



FBA newsletter

Summer 2005

Federal Bar Association - Eastern District of Michigan Chapter - 47 years of service to our Federal Bench and Bar



Eric Straus

Murphy, Straus And Sasse To Highlight Gilman Luncheon

The annual Leonard R. Gilman Award Luncheon will take place on Thursday,

April 28th, at the Hotel Pontchartrain in Detroit. The reception will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the luncheon following at 12:00 noon.

The guest speaker will be Stephen J. Murphy, the newly sworn-in U.S. Attorney, who awaits confirmation of his appointment by the U.S. Senate. The Gilman Award to an outstanding practitioner of criminal law will be presented to Assistant United States Attorney Eric Straus and Kenneth R. Sasse of the Federal Defender Office in Flint.

Straus received his law degree from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1985, and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Oakland University in 1982.

In 1987, he joined the General Crimes Unit in the U.S. Attorney's Office. In 1989, he joined the Office's Controlled Substances Unit and, in 1990, Straus went to the Organized Crime Strike Force Unit, where for the next 12 years he investigated and prosecuted members and associates of La Cosa

Nostra (LCN), along with corrupt union officials for labor racketeering offenses.

Following the 9/11 attacks, Straus became the Anti-Terrorism Financial Investigations Coordinator. Both Straus and 2004

(see page 2)



President's Column

Dennis M. Barnes

Since this will be the last Newsletter we will be publishing until next September, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and

thank our co-editors, Elisa Angeli and Michael Riordan, and the Newsletter committee for their consistently outstanding work. Our FBA Newsletter has received the National FBA's Outstanding Newsletter Award for a few years running, and this year's product has met and exceeded the very high standards we have set for ourselves.

The FBA's Eastern District of Michigan Chapter remains a beehive of activity, but without an effective means of communicating with our members, we would be hard pressed to provide the level of benefits this Chapter offers. In addition to the "brick and mortar" communications by Newsletter and regular mail, we are well into our second year of communicating through cyberspace. We now have valid email addresses for nearly 90% of our members, and we encourage you to let us know if you appreciate the way we use broadcast emails to keep you informed about Chapter events and activities.

One of the stated objectives of our "new" interactive website is to provide a convenient way for members to register for events and renew membership by credit card. It appears that some members still prefer to write checks or, in the case of firm lawyers, to have the firm write the check. We now send out our initial membership renewal notices by email in most cases. Although this method appears to be gaining wider acceptance, a few members still seem to hold out until they receive a hard copy follow-up notice by mail. We hope the electronic notice method continues to gain acceptance

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President's Column (continued)

– it is less expensive (no postage), more timely (instantaneous), and a whole lot easier on our dedicated administrative staff (Executive Director and Renaissance Man, Brian Figot).

Meanwhile, the officers and committees have a full schedule of events planned for the Spring and Summer. Please mark your calendars, and watch the mail, email, and/or website for the details about these upcoming events:

- **Gilman Luncheon – April 28, 2005.** United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy, III, will help the Chapter honor the memory of one of his most honorable predecessors, Leonard R. Gilman, at the annual Leonard R. Gilman Award Luncheon.
- **Bankruptcy Section Spring Luncheon – May 11, 2005.** The Bankruptcy Committee will offer a special program featuring U.C.L.A. Professor Lynn LoPucki and Chief Judge Steven Rhodes on the hot topic of Chapter 11 venue.
- **Annual Dinner – May 12, 2005.** The Chapter will hold its Twenty Sixth Annual Dinner Honoring Federal Judicial Officers, this year at **Comerica Park**.
- **FBA Media/Law Program – “When No Comment is No Good” – May 19, 2005.** The FBA Rules and Civil Practice Committee is sponsoring a program on the intersection of the legal, media, and public relations worlds: Managing media relations for clients who are involved in bad publicity.
- **FBA Annual Summer Associates Program – Date TBD this summer.** This program has been a hit with the summer associates, offering what for most of them is their first exposure to our federal court, judges, staff, and the FBA.

Gilman Award (continued)

Gilman Award winner Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Cares, the Terrorism Investigations Coordinator, supervised the bulk of the Office's counter-terrorism investigations until the creation of a separate, seven member, Counter-Terrorism Unit in May, 2002.

In 2003, Straus was tasked with the Court ordered post-trial review of *U.S. v. Koubriti, et al.*, in which several defendants were convicted after a lengthy trial of terrorism related crimes. As a result of that review,



Stephen J. Murphy

the U.S. Attorney's Office moved for the dismissal of charges against the defendants after it was discovered that numerous exculpatory/impeachment materials, both unclassified and classified, were not disclosed to the Court nor defense counsel during the course of the prosecution of the matter.

In November and December 2004, Straus was detailed to the Department of Justice's Office of Intelligence Policy and Review, where he reviewed and prepared applications for electronic surveillance under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Straus also is charged with those duties in the Detroit Office. Straus recently was appointed Chief of the Counter-Terrorism Unit in Detroit.

An avid fly fisherman, Straus and his wife, Valerie, have a three year old daughter, Erica.

Sasse's professional career has been devoted to criminal defense work in federal court. He currently serves as the Supervising Attorney of the Flint Branch of the Federal Defender Office. Prior to taking this position in 1995, he spent ten years in private practice and ten years with the Federal Defender Office in Detroit. Sasse represented Michael Nitz on charges arising out of the death of Vincent Chin; Kenneth Weiner on fraud charges; and Robert Schmidt on tax evasion charges arising out of the operation of the Koala Record Company.

Sasse has served on the Board of Directors of the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan since 1990 and has served as President, Vice President and Treasurer of that organization. Sasse also served on the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit from 1991-1999 and is a Life Member of the Judicial Conference of that Court. Sasse and his wife, Patricia, have two children, Kellie A. Goldstein and Michael K. Sasse.

Tickets to the Gilman Award Luncheon are \$25 for FBA members; \$30 for non-members. To make reservations or for more information, please contact the FBA's Program Chair, Barbara L. McQuade at (313) 226-9725 or register online at www.fbamich.org

Stephen J. Murphy III Sworn Into Office as U.S. Attorney

On February 17, 2005, President George W. Bush nominated Stephen J. Murphy, III for the position of U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. Chief Judge Bernard A. Friedman administered the oath of office to Mr. Murphy during a ceremony held on March 8, 2005, in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse. Murphy now awaits confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Those who attended the swearing-in ceremony and heard Murphy's remarks were inspired by his vision for the U.S. Attorney's Office; a vision backed by 12 years of service to the Department of Justice. Murphy is perhaps best-known among our federal bench and bar from the eight years he served in Detroit as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. During that time, he prosecuted and tried various violent, narcotics and white-collar criminal cases. Before that, Murphy served as a trial attorney with the Civil and Tax Divisions of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. through the Honor Program.

Murphy is thrilled by his nomination and swearing-in. "After my service as an AUSA, it's a huge privilege and honor to think that I'm coming home to a position like this one."

Murphy's experience also includes the private sector. At the time of his nomination for U.S. Attorney, Murphy was an attorney with the General Motors Legal Staff in Detroit. There, he specialized in litigation, internal investigations, counseling on various business law issues and other "white collar" matters. While working with the General Motors Legal Staff, Murphy also served as a public arbitrator for the National Association of Securities Dealers and handled indigent criminal appointments in the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Murphy's legal and civic activities include having served as a member of the Chapter's Executive Board. He has also served on the State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners and on a committee appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to revise Michigan's rules of criminal procedure. His credits include several legal publications. In addition, he has served as an adjunct professor at both the Ave Maria and University of Detroit Mercy schools of law where he taught Business Crimes, Evidence and Trial Practice.

Since being nominated for U.S. Attorney, Murphy has given up these teaching engagements and board memberships in order to focus all of his attention on

the new position. "I want be the best U.S. Attorney that I can be," said Murphy, "because the people of the district deserve no less." Providing plenty of support in this new mission are Murphy's wife Amy and four year-old son, Stephen J. Murphy, IV ("Stevie").

The Chapter extends congratulations to its former Executive Board member, and best wishes for continued success!



News From National

By: Brian Figot, 6th Circuit VP

The Governance Review Committee Report:

"Progress" is Defined By Your Viewpoint

The Federal Bar Association was founded early in 1920. Woodrow Wilson was president, but had already suffered the debilitating stroke that ended his advancement of causes labeled "progressive." Soon, his administration would give way to the diametrically opposed presidency and mindset of Warren G. Harding, with a promise of a "return to normalcy"; a rejection of the changes that had occurred over the prior twenty years.

To those who took the reins of power, "progressive" did not evoke a positive image, and did not view the instituted changes as affirmative ones. They saw what they were doing in the 1920s as forward movement. To others, the conservative form of progress was merely retrenchment and retreat – a great leap backward.

That cycle has repeated several times since then, and there remains no consensus as to what kind of movement constitutes "progress." Progress, after all, means "to go forward," and whether movement is forward or backward depends upon where one stands.

National FBA, too, has "progressed" since 1920, with progression defined as positive or negative depending upon one's viewpoint. At the start, it was an organization of, by and for attorneys employed in Washington D.C. by the federal government. Some years later, it was opened up to federal employee at-

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New From National (continued)

torneys in other cities, but national office was restricted to attorneys in D.C. and the annual meeting was always in D.C.

The next step was the broadening of the membership base, as one no longer needed to be a federal employee to be a member. All significant power, however, still resided with the attorneys in D.C.

A slow but steady "Rise of the Chapters" began more than a generation ago, characterized by several changes. In particular, the right to hold national office was expanded to allow the election of any member and the National Council became more representative of the whole membership.

The Chapters eventually became the bulwark of members everywhere, with the strength of numbers mandating such changes as the chapter rebate system (by which chapters now receive back 20% of the dues that chapter members pay to National FBA). Strong decentralized leadership gave us the Chapter Activity Fund, which provides funding "to promote FBA membership and awareness of the bar association, to serve the federal bar and bench and to create and sustain legally-related educational and other pro-bono projects and activities." Finally, we obtained the system of Circuit Vice Presidents, two per federal judicial circuit, who act as liaisons between National FBA and the Chapters and serve as "counsellor and advisor for such Chapters in the promotion of their welfare"

With a vigilant National Council, dedicated Circuit Vice Presidents, and an incredibly responsive National FBA administrative staff, the Chapters have thrived.

A National "Governance Review Committee" has now issued a proposal which would effect a wide ranges of changes to the structure of National FBA. The proposal was distributed at the mid-year meeting on April 1-2, and will be voted upon by the National Council at the Annual Meeting in September. The entire proposal is posted on our Chapter website, under "Hot News," at <http://www.fbamich.org/index.cfm?location=20&RecordID=26>.

At this point, the proposal is troubling to me, personally. As I read it, it seems to take power away from the Chapters generally, and VPs in particular, thereby overcoming gains which Chapters have fought hard to obtain over the years. The National Council is relegated to a secondary and essentially powerless po-

sition, meeting only once per year and unable to effect any changes without a majority vote. Despite additional representation on the reformulated Executive Committee, those positions are reliant upon the Nominations and Elections Committee and subject to national election.

Most troubling of all, the Governance Review Committee Report does not identify why change is needed or the goals which the Committee is seeking to achieve.

A vigorous debate is anticipated, as the ramifications of the proposal are fully explored. At this point, however, standing as an advocate for the Chapters, judgment must be reserved as to whether it is "progress" or just change.

Please review the proposal, and send me your comments to fbamich@fbamich.org.

Driker, Levin, Borman Honor Us All By Their Presence

Before he was a counselor at law, Eugene Driker was a counselor at camp; Camp Sea-Gull on Lake Charlevoix. Among his campers was now U. S. District Judge Paul Borman. Among Gene and Elaine Driker's neighbors in the Greenacres neighborhood in Detroit were Carl and Barbara Levin. Their great mutual respect and affection were manifest to all 270 FBA members and friends attending the McCree Award Luncheon on February 22nd.

Judge Borman was clearly moved as he introduced his old camp counselor and life-long friend, Eugene Driker, and presented to him the Chapter's Wade Hampton McCree Jr. Award for the Advancement of Social Justice.

Eugene Driker was similarly moved in accepting the Award. He directed his remarks to family members and friends, present and absent, who had affected his life deeply and affirmed him in his course of working for social justice.

In what must have been the shortest introduction on record, Judge Arthur Tarnow introduced his old friend, U. S. Senator Carl Levin. In a somber mood, Senator Levin reflected on the affects on our constitutional system of checks and balances of one party having control of the White House and both houses of Congress. In response to a question about the so-called nuclear option, he said that a complete stalemate is possible in the Senate if either party insists on

prevailing on pending judicial nominations without the possibility of compromise.

Earlier, before the presentation of the Award, Chief Judge Bernard A. Friedman introduced George J. Bedrosian as the Court's first ombudsman, and administered the traditional oath to him.

Wade Hampton McCree Jr. (1920-1987) made an indelible mark on the legal profession in Michigan. His life and career virtually compelled naming the Chapter's annual social justice award after him.

In 1954, Governor G. Mennen Williams appointed attorney Wade McCree to the Wayne County Circuit Court. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed him to the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in 1966. He resigned from the Sixth Circuit in 1977 to accept appointment by President Jimmy Carter as Solicitor General of the United States. He served in that capacity until 1981, when he was appointed Lewis M. Simes Professor of Law at the University of Michigan, where he taught until his death.

Eugene Driker's Remarks at McCree Luncheon

The following remarks were given by recipient Eugene Driker at this year's McCree Award Luncheon on February 22, 2005:

One of the advantages of grandparenthood is that you attend movies that you might not otherwise see. Recently that has included taking my two grandsons to see "A Series of Unfortu-

nate Events." With apologies to Hollywood, let me borrow that title and tell you about "A Series of Quite Fortunate Events."

I'm quite fortunate that my parents, Charles and Frances, fled pogroms in Russia, immigrated to the United States, met in night school, married and raised a family of three children.

I'm quite fortunate that my parents instilled in my sister, brother and me an appreciation for the importance of education, community involvement and social justice.

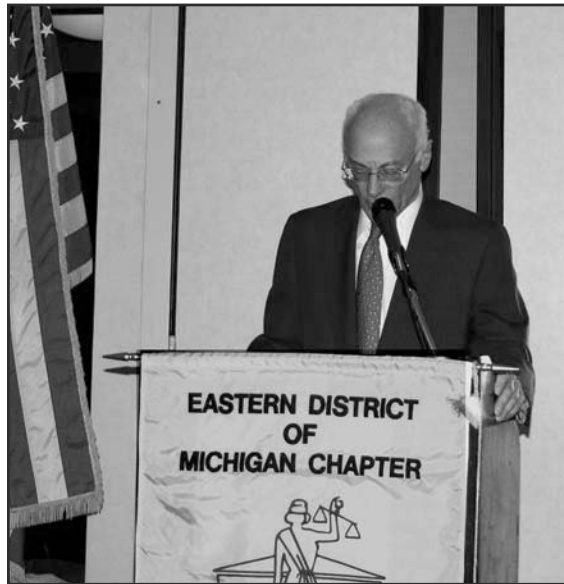
I'm quite fortunate that I received my undergraduate education at Wayne State University. But for Wayne, it's unlikely that I would have gotten a college degree at all.

I'm quite fortunate that during my first year at Wayne I met Elaine, that we married as young students and have been together for almost 46 years.

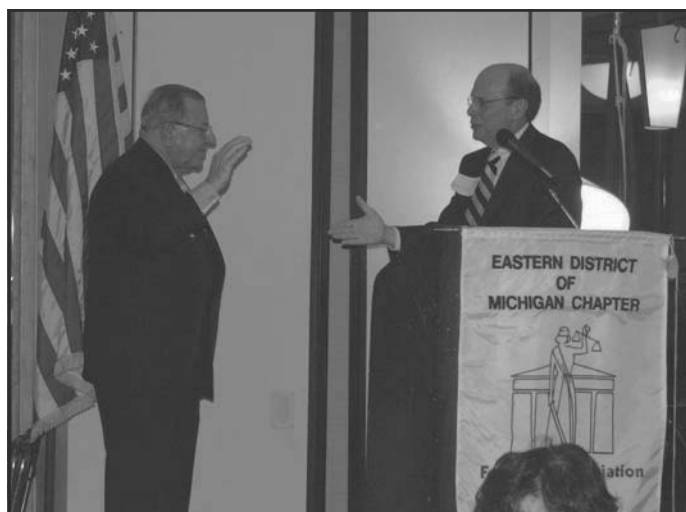
I'm quite fortunate, and so is American industry, that I didn't make it as an engineering student at Wayne and, equipped with a BA degree, but without a clue of what to do next, I followed an aunt's offhand advice and enrolled in law school.

I'm quite fortunate that, despite attending classes in very modest physical quarters (more precisely the garage of a house on Cass Avenue), I received a great legal education at Wayne and benefited from the counsel of the first of several important mentors in my professional life, Professor Donald Gordon.

I'm quite fortunate that my first law job was with the Department of Justice in Washington, during the Kennedy administration, where I was surrounded by very smart lawyers and



Judge Borman introducing life-long friend, Eugene Driker.



Chief Judge Bernard A. Friedman administers the oath of office to George J. Bedrosian, the Court's first ombudsman.

(see page 6)

Driker Remarks (continued)

where I learned both the honor and the reward of government service.

I'm quite fortunate that after three years in D.C., Elaine and I decided to return to Detroit where I joined Friedman, Meyers & Keys and began what has become a 41-year relationship with Don Barris and Herb Sott, who have been wonderful mentors and to whom I owe whatever professional success I've enjoyed.

I'm fortunate that, shortly after Elaine and I returned to Detroit, as we were pushing a baby stroller down Renfrew Road in Detroit, another young couple, Carl and Barbara Levin, was pushing their baby stroller up the street, and the friendship between our two families, which now reaches down to our grandchildren, was born.

I'm quite fortunate that in 1968 Don Barris, Herb Sott, David Denn, Bill Barris and I formed Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, where I've had so much pleasure in the practice of law.

I'm quite fortunate that my partners listened to me when I urged them to hire our first woman attorney, Sharon Woods who, in addition to being my partner and friend, is one of the great trial lawyers in Michigan.

I'm quite fortunate that I've had talented and ethical colleagues and terrific clients who have presented me with fascinating legal problems, listened to my advice (most of the time), and paid their bills on time.

I'm quite fortunate to have practiced law in a legal community full of such highly skilled, highly principled and genuinely nice lawyers and judges, many of whom have become close personal friends.

I'm quite fortunate that Wade McCree befriended me early in my career, that I was privileged to witness his intellect and grace, and that Elaine and I have enjoyed such a warm relationship with Does and the McCree family.

I'm quite fortunate to have participated in some small way in electing and reelecting Carl Levin to the U.S. Senate and to see again and again what an extraordinary public servant he is.

I'm quite fortunate that two years ago Governor Engler, obviously calling the wrong number, offered me an appointment to the Board of Governors of Wayne State University and that I've had so much pleasure in working on behalf of my alma mater.

I'm quite fortunate that my wife has tolerated a lifetime of my passion for the legal profession, which

I'm sure has driven her to distraction on more than one occasion. When I was in law school, we were told that the law is a "jealous mistress." While this phrase itself is a bit dated, the reality it describes surely is not, as everyone in this room, woman or man, well knows, as of course do your long-suffering spouses.

I'm quite fortunate that I have two wonderful children, Elissa and Stephen, who are married to wonderful spouses, Perry and Jennifer, all four of whom are accomplished professionals, and, most importantly, that they've presented Elaine and me with five beautiful grandchildren.

I'm quite fortunate that Sharon Woods and Damon Keith nominated me for this award and that the Detroit Chapter of the FBA, under Dennis Barnes' able leadership, has given me entry to a very select and prestigious group of McCree awardees.

In sum, I'm quite fortunate, honored and deeply humbled by this recognition, by Carl Levin's kind words and by the friendship of all of you.



U.S. Senator Carl Levin.

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Scenes From The McCree Luncheon



ECF is Coming to Bankruptcy Court

**By: Leslie K. Berg,
Committee Co-chair**

It was standing room only at the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) Expo hosted by the Consumer Bar Association at the Troy Marriott on Friday, March 18th. Five hundred registered for the Expo, which featured insights from those already “live” on CM/ECF:

On the program were Judge Mary Ann Whipple of Toledo, Judge Jo Ann Stevenson of Grand Rapids, Rose Bareham (Chapter 7 Trustee, Lansing), Brett Rogers (Chapter 7 Trustee, Grand Rapids), Patrice Nichol (Operations Manager, U.S. Bankruptcy Court Grand Rapids), and Attorney Marcy Ford of Trott & Trott. In addition, our local Bankruptcy Court staff, including Clerk Sheila Tighe and Barb Young and Katherine Gullo, CM/ECF Project Co-Managers, presented Case Management issues and anticipated changes from the court’s perspective.

The consensus of those already on ECF is that the volume of emails/email management is perhaps the most important change practitioners will have to deal with in adapting to ECF.

After introductory remarks by CBA president Karen Evangelista, Chief Judge Steven Rhodes addressed some general matters about CM/ECF, including the anticipated timing of May 2005 for CM (the Court’s side), and August 2005 for ECF (e-filing by lawyers). Judge Rhodes, in a humorous way, tried to alleviate fears of going “live” with ECF. He masterfully emceed the Expo, which culminated in the attendees browsing through the offerings of 13 vendors of the hardware and software necessary for practitioners to implement ECF. Approximately 1000 prac-

tioners will receive training set up by the Court over the next several months.

The event, which included continental breakfast and lunch, was an unqualified success. Our kudos to the Consumer Bar Association!

Bankruptcy Section: Activities And Upcoming Events

On April 6, 2005, from 2:00-4:30 p.m., the Turn-around Management Association - Detroit Chapter and the FBA co-sponsored “The Ins and Outs of Auto Supply Turn-around and Insolvency Decisions.” Panel members included Ted Spanger (Jay Alix Associates), Don MacKenzie (Conway, MacKenzie & Dunleavy), B.N. Bahadur (BBK), Jim McTevia (McTevia & Associates), and Kimberly Davis Rodriguez (Stout Risius Ross). The presentation was held at the Hotel Pontchartrain, and included a cocktail reception.

Save the Date:

May 11, 2005. The Bankruptcy Section will host its spring luncheon on May 11, 2005, and what a program we have for you! Professor Lynn LoPucki and Chief Judge Steven Rhodes will discuss the hot topic of chapter 11 venue and Prof. LoPucki’s well-publicized and controversial view of what he perceives as reprehensible forum shopping in those “mega” Chapter 11 cases. This will be a discussion you won’t want to miss!



Attendees at the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing Expo.



Brunch participants at the CM/ECF Expo.

Media/Law Program “When No Comment Is No Good.”

The Rules and Civil Practice Committee is sponsoring a program on the intersection of the legal, me-

dia, and public relations worlds. The event, "When No Comment is No Good," will take place on May 19, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in Courtroom 100 of the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse.

The program will discuss managing media relations for clients who are involved in bad publicity. It will feature viewpoints from Leonard M. Niehoff, a media and First Amendment litigator with Butzel Long, and Matt Friedman, a partner with the marketing and public relations firm of Marx Layne. Observations from the media will also be presented. Audience questions and participation will be welcomed.

Although there is no admission fee, reservations are requested. For reservations or information, please contact Adam Strauss at astrauss@dykema.com or 248-203-0764.



From Court Administrator Dave Weaver

Duty Station Switch

Effective April 4, 2005 Judge John Corbett O'Meara will be the resident district

judge in the Ann Arbor Courthouse and Judge Marianne Battani will be officially assigned to the Courthouse in Detroit. Attorneys in cases assigned to Judges O'Meara and Battani should have already received a notice regarding this change. If not, please visit the Court's website for a notice.

Electronic Filing

The number of daily electronic filings continues to increase. The Court recently reached a milestone in that more than 200 e-filings were made on one day. Overall, approximately 30% of all documents are now being e-filed. I have said it before and I say it again: If you are not registered to e-file, please do so now! If you are registered, please don't wait to start e-filing! We want and need you to e-file! The Court's official CM/ECF website can be accessed at www.mied.uscourts.gov. The site has all of the information and resources an attorney needs to start e-filing today!

Court Artifacts Exhibit - Update

Preparations for the Court Artifacts Exhibit are well under way. I anticipate that the display will be

opened to the public on May 2, 2005 in the Court Historical Society exhibit space on the first floor of the Courthouse in Detroit. The display will include a number of unique items from our Court's long history.

Remember, if you have any questions or comments, please send them to mie_fba@mied.uscourts.gov

A Not So Dry Presentation Of Wetlands Enforcement

On June 3, the Chapter will co-sponsor an exciting program with the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan. The event, "A Not So Dry Presentation of Wetlands Enforcement" will be held at the offices of Dykema Gossett, PLLC, in Tower 400 (Suite 2300) of the Renaissance Center. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., and the program will last from noon until 1:30.

The Chapter is honored that there will be two representatives coming in from Department of Justice bureaus in D.C., including Steve Samuels, the Assistant Chief of the Environmental Defense Section, and former Chapter board member Kris Dighe, who is now a Senior Trial Attorney with the DOJ's Environmental Crimes Section. The program also is expected to feature perspectives from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and from private consultants.

The registration fee for this outstanding program is \$18.00 (which includes lunch), and advance registration is encouraged: on-line at the Chapter's website (www.fbamich.org) or by mailing your check to the Chapter at PO Box 310610, Detroit MI, 48231-0610.

For more information, contact Christine Dowhan-Bailey (313-226-6822) or William Schikora (313-568-6685), or send an email to fbamich@fbamich.org.

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FBA ALL STAR GALA

Please Join Us For the Festivities!

Eastern District of Michigan Chapter Federal Bar Association

Twenty-Sixth Annual Dinner

HONORING OUR "ALL-STARS:" THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS
OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

May 12, 2005



The Tiger Club, Comerica Park

Cocktail Reception Commencing at 5:30 p.m. (Cash Bar)

Dinner at 7:00 p.m.



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NOTICE OF FEE INCREASE

On December 8, 2004, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005, which included a provision increasing the civil filing fee in U.S. District Courts by \$100, to \$250. This change in the civil filing fee became effective February 7, 2005, 60 days from the date the bill was signed into law by the President.

The Act increased the filing fee for civil actions prescribed by 28 U.S.C. Section 1914(a) from \$150 to \$250. The civil filing fee was last increased in 1996 when it was adjusted from \$120 to \$150. The filing fee for a writ of habeas corpus will continue to be \$5

WE WANT YOU:
Call For Volunteers To Lead Courthouse Tours

Volunteers are needed to lead student tours of the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse.

Leading student tours is fun, rewarding, and easy. The students typically sit-in on trials, and tour the Historical Courtroom and U.S. Marshal's lock-up. Barbara Radtke handles all of the scheduling details, and provides tour leaders with any preparation required.

Tours are scheduled from February through May on
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
If you can help, please call Barbara Radtke at (313) 234-5210.

Calendar of Events

- April 28 Leonard R. Gilman Award Luncheon**
Speaker: U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy III
Honorees: Eric Straus, Assistant U.S. Attorney; Kenneth Sasse, Federal Defenders' Office
Hotel Pontchartrain
11:30 a.m.
Contact: Barbara McQuade at 313.226.9725
or register on-line at www.fbamich.org
- May 11 Bankruptcy Section Spring Luncheon**
Speakers: Honorable Steven W. Rhodes and U.C.L.A. Professor Lynn LoPucki
Hotel Pontchartrain
11:30 a.m.
Contact: David Lerner at 248.901.4010, dlerner@plunkettcooney.com
or Leslie K. Berg at 313.226.7950, leslie.k.berg@usdoj.gov
- May 12 Annual Dinner Honoring The Federal Judicial Officers
Of The Eastern District Of Michigan**
Entertainment by: A (Habeas) Chorus Line
Comerica Park
5:30 p.m.
Contact: Laurie J. Michelson at 313.983.7463, michelso@butzel.com
or Theresa M. Serra at 313.234.5158, theresa_serra@mied.uscourts.gov
- May 19 FBA Media/Law Program:**
"When No Comment is No Good"
Speakers: Leonard M. Niehoff and Matt Friedman
Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse, Special Proceedings Courtroom, First Floor
4:00 p.m.
Contact: Adam Strauss at 248.203.0764, astrauss@dykema.com
or register on-line at www.fbamich.org
- June 3 "A Not So Dry Presentation of Wetlands Enforcement"**
Speakers: Steve Samuels and Kris Dighe
Luncheon program at Dykema Gossett, 400 RenCen, Suite 2300
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.
Noon-1:30 p.m.
Contact: Christine Dowhan-Bailey 313.226.6822
or William Schikora 313-568-6685
or register on-line at www.fbamich.org

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