



**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**


**General Budget Information:** The fund balance of the section at the end of April 2013, was \$101,854.08. Expenditures for the Fall conference generally start in the mid to late summer and trickle into early winter, and those expenses of approximately 24,000-27,000 dollars reduce our balances during those times.

In late fall, however, section dues come in and that bolsters our balance typically in the amount of 35,000 or so—which in addition to Fall seminar income, means an approx. steady state budget. Our Spring conference is typically a modest money maker, with seminar income exceeding expenses.

The section has historically helped fund litigation, and as much as 50,000 dollars has been allocated for that in the past, and we also make donations to non-profit programs serving the elderly and those with disabilities. We have expenses as well for a newsletter, and for lobbying, and other more modest expenses for such things as telephone conferencing, list serve maintenance, etc.

Dues are 35 dollars a year for most members—a discounted membership is available for senior attorneys and students. Also, for new attorneys, who opt in, membership is “free” for the first two years after their admission as an attorney. As a consequence the section, with approx. 1800 members, has about 1100 paying members. Our membership has held relatively steady for the past few years, and may even be growing slightly after a slight membership dip in 2008/2009./2010

**Events and/or Seminars:**

A team of individuals, in the form of a small committee, have revitalized and enhanced our Fall Conference in many ways, and the latest Spring Conference drew the most registrants ever.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Fall Conference	Oct 3-5, 2012	Crystal Mountain, MI
Spring Conference	March 15, 2013	The Inn at St. Johns, MI
Fall Conference	Oct 2-4, 2013	Crystal Mountain, MI

**Legislative Issues:** Our public policy positions are listed on the State Bar website. We have been active in pooled trust issues, the Blue Cross conversion legislation, DNR changes, licensing of adult

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foster care, Medicaid expansion, changes in Michigan's DPOA laws, enhancement of criminal penalties for those who abuse vulnerable adults, and more.

**Recommendations for Next Council:**

**Other Information:**

We are on the verge of some bylaw changes, which may actually be adopted on the cusp of the new fiscal year.

Our newsletter is delivered electronically now, and our list-serve, kept up in part by a long-standing and able volunteer coordinator, is widely used by about 2/3rds of our membership.

Our supported litigation focus has been on various Medicaid qualification issues of late—particularly when we think the state of Michigan administrators have strayed from federal or state mandates.

Most notably our recent focus has been on the issues of nursing home dual bed (Medicare/Medicaid) certification; Medicaid eligibility and pooled trust issues, and interpretation of the DHS Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 401 and 405; community spousal retirements and IRA's when the other spouse needs the nursing home or similar care.

**Reports must be submitted by May 31, 2013, to:**

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***Council Members***

**Term Expires 9/30/2013**

P68470 Cynthia Jill Goodell, Grand Rapids

P15910 J. David Kerr, Mount Pleasant

P72152 Sara Ann Schimke, Troy

**Term Expires 9/30/2014**

P53316 Michele P. Fuller, Sterling Heights

P53546 Robert J. Longstreet, Hastings

P30832 Michael A. Mestelle, Sturgis

P48221 Kelly J. McNerney Quardokus, Kalamazoo

P74319 Christopher Michael Smith, Mount Clemens

P23098 James B. Steward, Ishpeming

P72724 Beth A. Swagman, Grand Rapids

**Term Expires 9/30/2015**

P44945 Jane A. Bassett, Ann Arbor

P74165 Christine Caswell, Lansing

P71940 William David Lucius, Hurley, WI

P52362 Erma S. Yarbrough-Thomas, Redford

**Immediate Past Chair**

P33185 Caroline M. Dellenbusch, Grand Rapids

**Commissioner Liaison**

P28958 Jules B. Olsman, Berkley

## Meeting Schedule 2012-2013

### **Council Meetings**

Council meetings are normally on the first Saturday of every month, between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and the meeting locations rotate.

**October 4, 2012**—Annual Meeting at Crystal Mountain

**November 3, 2012**—Meeting in Grand Rapids

**December 1, 2012**-- Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.

**February 2, 2013**— Troy, MI 48098.

**March 2, 2013**—Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

**April 6, 2013**—Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

**May 4, 2013**—Troy, MI 48098.

**June 1, 2013**—E Lansing, MI 48823.

**July**—no meeting planned

**August 3, 2013**—Central Upper Peninsula,

**September 7, 2013**—Grand Rapids, 49505.