

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT
SECTIONS**

Introduction

The Annual Report is a key document required by the State Bar of Michigan as stated in its bylaws, cited below. An annual report assists future Section leaders in understanding the Section's history, and serves as a planning guideline for the upcoming year. Annual Reports are also the main source for those who are interested in joining to section to learn about the activities of the section and decide whether membership is of value to them. Each annual report is published on the Section's website, provided as a resource to the public and potential Section members, as well as to Bar staff. The annual reports are submitted to the Board of Commissioners at their July meeting. In addition to the required general summary of activities, many sections choose to include additional material in their reports.

Article VIII §1, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Additional Materials

Many sections provide more information in their annual reports than a general summary of activities. The second page of this document is a comprehensive list of other valuable materials that may or may not be included in an annual report, with additional guidelines for the section's consideration. This is not a list of required items for an annual report, simply a thorough list of information that is often of interest to the public, section members, the Commissioners, and Bar staff. If desired, the list may be used as a basic guideline for an annual report.

Templates

The final pages in this document are a simple template, which may be altered to the section's needs. The template attempts to break down the bylaw requirement of "summary of its activities" into a few generalized categories. It is not required that a section utilize the template.

Submission

All annual reports should be submitted by May 31, 2012. They should be submitted to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-372-1139

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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.

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT: A Sections' 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.

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

SECTION COMMITTEES: Descriptions of the various committees provides a clearer picture of a section's work, especially if the name of the chairperson 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.

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.

SECTION BYLAWS: Awareness of Bylaws 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2011-2012

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, and quarterly publication of a 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. The Section endeavors to promot

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	C. Kim Shierk P#37694	40701 Woodward Ave. Ste. 235 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-203-2040	kshierk@mnds-llc.com
Chair-Elect	Ronn S. Nadis P#35638	32255 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 200 Farmington Hills, MI 48334	248-865-3700	rnadis@tnnlaw.com
Vice-Chair	Ronald E. Reynolds P#40524	33493 W 14 Mile Road Ste. 100 Farmington Hills, MI 48332	248-851-3434	ron@brrlawyers.com
Secretary	Brian P. Henry P#33876	650 E Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48083	248-502-1400	bhenry@orlans.com
Treasurer	David E. Pierson P#31047P	1305 S. Washington Ave. Ste. 102 Lansing, MI 48910	517-482-4890	dpierson@malansing.com

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Member	Term	Member	Term
Melissa N. Collar P# 51781	2012	Gregory J. Gamalski P#36034	2014
Gregg A. Nathanson P# 39029	2012	Catharine B. LaMont P#32231 (Land Titles)	2013
Glen M. Zatz P# 37115	2012	Clay B. Thomas P#56927 (CLE)	2013
Lorri B. King P#42564	2013	Melissa B. Papke P#67083	2014
Richard D. Rattner P#19249	2013		
Nicholas P. Scavone P#47138	2013		
David E. Nykanen P#47763	2013		
Jeffrey D. Weisserman P#40470	2013		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	October 5, 2011	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	November 2, 2011	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	December 7, 2011	Pizzeria Biga, Southfield
Council Meeting	January 11, 2012	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	February 8, 2012	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	March 28, 2012	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	May 2, 2012	Butzel Long, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	July 20, 2012	Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls, MI
Council Meeting	September 20, 2012	Annual Meeting, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, 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

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: RPLS – Risks & Rewards of Residential Real Estate: Navigating the Road to Buying, Selling or Otherwise	October 6, 2011	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham

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Owning Residential Real Estate in a Challenging Market		
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Strategies and Pitfalls Associated w/ Loan Workouts, Purchase of Distressed Assets and Foreclosures”	November 3, 2011	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Real Estate Brokerage: Basics & Beyond”	December 1, 2011	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: RPLS – "The Lawyer's Role in New Commercial Financing"	January 19, 2012	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast "Title Insurance in Turbulent Times"	February 3, 2012	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
RPLS/ICSC	February 9, 2012	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
2012 Winter Conference "Redevelopment after the Great Recession - Lessons from the Sunshine and Great Lake States"	March 15-17, 2012	Loews Portofino Bay Hotel At Universal Orlando, Universal Orlando Resort, Florida
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: RPLS – "Unexpected Recourse Liability in a Non-Recourse World"	April 19, 2012	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Commercial Lease Defaults and the Remedies of Landlords, Tenants, and Lenders”	May 3, 2012	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
YLS Section Summit Reception	June 15, 2012	Westin Book Cadillac, Detroit
2012 Summer Conference "Reinventing Michigan Cities Through Redevelopment"	July 18-21, 2012	Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls, Michigan
Other Programming: May 20, 2011 – Co-sponsor - Second Annual Urban Farming Symposium "Quick Hits" Commercial Promissory Notes and	May 18, 2012 October 19, 2012	University of Detroit Mercy Law School, Detroit Jaffe Offices. Southfield

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Mortgages"		
"Quick Hits" Residential Transactions Boot Camp Video-Conference Program - "Can you help me buy or sell my house?"	February 15, 2012	Dickinson Wright Offices - Troy & Grand Rapids
Pizza & Property	March 22, 2012	University of Detroit Mercy Law School, Detroit
"Quick Hits" Residential Transactions Boot Camp II - Video-Conference Program Playing "Where's Waldo" for Title & Survey Issues	April 17, 2012	Dickinson Wright Offices - Troy & Grand Rapids
Meet & Greet	May 17, 2012	The State Bar, Detroit
"Quick Hits" Residential Transactions - "Closing Documents"	June 12, 2012	Dickinson-Wright Offices - Troy and Grand Rapids

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 particular legislators 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 entered. 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 of pro municipality).

Recommendations for next Council: We believe that future Council should continuing pursuing outreach and educational programs for newer members of the State Bar and expand participation in the Section by real estate lawyers located outside of southeast Michigan. Future Council should also continue to support the eNewsletter, coordinate the timing and topics between the eNewsletter and the RPLS Review (the quarterly hard-copy published scholarly journal of the Section), monitor the deliver mode for the RPLS Review and support the new media efforts of the Section on LinkedIn and Facebook.

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

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2012 to:

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