



# FBA newsletter

Winter 2002

Federal Bar Association - Eastern District of Michigan Chapter - 40 years of service to our Federal Bench and Bar



Mrs. Viola Liuzzo

## Dean Robb to Recall Civil Rights History

Attorney Dean Robb will be the featured speaker at the Rakow Scholarship Luncheon on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Hotel Pontchartrain in Detroit. Robb will discuss his involvement in the Viola Liuzzo civil rights case.

Mrs. Liuzzo, a Detroit resident who participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march, was murdered on March 25, 1965. The three Ku Klux Klan members charged with her death were acquitted of murder in state court but were later convicted of civil rights violations in federal court in Montgomery, Alabama and sentenced to 10 years in prison. The Liuzzo family, represented by Mr. Robb, filed suit to establish the Federal Government's liability for the murder.

The reception will begin at 11:30 a.m., with lunch and the program following. Tickets are \$25 for FBA members and \$30 for non-members. To make reservations or for more information, please contact Program Chair Mark Goldsmith at 313-465-7396 or MAG@Honigman.com. Reservations must be made by November 8, 2002.

## Remarks Reprinted From State Of The Court Luncheon

*The following opening remarks were given by Chapter President Christine Dowhan-Bailey at this year's State of the Court Luncheon on September 11, 2002:*

This is a solemn day, Patriot

(see page 2)

## President's Column

*Christine Dowhan-Bailey, President*

### Collegiality and Synergy in the Federal Bar

Our Chapter was well represented at this year's FBA National Convention as Brian Figot, our newly installed (and top vote getter!) Sixth Circuit Vice-President; Dennis Clark, E.D. Chapter President-Elect; Geneva Halliday, Appointed Member to the National Council; Alan Harnisch, the FBA National delegate to the ABA, and I winged our way to Dallas at the end of September.

This annual business meeting afforded us an opportunity to collaborate with our colleagues from 80-some other chapters. We experienced firsthand the energy and direction of our FBA leadership as the National Council addressed the national issues agenda including the Judicial Pay Initiative and uniform ethical standards for federal government attorneys. The Council also adopted a long-term Strategic Plan. Your next issue of *The Federal Lawyer* will have more on the Plan, but particularly noteworthy is its cornerstone, a fine Mission Statement that serves as the foundation upon which our organization is built:

*To strengthen the federal legal system and administration of justice by serving the interests and the needs of the federal practitioner, both public and private, the federal Judiciary and the public they serve.*

Upon our return to the Detroit area, we plunged headlong into the Eastern and Western District Chapters' 2002 Bench and Bar Conference which took place October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. I cannot imagine a better example of implementing the national Mission Statement than this event. Our visionary and diligent Conference Co-chairs, Julia Caroff Pidgeon and Grant Gilezan, delivered a program that boasted nationally known speakers and the hottest topics of the day. ABA President-Elect, Dennis Archer opened this event with a major policy address and offered his perspectives on some of the most pressing issues facing our legal profession. The remarks by Deputy Attorney General Larry Thompson were likewise noteworthy, as the nation's second highest Justice Department official spoke candidly regarding the

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## President's (continued)

security and economic challenges facing our country. Approximately 150 members of our federal legal community, including numerous members of the Eastern and Western District Benches, then engaged in meaningful workshops, discussion groups, and the ever-popular "Ask the Judges" forum. The Saturday luncheon featured a panel centered by Mary Keefe, the Director of the Security and Exchange Commission's largest regional office based in Chicago. One does not have to practice securities law to have been fascinated by this engaging and sometimes contentious exchange of views.

In summary, we learned, shared, and enjoyed the company and talents of one another. It is a formidable challenge for each and every one of us to make time for events such as these, but this is precisely the kind of experience which holistically integrates our professional and personal lives. This opportunity reinforced my belief that the practice of law is not simply a job, but a calling to serve society. In order to "strengthen the federal legal system and the administration of justice", we need to understand each other and tenor of our times. I deeply appreciate the efforts of so many of you who made this Conference possible, whether you were one of our marvelous co-chairs; a conference "guru" like the incomparable Scott Newell; a faithful and dedicated Executive Director such as John Mayer; a workshop organizer; a moderator; or if you simply added your thoughts to a plenary session. I applaud the federal judiciary for its wonderful participation with a special accolade for Judge Avern Cohn who first hatched this idea some 15 years ago.

It is not too early to start thinking about the NEXT bench and bar opportunity.

who abandoned the strongest urge known to man, the will to survive, as they thrust themselves into infernos or at airborne hijackers, propelled only by the hope that they could spare someone else.

Most of us will never truly grasp the desperation, despair, and finally grim determination worn on the faces of the recovery workers and volunteers who endlessly sifted debris for body parts and personal effects, or who hauled ton after ton of pulverized aftermath from Manhattan, the Pentagon, or Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

What we can do is stand together in a moment of silence followed by a reading of all verses of our National Anthem, written by none other than an American lawyer, Francis Scott Key, who looked up and saw hope in the form of our flag, rising from the smoke of the attack on Ft. McHenry in 1814.

Please rise while Federal District Judge and Chapter Board member, the Honorable George Caram Steeh, joins me at the podium to lead us in that moment of silence and to recite the *Star Spangled Banner* as it was originally intended to be heard...as a poem.

## Motion Days At Law Schools

With the gracious assistance of U.S. District Judge Bernard A. Friedman, the Law Student Initiative Committee is sponsoring "Motion Days" at the local law schools. Judge Friedman will hold motion calls at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law on January 29, 2003 and Wayne State University Law School on February 19, 2003.

For additional information, contact Committee Chairs J. Kent Cooper (313) 496-7647, Tom Bishoff (313) 568-5341, and Dan Sharkey, (313) 225-7000.

## "Join" The Membership Committee

The Membership Committee wants you to join us in several initiatives designed to increase and enhance the experience of membership in our Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. The more people who join the FBA, the more we will be able to offer our members.

For new members, we soon will be hosting a series of happy hours at local watering holes. The new members will be provided their first drink free, while current members will be asked to pay for their own, chat with the new members and, yes, enjoy themselves. Look in upcoming editions of the FBA Newsletter and our website, [www.FBAMich.org](http://www.FBAMich.org), for these receptions.

(see page 3)

## State Of The Court (continued)

Day, so named to commemorate the anniversary of the savage terrorist attacks on our country which killed and maimed thousands of Americans.

We cannot begin to fully comprehend the pain so palpably endured by husbands, wives, children, parents, co-workers, and friends of those who perished just twelve months ago. Nor can we by any significant measure, appreciate the courage of rescue workers and fallen heroes

The District Court has been kind enough to agree to help us recruit new members to attend these receptions. We will be reviewing the court's rolls of attorneys to identify those who have been admitted to practice over the past several years, but have not yet joined the FBA. We will then encourage those lawyers to join the FBA.

A number of law firms have demonstrated their commitment and generosity to the FBA by sponsoring tables at the FBA luncheons. The Membership Committee will be asking those firms to encourage their partners and associates to join the FBA.

If you would like to participate in the planning, institution or operation of any of these initiatives, please call Kris Dighe at 313-532-4925.

## **From Court Administrator Dave Weaver**

On September 11, 2002, the Federal Bar Association began its Fall Luncheon series with the State of the Court Luncheon. Chief Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff reported on many of the activities of the Court over the past year. The full text of his speech is available on our Chapter's website at [www.FBAmich.org](http://www.FBAmich.org), or can be obtained by contacting me at the e-mail address listed below.

The first high tech courtroom in the Eastern District of Michigan is complete in Courtroom 242 of the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse. A second high tech courtroom is currently being developed in Judge Tarnow's courtroom. The Court also purchased a mobile high tech evidence presentation system that can be used in any courtroom. The Court is in the process of developing materials and orientation and training programs.

A ceremony will be held on December 9, 2002 in recognition of Employee Appreciation Day. The Court held its first Employee Appreciation Day ceremony last year on November 5, 2001, in honor of our employees' achievements and service to the Court. I would like to acknowledge the support of the entire Bench in recognizing the employees of the District Court Clerk's Office, Probation Department and Pretrial Services Agency.

Magistrate Judge R. Steven Whalen was sworn in on September 11, 2002 as the newest United States Magistrate Judge in Detroit. On October 3, 2002, a special session of Court was held for Magistrate Judge Whalen's public investiture. Magistrate Judge Whalen is a resident of Southfield, Michigan and is a graduate of the University of Illinois and the Wayne State University Law School.

Magistrate Judge Carlson has informed the Court that he will not seek reappointment when his term expires on

October 3, 2003. The Court will be advertising the vacancy and establishing a Merit Selection Panel in the coming months, with the goal of selecting a replacement by the date Magistrate Judge Carlson finishes his term.

Finally, my continuing reminder that security measures remain heightened at all federal court facilities throughout the district. As I have mentioned in the past, when entering a courthouse you will be required to show a photo ID and have all packages, brief cases, etc. x-rayed. The safety of all court staff, the bar and the public continues to be of the highest priority. Your cooperation and patience with all court security staff is greatly appreciated.

Remember, you can submit questions or suggestions for future articles to [mie\\_fba@mied.uscourts.gov](mailto:mie_fba@mied.uscourts.gov)

## **Viola Liuzzo: A Hero Not To Be Forgotten** **By Jack Lessenberry\***

Malcolm X has a cult following among kids today — not only black ones — who think he was a baaaaad dude, hip and cool in a way “Saint” Martin Luther King was not.

Both men died at 39, and long ago became immortal. Every year the anniversaries of their passings are marked with speeches and ceremonies. King has his own national holiday, when other martyrs and heroes of the civil rights movement, from Rosa Parks to Emmett Till, are also often recalled and honored.

With — too often — one exception: Viola Liuzzo, who also died at 39 and who remains perhaps the most enigmatic of the heroes of what was, really, the second American Revolution. The sociologists who strive to put us into neat boxes never would have seen her as a civil rights activist — a housewife with five kids who grew up in the South, moved to Detroit and married a Teamsters business agent.

With that background, she might have been a member of Richard Nixon's silent majority. But she was different. “The thing was, she cared about everybody,” her youngest son, Tony Liuzzo, said. “She was a liberated woman ahead of her time.”

Thirty-three years ago this week, she pointed her 1963 Oldsmobile south. King was leading a march in which 25,000 people would walk from Selma to Montgomery, George Wallace's capital.

How different a time that was. What the demonstrators wanted was, simply, what Thomas Jefferson had wanted: the right to vote. If you were black, you could get killed in Alabama for even daring to try to exercise democracy's most fundamental right.

*(see page 4)*

## Viola Liuzzo (continued)

Viola Liuzzo thought that was outrageous. For whatever reason, she always had a hard time with injustice and inequality. "She was always bringing home down-and-out people she met and they'd rip us off and dad would get mad," Tony chuckled.

So she went down to do something, anything, to help. When the march was over, she volunteered to drive a carload of foot-sore folks back to Selma. She dropped them off, and before returning to Montgomery, called home and talked to her little boy. "She said, 'I'm coming home, Nino. I'll be leaving tomorrow,'" Tony remembers. He went to bed, only to be awakened an hour later by his sister Penny's screams.

Viola Liuzzo's Michigan license plates made her an easy target for the Klansmen who saw and chased her on that lonely highway, until one of them fired a shot into the base of her brain and killed her almost instantly.

That was March 25, 1965. She was the only white woman killed in the civil rights wars, and the shot has been working through her family ever since. Anthony Liuzzo, her 51-year-old husband, turned to the bottle to complete the job on him.

No one told little Tony how to cope. "Nowadays they'd have support groups, everything else. They didn't do that then. There was a lot of denial." Not to mention hate.

Eventually he got his life together. Other shocks followed, revelations that J. Edgar Hoover's FBI tried to smear his mother, claiming that she was a drug user "necking" with the scared black teenager in the car when she died.

Three Klansmen were arrested and eventually did time for "violating Viola Liuzzo's civil rights" by blowing her brains out. Murder convictions of whites for killing blacks were impossible in the terrorist states of that day.

The lizards were caught, thanks to an FBI informer, Gary Thomas Rowe, also in the car that night. Why, one might wonder, would an FBI man not lift a finger to stop a

murder? Years went by before the Liuzzo kids learned that two of the Klansmen testified it was the FBI informant who actually killed their mother.

Wouldn't you expect them to say that? Yes. But they took lie detector tests, and an expert said they were telling the truth. Rowe denied it; but admitted on ABC-TV he had beaten up other civil rights demonstrators. "I was a hell of a man back then," he bragged. Tony's family sued the government for negligence but lost.

To this day, he remains convinced that Rowe murdered his mother. But what matters more to him is that Viola Liuzzo's place in history be recognized.

For her death was not in vain. The cold-blooded murder of a middle-class Midwestern mother had a swift and dramatic effect on public opinion. Within weeks, the Voting Rights Act swept to passage in Congress. Hundreds of thousands of blacks gained the power of the vote, and white resistance to equality, at least at the ballot box, crumbled. Policies moderated, as smarter white politicians realized repression and murder were not the best tactics for winning black votes.

Yet today, the woman who drove from Detroit and died for freedom is scarcely remembered, even in her hometown. The small park named for her, near Eight Mile and Greenfield, is in sad shape. Her family thinks there should be a statue.

Why don't we do more to remember this rather mysterious woman who honored us all by leaving her comfortable Detroit home to help people of another color far away, simply because she thought it was the right thing to do? That got her terror and death on a country road, something she had to have known was possible.

What she doesn't deserve is to be forgotten.

*\*This article originally appeared in the March 18, 1998 issue of the Metro Times and is reprinted here with permission.*

## **Litigating The First Amendment – Claims Arising Out Of The "Redress Of Grievances" Clause.** **By Daniel P. Dalton\***

After two hundred years of litigating constitutional rights, civil rights lawyers continue to raise new and creative claims against public employers and entities. The traditional public employment claim involving the First Amendment is retaliation. A new trend in the law is asserting a

*(see page 5)*

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“redress of grievances” claim – a claim typically asserted in employment actions when the claimant cannot establish the elements of a retaliation claim.

The United States Supreme Court has not ruled on whether a § 1983 claim based on a violation of the redress of grievances clause must be analyzed in the same fashion as a retaliation claim – that is, whether the speech at issue meets the “public concern” test.<sup>1</sup> The majority of appellate courts addressing the issue have concluded that the right to free speech and the right to petition should not be treated differently. These courts hold that for a public employee to have a viable § 1983 claim, the petition for redress must involve a matter of public concern. The primary rationale of these courts is that there is no hierarchy among the rights protected by the First Amendment.

Currently, it appears that only the Third<sup>2</sup> and Sixth Circuits do not apply the “public concern test.” In *Gable v. Lewis*,<sup>3</sup> the Sixth Circuit reasoned that “the Supreme Court had included within the scope of the petition clause complaints ‘respecting resolution of [a party’s] business and economic interests . . . .’”<sup>4</sup> Given the scope the Supreme Court defined, the Sixth Circuit held that the petition clause itself is not generally limited to matters of “public concern” but includes a party’s private business interests.<sup>5</sup> Therefore, pursuant to *Gable*, in order for a plaintiff to establish a claim of retaliation under the First Amendment petition of grievances clause, he must establish that (1) an adverse action was taken against him that would deter a person of ordinary firmness from continuing to engage in that conduct; and (2) the adverse action was motivated in substantial part by his “protected conduct.”<sup>6</sup>

Whether the Sixth Circuit will continue to apply the “public concern” test remains to be seen. The Court is presently considering whether the clause applies to a private citizen who alleges that he lost his employment with a private employer arising out of his “redress of grievances”. What is certain is that this area of the law will continue to evolve.

*\*Mr. Dalton is a partner at the Royal Oak, Michigan law firm of Tomkiw Dalton; [www.tomkiwdalton.com](http://www.tomkiwdalton.com)*

<sup>1</sup> See *Gable v. Lewis*, 201 F.3d 769, 771 (6th Cir. 2000).

<sup>2</sup> *San Filippo v. Bongiovanni*, 30 F.3d 424 (3d Cir. 1994).

<sup>3</sup> 201 F.3d 769 (6th Cir. 2000).

<sup>4</sup> *Gable*, 201 F.3d at 771 (quoting *Cal. Transp. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404 U.S. 508, 510 (1972). But see *Valot v. Southeast Local Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ.*, 107 F.3d 1220, 1226 (6th Cir. 1997) (holding that speech does not generally touch on a matter of public concern, as that requirement has been interpreted, where its aim is to air or remedy grievances purely of a personal nature).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Thaddeus-X v. Blatter*, 175 F.3d 378, 394 (6th Cir. 1999) (*en banc*); *Mattox v. City of Forest Park*, 183 F.3d 515, 520-21 (6th Cir. 1999).

## FBA/Social Justice Committee Supports Focus:HOPE WALK 2002

Our Chapter actively solicited support for the Focus: HOPE WALK 2002 held Sunday, October 13, 2002. Focus: HOPE is a civil and human rights organization “committed to building racial harmony and fighting poverty and injustice,” and the annual Walk is its largest annual fundraiser. Among these programs is the Center for Advanced Technologies which offers associate and bachelor degree programs in engineering, and the Information Technologies Center which provides courses to prepare individuals for careers in computer-related fields. In addition, Focus: HOPE offers a Commodity Supplemental Food Program, a Center for Children, a Community Arts Program and First Step and Fast Track which includes accelerated classes to raise reading and math levels. The Chapter has supported the Walk by soliciting participants and donations for this worthy cause for the past four years, and hopes to continue in these efforts for many years in the future.

As part of its continuing pledge to support Focus:HOPE, the Social Justice Committee (SJC) will provide four legal clinics to the community serviced by Focus:HOPE each quarter of this bar year. The clinics will be held in November, January, March and May, and will focus on day-to-day legal issues confronted by the community, such as small claims, civil rights, employment discrimination and voting rights. SJC is encouraging area law firms and legal practitioners to plan on participating in the clinics by soliciting volunteers who are interested in providing a one-hour topical discussion during these brown bag, lunch-time clinics. Names may be submitted to co-chairs, Karen M. Gibbs, 313-226-9705, or Miriam Siefer, 313-961-4150.



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## Eastern And Western Districts Host Bench And Bar Conference

By Michael H. Gordner

On October 4-5, 2002, the Eastern and Western District FBA chapters held their triennial Bench and Bar Conference at the Eagle Crest Conference Center in Ypsilanti. The Conference was well-attended by members of the Judiciary including Circuit Judge Cornelia G. Kennedy, as well as Eastern District Judges Avern Cohn, Julian Abele Cook, Jr., Patrick J. Duggan, Paul D. Borman, Paul V. Gadola, Nancy G. Edmunds, Robert H. Cleland, Arthur J. Tarnow, George Caram Steeh, Marianne O. Battani and David M. Lawson, and Magistrate Judge Paul J. Komives, and Western District Judges Chief Judge Robert Holmes Bell, Richard Enslen, David W. McKeague, and Gordon J. Quist.

The U.S. Attorneys offices were also well represented including U. S. Attorneys Jeffrey G. Collins and Margaret M. Chiara and Alan Gershel, Assistant Chief of Criminal Prosecutions for the Eastern District. Federal Public Defenders offices were led by Chief Public Defenders Miriam Siefer and Christopher Yates.

On Friday night, following registration and opening remarks from Chapter Presidents Christine Dowhan-Bailey and James Redford, Dennis W. Archer President-Elect, American Bar Association, gave a very well-received keynote address. Mr. Archer discussed a number of issues including the importance of the ABA, and its support of increased salaries for Judges, and the necessity of diversity in the legal profession. Following this address and dinner, the conference was highly entertained by *A (Habeas) Chorus Line* in a production entitled Tali-Banned.

The Conference continued on Saturday with a keynote address by the Honorable Larry D. Thompson, Deputy Attorney General of the United States. His ties to Michigan include a Master's Degree from Michigan State University in 1969 and his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1974. His very informative talk directed our attention to the government's efforts in rooting out terrorism and protecting our borders, as well as his work on the Corporate Fraud Task Force. He set out a number of parameters and indicators that the Department of Justice uses to help determine when a corporation should be charged with a criminal offense. These include looking to the pervasiveness of criminal activity in the corporation, the level of criminal activity in the organization, and the cooperation of the corporation during the investigation.

A variety of workshops and panel discussions were available to participants. *The High-Tech Courtroom: The Future is Here and Now* concerned the capabilities of

courtrooms in both the Western and Eastern Districts to accommodate modern evidentiary presentations. Another workshop concerned programs and proposals to meet the need for pro bono representation. A panel discussion on emerging trends in law enforcement featured representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, US Customs, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Internal Revenue Service.

Following these programs, additional workshops were offered, including *Anatomy of an Organized Crime Case*, *Is the Criminal Defense Bar Under Siege?*, *When Cases Get out of Hand*, *USA Patriot Act*, and *White Collar Crime*. The *White Collar Crime* seminar dealt with Federal investigations and when the waiver of the attorney-client privilege is appropriate in order for a corporation to fully co-operate with the investigation, and the dangers of such a waiver.

During lunch, Mary Keefe, Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Chicago Regional Office presented authoritative remarks related to current enforcement efforts of the Securities and Exchange Commission, especially as they relate to the recent corporate accounting scandals and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. An excellent panel discussion followed. Participants then had an opportunity to "Ask the Judges," during which time the judges gave as good as they got.

The afternoon workshops included *Managing Class Actions*; *Effective Assistance of Counsel*, which dealt with plea negotiations in relation to the sentencing guidelines; *Project Safe Neighborhood*, which dealt with aggressive prosecution of firearms' violations; and *Substantial Assistance* concerning Rule 35 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

The Conference proved to be an excellent opportunity to meet judges, prosecutors, public defenders and notable civil and criminal practitioners from both the Eastern and Western Districts, and provided an excellent educational opportunity in a very relaxed and pleasant atmosphere.

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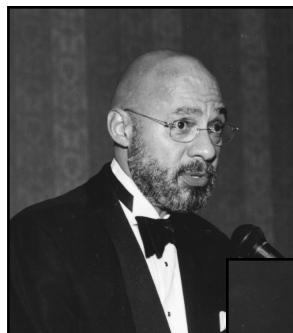
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## Scenes from 2002 Bench and Bar Conference



From Left to Right: Brian Figot, FBA Sixth Circuit V.P.; Kent Hofmeister, FBA President; Christine Dowhan-Bailey, E.D. Chapter President; Dennis Archer, ABA President Elect; James Anding, Co-Chair; Dennis Clark, Chapter President Elect; Grant Gilezan, Co-Chair; Julia Pidgeon, Co-Chair; Jack Lockridge, FBA Executive Director.



ABA President Dennis Archer



Larry Thompson,  
Deputy Attorney General



Jeffrey Collins, U.S. Attorney  
for the Eastern District of Michigan



From Left to Right: James Redford, W.D. Chapter President;  
Dennis Archer, ABA President Elect; Christine Dowhan-Bailey,  
E.D. Chapter President; Judge O'Meara.



From Left to Right: Julia Pidgeon, Co-Chair; Judge Abele Cook Jr.; Judge Kennedy; Kent Hofmeister, FBA President; Jack Lockridge, FBA Executive Director; Grant Gilezan, Co-Chair; Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Chapter President; Larry Thompson, Deputy Attorney General; Jeffrey Collins; E.D. U.S. Attorney.



From Left to Right: Dona Tracey; Karen Gibbs; Claretta Evans;  
Julia Blakeslee, Chapter Executive Board members.



From Left to Right:  
Honorable Cornelia Kennedy; Miriam Siefer, Chapter Executive Board member; Harold Gurewitz.

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## **Social Justice Committee Seeks Nominees For Wade McCree Award And Luncheon Speaker**

The Annual Wade McCree Award Luncheon will be held in February 2003. SJC is soliciting the names of potential award recipients and luncheon speaker. Please submit all names to Karen Gibbs, 313-226-9705, or Miriam Siefer, 313-961-4150, no later than January 1, 2003.

## **IP Law Section Sponsors Seminar For Judges And Law Clerks**

The Intellectual Property Law Section sponsored a seminar on October 18, 2002 at the University of Detroit, Mercy Law School. The seminar was presented by the Intellectual Property Law Institute (IPLI). Special thanks are owed to Judge Avern Cohn for his encouragement and support during preparation of the program.

The program was tailored to the interests of judges and intended to maintain a high level of scholarship in this specialized area of law. Judges, Magistrate Judges, and law clerks attended.

If you have any questions about the activities of the IP Law Section, please contact William G. Abbatt at [wabbatt@brookskushman.com](mailto:wabbatt@brookskushman.com) or (248) 358-4400.

## **Social Justice Committee Plans Spring Seminar**

SJC is planning to sponsor a seminar for Spring 2003 which will focus on the inadequacies in indigent representation. The seminar will focus on the lack of adequate funding for private practitioners. This deficiency results in a dearth of qualified attorneys to represent complex criminal cases, including those involving the death penalty, and results in a myriad of injustices for the indigent. Please stay tuned for future announcements!

## **Environmental Crimes Seminar on November 15th**

The Environmental Section, State Bar of Michigan, and FBA will present a lunchtime seminar on Trends and Priorities for the Prosecution of Environmental Crimes, Friday, November 15th at Miller, Canfield Paddock & Stone, 150 West Jefferson, Detroit, at 12:00 noon. The speaker will be David Uhlmann, Chief, Environmental Crimes Section, USDOJ. Seminar cost including lunch is \$15.00. Register online at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org) or call (734) 246-2199.

**New Member Reception: Tom's Oyster Bar,  
519 E. Jefferson Ave. Detroit  
Thursday, December 5, 2002  
Contact Kris Dighe (313) 226-9713 or  
[Krishna.Dighe@usdoj.gov](mailto:Krishna.Dighe@usdoj.gov)**

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