

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

Bar Year: 2012-2013

Section Name: General Practice – Solo and Small Firm Section

Mission Statement: The General Practice—Solo and Small Firm Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, this site, public service programs, and publication of a newsletter.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	E-mail
Chair	Elizabeth Silverman	30500 Northwestern Hwy., Ste. 500, Farmington Hills	248-538-1177	asatty@aol.com
Vice Chair	William Cataldo	1 Main Street, Fl 4, Mount Clemens	(586)469-5362	Bill.cataldo@macombgov.org
Secretary	Tanisha Davis	400 Monroe Street, Ste. 410, Detroit	(313)963-4253	tanishadavislawgroup@gmail.com
Treasurer	Michael Gunderson	1380 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit	(313) 259-6900 x 113	mgunderson@trowbridgehouse.com

Member	Term	Member	Term
Tanisha Davis P 71716	2013	Lesley Hoenig P 71763	2013
William Roy P 24123	2013	Michael Gunderson P 28487	2014
Stuart Sandweiss P 60921	2014	Elizabeth A. Silverman P 37075	2014
William Cataldo P 37673	2015	Martin Fried P 13712	2015
Maury Klein P 38062	2015		

Council Meeting Schedule:

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

Meeting Type	Date	Location
The Council meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. There are no scheduled meetings for July and August. All Section members are invited to attend		Sweet Lorraine's 12 Mile and Greenfield Road Southfield MI

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Events and/or Seminars:

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

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Medical Marijuana – an Update	May 9, 2013	Ginopolis BBQ Smokehouse 12 Mile and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Marketing – Getting and Keeping Good Clients	June 11, 2013	Ginopolis BBQ Smokehouse

Recommendations for Next Council: Continue to seek out what Section members want and what benefits they can receive from the actions of the Section. Continue and expand upon the Committees established this year and encourage feedback and participation of the members.

Other Information: The Section is expanding its influence and activities through the establishment of a committee system to provide more services and events to our membership. We are instituting an annual Lifetime Achievement Award and Annual Cocktail party for our members. We are establishing a Law Day to provide the public with access to free legal advice and access to our members to potential clients they can help. The current line up of Committees and Committee Chairs is:

GENERAL PRACTICE COMMITTEES

Section Events Committee

Programs:

Elizabeth A. Silverman, P.C.-Chair
30500 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 535
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 538-1177

Annual Lifetime Achievement:

Michael Gunderson-Chair
1380 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 259-6900 X 113

Annual Meetings:

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

William A. Roy-Chair
707 Eton Street
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 540-540-0321

Annual Cocktail Reception:

Erica McNamara-Chair
10358 Lakeview Drive
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189
(734) 476-0739

Membership Committee:

Lori Williams-Chair
P.O. Box 1552
Birmingham, MI 48012
(248) 594-4479

John Holmquist-Committee Member
900 Wilshire Drive, Ste. 202
Troy, MI 48084

Mike Gunderson- Committee Member
1380 E. Jefferson Ave.
Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 259-6900 X 113

Community Outreach Committee-Law Day

Martin Fried-Chair
4000 Town Center, Ste. 1200
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 355-5300

Tanisha Davis-Committee Member
400 Monroe Street, Suite 410
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 963-4253

Lori Williams-Committee Member
P.O. Box 1552
Birmingham, MI 48012
(248) 594-4479

Newsletter Committee

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Maury Klein-Editor and Chair
17000 W. 10 Mile Road, Ste. 150
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William Cataldo-Associate Editor
Chief of Homicide
1 S. Main Street Fl. 4
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
(586) 469-5362

Aaron Bowron-Committee Member
400 E. Eighth Street
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 929-0765

Website and Social Media Committee

Leslie Hoenig-Chair
215 W. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
(989) 773-0900



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Samantha Meinke 517-346-6332

5/27/13

SBM General Practice Section to Present Marketing Seminar on June 11 in Farmington Hills

The State Bar of Michigan General Practice – Solo and Small Firm Section will present a seminar entitled “Marketing: The Art of Getting and Keeping Good Clients” at noon on Tuesday, June 11 at Ginopolis Bar B Q Smokehouse in Farmington Hills.

The seminar will teach attendees how to utilize Facebook, Twitter, blogs and other sites to target marketing directly to individuals and companies they want to represent. Seminar leaders include Julie Fershtman, former SBM president and a shareholder with Foster Swift Collins & Smith in Farmington Hills. Fershtman spent many years as a solo practitioner and utilized marketing techniques to turn herself into a renowned expert on equine law in Michigan and across the nation. The other seminar leader is Arnold Reed, principle owner and operator of Arnold E. Reed & Associates in Farmington Hills. Reed has obtained numerous multi-million dollar verdicts and has utilized marketing techniques and communications skills he acquired in his previous career as a journalist to attract and keep such big-name clients as entertainers R. Kelly, Aretha Franklin and Tavis Smiley.

"This seminar paid for itself many times over," said Marjory B. Cohen, an attorney with Mogill, Posner & Cohen in Detroit. "I received sound, practical advice as to how to maximize my presence on social marketing sites. I went straight to the office from the seminar and implemented the suggestions. As a result, I improved my profile on Avvo and LinkedIn and began getting more contacts from potential clients immediately."

The seminar will cost \$30 for members of the General Practice Section and \$40 for non-members. Visit www.michbar.org/general/calendar.cfm to register for the seminar. Contact Elizabeth A. Silverman at asatty@aol.com or (248) 538-1177 for more information.

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About the State Bar of Michigan

Established in 1935, the State Bar of Michigan is composed of more than 42,000 practicing attorneys and judges. The mission of the Bar is to improve the administration of justice, promote the legal profession,

and build public understanding of our legal system. More information about the Bar can be accessed at www.michbar.org.

Sign up to be a fan of SBM News at www.facebook.com/sbm.news. Follow SBM News on Twitter at twitter.com/SBMNews. If you're a member of the State Bar, join our group on [LinkedIn](#).

The General Practice - Solo and Small Firm Section Presents:

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA:
THE CURRENT STATE OF THE LAW**

Thursday, May 9, 2013

12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

GINOPOLIS' BAR B Q SMOKEHOUSE

27815 MIDDLEBELT ROAD

Farmington Hills, MI

Did you know that there are over 131,000 patients authorized to legally use marijuana and 27,000 registered caregivers in the State of Michigan? Voters endorsed the use of medical marijuana in 2008 to alleviate side effects of certain illnesses, such as cancer or chronic pain. But lawmakers said the law left too much open to interpretation and pushed through changes which went into effect on April 1, 2013. Are you familiar with the changes in the law? Get expert advice on the Michigan Medical Marijuana Law and what's going on in recent cases. Master the nuances of this evolving practice and give your clients the representation that they deserve. Come join us for lunch, networking and a valuable presentation on the current state of the law by two experienced and expert attorneys. This program sold out the last time it was presented, don't delay, register today.

PRESENTERS:

Matthew R. Abel has been a criminal defense lawyer with a special focus on **marijuana cases** for more than 20 years. Matthew Abel is the Founder and Senior Partner of Cannabis Counsel, P.L.C., a Michigan law firm entirely devoted to cannabis clients and cases. Mr. Abel's Detroit-based law office capably handles marijuana possession, trafficking and distribution cases throughout the state of Michigan providing both business advice and counseling as well as criminal defense in marijuana cases. The law firm client list includes patients, care givers, clubs, collectives, dispensaries, garden suppliers, physicians, publishers and others in the medical marijuana field..

William L. Cataldo is Chief of Homicide for the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office. Prior to that, he was a criminal defense trial attorney. His prior teaching positions include staff instructor at Gerry Spence's nationally recognized Trial Lawyers College in Wyoming, staff instructor at the Annual Trial College at Thomas M. Cooley Law School and an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy. Currently, he is a staff instructor at the Macomb Police Academy, adjunct professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and is a certified instructor teaching cognitive and analytical interviewing skills.

Registration fee: \$30.00 Members of the General Practice - Solo and Small Firm Section
\$40.00 General Admission

Registration form: www.michbar.org/general/calendar/cfm

Questions? Contact Elizabeth A. Silverman at asatty@aol.com or (248) 538-1177