

State Bar of Michigan | 2016–2017

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.

Marijuana Law Section

Chair

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Chair-Elect

P65327 Mary Chartier-Mittendorf, Lansing

Secretary-Treasurer

P37087 Robert A. Hendricks, Grand Rapids

Council Member

Term Ending: 2017

P45545 Allison M. Arnold, Monroe
P47071 Bruce Alan Block, Grand Rapids
P47970 Michael A. Komorn, Farmington Hills

Term Ending: 2018

P65327 Mary Chartier-Mittendorf, Lansing
P48628 Daniel W. Grow, Saint Joseph
P65478 Bernard Anthony Jocus, Lapeer

Term Ending: 2019

P38876 Matthew R. Abel, Detroit
P37087 Robert A. Hendricks, Grand Rapids
P54701 Barton W. Morris, Jr., Royal Oak

Commissioner Liaison

P55501 Jennifer M. Grieco, Birmingham

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
MLS Council meeting	6/27/16	Grand Rapids
MLS Council meeting	7/25/16	conf call
MLS Council meeting	8/29/16	Lapeer
MLS Annual meeting and Council meeting	9/23/16	SBM Annual meeting
MLS Council meeting	11/21/16	Lansing
MLS Council meeting	12/19/16	Lansing
MLS Council meeting	1/16/17	Lansing
MLS Council meeting	2/20/17	Lansing
MLS Council meeting	3/20/17	conf call
MLS Council meeting	4/17/17	Lansing
MLS Council meeting	5/15/17	Lansing

Addendum Information: Please list any addendums attached.

A 3 page Addendum is incorporated by reference.

Events and/or Seminars:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Marijuana: What Every Lawyer Needs to Know.	10/21-23/16	Battle Creek
MIOWIA/MLS joint seminar.	5/12-13/17	Lansing

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**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Legislative issues:

Proposed revisions of MRPC 1.2 and 8.4 submitted to SBM Representative Assembly in Sept 2016. Both proposals adopted by RA and submitted to SBM for submission to S. Ct. Awaiting determination by S. Ct. See Addendum for additional detail.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to build membership and breadth of knowledge in Section. Because of the scope of legal areas touched by marijuana legalization, work to build relationships with other Sections within SBM to increase relevance of MLS. See Addendum for additional detail.

Other Information:

See Addendum attached.

Reports must be submitted before May 31, 2016 to:

Jennifer Williams
Administrative Assistant
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: jwilliams@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-367-6421 Fax: 517-482-6248

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e-mail form

**Marijuana Law Section
Annual Report 2017
Addendum**

Purposes of the Marijuana Law Section

The purposes of this Section shall be to foster and advance the profession of Michigan Marijuana law; study the principles, regulations, statutes and legal developments that affect Michigan Marijuana law; to encourage and promote reforms in the law; to cultivate the science of jurisprudence; to secure the more efficient administration of justice; to serve as a forum and vehicle for the dissemination of specialized knowledge to practitioners engaged in the practice of Marijuana law in this area by fostering networking and communication among members; to coordinate its activities with those of other sections of the State Bar of Michigan whose activities and practice areas are complimentary to those of this Section; to encourage and advocate effective and thorough legal education; to encourage the continued education of the practicing lawyer; and to afford a means of social intercourse among the lawyers of the State Bar of Michigan. To accomplish its goals, the Marijuana Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan may sponsor meetings and conferences of educational value and support the publication of articles that relate to the purposes of this Section.

Legislative Issues

In September 2016, the MLS submitted two proposed resolutions to the State Bar Representative Assembly to modify the rules and/or official comments for MRPC 1.2 and 8.4. The RA adopted the resolutions, and the State Bar has submitted recommendations to the Michigan Supreme Court to adopt the changes. The Court has not as yet addressed the question.

On February 14, 2017 representatives of the MLS made a general informational presentation to the Michigan House of Representatives Law & Justice Committee with an overview of marijuana legalization in Michigan and the activities of the MLS.

The MLS is considering endorsement of The Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol ballot proposal that may be submitted to Michigan voters in November 2018.

Recommendations for next Council:

Starting and leading the MLS has been an honor. In the upcoming years, the Council will have the privilege of educating and leading attorneys and the public in this emerging area of the law. In 2016 and 2017, the legal landscape will be significantly altered by the adoption and implementation of the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act. It will likely take several years for that system to become established. The MLS and its members can have an important role in that development.

The Council sincerely appreciates the efforts of SBM staff members in guiding the MLS, including Candace Crowley, Peter Cunningham, and Jennifer Grieco, as well as many other staff members who have contributed their time and talents.

Other Information:

In September 2016 the MLS made certain amendments to the Bylaws to facilitate decision-making procedures.

The Section sponsored winter coat drives at its first annual conference and the SBM Annual Meeting to help provide much needed protection to our Veterans.

In October 2016, the MLS held its first annual conference over three days at Firekeepers in Battle Creek. The conference was very well reviewed by attendees. Over 175 Michigan attorneys, law students and marijuana industry participants attended the conference. The MLS is actively planning its second annual conference to be held September 7-9 2017 in Detroit.

Membership in the Marijuana Law Section as of April 30, 2017 is 633 members, and the numbers are growing each month.

The MLS has created a periodic Journal, the first edition of which was published in February 2017 and was very well received.

In May 2017, the MLS co-sponsored with MIOWIA a two-day seminar in Lansing on various facets of marijuana defense practice.

The MLS listserv is an active communication resource. Our listserv moderator posts opinions related to marijuana law as they come out and members post questions and discuss issues related to marijuana law.

The MLS also has a Facebook page that links to marijuana law blogs, and the MLS is exploring other social media options.

The MLS has a number of committees. The committees and their chairpersons are as follows:

Business

Lance Boldrey

Education and Outreach

Mary Chartier

Ethics

Robert Hendricks

Medical Marijuana

Michael Komorn

Memberships and Sponsorships

Bruce Leach

Publications

Troy Daniel and Michael Komorn

Editor – Matthew Roman

Rules and Lawmaking

Doug Mains

Science

Barton Morris and Deb Williamson

Technology and Social Media

Stephanie Fakih and Allen Peisner

Veterans

Takura Nyamfukudza

Young Lawyers and Students

Brandon Gardner

Zoning and Property

Denise Pollicella and Ben Wrigley

The following are just a few of the activities that the section is actively working on:

- *Planning seminars related to a number of topics, including criminal defense and intoxicated driving issues;*
- *Planning the 2nd Annual MLS Conference for Sept 7-9 at the MGM Detroit;*
- *MLS Officers will attend the SBM Leadership meeting on June 9-10, 2016 to continue to describe and discuss the work of the MLS with SBM colleagues in other sections.*
- *Reaching out to other SBM sections and other groups around the state to offer educational materials and seminars;*
- *Providing input to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs regarding the development of the new regulatory system for facilities.*