SBM | Business Law Section e-newsletter

July 2013

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Chair's Letter from Marguerite M. Donahue

Business Law Institute

Attendance was up significantly this year for the 25th Annual Business Law Institute held in Grand Rapids on June 7. Many thanks to the speakers, our Programs Committee and our co-sponsor, ICLE, for a well-attended and successful event.

BLS Summer and Fall Events

Programs and events like the Business Law Institute are a key benefit of your Section membership. There are several upcoming events being sponsored by the Section this summer and fall to place on your calendar:

- The In-House Counsel Committee will host the 2013 In-House Champions Dinner at Masco's headquarters in Taylor on July 10. The event is open to in-house counsel, and promises to be both informative and enjoyable. The event is free, but an advance reservation is required.
- The Small Business Forum and Commercial Litigation Committee are co-sponsoring a seminar with the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants: *Business Breakups and Owner Buyouts: Legal, Tax and Accounting Issues*. The program will be held on July 16 at the Columbia Center in Troy. Speakers include attorneys Mark Kellogg and Gerard Mantese, and CPAs Jeffrey Groen and Michael Mayette. This all-star panel will discuss the latest developments on minority oppression, non-compete agreements, TROs, and the tax treatments of earnouts, redemptions and severance payments.
- The Section's Annual Meeting will be held on September 26 at the Sheraton Hotel in Novi. More information on the Annual Meeting will be announced on the Section's calendar and in e-newsletters later this summer.

Business Courts are Here!

Effective October 17, 2012, new legislation requires circuit courts with three or more judges to create a specialized business court docket by July 1, 2013. As many of you know, the Business Law Section has been significantly involved in this change for a number of years. In fact, it is exploring participation in how the Section can assist with any business law related educational services to the business court judges.

This new legislation requires that any business or commercial dispute as defined in the act must be placed on the business docket. Some circuit courts have already implemented business courts or were on pilot programs prior to the required implementation. Others are just now beginning to implement their business courts. For example, Oakland County began its Business Court on June 3, 2013. Guidelines for cases assigned to the business docket vary by circuit, as do the procedures for designating a matter as business-court eligible. More information can be found on the Michigan Courts website.

Section Events

- July 10, 2013—Celebrate the In-House Counsel Champions (6 p.m., MASCO Corporation Offices, Taylor) NOTE: Registration is limited to members of the Business Law Section who are also members of the In-House Counsel Committee.
- September 26, 2013—Annual Business Law Section Meeting, Council Meeting, and presentation of the Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award (4 p.m., Sheraton Detroit Novi)
- December 7, 2013—Council Meeting (10 a.m., Honigman Offices, Detroit)

Other Events

- July 16, 2013—ICLE Program: Business Breakups & Owner

Business Boot Camp is Back!

After receiving inquiries this year, I am pleased to announce that the Programs Committee is planning fall and winter sessions of the ever popular Business Boot Camp. Business Boot Camp provides great training for new business lawyers, and a refresher for more seasoned lawyers on business law fundamentals. Fall and winter sessions are planned for November 4 and 5 at the Amway Grand in Grand Rapids, and January 23 and 24 at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.

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Buyouts, (5:30-7:30 p.m., Columbia Center, Troy) NOTE: July 9 is the registration deadline.