

**COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORSHIP
REPORT PREPARED FOR THE DECEMBER 2024 COUNCIL MEETING**

1. 2024-2025 Budget Request and Anticipated Use of Funds.

\$5,000 – for outreach programs. If the Directorship is able to make a recommendation on social media strategies, a further investment may be sought.

2. Use of Budgeted Funds during 2024-2025.

None to date. Funding may be requested at some point to support social media initiatives.

3. Next Scheduled Meeting of the Committee.

Upcoming meetings, to be held via Zoom at 3:00 PM Eastern:

Thursday, January 9, 2025
Thursday, March 27, 2025
Thursday, June 19, 2025
Thursday, October 23, 2025

4. Council Approval.

None requested

5. Membership.

Kevin Block, Jennifer Consiglio, Julia Dale, Mark High, Michael Khoury, Stacey Knowles, Edward (E.J.) Leuschner, John Schuring, and Eric Zacks

6. Accomplishments Toward Committee Objectives.

See below.

7. Meetings and Programs.

The Directorship met via Zoom on March 28, 2025, July 18, 2025, and October 24, 2024. It reviewed the goals and objectives from the Section's 2023 Strategic Plan that contemplate involvement by the Directorship:

- A. Social media/social networking
- B. Communication with members
- C. Increased participation by attorneys from locations other than Detroit and Grand Rapids
- D. Increase participation by newer lawyers
- E. Mentorship opportunities

The Directorship's initial efforts will focus on (A) and (B). We contacted other sections of the State Bar, and the State Bar itself, to discuss social media strategies and resources. Proposals are being sought, and some have been received. Proposals received to date have not, in the view of the Directorship, been particularly well-suited to the Section's needs. The Directorship hopes to receive proposals for consideration at its January 2025 meeting, for possible future consideration by the Council.

8. Publications.

None

9. Methods of Monitoring Legislative/Judicial/Administrative Developments and Recommended Action

Not applicable

10. Miscellaneous.

Volunteers, or suggestions for additional Directorship members, are welcome.

Respectfully, John Schuring, on behalf of the Directorship