

2015-2016 REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
As of October 1, 2015

Chair:

33876 Brian P. Henry
Orlans Associates PC
1650 W Big Beaver Rd.
PO Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041

Chair-Elect

47763 David E. Nykanen, Bloomfield Hills

Vice Chairperson:

51781 Melissa N. Collar, Grand Rapids

Treasurer:

47138 Nicholas P. Scavone, Jr., Detroit

Secretary:

32231 Catharine B. LaMont, Bloomfield Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2016

42564 Lorri B. King, Cadillac
19249 Richard D. Rattner, Birmingham
40470 Jeffrey D. Weisserman, Farmington Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2017

36034 Gregory J. Gamalski, Troy
54241 Leslee M. Lewis, Grand Rapids
67083 Melissa B. Papke, Grand Rapids
40960 Margaret Van Meter, Farmington Hills

TERM EXPIRES 2018

49097 Monica J. Labe, Troy
49041 Dawn M. Patterson, Troy
56927 Clay B. Thomas, Farmington Hills

Representatives from other Sections and Committees

CLE Committee

57798 Thomas A. Kabel, Bloomfield Hills

Land Title Standards Committee

41257 William E. Hosler, Birmingham
Editor, Real Property Review
40140 Lynda J. Oswald, Ann Arbor

EX-OFFICIO

Gail A. Anderson, Lansing
C. Leslie Banas, Birmingham
Robert A. Berlow, Royal Oak
Maurice S. Binkow, Detroit
Stephen A. Bromberg, Bloomfield Hills
James R. Brown, Grand Rapids
James N. Candler, Jr., Detroit
David W. Charron, Grand Rapids
Stephen E. Dawson, Bloomfield Hills
Nyal D. Deems, Grand Rapids
James W. Draper*
Lawrence M. Dudek, Detroit
William B. Dunn, Detroit
G. Norman Gilmore*
Vicki R. Harding, Arizona
Carl Hasselwander, Rochester Hills
Ralph Jossman*
Patrick A. Karbowski, Bloomfield Hills
Patrick J. Keating, Detroit
Mark P. Krysinski, Southfield
Mark F. Makower, Bloomfield Hills
Carol Ann Martinelli, Troy
Lawrence D. McLaughlin, Detroit
Ronn S. Nadis, Farmington Hills
Peter A. Nathan, Las Vegas, Nevada
Robert R. Nix II, Detroit
Jerome P. Pesick, Birmingham
David E. Pierson, Lansing (Immediate Past-Chair)
Allen Priestly*
Richard E. Rabbideau, Detroit
Ronald E. Reynolds, Bingham Farms
Allen Schwartz, Detroit
C. Kim Shierk, Bloomfield Hills
Lawrence R. Shoffner, Detroit
Jack D. Shumate, Detroit
Thomas C. Simpson, Bloomfield Hills
David S. Snyder, Southfield
Gary Taback*
James M. Tervo, San Francisco, CA
C. Robert Wartell*
Myron Weingarden*

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN 2015-2016 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, 2016. 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: 517-482-6248

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.

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: 2015-2016

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	Brian P. Henry P#333876	Orlans Associates PC 650 E Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI 48083	248-502-1400	bhenry@orlans.com
Chair-Elect	David Nykanen P#47763	Nykanen Dorfman PLLC 41000 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-629-0880	dave@nykanendorfman.com
Vice-Chair	Melissa N. Collar P# 51781	Warner Norcross & Judd LLP 111 Lyon Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	616-752-2000	mcollar@wnj.com
Treasurer	Nicholas P. Scavone, Jr. P#47138	Bodman LLP 1901 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48226	313-393-7580	nscavone@bodmanlaw.com
Secretary	Catherine B. LaMont P#32231	First American Title 100 Bloomfield Hills Pkwy, Ste 195, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	248-635-6019	clamont@firstam.com

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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	2018
Monica Labe P#49097	2018	Margaret Van Meter P#40960	2017
Melissa B. Papke P#67083	2017	Jeffrey D. Weisserman P#40470	2016
Dawn M. Patterson P#49041	2018	Leslee M Lewis P#54241	2018
		William E. Hosler P#41257 (Land Title Standards)	
		Thomas A. Kabel P#57798 (CLE)	

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	September 16, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	October 8, 2015	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
Council Meeting	November 8, 2015	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	December 16, 2015	MEX, Bloomfield Hills
Council Meeting	January 20, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	February 17, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	April 20, 2016	Downtown Market, GR
Council Meeting	May 18, 2016	Warner Norcross, Sfld & GR
Council Meeting	July 15, 2016	Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne

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: Residential Real Estate - From Land Acquisition to Home Sales	October 15, 2015	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound:	November 3, 2015	St. John Conference Center,

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RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Construction for the Non-Construction Lawyer from Commencement to Completion (or Non-Completion)”		Plymouth
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast "The ABC's and more of Like Kind Exchanges"	December 3, 2015	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail: Due Diligence in Real Estate Deals	January 21, 2016	The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – "On-Demand" Webcast "Salvaging Abandoned Properties"	February 4, 2016	"On-Demand" Webcast
RPLS/ICSC	February 11, 2016	Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
2016 Winter Conference	March 3-5, 2016	Westin Kierland, Scottsdale
Groundbreaker Breakfast Roundtables: Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail: Due Diligence in Real Estate Deals	April 20, 2016	Downtown Market, Grand Rapids
Homeward Bound: RPLS/ICLE – Live and Webcast “Real Estate and Title Insurance: Top Things You Need to Know”	May 5, 2016	St. John Conference Center, Plymouth
2016 Summer Conference "Taking Your Practice to the Summit"	July 13-16, 2016	Boyne Mountain Resort & Spa, Boyne Falls, MI
Other Programming: Meet & Greet Meet & Greet Quick Hits	October 29, 2015 May 19, 2016 June 16, 2016	Local Kitchen, Ferndale Local Kitchen, Ferndale Video-Conference Program at Dickinson Wright, 4 locations (Detroit, Troy, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids)

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 continue 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.

The Real Property Law Section Technology Committee worked closely with the State Bar of Michigan to completely revise the RPLS website and its online newsletter. Each month, the eUpdate is published by the Section with links to cases, statutes and articles. Both the eNewsletter and the quarterly Real Property Review are posted on the Section website. Topics are easily located and easily searched online. Members are enthusiastic about these improvements.

The Real Property Law Section Membership Committed expanded its Next Level Initiative so that newer members could take their involvement with the Section "to the next level." Experienced lawyers are paired with newer lawyers to attend events, seminars and work on articles together. At the Annual Summer Conference, experienced lawyers are assigned to newer lawyers to provide introductions to others and accelerate interest in additional Section activities.

The Nominating Committee considers all areas of the State of Michigan when nominating member for both Council and Committee appointments. The current nominee for Section Secretary practices in Cadillac 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
- Residential Transactions and Finance
- Title and Conveyancing
- Zoning and Land Use

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Administrative Assistant

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