Chair's Letter from Edwin J. Lukas

In last month's newsletter, I provided some information regarding pending legislation that would establish regional business courts throughout Michigan. I also highlighted the Section's ongoing involvement in efforts to improve dispute resolution procedures for businesses. Section leadership is studying the proposed legislation, and we need your help. What do you think of the proposed legislation? How would it affect business litigation in your region? If you are willing to share your views on the proposed legislation and dispute resolution for businesses, please contact the chair of the Section's ad hoc committee on business courts, Diane Akers, at dakers@bodmanlaw.com.

Separately, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation is seeking qualified law firms to participate in the Pure Michigan Business Connect—Legal Services Program. The Program is designed to assist Michigan's small business economic growth by offering complimentary legal services to entrepreneurs in start-up or early growth stages. By qualifying for participation in the Program and providing services, Section members can play an important role in helping revitalize Michigan's economy. More Information

Finally, the Section is a co-presenter of the second annual Crain's General/In-House Counsel Awards and Summit Event in May 2012. Until January 27, you may nominate a colleague for consideration as an award recipient. Additional information, including the nomination form, may be found here.

Changing Regulations in Michigan

Governor Snyder has initiated a process that is administered through the State's Office of Regulatory Reinvention. The Executive Order initiating this process received substantial attention when issued in 2011. As a part of a proactive business practice, you may want to discuss with your client regulatory changes that would be helpful in improving Michigan's business client and encourage your client to submit recommendations to improve Michigan's regulatory framework. Requests
can be submitted online.