

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: May 31, 2012 to May 31, 2013

Section Name: Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

Mission Statement:

Issues arising out of insurance contracts and indemnity agreements affect a broad range of practice areas. In addition, insurance is a regulated industry, and state and federal regulations present specialized questions. The membership of the Insurance and Indemnity Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan consists of those who have expertise in this area of practice, as well as those whose expertise lies in other practice areas that are affected by insurance and indemnity issues. The mission of the Section is to provide a forum for an exchange of information, views and expertise from all perspectives on both insurance coverage issues and indemnity issues, and to provide information and assistance to other persons or organizations on matters relating to insurance and indemnity.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Elaine M. Pohl	38505 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2000 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	(248) 594-6356	epohl@plunkettcooney.com
Chair-Elect	Kathleen A. Lopilato	6101 Anacapri Blvd. Lansing, MI 48909	(517) 327-4850	lopilato.kathleen@aoins.com
Secretary	Adam B. Kutinsky	1 Woodward Ave., Suite 2400, Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 965-7403	adam.kutinsky@kitch.com
Treasurer	Larry W. Bennett	101 W. Big Beaver Rd., 10 th Floor, Columbia Center, Troy, MI 48084	(248) 457-7022	lbennett@gmhlaw.com

Council Member	Term
Mark G. Cooper (P52657)	2012-2014
Hal O. Carroll (P11668)	2011-2013
Barry M. Feldman (P26434)	2012-2014
Deborah A. Hebert (P34964)	2011-2013
Catherine L. Heise (P41614)	2012-2014
Augustine O. Igwe (P40053)	2011-2013
Lauretta A. Pominville (P59072)	2012-2014
Kimberly J. Ruppel (P55138)	2012-2014
Daniel P. Steele (P34295)	2011-2013
James K. Thome (P25629)	2011-2013
Sarah E. Wohlford (P70567)	2011-2013

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Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	July 24, 2012	Southfield
Annual Meeting	September 20, 2012	Grand Rapids
Council Meeting	November 14, 2012	Southfield
Council Meeting	February 26, 2013	Southfield

General Budget Information:

Cash balance is approximately \$33,000.

Events and/or Seminars:

At our annual meeting in September 2012, we presented a lively panel discussion featuring three speakers regarding the role of independent defense counsel when there is a coverage conflict between insurer and insured.

In November 2012, we had a program for our members in which our speakers addressed how to engage in a successful mediation, particularly when a coverage dispute is present. We invited members of the ADR Section to attend as well. The event was followed by a pre-holiday networking reception.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Insurance Coverage Conflicts and the Role of Independent Counsel	September 20, 2012	Grand Rapids
Successful Mediation: Is It All about the Money?	November 14, 2012	Southfield

Legislative issues: None identified.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to follow and implement the current two-year strategic plan and newly-adopted five-year strategic plan.

Continue to expand membership through networking with other sections and groups.

Conduct Section business through productive committees.

Other Information:

We continue to publish our quarterly *Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law*, and in addition to mailing copies to all members, we have also mailed copies to state circuit court and appellate judges, federal trial court judges, the chairperson of every other State Bar section, and some non-lawyer groups. The *Journal* is well-received and provides a wide breadth of articles and features for readers.

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We conduct business through the following committees: publications, strategic planning, membership, and programming.

We are now in our sixth year as a Section. Our membership has continued to grow steadily, and is approaching 600 members.

Reports must be submitted before May 31 of each year, to:

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