

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

**Bar Year: 2018-2019**

**Section Name:** Health Care Law Section

**Mission Statement:**

Serves as an educational resource for members of the Section for the purpose of fostering professional development and understanding of health care laws and issues;

Provide education to members of the State Bar, members of the health care community and the general public with regard to health care laws and related issues;

Advocate, comment on or provide input with respect to state and federal legislation, regulations and public policy that affect the practice of health care law, consistent with the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan;

Establish and maintain working relationships with attorney organizations and organizations of health care professionals, providers, consumers and other members of the health care community in this State and other states for the purpose of fostering better communication and understanding of health care laws and related issues and advocating Section interests; and

Promote awareness of the purpose and work of the Section among State Bar members, the health care community and the general public and encourage their participation in Section activities.

**Officers and Council Members:**

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Louis C. Szura	Szura & Delonis, P.L.C. 29777 Telegraph Road, Suite 2475 Southfield, MI 48034	248-716- 3600	lszura@szuradelonis.com
Chair-Elect	Mercedes V. Dordeski	Behavior Health Professionals, Inc. 1333 Brewery Park Blvd., Suite 300 Detroit, MI 48207	313-656- 0000	mdordeski@bhpnnet.org
Secretary	Sheerin Siddique	Novara Tesija & Catenacci PLLC 2000 Town Center, Suite 2370 Southfield, MI 48075		sheerinsiddique@outlook.com
Treasurer	Nicole E. Stratton	Sparrow Health System 1200 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 340 Lansing, MI 48912	517-364- 5195	Nicole.Stratton@sparrow.org

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Member	Term Expires	Member	Term Expires
Mercedes V. Dordeski – 2 <sup>nd</sup> term	2019	Reesa N. Benkoff	2021
Matthew R. Keuten – 2 <sup>nd</sup> term	2019	Louis Szura	2021
Sheerin Siddique – 1 <sup>st</sup> term	2019	Rebecca L. Glitman	2021
Nicole E. Stratton – 1 <sup>st</sup> term	2019	Andrea N. Lee	2021
Martha Boonstra	2020	Laura M. Napiewocki	2021
Jeremy S. Brieve	2020	Deborah Williamson	2021
Leslie A. Rojas	2020		
Christian I. Schafer	2020		
Jeffrey M. Schroder	2020		
Patricia A. Stamler	2020		
Dustin T. Wachler	2020		
Rosanna J. Willis	2020		

**Council Meeting Schedule:** Council meetings are held monthly on the first Thursday of each month via conference call.

**General Budget Information:** The Section received approximately \$39,000 in member dues during Fiscal Year 2019. The funds are used for the following purposes: (1) educational opportunities via webinars and an in-person Annual Meeting; (2) in support of the annual ICLE Health Law Institute; (3) scholarships for law students interested in a health law career; (4) membership outreach and networking activities; and (5) administrative services. Consistent with prior years, the financial position of the Section remains strong.

**Events and/or Seminars:**

Please attach any additional information needed regarding events and/or seminars as an addendum.

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Art Prize Tour – Networking Event	Thursday, October 4, 2018	Art Prize, Grand Rapids
Private Equity	Thursday, January 31, 2019	Webinar
Membership Networking Event – Pistons game	Thursday, January 31, 2019	Little Caesars Arena
ICLE Health Law Institute & Appreciation Dinner	Thursday & Friday, March 7 & 8, 2019	Inn at St. John's, Plymouth
Cybersecurity Threats & Trends from the FBI and DOJ's Perspective	Thursday, April 25, 2019	Webinar
Provider Audits	Tuesday, May 21, 2019	Webinar
Intellectual Property of Healthcare	Wednesday, June 12, 2018	Webinar

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New HHS Proposed Rule Anti-Kickback laws	July (date TBD)	Webinar
Membership Networking Event – Tigers Game	August (TBD)	Bodman PLC (Ford Field) & Comerica Park
HCLS Annual Meeting	Thursday, September 19, 2019	Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit

**Section Committees:** The Health Care Law Section features seven standing committees: Substantive Law, Publications, Legislative, Pro Bono, Fellows, New Lawyers and Law Students, and Membership. The work of each of those committees is summarized below:

**Substantive Law Committee:** The Substantive Law Committee is the Section Committee responsible for arranging educational programs throughout the year, typically presented in a teleconference/webinar format to benefit the Section's membership at no additional cost. Its work is accomplished through four subject matter subcommittees: Technology Subcommittee, Payors Subcommittee, Providers Subcommittee and Medical–Legal Subcommittee. The subcommittees produced four webinars on a wide variety of health care law topics with one planned for Summer. The topics and titles of the webinars are listed above under the heading “Events and/or Seminars.”

**Publications Committee:** This year, the Committee is excited to publish three resources:

- An updated version of the *Licensing Health Care Providers in Michigan: Requirements and Ramifications* will be published in the late spring.
- *Michigan Legal Requirements for Opioid Prescribing* will be published in early summer.
- *How to Successfully Handle an Appeal* will be published in mid-summer.
- The Communicable Disease and Pandemic Preparedness Task Force is to publish in mid to late summer a guidance paper covering disposition of human bodies during a pandemic emergency.

**Legislative Committee:** The Committee monitored Michigan health care legislative developments including a bill to require all health insurance companies to cover prosthetic devices similarly to coverage for implanted devices rather than as durable medical equipment. In addition, the committee monitored the state government and legislative changes that occurred through the change in administration at the state level with a new Governor and legislature being sworn-in. The committee reached out to legislators requesting speakers willing to debate the health care impacts of potential no-fault auto insurance reform. The committee has also invited the chair and vice-chair of the Senate Health Policy Committee to give a legislative update at the section’s annual meeting.

**Pro Bono Committee:** The pro bono committee has teamed up with Michigan Community Resources on two initiatives to provide Section members with the opportunity to engage in meaningful pro bono work. Michigan Community Resources is an organization that advances the missions of Michigan nonprofits that serve low income individuals and communities through pro bono and low-cost legal services. The first initiative allows Section members to receive periodic notices of pro bono opportunities and elect to participate in such matters directly with Michigan Community Resources. The second initiative involves working with Michigan Community Resources to organize a workshop to educate representatives of nonprofit organizations and

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community groups about the basics of organizing and operating a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The pro bono committee hopes that these initiatives will evolve into long-term and reoccurring opportunities for Section members to engage in worthy pro bono activities.

**Fellows Committee:** The Section established a Fellows Program in 2011 to honor former Health Care Law Section leaders who have made sustained, outstanding contributions to the Section and the practice of health care law in Michigan. Fellows are recognized each year at the Section's Annual Meeting. The Fellows Committee administers the Fellows Program, which includes nominating Fellows for election by the Council, and handling all matters regarding the presentation of Fellows at the Annual Meeting. The Fellows Committee meets periodically to discuss nominations and other matters concerning the program. In 2018, the Fellows Committee nominated, and the Council elected, the following attorneys: Laura M. Napiewocki, Alan T. Rogalski, Carol A. Tarnowsky, and Deborah J. Williamson. The 2019 class of Fellows will be selected in early summer and honored at a dinner following the Section's Annual Meeting on September 19, 2019. A list of all Health Care Law Section Fellows is posted on the Section's web page.

**New Lawyers and Law Student Committee:** The Committee administered the Section's Academic Achievement program under which the Section awards \$1,500 scholarships to law students at eligible Michigan law schools who exhibit a high level of achievement in health care-related law courses. The recipients will attend and be honored at our Annual Meeting.

**Membership Committee:** The Membership Committee organized several networking events this year (2018-2019). The Committee orients new Section members to the Section and engages Section members through the Section's Twitter account. Key events and milestones included:

- October 4, 2018 – Art Prize event held in Grand Rapids, MI.
- January 31, 2019 – Pistons Game Networking Event in Detroit, MI
- March 7 – 8, 2019 – Tweets for Treats during the ICLE Conference at the Inn at St. John's. Plymouth, MI
- August 2019 – Tigers Game Networking Event in Detroit, MI

### **Recommendations for next Council:**

- Continue to provide the high-quality and reliable education and networking opportunities that the Section's membership has come to expect.
- Increase efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in the Section's membership and Council committees.
- Increase efforts to build civility and professionalism in the Section's membership.
- Build on the success of the Section's social media efforts by continued and sustained use.

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- Explore methods to retain the institutional knowledge of experienced Section members for the advancement of all Section current and future members.
- Strengthen the Section's pro bono efforts.
- Strengthen the Section's affiliations with law students, new lawyers and Michigan law schools and recommit to engaging in visible and sustained outreach activities to provide exposure and education to health care law.
- Continue the Section's strong relationship with ICLE, including continued co-sponsorship of the Annual Health Law Institute and Section Appreciation Dinner.

**Other Information:**

I am very appreciative of being provided the opportunity to serve as Section Chair for the experienced, motivated and professional members of our Section. The Section was stronger because of the efforts of the Council members, officers, committee and subcommittee members. In addition, a particularly high level of praise belongs to Susan Stokes, our Section's Administrative Assistant, who is an integral and invaluable part of the team. Her skills, intelligence and dedication is a great benefit to the Section.

Louis Szura  
Chair, Health Care Law Section  
State Bar of Michigan  
2018-2019