

**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION
2010 - 2011 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Mission Statement: The purposes of the Section shall be to study the law of labor relations and to promote its fair and just administration; to study and report upon proposed and necessary legislation, to promote the legal education of members of the Bar and the general public by generating awareness of the problems and concerns of management, labor, and employment relations through sponsorship of meetings, institutes, and conferences, and by preparing, sponsoring, and publishing legal writing in the labor field; to endeavor to assist in the development of rules and conduct based upon the rights and responsibilities of labor and industry; and to promote justice, human welfare, and industrial peace.

Officers and Council Members: Officers and Council Members are listed by practice emphasis: "M" references Management; "P" references Plaintiff; "U" references Union; and "N" references neutral.

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2010-2011 Council Meetings: The Council meets once a month, typically on the second Monday of the month, during every month except July and August. During the last year, the meetings were held in Novi, Birmingham and Grand Rapids with a telephonic attendance option.

Section Membership Committee: The Council's Committee for Membership initiated several promotions to encourage new membership and will be recommending a bylaw changes designed to increase membership.

Section Bylaws: The Council anticipates proposed bylaw changes to be effectuated in the next fiscal year. The changes will allow for affiliate members (who are not members of the SBM) and will decrease the dues for Student members from \$2 to \$0 and increase the period for "free" membership to new lawyers to the balance of the first year and the full subsequent year.

Section Publications: Lawnotes continues to be published quarterly and can be found on our section website as part of the SBM website.

Events and/or Seminars: LELS has had a busy year. We started with a great program at our annual meeting in Grand Rapids on September 30, 2010: Social Media in the Workplace. The panel members were Adam Forman, Tiffany Buckley-Norwood, Carole Bos, Brian Koncius and Jeff Fraser. A lively networking hour followed. On October 14, 2010, the Section co-sponsored the Bernard Gottfried Memorial Labor Law Symposium held in Detroit, at Wayne State University Law School. The program featured Craig Becker, member of the National Labor Relations Board and other dignitaries and culminated in a reception celebrating the 75th anniversary of the NLRB. The Section's Holiday party took place on December 9, 2010 at the Birmingham Country Club. Last year's storytelling contest was reprised and a collegial good time was had by all. The Section's Mid-Winter Meeting took place on January 21 and 22, 2011 at the Detroit Athletic Club. The dinner speaker was Caroline Smardz Frost who spoke about her book about the Underground Railroad and its connections with Detroit. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to a gracious Thomas Barnes. The Section co-sponsored the ICLE "Labor and employment Law Institute" with a new lawyer promotion that was enormously successful. The LELI enjoyed record attendance and the Section gained many new members. On May 10, 2011 the Section collaborated on a west side event with the Grand Rapids Bar Association featuring Judge Robert J. Jonker and roundtable discussions on the topics of "Civility," "Managing Client Expectations," and "Emerging Theories and Trends in the Law." On June 9, 2011, the Section will present the "Spring Board" seminar, focusing on the role of in-house counsel, to be held at the Big Rock in Birmingham.

Awards: The Distinguished Service Award was presented to a gracious Thomas Barnes at the Section's Mid-Winter Meeting in January of 2011.

Financial Report: After experiencing a downturn in revenue and increase in expenses in previous years, the Section is now financially secure and expenses are within budget.

Future Goals and Activities: The Section intends to continue providing excellent seminars and programs for members and its quarterly publication, "Lawnotes." The Section also plans to continue its drive for new members.