

**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION
2011 - 2012 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Mission Statement: The purposes of the Section shall be to study labor and employment law 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 this Section of the Bar and the general public by generating awareness of the problems and concerns of management, labor, and employee relations through sponsorship of meetings, institutes, and conferences, and by preparing, sponsoring, and publishing legal writing in the labor and employment field; to endeavor to assist in the development of rules and conduct based upon the rights and responsibilities of employees and management and labor and industry; and to promote justice, equal opportunity, 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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2011-2012 Council Meetings: The Council meets once a month, typically on the second Monday of the month, during every month except July. During the last year, the meetings were held in Detroit, Novi, Birmingham and Grand Rapids with a telephonic attendance option.

Section Bylaws: The Section changed its bylaws to allow for affiliate members (who are not members of the SBM) and to 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: A primary focus of the Council was to schedule events and/or seminars for its members. We started with a great program at our annual meeting in Dearborn on September 15, 2011: Judge David McKeague of the Sixth

Circuit Court of Appeals discussed his observations on appellate advocacy. Leonard Page and Bob Vercruyse debated the NLRB/Boeing case; Jim Moore and Craig Lange discussed the recent initiatives in public sector bargaining. Tom Barnes was moderator for both panels. A networking hour followed.

On October 12, 2011, the Section co-sponsored the Bernard Gottfried Memorial Labor Law Symposium held in Detroit at Wayne State University Law School.

The Section's Holiday party took place on December 9, 2010 at the Birmingham Country Club.

The Section's Mid-Winter Meeting took place on January 20 and 21, 2012 at the Detroit Athletic Club. The dinner speaker was Steve Babson, one of the authors of *The Color of Law*. Steve introduced Hon. Claudia House Morcom who was presented with the Section's Award for Courage and Vision. The Distinguished Service Award was presented posthumously to George Wirth. The Section also presented a seminar on January 21, 2012 with Legal Updates presented by Mike Shoudy, Gary Francis, Rob Boonin and Jeff Steele. Dan Swanson moderated a panel of Judges including Judge Nancy Edmonds, Judge David Viviano and Judge Philip Rodgers, Jr.

On April 9, 2012 the Section sponsored, with 27 law firms as co-sponsors, a reception for Terry Morgan, the new Regional Director of Region 7 of the NLRB.

The Section co-sponsored the ICLE "Labor and Employment Law Institute" with a new lawyer promotion in April.

On May 14, 2012 the Section co-sponsored a west side event with the Grand Rapids Bar Association featuring Judge Robert Holmes Bell and roundtable discussions on the latest developments in labor and employment law.

On June 7, 2012, the Section will present the "Spring Board" seminar, focusing on the ABCs of Agency practice to be held at the Big Rock in Birmingham.

Awards: The Distinguished Service Award was presented posthumously to George Wirth at the Section's Mid-Winter Meeting in January of 2011.

Financial Report: 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.