

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY LAW SECTION  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

November 19, 2013, 3:30 p.m.  
at Shield's of Southfield  
25101 Telegraph Road (North of 10 Mile Road)  
Southfield, MI 48034

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME – Elaine Pohl, Chair

Present: Laretta Pominville, Doug Young, Jim Thome, Larry Bennett, Josh Tarebelo, Elaine Pohl, Kathy Lopilato, Hal Carroll, Adam Kutinsky, Gus Igwe, Kim Ruppel, Deb Hebert, Cathy Heise

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, Council Meeting June 4, 2013 and Annual Meeting September 19, 2013, motion passed and minutes approved

3. TREASURER'S REPORT, Larry Bennett

Balance as of 9/30/13: \$27,631.27, which is over 2k more than 1 year prior

4. MEMBERSHIP REPORT, Elaine Pohl

651 members (100 additional members) – we continue to grow

5. CHAIR REPORT, Elaine Pohl

- Section Chair Orientation Report – attended by Elaine and Kathy (very energizing)
- Section Demographics (see attached) – 572 of 593 members are in MI; overlap between business law, master lawyers, litigation, real property, negligence and young lawyers; may use this information for a joint program with overlapping sections
- Tom Ludden, Commissioner Liaison has reached out to our section and made himself accessible

6. EDITOR'S REPORT, Hal Carroll

- **E-BLASTS**

Currently we send an e-blast after each issue comes out.

The first two worked to get more authors, but the last two did not.

Still, I think we should continue. They don't cost much, and I can't think of a more effective way to canvass all of our members.

I will try to rewrite them into a different format.

I request permission to send one after each issue in 2014.

- **TOPICS**

I think it helps to recruit authors if we can suggest topics.  
I do that in each e-blast, but the topics are just the ones I can think up.  
So you can each help by coming up with new topics.

Here are some new ones:

- Performance bonds
- Broker (and agent) liability
- Self-insurance issues, e.g. priorities between self-insurer and commercial insurance
- Risk retention groups and similar entities

## 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership, Co-chairs Barry Feldman, Dan Steele

- Discussion of listserv for members
- Idea to welcome new members

Benefits of a listserv were discussed among the membership; 1 and 2 months included plus \$25 per month; announcement list approved as to all members, but we will maintain the google listserv for committees and board communications.

Program, Kathleen Lopilato – approved \$100 plus mug

Strategic Planning, Adam Kutinsky – good for 5 years

Publications, Hal Carroll

See attached report.

Hal still working on the searchable directory. Intend to publicize the directory through the Journal, the website and direct contact with judges.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- Business Court Project and Database Update (Hal Carroll)
- Social media

## 9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

- Proposed schedule for 2014 council meetings:
  - February 4, 2014, 4:00 p.m.
  - June 3, 2014
  - September 17-19, 2014 (annual meeting in Grand Rapids)
  - November 18, 2014

To be held at Jaffe Raitt's office in Southfield

## 10. Meeting ADJOURNED

# ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Insurance and Indemnity Law Section's**

**Searchable Directory of Members**

**Is Now Operational!**

All Section members are invited and encouraged to register in the directory and indicate their areas of expertise and the services they can provide.

The directory will be a resource for attorneys and court personnel in Michigan to assist them in finding Section members to assist in the handling and/or resolution of litigation.

When you register you can include the following information, in addition to information on how to contact you.

**Areas of Practice:**

Indemnity Issues, Contract Drafting, Insurance In-House, Insurance Policy Drafting,  
Insurance Coverage (Liability, First Party Auto, Third Party Auto, Life, Health, Disability)  
ERISA  
Regulatory Matters  
Corporate/Transactional

**Services:**

Consultation, Litigation and Appeals, Contract Review, ADR (Neutral Evaluation, Facilitation, Mediation)

**Client Base** (Percentage of work for insurers and insureds)

**TO JOIN** the Searchable Directory, go to <http://mistatebar.com/add-me> check the appropriate boxes, enter your personal data, and click on "enter."

**TO SEARCH** in the Directory, go to <http://mistatebar.com> , click on "find a lawyer," check as many of the boxes as apply. You can select by one or more of these:

Areas of Practice, Client Base (percentage of clients who are insurers, and insureds), Services Provided (e.g., ADR, Contract Analysis, Litigation), Location (by county).

Then Click on "Apply"