

**SMALL BUSINESS FORUM
REPORT PREPARED FOR THE MARCH 8, 2012 COUNCIL MEETING**

1. Next Scheduled Meeting of the Committee

No Committee meeting is scheduled.

2. Council Approval

No matters require Council approval.

3. Membership

We communicate with the planning committee by e-mail and teleconference. We publicize the Small Business Forum events through e-mails to BLS members and previous attendees, press releases, and LinkedIn posts.

4. Accomplishments Toward Committee Objectives

We continue to accomplish our objectives of holding two or three Small Business Forum events per year. Promoting business in Michigan remains a part of the Small Business Forum's objectives.

Regrettably, minority attorneys are still underrepresented at our gatherings. We welcome anyone's suggestions about how to increase the number of minority attorneys who attend the SBF functions.

5. Meetings and Programs

On March 29, 2011, the Small Business Forum and the Commercial Litigation Committee will jointly sponsor a seminar on the business court bill (pending in the Michigan House of Representatives) and the Specialized Business Dockets for Kent, Macomb, and Oakland Counties. The event will run from 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the Columbia Center, 201 W. Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084. Speakers include Judge John C. Foster (Macomb), Michael Warren (Oakland), Christopher P. Yates (Kent), and Michael F. Gadola (counsel to Gov. Rick Snyder.)

6. Publications

We have published no articles.

7. Methods of Monitoring Legislative/Judicial/Administrative Developments and Recommended Action

We do not regularly monitor court decisions or activities in the Michigan legislature or the U.S. Congress.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas L. Toering, Committee Chair
Toering Law Firm PLLC
888 West Big Beaver, Suite 750
Troy, MI 48084-4745
(248) 269-2020
(248) 269-2027 (direct)
(248) 269-2025 (fax)
dltoering@toeringlaw.com

Date of Report: March 1, 2012