



DETROIT BAR ASSOCIATION

188th  
Annual Dinner

# Raising the Bar



In the last year, 6,000+ people participated in 130 Networking Events, Webinars, Educational Programs, Detroit Legal Services Clinic, Discovery and Mediation, Committee Meetings and Section Meetings! 51% were nonmembers.





Raising the Bar Annual Dinner





Summer Breeze Law Clerk's Party





Detroit Bar Association Golf Outing





Jingle Mingle Holiday Celebration





Night Out with the Bench and Bar





Mardi Gras in the "D"





State of the Court Address & Reception





# New Lawyer Boot Camp





Inn of Court





# ChatGPT:

## Your New Artificially Intelligent Associate?



Using Technology to Level the Playing Field for Small Firms  
Chat GPT: Your New Artificially Intelligent Associate  
Retirement Planning for Small Firms & Solo Practitioners





**Auto No Fault Section:**  
Trying a PIP Case Post Covid



**Civil Rights Section:**  
Networking at Andiamo's  
Riverfront Restaurant





## **Barristers Section:**

Barristers Holiday Party

Pins & Pinstripes

Financial Planning for Lawyers Starting their Careers (15)

Navigating Student Loan Debt: A Practical Guide for Young Lawyers (10)

Law Day





# What is Estate Planning?

Your estate consists of all of your assets and liabilities. This includes assets and liabilities held in your name alone or jointly with others, bank accounts, real property, personal property, stocks and bonds, furniture, cars, jewelry, retirement accounts, etc.

With estate planning you can determine:

- How and by whom your assets will be managed during your lifetime.
- How and to whom your assets will be distributed after your death.
- How and by whom your personal, medical and mental health care will be managed during your lifetime if you cannot care for yourself.



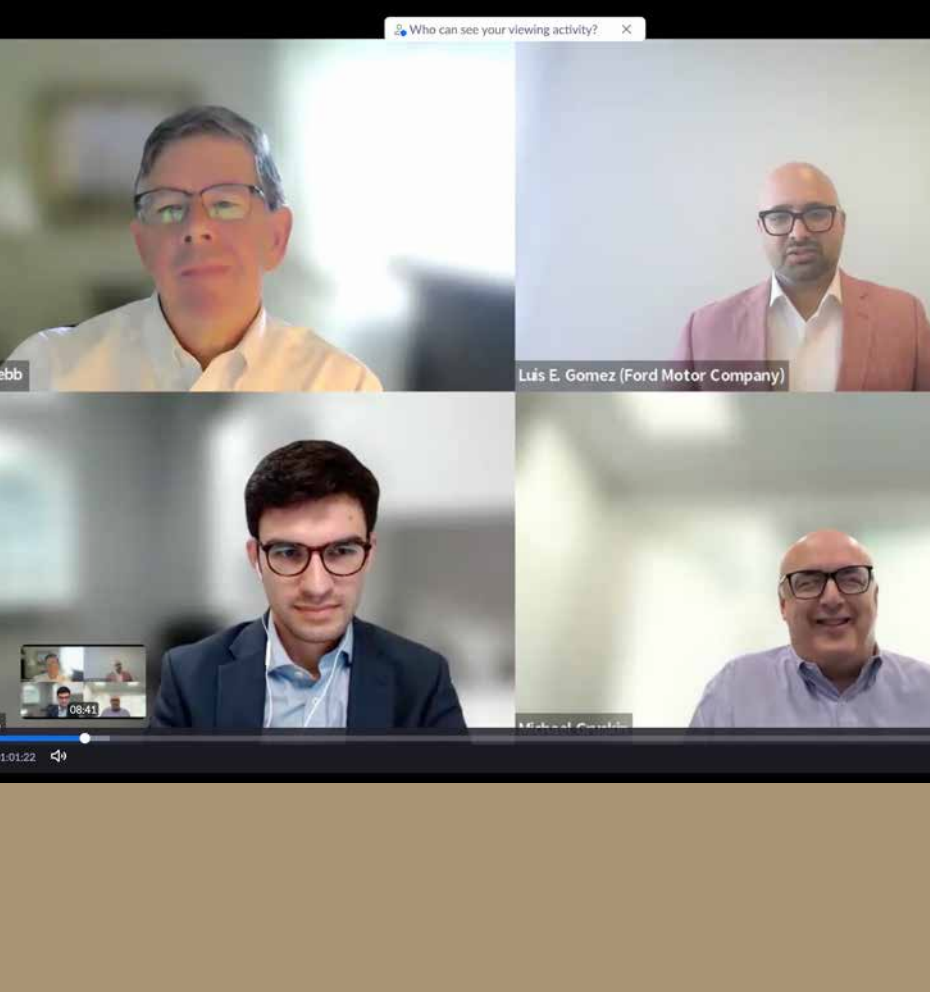
## **Estate Planning Section:**

Estate Planning Section Launch at the Detroit Club

Webinar: The use of a Special Needs Trust to Protect a Plaintiff's Assets

Webinar: Estate Planning for Pro Bono Attorneys



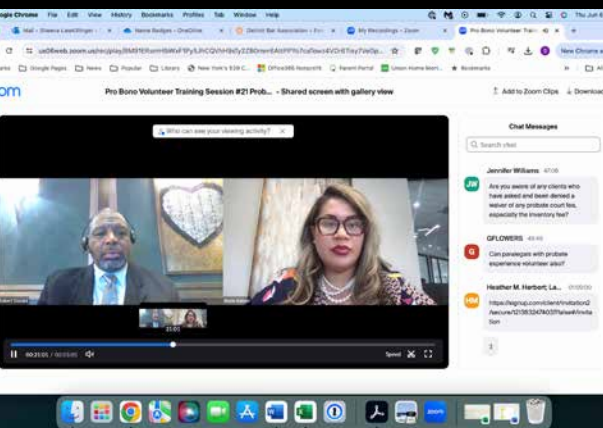


**In-House Counsel Section:**  
Webinar: Aligning Expectations  
with Outcomes: The In-House  
Perspective



**Medical Malpractice  
Defense Section:**  
The Status of the Caps on  
Non-Economic Damages





## Probate Litigation Section:

Probate Training for  
Pro Bono Attorneys



## Criminal Defense Section:

Criminal Section  
Launch Event at  
Frank Murphy Hall  
of Justice



## Fish & Game Section

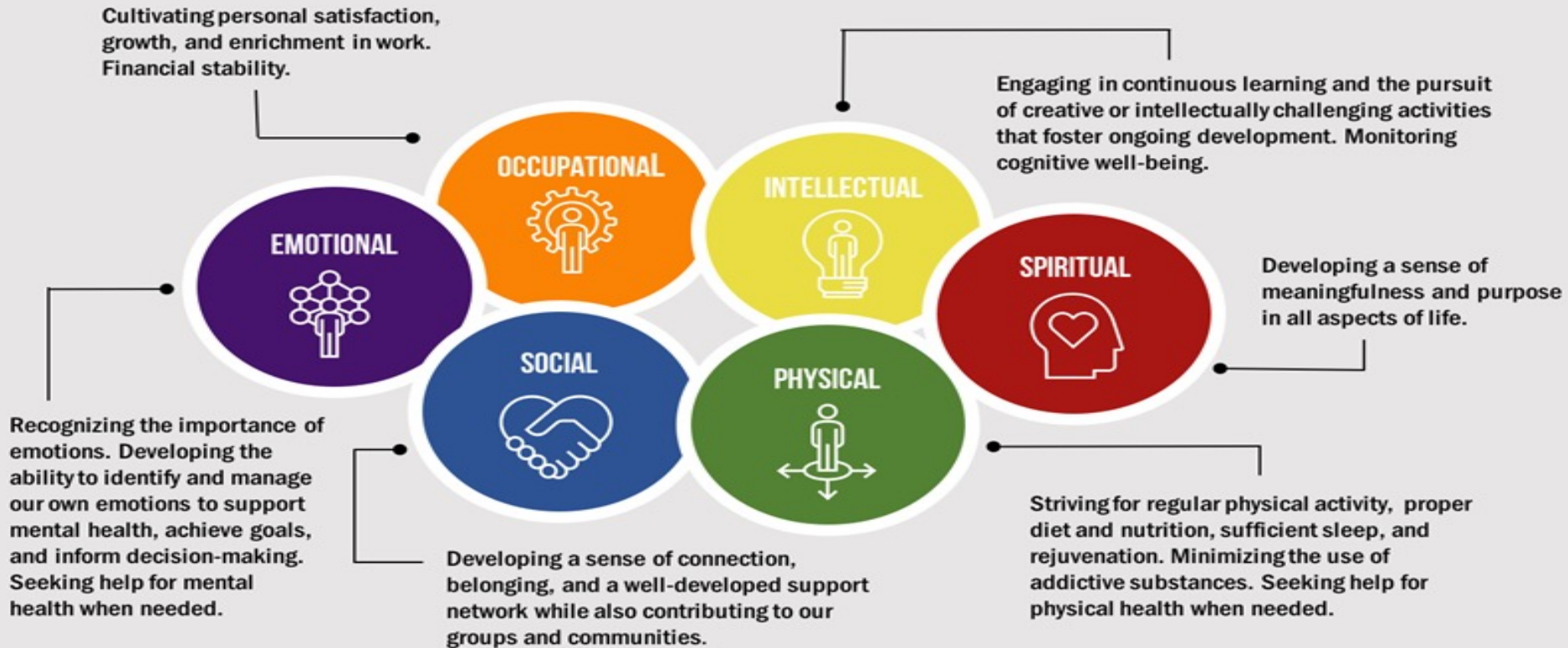


**ADR Section:**  
ADR Section Launch Event at Butzel  
Webinar: The Benefits of Early Dispute Resolution in Conflict Management





**A continuous process in which lawyers strive for thriving in each dimension of their lives:**



## **Work Life Balance Section:**

Webinar: Stress Management and Understanding  
Vicarious Trauma in the Legal Profession

Webinar: Managing Stress in the Legal Profession



**Diversity & Inclusion Committee:**  
23 in 23' Diversity Challenge Reflections Meeting  
Launched the 24 in 24' Diversity Challenge  
Pathways to the Bench Webinar



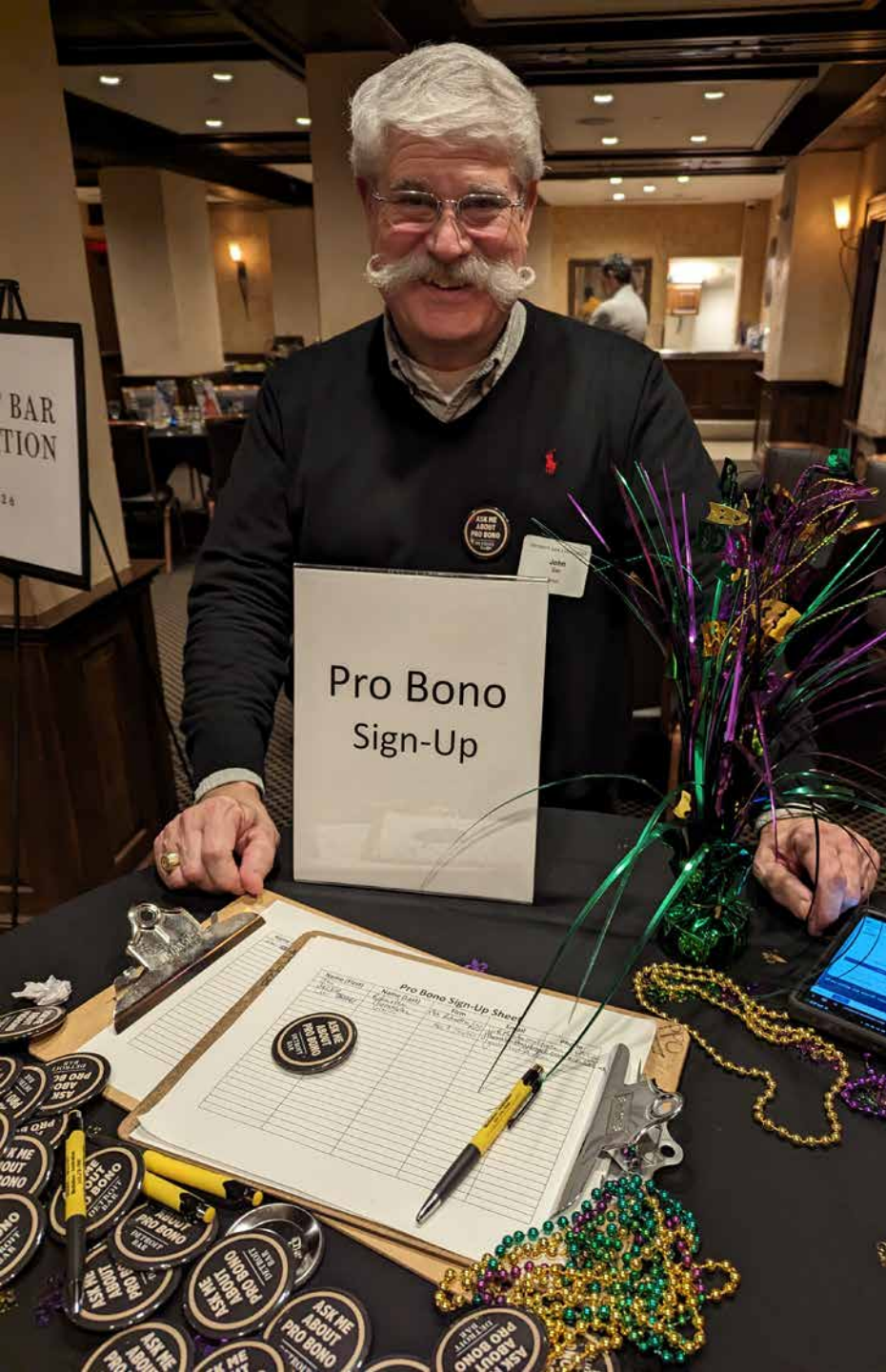


**Strategic Planning  
Committee:**

Completed the Detroit Bar  
Association Strategic Plan

**Judicial Candidate Evaluation  
Committee**

34 members evaluating  
46 judicial candidates



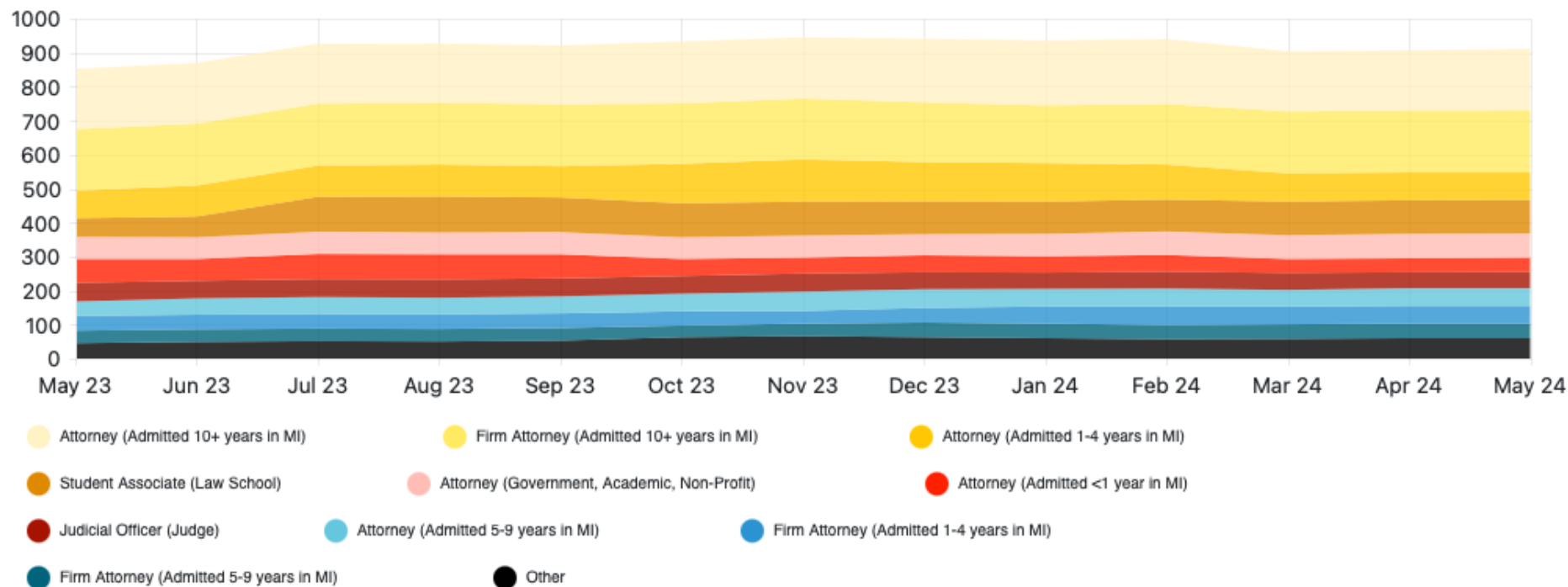
## **Pro Bono Access to Justice Committee:**

XXXX Served Through  
Detroit Legal Services  
Virtual Clinic

Detroit Legal Services  
Clinic Returned to In  
Person Operation

Completed Four Lunch &  
Learn Training Webinars  
for Pro Bono Attorneys





We have 941 Members.



**Tracey Cooley**

Executive Director of the  
Detroit Bar Association  
and Foundation



<b>Corporate Purpose (as filed in 1934)</b> To maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of the law, to increase its usefulness in promoting the due administration of justice, and to cultivate social intercourse among its members.				
<b>Core Values</b> <i>(to be applied in all actions and decision-making)</i> Stewardship      Service      Integrity      Honor      Inclusive Community				
<b>Mission (What We Do)</b> The mission of the Detroit Bar Association is to create and serve a legal community that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes professionalism and integrity of the legal profession</li> <li>• Supports access to justice</li> <li>• Fosters relationships and <i>equity of opportunity</i> for all lawyers</li> </ul>				
<b>Vision (What We Wish to Become)</b> <i>The Detroit Bar Association connects and collaboratively leads the lawyers of today and tomorrow to be ready to address the most pressing concerns of the legal community and optimize conditions to achieve access to justice.</i>				
<b>Desired Outcomes (The Impacts We Intend to Make)</b> The Detroit Bar Association cultivates an environment where <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawyers access the relationships and resources they need to realize their potential and achieve results for their clients.</li> <li>• Attorneys engage with the organization to service the community in its pressing legal needs.</li> <li>• Service providers recognize that the organization is a partner and our members are a primary resource in addressing legal needs.</li> <li>• The judiciary and agencies benefit from a collaborative relationship to have well-prepared and ethically responsible attorneys who uphold the principles of justice.</li> <li>• The community's young people are inspired and encouraged to become attorneys.</li> </ul>				
<b>Strategic Filters</b> <i>(to be applied in decision-making to move the organization to realize this plan)</i> <i>Does this decision demonstrate <b>adaptation to change</b>? Does this decision illustrate <b>energizing/visionary leadership</b>?</i>				
<b>Strategic Initiatives</b>				
<b>Education</b>	<b>Sections/Committees</b>	<b>Visibility to Members</b>	<b>Visibility to Public</b>	<b>Governance</b>
Establish <i>real value</i> in our educational programming	Keep Sections and committees active and vital; prune non-performing sections	Increase awareness/visibility on website/google searches, traditional and social media	Gain broader visibility with the public through increased pro-bono activity, partnering with courts, and public service announcements.	Revitalize the board governing function

## A New Strategic Plan



**Zenell Brown**  
Third Circuit Court  
Administrator,  
Retired  
*President*



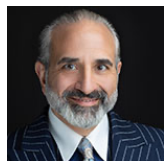
**Roger P. Meyers**  
Bush Seyferth PLLC  
*Secretary-Treasurer*



**Tiffany Ellis**  
Weitz & Luxenberg,  
P.C.  
*President-Elect*



**Paul Millenbach**  
Foster Swift Collins  
& Smith, P.C.  
*Immediate Past  
President*



**James Allen**  
Schenk & Bruetsch,  
PLC



**Richard  
Bierschbach**  
Wayne State  
University Law  
School



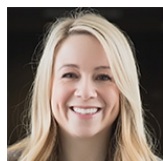
**Raymond Carey**  
Gasiorek, Morgan,  
Greco, McCauley &  
Kotzian P.C.



**Stephen Cowen**  
Jones Day



**Heather Atnip**  
Atnip & Associates



**Tishia Browning**



**Eric Conn**  
Jacobs Diemer



**Michael Donnelly**  
Fraser  
Trebilcock Davis &  
Dunlap, P.C.



**Gabriel E. Bedoya**  
Honigman LLP



**Hon. Demetria  
Brue**  
36th District Court



**Jason Conti**  
Foley & Lardner  
LLP



**Darius Dynkowski**  
Butzel Long

Thank you, 2023-2024 Board of Directors

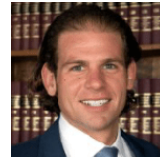




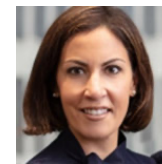
**Hon. Edward Ewell**  
Third Circuit Court  
of Michigan



**Kate Brink Harrison**  
Bodman PLC



**Jonathan Marko**  
Marko Law, PLLC



**Juliana B. Sabatini**  
Gordon Rees Scully  
Mansukhani



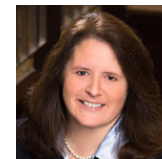
**Christopher Fillatraut**  
Mike Morse Law  
Firm



**Hon. Bridget Hathaway**  
Third Circuit Court  
of Michigan



**Joseph Muzingo**  
Apex Health



**Patricia Schabath**  
Kerr Russell and  
Weber, PLLC



**Sarah Gale-Barbantini**  
Kramer, Corbett,  
Harding &  
Dombrowski



**Diane Hutcherson**  
Kramer, Corbett,  
Harding &  
Dombrowski



**Bobby Raitt**  
Raitt Law, PLLC.



**Kimberly K. Seibert**  
Slater Seibert, PLLC



**John Gillooly**  
Garan Lucow Miller  
PC



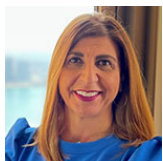
**Carina Kraatz**  
Kitch Drutchas  
Wagner Valitutti &  
Sherbrook



**Stefanie Reagan**  
Hickey Hauck  
Bishoff Jeffers &  
Seabolt, PLLC



**William Thompson**  
Varnum LLP



**Sue Hammoud**  
Wayne County  
Corporate Counsel



**Patrick Lee**  
DTE Energy



**James Rosenfeld**  
Butzel



**Lisa Whitney Timmons**  
Mediation Tribunal  
Association

Thank you, 2023-2024 Board of Directors



**Felipe Torres**  
Hallmark Health  
Care Solutions



**L. Pahl Zinn**  
Dickinson Wright,  
PLLC



**Milea Vislosky**  
Miller Tischler, P.C.

## BARRISTERS:



**Blake Padgett**  
Butzel  
*Barristers Section  
President*



**Christopher J.  
Webb**  
Law & ADR Offices  
PLC



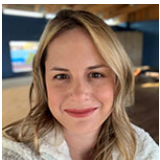
**Essence  
Patterson**  
Honigman LLP  
*Barristers Section  
Immediate Past  
President*



**William Winters  
III**  
Law Office of  
William J. Winters  
III



**Jeffrey Turner (ex  
officio)**  
BSP Law  
*Barristers Section  
Vice President*



**Kimberly  
Yourchock**  
General Motors



Thank you, 2023-2024 Board of Directors





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Executive Director



**Darlene Trudell**  
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Manager



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Accounting Manager

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Alternative Dispute  
Resolution Section  
Chair



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Barrister Section  
President



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Estate Planning  
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Medical Malpractice  
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Auto No Fault Section  
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Business/Commercial Liti-  
gation Section Chair



**Luis E. Gomez**  
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tion Chair



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Gaines**  
Probate Litigation  
Section Chair



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Auto No Fault Section  
Co-Chair



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Civil Right Section  
Chair



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Medical Malpractice  
Defense Section Co-Chair



**Mike Butler**  
Work-Life Balance  
Section Co-Chair



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Auto No Fault Section  
Co-Chair



**William J. Winters III**  
Criminal Law Section  
Chair



**Catherine B. Edwards**  
Medical Malpractice  
Defense Section Co-Chair



**Heather J. Atnip**  
Work-Life Balance  
Section Co-Chair

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