

PRIVATELY HELD BUSINESSES FORUM
A Committee of the State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section

**REPORT PREPARED FOR THE OCTOBER 7, 2023 MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
FOR THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN BUSINESS LAW SECTION**

1. Scheduled or Recent Meetings of the Committee/Directorship.

The Committee's Annual Meeting was held on April 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the offices of Rossman, P.C., 2145 Crooks, Suite 220, Troy. Detroit Legal News reported on the matter: <https://legalnews.com/macomb/1523682/>

The next meeting of the Committee will be in Spring 2024 (TBD), when the Annual Meeting will be held. As in prior years, the specifics of the Annual Meeting will be noticed at the 6th Annual Business Law Symposium to be held in Q1 2024, time, date and location of that event to be announced shortly as the logistics are being finalized and at which additional membership in the Committee will be encouraged by non-Committee registrants.

2. Council Approval Sought

The Committee requests budget commitments of \$20,000, to be entirely allocated to the costs associated with the 6th Annual Business Law Symposium. In each of the prior two years the costs have been \$47,000, being covered by State Bar commitments, sponsorship, and ticket sales. The requested allocation for the Business Law Symposium will allow the Committee to secure location, food, and audio/visual vendors and thereafter secure sponsorship to cover the remaining costs of the program, which annually secures registration of over 100 attorneys and law students and has grown substantially through and after the Pandemic, when other programs had closed down. The Committee has set a goal of securing an additional / matching minimum \$20,000 in ticket sales and sponsorships, which, based on past Symposium events will be attainable. With the requested contribution and the additional sponsorship and ticketing revenues, all of the costs of the event will be covered.

3. Membership.

As of the date of this submission, the membership of the Forum is presently at 59 members. An Official Role is maintained by the Co-Chairs and it is reviewed at the Annual Meeting each year. The Membership also formed a LinkedIn Group, which communicates somewhat regularly about events of the Forum as well as current events and opportunities for continued learning.

The Forum seeks to increase membership through cross-relationships with other Sections. In furtherance of this aim, the Committee has formed an alliance with the Young Lawyers Section, with the Committees sponsoring and promoting each other's events. Committee members, Mark Rossman and Isra Khuja (YLS Director) made a

presentation at the YLS upcoming Summit on June 24, 2023 at Little Caesar's Arena. The program is called "Seeing Red...Flags, Herrings, and Risk", as reported in the Detroit Legal News: <https://legalnews.com/detroit/1523480/>.

4. Accomplishments Toward Committee/Directorship Objectives. The PHBF's principal objectives and endeavors to achieve them consist of the following:

- 1) *Production of various programs throughout the year concerning different facets of law and its application in the context of privately held businesses.*
 - a) The 6th Annual Symposium, will be held Q1 2024, and will focus on the federal judiciary and use of experts. Committee member Powell Miller and Mark Rossman are coordinating this year's Symposium. Further information to be published on this event.
 - b) No other programs are presently scheduled.

5. Publications.

The Forum's publications consist of the digital material created and produced in connection with its programs, which are available online. Increased attention to online presence and posting of the Forum is a top agenda item at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

6. Miscellaneous.

The Forum thanks the Business Law Section Administration and Council for their continued support of the Symposium and PHBF programs, and for processing the various requests for coordination along the way, and, in particular, Treasurer, Ian Williamson whose assistance balancing the books and getting vendors paid for the 5th Annual Symposium was very much appreciated by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

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