

**BUSINESS COURTS COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED FOR THE
DECEMBER 3, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

Please describe your committee's activities during the 2015-2016 year toward achievement of the goals outlined in the Section's Strategic Plan. Each question below corresponds to a specific Section of the Plan, a copy of which is attached and to which reference may be made for further guidance in providing responses. If the question is not applicable to your particular committee or directorship, please note as such.

1. Sponsorship of programs for Continuing Legal Education via a means accessible to Section Members, including holding at least one program yearly (Article I, 3, of the Strategic Plan).

The Committee does not intend to hold seminars or programs. The Commercial Litigation Committee is handling this.

2. Addressing substantive legal issues for committee members, including holding regular committee meetings (at least once a year) and reporting on the meetings to the Council (Article I, 4).

The Committee meets as needed.

3. Promoting involvement in the committee and making the committee more responsive to members including the designation of a contact person (Article I, 5).

The Committee is intentionally small. I am the contact person.

4. (A) monitoring and raising awareness of laws or developments in laws that affect Michigan businesses and, when appropriate, making recommendations for updates and improvements;

(B) providing assistance to appropriate state government personnel with respect to business-related legislation and rule making;

(C) as appropriate, providing amicus curiae briefs related to business-related issues being addressed by the courts, and

(D) educating Michigan businesses, their owners and employees about changes to Michigan's laws in order to maintain Michigan's ability to attract and retain new business enterprises and enable existing businesses to remain competitive.

(Article II, 1).

The Committee does not intend to hold seminars or programs on Business Courts. The Commercial Litigation Committee is handling this.

See also response to no. 6.

5. Please comment on your plan regarding succession (Article III, 5).

At this time, there is no succession plan.

6. Please list your Committee's goals and objectives for the next 12 to 24 months and whether you will require additional support from the Section to achieve these goals (Article III, 5).

The Committee's objectives are to serve as a liaison between the Business Court Judges and the Business Law Section, to serve as a resource for the Business Court Judges, and to assist the Business Court Judges in whatever ways they and the Business Law Section deem appropriate. We do not expect to need additional support from the Section to achieve those goals, unless the Business Court Judges seek support for proposed amendments to the Business Court statute.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas L. Toering, Committee Chair
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