

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: May 31, 2013 to May 31, 2014

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 (P60359)	38505 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2000 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	(248) 594-6356	epohl@plunkettcooney.com
Chair-Elect	Kathleen A. Lopilato (P40506)	6101 Anacapri Blvd. Lansing, MI 48909	(517) 327-4850	lopilato.kathleen@aoins.com
Secretary	Adam B. Kutinsky (P57900)	1 Woodward Ave., Suite 2400, Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 965-7403	adam.kutinsky@kitch.com
Treasurer	Larry W. Bennett (P26294)	30300 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 200, Farmington Hills, MI 48334	(248) 785-0102	lbennett@sslawpc.com

Council Member	Term
Mark G. Cooper (P52657)	2012-2014
Hal O. Carroll (P11668)	2013-2015
Barry M. Feldman (P26434)	2012-2014
Catherine L. Heise (P41614)	2012-2014
Augustine O. Igwe (P40053)	2013-2015
Lauretta A. Pominville (P59072)	2012-2014
Kimberly J. Ruppel (P55138)	2012-2014
Joshua R. Terebelo (P72050)	2013-2015
James K. Thome (P25629)	2013-2015
Sarah E. Wohlford (P70567)	2013-2015
Douglas Young (P43808)	2013-2015

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Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council Meeting	June 4, 2013	Southfield
Annual Meeting	September 19, 2013	Lansing
Council Meeting	November 19, 2013	Southfield
Council Meeting	February 4, 2014	Southfield

General Budget Information:

Cash balance is approximately \$39,000.

Events and/or Seminars:

At our annual meeting in September 2013, we presented a panel discussion on the highly-debated issue of no-fault reform, discussing the pros and cons of proposed legislative reform.

In November 2013, we had a program for our members as well as members of the Negligence Section. Our speaker addressed the recently-formed business courts throughout the State and the impact on certain kinds of cases, including those impacting insurance and indemnity issues. The event was followed by a pre-holiday networking reception.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
A 360 Degree Perspective on Reforming Auto Insurance in Michigan: Can We Find Any Common Ground in the No-Fault Debate?	September 19, 2013	Lansing
Litigator's Guide to Navigating the New Michigan Business Courts	November 19, 2013	Southfield

Legislative issues: The Section formally opposed SB 0743, which would make the State Bar of Michigan a voluntary bar association.

Recommendations for next Council:

Continue to follow and implement the five-year strategic plan.

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

Conduct Section business through productive committees.

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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.

We finalized approval and implementation of a searchable directory of our members, intended to help promote our members' areas of expertise to other members of our Section and Michigan court personnel.

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

We are in our seventh year as a Section. Our membership has continued to grow steadily, and is approximately 700 members.

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

Heather Anderson
Sections & Committees Administrator
306 Townsend Street, Lansing MI 48933
Email: hkanderson@mail.michbar.org
Phone 517-346-6414 Fax: 517-372-1139