



DETROIT BAR ASSOCIATION

2023-2024

Annual Report



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

Navigating Student Loan Debt: A Practical Guide for Young Lawyers

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.

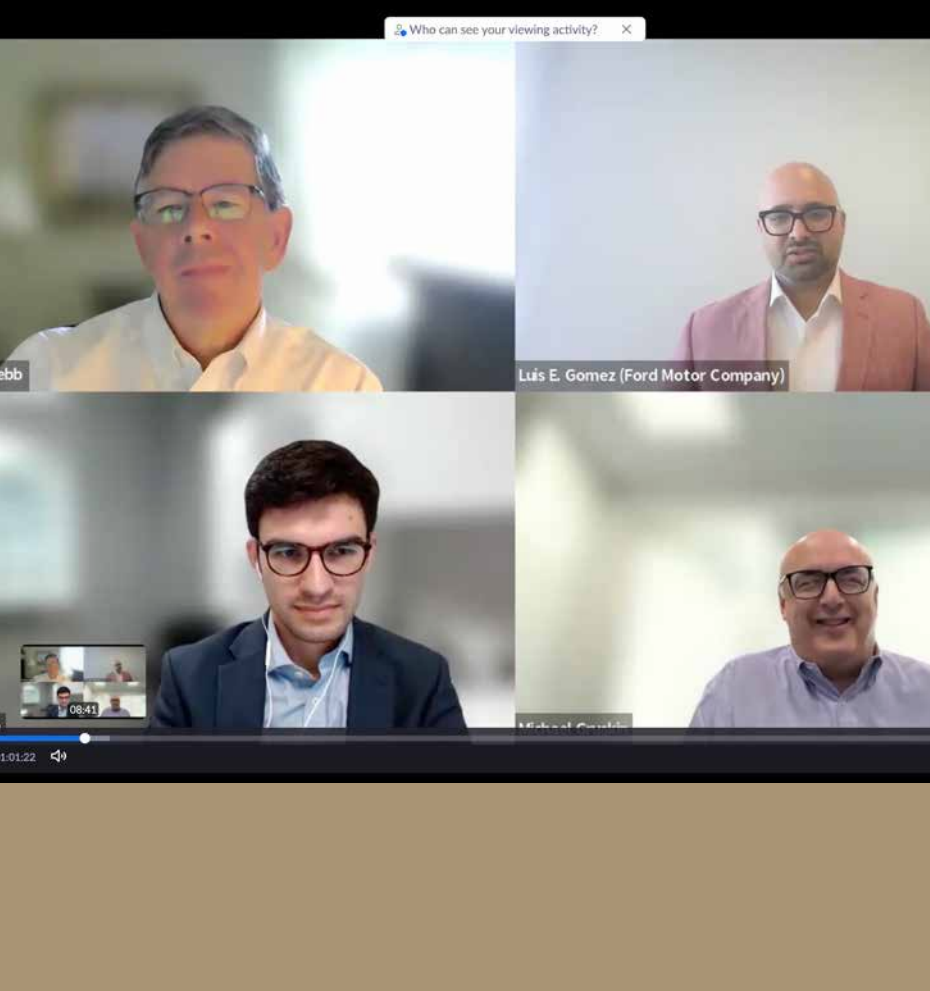


Estate Planning Section:

Estate Planning Section Launch at the Detroit Club

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

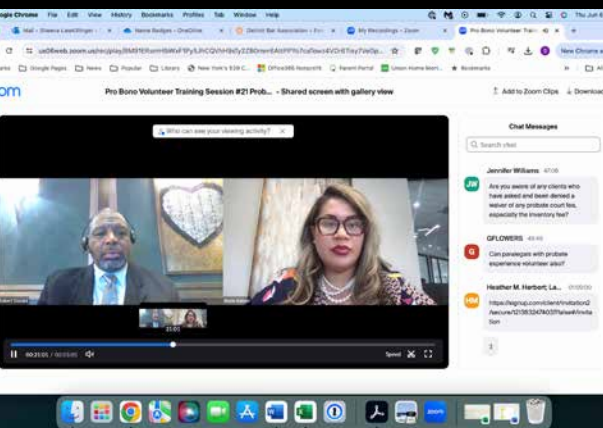
Webinar: Estate Planning for Pro Bono Attorneys



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



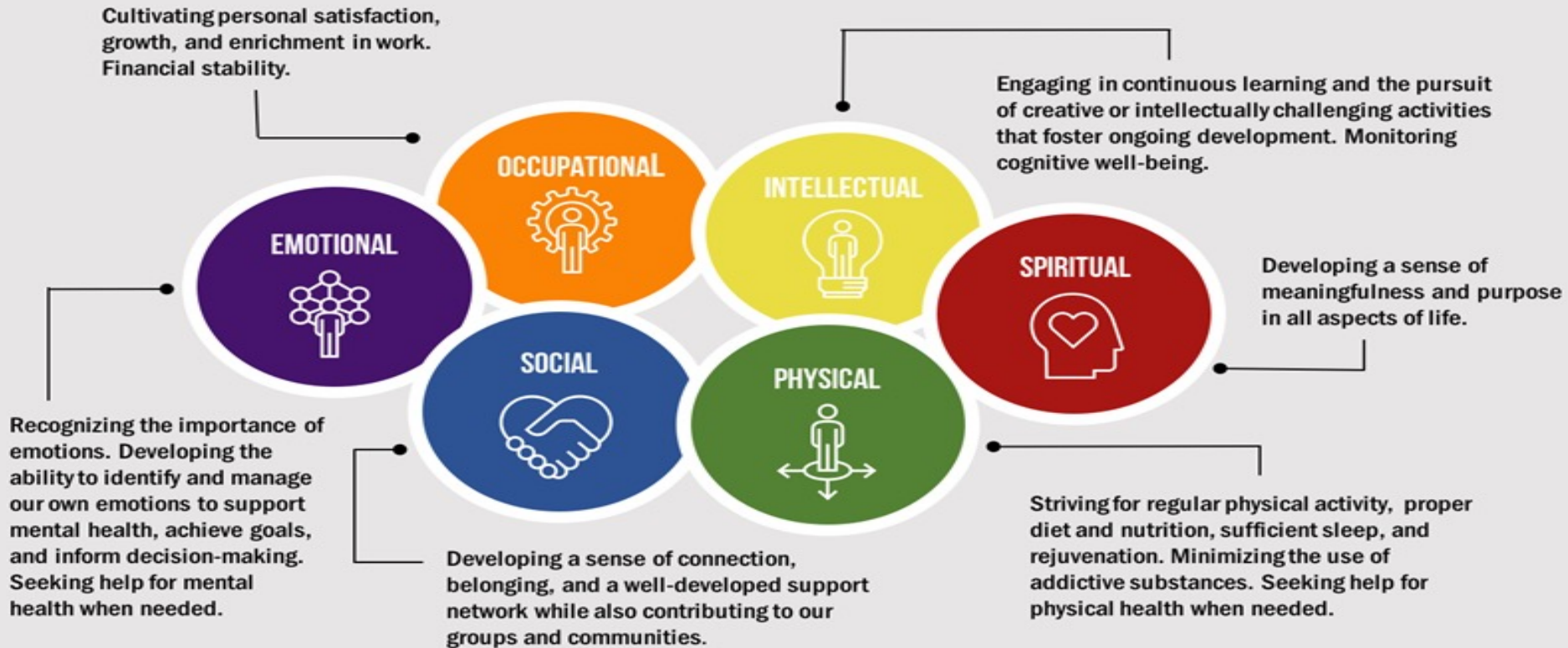
Fish & Game Section



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

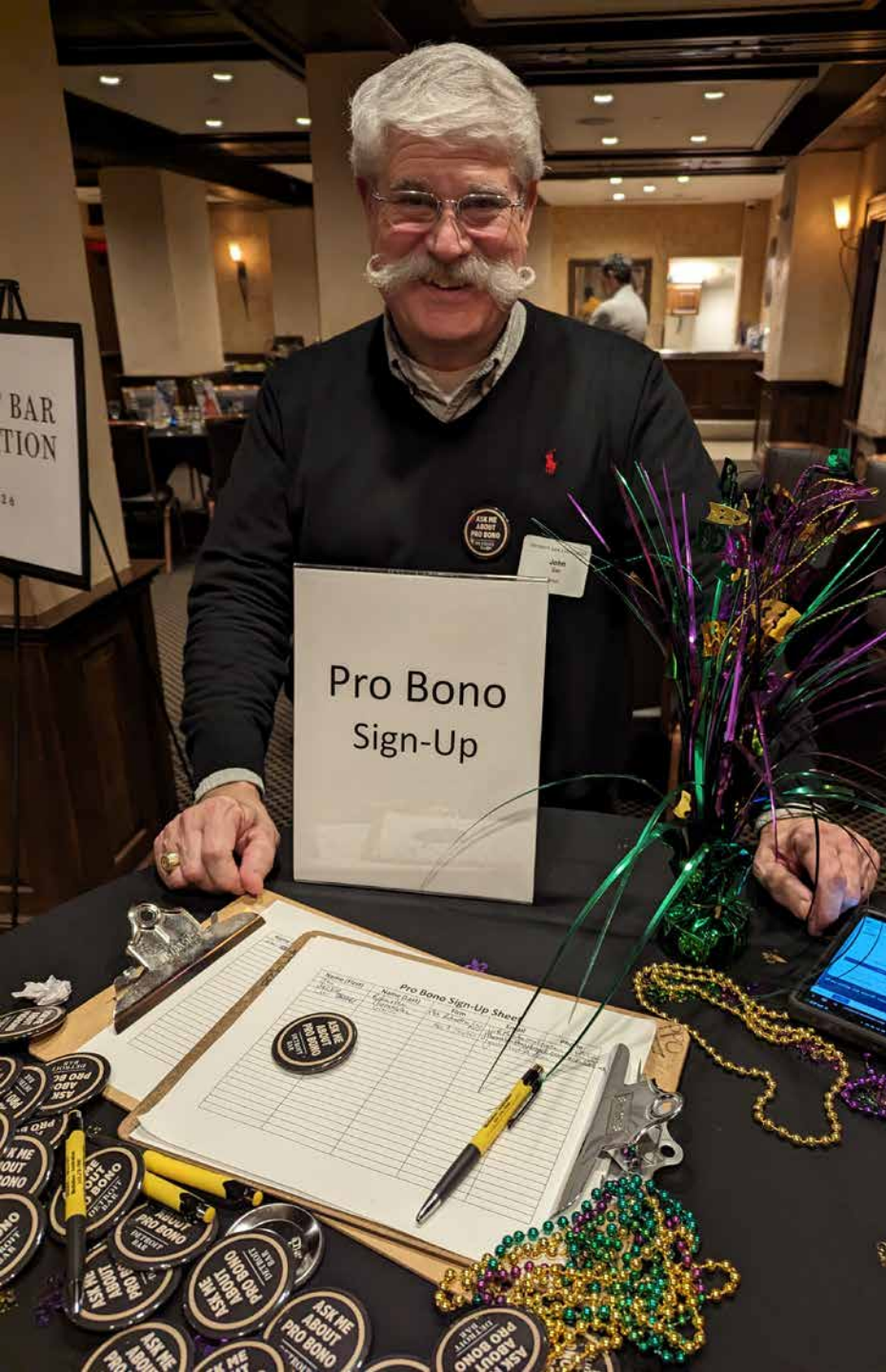


**Strategic Planning
Committee:**

Completed the Detroit Bar
Association Strategic Plan

**Judicial Candidate Evaluation
Committee**

34 members evaluating
46 judicial candidates

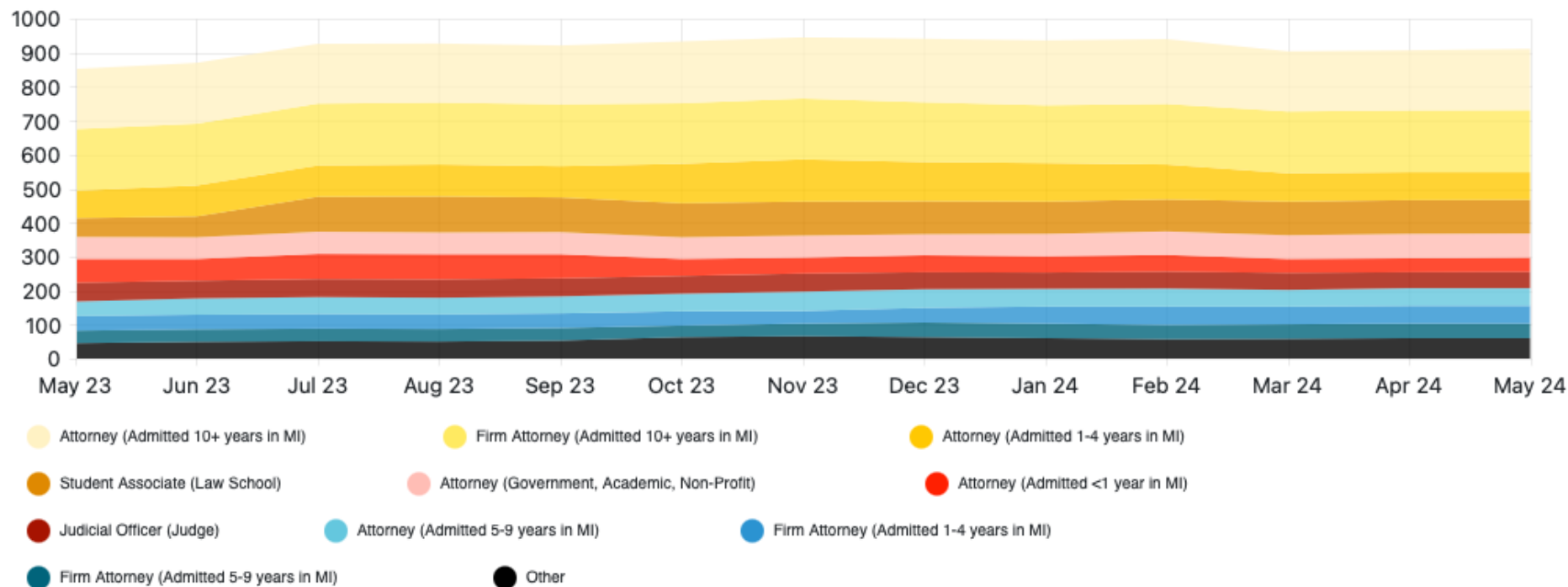


Pro Bono Access to Justice Committee:

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

Corporate Purpose (as filed in 1934) 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.				
Core Values <i>(to be applied in all actions and decision-making)</i> Stewardship Service Integrity Honor Inclusive Community				
Mission (What We Do) The mission of the Detroit Bar Association is to create and serve a legal community that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes professionalism and integrity of the legal profession • Supports access to justice • Fosters relationships and <i>equity of opportunity</i> for all lawyers 				
Vision (What We Wish to Become) <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>				
Desired Outcomes (The Impacts We Intend to Make) The Detroit Bar Association cultivates an environment where <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawyers access the relationships and resources they need to realize their potential and achieve results for their clients. • Attorneys engage with the organization to service the community in its pressing legal needs. • Service providers recognize that the organization is a partner and our members are a primary resource in addressing legal needs. • The judiciary and agencies benefit from a collaborative relationship to have well-prepared and ethically responsible attorneys who uphold the principles of justice. • The community's young people are inspired and encouraged to become attorneys. 				
Strategic Filters <i>(to be applied in decision-making to move the organization to realize this plan)</i> <i>Does this decision demonstrate adaptation to change? Does this decision illustrate energizing/visionary leadership?</i>				
Strategic Initiatives				
Education	Sections/Committees	Visibility to Members	Visibility to Public	Governance
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
State Court Administrative
Office
President



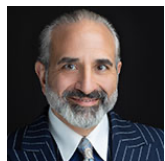
Roger P. Meyers
Bush Seyferth PLLC
Secretary-Treasurer



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Peiffer Wolf Carr Kane
Conway & Wise, LLP
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



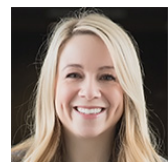
Raymond Carey
Gasiorek, Morgan,
Greco, McCauley &
Kotzian P.C.



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

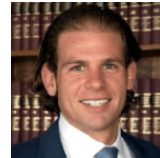
Thank you, 2023-2024 Board of Directors



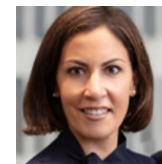
Hon. Edward Ewell
Third Circuit Court
of Michigan



Kate Brink Harrison
Bodman PLC



Jonathan Marko
Marko Law, PLLC



Juliana B. Sabatini
Gordon Rees Scully
Mansukhani



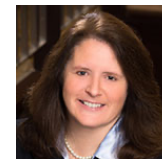
Christopher Fillatraut
Mike Morse Law
Firm



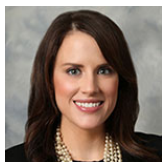
Hon. Bridget Hathaway
Third Circuit Court
of Michigan



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 Padget
Butzel
*Barristers Section
President*



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



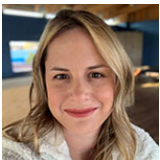
**Essence
Patterson**
Honigman LLP
*Barristers Section
Immediate Past
President*



**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
Director of Business
Development



Chris Collamar
Manager



Sheena Law-Killinger
Events Manager



Carol Snodgrass
Accounting Manager

STAFF



Harshitha Ram
Alternative Dispute
Resolution Section
Chair



Blake Padgett
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President



Joseph Fresard
Estate Planning
Section Chair



John Malone
Medical Malpractice
Plaintiff Section
Co-Chair



Sarah Gale-Barbantini
Auto No Fault Section
Co-Chair



Jeffrey Turner
Barrister Section
Vice President



Donn Fresard
Fish & Game
Section Chair



Mickey McCullough
Medical Malpractice
Plaintiff Section
Co-Chair



Mike Butler
Auto No Fault Section
Co-Chair



Robert E. Murkowski
Business/Commercial Liti-
gation Section Chair



Luis E. Gomez
In-House Counsel Sec-
tion Chair



**Macie Tuiasosopo
Gaines**
Probate Litigation
Section Chair



Kimberly K. Seibert
Auto No Fault Section
Co-Chair



Jon Marko
Civil Right Section
Chair



Patricia C. Schabath
Medical Malpractice
Defense Section Co-Chair



Mike Butler
Work-Life Balance
Section Co-Chair



Christopher Filltraut
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

SECTION LEADERS