

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2010-2011

Section Name: Business Law Section

Mission Statement: The mission of the Business Law Section is to foster the highest quality of professionalism and practice in business law and to enhance the legislative and regulatory environment for conducting business in Michigan. To fulfill this mission, the Section shall: (1) expand the resources of business lawyers by providing educational, networking and mentoring opportunities; (2) review and promote improvements to Michigan's business legislation and regulations; and (3) provide a forum to facilitate service and commitment and to promote ethical conduct and collegiality within the practice.

Officers and Council Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chairperson	Robert T. Wilson P59983	Butzel Long, PC Stoneridge West 41000 Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304	(248) 258-7851	wilsonr@butzel.com
Vice-Chairperson	Edwin J. Lukas P47172	Bodman LLP 1901 Saint Antoine St Fl 6, Ford Field Detroit, MI 48226	(313) 393-7523	elukas@bodmanllp.com
Secretary	Marguerite Donahue P40758	Seyburn Kahn Ginn Bess & Serlin PC 2000 Town Ctr Ste 1500 Southfield, MI 48075	(248) 351-3567	mdonahue@seyburn.com
Treasurer	Jeffrey J. Van Winkle P40894	Clark Hill, PLC 200 Ottawa Street NW, Ste. 500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	(616) 608-1113	jvanwinkle@clarkhill.com

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Member	Term Expires	Member	Term Expires
Kevin T. Block P56136	2013	Judy B. Calton P38733	2012
James L. Carey P67908	2012	Matthew A. Case P34248	2013
David C.C. Eberhard P53324	2013	Christopher C. Maeso P54086	2011
D. Richard McDonald P37220	2012	Judith Greenstone Miller P29208	2011
Thomas R. Morris P39141	2012	Douglas L. Toering P34329	2011
Cynthia L. Umphrey P54806	2011		

Complete contact information for the Council is available at:
<http://www.michbar.org/business/leaders.cfm#council>

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Council	December 4, 2010	Lansing, MI
Council	March 10, 2011	Lansing, MI
Council	May 6, 2011	Plymouth, MI
Council and Annual	September 13, 2011	Novi, MI
Council	December 3, 2011	Bloomfield Hills, MI

General Budget Information: Please see the December 2010 Treasurer's Report at:
<http://www.michbar.org/business/pdfs/minutes/treasurer1210.pdf>

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Business Boot Camp I	November 8-9, 2010 and January 27-28, 2011	Grand Rapids, MI and Plymouth, MI
The Business of Being a Business Lawyer	April 12, 2011	Southfield, MI
Joint Defense Agreements Webinar	May 31, 2011	Webinar
Legal Issues in Buying and Selling Distressed Assets	June 3, 2011	Traverse City, MI
Limited Liability Law for Debtor/Creditor Rights Practitioners	May 11, 2011	Southfield, MI
Effective Writing in the Electronic (ECF) Paperless Age	June 22, 2011	Southfield, MI
Business Boot Camp II	November 2011 and January 2012	Grand Rapids, MI and Plymouth, MI
Leadership in Business During Uncertain and Challenging Times	October 5, 2010	Troy, MI
Business Law Institute	May 6-7, 2011	Plymouth, Michigan

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Information concerning future events and seminars is available at:

<http://www.michbar.org/business/calendar.cfm>

Committee Information:

Complete contact information for committee chairpersons is available at:

<http://www.michbar.org/business/leaders.cfm#council>

Commercial Litigation Committee

The Commercial Litigation Committee assists litigators as well as business and corporate counsel in addressing issues that may lead to or arise in business-related litigation. The Committee sponsors seminars and other programs that address such issues and that are designed to enhance the practice of those involved in commercial litigation.

Corporate Laws Committee

The Corporate Laws Committee monitors and reviews matters relating to corporate law statutes and developments in the law of corporate governance. The committee also works with the Business Corporation Act Revision Subcommittee, which reviews the Michigan Business Corporation Act for the purpose of keeping it current with developments in corporate law and which assists from time to time in drafting and advocating proposed changes to the Act.

Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee

The Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee focuses on issues of insolvency, such as bankruptcy, state law alternatives to bankruptcy, secured lending (Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code), and state law exemptions.

Financial Institutions Committee

The Financial Institutions Committee focuses on legislative, regulatory and judicial developments and issues of interest to financial institutions (primarily banks) and their affiliates.

In-House Counsel Committee

The In-House Counsel Committee is committed to addressing the professional interests of in-house counsel by sponsoring continuing legal education programs, informing members about issues of particular interest to them, and offering social and professional networking opportunities.

Law Schools Committee

The Law Schools Committee is designed to promote an interest in business law among students at each of the law schools located in Michigan. The Committee represents a collaborative effort between the Section and the business law societies at the University of Michigan Law School,

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Michigan State University College of Law, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Wayne State University Law School, Thomas M. Cooley Law School and Ave Maria School of Law. The Committee supports programs initiated by the business law societies within the law schools and provides a forum for networking among law students and members of the Section.

Nonprofit Corporations Committee

The Nonprofit Corporations Committee's principal responsibility is to review and update laws relating to the organization of nonprofit corporations in Michigan. The principal focus has been on the Nonprofit Corporation Act, but it also reviews other legislation, such as bills regulating the solicitation of contributions by charities. The committee also assists with sponsoring continuing legal education programs directed at nonprofit organization issues.

Regulation of Securities Committee

The Regulation of Securities Committee is concerned with federal and state laws and regulations relating to the offer, sale and trading of securities. The Committee also supplies a liaison to the Securities Law Advisory Committee of the Michigan Corporation & Securities Bureau. Activities are designed to inform members of current developments and issues and provide input to appropriate administrative and legislative bodies.

Uniform Commercial Code Committee

The Uniform Commercial Code Committee monitors developments and issues under all Articles of the UCC and related commercial statutes. In October of each year, the Committee presents a seminar on recent developments in commercial law. Additionally, the Committee prepares an annual survey of case law involving the UCC and commercial law.

Unincorporated Enterprises Committee

The Committee remains active in conducting seminars regarding unincorporated enterprises, focusing principally on limited liability companies. The Committee has also assisted in informing members of the bar from other sections as to legislation affecting unincorporated enterprises. Membership in the Committee is open to all members of the Business Law Section. The focus of the Committee's activities has been to present seminars in conjunction with ICLE and the Business Law Section. Membership and the opportunity to play a significant role in the Committee's activities is and will continue to be open to all members of this Section. As with most other committees, the Unincorporated Enterprises Committee schedules meetings primarily in the Western region of the Detroit metropolitan area. It is hoped that continued efforts to attract interest to the Committee will be successful.

Small Business Forum

The Small Business Forum, established by the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan in 2006, specifically caters to business owners, attorneys, accountants, and other professionals who work with closely held businesses. The Forum hosts 3 to 4 highly productive, time efficient and fun educational events throughout the year. Every event includes a networking portion to mingle with other business professionals.

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Awards: Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award

The Section established the Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award in 2006, to be presented annually. The award honors Michigan business lawyers who consistently exemplify the characteristics the Business Law Section seeks to foster and facilitate: the highest quality of professionalism, the highest quality of practice, an unwavering dedication to service, ethical conduct, and collegiality within the practice of law. The Section honored Alex J. DeYonker at its Annual Meeting on September 23, 2010, at the Sheraton Detroit Novi. The Award for 2011 will be presented at the Annual Meeting on September 13, 2011 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi.

Publications: The *Michigan Business Law Journal* is published three times per year and is sent to members via U.S. mail and electronically. The *Journal* is posted on the Section's website.

The Section distributes a monthly e-newsletter. The e-newsletter is also published on the Section website.

Bylaws: An Ad Hoc Committee was created to review and revise the Section's Bylaws. The project is complete and the revised Bylaws were approved by Council and will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Other Information: Members can follow the Section on Facebook and LinkedIn.