



# FBAnewsletter

Winter 2009

Federal Bar Association - Eastern District of Michigan Chapter - **51** years of service to our Federal Bench and Bar

## McCree Award Luncheon February 19

The Chapter will hold its annual Wade Hampton McCree Jr. Luncheon on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at the Atheneum Hotel. The reception will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the Luncheon at noon.

The keynote speaker will be Marc Morial, President and CEO of the National Urban League. Mr. Morial grew up in New Orleans' Seventh Ward and served for two terms as Mayor of New Orleans (1994-2002), thus following in the footsteps of his father, Ernest H. "Dutch" Morial, the first African-American mayor of The Crescent City. Mr. Morial received a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and his JD from Georgetown University. He has held his present leadership position with the National Urban League since 2003, and he now resides in New York City. Mr. Morial is a very dynamic speaker.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Nominations For Gilman Award Luncheon To Be Held On April 8

The Leonard R. Gilman Award Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at the Atheneum Hotel. The featured speaker will be John A. Rizzo, the Central Intelligence Agency's Acting General Counsel, whose distinguished career of government service at the CIA spans more than 30 years. Advance tickets are now available for purchase on the Chapter website.

In addition, nominations are being accepted for the Gilman Award, which is annually given to an outstanding practitioner of criminal law who exemplifies the excellence, professionalism, and commitment to public service of Len Gilman, who was U.S. Attorney at the time of his death in 1985.

For more information about Mr. Gilman, the Luncheon, or to place a nomination visit our website, contact Chapter Executive Director Brian Figot at 248-358-0870 x-11 or at fbamich@fbamich.org or Gilman Award Committee Chair Mike Leibson at 313-226-9615 or at michael.leibson@usdoj.gov.

## President's Column

*Barbara L. McQuade*

### Key Contributors

This column focuses on key contributors to our Chapter. One group of key contributors is our Pro Bono Committee. Enhancing pro bono service was one of our Chapter's main goals for the year, and the Pro Bono Committee has stepped up to the challenge with excellent results.

John Nussbaumer, Rick Haberman and Patrice Arend co-chair the Chapter's Pro Bono Committee. Immediate Past-President Mark Goldsmith, a longtime chair of the Pro Bono Committee, serves as an officer liaison. This group met with the District Court's Pro Bono Committee in August to discuss ways to serve the Court's pro bono needs. The Court's Pro Bono Committee, chaired by Judge Denise Page Hood, includes Judge Paul D. Borman, Judge Arthur J. Tarnow, Judge Victoria A. Roberts, and Judge Thomas L. Ludington.

Together, these two committees identified a need to provide legal services for the flood of cases that have been filed by pro se litigants involving mortgage foreclosures. In response, they recruited 50 lawyers and law students to provide legal services and organized a training program to be conducted in February. Lawyers in the program will then be assigned to handle these foreclosure cases in District Court.

The pro bono mortgage foreclosure training program is scheduled for February 11th and 12th at the Sheraton Detroit Novi, located at 21111 Haggerty Road, near I-275 (Eight Mile Road exit), in Novi. Instructors are private practitioners as well as career legal services lawyers from the Michigan Poverty Law Program, Detroit Legal Aid and Defender, Michigan Legal Services and Legal Services of South Central Michigan. Interested lawyers may register for training or a case assignment by contacting Sabrina Wescott

*(continued on page 2)*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Supreme Court Preview pg.2-3

Tidbits & Trivia pg.3-5

Calling All Law Clerks pg. 5

Social Security Seminar pg.5

Featured Member  
Geneva S. Halliday pg.7

**Special** Passing of the Gavel pg.8-9

Dave Weaver pg. 10

Rakow Recap pg. 11

Holiday Fun Photos pg. 12

Executive Board pg. 13

Committee Chairs pg. 14-15

**WINNER  
6 YEARS**  
National FBA  
Outstanding  
Newsletter  
Award

## President's Column (continued)

at Westcotts@cooley.edu or 248.751.7800.ext. 7778 or Julie Tiffany at Tiffanyj@cooley.edu or 248.751.7800.ext. 7784.



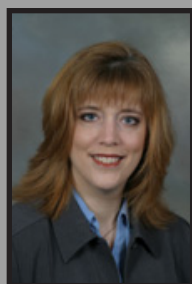
John Nussbaumer

John Nussbaumer has spent his entire career in public service. He currently serves as associate dean at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in charge of the Auburn Hills campus. John worked for many years as a public defender at the State Appellate Defender's Office, representing indigent clients in the Michigan and Federal courts. He has been recognized nationally for his work in access to justice and improving diversity in law schools.

Rick Haberman practices commercial litigation at Dickinson Wright in Detroit, where he serves as the firm's pro bono coordinator. Rick's leadership generated 4,000 hours of pro bono services by attorneys at his firm in 2008. Rick also serves as vice chair on the board of directors for the Legal Aid and Defender Association.



Rick Haberman



Patrice Arend

Patrice Arend practices at the law firm of Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer, and Weiss in Southfield. She practices commercial litigation and employment law. Patrice has organized training programs for the Chapter's pro bono committee for many years.

The Honorable Mark Goldsmith serves as an Oakland County Circuit Judge. As Immediate Past-President, Judge Goldsmith continues to contribute to the Chapter's pro bono efforts.

Our Chapter recognizes and values the contributions of John, Rick, Patrice and Mark, whose efforts will provide individuals with well-trained lawyers to handle their cases, will assist the Court by insuring that litigants are well-represented, and will serve the cause of justice.

## McCree Luncheon (from page 1)

The Wade Hampton McCree, Jr. Award for the Advancement of Social Justice will be presented at the Luncheon. The Award honors individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions to the advancement of social justice. These contributions may include advancing social justice in areas involving poverty, promoting economic or educational opportunity, or fighting discrimination involving race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, or economic status. The recipient may be selected from any field of endeavor including law, social service, community organization, volunteer activities, journalism, teaching and academic research.

For those affiliated with organizations that are sponsors of the 2008-2009 Luncheon Series, tickets likely are available through your organization.

For others, the charge for the luncheon is \$25 for FBA members and \$30 for non-members. Tickets are available on-line at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org), or by sending a check payable to FBA, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter, to Brian Figot, Executive Director, 30100 Telegraph Road, Suite 428, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

## Supreme Court Preview – Civil Cases

by M Bryan Schneider\*

The upcoming Supreme Court term promises to once again provide a host of decisions impacting federal practitioners.\*\* As of the opening of the Court's October 2008 Term, the Court had granted certiorari in 58 cases, a significant increase over the 47 cert. grants that had been issued by the start of the 2007 Term.

On the civil side of its docket, the Court will consider a number of cases involving civil rights and employment discrimination. Most significantly, the Court will consider: whether the method for analyzing claims of qualified immunity in § 1983 suits established in *Saucier v. Katz* should be overruled (*Pearson v. Callahan*, No. 07-751).

In the civil rights area the Court will also consider:

- whether a state's withdrawal of jurisdiction from state courts of general jurisdiction for claims against state prison employees also precludes § 1983 claims (*Haywood v. Drown*, No. 07-10374);
- whether the implied right of action under Title IX, prohibiting sex discrimination in education, precludes a remedy under § 1983 (*Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Comm.*, No. 07-1125);
- whether a conclusory allegation that a high-ranking official knew of a subordinate official's unconstitutional acts is sufficient to state a claim against that

high- ranking official (*Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, No. 07-1015);

- and the extent of a supervising prosecutor's absolute immunity for claims based on the suppression of exculpatory evidence (*Van de Kamp v. Goldstein*, No. 07-854).

In employment discrimination cases, the Court will consider:

- whether an arbitration clause in a collective bargaining agreement which waives union members' rights to a judicial forum for statutory discrimination claims is enforceable (*14 Penn Plaza LLC v. Pyett*, No. 07-581),
- the interplay between the Pregnancy Discrimination Act and Title VII (*AT&T Corp. v. Hulteen*, No. 07-543),
- and the scope of Title VII's anti-retaliation provision (*Crawford v. Nashville and Davidson County, Tenn.*, No. 06-1595).

Also, the Court will consider two preemption cases:

- one involving cigarette advertising (*Altria Group v. Good*, No. 07-562),
- and the other involving prescription drug labeling (*Wyeth v. Levine*, No. 06-1249).

The Court will also consider, in a case involving punitive damage limits that was before it last year, whether a state court may interpose a state procedural bar for the first time after the Court has remanded a case to that court with instructions to apply the correct constitutional standard (*Philip Morris USA v. Williams*, No. 07-1216).

Finally, in cases of general interest, the Court will consider:

- the scope of vote dilution claims under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act (*Bartlett v. Strickland*, No. 07-689),
- and the constitutionality under the First Amendment of displays of private religious monuments on public land (*Pleasant Grove City, Utah v. Summum*, No. 07-665).

The Court will also take up several environmental cases. In three consolidated cases, the Court will determine whether the EPA may undertake a cost-benefit analysis in determining the best technology available for minimizing adverse environmental impact under the Clean Water Act (*Entergy Corp. v. EPA*, No. 07-588; *PSEG Fossil LLC v. Riverkeeper, Inc.*, No. 07-589; *Utility Water Act Group v. Riverkeeper, Inc.*, No. 07-597).

In two other consolidated cases, the Court will address the permissibility of a joint EPA-Army Corps of Engineers regulation placing discharges of dredged or fill material

within the exclusive permitting authority of the Corps (*Coeur Alaska, Inc. v. Southeast Alaska Conservation Council*, No. 07-984; *Alaska v. Southeast Alaska Conservation Council*, No. 07-990).

Finally, the Court will consider whether the Navy must complete an environmental impact statement before employing mid-frequency active sonar (*Winter v. Natural Resources Defense Council*, No. 07-1239).

*\*Bryan Schneider is a career law clerk to Magistrate Judge Paul J. Komives.*

*\*\*Since the submission of this article, the Supreme Court has decided the Pearson, Fitzgerald and Crawford cases.*



## **Tidbits and Trivia by Brian Figot**

### **New Lawyers Seminar -- A Brief History, Part I**

There are several contemporary occurrences that bring the New Lawyers Seminar to mind as a subject matter for this column. First, there is the fact

that it was held recently (an article about the event appears elsewhere in this issue). Second, also in this issue, is an article about Geneva Halliday, who has been (and remains) the Seminar's driving force for nearly thirty years. Finally, there is the recent retirement of Fred Mester, past Chapter president, who along with Alan Harnisch answered the 1976 call from then-Chief Judge Damon Keith, to form a broad-based steering committee to develop "a Seminar dealing with the 'nuts and bolts' of Federal practice" as the first step of improving "the competence and litigative skill of the Federal practitioner."

A twenty-one member Seminar Committee, chaired by Judge Mester (then Chief of the Civil Division in the U. S. Attorney's Office), brought the concept to reality in short order, and the first New Lawyers Seminar was held on November 30, 1976. A detailed account of the events and planning that led to that first Seminar was first published nationally in May 1978. We reprinted the article, written by Judge Mester, in the Winter 2007 50th Anniversary Commemorative Issue. The original article is available online under "Documents" in the Speeches and Remarks section of the Chapter website. ([www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org))

The first Seminar was a one-day affair, limited to Federal practice, and was held at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center at Wayne State University. The familiar two-day format encompassing both Federal and State courts was instituted in the Seminar's second year, with the Seminar being held on November 30 and December

(continued on page 4)



## Tidbits & Trivia *(from page 3)*

1, 1977, in the new Renaissance Center, with a reception hosted at the University of Detroit Law School. In the third year, the Steering Committee decided to commence semiannual Seminars to correspond to the twice-per-year bar examination (a practice which continued until the final June Seminar, in 2000, which was so sparsely attended there were almost more speakers than students).

The topics at the first Seminar included introductions to the practicalities of civil and criminal motion and trial practice; procedures in the Clerk's Offices of the District Court and the Court of Appeals; "Dealings with the U.S. Attorney's Office"; "From the Law Clerk's Point of View" and the cleverly entitled "Where Does Plaintiff's Lawyer Sit and Other Courtroom Mysteries."

Procedures in the Clerk's Office has been a mainstay of every Seminar since. Dealings with the U.S. Attorney's Office appeared just one more year, in 1977, before Alan Gershel revived the topic in December 1985. The Law Clerk's Point of View (provided in 1976 by Kay Schloff) has not been heard since, but it may be revived next year in light of the formation of the Law Clerks' Roundtable.

Other topics have undergone changes in name only, as "Mysteries," a title used only so long as the talk was given by the legendary Wolfgang Hoppe, gave way to two topics less imaginatively entitled "Civil Pretrial Proceedings" and "Civil Trial Hints" (which in turn was replaced by "Trial of a Civil Case"). Likewise, the topic that Scott Feringa addressed from 1987 until 1992 -- "How to Present Your Case in State Court" -- started out as "Do and Don't: How to Present Your Case" when given by Judge Harold Hood and successor judge-presenters. More subtly, when the Grievance Administrator was unable to speak on the topic of "How to Avoid Grievance Proceedings," practitioners renamed it "An Overview of Grievance Proceedings." Political correctness also had its way, as "Workmen's Compensation" became "Worker's Compensation" even without a change in speakers.

The first year, Seminar participants each received a ninety-page booklet, the last section of which was an examination addressed "TO ALL APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION TO PRACTICE IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN." From the fact that an answer sheet was included, we may assume that the questions were intended as a précis of "what every lawyer should know." The Seminar Handbook grew, and grew, and grew, until the last one -- printed in 1999 -- was nearly 500 pages. In 2000, paper gave way to emerging technology, with this Chapter at the forefront of the "green" movement to CD-ROMs. It saved a lot of green to do so, since the last printed handbook cost nearly \$35.00 a copy to produce.

The Chapter's archives contain a wealth of materials, thanks to Geneva Halliday's long association with the event

and her sense of history (together with this author's anality in saving other materials during the twenty-one years of his own involvement with the Seminar). We still have Seminar Handbooks or CD-ROMs from a majority of the Seminars and schedules of topics and speakers from every Seminar except those in June 1998 and December 1981 for the second day, and December 1980 and December 1986 for both days. We have attendance figures for 40 of the Seminars, starting in 1982. Those 40 Seminars have been attended by 3,612 new lawyers. With an average of about 100 attending each of the Seminars during the years 1982-1985, we can safely assume that over the 56 Seminars to date the FBA has served at least 5,000 new attorneys. We have actual attendance lists for every Seminar held since 1989.

The search for the missing material continues; but a survey of the materials at hand reveals:

- The next Seminar, in December 2009, will be the 57th;
- With his investiture this year, Judge Gerald E. Rosen became the tenth Chief Judge to preside;
- Judge Mester was the Chairperson of the Steering Committee in the Seminar's first years, until 1980 when he became the Chapter's president. He then turned the Chair over to Samuel J. Behringer, Jr. and Geneva S. Halliday, then a fairly new attorney herself, employed with the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Geneva has been involved with the Seminar ever since. As highlighted elsewhere in this issue, she retired from the practice of law last year -- but she remains a co-chair of the Seminar.
- Between 1981 and 1988, the Steering Committee was chaired or co-chaired by a variety of combinations which included Geneva, Alan Harnisch, Stuart Gold, Carl Marlinga, Ellen Rittiman, Robert Forrest, Anthony Adams, Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Thomas Rumschlag, Brian Figot and Cathrine Wenger. Christine has been a stalwart co-chair every year since 1985; Brian Figot came on board starting in 1987 and Cathrine Wenger followed in 1988.
- Grant Gilezan attended the Seminar as a new lawyer in 1989. He was the morning moderator for Federal day in 1990, and became a co-chair in 1991 (the "junior" member until Brian Akkashian joined the chairs in 2004). This year, the chairs welcomed Theresa Serra, career clerk to Judge Nancy Edmunds, who attended the Seminar in December 1992.
- The afternoon moderator in 1990 (and again in 1993) was a young Assistant U.S. Attorney named Jennifer Granholm.
- The only husband and wife to serve as moderators (though in different years) were current Chapter president Barb McQuade and her husband, Dan

Hurley, co-chair of the Criminal Practice Committee.

- Stan Bershad has appeared the most times as a speaker, at least 46, having overtaken Neil Fink this year for most appearances. Stan has spoken on the topic of bankruptcy at every Seminar held since 1980, with the exception of the Seminar in December 1987. He is the Seminar's current Iron Person, with 34 straight appearances.
- The Chapter's "Cal Ripkin" was Charles Glass, who spoke on the topic of the Handling of a Domestic Relations Case over the course of four decades - from 1977 until 2000.
- Other speakers with twenty-five or more appearances (not including multiple appearances in the same Seminar) are: Hon. Julian Abele Cook, Jr. (27, but with another 12 Seminars where he performed double duty); David DuMouchel (35); Timothy Wittlinger (at least 31); Liz Larin (28); Judy Christie (28); Peter Ritteman (28); A. Robert Zeff (27); Hon. Paul Borman (27); and Marty Reisig (27).

Due to the bountiful materials and the importance of the Seminar to the Chapter and to the District, there will no doubt be another article on the history of the New Lawyers Seminar in a future issue.

### **Sidebar: Saving Newsprint?**

Looking through the Seminar schedules from the early years, one of the particularly striking contrasts is in the names of the law firms. For instance, Butzel Long was then known as "Butzel, Long, Gust, Klein & Van Zile." Plunkett Cooney was "Plunkett, Cooney, Rutt, Watters, Stanczyk & Pedersen." Dickinson Wright was then "Dickinson, Wright, McKean, Cudlip and Moon." "Dykema" was "Dykema, Gossett, Spencer, Goodnow & Trigg."

Moreover, it is to be recalled that the receptionists always answered the telephone with the entire panoply of names. One almost imagines Messrs. Van Zile, Pederson, Moon and Trigg calling their offices now and then to make sure they did.

## **Calling All Current And Former Federal Law Clerks**

Are you a current or former law clerk to a District Judge, Magistrate Judge, Bankruptcy Judge, or Sixth Circuit Judge sitting in Michigan? If so, the Chapter wants to hear from you! The Law Clerks' Roundtable, a committee in formation in 2008-2009, seeks to bring Federal law clerks together for networking (with the Chapter,

with each other, with firms), educational purposes (panel discussions and continuing training) and related matters. To this end, the Chapter, in conjunction with the Court, is updating its Law Clerk Directory. All current and former law clerks are asked to access the Chapter's website, click on the pdf-fillable form, fill it out and either email it to the address provided or fax it to the fax # provided.

For more information about the Committee, visit the Chapter's website or contact one of the committee co-chairs: Rita Elizabeth Foley at 313-226-9520 or [rita.foley@usdoj.gov](mailto:rita.foley@usdoj.gov) or Theresa M. Serra at 313-234 5158 or [theresa\\_serra@mied.uscourts.gov](mailto:theresa_serra@mied.uscourts.gov).

## **Advanced Social Security Practice Seminar**

The Chapter's Social Security Committee is pleased to announce an important seminar for all social security practitioners.

The keynote speaker for "Advanced Social Security Practice," planned for the afternoon of March 26, 2009, will be the Hon. Frank A. Cristaudo, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Office of Disability Adjudication and Review, Social Security Administration. This seminar also will feature Administrative Law Judge Peter Dowd, Chief Judge of the Flint, Michigan Office of Disability Adjudication and Review.

Judge Cristaudo is the Chief Social Security ALJ for the United States, with day-to-day oversight of the Agency's hearing operation including nearly 1,200 Administrative Law Judges, supported by more than 5,000 hearing office staff, which hold hearings in 141 hearing offices and over 150 remote hearing locations, issuing more than 550,000 decisions a year.

There will be no charge for attending, but not attending may be costly. Due to the limited capacity of Room 115 at the Levin Courthouse, please register in advance online at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org) or by calling the Chapter office at 248-358-0870 x-11. For further information, contact Jeffrey S. Appel, chair of the Social Security Committee at [friedappel@aol.com](mailto:friedappel@aol.com).

## **New Lawyers Seminar: Farewell to an Old Friend and Hello to a New Co-Chair**

Another successful New Lawyers Seminar is in the books, as a near-capacity group of ninety-eight newer attorneys (mostly from the February and July 2008 Bar Exams) enjoyed learning the "nuts and bolts" of practice from some of the best State and Federal legal talent in the metropolitan Detroit area on December 2nd and 3rd. This Seminar, the  
*(continued on page 6)*



## New Lawyers Seminar *(from page 5)*

first of its kind in the nation, has been co-sponsored for more than 30 years by the Chapter, the District Court and the Younger Lawyers Section of the State Bar.

Even the Seminar luncheon, in the Crystal Ballroom of the newly renovated Westin Book Cadillac Hotel, provided an excellent mentoring opportunity as Chief Judge William Giovan of the Wayne County Circuit Court combined the wisdom of his years with the mellifluous tones of his rich baritone voice as he graciously -- and musically -- addressed the group. Joined by his fellow "Forum Shoppers" barbershop quartet for the first part of his "lecture," Judge Giovan provided invaluable hints on how to obtain adjournments in B-flat -- without being flat. He then proceeded to the more traditional format for the remainder of the hour.

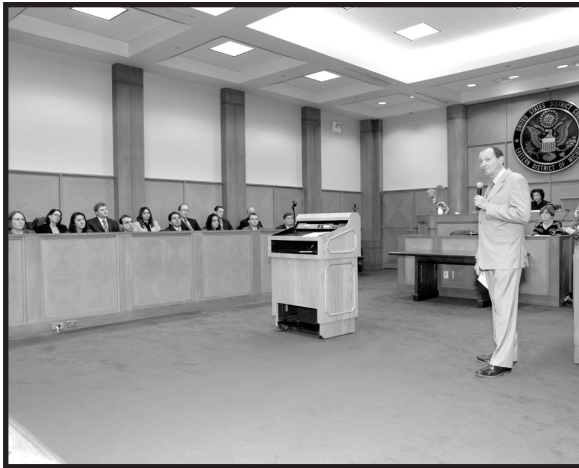
For Judge Giovan, first appointed to the bench in 1967 and a Common Pleas and then Wayne Circuit judge since 1973, this was his farewell address to the New Lawyers Seminar as he faced mandatory retirement at the end of his current term at the end of the year.

Our Chapter also performed the honor of sponsoring these neophytes' admission to practice before the Eastern District of Michigan during a mass swearing-in ceremony. District Judges Victoria A. Roberts, Denise Page Hood, and Robert H. Cleland presided over the admissions ceremony which emphasized civility in law practice. Local attorneys who served as sponsors included Susan Gillooly, Michael Riordan, Peter Caplan, Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Steve Cares, and Jeanine Jones.

Registration in the Seminar entitles participants to one year of Chapter membership, so please welcome these new counselors at our events. Thus far, more than sixty-five of the attendees have also joined National FBA. Another benefit is the Ohio State Bar Association's recognition of this event as a means of fulfilling its practice requirements prerequisite for admission to practice in its Federal districts.



*Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News.*



*Magistrate Judge R. Steven Whalen addressing attendees. Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News.*

The New Lawyers Seminar Committee Co-Chairs (Brian Akkashian, Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Brian Figot, Grant Gilezan, Geneva Halliday, and Cathrine Wenger, together with Theresa Serra - the first new member of the Committee in nearly ten years) would like to thank all of the busy practitioners and members of the judiciary who volunteered their time to assist these new members of our legal community.



*Left to right, Cathrine Wenger, Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Judge William Giovan, Barb McQuade, Geneva Halliday, and Brian Figot. Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News.*



## Focus on an FBA Member

### Geneva S. Halliday First Lady of the FBA Retires After 28 Years as an Assistant U. S. Attorney

*A continuing feature of the Newsletter is the periodic profiling of a FBA member. This is the fifth of such profiles.*

**By Michael J. Riordan\***

Geneva S. Halliday, whom many long-time FBA members consider to be the “First Lady” of the Chapter, recently retired after twenty-eight years in the U.S. Attorney’s Office Civil Division.

Geneva joined the FBA in 1978, and in 1979, she became the co-chair of the New Lawyers Seminar, a position she held until her retirement. Geneva also served as editor of the Chapter’s Newsletter, Chair of the Civil Practice Section, Co-Chair of the Dinner Committee and she was the founder of “A (Habeas) Chorus Line.” From 1992 through 1993, she was the Chapter’s President.

However, by no means did Geneva’s FBA involvement end with the conclusion of her Presidency. She went on to serve the National FBA as a Sixth Circuit Vice-President, Chair of the Circuit Vice-Presidents and became a Trustee of the Federal Bar Foundation in Detroit. “Without question,” said Chapter Executive Director Brian Figot, “Geneva has played a monumental role in making our Chapter and the National FBA the successful organizations they are today. Even though she has retired from the active practice of law, we still look to Geneva for guidance.”

A 1974 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1977 graduate of Wayne State University Law School, Geneva began her legal career as a magistrate for the 67th District Court in Genesee County. She resigned after one year in the position because she was anxious to get on with the practice of law. In 1978, she joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as an attorney where she met her husband Gary Mannesto, Chief of Regulatory Functions for Corps of Engineers for twenty-six years until, like Geneva, he recently retired.

In 1980, then-U.S. Attorney Jim Robinson offered Geneva a position in the Civil Division’s Defensive Litigation Unit. “I was hesitant to take the position at first,” Geneva

said, “because Jim wanted a three-year commitment, and I was not sure I would stay that long. I just wanted the trial experience, but when I joined the office I found that I loved the place and never left.”

Geneva said that in many ways the FBA is responsible for her career at the U.S. Attorney’s Office. “In 1979, my first FBA assignment was to assist with the New Lawyers Seminar,” she said. “However, because the Chair had a vacation planned, I became a committee of one and put on the Seminar. I received many favorable comments for my efforts causing Richard Rossman, then First Assistant U. S. Attorney, to ask me to apply for a position in the Office. I do not think I was selected for the position because I was an FBA member, but the FBA gave me an opportunity showcase my talents and that led to my appointment. For that, I always will be grateful.”

According to Ellen Christensen, Chief of the U.S. Attorney’s Civil Enforcement Unit, “Geneva not only became one of the most successful litigators in the office, she was the attorney that Federal agency clients soon began to rely upon as the go-to person. She had one of the largest retirement parties that I can recall in my twenty-eight years with the Office and that was a reflection of the respect and admiration with which her co-workers, her clients and opposing counsel held her.”

“But,” Christensen said, “Geneva was not all about work and the FBA. For many years, she has been an avid sailboat racer at the Crystal Lake Yacht Club in Northern Michigan. She also enjoys scrap booking, traveling, birdwatching and spending time with friends, and especially with her family,” which, in addition to Gary, includes their nineteen year-old son Cale, a freshman at the University of Michigan.

Along with her hobbies and family, Geneva is very involved in volunteer activities. She teaches Sunday school and is the coordinator of adult education at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. She is the President of the Alpha Phi Alumnae Group and is active in the Junior League of Detroit.

While she and Gary will maintain their home in Grosse Pointe Park, they plan to spend January through March of every year in their winter home in Green Valley, Arizona. Geneva says that even though she misses her colleagues from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, she has no plans to continue in the practice of law and will concentrate her efforts on her hobbies, volunteer activities and helping out with the Chapter when she is in Michigan.

*\*Michael J. Riordan is an Assistant U.S. Attorney and the Chapter’s Treasurer.*



*Geneva S. Halliday*



## Passing Of The Gavel

On January 15, 2009, the Court held a Passing the Gavel Ceremony. The ceremony began with Jacob DeMond Rosen playing “The Star Spangled Banner” on the violin and Rabbi David Nelson giving the invocation.

After Chief Judge Bernard A. Friedman introduced the Bench, Judge John Feikens spoke about the history and role of the Chief Judge. Chapter President Barbara McQuade, an AUSA and former law clerk to Chief Judge Friedman, spoke about Chief Judge Friedman’s work on accessibility of the Court, civility and problem solving. After Chief Judge Friedman gave his remarks, Court Administrator David J. Weaver presented him with a resolution of appreciation from all of the Judges of the Court, within which are mentioned a multitude of Chief Judge Friedman’s contributions to the Court - including the Chief’s Award and the Fitness Center.

Chief Judge Friedman then administered the oath to Judge Rosen, at which time the gavel was passed. Attorney Thomas Cranmer, attorney W. Mack Faison, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Markman, and Eleanor Josaitis spoke on behalf of Chief Judge Rosen.

The ceremony concluded with Chief Judge Rosen’s address and was followed by a reception.



*Judge Bernard A. Friedman, Judge Gerald E. Rosen. Photo by Ron Smith.*

## Judge Bernard A. Friedman by Jennifer McManus, career law clerk to Judge Friedman

Judge Bernard A. Friedman was appointed to the Court by President Ronald Reagan in June 1988. Judge Friedman became Chief Judge of the Court on June 18, 2004.

During Judge Friedman’s confirmation hearing, Senator Carl Levin gave a glowing statement to the Senate, stating, “one of the things that he specializes in is making the law come alive for people.” Senator Levin’s observation remains true today. Judge Friedman regularly holds motion hearings, and even occasional trials, at local law schools, and often has a library full of interns.

Judge Friedman is known for his warmth and his emphasis on congeniality and civility. Judge Friedman’s warmth is often on display during his regular walks through the Courthouse as he hands out Tootsie Pops, greeting Court personnel and attorneys. In addition, his approach to being Chief Judge was to stress cooperation between

members of the bar and the bench. In furtherance of this goal, one of Judge Friedman’s first actions as Chief Judge was to develop a civility initiative, and to appoint a Court ombudsman to mediate if problems arise between an attorney and a judge.



*Judge Gerald E. Rosen, Judge Denise Page Hood and Judge Bernard A. Friedman.  
Photo by Ron Smith.*

Judge Friedman is also well-known for his commitment to health. The combination of Judge Friedman’s commitment to physical fitness and to the well-being of the court family led him to ban smoking in the Courthouse and to offer smoking cessation programs to Court staff. In addition, Judge Friedman planned and built the Bernard A. Friedman Fitness Center in the basement of the courthouse, thereby ensuring that the Court family would have access to a state-of-the-art fitness facility.

The above only provides a glimpse of Judge Friedman’s accomplishments as Chief Judge.

However, as many readers know, Judge Friedman spent last year in a very tough battle with cancer. True to his nature, he remained positive throughout his fight, and even retained a full civil caseload. Judge Friedman emerged victorious from his battle, which we consider one of his greatest achievements as Chief Judge.



## New Chief Judge Gerald E. Rosen

by Linda Hylenski and Jim Lewis,  
career law clerks to Chief Judge Rosen

Judge Gerald E. Rosen was appointed to the Court by President George H.W. Bush in March 1990. Judge Rosen became Chief Judge of the Court on January 1, 2009.

Judge Rosen began his professional career in Washington, D.C., serving as a Legislative Assistant to United States Senator Robert P. Griffin of Michigan for five years, from February 1974 through January 1979. While serving on Senator Griffin's staff, Judge Rosen attended the George Washington University Law School, at night, and obtained his Juris Doctor degree in May 1979. (He is now a member of the Law School's Board of Advisors). Judge Rosen's undergraduate degree is from Kalamazoo College.

Prior to taking the Bench, Judge Rosen was a Senior Partner at the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone. While at Miller, Canfield, Judge Rosen was a trial lawyer, specializing in commercial, employment and constitutional litigation.

During his 19-year tenure as a District Judge, Judge Rosen has presided over a number of high-profile cases, including terrorism cases, large class action lawsuits, and several multidistrict litigation actions. Sitting by designation with the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, Judge Rosen has participated on numerous appellate panels and has authored a number of significant appellate opinions. He has tried cases in several other district courts including the Eastern District of New York, the Northern District of Illinois and the Western District of Tennessee.

From 1995-2001, Judge Rosen served on the U.S. Judicial Conference's Committee on Criminal Law. As a member of that Committee, he was actively involved in

policy development in the areas of sentencing and criminal law and procedure. Judge Rosen was also selected by his colleagues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Federal Judges Association.

In addition, Judge Rosen has been an Adjunct Professor of Law, and has taught Evidence at the University of Michigan Law School, Wayne State University Law School, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Judge Rosen frequently lectures at continuing legal education seminars for both lawyers and State and Federal Judges. He has also lectured at numerous International conferences, and represented the United States government as part of the U.S. State Department's Rule of Law program in Moscow, Russia and Tbilisi, Georgia, consulting with legal scholars and judges from those nations on the drafting of their constitutions and organization of their legal systems. He has also lectured to high-ranking Chinese judges at the Supreme People's Court in Beijing, China and Egyptian judges in Cairo. In February, he will represent the American judiciary in a United Nations-sponsored seminar on international and domestic anti-terrorism laws and criminal procedure in Bangkok, Thailand.

Beyond his professional work, Judge Rosen is involved with several charitable and community organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors of Focus: HOPE and the Michigan Chapter of the Federalist Society.

As he begins his tenure as Chief Judge, Judge Rosen views updating the Court's facilities as a high priority. During his

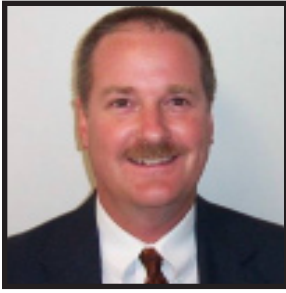
tenure, he intends to address the space, infrastructure and security-related problems presented in the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse.



*Judge Gerald E. Rosen and Judge Bernard A. Friedman. Photo by Ron Smith.*



*Judge John Corbett O'Meara, Judge Denise Page Hood and Judge Gerald E. Rosen. Photo by Ron Smith.*



## **From Court Administrator Dave Weaver**

### **A New Chief Judge and New Rules for Jury Service**

On January 15, 2009, a “Passing the Gavel” Ceremony was held in the Courthouse. Chief Judge Bernard A. Friedman concluded his tenure as Chief Judge on January 1, 2009 and is succeeded by Judge Gerald E. Rosen. Judge Friedman had many significant achievements during his tenure. As Court Administrator, I work closely with the Chief Judge and met or spoke by phone almost daily with him. His easy demeanor and attention to detail made my job very easy indeed. I look forward to working with Chief Judge Rosen and his staff on the many issues facing the Court.

On October 13, 2008, the President signed the “Judicial Administration and Technical Amendments Act of 2008” into law. The Act included 19 separate provisions, including several interesting amendments to the Jury Selection and Service Act. Specifically, district courts now have the discretion in deciding whether to bring into court those individuals who fail to respond to a jury summons. This had not been discretionary prior to the amendment and was difficult to enforce.

For those individuals who are brought into court for ignoring a jury summons, the penalties are now greater. The maximum fine for failure to respond to a jury summons or for lying on a questionnaire to avoid jury duty has been increased from \$100 to \$1000 and adds the potential penalty of community service. For employers who retaliate against an employee serving on a jury, the maximum civil penalty has been raised from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and also adds the potential penalty of community service.

Finally, the Act eliminated the archaic requirement that district courts have “public drawings” for the selection of names for jury wheels. This function has been performed by computers for many years. Under the Act, the court is only required to post a public notice explaining the selection process. This has been the approach in the Eastern District of Michigan for many years.

As of this writing, the temperatures are sub-zero and snow is everywhere. I look forward to writing for the next issue when Spring has hopefully sprung! As always, if you have questions or comments, please email me at david\_weaver@mied.uscourts.gov.

## **Sentencing Advocacy Seminar A Success**

On November 12th, the Criminal Practice Committee held a panel discussion on improving sentencing advocacy. Panel members were Judge Marianne O. Battani, Judge Robert H. Cleland, and Chief Probation Officer Phil Miller. Committee Co-Chair Matthew Leitman served as moderator. There was a terrific turnout for the presentation. Indeed, Room 115 of the Courthouse was so full that additional seating had to be arranged. Audience members included seasoned defense lawyers and prosecutors, younger attorneys looking for useful tips about sentencing practice, and several sitting judges.

The goal of the presentation was to assist both prosecutors and defense lawyers in enhancing the quality of their sentencing presentations. On behalf of the Probation Department, Phil Miller stressed the need for attorneys to engage with the probation officers early in the sentencing process. He recommended that defense attorneys and prosecutors alike meet personally with the assigned probation officer to inform the officer of the salient points concerning sentencing. He urged attorneys to bring to the probation officer’s attention all grounds for downward departures from the sentencing guidelines and all grounds for a variance from the recommended sentence.

Judges Battani and Cleland offered some insight into the Sentencing Council process that many of the judges utilize. During this process, a panel of three judges shares information about upcoming sentencings that each will conduct, and the judges each offer views concerning an appropriate sentence.

Judges Battani and Cleland also discussed the role of letters submitted by crime victims and by friends and family of criminal defendants. The judges explained that the letters play an important role in providing insight into the victims and the defendants, but they cautioned against flooding the Court with repetitive letters. They indicated that a smaller number of detailed letters may be more useful than a huge number of duplicative letters. For instance, Judge Battani explained that a thoughtful letter from a defendant’s priest or rabbi about the defendant’s religious faith and commitments may be more helpful than a large number of letters from members of the congregation attesting to the same points.

Judge Cleland stressed the need for counsel to present their arguments in a clear fashion and to request very specifically the relief they are seeking. For instance, he indicated that attorneys have ineffectively sought departures from the sentencing guidelines through vague requests in letters and sentencing memoranda rather than through specifically directed motions for departures.



Judge Battani indicated that she takes an interest in what defendants have been doing since the date of their offense and/or the date of their arrest. She wants to know whether they have taken steps on their own to turn their lives around.

The Seminar received positive reviews. Many attendees commented that the program succeeded in providing practical tips for improving sentencing practice. The Criminal Practice Committee is in the process of planning additional programs. Those interested in assisting should contact Committee Co-Chairs Matthew Leitman or Dan Hurley.

## Rakow Luncheon/ Historical Society Meeting

The Edward H. Rakow Scholarship Awards Luncheon and the annual meeting of the Historical Society of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan were held jointly on November 18, 2008 at the Atheneum Suites Hotel in Greektown.

The program began with the presentation of the Rakow Scholarship Awards by Chapter President Barbara McQuade and Dennis Clark, Trustee of the Federal Bar Foundation. The Rakow Awards are given annually to students at Michigan law schools who demonstrate outstanding scholarly achievement in securities, corporation or business law. The scholarships are endowed by the Federal Bar Foundation of Detroit in memory and honor of Edward H. Rakow, one of the Chapter's founders.

The 2008 recipients of the Rakow Awards are: Zachary Stavedahl, Ave Marie School of Law; Bradley L. Dizik,

Michigan State University College of Law; Darin C. Schrock, Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Evan A. Peterson, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law; Bret Diskin, University of Michigan Law School; and, Tamar Dolcourt, Wayne State University Law School.

The annual meeting of the Historical Society concluded with a presentation by Greg Stohr, U.S. Supreme Court Reporter for Bloomberg News, and author of *A Black and White Case: How Affirmative Action Survived its Greatest Legal Challenge* (Bloomberg Press, 2004). Mr. Stohr discussed the topic of his book, the University of Michigan affirmative action cases *Grutter v. Bollinger* and *Gratz v. Bollinger*. The November 2008 issue of *The Court Legacy*, the newsletter of the Historical Society, contained the chapter of the book which reported on the arguments in *Grutter* and *Gratz* before the U. S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Stohr commented on his first-hand observation of these "targeted lawsuits aimed at changing the law" at a time when amicus briefs played such a significant role. He also discussed the proceedings leading to Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's majority opinion in *Grutter* endorsing Michigan Law School's approach to diversity, as well as Chief Justice Rehnquist's majority opinion in *Gratz* striking down the undergraduate admissions policy six-to-three. Overall, Mr. Stohr's presentation reflected upon the significance of these ex-

tremely close Supreme Court rulings and the relevance of such decisions to race relations in the U.S. today.



*From Left to Right: Michael Lavoie, Barb McQuade, John Mayer and Greg Stohr. Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News.*



*Edward Kronk with Rakow scholarship recipients. Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News.*

## Holiday Party Fun

On December 2, 2008, the Chapter hosted its second annual holiday party at the newly renovated Westin Book Cadillac. The one hundred and twenty-five guests included fifteen judges from the federal bench and three state court judges. Guests enjoyed dining on hors d'oeuvres and listening to Magistrate Judge Whalen's jazz quartet, The Cat's Pajamas.



*Past Chapter Presidents Christine Dowhan-Bailey, Julia Pidgeon, and Judge Mark A. Goldsmith.*



*Patrick Hackett, Judge Barbara K. Hackett, Judge Marianne O. Battani and Magistrate Judge Paul J. Komives.*



*Elisa Angeli-Palizzi, Jeff Sadowski and Mike Palizzi.*



*Elizabeth Stafford, Judge Denise Page Hood and Stephanie Davis.*

## Book Club News – “Flash Of Genius”

The Chapter's book club will be experimenting with different media at its next session.

Rather than discussing a law-related book, the group will meet on April 21, 2009, to talk about a recently released movie, “Flash of Genius.” The film tells the story of Dr. Robert Kearns, the inventor of the intermittent windshield wiper who filed in the United States District Court a series of highly publicized patent infringement lawsuits against numerous vehicle manufactures.

Speaking at the meeting will be Judge Avern Cohn, who presided over the Kearns litigation, which lasted for several years and attracted national media attention on account of, among other things, Dr. Kearns' idiosyncratic personality and unorthodox decision-making. Judge Cohn will opine on the degree to which “Flash of Genius,” which stars Greg Kinnear, accurately reflects what occurred in his courtroom.

Participants will be asked to rent and watch “Flash of Genius,” which will be widely available on DVD and Blue Ray on February 21, 2009, in advance of the book club session.

The meeting will begin at noon and take place in the Judges' Conference Center, Room 722, at the Federal Courthouse.

Those interesting in attending the event are requested to register on the Chapter's website, at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org).



---

## Executive Board

### Term Ending 2009

Honorable Robert H. Cleland  
United States District Judge  
231 W Lafayette Blvd Rm 707  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 234-5525

Kimberly G. Altman  
Career Law Clerk to Hon. Avern Cohn  
219 Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone (313) 234-5163  
Kimberly\_Altman@mied.uscourts.gov

Kevin A.S. Fanning  
Clark Hill PLC  
255 S Old Woodward Ave Fl 3  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
Phone: (248) 988-5875  
kfanning@clarkhill.com

Daniel J. LaCombe  
Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker  
211 W Fort St #1500  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 596-9309  
dlacombe@bsdd.com

Jeffrey A. Sadowski  
Howard and Howard Attorneys  
39400 Woodward #101  
Bloomfield Hills MI 48304  
Phone: (248) 645-1483  
jsadowski@howardandhoward.com

Elizabeth A. Stafford  
Assistant United States Attorney  
211 W Fort St Ste 2001  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 226-9692  
elizabeth.stafford@usdoj.gov

Kelly A. Walters  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC  
39577 Woodward Ave Ste 300  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
Phone: (248) 203-0764  
kwalters@dykema.com

### Term Ending 2010

Honorable George C. Steeh  
United States District Judge  
231 W Lafayette Blvd Rm 235  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 234-5175

Leslie K. Berg  
Office of the U.S. Trustee  
211 W Fort St #700  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 226-7950  
leslie.k.berg@usdoj.gov

Kathleen Moro Nesi  
Assistant United States Attorney  
211 W. Fort Street #2001  
Detroit, MI 48226-3202  
Phone: (313) 226-9518  
kathleen.nesi@usdoj.gov

Theresa M. Serra  
Career Law Clerk to Hon. Nancy Edmunds  
231 W Lafayette Blvd Rm 211  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 234 5158  
theresa\_serra@mied.uscourts.gov

Honorable Mona Majzoub  
United States Magistrate Judge  
231 W Lafayette Blvd Rm 704  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 234-5205

Miriam L. Siefer  
Chief Federal Defender  
Federal Defenders Office  
645 Griswold #2255  
Detroit MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 961-4150  
miriam.siefer@fd.org

Robert M. Vercruysse  
Vercruysse, Murray & Calzone PC  
31780 Telegraph Road, Suite 200  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025  
Phone: (248) 540-7011  
Fax: (248) 540-8059  
rvercruysse@vmclaw.com

### Term Ending 2011

Andrew S. Doctoroff  
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn  
660 Woodward Ave., #2290  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 465 7360  
asd@honigman.com

Michael K. Lee  
Law Offices of Lee and Correll  
24901 Northwestern Hwy, #113  
Southfield MI 48075  
Phone: 248.350.5900  
mlee@leeandcorrell.com

Michael S. Leib  
Maddin Hauser Wartell Roth & Heller  
28400 Northwestern Hwy Fl 3  
Southfield, MI 48034  
Phone: (248) 354-4030  
msl@maddinhauser.com

David A. Lerner  
Plunkett & Cooney PC  
38505 Woodward Ave #2000  
Bloomfield Hills MI 48304  
Phone: (248) 901-4010  
dlerner@plunkettcooney.com

Dennis J. Levasseur  
Bodman LLP  
1901 Saint Antoine St Fl 6  
Ford Field  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone: (313) 393-7596  
dlevasseur@bodmanllp.com

Thomas Schehr  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC.  
400 Renaissance Center, 35th Floor  
Detroit, MI 48243-1669  
Phone: (313) 568-6659  
tschehr@dykema.com

Dona A. Tracey  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
477 Michigan Avenue  
Detroit MI 48226-2523  
Phone: (313) 471-3644  
dona.tracey@mail.va.gov

### Ex Officio Members

David J. Weaver  
Court Administrator  
Clerk of the Court  
United States District Court  
231 W. Lafayette Blvd. Fl 5  
Detroit, MI 48226  
313.234.5005

Katherine B. Gullo  
Clerk of the Court  
United States Bankruptcy Court  
211 W. Fort St., Fl 20  
Detroit, MI 48226  
313.234.0068

George J. Bedrosian  
District Court Ombudsman  
65 Cadillac Sq Ste 2810  
Detroit, MI 48226  
313.965.6250

---

## Committee Chairs

### Annual Dinner

Cameron J. Evans  
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn  
cje@honigman.com

Susan Jezewski Evans  
Adjunct Professor  
Oakland University  
sucamevans@yahoo.com

David R. Grand  
Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone PLC  
grand@millercanfield.com

### Appellate Practice

K. Scott Hamilton  
Dickinson Wright PLLC  
khamiltons@dickinsonwright.com

Kathleen Moro Nesi  
Assistant United States Attorney  
kathleen.nesi@usdoj.gov

Jenice C. Mitchell  
Foley & Lardner LLP  
jmittchell@foley.com

### Bankruptcy Practice

Leslie K. Berg  
Office of United States Trustee  
leslie.k.berg@usdoj.gov

Michael C. Hammer  
Dickinson Wright PLLC  
mhammer@dickinsonwright.com

David A. Lerner  
Plunkett & Cooney, P.C.  
dlerner@plunkettcooney.com

### Courthouse Tours

Barb Radke  
Chambers of Hon. Virginia Morgan  
barbara\_radke@mied.uscourts.gov

Susan E. Gillooly  
Assistant United States Attorney  
susan.gillooly@usdoj.gov

### Criminal Practice

Dan Hurley  
Assistant United States Attorney  
daniel.hurley@usdoj.gov

Matthew F. Leitman  
Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone PLC  
leitman@millercanfield.com

### Environmental Law

Christine Dowhan-Bailey  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
bailey@lre02.usace.army.mil

William R. Schikora  
Dykema Gossett, P.L.L.C.  
wschikora@dykema.com

### Health Care Law

Mark R. Lezotte  
Oakwood Healthcare Inc  
mark.lezotte@oakwood.org

Monica P. Navarro  
Frank Haron Weiner & Navarro PLC  
Phone: (248) 952-0400  
mnavarro@fhwnlaw.com

Leslie Matuja Wizner  
Assistant United States Attorney  
leslie.wizner@usdoj.gov

### Immigration Law

Clara DeMatteis Mager  
Butzel Long PC  
mager@butzel.com

Meghan Kennedy Riordan  
Kennedy Riordan & Associates  
mRiordan@bcis-immigration.com

### Intellectual Property

William G. Abbatt  
Brooks & Kushman, P.C.  
wabbatt@brookskushman.com

John S. Artz  
Dickinson Wright PLLC  
jsartz@dickinsonwright.com

Leigh Cameron Taggart  
Rader Fishman & Grauer PLLC  
lct@raderfishman.com

### Labor Law

Joseph A. Golden  
Pitt McGehee Palmer Rivers & Golden  
jgolden@pittlawpc.com

Vanessa Mays  
Assistant United States Attorney  
vanessa.mays@usdoj.gov

Gregory V. Murray  
Vercruysse, Murray & Calzone, PC  
gmurray@vmclaw.com

Robert M. Vercruysse  
Executive Board Liaison  
Vercruysse, Murray & Calzone, PC  
rvercruysse@vmclaw.com

### Law Day

Susan E. Gillooly  
Assistant United States Attorney  
susan.gillooly@usdoj.gov

Dona A. Tracey  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
dona.tracey@mail.va.gov

### Law Student Initiative

Matthew J. Lund  
Pepper Hamilton LLP  
lundm@pepperlaw.com

Mahesh K. Nayak  
Clark Hill PLC  
mnayak@clarkhill.com

### Membership

Kevin A.S. Fanning  
Clark Hill, PLC  
kfanning@clarkhill.com

Michael A. Gruskin  
General Motors Legal Staff  
michael.a.gruskin@gm.com

Daniel N. Sharkey  
Butzel Long, PC  
sharkey@butzel.com

### New Lawyers Seminar

Brian M. Akkashian  
Dickinson Wright, PLLC  
bakkashian@dickinson-wright.com

Christine Dowhan-Bailey  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
bailey@lre02.usace.army.mil

Brian D. Figot  
Stephen M. Landau, P.C.  
bdf@slandau.com

Grant P. Gilezan  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC  
ggilezan@dykema.com

Geneva S. Halliday  
c/o Federal Bar Association  
halliday17@comcast.net

Cathrine Wenger  
Trinity Health Services  
wengerc@trinity-health.org



---

## **Newer Lawyer Mentoring & Trial Practice**

Dennis J. Levasseur  
Bodman LLP  
dlevasseur@bodmanllp.com

Kelly A. Walters  
Dykema Gossett PLLC  
kwalters@dykema.com

I. W. Winsten  
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP  
iww@honigman.com

## **Newsletter**

Kimberly Altman  
Career Law Clerk to  
Hon. Avern Cohn  
Phone 313.234.5163  
Kimberly\_Altman@mied.uscourts.gov

Christina Farinola  
Career Law Clerk to  
Hon. Paul Komives  
christina\_farinola@mied.uscourts.gov

## **Pro Bono**

Patrice S. Arend  
Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss PC  
parend@jaffelaw.com

Rick A. Haberman  
Dickinson Wright PLLC  
rhaberma@dickinson-wright.com

John R. Nussbaumer  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
nussbauj@cooley.edu

## **Rules And Civil Practice**

Daniel J. LaCombe  
Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker PLLC  
dlacombe@bsdd.com

Thomas Schehr  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC  
tschehr@dykema.com

Joseph G. Vernon  
Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone  
vernon@millercanfield.com

## **Social Justice**

Michael K. Lee  
Lee & Correll  
mlee@leeandcorrell.com

Miriam L. Siefer  
Chief Federal Defender  
Federal Defender Office  
miriam.siefer@fd.org

## **Social Security**

Jeffrey S. Appel  
Law Office of Jeffrey S. Appel  
friedappel@aol.com

## **Summer Programs**

Carrie S. Bryant  
Assistant General Counsel  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan  
cbryant@bcbsm.com

Phyllis Golden Morey  
Brooks & Kushman, P.C.  
pmorey@brookskushman.com

## **Special Programs: Book Club**

Andrew S. Doctroff  
Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP  
adoctoroff@honigman.com

Honorable George C. Steeh  
Judicial Liaison

## **Special Programs: Damages Seminar**

Michael S. Leib  
Maddin Hauser Wartell Roth & Heller  
msl@maddinhauser.com

## Calendar of Events

**Feb 12 "The Other Big Three Speak"**  
**Bankruptcy Judges Roundtable**  
Panelists: Judges Steven Rhodes,  
Walter Shapero and Daniel Opperman,  
Troy Marriott, 200 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI  
11:30 A.M.  
Contact: David Lerner, 248.901.4010  
or [dlerner@plunkettcooney.com](mailto:dlerner@plunkettcooney.com)

**Feb 19 Wade H. McCree Award Luncheon**  
Speaker: Hon. Marc H. Morial, President/  
CEO National Urban League  
Atheneum Hotel, Greektown  
11:30 A.M. Reception  
12:00 P.M. Luncheon  
Contact: Thomas G. McNeill, 313.223.3632,  
[tmcneill@dickinson-wright.com](mailto:tmcneill@dickinson-wright.com)  
or register online at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org)

**Mar 26 Advanced Social Security  
Practice Seminar**  
Keynote Speaker: Hon. Frank A. Cristaudo,  
Chief Administrative Law Judge SSA  
Courthouse, Room 115  
1:30 P.M. Registration  
Contact: Jeffrey Appel, [friedappel@aol.com](mailto:friedappel@aol.com)  
or register online at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org)

**April 26 Leonard R. Gilman Award Luncheon**  
Speaker: John A. Rizzo  
Acting General Counsel,  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Atheneum Hotel, Greektown  
11:30 A.M. Reception  
12:00 P.M. Luncheon  
Contact: Thomas G. McNeill, 313.223.3632,  
[tmcneill@dickinson-wright.com](mailto:tmcneill@dickinson-wright.com)  
or register online at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org)

**Updates and further developments at [www.fbamich.org](http://www.fbamich.org). See "Hot News" and "Events & Activities"**

**Federal Bar Association  
E. D. Michigan Chapter**  
30100 Telegraph Rd., Suite 428  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4564

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Wyandotte, MI  
PERMIT #153

### Newsletter Committee:

Kimberly G. Altman,  
Co-Editor in Chief  
Career Law Clerk to  
Hon. Avern Cohn  
(313) 234-5160

Christina Farinola,  
Co-Editor in Chief  
Career Law Clerk to  
Hon. Paul J. Komives  
(313) 234-5200

Michael J. Riordan  
Assistant United States Attorney  
(313) 226-9602

Christine M. Dowhan-Bailey  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
(313) 226-6822

John P. Mayer  
Management Consultant  
(734) 558-5593

Dennis J. Levasseur  
Bodman LLP  
(313) 393-7596

Thomas D. Esordi  
Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti &  
Sherbrook  
(313) 965-7446

### Executive Director:

Brian D. Figot  
Stephen M. Landau PC  
(248) 358-0870  
[fbamich@fbamich.org](mailto:fbamich@fbamich.org)

**WINNER  
6 YEARS**  
National FBA  
Outstanding  
Newsletter  
Award