to provide, sponsor, or co-sponsor other educational opportunities, such as a mid-year function with the International Law Section.

All State Bar of Michigan Sections are offered the opportunity to contribute to the *Michigan Bar Journal* 'Section Briefs', by submitting a notice of up to 75 words by the fifth of each month. The notice should contain significant developments in the law, noteworthy events, section publications or achievements, or any other information of interest. The IT Law Section took advantage of this opportunity several times during 2014-2015, and suggests the effort continue.

Each year, the *State Bar of Michigan* sponsors an 'invitation only' *Bar Leadership Forum*, and extends an invitation to the IT Law Section Chair and Chair-Elect. This event provides an opportunity to meet with peer Section and Bar leaders, attend various presentations, and provide recommendations for Section and Council considerations. Past attendees have enthusiastically recommended that IT Law Section leaders attend this two day event during June, which is typically held at Mackinac Island's *Grand Hotel*.

Other Information:

- *Privacy Law Committee*
 - o The Information Technology Law Section supports a standing Privacy Law Committee, which is co-chaired by Bob Rothman, rrothman@privassoc.com and Keith Cheresko kcheresko@privassoc.com.
 - o The Privacy Committee is a forum for discussing this new and developing area of the law affecting a broad range of practices at the state, national and international levels. The committee also works to help educate members of the State Bar of Michigan about the privacy and security obligations of their own organizations and of their clients. The committee targets meeting quarterly, to discuss various privacy related matters.
 - o For more information, visit <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/newsletter/news>
- *Annual Entrepreneurial Law Institute*
 - o The First Annual Entrepreneurial Law Institute, held May 28-29, 2015, was coordinated by ICLE, (the *Institute of Continuing Legal Education*) and cosponsored by the, *Business Law Section Information Technology Law Section* and *Intellectual Property Law Section*. The IT Law Section may wish to continue sponsorship in the future. There should be no cost to the Section for sponsoring the event, and Section members are offered discount from the cost of attending. For more information, visit www.icle.org/eli.
- *Edward F. Langs Writing Award*
 - o Each year the IT Law Section seeks student essays for *Edward F. Langs Writing Awards*. A total of up to \$3,000 is divided between up to six award winning essays that contribute to the knowledge and understanding of information technology law. The winning essays are published in the Section's newsletter, the *Michigan IT Lawyer*. Essays must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document, postmarked by June 30 of the award year, and emailed to dsyrowik@brookskushman.com. For more information, visit <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/newsletter/news>
- *The Michigan IT Lawyer*

State Bar of Michigan Information Technology Law Section – Annual Report

- The Information Technology Section sponsors a newsletter titled ‘*The Michigan IT Lawyer*’, which is published in electronic format, between four to six times per year. Prior issues are available at <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw/newsletter/newsletters>
- Ex-Officio member David Syrowik, *Brooks Kushman P.C.*, submits the article ‘*Recent Developments in Information Technology Law*’ several times each year, as well as the annual article ‘*The State of Information Technology Law*’. These articles are a highlight of the publication, and ***the IT Law Section is indebted to Mr. Syrowik for his tireless effort in providing concise reviews of thousands of cases over the years. Thank you David!***
- *Information Technology Law Section Website*
 - During 2015, the State Bar of Michigan deployed a new web infrastructure that includes new landing pages for all Sections. To access the new web site for the Information Technology Section, visit <http://connect.michbar.org/itlaw>
- *Section Membership*
 - Section Members: 650 members
 - *LinkedIn* Group Members: 221 members. The Information Technology Law Section has a *LinkedIn* Group, titled ‘*IT Law Section of State Bar of Michigan*’, which is open to all State Bar of Michigan attorneys. The group provides a way for non-members to learn more about the Section, and allow everyone to participate in discussions, share information, present career opportunities, identify others with common interests, and receive prompt and timely notification of Section efforts. Visit <http://linkedin.com> and search for ‘*IT Law Section of State Bar of Michigan*’ to join!
- *Member Publication*
 - In 2015, Ex-Officio Member Mark Malvern’s ‘*Technology Transactions: A Practical Guide to Drafting and Negotiating Commercial Agreements*’ was published by the *Practicing Law Institute*, and is available at <http://amazon.com>. The 410 page spiral-bound edition provides the reader with the tools necessary to draft, review and negotiate technology transaction agreements with the confidence that he or she is properly addressing the most important issues. The guide is also available in a *Kindle* version.
- *Michigan Pro Bono Patent Project*
 - The State Bar of Michigan has a new program that matches patent attorneys willing to provide pro bono patent prosecution services with low-income inventors. For more information regarding the *Michigan Pro Bono Patent Project*: <http://connect.michbar.org/iplaw/patent>. Section members interested in participating can also contact Kim Paulson, IT Law Section Ex-Officio Member, who is involved with this effort.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

Mission Statement: Issues arising out of insurance contracts and indemnity agreements affect a broad range of practice areas. In addition, insurance is a regulated industry, and state and federal regulations present specialized questions. The membership of the Insurance and Indemnity Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan consists of those who have expertise in this area of practice, as well as those whose expertise lies in other practice areas that are affected by insurance and indemnity issues. The mission of the Section is to provide a forum for an exchange of information, views and expertise from all perspectives on both insurance coverage issues and indemnity issues, and to provide information and assistance to other persons or organizations on matters relating to insurance and indemnity.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Kathleen A. Lopilato (P40506)	6101 Anacapri Blvd., Lansing MI 48917	(517) 327-4850	Lopilato.kathleen@aoins.com
Chair-Elect	Adam B. Kutinsky (P57900)	1 Woodward Ave., Suite 2400, Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 965-7403	adam.kutinsky@kitch.com
Secretary	Larry W. Bennett (P26294)	30300 Northwestern Highway Suite 200, Farmington Hills, MI 48334	866-671-8115	lbennett@sslwpc.com
Treasurer	Augustine O. Igwe (P40053)	200 Kaufman Financial Center 30833 Northwestern Highway Farmington Hills, MI 48334-258	(248) 626-5000	AOIgwe@kaufmanlaw.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Hal Carroll	2013-2015	Kimberly Ruppel	2014-2016
Nicole Wilinski		Joshua Terbelo	2013-2015
Lauretta Pominville	2014-2016	Sarah Wohlford	2013-2015
Jim Thome	2013-2015	Jason Liss	2014-2016

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

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Legislative issues: none

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to follow and implement the 5 year strategic plan; continue to expand membership; sponsor and educational and networking event; and continue to foster committee activism.

Other Information:

We continue to publish our quarterly *Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law*, and in addition to mailing copies to all members, we have also mailed copies to state circuit court and appellate judges, federal trial court judges, the chairperson of every other State Bar section, and some non-lawyer groups. We are in our eighth year as a Section. Our membership has continued to grow steadily, and is approximately 865 members.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Intellectual Property Law Section (“Section” or “IPLS”)

Mission Statement: The purposes of this Section are to study the laws and procedures pertaining to federal and state patent, trademark and copyright laws and to promote the fair and just administration of such laws; to study and report upon proposed legislation; to promote the legal education of members of the bar, and the general public on the problems of patent, trademark and copyright law by sponsoring meetings, institutes and conferences devoted to the problems of patent, trademark and copyright law by the preparation and dissemination of pamphlets and brochures with respect thereto and by preparing, sponsoring and publishing legal writings in the patent, trademark and copyright field.

Officers and Council Members:

Chair

P68028 Karl T. Ondersma, Grand Rapids
Gardner, Linn, Burkhart & Flory, LLP
2851 Charlevoix Drive SE, Suite 207
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546
Phone: (616) 975-5500
ondersma@glbf.com

Chair-Elect

P60370 Kristen Isaacson Spano, Auburn Hills
Chrysler Group LLC
1000 Chrysler Dr
CIMS485-13-32
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Tel. (248) 512-6475
kis5@chrysler.com

Secretary Treasurer

P65605 David Charles Berry, Auburn Hills
Brooks Kushman
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075
Tel. (248) 358-4400
dberry@brookskushman.com

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
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Council Members

Term Expires 9/30/2015

P70376 Tamara Ann Clark, Bloomfield Hills

P69144 Steven Richard Hansen, Waterford

P66245 Chad E. Kleinheksel, Grand Rapids

Term Expires 9/30/2016

P49241 Sharon K. Brady, Midland

P56075 Eugene J. Rath, Kalamazoo

P64116 Hope V. Shovein, Southfield

Term Expires 9/30/2017

P34108 Lisabeth H. Coakley, Troy

P71221 Kendra Sue Mattison, Auburn Hills

P57284 Kristin L. Murphy, Bloomfield Hills

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Section Annual Meeting	July 19, 2014	Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island Michigan
Council Meeting	August 14, 2014	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	September 10, 2014	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	October 3, 2014	Teleconference
Council Meeting	October 9, 2014	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	November 13, 2014	Teleconference
Council Meeting	December 11, 2014	Teleconference
Council Meeting	January 8, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	February 25, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	April 16, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	May 14, 2015	Teleconference
Council Meeting	June 11, 2015-planned	Teleconference
Council Meeting	August 13, 2015-planned	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing, MI
Section Annual Meeting	September 17, 2015-planned	Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit MI

Minutes of all meetings are available at: <http://connect.michbar.org/iplaw/council/minutes>

Intellectual Property Law Section Membership: 1,234

Intellectual Property Law Section Publication: As of this report, the Section has published two issues of the *IPLS Proceedings* this year, which were published on December 18, 2014 and March 13, 2015. A third issue is planned for late summer 2015. In an effort to save costs and “go green,” the *IPLS Proceedings* are now only distributed electronically. Copies are available at:

<http://connect.michbar.org/iplaw/newsletter>

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

General Budget Information: The Section continues to maintain a solid financial position, with a balance reported for April 30, 2015 of \$125,844.53. The balance includes \$30,639.00 in funds dedicated for the establishment of the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Project. The funds are attributable to excess sponsorship funds from the Elijah J. McCoy United States Patent and Trademark Office Detroit Office Grand Opening Gala, held on July 12, 2012 at the Henry Ford (Dearborn, MI). To date, \$4,301.21 has been incurred in the launch of the pro bono program. The Section's most significant expenditure this year was associated with the IPLS Spring Seminar held at the Kellogg Center on March 16, 2015, which totaled \$15,734.72. This amount has not yet been deducted from the above noted balance as of the submission of this report due to the timing of the invoice.

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
40th Annual Intellectual Property Law Summer Institute	July 17-19, 2014	Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Detroit Region Roadshow	November 5, 2014	Thomas Cooley Law School Auburn Hills, MI
2015 Spring IP Law Seminar	March 16, 2015	Kellogg Center East Lansing, MI
Reception with U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Director, Michelle Lee	April 17, 2015	University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, MI
Reception with U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Commissioner for Trademarks, Mary Boney Denison	May 29, 2015	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit MI
41st Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute	Scheduled for Sept. 17-18, 2015	Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit MI

40th Annual Intellectual Property Law Summer Institute held July 18-20, 2014, at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island: The 2014 Summer IP Institute was held on Mackinac Island. Two hundred twenty-seven people registered for the event, with 224 actual attendees. This was the same number of attendees as the 2013 Summer IP Institute, which was up from 181 registrants in Traverse City in 2012, and up from the 211 registrants at Mackinac in 2011. Evaluations of the speakers were very positive. The overall rating for the seminar was 6.20 out of 7.0. The program included outstanding presentations from nationally renowned speakers on a range of patent, trademark, copyright, and other related topics. The Section was particularly honored to have the Honorable Robert Holmes Bell of the Western District of Michigan, and the Honorable Gerald E. Rosen of the Eastern District of Michigan participate in the seminar. The Section appreciates ICLE's support for this program.

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U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Detroit Region

Roadshow: The IPLS section hosted the PTAB Detroit Region Roadshow on November 4, 2014, at the Thomas Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills Campus. The program included a State-of-the-Board address, and was one of the only “Roadshows” to include an actual AIA trial hearing. The IPLS sponsored a reception after the Roadshow.

2015 Spring IP Law Seminar, held March 16, 2015 in at the Kellogg Center, East Lansing:

Our annual Spring IP Law Seminar had 188 registrants and 170 attendees, which is down from 232 registrants/194 attendees in 2014. Based on the survey of the Section conducted in 2014, programming for the Spring Seminar was focused on practical topics to benefit members’ practice areas. This included a presentation on best practices for Examiner interviews from a USPTO Technology Center Director, tips regarding Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (“TTAB”) trials from a USPTO Administrative Law Judge, and a presentation on avoiding copyright traps in counseling, transactions and litigation.

Reception with U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Director, Michelle Lee: On April 17, 2015, the White House Business Council and the IPLS hosted Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Michelle K. Lee for a discussion of current developments and topics in patent law and policy. Approximately 100 people attended the event held at Univ. of Detroit Mercy School of Law to hear Director Lee discuss several key initiatives of the USPTO. Director Lee also discussed current proposals for patent reform legislation pending or under consideration in Congress, the role of patents and other forms of intellectual property in driving innovation, as well as responded to questions from the audience.

Reception with U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Commissioner for Trademarks, Mary Boney Denison: On May 29, 2015, the IPLS hosted Commissioner for Trademarks, Mary Boney Denison, for a discussion of current developments and topics in trademark law and policy. Commissioner Denison provided a presentation and discussed key initiatives of the Trademark office within the USPTO.

41st Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute to be held September 17-19, 2015 at the Book Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan: The 41st Annual IP Law Institute will be held for the first time in Detroit at the Book Cadillac. The IP Law Institute will feature extended annual patent, trademark and copyright updates, and a networking event on the evening of Thursday, September 17 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

2015 Annual Business Meeting: The Section’s annual business meeting will be held Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at the Book Cadillac, Detroit in conjunction with the 41st Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute.

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Other Section Projects During 2014-2015

IP Pro Bono Initiative: During 2014-2015, the Section established the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Project (Project) an ongoing service project of the Section. The Council coordinated this effort with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which received a Congressional directive in the 2011 Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to work with regional intellectual property professional associations to establish a nationwide network of pro bono service programs for low income inventors. In November, the Council established a Steering Committee of Michigan patent practitioners from law firms and in-house legal departments to guide the development of the Project. The Steering Committee selected the SBM Pro Bono Initiative to serve as the administrative partner for the Project, with responsibility for applicant intake, financial qualification, and record keeping. On November 18, 2014, the Section launched the Project at a kick-off ceremony and reception at the Elijah J. McCoy U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Detroit. Speakers at the event included Thomas C. Rombach, SBM President, Jennifer M. Grieco, SBM Treasurer, and Jennifer McDowell, the USPTO Pro Bono Coordinator. The event was webcast on the USPTO website. Following the launch, the Project began accepting applications for representation, and qualified low-income currently are being placed with volunteer panel attorneys.

Creation of the *Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award:* By creation of the *Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award*, the IPLS Committee sought to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of a lawyer who had excelled in the intellectual property field and exemplified professionalism, excellence, and dedication to furthering opportunities and accomplishments in the area of intellectual property. The IPLS established criteria used in selecting the recipient of the award, and solicited nominees from the Section. Nominees included in-house counsel, private practitioners, professors in academia, and the judiciary and after a further review and vote of a sub-committee and then all committee members of the IP Section, Judge Avern Cohn was selected as the 2015 recipient of the first *Michigan State Bar Excellence in IP Award*, which was announced at the Spring Seminar on March 16, 2015 in Lansing and Judge Cohn will receive the actual award during the annual IP Law Institute meeting on September 17, 2015.

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
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Looking Forward to 2015-2016

Planned Activities:

- Spring Seminar, March 2016, Lansing.
- 42nd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute, July 2016, Mackinac Island

Recommendations for Next Council:

- Continue efforts to grow IP pro bono program in Michigan.
- Continue partnership with USPTO to provide presentation, information and networking events with USPTO personnel through Detroit Satellite Patent Office.
- Consider further efforts to increase IPLS's social media presence to increase collaboration and networking between Section members

Submitted via PDF e-mail to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: International Law Section

Mission Statement: The International Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information, and analysis about the field of international law through meetings, seminars, the Section’s website, LinkedIn, public service programs, and publication of the *Michigan International Lawyer*.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	David B. Guenther	Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, P.C, 350 S. Main Street, Suite 400, Ann Arbor, MI 48104	734-761-9000	guenther@cmplaw.com
Chair-Elect	Daphne Short Cunningham	FCA US LLC 1000 Chrysler Drive Auburn Hills, MI 48326	248-512-0235	daphne.cunningham@fcagroup.com
Secretary	Lara Fetsco Phillip	Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP 660 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48226	313-465-7518	lara.phillip@honigman.com
Treasurer	Debra Clephane	Vercruysse Murray, P.C. 31780 Telegraph Rd. Suite 200 Bingham Farms, MI 48025	248-540-8019	dclephane@vmpclaw.com

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Law Student Member</u>	<u>Term</u>
Timothy Attalla	2015	Muneed Sadiq (Cooley)	2015
Linda J. Armstrong	2015	Sarah Hazimi (Univ. Detroit Mercy)	2015
Neil Woelke	2015	Blair Daniels (Wayne State)	2015
Troy Harris	2016		
Aysha Kasham	2016		
Timothy Kaufmann	2016		
Robert Rothman	2017		

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Douglas F. Duchek	2017		
James Rayis	2017		

Council Meeting Schedule:

The International Law Section holds an annual meeting in September or October of each year and quarterly meetings in November, January, March and May. Quarterly meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of the month. The International Law Section combines its Annual and Quarterly Council Meetings with Programs of interest to its members and the Michigan international business and legal communities.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual	September 17, 2015	Walter P. Chrysler Museum, Auburn Hills, MI
Quarterly: Foreign Investment in China - Doug Smith (MEDC) Barbara Kaye (Honigman) Charley Meng (Honigman)	May 27, 2015	Honigman, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Quarterly: Doing Business in Canada – Marco Dolfi, Miller Canfield and Daniel Ujcz, Dickinson Wright	March 12, 2015	University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, MI
Quarterly: Doing Business in Mexico - Marie Alsace Galindo, TechBA- Michigan	January 21, 2015	Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills, MI
Quarterly: Doing Business in India - Anubhav Kapoor (Tata Technologies) and Vipin Bhalla (Cross Border Ventures)	November 12, 2014	Dykema, Detroit, MI
Annual: Regulating the International Data Cloud: New Proposals and Initiatives	September 11, 2014	Detroit Opera House, Detroit, MI

General Budget Information: As of the seven months ending April 30, 2015, the Section reported revenues of \$14,315.00 and expenses of \$5,728.66 with a fund balance of \$22,974.53.

Initiatives:

International Law Section Task Force on International Dispute Resolution

The International Law Section was invited by Carl E. Ver Beek of Varnum LLP in Grand Rapids to participate in an effort to “Make Michigan the Delaware of ADR”. The International Law Section formed a task force to explore the potential to develop Michigan as a center for the

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arbitration of international manufacturing disputes. The task force is led by Professor Troy Harris of UDM Law School and includes Carl Ver Beek, Past ILS Chair Jeffrey Paulsen, Immediate Past ILS Chair Reed Newland, and ILS Chair David Guenther.

The task force approved a Mission Statement which states that the task force's mission is to remove a perceived or real obstacle for the international business community and encourage foreign investment in the State of Michigan by creating a positive environment for resolution of international commercial disputes, particularly in the global manufacturing industry.

The task force is currently soliciting input regarding how to promote Michigan as a center for arbitration of international manufacturing disputes from the following four categories of stakeholders:

- Economic development organizations. These stakeholders can help identify foreign investors who are likely to have negative perceptions of the U.S. legal system and therefore may be receptive to promotion of Michigan as a center for arbitration of international manufacturing disputes.
- Lawyers and judges who regularly handle manufacturing-related commercial disputes. These stakeholders can help identify frequently-encountered dispute resolution issues in the manufacturing industry.
- Lawyers and judges who regularly handle international commercial disputes. These stakeholders can help identify best practices of established centers of international arbitration (e.g., London, New York, Paris) for possible adoption in Michigan.
- International business owners and operators who must participate in the U.S. legal system in order to do business in Michigan.

Committees:

- International Business and Tax: Chair OPEN
- Emerging Nations: Co-chairs Richard Goetz, partner of Dykema Gossett PLLC, and Tim Kaufman, attorney at The Cronin Law Firm
- International Employment & Immigration: Linda Armstrong, partner of Butzel Long
- International Human Rights: Chair Andrew Moore, Associate Professor of Law, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
- International Trade Committee: Chair O'Neil Woelke
- International Dispute Resolution: Chair Professor Troy Harris, University of Detroit Mercy
- Mentor-Mentee Committee: Chair Professor Gregory Fox, Wayne State University Law School

Legislative issues: None at this time. However see "Initiatives" above.

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendations for next Council: Will be reviewed and recommendations to be made by International Law Section Nominating Committee

Other Information: The Section publishes the *Michigan International Lawyer* approximately three times a year with assistance from Wayne State University School of Law. The mission of the *Michigan International Lawyer* is to enhance and contribute to the public's knowledge of world law and trade with articles of contemporary international law topics and issues of general interest. The journal is mailed to all Section members and is also available on the Section's website at michbar.org/international.

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

General Budget Information:

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
GENERAL SPEAKING ENGAGE.	6-1-15	CONLEY - ALBURN HILL

Legislative issues:

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT: LAW STUDENT SECTION

Introduction:

- The State Bar of Michigan Law Student Section (LSS) has remained active in the 2014-2015 academic year. During the year, the section promoted and planned numerous events of interest to and for the benefit of law students in the State of Michigan.

Section Mission Statement:

- The mission of the LSS Governing Council is to represent students of Michigan's law School and to act as a liaison to the State Bar Sections. Moreover, the Section works to increase student involvement in the State Bar of Michigan, as well as to support other State Bar sections in their activities. The LSS strives to strengthen and further professional opportunities among law students and the legal community.

Outgoing Officers and Council Members:

- Chair: Zane Hatahet
- Vice-Chair: Rania Haddad
- Treasurer: Brandon Debus
- Secretary: Aaron Sohaski
- 1L Oral Advocacy Competition Chair: David Hamstra

Incoming Officers and Council Members:

- Chair: Aaron Sohaski
- Vice-Chair: Samantha Jonas
- Treasurer: Brandon Debus
- Secretary: Michael Olcese
- 1L Oral Advocacy Competition Chair: Vacant

General Council Members:

- Armisa Laze
- Chris Atallah
- Daniela Walters
- Deyana Simmons-Howard
- Justin Strayhorn
- Katy DelBene
- Matt Hauser
- Samantha Jonas

- Barb Sheppard
- Will Disessa
- Ryan Jackson

Section Committees:

1L Oral Advocacy Committee:

- The committee assisted the Chair of the Section and the Chair of the Annual 1L Oral Advocacy Competition to put on the successful event. The committee consisted of: David Hamstra, Aaron Sohaski, Samantha Jonas, and Rania Haddad. The committee contacted local practicing attorneys in to judge the competition, which was hosted at the Cooley Law School at Auburn Hills.

SECTION MEMBERSHIP:

- Students posted on SBM Connect regarding issues that affect law students throughout Michigan. Council members also shared events that were beneficial to members from other sections.
- For the first time, students were able to register online for their memberships this year.

SECTION BYLAWS:

- There have not been any revisions or additions to the Section's bylaws.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND SEMINARS:

MEETINGS:

- The LSS holds a conference call every month. During calls, upcoming activities and plans are discussed. The conference call is open only to the governing council and the general council members. In addition, the Chair of the Section has also attended meetings as a member of the governing council with the Young Lawyers Section.

ACTIVITIES:

- Mental Health Day
 - In late 2014 (right around finals), the LSS hosted a mental health day for students at Detroit Mercy School of Law. The LSS created a Stress-Free Zone with healthy foods, access to a nutritionist and 19 volunteer massage therapists. The event was a great success and the LSS hopes to host the same event in all Michigan Law School next year.
- Warren C. Evans Seminar

- On October 16, 2014, the LSS helped sponsor the “Law School to the Real World” seminar that was arranged by the University of Detroit – Mercy’s Black Law Students Association. Warren C. Evans, Wayne County Executive Candidate, was the special guest speaker.
- Silence Equals Death
 - On January 30, 2015, Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills hosted over 150 Michigan law students for a viewing of the documentary entitled “*Silence Equals Death: How the Heroin Epidemic is Driving Change in Perception, Treatment, & the Law.*” The exponential rise in heroin-related deaths over the past several years has received much media attention, not only because of the numbers, but also because of the victims - so many of them are young people in their late teens and early 20s.
- Council Meet & Greet
 - Early in 2015, the LSS met and discussed spring planning at Slows BBQ down in Detroit. At the meeting, highlights of discussion included the 1L Oral Advocacy Competition, mentor jet programming, and other ideas on how to engage law students.
- 1L Oral Advocacy Competition:
 - On March 21, 2015, the competition was held at the Cooley Law School at Auburn Hills. The winner of the competition was Alex Markel of the University of Michigan Law School, and the runner-up was Derrick Bridges of Cooley Law School. The topic of this year’s competition regarded whether a state university’s regulation of concealed weapons violates Michigan law and / or the U.S. Constitution.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- For financial information regarding the LSS, please contact the LSS’s Treasurer, Brandon Debus, at: bdebus@umich.edu.

FUTURE GOALS AND ACTIVITIES:

- The main focus of the upcoming year to increase membership to ensure students are aware of the services the SBM offers. With an emphasis on involvement, the LSS hopes to increase student membership and participation.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
LITIGATION SECTION
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Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Litigation Section

Mission Statement: The Litigation Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, its website site, public service programs, and publication of a journal. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Michael P. Donnelly	1 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1550 Detroit, MI 48226	313-237-7300	mdonnelly@fraserlawfirm.com
Chair-Elect	Marcy A. Tayler	1 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2400, Detroit, MI 48226	313-965-2863	Marcy.tayler@kitch.com
Secretary	Michael J. Butler	18831 W 12 Mile Road, Lathrup Village, MI 48076	248-350-3700	mbutler@twmi.rr.com
Treasurer	Paul D. Hudson	277 South Rose Street, Suite 5000, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007	269-383-5805	Hudson@millercandfield.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Albert J. Dib	2015	James M. Straub	2016
Kristopher K. Hulliberger	2015	David L. Moffitt	2017
Daniel J. McGlynn	2015	Thaddeus E. Morgan	2017
Bernard C. Schaefer	2015	Daniel P. Steele	2017
Brandon J. Evans	2016	Rachel Croke	2017
Michael O. Fawaz	2016	Jeffrey Crapko	2017
Paul Daniel Hudson	2016		
Hon. Donald A. Johnston, III	2016		
Kevin J. Stoops	2016		

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LITIGATION SECTION
2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	January 22, 2015	Video Call
Council Meeting	March 19, 2015	Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	May 21, 2015	Video Call
Litigation Summer Conference	July 24-25, 2015	Thompsonville, MI
Annual Meeting	October 8, 2015	Dearborn, MI

General Budget Information: The Litigation Section’s Budget for 2014-15 has remained consistent with the 2013-2014 budget.

Events and/or Seminars:

Despite moving to a Litigation Institute style seminar with ICLE, the Section continues to be interested in having a Summer Conference and Masters in Litigation Series as well as developing educational resources for its members. Attached is the Summer Conference Brochure.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Masters in Litigation	March 26, 2015	Livonia, MI
Litigation Summer Conference	July 24-25, 2015	Thompsonville, MI
Masters in Litigation	October 29, 2015	Livonia, MI

Legislative issues: The Litigation Section has a Rules and Legislation Committee that keeps the Governing Council up to date on all pending legislation or rule changes that may affect our membership and the Governing Council take the action it deems appropriate, including, but not limited to issuing a position report to the State Bar of Michigan.

Recommendations for next Council: The next Council should focus on increasing participation of section members, particularly newer lawyers, in the section governance. ICLE has decide to consolidate its support for the Litigation Section seminars to a once a year institute model. This provides a number of opportunities not only to have section members involved in the Institute but also to have them organize and support events like the Summer Conference, which will eventually move from being run by ICLE to the section itself. The next Council should also focus on providing services and education to the ever increasing number of practitioners who will not have the opportunity to be trained by a firm due to the changing economic conditions in the legal market. Finally, the Council should continue to develop its modes of communication to its membership, both in the way it provides information to its members and makes information available to them online.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Donnelly
Chairman, Litigation Section

Registration

Summer Conference, July 24-25, 2015

Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, MI 49683

Registration ends July 20, 2015

LODGING Reservation deadline: June 24, 215

Register online at <http://e.michbar.org>

P #: _____

Name: _____

Your E-mail Address: _____

Your Firm/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

Enclosed is check # _____ for \$ _____ Please make check payable to: STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

Please bill my: Visa MasterCard for \$ _____

Debit/Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Please print name as it appears on debit/credit card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Mail your check and completed registration form to:
State Bar of Michigan, Attn: Seminar Registration, Michael Franck Building, 306 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933
OR
Fax (ONLY if paying by debit/credit card) the completed form and debit/credit card information to:
Attn: Seminar Registration at (517) 372-5921

RESORT RESERVATIONS CANNOT BE MADE BY USING THIS FORM. To reserve your room, go online to <http://www.crystallmountain.com/grouplodging> utilizing group code 45U807.

QUESTIONS: Contact Michael P. Donnelly at (313) 965-4968 or mddonnelly@fraserlawfirm.com

CANCELLATIONS must be received at least 48 business hours before the start of the event and registration refunds are subject to a \$20 cancellation fee. Cancellations must be received in writing by e-mail (tbellinger@mail.michbar.org), fax (517) 372-5921 ATTN: Tina Bellinger or by U.S. mail (306 Townsend St., Lansing, MI 48933 ATTN: Tina Bellinger.) No refunds will be made for requests received after that time. Refunds will be issued in the same form payment was made. Please allow two weeks for processing. Registrants who cancel will not receive seminar materials.

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Cost:

- \$195 General
- \$160 Section Members

Note for non attorneys: Non attorneys MUST register for this event online to access the seminar materials. Create a non-member account if you do not already have one. Check to see if you have an account at <https://e.michbar.org/eCommerce/login/emailreset.aspx> into your web browser.

Talking with Pictures:
Courtroom Persuasion in the Media Dominated Age

Agenda

Friday

5:30-7:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception

Saturday

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Multimedia Stage Craft

- Visual Society, Visual Learning, Visual Juror
- Great Lawyers' "Once the Jury Saw That, It Was Over" Moments
- TV News Techniques and Modern Trial Presentation
- Ethical Responsibilities – Talking with Pictures Outside the Courtroom

10:00-10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15-11:45 a.m.

Trial Presentation Parts

- Opening—Respecting & Bending the Rules
- Examinations—Visual Questions/Visual Answers, Smoothly
- Closing—Visual Power Brought to Bear
- I've Been Pic'd! Fighting the Picture-Based Attack

11:45-1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Taking & Making Pictures that Talk

- Taking Pictures & Video that Persuade
- Making Pictures that Persuade
- Pictures of Pain—Medical Damages, Pictures and Jurors
- Surveillance Video—Real-World Pictures in the Courtroom
- Ethical Use of Visual Evidence versus Pictures that Lie

2:30-2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45-4:15 p.m.

Do-It-Yourself Talking with Pictures on a Budget

- PowerPoint™
- Adobe Acrobat
- Microsoft MovieMaker & Other Video Tools

Our Presenter - Kevin W. Thompson

Kevin W. Thompson is a founding partner of the Thompson Barney Law Firm In Charleston, West Virginia. He is an environmental lawyer, entrepreneur and inventor who has been involved in high-stakes litigation across the country for over twenty years.

As a litigation consultant he's managed evidence in tobacco cases, patent cases and environmental cases worth billions of dollars and has continually developed innovative technologies designed to organize and present evidence. As lead counsel he's recovered millions of dollars for clients ranging from banks to land companies to impoverished coalfield residents.

Thompson was named a finalist for Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Public Justice Foundation in 2012 and 2013. His work has been featured in *Rolling Stone* magazine and the *Wall Street Journal*. He and his cases are profiled in the book *Moving Mountains* and the documentary films *Coal Rush* and *Toxic Soup*.

Kevin has served as an adjunct professor of advocacy at LSU Law School and as a NITA faculty member. He served as entrepreneur-in-residence at the A.B. Freeman School of Business, Tulane University, Levy-Rosenbloom Institute of Entrepreneur Studies. Thompson received his J.D. from Tulane Law School after obtaining a degree in Broadcast Journalism from Marshall University.



About Crystal Mountain

Located in the heart of Benzie County, Crystal Mountain is the Midwest's premier four-season family resort featuring some of the finest accommodations northern Michigan has to offer – 36 holes of championship golf, the Crystal Coaster - Michigan's only alpine slide, the Edge Adventure Course, paint ball, laser tag, mountain bike and hiking trails, the Michigan Legacy Art Park, the award-winning Crystal Spa and IACC-approved conference facilities.



Images courtesy of Crystal Mountain Resort

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Master Lawyers Section

Mission Statement: The Section's mission is to promote the particular interests of the members of the Section, to plan and carry out programs, publications, and activities of interest to members of the Section, to coordinate programs for members of this Section with national and local bar associations, to protect the public by providing resources on the ethical and practical issues related to transitioning from the practice of law, to be a resource for retirement planning, and to expand opportunities for contributions by members of this Section to the community. The goals of Section are to provide service to members of this Section, to aid in protecting the public, and to contribute to the community.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	J. David Kerr	205 S. Main St Mount Pleasant, MI 48858-2505	989-773-7071	estate-plan@lawyer.com
Chair-Elect	Richard J. Ruhala	6289 Tanbark Ct Flint, MI 48532-2157	(810) 733-5154	aruhala@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Cynthia L. Johnson	35425 W Michigan Ave Ste 1 Wayne, MI 48184-1600	(313) 850-5077	cjlaw@att.net
Treasurer	Ronald D. Keefe	128 W Spring St Marquette, MI 49855-4608	(906) 226-2543	keefe@kendricksllaw.com

Member	Term	Immediate Past Chair	Term
Jerome D. Frank	9/30/15	Mary E. Crusoe Byrne	9/30/15
Edgar W. Pugh, Jr.	9/30/15		
Ruthmarie Shea	9/30/15		
Richard F. Fellrath	9/30/16		
George S. Lilly	9/30/16		
Charlotte F. Shoup	9/30/16		
Alfred E. Gade	9/30/17		
James H. Loree	9/30/17		
Kathleen Williams Newell	9/30/17		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	10/30/14	Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	11/20/14	Conference Call
Council Meeting	12/18/14	Conference Call
Council Meeting	1/22/15	Conference Call
Council Meeting	2/26/15	Conference Call
Council Meeting	3/26/15	Lansing, MI
Council Meeting	4/23/15	Conference Call
Council Meeting	5/28/15	Conference Call

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SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting	6/25/15	Conference Call
Council Meeting	7/23/15	Conference Call
Council Meeting	8/23/15	Harbor Springs, MI
Council Meeting	10/9/15	Novi, MI

General Budget Information: General Budget Information: Active, inactive, and emeritus SBM members in good standing who have reached age 60 or completed 30 years of practice as members of the Bar automatically become members of the section free. Active, inactive, and emeritus SBM members in good standing who have reached age 50 or have completed 20 years of membership in the Bar may join the section for the payment of annual dues in the amount of \$25. The Section is funded by the SBM.

The Section has been assisted in its work by staff liaisons Amy Castner and Kari Thrush. The Section is provided financial information relative to its revenue and expenditures by the Finance Division and receives staff assistance with electronic publications and communications from the Communications Division.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	9/19/14	Grand Rapids, MI
Summer Conference	8/21/15 – 8/23/15	Boyne Highlands, Harbor Springs, MI
Annual Meeting	10/9/15	Novi, MI

Legislative issues: The Master Lawyers Section is supported by State Bar of Michigan general funds. The Section does not take positions on legislative issues.

Recommendations for next Council: The Section should continue to work on ways to involve and serve its membership, consistent with its Bylaws, by developing programming and disseminating information to its members in areas of interest. The Section anticipates both regular use of electronic form of communication to make members aware of developments that impact them, and to solicit from members input about what type of programming would be helpful or well-received. In the coming year, the Section plans to continue to develop member interest in working on its various committees; educate the members about the importance of succession planning; increase participation by members in the Section's annual meeting, summer conference, and other events.

Other Information: This Section will develop one-day seminars in the spring of 2016 in the eastern/southeast part of the state. It will also develop a train travel program for members of the Section. The first trip will be planned for May 2016. Future trips will be planned based on the response to the May trip.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Paralegal/Legal Assistant

Mission Statement: The Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to qualified legal assistants and to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Jennifer M. Petty	Detroit, MI	313-963-5553	petty@adbmich.org
Chair-Elect	Susan B. Haight	Troy, MI	-----	sjh8710@att.net
Secretary	Erin Farler	Detroit, MI	313-961-6585	EEFarler@agcmi.com
Treasurer	Kathy Ann Blunck	Traverse City, MI	231-929-9700	kblunck@ThompsonOneilLaw.com
Immediate Past Chair	Piper Paton Smith	Ferndale, MI	-----	Piper-smith@woway.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Teresa Lee Duddles	09/30/15	Linda Jevahirian	09/30/16
Denise Gau	09/30/15	Esther Simon	09/30/16
Telisa Ann Ahn	09/30/15	Kelly Preuss	Resigned

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Regular	11/01/14	Lansing, MI
Regular	11/22/14	Telephonic
Regular	01/03/15	Telephonic
Regular	02/07/15	Telephonic
Regular	03/21/15	Lansing, MI
Regular	08/01/15	Lansing, MI
Annual	10/09/15	Novi, MI

General Budget Information: Please see attached Annual Budget

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Cheers, Chow & Know-How (CCKH) – Metro Detroit	01/19/15	Farmington Hills, MI
CCKH – Grand Rapids	Cancelled	Grand Rapids, MI
CCKH – Traverse City	Cancelled	Traverse City, MI

Legislative issues: None.

Recommendations for next Council:

1. Continue Cheers, Chow and Know-How sessions;
2. Review By-Laws to see if they need to be updated;
3. Poll membership to find out what they want from the Section; and
4. Design activities and events to foster education and state.

Other Information:

Awards:

- Shining Star** - Recognizes outstanding paralegals in Michigan based on nominations.
- Scholarship** - Section awards at least one scholarship annually to college students enrolled in ABA-approved paralegal programs in Michigan.

Publications: Monthly Newsletter posted sent to all members and posted to Section website.

Committees:

- Annual Meeting - Kathy Ann Blunck, Chair
- Membership - Jennifer M. Petty, Chair
- Public Relations & Communications - Linda Jevahirian, Chair
- Scholarship - Jennifer M. Petty, Chair
- Shining Star - Esther Simon, Chair
- Social Media - Teri Lynn Rhadigan, Chair

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

SBM PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT SECTION 2014/2015 BUDGET (Revised)

SBM Account No.		2013-2014 Actual	2014-15 Budget Proposed	Six Months Ended 3/31/15
REVENUE				
1-7-99-700-1050	Legal Assistant Section Dues	11,225.00	11,500.00	11,100.00
1-7-99-700-1125	Seminar Income (2015 Annual Meeting – Seminar – 40 x \$25)	2,895.00	1,000.00	
1-7-99-700-1320	Advertising Income – Newsletter – No Newsletter	75.00		
1-7-99-700-1330	Scholarship	356.00		
1-7-99-700-1770	T-Shirt Sales			
1-7-99-700-1840	Cheers Chow & Know-how	185.00	500.00	80.00
	TOTAL INCOME	14,736.00	13,000.00	11,180.00
EXPENSE				
1-9-99-700-1111	Secretarial Services (Services Provided by the State Bar)			
1-9-99-700-1145	ListServe – Note: Not Planning to Use	540.00	180.00	270.00
1-9-99-700-1276	Meetings (Council Meeting expenses including travel and lodging)	1,608.80	2,000.00	1,756.40
1-9-99-700-1283	Seminars (Expenses including Council Members travel and lodging)	3,393.87	4,000.00	
1-9-99-700-1284	Cheers Chow & Know-How (Expenses including Council Members travel and lodging)	1,049.68	3,000.00	234.64
1-9-99-700-1297	Annual Meeting Expenses (Expenses including Council Members travel and lodging)	150.00	1,500.00	
1-9-99-700-1493	Travel	1,174.62		
1-9-99-700-1528	Telephone (Conference call expenses)	133.54	150.00	167.27
1-9-99-700-1549	Books & Subscriptions			
1-9-99-700-1689	Educational Conferences (Reimbursement to Council Members for educational reimbursement expenses (i.e. NALA, NALS, State Bar Seminars))	1,294.09		
1-9-99-700-1777	Scholarships		1,000.00	

1-9-99-700-1805	Promotional Items		1,000.00	
1-9-99-700-1819	Cost of Directors – per agreements			
1-9-99-700-1826	Copying			
1-9-99-700-1833	Newsletter – Using News Blast – N/C	1,230.00		75.00
1-9-99-700-1861	Printing	170.00	150.00	
1-9-99-700-1868	Postage	19.06	20.00	9.43
1-9-99-700-1967	Dues			
1-9-99-700-1987	Miscellaneous (Shining Star, etc.)	143.98	360.00	100.46
	TOTAL EXPENSE	10,907.64	13,000.00	2,613.20
	NET GAIN/LOSS	3,828.36		8,566.80
	ENDING FUND BALANCE	11,842.43		20,409.23

Cheers Chow & Know How:

January 18, 2015, Farmington, MI

April 16, 2015, Grand Rapids, MI

May 2, 2015, Traverse City, MI

Income			Income	CANCELLED		Income	CANCELLED
Sponsor	\$250.00		Sponsor(s)			Sponsor	\$100.00
21 @ \$10	210.00		__ @ \$			@ \$15.00	
Donation	5.00					@ \$20.00	
Total Income	\$465.00		Total Income			Total Income	
Expenses			Expenses			Expenses	
Food	\$385.00		Food			Food	
Rent	100.00		Rent			Rent	-0-
Tax/Gratuity	98.40		Tax/Gratuity			Tax/Gratuity	
Speaker Gift	36.24		Speaker Gift			Speaker Gift	
Total Expenses	\$619.64		Total Expenses			Total Expenses	
Net Loss	(\$154.64)		Net Gain/Loss			Net Gain/Loss	

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Prisons and Corrections Section

Mission Statement: The Prisons and Corrections Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the Section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Jessica Zimbelman	SADO, Lansing	313-256-9833	jzimbelman@sado.org
Chair-Elect				
Secretary	Sandra L. Bailiff Girard (P33274)	PO Box 80972, Lansing, 48908	517-918-6641	slbgirard@gmail.com
Treasurer	Daniel E. Manville (P39731)	MSU COL, 610 Abbot Rd., East Lansing, 48823	517-336-8088	Daniel.manville@law.msu.edu

Member	Term	Member	Term
Daniel E. Manville (P39731)	2017	Monica Jahner (Associate Member)	2017
Barbara R. Levine (P24207)	2017	Nicole George (Associate Member)	2015
Paul D. Reingold (P27594)	2017	Avar Laws-Wright (P71704)	2015
Richard B. Stapleton (P38793)	2017	Jessica L. Zimbelman (P72042)	2015
Jacqueline Colette Ouvry (P71214)	2015	Pete Martel (Associate Member)	2016
Hon. Douglas B. Shapiro (P39827)	2015		
Ronald W. Emery (P24056)	2016	Ex Officio Council Members	
Sandra L. Bailiff Girard (P33274)	2016	Michelle VanDusen	n/a
Gary M. Kasenow (P38304)	2016	(vacant- MDOC)	n/a
John A. Shea (P37634)	2016	(vacant--MI Sheriff's Assoc.)	
Commissioner Liaison			
Timothy J. Burns (P61773)			

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Membership Meeting & Program	9/19/14	DeVos Place- Grand Rapids
Monthly Meeting	11/1/14	State Bar- Lansing
Monthly Meeting	12/6/14	State Bar- Lansing
Monthly Meeting	1/10/15	MSU Law Clinics Building, East Lansing
Monthly Meeting	2/7/15	State Bar- Lansing
Monthly Meeting	3/7/15	State Bar- Lansing
Monthly Meeting	4/11/15	MSU Law Clinics Building, East Lansing
Monthly Meeting	5/2/15	State Bar- Lansing

General Budget Information: This year the Prison and Corrections Section had approximately \$3750 in revenues, \$1200 in expenses, and increased its end-of-year Fund Balance to approximately \$6000. This does not include the expenses or revenue from the June 6, 2015 conference.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Mental Illness and Incarceration: Helping Families, Prisoners and Attorneys Navigate the MDOC	June 6, 2015	State Bar- Lansing
Newsletter Publication, <i>Prisons and Corrections Forum</i> , Vol 15, No 1, Spring 2015	April 2014	

Legislative issues: The Council took positions on the following between November 2014 and June 2015:

- Bills from 2015-2016 Term:
 - House Bill 4069: Support and Amend
 - House Bills 4080-4081: Oppose
 - House Bill 4083: Oppose
 - House Bill 4135: Oppose
 - House Bill 4169: Support
 - House Bills 4419-4420: Support and Amend
 - House Bill 4463: Support
 - House Bill 4467: Oppose

- Senate Bill 151: Support
- Senate Bill 191: Oppose
- Senate Bill 291: Support
- Bills from 2013-2014 Term:
 - House Bill 5545: Support
 - Senate Bill 1011: Support and Amend
 - Senate Bills 1113-1115: Support

Recommendations for next Council: Continue policy review relating to Michigan corrections practices; increase public awareness of the Section and its activities; discuss moving to online newsletters; partner with other sections for an additional conference

Dated: June 8, 2015

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Probate and Estate Planning Section

Mission Statement: The purpose of this Section is to enhance and improve the practice and administration of law pertaining to probate; trust and estate planning, and administration; guardianships and conservatorships (including planning alternatives); and tax planning.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Amy N. Morrissey	Westerman & Morrissey, P.C. 345 S. Division Ann Arbor, MI 48104	734-995-9731	amorrissey@westermanpc.com
Chair-Elect	Shaheen I. Imami	Prince Law Firm 800 W. Long Lake Suite 200 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302	248-865-8810	sii@probateprince.com
Vice-Chair	James B. Steward	Steward & Sheridan PLC 205 S. Main St. Ishpeming, MI 49849	906-485-6311	jamessteward@stewardsheridan.com
Secretary	Marlaine C. Teahan	Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap PC 124 W Allegan St Ste 1000 Lansing, MI 48933	517-377-0869	mteahan@fraserlawfirm.com
Treasurer	Marguerite Munson Lentz	Bodman PLC 1901 St. Antoine St Fl 6 Detroit, MI 48226	313-393-7589	mlentz@bodmanlaw.com

Member	Term Ends	Member	Term Ends
William J. Ard	2015*	Richard C. Mills	2016
Patricia M. Ouellette	2015*	Lorraine F. New	2016
James P. Spica	2015*	Geoffrey R. Vernon	2016
Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer	2015	Christopher A. Ballard	2017*
David P. Lucas	2015	George F. Bearup	2017*
David L.J.M. Skidmore	2015	Nancy H. Welber	2017*
Susan M. Allan	2016*	Hon. Michael L. Jaconette	2017
Constance L. Brigman	2016*	Mark E. Kellogg	2017
Michele C. Marquardt	2016*	Raj A. Malviya	2017

*denotes second term

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Section Liaisons:

Liaison	Organization
Hon. Milton L. Mack, Jr.	Alternate Dispute Resolution Section
John R. Dresser	Business Law Section
Amy R. Tripp	Elder Law & Disability Rights Section
Patricia M. Ouellette	Family Law Section
Jeanne Murphy	ICLE
William J. Ard	Law Schools
Hon. David M. Murkowski	Michigan Probate Judges Association
Hon. Michael L. Jaconette	Michigan Probate Judges Association
Rebecca A. Schnelz	Probate Registers
Constance L. Brigman	SCAO
Michele C. Marquardt	SCAO
Rebecca A. Schnelz	SCAO
Rebecca A. Schnelz	Solutions on Self-Help Task Force
Richard J. Siriani	State Bar Board of Commissioners
George W. Gregory	Taxation Section

Section Committees: A list of Section Committees, their mission statements and members is attached.

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Section Council Meeting	October 24, 2014	Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
Section Council Meeting	November 15, 2014	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	December 13, 2014	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	January 17, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	February 14, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	March 14, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	April 11, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	June 13, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Council Meeting	September 12, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing
Section Annual Meeting	September 12, 2015	MSU University Club, Lansing

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2014-2015

Budget Committee

Mission: To develop the annual budget and to alert the Council to revenue and spending trends

Marlaine C. Teahan, Chair
Marguerite Munson Lentz
James B. Steward

Bylaws Committee

Mission: To review the Section Bylaws and recommend changes to ensure compliance with State Bar requirements, best practices for similar organizations and assure conformity of the Bylaws to current practices and procedures of the Section and the Council

Nancy H. Welber, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
David P. Lucas

Planning Committee

Mission: To periodically review and update the Section's Strategic Plan and to annually prepare and update the Council's Biennial Plan of Work

Shaheen I. Imami, Chair

Nominating Committee *Mission: To annually nominate candidates to stand for election as the officers of the Section and members of the Council*

George W. Gregory, Chair
Mark K. Harder
Thomas F. Sweeney

Annual Meeting

Mission: To arrange the annual meeting at a time and place and with an agenda to accomplish all necessary and proper annual business of the Section

Shaheen I. Imami

Awards Committee

Mission: To periodically award the Michael Irish Award to a deserving recipient and to consult with ICLE concerning periodic induction of members in the George A. Cooney Society

Douglas A. Mielock, Chair
Robert D. Brower, Jr.
George W. Gregory
Phillip E. Harter
Nancy L. Little
Amy N. Morrissey

Committee on Special Projects

Mission: The Committee on Special Projects is a working committee of the whole of the Section that considers and studies in depth a limited number of topics and makes recommendations to the Council of the Section with respect to those matters considered by the Committee. The duties of the Chair include setting the agenda for each Committee Meeting, and in conjunction with the Chair of the Section, to coordinate with substantive Committee chairs the efficient use of time by the Committee

Christopher A. Ballard, Chair

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2014-2015

Legislation Committee

Mission: In cooperation with the Section's lobbyist, to bring to the attention of the Council recent developments in the Michigan legislature and to further achievement of the Section's legislative priorities, as well as to study legislation and recommend a course of action on legislation not otherwise assigned to a substantive committee of the Section

William J. Ard, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
Georgette E. David
Mark E. Kellogg
Sharri L. Rolland Phillips
Harold G. Schuitmaker

Amicus Curiae Committee

Mission: To review requests made to the Section to file, and to identify cases in which the Section should file, amicus briefs in pending appeals and to engage and oversee the work of legal counsel retained by the Section to prepare and file its amicus briefs

David L. Skidmore, Chair
Kurt A. Olson
Patricia M. Ouellette
Nazneen H. Syed
Nancy H. Welber

Probate Institute

Mission: To consult with ICLE in the planning and execution of the Annual Probate and Estate Planning Institute

James B. Steward

State Bar and Section Journals Committee

Mission: To oversee the publication of the Section's Journal and periodic theme issues of the State Bar Journal that are dedicated to probate, estate planning, and trust administration

Richard C. Mills, Chair
Nancy L. Little, Managing Editor
Melisa M. W. Mysliwec, Assoc. Editor

Citizens Outreach Committee

Mission: To provide for education of the public on matters related to probate, estate planning, and trust administration, including the publication of pamphlets and online guidance to the public, and coordinating the Section's efforts to educate the public with the efforts of other organizations affiliated with the State Bar of Michigan

Constance L. Brigman, Chair
Kathleen M. Goetsch
Katie Lynwood
Michael J. McClory
Neal Nusholtz
Jessica M. Schilling
Rebecca A. Schnelz, (Liaison to Solutions on Self-help Task Force)
Nancy H. Welber
Melisa M. W. Mysliwec
Nicholas Vontroba

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2014-2015

Electronic Communications Committee

Mission: To oversee all forms of electronic communication with and among members of the Section, including communication via the Section's web site, the Section listserv, and the ICLE Online Community site, to identify emerging technological trends of importance to the Section and its members, and to recommend to the council best practices to take advantage of technology in carrying out the section's and Council's mission and work

William J. Ard, Chair
Stephen J. Dunn
Phillip E. Harter
Nancy L. Little
Amy N. Morrissey
Jeanne Murphy (Liaison to ICLE)
Neal Nusholtz
Michael L. Rutkowski
Serene K. Zeni

Ethics Committee

Mission: To consider and recommend to the Council action with respect to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct and their interpretation, application, and amendment

David P. Lucas, Chair
William J. Ard
J. David Kerr
Robert M. Taylor

Unauthorized Practice of Law and Multidisciplinary Practice Committee

Mission: To help identify the unauthorized practices of law, to report such practices to the appropriate authorities and to educate the public regarding the inherent problems relying on non-lawyers

Patricia M. Ouellette, Chair
William J. Ard
Raymond A. Harris
J. David Kerr
Robert M. Taylor
Amy Rombyer Tripp

Court Rules, Procedures and Forms Committee

Mission: To consider and recommend to the Council action with respect to the Michigan Court Rules and published court forms, and the interpretation, use, and amendment of them

Michele C. Marquardt, Chair
(Liaison to SCAO for Estates & Trusts Workgroup)
James F. ("JV") Anderton
Constance L. Brigman (Liaison to SCAO for Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Protective Proceedings Workgroup)
Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer
Phillip E. Harter
Michael D. Holmes
Shaheen I. Imami
Hon. Michael L. Jaconette
Hon. David M. Murkowski
Rebecca A. Schnelz (Liaison to SCAO for Mental Health/Commitment Workgroup)
David L. Skidmore

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2014-2015

Updating Michigan Law Committee

Mission: To review, revise, communicate and recommend Michigan's trusts and estates law with the goal of achieving and maintaining leadership in promulgating probate laws in changing times

Geoffrey R. Vernon, Chair
Robert P. Tiplady, II, Vice Chair
Susan M. Allan
Howard H. Collens
Georgette David
Shawn Eyestone
Mark K. Harder
Shaheen I. Imami
Robert Labe
Henry P. Lee
Marguerite Munson Lentz
Michael G. Lichterman
Sueann Mitchell
Kurt Olson
Nathan Piwowarski
James P. Spica
Robert Tiplady

Insurance Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To recommend new legislation related to insurability and the administration of irrevocable life insurance trusts

Geoffrey R. Vernon, Chair
Stephen L. Elkins
Mark K. Harder
James P. Spica
Joseph D. Weiler, Jr.

Membership Committee

Mission: To strengthen relations with Section members, encourage new membership, and promote awareness of and participation in Section activities

Raj A. Malviya, Chair
Christopher J. Caldwell
Nicholas R. Dekker
Daniel A. Kosmowski
Katie Lynwood

Julie A. Paquette
Nicholas A. Reister
Marlaine C. Teahan
Joseph J. Viviano

Artificial Reproductive Technology Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To review the 2008 Uniform Probate Code Amendments for possible incorporation into EPIC with emphasis on protecting the rights of children conceived through assisted reproduction

Nancy H. Welber, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
Keven DuComb
Robert M. O'Reilly
Lawrence W. Waggoner

Real Estate Committee

Mission: To recommend new legislation related to real estate matters of interest and concern to the Section and its members

George F. Bearup, Chair
Jeffrey S. Ammon
William J. Ard
Stephen J. Dunn
David S. Fry
Mark E. Kellogg
J. David Kerr
Michael G. Lichterman
David P. Lucas
Katie Lynwood
Douglas A. Mielock
Melisa M. W. Mysliwicz
James T. Ramer
James B. Steward

Probate & Estate Planning Section Committees 2014-2015

Transfer Tax Committee

Mission: To monitor developments concerning Federal and State transfer taxes and to recommend appropriate actions by the Section in response to developments or needs

Lorraine F. New, Chair
Robert B. Labe
Marguerite Munson Lentz
Geoffrey R. Vernon
Nancy H. Welber

Guardianship, Conservatorship, and End of Life Committee

Mission: To monitor the need for and make recommendations with respect to statutory and court rule changes in Michigan related to the areas of legally incapacitated individuals, guardianships, and conservatorships

Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer, Chair
Katie Lynwood, Vice Chair
William J. Ard
Michael W. Bartnik
Raymond A. Harris
Phillip E. Harter
Michael J. McClory
Richard C. Mills
Kurt A. Olson
James B. Steward

Specialization and Certification Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To make recommendations to the Section with respect to the creation and implementation of a program that recognizes specialization and certification of specialization in the fields of probate, estate planning, and trust administration

James B. Steward, Chair
William J. Ard
Wendy Parr Holtvliwer
Patricia M. Ouellette
Sharri L. Rolland Phillips

Daniel D. Simjanovski
Richard J. Siriani
Serene K. Zeni

Charitable and Exempt Organization Committee

Mission: To educate the Section about charitable giving and exempt organizations and to make recommendations to the Section concerning Federal and State legislative developments and initiatives in the fields of charitable giving and exempt organizations

Lorraine F. New, Chair
Christopher A. Ballard
Michael W. Bartnik
William R. Bloomfield
Robin D. Ferriby Richard C. Mills

Fiduciary Exception to Attorney Client Privilege Ad Hoc Committee

Mission: To review the statutes, case law, and court rules of Michigan and other jurisdictions concerning the scope of the Attorney Client Privilege for communications between trustees and their counsel and if necessary or appropriate, to recommend changes to Michigan law in this area

George F. Bearup, Chair
Kalman G. Goren
Shaheen I. Imami
David G. Kovac
Michael J. McClory
David L. Skidmore
Serene K. Zeni

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

General Budget Information (as of April 30, 2015)

Budget Item	Actual 2014-2015	Budget 2014-2015
Revenue:		
Membership Dues	\$ 115,465.00	\$ 115,000.00
Publishing Agreement	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
Total Revenue	\$ 116,115.00	\$ 115,650.00
Disbursements:		
Section Journal	\$ 7,900.00	\$ 12,225.00
Chairperson's Dinner/plaques	\$ 7,067.51	\$ 7,000.00
Travel	\$ 9,138.35	\$ 18,500.00
Lobbying	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 30,000.00
Meetings	\$ 6,552.88	\$ 15,000.00
Long Range Planning	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000.00
Support for Annual Institute	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Amicus Briefs	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,000.00
Seminars	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Solo and Small Firm Institute scholarships for Section members	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000.00
Solo and Small Firm Institute general support	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,500.00
Electronic Communications	\$ 668.96	\$ 2,825.00
Other	\$ 138.78	\$ 1,100.00
Membership Activities	\$ 586.16	\$ 4,000.00
	\$ 67,552.64	\$ 122,150.00
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$ 48,562.36	\$ (6,500.00)

	Beginning of FY 2014-15	FY to Date
General Fund Balance	\$ 186,741.33	\$ 235,303.69
Amicus Fund (reserve)	\$ 35,423.50	\$ 35,423.50
Total Fund	\$ 222,164.83	\$ 270,727.19

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

The Section has a strong partnership with ICLE and co-sponsors a significant number of seminars on a variety of estate planning and administration topics each year. The Section continues to co-sponsor the Probate Certificate Program with ICLE in an effort to assist practitioners in developing proficiency in probate and estate planning practice. The Section does not offer any seminars independent of ICLE. Seminars are offered live and via webcast. The Section has enhanced its outreach to Section members through Section social/networking events developed by its newly formed Membership Committee.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Natalie Choate: Estate & Distribution Planning for Retirement Benefits	November 18, 2014	Plymouth, MI
Digital Assets: What Now?	November 18, 2014	Plymouth, MI
Estate Planning for Same-Sex Marriages	December 18, 2014	Plymouth, MI
Drafting Estate Planning Documents, 24 th Annual	January 22, 2015 February 12, 2015	Grand Rapids, MI Plymouth, MI
Fundamentals of Estate Administration	February 26, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Undue Influence: Probate Litigation Perspective	April 20, 2015	webcast
Estate Planning for Retirement Assets	April 30, 2015	Detroit, MI
Estate Planning for Intellectual Property Assets	April 30, 2015	webcast
Experts in Estate Planning: The Role of the Attorney Throughout the Lifecycle of a Trust	May 6, 2015	Acme, MI
55 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	May 7-9, 2015	Acme, MI
Speakers' Dinner for 55 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	May 8, 2015	Black Star Farms
Membership Social Event	May 8, 2015	Smith, Haughey, Rice & Roegge Traverse City, MI
55 th Annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute	June 19-20, 2015	Plymouth, MI
Probate & Estate Planning Certificate Program	ongoing	Various
Drafting an Estate Plan for an Estate Under \$5M	June 24, 2015	Plymouth, MI

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

Legislative efforts are a priority of the Section. The Section is both proactive and responsive to legislative efforts and employs Public Affairs Associates, of Lansing, as its lobbyist.

The Section submitted public policy positions concerning the following legislation and/or Court Rules:

The Section **opposed** SB 465 (S-1) Draft 2 and SB 466 (S-1) Draft 1, as well as the proposed companion amendment to the "Security Freeze Act," in part because the proposed legislation has not been sufficiently reviewed and analyzed to ensure that the core concepts expressed by these Bills will actually result without causing unintended and undesirable changes to current Michigan guardian and conservator laws.

The Section **supported with amendments** HB 5366 – HB 5370, SB 0293 concerning fiduciary access to digital assets. While the Section supported these bills in concept, we believe that fiduciary access to digital assets is best accomplished in a standalone bill, rather than in various Michigan statutes. The Section drafted a proposed "Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act" which is based upon the Uniform Law Commission's act of the same name.

The Section **opposed** changes to MCR 7.215^C proposed in ADM 2014-09 concerning the treatment of unpublished opinions.

The Council's proposed changes to Michigan Court Rules contained in ADM 2013-29, supported during the previous Council term were adopted by the Supreme Court.

Furthermore, the Section sought to influence and support the following legislation:

The Council drafted and proposed to the Michigan Legislature amendments to MCL 211.27a concerning relief from property tax uncapping in common estate planning transactions.

The Council drafted and proposed to the Michigan Legislature a Qualified Dispositions in Trust Act (otherwise known as domestic asset protection trusts) which would allow an individual grantor to protect certain dispositions in trust from particular creditor attachment.

The Council continues to support a stand-alone Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act which was drafted and approved by Council in the prior fiscal year.

The Council continues to support legislation that would restructure appeals from Probate Court.

The Section has an interest in and has been or continues to be engaging in discussion on the following:

Legislation that, under certain circumstances, would provide exculpation of trustees of life insurance trusts from liability related to the administration of life insurance policies held in the trust, which would be a proposed amendment to MCL 700.1513

Legislation to address issues of succession in matters involving artificial reproductive technology

The concept of pre-death probate of wills and trusts

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Modernizing the definition of tenants by the entirety property in Michigan and extending such protection to trusts

The concept of community property trusts

Other Activities/Information:

- Sebastian V. Grassi, a former Council Member and prolific author, was awarded the Section's prestigious Michael W. Irish Award for his many contributions to the Section and to his community. Past recipients of the Michael W. Irish award are now posted on the Section's website.
- Amendments to the Section Bylaws were adopted at the Section Annual Meeting September 6, 2014 and were subsequently approved by the Board of Commissioners. The new Bylaws update the Section's mission statement, the terms for Section Council Officers consistent with the fiscal year, the criteria for Section membership, and the procedure for future Amendment of the Bylaws, among other changes.
- The Section's Citizens' Outreach Committee updated several of the Section's pamphlets and is working on a substantial revision to pamphlet content as it explores a web-based informational tool for the public on probate and estate planning matters.
- The Section voted to provide one-time support to the Solo and Small Firm Institute which will be held in October 2015
- The Section's Court Rules and Forms Committee continues to review and draft proposed improvements to SCAO forms.
- The Section continues to produce a Journal tri-annually with articles of interest to Section members. The Section transitioned to a solely electronic version of the Journal in December.
- The Section continues to review the Estates and Protected Individuals Code for possible amendments.
- The Section's newly established Membership Committee implemented several initiatives to build relationships with current Members and attract new Members. The Membership Committee held a networking event in Traverse City in May for new attorneys, new Members to the Section, non-Members and those desiring greater involvement in the Section. The Section also held a vendor booth at the annual Probate & Estate Planning Institute in May to disseminate Section information and anticipates having a booth at the SBM Annual meeting in the Fall.
- The Section established a "Join a Committee" link on Section webpage to encourage involvement of Section Members in Section legislative and leadership activities
- The Section sent its Chair Elect and Vice Chair to State Bar Leadership Forum in June 2014. It will send its Chair Elect and Vice Chair to the Forum in June 2015.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

The Section's Membership dues will not increase in the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,



**Amy Morrissey
Chairperson**

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2014-2015 PCLS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ANNUAL REPORT ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Michael J. Watza, Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook, Detroit
Chair

Michael is co-chair of the Governmental and Commercial Litigation Practice Groups at Kitch. Michael's areas of concentration include litigated, legislative, and administrative solutions on behalf of municipal, nonprofit, and private sector clients. Michael also serves as general counsel to PROTEC and the Mobile Technology Association of Michigan.

Kester K. So, member, Dickinson Wright PLLC, Lansing
Chair-Elect

Kester is a member of the firm's management group and focuses on municipal finance, where he has served as bond counsel or underwriter's counsel on a wide variety of bond issues, including bonds for health care, public power, higher education, transportation, unemployment insurance, tax increment financing, state revolving fund environmental, school bond loan fund, state and local building authorities, airports, water and sewer, solid waste disposal, and economic and industrial development bonds.

Mark E. Nettleton, member, Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones PLC
Secretary/Treasurer

Mark is chair of Mika Meyers Becket & Jones PLC's Local Government Practice Group in Grand Rapids. He practices in the areas of public finance, municipal law, land use and zoning law, and commercial transactions and assists Michigan counties, cities, villages, townships, and public authorities with their legal and financing needs. Mark is the 2013 recipient of the "Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award," and was nominated by clients and selected by fellow legal practitioners from across the state for his professional accomplishment in the representation of cities and villages.

Council members can be found here:

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/b90a13a8-1250-48b1-830b-ccc519d81ece/UploadedImages/pdfs/section_council.pdf

SECTION MEMBERSHIP: 607

SECTION BYLAWS: The section updated its bylaws this term in order to comply with Bar requirements. They are available here:

<https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/b90a13a8-1250-48b1-830b-ccc519d81ece/UploadedImages/pdfs/bylaws.pdf>

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND SEMINARS: The section met once every month during this term except August 2014 and May 2015. The section held two Seminar meetings for its members, one in February and the other in June in conjunction with that month's regular meeting and annual meeting. These meetings were well attended by leading municipal attorneys from around the State. Descriptions are available on the Section Website. The Section also co-hosted luncheons with other sections including the Michigan Tax Tribunal in January 2015 and the May 2015 MPSC Luncheon. The next Seminar meeting is in St. Joe Michigan on June 19-21, 2015. Details are available on the Section website here: <http://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/MICHBAR/b90a13a8-1250-48b1-830b-ccc519d81ece/UploadedImages/pdfs/PCLSAnnualMeetingElection15.pdf>

SECTION LEGISLATURE AND POLICY: The Section is typically very active in Amicus filings and this year was no different. This term the Section participated in the following Policy and Amicus Issues: . Letter to the Supreme Court re the Voluntary Bar Supreme Court Task Force Subcommittee Report; Amicus participation in *Lockett v South Macomb* and in *New Covert Generating Company LLC v Covert Twp*; and the Section joined in a brief filed by various national municipal interests in the FCC MVPD NPRM Proceeding (Cable/internet law).

FINANCIAL REPORT: Section financials ending May 31, 2015 are attached.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

06/12/15

State Bar of Michigan
Public Corporation Law Section
For the Eight Months Ending May 31, 2015

	<u>Current Activity May 2015</u>	<u>Year To Date May 2015</u>	<u>Year to Date May 2014</u>
Revenue:			
1-7-99-800-1050 Public Corp Section Dues	60.00	17,820.00	17,520.00
1-7-99-800-1055 Public Corp Student/Affil Dues	2.00	30.00	28.00
1-7-99-800-1240 Winter Seminar Income		5,900.00	6,625.00
Total Revenue	<u>62.00</u>	<u>23,750.00</u>	<u>24,173.00</u>
Expenses:			
1-9-99-800-1139 Professional Fees-Amicus Brief		3,100.00	22,767.30
1-9-99-800-1145 ListServ		135.00	315.00
1-9-99-800-1276 Meetings	110.54	132.32	162.20
1-9-99-800-1283 Seminar Expenses	299.48	6,214.95	7,916.49
1-9-99-800-1297 Annual Meeting			233.06
1-9-99-800-1528 Telephone	50.97	50.97	77.31
1-9-99-800-1826 Copying			8.00
1-9-99-800-1868 Postage	151.62	370.49	22.32
1-9-99-800-1987 Miscellaneous			125.00
Total Expenses	<u>612.61</u>	<u>10,003.73</u>	<u>31,626.68</u>
Net Income	(550.61)	13,746.27	(7,453.68)
Beginning Fund Balance:			
1-5-00-800-0001 Fund Bal-Public Corporation Sec		19,588.96	38,084.78
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>19,588.96</u>	<u>38,084.78</u>
Ending Fund Balance		33,335.23	30,631.10

State Bar of Michigan
 General Ledger

Ranges: From: To: Subtotal By: No Subtotals Include: Posting
 Date: 10/1/2014 5/31/2015 Sorted By: Segment1
 Account: -9- -800- -9- -800-

Account: 1-9-99-800-1139 Description: Professional Fees-Amicus Brief Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
12/10/2014	106,395	PCLS Expenditure	11187	Michigan Municipal League	\$3,100.00	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1139			Totals:		\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00

Account: 1-9-99-800-1145 Description: ListServ Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
11/21/2014	105,996	Nov 2014 Modern Firm	15286	Chase Manhattan Bank US/Chas	\$45.00	
12/17/2014	106,638	Modern Firm Dec 2014	15786	Chase Manhattan Bank US/Chas	\$45.00	
1/16/2015	107,188	Dec 2014 Modern Firm	DEC 2014	Chase Manhattan Bank US/Chas	\$45.00	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1145			Totals:		\$135.00	\$135.00

Account: 1-9-99-800-1276 Description: Meetings Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
3/16/2015	108,148	Feb 2015 C Crowley	FEB 2015 C CROWLEY	Chase Manhattan Bank US/Chas	\$21.78	
5/20/2015	109,246	11/1/14 Public Corp Meeting	11/4/14 MEETING	Stremers, Gregory	\$110.54	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1276			Totals:		\$132.32	\$132.32

Account: 1-9-99-800-1283 Description: Seminar Expenses Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
12/31/2014	106,678	Dec 2014 E Blast Expense			\$75.00	
12/31/2014	106,681	Dec 2014 Permit Postage Exp			\$359.69	
12/31/2014	106,741	12/14 Ptg/Typesetting Exp			\$68.61	
1/31/2015	107,283	January 2015 E Blast Expense			\$75.00	
1/31/2015	107,285	Jan 2015 Permit Postage Exp			\$275.19	
1/31/2015	107,332	1/15 Printing/Typesetting Exp			\$127.36	
2/13/2015	107,838	SBM Staff Asst/Badges			\$180.00	
2/18/2015	107,594	2/12/15 Public Corp Travel	2/12/15 PCL TRAVEL	Fountain, Gwendolyn	\$72.18	
2/23/2015	107,784	MI Municipal League OP Refund				\$200.00
4/8/2015	108,524	Publi Corp meeting 3/24/15	ACCT CP 280	Hotel Baronette/Baronette Renais	\$4,882.44	
5/31/2015	109,341	5/15 Permit Postage Expense			\$209.92	
5/31/2015	109,344	5/15 Printing & Typesetting			\$89.56	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1283			Totals:		\$6,214.95	\$6,214.95

Account: 1-9-99-800-1528 Description: Telephone Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
5/20/2015	109,246	11/1/14 Public Corp Meeting	11/4/14 MEETING	Stremers, Gregory	\$50.97	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1528			Totals:		\$50.97	\$50.97

Account: 1-9-99-800-1868 Description: Postage Beginning Balance: \$0.00

Trx Date	Jrnl No.	Description	Document #	Vendor	Debit	Credit
1/29/2015	107,262	Public Corp Mailing Service	117803011	BRD Printing, Inc.	\$195.83	
1/31/2015	107,284	January 2015 Postage Expense			\$12.92	
2/28/2015	107,817	Feb 2015 Postage Expense			\$10.12	
5/28/2015	109,297	Public Corp Summer postcards	120020011	BRD Printing, Inc.	\$151.62	
				Net Change	Ending Balance	
Account: 1-9-99-800-1868			Totals:		\$370.49	\$370.49

	<u>Accounts</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Grand Totals:	6	\$0.00	\$10,003.73	\$10,003.73	\$10,203.73	\$200.00

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Real Property Law Section

Mission Statement: The Real Property Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education and information about current real property issues through meetings, seminars, its website, pro bono service programs, a monthly e-newsletter, and quarterly publication of a peer-reviewed journal. Membership in the Section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

As further stated in the Section's By-Laws, the Section's purpose is to study the laws and procedures pertaining to Real Property Law and to promote the fair and just administration of Real Property Law; to study and report upon proposed and necessary legislation, including, but not limited to, pending legislation and drafting and introducing legislation; to study and report on pending litigation, including, but not limited to, the filing of amicus curiae briefs; to promote throughout the State of Michigan the legal education of members of the Bar and the public on Real Property Law by sponsoring meetings, institutes and conferences devoted to Real Property Law, by the preparation and dissemination of books, booklets, materials, pamphlets and brochures with respect thereto and by preparing and sponsoring and publishing legal writings in this field.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	David E. Pierson P#31047	McClelland & Anderson, LLP 1305 S. Washington Ave. Ste. 102 Lansing, MI 48910	517-482-4890	dpierson@malansing.com
Chair-Elect	Brian P. Henry P#333876	Orlans Associates PC 650 E Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48083	248-502-1400	bhenry@orlans.com
Vice-Chair	David Nykanen P#47763	Nykanen Dorfman PLLC 41000 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-629-0880	dave@nykanendorfman.com
Secretary	Nicholas P. Scavone, Jr. P#47138	Bodman LLP 1901 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48226	313-393-7580	nscavone@bodmanlaw.com
Treasurer	Melissa N. Collar P# 51781	Warner Norcross & Judd LLP 111 Lyon Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	616-752-2000	mcollar@wnj.com

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Member	Term	Member	Term
Gregory J. Gamalski P#36034	2017	Richard D. Rattner P#19249	2016
Lorri B. King P#42564	2016	Clay B. Thomas P#56927	2015
Monica Labe P#49097	2015	Margaret Van Meter P#40960	2017
Melissa B. Papke P#67083	2017	Jeffrey D. Weisserman P#40470	2016
Dawn M. Patterson P#49041	2015	Glen M. Zatz P# 37115	2015
		William E. Hosler P#41257 (Land Title Standards)	
		Thomas A. Kabel P#57798 (CLE)	
		Catherine LaMont P#32231 (Amicus Briefs)	

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	September 18, 2014	DeVos Place, Grand Rapids
Council Meeting	October 15, 2014	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	November 19, 2014	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	December 17, 2014	MEX, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	January 21, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	February 18, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	April 15, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	May 20, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	July 17, 2015	Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI

General Budget Information: While the Section's finances remain strong, income and expenses are being closely monitored. In addition, the Section has been making efforts to lower its accumulated income account with the State Bar by pursuing new initiatives and educational programs focused on newer members of the State Bar and more effective technology for continuing education and involvement of older members of the State Bar.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Real Property Acquisitions: Caveat Emptor	October 16, 2014	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Energy-Michigan's New Era	November 6, 2014	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast "Eminent Domain - Practice and Pitfalls"	December 4, 2014	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Financing the Deal	January 22, 2015	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – "On-Demand" Webcast "Land Use & Zoning - Issues for the Comeback	March 6, 2015	"On-Demand" Webcast
RPLS/ICSC	February 12, 2015	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
2015 Winter Conference	March 5-7, 2015	Four Seasons, Austin
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Real Estate Potpourri - Western Style	April 16, 2015	Downtown Market, Grand Rapids
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Detroit - Redevelopment Symposium	April 30, 2015	Antheneum Suite Hotel, Detroit
2015 Summer Conference "Rebuilding the Dream: Michigan Real Estate Revitalized"	July 15-18, 2015	Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI
Other Programming: Next Level Initiative	September 11, 2014	Mitchell's Fish Market, Birmingham
Anniversary Event	November 15, 2014	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit
Pizza & Property	October 21, 2014	Wayne State University Law School
Pizza & Property	March 19, 2015	University of Michigan Law School
Meet & Greet	October 23, 2014	Local Kitchen, Ferndale
Meet & Greet	May 14, 2015	Local Kitchen, Ferndale

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Legislative issues: In addition to monitoring new legislation and responding to requests from the Michigan Supreme Court and others to file amicus curie briefs on real estate issues of importance, the Section has initiated a series of meeting with legislators, particularly committee chairs, to inform them of the Section's mission and expertise so that the Section can get involved with legislative real estate initiatives before new legislation is introduced. In all cases, the Section tries to limit its comments and recommendations without bias toward any particular constituency (the Section strives to be neither pro borrower, pro lender, pro developer, nor pro municipality).

Recommendations for next Council: The next Council should continuing working on its own and with the State Bar of Michigan on improving the Section's website and the online offerings available to the Section's members. It should also continue pursuing outreach and educational programs for newer members of the State Bar, as well as active participation by more experienced practitioners, and expand participation in the Section by real estate lawyers located outside of southeast Michigan.

Other Information: We have a large number of Special Committees which hold educational and networking meetings throughout the State of Michigan. The following is a list of the Special Committees:

Bankruptcy
Commercial Leasing
Commercial Development, Ownership and Finance
Condominiums PUDs and Cooperatives
Construction
Eminent Domain
Energy Law
Federal Tax Aspects of Real Estate Transactions
Residential Transactions and Finance
State and Local Taxation
Title and Conveyancing
Water Law
Zoning and Land Use

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Social Security Lawyers Section

Mission Statement: The purpose of this Section shall be to promote the particular interests of Social Security lawyers, to plan and carry out programs, publications and activities of interest to Social Security lawyers, and to coordinate programs for Social Security lawyers with state, national, and local associations.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	B. Thomas Golden	2186 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 9, Lowell, MI	(616) 897-2900	btg@bthomasgolden.com
Chair-Elect	Joseph F. Petrylak	4183 Maplewood Meadows Ave., Grand Blanc, MI	(810) 760-2976	jpetrylak@yahoo.com
Secretary	Margaret A. O'Donnell	888 W Big Beaver Road, Ste 1490, Troy, MI	(248) 362-4700	odonnellm@chartersheck.com
Treasurer	Janice L. Stern	13464 Preston Dr., Ste 200, PO Box 819, Marshall, MI	(269) 789-9535	simsandstern.jan@gmail.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Annette Skinner	9/30/16	Ben Symko	9/30/16
Lisa Welton	9/30/16	Elizabeth Warren	9/30/16
Larry Maitland	9/30/15	Kim Lamb	9/30/15
Jeff Appel	9/30/15	James Haadsma	9/30/15
Ron Berridge	9/30/15	Nancy Anderson	9/30/16
Charles Robison	9/30/15		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Annual Meeting	October 3, 2014	Livonia, Michigan
Council Meeting	November 19, 2014	East Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	January 14, 2015	East Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	March 25, 2015	East Lansing, Michigan
Council Meeting	May 13, 2015	East Lansing, Michigan

General Budget Information: As of April 30, 2015, the general fund ending balance was \$18,004.53.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting and Seminar	October 3, 2104	Livonia, Michigan
February Seminar	February 27, 2015	East Lansing, Michigan
June Seminar	June 5, 2015	Grand Rapids, Michigan

Legislative issues: None

Recommendations for next Council: Continue to expand new practitioner training.

Other Information: None

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Taxation Section

Mission Statement: The Section, as a representative of the legal profession, shall serve its members and the public through education and leadership in efforts to achieve an equitable, efficient, and workable tax system. The purpose of this Section is to improve public understanding of, confidence in, and respect for the federal, state and local tax systems; to provide leadership in simplifying and improving the federal, state and local tax systems; to provide unbiased, thoughtful and timely input into the legislative and administrative process at the national, state and local levels; To promote and maintain an active, vigorous, growing and interested Section membership; To provide programs and services of unique quality which promote professionalism, competence and ethical conduct; to provide a forum for communication among Section members and interchange between the public and private sectors

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Marjorie Gell P46974	111 Commerce Ave. SW Grand Rapids, MI 49503	616-301-680	gellm@cooley.edu
Chair-Elect	Michael Antovski P57175	1901 St. Antoine Street, 6th Floor at Ford Field Detroit, MI 48226	313-393-7519	mantovski@bodmanlaw.com
Treasurer	Alexander G. Domenicucci P58898	28400 Northwestern Highway Third Floor Southfield, Michigan 48034- 1839	248-351-7078	Adomenicucci@maddinhauser.com
Secretary	Carolee K. Smith P57484	1 Energy Plaza Dr #EP-10-205 Jackson, MI 49201	517-788-2209	carolee.cameron@cmsenergy.com
Ex Officio	Lynnteri A. Gandhi P60466	660 Woodward Ave, Ste 2290 Detroit, MI 48226	313-465-7646	lgandhi@honigman.com

Member	Term
Joshua Wease – P61653	2015
Marla S. Carew – P58525	2016
James Combs – P59750	2016
Jackie J. Cook - P68781	2015
William C. Lentine - P71691	2015
Paul V. McCord – P61138	2017
Joseph Pia – P52057	2017

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Regina M. Staudacher – P48934	2017
Tammie Tischler – P59516	2017

Council Meeting Schedule (as of May 29, 2015):

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	September 16, 2014	The Townsend, Birmingham, MI
Annual Meeting	September 16, 2014	The Townsend, Birmingham, MI
Officer Meeting	October 22, 2014	Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	October 23, 2014	Maddin Hauser, Southfield, MI
Officer Meeting	December 5, 2014	Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	December 11, 2014	Honigman, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Officer Meeting	January 14, 2015	Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	January 22, 2015	Honigman, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Council Meeting	March 12, 2015	Dykema, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Officer Meeting	April 15, 2015	Telephone Conference
Council Meeting	June 23, 2015	Bodman, Detroit, MI
Council Meeting	September 24, 2015	The Townsend, Birmingham, MI
Annual Meeting	September 24, 2015	The Townsend, Birmingham, MI

General Budget Information:

The Taxation Section started the fiscal year with approximately \$86,000 on hand and budgeted revenue of \$39,414 and expenses of \$56,220. Major budgeted expenses include \$14,000 for Committee Meetings, \$6,500 for the Annual Tax Conference, \$5,000 in grant assistance to low income taxpayer clinics, \$9,000 for the publication of the Section's *Michigan Tax Lawyer* journal, and \$5,000 in compensation for the Program Facilitator.

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
AHTLS: State Tax Controversies in Michigan	October 14, 2014	Webcast
Estates and Trusts Committee, "Personal Goodwill Tax Cases"	October 30, 2014	Warner Norcross & Judd, Southfield, Michigan, with remote videocast at WNJ, Grand Rapids, Michigan
AHTLS: Transfer Tax Issues: A Case Study Approach	November 20, 2014	Webcast
Holiday Mixer co-sponsored by Practice and Procedures Committee and SALT Committee	December 10, 2014	Varnum, Novi, Michigan
Tax Council Mixer	December 11, 2014	Eddie Merlot's, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
AHTLS: An Inside Look Into IRS Criminal Investigations	January 14, 2015	Webcast
FTT: "The Nuts & Bolts of Obtaining a Private Letter Ruling"	January 15, 2015	Honigman, Detroit, Michigan
Tax Court Luncheon with Judge Albert G Lauber	February 3, 2015	London Chop House, Detroit, Michigan

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Young Tax Lawyers Committee: Meeting and Mixer	February 5, 2015	Midtown Brewing Co., Lansing, Michigan
AHTLS: Estate Planning Tax Considerations for 2015	February 19, 2015	Webcast
Federal Income Tax Committee, "S Corporation M&A Issues" Program and Mixer	March 5, 2015	Dickinson Wright, Detroit, Michigan
Council Meeting	March 12, 2015	Dykema, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
Federal Income Tax Committee, "An Insiders Guide to Transfer Pricing" Program and Mixer	May 7, 2015	Dickinson Wright, Detroit, Michigan
Annual Tax Conference	May 21, 2015	Inn at St. John's, Plymouth, MI
Tax Court Luncheon with Judge Joseph H. Gale	June 23, 2015	London Chop House, Detroit, Michigan
Past Charis' Dinner	September 24, 2015	The Townsend, Birmingham, Michigan
Council Meeting	September 24, 2015	The Townsend, Birmingham, Michigan
Annual Meeting	September 24, 2015	The Townsend, Birmingham, Michigan

Legislative issues: In March 2015, the Section adopted a position regarding SB 100 regarding the prepayment requirement for filing tax refund claims in the Court of Claims.

Recommendations for next Council: Continue to focus on outreach to law students and young lawyers. Continue to develop sound and well-reasoned positions on tax law and administration at the state level, consistent with the Section's mission statement. Focus on the Committees, as they provide practice-focused service and the first point of access to the Section by many members.

Other Information: Michigan Tax Lawyer published 3 times a year and available on LexisNexis; co-sponsorship of ICLE Tax Seminars; seven standing substantive committees with active programming or membership throughout the year (meetings and other educational programs for Section members); grants made to organizations assisting low-income taxpayers; awards given to law students; outreach meetings with area law students.

Standing Committees:

Federal Income Tax Committee (FIT)(f/k/a Business Entities Committee)
Employee Benefits
Estates and Trusts
International Taxation
Practice and Procedure
State and Local Taxation
Young Tax Lawyers

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Workers Compensation Law Section Council

Mission Statement: Mission Statement: the Worker's Compensation law section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. Membership in the section is open to all members of the State Bar of Michigan. Statements made on behalf of the section do not necessarily reflect the views of the State Bar of Michigan.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	J. Williams Housefield, Jr.	601 Abbot Rd.01 Abbot Rd.East Lansing, MI 48826	(517) 351-0280	jwhousefield@mcgintylaw.com
Chair-Elect	Christopher Rabideau	2922 Fuller Ave NE, Suite 118, Grand Rapids, MI 49505	(616) 364-6607	crabideau@mccroskeylaw.com
Secretary	Ella Parker	200 N. Grand Ave. Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 708-5698	Ella.parker@accidentfund.com
Treasurer	Timothy Esper	535 Griswold Suite 1650 Detroit, MI 40226	(313)964-4900	jte@esperlaw.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Jayson A. Chizick	2015	Dennis P. Flynn	2015
Mark M. Sesì	2015	Rosa Bava	2016
Phillip I Frame	2016	Andrea L. Hamm	2016
John B. Combs	2017	Matthew R. Conklin	2017
Jeffrey S. Kirschner	2017		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	7/18/2014	Via fuze.com
Council Meeting	9/26/2014	Via fuze.com

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Council Meeting	11/7/2014	Via fuze.com
Annual Winter Meeting	12/5/2014	Dimondale, MI
Council Meeting	2/6/2015	Via fuze.com
Council Meeting	4/17/2015	Via fuze.com
Council Meeting	5/8/2015	Lansing, MI
Spring Annual Meeting	6/18-19/15	Traverse City, MI

General Budget Information: the section's annual year runs from July 1, (2014) to June 30, (2015). As of August 2014, the Section had \$74,356 in its general account. By December 2014, following receipt of the membership dues the account was \$93,391. As of April, 2015 the latest available financials showed a balance of \$90,756.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Winter Meeting	12/5/14	Dimondale, MI
Past Chairpersons Golf and Dinner	5/8/15	Lansing, MI
Annual Summer Meeting	6/18-19/15	Traverse City, MI

Legislative issues:

Recommendations for next Council:

Other Information:

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2015 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Bar Year: 2014-2015

Section Name: Young Lawyers Section

Mission Statement:

The Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan (YLS) provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter. The YLS bylaws provide that the objectives and purposes of the YLS "shall be to sponsor and carry on activities of particular interest and value to young lawyers in Michigan; to coordinate activities of the various local young lawyer groups in Michigan; to cooperate fully with, and as an integral part of, the State Bar of Michigan; and to cooperate with the various local bar associations in the State of Michigan, and the American Bar Association, including its Young Lawyers Division, in the promotion of their programs."

Officers and Council Members:

Chair--Andrea C. Irons

38770 Garfield Rd Ste 100
Clinton Twp, MI 48038
586-469-4800 andreairens@gmail.com

Chair-Elect--Mark W. Jane

444 South Main Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-372-4900 mwjane1980@yahoo.com

Secretary--Shenique O. Moss

525 W Ottawa St Fl 2
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1130 mosss@michigan.gov

Treasurer—Syeda Davidson

43260 Garfield Rd Ste 280
Clinton Township, MI 48038-7415
586-226-2627 syeda@bsglawfirm.com

Ex-Officio--Hope V. Shovein

1000 Town Ctr, Fl 22
Southfield, MI 48075
248-358-4400 hshovein@brookskushman.com

Member Term expires

P71957 Ryan C. Plecha (District 2) 2015
P73846 Kara Hart-Negrich (District 3) 2015
P73941 Laura I. Marji (District 1) 2015

P74227 Stephanie E. Farkas (District 2) 2016
P74504 Donald Rencher (District 1) 2015
P75369 Samantha J. Orvis (District 2) 2015
P76618 Matthew Paul Breuer (District 2) 2015
P69572 Jade Jozzmenia Edwards (District 3) 2016
P72279 Aysha Jamil Kasham (District 3) 2016
P73964 Mwanaisha Atieno Sims (District 1) 2016
P76526 Jerome Crawford (District 2) 2016
P77031 Tanya Cripps (District 2) 2016
P72107 Ryan Zemke (District 1) 2016
P77123 Choi Portis (District 2) 2016
P77379 Roberta Sacharski (District 3) 2016
P76599 Laura Kubit (District 3) 2015
P78203 Elizabeth Abdnour (District 3) 2015
Zane Hatahet (Law Student Section Chair) n/a

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type Date Location

Annual Meeting / First Meeting Thursday, September 18, 2014 Grand Rapids, Michigan
Annual Planning Retreat Saturday, October 18, 2014 Traverse City, Michigan
Regular Business Meeting Thursday, November 20, 2014 Radisson Lansing, Michigan
Regular Business Meeting Thursday, January 14, 2015 Conference Call
Regular Business Meeting Thursday, March 12, 2015 SBM Building Lansing, Michigan
Annual BOC Challenge and Regular Business Meeting
Friday, April 24, 2015 Spare Time Entertainment Center, Lansing, Michigan
YLS Annual Summit Friday and Saturday, May 29-30, 2015 Detroit, Michigan
Regular Business Meeting Thursday, July 23, 2015 TBD @ this time
Annual Meeting / Last Meeting, October 8, 2015 Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi

General Budget Information:

The Young Lawyer Section receives an annual allocation of \$62,100 from the State Bar of Michigan to fund its operations. The Section is also allowed to roll over any unused funds from the previous year. The Section also raises revenue by securing sponsorships for programs and charging nominal registration fees to participate in certain programs throughout the year. The YLS Council strives to keep costs low so as not to unduly burden our members.

The budget is prepared by the incoming Chair each year and is divided between the following accounts: Meetings, Annual Meeting, the YLS Summit, Programming for the Bar, Public Service programming, ABA conference travel, newsletter and administrative costs.

Committees:

Inter Alia Committee: “The Inter Alia Committee shall be led by the Chairperson-Elect, and shall be responsible for collecting content for and publishing the YLS Newsletter, Inter Alia.” YLS Bylaws, Article 7, Section 3(a).

Chair – Mark Jane

Members – Aysha Kasham, Syeda Davidson

Media/Marketing Relations Committee: “The Media/Marketing Relations Committee shall be established and shall be responsible for maintaining the YLS webpage, marketing and promotional materials, protocol regarding the YLS listserv, and initiating and maintaining any other media and/or marketing relations items.” YLS Bylaws, Article 7, Section 3(b).

Chair – Samantha Orvis

Members – Kara Hart-Negrich, Laura Marji, Shenique Moss

Diversity Committee: “The Diversity Committee shall be established and shall be responsible for promoting diversity, including initiating Section 3(c).

Chair – Donald Rencher

Members – Syeda Davidson, Jerome Crawford, Choi Portis, Matt Breuer, Laura Kubit, Stephanie Farkas

Disaster Legal Services Committee:

Chair – Shenique Moss

Members – Ryan Plecha, Choi Portis, Laura Marji, Syeda Davidson

Events and Seminars for the 2014-2015 Bar Year

Homeless Youth Legal Clinic and Thanksgiving Dinner

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section (YLS) hosted a Homeless Youth and Legal Clinic and Thanksgiving Meal for the youths residing at Gateway Community Services (Gateway). Gateway is a non-profit that serves homeless youth by providing essential services so they can become stable, self-sustaining members of the community. The event took place at the Lansing Radisson, Sunday, November 23, 2014. These kids have no family to be with for the Holiday. It is our belief that this community service event will not only assist in YLS making a name for itself in the Ingham County area, but the community service provided will have a powerful impact on these young individual’s life’s for a long period of time. Additionally, all the youth were asked to generate at least one legal question for YLS volunteers to answer. Furthermore, ABA YLD announced that assistance to homeless youth is their theme for the year. YLS was responsible for the planning and implementation of the entire project.

Fourth Annual Improv Bootcamp For New Litigators

On November 22, 2014, YLS hosted an improvisational workshop for new lawyers at Go! Comedy for the fourth year in a row. The workshop is titled “ThinkFast! Improv Workshop for New Lawyers.” It is hosted at Go!Comedy’s intimate location, and is taught by one of the theater’s experienced actors. The workshop introduces a networking component as well, as one of the beginning exercises consists of two participants sitting back-to-back while they attempt to have a conversation. This exercise forces participants to listen to their partners, as they cannot rely on facial cues to determine what is being said. Each participant then gives a

small presentation about his or her partner based on the conversation. There are many exercises that focus on building this skill. Any litigator is familiar with that moment when you appear in front of a judge who asks you a question that you do not have a readily-available answer for, or that moment when you are in trial and a witness says something that you were less-than-prepared for them to say. This workshop also assists with that. Several exercises focus on telling a story as a team, with no knowledge of what the other team members are going to say. For example, nine people are placed on stage and two of them, independent of each other, provide the beginning and ending sentences of a story. The remaining members must come up with other sentences to complete the story in a way that brings connects the beginning to the end, no matter how unrelated they seem.

Seminar on Preliminary Examinations

With the passage of 2014 Public Acts 123 and 124, many of the rules and procedures governing preliminary exams have changed effective January 1, 2015. The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section hosted an event as partners with the Macomb County Bar Association Criminal Law Section on January 12, 2015 to help outline and discuss these changes. Over 100 attorneys were in attendance to become apprised of these new changes. Defense attorney Mitch Foster highlighted the major changes involved and outlined how to approach the new probable cause conferences and preliminary exams from the viewpoint of a defense attorney. He highlighted new methods that prosecuting attorneys may use as well as rules that may be favorable to the defense. 38th District Court Judge Carl Gerds III outlined the new authority that has been given to the magistrates and provided insight from how members of the bench in both circuit courts and district courts are approaching these changes. He discussed issues that may arise with these new procedures and addressed how the court administration is adapting to the new rules. Attendees left with an understanding of how the new law will affect their practice as well as what new techniques they may encounter as these new rules play out in future cases.

YLS Council Retreat

October 18, 2014 in Acme, Michigan

The annual YLS Executive Council retreat is designed to build relationships, encourage teamwork and motivate council members to be active in the community and plan events. This year, the retreat began with a full day of planning for the year, a council meeting, and orientation for new members regarding the role of the YLS. The group met from 11:00am until 4pm and reconvened at 6:30pm for dinner at Aerie Restaurant.

United States Supreme Court Admissions Trip

November 5, 2013 in Washington, DC

The YLS coordinated a trip for 12 young lawyers to travel to DC to be sworn in at the United States Supreme Court. This is currently a bi-annual trip, which we are considering coordinating annually, in light of the popularity of the event.

586/248/313 Quizzo Challenge

The SBM YLS Section recently hosted a Quizzo challenge between the local bar associations from Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. The 248/586/313 Challenge is an annual

tradition which pits participants from each county against each other in a battle for the Dequindre Cup – while increasing camaraderie between bar associations and providing networking opportunities for participants involved. The reigning champion from the previous year selects the competition for the current year. This year, Macomb County (586) selected a trivia event called Quizzo. The event was hosted at the Dragonmead Brewery in Warren on Monday, May 23rd. Over 30 participants were divided amongst 4 teams to solve riddles and trivia involving a wide variety of topics. The event came down to the final round and was decided by only a few points – but the team representing Oakland County (248) emerged victorious.

Diversity Mock Trial

On Saturday, March 7, 2015, the SBM YLS held its 2nd Annual “Diversity In The Legal Field” Mock Trial Competition (the “Program”) at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. SBM YLS chose to follow up with another mock trial competition following its successful 2014 competition. Again SBM YLS believes if students are exposed to oral advocacy from a legal spectrum, it would create a strong and positive interest of the legal profession. The Program also incorporated a 2 hour panel discussion that included judges, two young lawyers and two law students. Approximately 100 students from the Detroit Metro Area ranging in age from 10 years old to 13 years of age participated in the Program. The Program was a full day event beginning at 8:30 am and ending at 5:00 pm. SBM YLS coordinated approximately 100 students, 2 law student volunteers, 15 chaperones, 10 SBM YLS volunteers, and 5 judges from the Detroit Metro Area. The Program included the following judge participation: Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Hon. Katherine L. Hansen, Hon. Qiana Denise Lillard, Hon. Cylenthia LaToye Miller, and the Hon. Margaret Van Houten. All discussion topics were provided by the students who attended. The students that participated in the Program were from George Crockett Academy and Hope of Detroit Academy. All students that participated in this Program identified as an underrepresented minority. Additionally, 4 of the 5 judges that participated were women and 2 of the 5 judges were African-American. There was also a very diverse mix of SBM volunteers. SBM YLS believes that it is so important for children to see judges, law students and young attorneys who they can relate to. In conjunction with the Project, SBM YLS also held an Everyday Justice Instagram Competition. This was a month long statewide competition. High School students and Junior High School students were instructed to take a picture of something that they believed illustrated injustice or justice. Instructions informed students that each picture required captions that explained their picture. The winner of the Everyday Justice Instagram Competition received a \$25 gift card, copy of To Kill a Mockingbird and a lunch with a leader in the legal profession.

Macomb Winter Luncheon

On February 25th the Young Lawyers Section co-hosted a luncheon with the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan – Macomb Region. The luncheon was held at the Bath City Bistro in Mt. Clemens. The featured speaker was WLAM-Macomb member, Julie Gatti, Immediate Past President of the Macomb County Bar Association. Ms. Gatti has been honored as a SuperLawyer, and was honored by Michigan Lawyers Weekly as one of Michigan's 2014 outstanding “Women in the Law.” She shared personal stories and advice and led a group

discussion on professional image, leadership, and maintaining life balance. 27 attendees had an opportunity to mingle following lunch.

YLS v. BOC Laser Tag Challenge

April 24, 2014 at Spare Time Entertainment in Lansing

The YLS Council beat the Board of Commissioners this year at the annual event designed to develop relationships between the YLS and the BOC, and to raise money for Access to Justice.

SBM New Member Orientation

May 29, 2015 at Wayne State University Law School

The New Member Orientation is designed to assist new lawyers with their transition into the practice of law. The event identifies programming and services offered by the State Bar of Michigan, as well as introduces attendees to State Bar staff and members of the YLS executive council. Attendees learn about the YLS and are introduced to a network of professionals and resources, as well as the benefits available through the State Bar of Michigan and its sections. The orientation also addresses common pitfalls that new lawyers should avoid, answers frequently asked questions, and offers tips for new lawyers. The location, program agenda, etc. were developed by YLS.

8th Annual Young Lawyer Summit

May 29-30 at GreekTown Hotel & Casino

The Young Lawyers Summit is the annual section-wide gathering of the members of the YLS. The Summit has been held at numerous venues across the State of Michigan, and we were pleased to bring the Summit back to Detroit for 2015. The event is designed to provide networking opportunities with fellow members of the YLS, exposure to other sections of the State Bar, as well as a wide array of educational programming. The Summit kicked off with a Welcome Reception on Friday evening. Saturday offered a full day of educational sessions – many in partnership with other sections of the Bar. The Summit concluded with a Saturday evening reception at Punch Bowl Social. In addition, the Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award was presented to Takura Nyamfukdza at the Saturday luncheon prior to the keynote address from Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein.

Genesee County Young Lawyers Host Legal Writing Primer

On April 22, the Genesee County Young Lawyers, with the support of the State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers, held a legal writing session. The workshop was hosted by John Streby, a Genesee County attorney and author, who, unbeknownst to many of his colleagues, has two published books, “The Devil Won’t Care” and “Rabbit Stew”. Attorney Streby spoke to a group of young attorneys about how to submit persuasive legal writing and keep the judge interested without delving too much into the creative writing realm. He shared with the group his 12 Rules for Legal Writing, which included some simple tips such as “avoiding clichés”, “beware of email” (meaning think carefully before you hit that send button), and “always provide a judge’s copy”, to some more detailed tips such as “avoid stating an insurmountable burden” and “use your legal writing to enhance credibility with judges”. The response from those in attendance was overwhelmingly positive and attorneys were able to take home useful handouts to help in

their practices. Overall the advice was useful for young and old attorneys alike, and we should all utilize the guidance provided.

Mock Interview and Resume Workshop

The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section in conjunction with Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Lansing) hosted a Mock Interview & Resume Review Workshop for law students and new attorneys on Saturday, February 14, 2015. The Workshop included 1) mock interviews conducted by veteran attorneys, 2) resume and cover letter review, and 3) a panel discussion featuring veteran and young attorneys. The workshop was held from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Participant forwarded resumes to the interviewers/reviewers in advance of the Workshop. Each interview lasted approximately 15 to 20 minutes (followed by 5 to 10 minutes of constructive feedback).

Introduction to Immigration Agencies for New Practitioners

On February 6, 2015, Young Lawyers converged at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Support Center in Detroit, MI. YLS hosted a seminar entitled "Immigration Law for New Practitioners." The program allows new and young lawyers the opportunity to become acquainted with the Immigration system. The agencies that were present included: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) and Department of State. This project provided an all-day event with presentations from the various agencies and introductions from the directors and officers of each agency. The attendees had the ability to have direct access and interact with the various Immigration agencies and obtain important information for practitioners as well as the ability to ask questions. There was a great amount of information exchanged from both sides and the event proved to be very helpful for the young lawyers as well as the agencies. The end result of this event is that it opens the doors of communication between the young practitioners and the officers of such agencies. It allows the exchange of information to the benefit of all parties.

Breakfast Basics: Boosting Litigation Skills & Using ICLE Resources

The SBM Young Lawyers Council partnered with ICLE for this breakfast event where young lawyers were given the opportunity to get a thorough understanding of the litigation practice. They were also able to take home materials and inside tips based on years of experience. ICLE staff also discussed all the resources ICLE has to offer.

Immigration Reform Event at Third Street Bar/Dangerously Delicious Pies

Based on the popular 3rd Street/Dangerously Delicious Pie Lecture Series, this event took place at the 3rd Street Bar in Detroit. Much like in the past, this event was on a particular topic: President Obama's executive order on immigration reform. There was a 3 person panel (one constitutional law professor and 2 immigration attorneys) with a moderator to discuss the impact of the executive order. It began with a series of prewritten questions and time was allowed at the end for questions by the audience. Dangerously Delicious Pies once again catered the event.

Upcoming Event—Project Street Youth Legal Clinic

The State Bar of Michigan's Young Lawyers Section is organizing a Project Street Youth legal clinic in Lansing. Project Street Youth is the 2014-2015 national public service project of the ABA Young Lawyers Division. Learn more here: www.ambar.org/projectstreetyouth.

The clinic will take place on June 17th from 4:30-5:30 at the Kevin J. Moody House in Lansing (the address will be provided once you sign up, we are withholding it for the privacy of the residents). Participating is in no way limited to attorneys that have experience with the homeless or even with legal clinics. There is a role for anyone and everyone that wants to be involved, no matter your background or your time constraints!

ABA Young Lawyers Division Meetings

The YLS represents Michigan young lawyers at the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (ABA-YLD) meetings. As an affiliate of the ABA-YLD, the YLS representatives vote on resolutions considered by the ABA-YLD. YLS representatives were (or will be) at the following meetings:

YLD Fall Conference, Portland, Oregon, October 9-11, 2014

Midyear Conference, Houston, Texas, February 5-8, 2015

YLD Spring Conference, Tampa, Florida, May 14-16, 2015

Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, July 30 – August 2, 2015

Facebook and Inter Alia Newsletter:

The YLS maintains a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/sbmysl> and issues a newsletter to advise its membership of its activities and provide informative and educational information. Four editions have gone out this year with one more to come.

Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award:

Each year the YLS honors a member of the Section who exhibits great leadership qualities and who has demonstrated exceptional service to the bar and service to the public with the Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. The award is named for Regeana Myrick, who was a very active member of the SBM Young Lawyers Section Executive Council when she died in 1997. The 2015 award was presented to Takura Nyamfukudza during the 8th Annual Summit in Lansing.

YLS ABA Representatives:

The ABA Young Lawyers Division District Representative is Shenique Moss and the ABA House of Delegates (YLD) Representative is Mwanaisha Sims.

Recommendations for next council:

As the YLS does not collect dues, we are restricted in how we can spend our annual budget. Therefore, the council must closely watch for the recommendations of the Supreme Court Task Force on the SBM to make sure that future YLS programs and events are in line with any policy changes. On a lighter note, keep it fun. The very purpose of the YLS is "to sponsor and carry on activities of particular interest and value to young attorneys in Michigan." Our members are

just beginning their careers – bring them together, let them learn from each other, and don't let them forget that this can be a fun and fulfilling profession.

Submitted by:

Andrea C. Irons

Chair, Young Lawyers Section 2014-2015