

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2010-2011 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Article VI §6, Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan

No later than May 1 of each year, the chair of each committee and subentity of the Bar, with the assistance of the staff liaison, shall report to the Executive Director on a form provided by the State Bar on the activities and accomplishments of the committee or subentity.

Committee Name: Bar Leadership Liaison Advisory Committee

Jurisdiction: Provide assistance developing an annual leadership training seminar for affinity bars and section chairs.

Chair(s) and Committee Members:

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Daniel M. Levy	3054 W Grand Blvd Ste 3-600 Detroit, MI 48202-6054	(313) 456-3812	Levyd@michigan.gov
Staff Liaison	Nancy Brown Kari Thrush Candace Crowley	306 Townsend St, Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 346-6350 (517) 346-6371 (517) 346-6319	nbrown@mail.michbar.org kthrush@mail.michbar.org ccrowley@mail.michbar.org
Commissioner Liaison	Victoria A. Radke	524 Ludington St Ste 201 Escanaba, MI 49829-3900	(906) 789-1022	Victoria@victoriaaradkepc.com

Committee Members:	Others:
Brian D. Figot	
Timothy Tyrone Gardner, Jr.	
Denise M. Glassmeyer	
Douglas D. Hampton	
Elizabeth Moehe Johnson	
Michael S. Khoury	
Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens	
Gregory L. Ulrich	

Committee Meeting Schedule:

Please attach any additional information needed regarding Committee meetings as an addendum.

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Committee Meeting	3/8/11	Conference Call
<i>- Planning for the 2011 Bar Leadership Forum</i>		

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2010-2011 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Resources provided by the State Bar of Michigan in support of committee work:

This committee was formed to develop and annually produce a program providing developing bar leaders with meaningful leadership tips, techniques and development training. The annual Forum is also intended to provide upcoming leadership with the opportunity to network and get to know, most importantly the State Bar personnel they will be working with, other bar leaders whose experience they can learn from and upon whom they can call for assistance.

The Bar Leadership Forum is by invitation only. Initially just executive directors of local bar associations, the guest list now includes section chairs. More recently emphasis was placed on involving chairs-elect so as to maximize the benefits provided by the program. This change has proven most beneficial and should be continued in perpetuity. Early on, it was evident the forum must CONSISTENTLY contain valuable substance, important content, a desirable location, and beneficial networking opportunities to remain successful.

In order to ensure the success of this program, the committee has historically been comprised of members, located throughout Michigan, who represent different facets of leadership. It is critical that BLF committee members have personally attended recent BLF programs in order to be able to not only maintain consistency but also to insure that programming remains fresh for persons who may attend annually. Membership size has varied over the years and the committee is currently comprised of nine members.

State Bar Staff offer invaluable services to this Committee and their contributions cannot be overstated. Among other things, the staff provides 1) assistance with identifying and obtaining relevant program focus and panel topics, program speakers and sites; 2) administrative support; 3) registration of participants (offsite and onsite); 4) preparation, transportation and distribution of all forum materials and handouts; and 5) securing prizes for annual attendees raffle.

SBM staff is also responsible for the preparation, dissemination to, collection from, and summarization of feedback surveys. In addition to this information from previous BLF participants, Bar staff provides feedback from the Section Chairs' orientation. The committee greatly values and relies on this information and has made great efforts to provide programming based upon participants' feedback. This has served to increase the already critical role staff plays in support of the committee during planning stages, and in turn has increased the role committee members play as conference participants. Consequently, future committee appointments should be made with this in mind.

Committee Activities:

Based primarily upon participant comments and recommendations, the 2010 was a marked departure from those in years past. Instead of bringing in a professional expert in telling others how to lead, the committee chose to invite a keynote speaker who is himself an accomplished leader -- Dennis Archer. The committee turned to Dennis because in addition to (and in this instance more important than), being a former Michigan Supreme Court Justice and Mayor of Detroit, he has also served as president of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, the Wolverine Bar Association, and the National Bar Association. Unfortunately, last minute scheduling issues

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2010-2011 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

necessitated that his appearance be by video tape. Still participants indicated they placed greater value in someone who had ‘been there and done that’ than in the sort of nationally recognized professional development speakers the committee had previously assumed were who attendees expected to hear from, often at considerable expense.

Last year’s participants also learned about how to use technology to both serve and increase membership from David Barrett, AKA “The LinkedIn Lawyer.” Still, what feedback shows participants most valued were breakout sessions on topics like running an effective meeting.

The plan for the 2011 program will be very similar to the 2010 format, though with an even greater emphasis played on successful SBM leaders sharing what did and did not work for them. To this end, the forum will kick off with an opening session on *Leaders Developing Leadership*, to be moderated by Hon. Cynthia Stephens. Breakout sessions will include the now usual (and always highly valued) *Running an Effective Meeting* and *Dealing with the Media* as well as sessions on *Law Related Education* and *Membership Growth through Strategic Planning*.

Also to be repeated are the separate *Meet Your Peers* interactive workshops for sections and local/specialty bar leaders. They will again be conducted immediately prior to the Grand Reception as this proved to facilitate both speedier and more substantial interactions between participants. Of course, participants will also receive a legislative update and pointers on SBM protocol for being involved in the process, and be treated to *The Big Picture* for the coming year by SBM’s executive director, president and Assembly chair.

Also new this year, participants will be presented with cards they can fill out at registration and during the initial session, which will then be provided to the appropriate speaker/moderator/panel in advance, so that they may better prepare to address items of particular concern to attendees. Of course this is all in addition to the invaluable networking, the opportunities to learn from each other, and the “Grand experience” all attendees will enjoy.

Future Goals and Activities:

The future goal of the Bar Leadership Liaison Committee is to continue the presentation of quality leadership forums on an annual basis. Through these forums, the committee hopes: 1) to enhance the quality of leadership within the legal community at large and in particular within the State Bar and its related entities, 2) to provide chairs-elect of Bar sections with the tools and SBM contacts they need to maximize their success, 3) to engage and encourage potential future State Bar leaders through their section or local bar association activities and thereby ensure a continuity of exceptional State Bar leaders, and 4) to remain effective in its role as “liaison” and further enhance the relationship between all qualified associations of lawyers and the State Bar of Michigan.

In order to remain effective, the attendance of Bar Leadership Liaison Committee members at the Forum should be strongly encouraged and properly supported, so that the Committee (and individual committee members) can: 1) be effective in its role as liaison to outside lawyers associations, 2) continue to provide unique leadership opportunities geared especially for lawyers, and 3) do so on a consistent basis from year to year in a manner that allows attendees to build upon prior experiences and maintains the high expectation level critical to ensuring annual participation by the maximum number of invited entities.

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2010-2011 COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

The committee has actively sought input, through informal discussions and formal surveys, from BLF attendees. With the assistance of SBM staff, an active effort is made each year to address this input when planning the next forum. While it is important to cover some basics for new section leadership each year, it is also critical to provide something new for association leaders who may attend annually. The committee is always seeking to maintain this balance.

Other Information:

It should be noted that for the last few years this committee has not had a co-chair. While this change has not presented any difficulties, it is the chair's recommendation that in future years this committee should have both a chair and a chair-elect or vice-chair. This would permit the chair's position to be rotated frequently while also assuring that the future chair will be someone who can insure continuity and who is aware of the position's expectations and well prepared to see them through.