

**Workers Compensation Law Section  
Report to the Michigan State Bar Assembly**

The Workers Compensation Law Section conducted the Section's Annual State of the Workers' Compensation Law Seminar in November at the Detroit offices of State of Michigan. 145 people attended.

The Annual Winter Conference was held in the Dominican Republic. Discussions were held covering recent medical issues, costs of case prosecution and defense, and progress with CMS Set Aside Trust problems. 12 people attended.

The Michigan Supreme Court invited Section was invited to file an Amicus Brief in a case of significant interest to the Workers' Compensation Law. The Council accepted the invitation, retained council, and filed a brief. The matter is still pending review by the Court.

The Section was also asked to file Amicus Briefs in two other matters, but declined to do so as the Council was concerned that participation would be somewhat political and therefore in violation of the long standing tradition of the Section in avoiding political issues.

The Section accepted a request from the Director of the Workers' Compensation Agency to sponsor a seminar that will provide a review of the requirement of practice before the Agency Board of Magistrates. This is still in the planning stages, but should be accomplished during the summer of this year.

The Annual Spring/Summer Conference will be held on Mackinac Island July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Subject matter for discussion will include recent developments in workers' compensation law, potential changes in rules, cost containment, medical developments, and other issues of concern to Section members. An estimated attendance of 100 members is anticipated.

The Section Council has proposed changes in the Section By Laws, as approved by the State Bar Assembly, altering the method of determining dues and changing the Annual Meeting time to be concurrent with the Spring/Summer Conference. The proposed changes will be submitted to the general Section membership for final approval at the Section's Annual Meeting to be conducted in September at the State Bar Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan S. Helmore  
Chairperson  
Workers Compensation Law Section