

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE
May 2008**

Committee Name: Standing Committee on Public Outreach

Jurisdictional Statement:

Make recommendations concerning programs advancing lay understanding of law and the legal profession, with particular emphasis on community programs and materials for youth.

Officers and Membership:

Jeffrey F. Paulsen, Chair

Members:

Sherry L. Belknap	Bart P. O'Neill
Angela Emmerling Boufford	Sandra D. Parker
Michael M. Ellis	David A. Potts
Cindy E. Faulkner	Daniel J. Schairbaum
Rodrick K. Green	Denise M. LaFave Smith
Roland Hwang	Lisa C. Walinske
Margaret J. Krasnoff	Jermaine A. Wyrick
Hon. Ronald W. Lowe	

Michigan Center for Civic Education:

Linda Start

Michigan Lawyers Auxilary:

Mary Anne Farris
Susan Patterson

Commissioner Liaison:

Lori A. Buiteweg

Staff Liaison:

Nancy Brown
Candace A. Crowley
Naseem Stecker

2007-08 Meeting Schedule:

January 14, 2008 — teleconference
March 17, 2008 — State Bar of Michigan headquarters, Lansing
May 12, 2008 — teleconference

Resources Provided by the State Bar of Michigan in Support of Committee Work:

Scheduling meetings, agenda, minutes, organize events, help get speakers, publicity, order plaques, review materials, work with community members/volunteers/others to promote the law in society, photography, video arrangements, design and web services, articles, booklets, brochures, etc. etc.

Committee Activities:

Public Outreach Committee Activities

The committee administers a number of established SBM sponsored programs. It also provides advice and support to the outreach efforts of related groups. Currently, the Public Outreach Committee administers the following:

- (1) Law Day, which is celebrated across the country on May 1st of each year. Typically a luncheon is held that includes distinguished speakers like Supreme Court justices and the president and executive director of the State Bar. Middle and high school essay contest winners are honored at this luncheon.
- (2) The Michigan Legal Milestone Program which honors significant people, places or events in our state's legal history and includes a dedication ceremony and the permanent placement of a bronze marker at a selected location. Over the past 20 plus years, 32 markers have been placed throughout Michigan.
- (3) Constitution Day celebrated in September of each year. Materials are developed and distributed for teachers and students. Information is also posted online.
- (4) The creation and distribution of the "You and the Law" booklets for school age children; and
- (5) Involvement with various other programs created to educate the public and in particular children about the role of the law, lawyers and judges in society. The Public Outreach committee provides support to the Michigan Center for Civic Education in administering and judging the state -wide Mock Trial competition for high school students. It is also actively participating as a member of the state wide Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Committee.

Future Goals and Activities:

The committee will continue to review, improve and expand its existing SBM sponsored and other related programs that advances non-lawyer understanding of the law and the legal profession, with particular emphasis on community programs and materials for youth.

Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:

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