



MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.
ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016



MSBA MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to effectively represent Maryland's lawyers,
to provide member services and to promote professionalism,
diversity in the legal profession, access to justice,
service to the public and respect for the rule of law.

MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

Volume XXV

MSBA is pleased to present its membership with a brief overview of the year 2015/2016, highlighting its many activities, events, and accomplishments.

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Lisa Muscara Brice, *Asst. Editor*

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Cover: MSBA Headquarters Conference Room

Mural depicting an artistic rendition of the

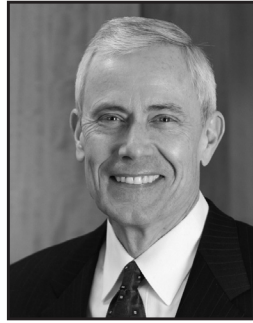
Maryland State Flag.

2015/2016 MSBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Hon. Pamela J. Brown
President



Hon. Harry C. Storm
President-Elect



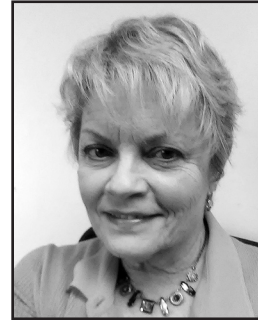
Hon. Keith R. Truffer
Secretary



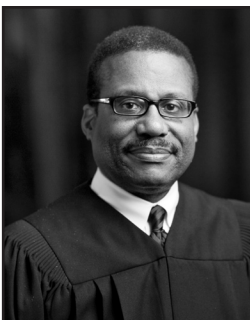
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At-Large



Hon. Michael W. Reed
At-Large



Dana O. Williams
At-Large



Thomas M. Weschler
*Chair, Young Lawyers
Section*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I PRESENT TO YOU the 2015-2016 *MSBA Annual Report*. Like many of my predecessors, I am using this column as an opportunity to highlight MSBA's achievements and apprise our members of its activities. I begin by expressing my gratitude for the privilege of serving as the 122nd MSBA President, and thank you for the opportunity of leading us this year.

MSBA remains strong and vibrant with nearly 24,000 members, and 30 Sections and 31 Committees of dedicated lawyers and judges committed to serving our profession and the community. Indeed, our core missions – access to justice, professionalism, and advocacy for Maryland lawyers – are all well-served.

I am happy to report that MSBA is fiscally sound and continues working to increase its services and benefits to members. While we retain excellent numbers for a voluntary bar association of our size, we continue to explore ways of increasing our membership and providing cutting-edge programs, needed benefits, and products to our members.

Last June, I promised to move forward on a call to action to do something for ourselves, our profession, and our communities. This message has been well-received; many have asked how they might personally make a difference or told me how they have been inspired to make wellness part of their own daily routine. Along the way – via my monthly columns as well as speeches and meetings around the state, and in almost every encounter with lawyers, law students, and the public – I have reiterated our commitment to making a difference in the communities we serve.

This year, we continued our longstanding tradition of building bridges and fostering dialogue with the state's local and specialty bars by hosting the 56th Annual Conference of Bar Presidents in Wilmington, Delaware. There we kicked off our wellness campaign with a riverside walk/run and Zumba for conference participants; we also held a clothing drive in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wilmington, whose service area includes parts of Cecil County. The new Special Committee on Wellness, chaired by Judge Wayne Brooks, also created an informative website, Be Fit to Practice (www.befittopractice.org). We also introduced a monthly wellness support group, hosted a martial arts fitness activity, and participated in the Run for Justice Race.

This year we implemented two measures spearheaded by my predecessors, Michael J. Baxter and Debra G. Schubert. The Incubator Program and, through a collaborative effort, the implementation of the Veterans' Treatment Docket in Baltimore City both came to fruition. I thank Dean Ronald Weich, University of Baltimore School of Law, and Dean Donald Tobin, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, for their assistance, as well as the Maryland Bar Foundation, whose generous contribution facilitated the Incubator Program.

Our Sections remain the lifeblood of MSBA. This year, we hosted our first conference dedicated to assisting them in strengthening and expanding their programs as well providing collaborative opportunities to ensure robust and diverse membership.

This year, I traversed Maryland and the surrounding states for meetings of our Board of Governors and local and specialty bar events, often no fewer than three or four nights each week. I also attended countless Section events, and in February, joined MSBA members in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for our Midyear Meeting and an array of educational programs.

Our new Special Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, co-chaired by Robert Gonzales and Judge Toni Clarke, will conduct a Town Hall meeting to bring the Sections and local bar leaders together to examine ways to support MSBA's efforts in this area. We hosted a legislative reception in Annapolis for members of the House Judiciary and Senate Judicial Proceeding Committees with the help of our Legislative Director, Richard Montgomery. And our Standing Committee on Laws, chaired by Judge Kevin Arthur, did a phenomenal job of reviewing more than 500 bills, providing guidance and comments when needed.

Perhaps my greatest personal satisfaction came by way of our highly successful Planning Retreat (held every five years), where invited speaker Judy Perry Martinez, Chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on the Future of Legal Services, outlined the challenges facing our profession. A diverse group of more than 85 attendees – including lawyers, judges, non-members, law students, recent law grads, government and private practitioners, military lawyers, corporate counsel, and local and specialty bar members – engaged in a dynamic strategic communication process to produce a blueprint for MSBA's future.

At the end of 2016, longtime Executive Director Paul V. Carlin will conclude his more than 30 years of service, and a special Search Committee, co-chaired by Harry Johnson and James Nolan, with the assistance of executive search firm Witt/Kieffer, has been hard at work seeking his successor. This bar year will conclude in June with a Joint Bench-Bar Meeting in Ocean City. Alice Chong, Michael Winkelman, Judge Marcella Holland, and Ed Gillis have planned a great conference, which will include stellar educational programming.

I would like to conclude by thanking several people who made this year especially memorable and rewarding for me. First, Paul Carlin – not only Executive Director but also mentor, friend, and trusted leader in guiding me through the year. Thanks, also, to our incredible staff for the remarkable job they do day in and out; they are smart and talented and truly dedicated to serving our members. Thank you, members of the Executive Committee, for assisting me with much of the presidential decision-making, as well as the Board of Governors for its tireless efforts throughout the year. Finally, thank you to those members who devoted countless hours to the critical work of our Committees and Sections. I leave MSBA in the very capable hands of my friend and colleague, Judge Harry Storm, whom, I assure you, will serve this Association well. It has been my honor to serve MSBA and its members, and I thank you again for this opportunity.



Hon. Pamila J. Brown

2015/2016 MSBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Hon. Pamela J. Brown
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Hon. Harry C. Storm
President-Elect

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Treasurer

Hon. Mark F. Scurti
Asst. Treasurer

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Litigation Section

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Tenth District

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Eighth District

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Eleventh District

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Sixth District

Stanford G. Gann, Jr.
Eighth District

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Twelfth District

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Fifth District

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Fourth District

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Sixth District

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Gregory P. Jimeno
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Eighth District

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Seventh District

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Sixth District

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Eighth District

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Young Lawyer Chair

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Young Lawyer

E. Regine Francois
Young Lawyer

William Carl Isler, II
Young Lawyer

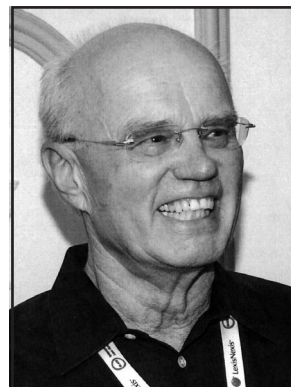
Carl S. Silverman
Parliamentarian

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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ANOTHER ANNUAL REPORT. Another opportunity to look back at another year – and this time, in my case, looking back over the last of my 31 years. President Judge Pamila J. Brown has had a good year and her priorities of wellness, diversity, and relations with our Sections have all enjoyed traction and progress. Her Presidency is a continuation of the great effort and vision that each of our Presidents has brought to serving our members and our community.

Looking back at my career with the MSBA, I am so thankful for all the civil, intelligent, articulate people with whom I've had the pleasure of working. That includes 32 engaged Presidents and hundreds of Board, Committee, and Section members (at approximately 340 Board Meetings, and more MSBA evening meetings than I care to count!). This is a people business, based on relationships that involve many interpersonal skills and attributes. Much of our success involves the personal and business relationships which we are able to build and enhance with our professional members. And on a daily basis, I've been fortunate to work with a dedicated staff and executive management team who work with urgency and diligence on all of their projects. Their call to duty to get the job done is admirable. It's not just a joke that they would rather get their work done than go to lunch.



Paul V. Carlin

While I prepare to depart the MSBA after 31 satisfying years, I want to acknowledge some others who also have enjoyed impressive tenures with the MSBA. Wanda A. Calvin Claiborne has just completed her 30th year with the MSBA, and enjoys wide acclaim as our beloved major meetings planner. Starting here as a recent Morgan State grad, she progressed from a clerk to a Communications Assistant to a Meetings Manager and, since 1993, our Meetings Director. Lawrence Hicks, our IT Director and a certified Microsoft Engineer, has been keeping our office technology running efficiently for 28 years. Bernadette Simmons, in our Membership Department, and Theresa Michael, our Meetings Coordinator, have been mainstays of the MSBA also for 28 years this fall. And Pat Yevics, who plans to retire later this year, was hired as our Law Office Management Director in 1993. She has greatly assisted our Solo & Small Firm Practice Section and played a leading role in renovating and overseeing our website and Section email discussion lists. I mention these five because of their impressive tenures, but I am grateful for the efforts and dedication of the entire strong and stable staff.

The staff and leaders have accomplished so much over the years – recounted here, in these *Annual Reports*, which have been issued in this form since 1992. But for me, at this time, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to hold this position and gain the respect of the Maryland legal community. Trust is a very powerful word and dynamic. Our members trust our leaders and staff to improve their professional lives and advocate for their interests. Our Officers trust our staff and we, in turn, trust the Officers and Board. It is important to me that our staff members trust me and know that I am fair, loyal, and supportive of them. Perhaps the first rule of being a successful executive is to surround yourself with good people and then get out of the way so that they can utilize their talents, excel, and grow. Then you support them with nine parts praise and one part constructive criticism, when necessary. Looking for the positive, not the negative, in everyone certainly promotes growth and progress. While one definition of management is getting work done by people, another would be developing people through work.

Some of the other important running rules for this position include “You can disagree, but you shouldn't be disagreeable,” and, as the late Past President Ed Shea was fond of saying, “It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.” Thus, treat everyone with respect and fairness. And every day in the parking garage I am reminded, “Remember Your Level” – I am not the President (although they do count on me to make the MSBA “President Proof”!) And perhaps the last rule for survival for an Executive Director: “Always keep a volunteer between you and the problem!”

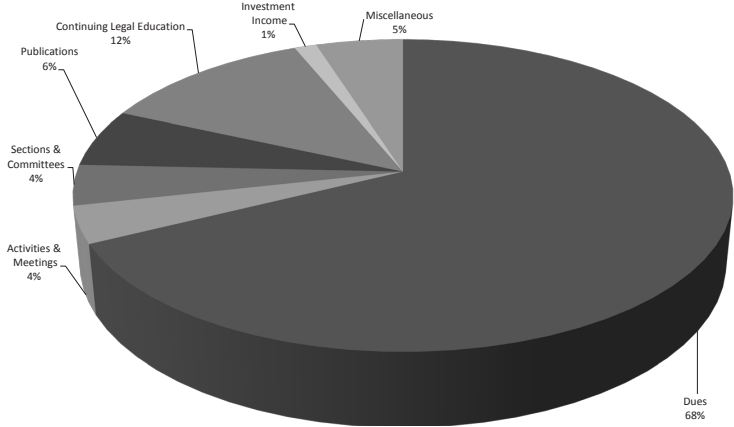
I have thoroughly enjoyed Maryland and working for the MSBA. A special thank you to Past President Herb Belgrad for hiring me twice – once for the Bar Association of Baltimore City, and then the MSBA. I have made hundreds of enriching friendships and acquaintances. The position has been extremely productive and satisfying. I feel extraordinarily fortunate to have found a job which has offered so much satisfaction and purpose. Thank you, sincerely, and best wishes for the continued success of the MSBA!

2014/2015 MSBA FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

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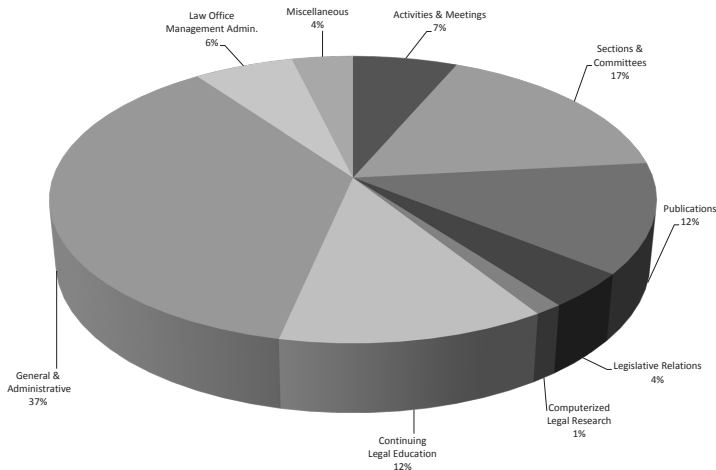
Revenue

	2014	2015	
Dues	3,406,212	3,401,430	67.7%
Activities & Meetings	164,110	192,876	3.8%
Sections & Committees	227,149	210,564	4.2%
Publications	353,022	297,967	5.9%
Continuing Legal Education	888,088	610,517	12.2%
Investment Income	316,659	62,960	1.3%
Miscellaneous	302,990	248,292	4.9%
Total	5,658,230	5,024,606	100.0%



Expenses

	2014	2015	
Activities & Meetings	322,300	335,072	6.5%
Sections & Committees	867,346	874,281	16.9%
Publications	631,950	643,107	12.4%
Legislative Relations	205,703	208,296	4.0%
Computerized Legal Research	67,103	66,793	1.3%
Continuing Legal Education	712,084	641,263	12.4%
General & Administrative	1,785,506	1,904,433	36.7%
Law Office Management Admin.	332,574	319,531	6.2%
Miscellaneous	164,730	195,706	3.8%
Total	5,089,296	5,188,482	100.0%



2015/2016 MSBA BOARD ACTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- ☐ APPROVED new Discovery Guidelines prepared by the MSBA Litigation Section 7
- ☐ APPROVED a Memorandum of Understanding to create an Incubator Program for Recent Law Graduates
- ☐ SUPPORTED the Presidential Initiative on Wellness, “Be Fit to Practice”
- ☐ SUPPORTED an MSBA Section Orientation Retreat and a Planning Retreat
- ☐ SUPPORTED the Presidential Initiative on Diversity and Inclusion
- ☐ PASSED a Resolution Supporting the Appellate and Circuit Sitting Judges in their Elections
- ☐ APPROVED the Lease for Additional Space at the Maryland Bar Center
- ☐ APPROVED the procedures for an Executive Director Search Committee
- ☐ CONTINUED support of the Civics and Law Academy Program in Maryland High Schools
- ☐ APPROVED Annual Audit by Ellin & Tucker
- ☐ SELECTED Board representatives to the Legal Aid Bureau, the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, and the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland
- ☐ SELECTED recipients of the Sodaro Judicial Civility Award and Presidential Best Section Projects

2015 MSBA ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 10-13, OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

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Clockwise, from top left: MSBA President Judge Pamela J. Brown; Immediate Past President Debra G. Schubert; Secretary Sara H. Arthur; and President-Elect Judge Harry C. Storm.



Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera, Court of Appeals of Maryland, addresses members at the Saturday Business Meeting.



The New Judges' Reception provides members with an opportunity to become acquainted with the most recent additions to the Maryland bench.



Attendees learn of the latest law-related goods and services to benefit their practices in the Exhibit Hall.



Learning opportunities abound each year at the MSBA Annual Meeting.



Outgoing President Debra G. Schubert (third from left) and her fiancée, Byron Olsen, welcome incoming President Judge Pamela J. Brown (second from right) and her husband, Christopher Robinson, as well as Past President Michael J. Baxter (second from left) and his wife, Mary.

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

SECTIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Yvette N. Diamond, Chair

This Section sponsored a dinner program featuring Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh. It also presented panel discussion programs about careers in administrative law for students at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and the University of Baltimore School of Law. The Section vigorously recruited for new and diverse membership on its Section Council and successfully obtained several new Council members who bring a wide range of experience from various types of administrative law practice. It will sponsor a program entitled “Making America Great Again...with Administrative Law: How to Be at the Right Place, at the Right Time, with the Right Stuff” at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference, where it will also honor Professor Arnold Rochvarg of the University of Baltimore School of Law as this year’s recipient of the Section’s John Hardwicke Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of administrative law.

AGRICULTURE LAW

Kathleen J.P. Tabor, Chair

This Section held a joint membership meeting with the Real Property, Environmental, and Young Lawyers Sections in July at the Ruhlman Brewing Company in Carroll County and, in August, members attended an invitational dinner with the Maryland Horse Industry Board at Ocean Downs on Maryland’s Eastern Shore and also volunteered at the Maryland State Fair to distribute copies of the Section’s Legal Services Directory at the newly initiated “Horse World” tent. Its activities also included: hosting a “Day at the Races” in September at Laurel Park, featuring lunchtime presenters Sal Sinatra, President of the Maryland Jockey Club, and Maryland Thoroughbred Breeders Association President Josh Pons; a November visit to Dodon Farm in Anne Arundel County, which included a discussion with the owners regarding regulations and land use as well as a tour of the vineyards, winery, and

horse training facility; and a return to Laurel Park in December for its Annual Holiday Party. The Section made its *Bar Bulletin* debut by contributing several articles to the April 2016 “Agriculture Law” issue. Its educational outreach efforts included webinars on the “Food Safety Modernization Act”; the “Resource Conservation & Recovery Act”; “Agriculture Law – When Farm and Zoning Collide”; “Chapter 12 Bankruptcy for Family Farmers and Fishermen” (in conjunction with the Consumer Bankruptcy Section); “Lawyers & Lobbying” (with assistance from the Maryland Farm Bureau), and will culminate with a program on “Divorce & Agriculture” at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Suzy Eckstein, Chair

This Section produced a two-year Strategic Plan, the highlights of which include enhancing member benefits and connecting with the Judiciary, Legislature, and Public regarding ADR matters, and it is currently working on a Pilot Project to assist the Courts and disputants in Estate and Trust matters. It also presented: a four-hour program, “Keeping Up with the Kredentials”, to assist members in fulfilling their court-mediator requirements; a Pizza and Professionalism Program featuring a dialogue with new MACRO Director Jonathan Rosenthal; and a conference entitled “Innovations in Family Dispute Resolution”, co-sponsored by the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and the University of Baltimore School of Law. The Section’s annual spring training/dinner featured remarks by Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera, Court of Appeals of Maryland, as well as the presentation of its annual Chief Judge Robert M. Bell Award to Chief Judge Peter B. Krauser, Court of Special Appeals of Maryland. It will co-sponsor two programs, “Sibling Wars: Alternative Dispute Resolution in Probate Matters, Estates and Trusts, and Fiduciary Litigation” and “Court ADR: What Works and Why It Matters”, with the Maryland Judiciary at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

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E. Anne Benaroya, Chair

This Section provides a forum for the open exchange of ideas about legal issues concerning the treatment of all animals, the protections afforded to animals, and the rights and responsibilities of persons who have an interest in animals, and also facilitates the development of good legal practice in animal-related issues by providing educational programs and resources and by participating in the legislative process.

BENCH-BAR

Christine Pham, Chair

This Section, in the interest of facilitating communication, promoting discussion, and increasing exchange of ideas between members of the bench and the bar for more efficient administration of justice, invited members of local bars and the bench to work together in the creation of an online directory of general information about each district and circuit court in Maryland, such as the court's postponement procedure, availability of AV equipment, parking locations, how to request interpreters, how cases are scheduled, and other administrative and procedural inquiries. It will partner with the Young Lawyers Section to present a program focusing on how the attributes of a great lawyer are requisites to becoming a judge, promoting communication between the bench and bar and, ultimately, better serving the public at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

BUSINESS LAW

David McL. Williams, Chair

This Section: provided comments on possible regulatory changes to benefit Maryland at the request of the Governor's Regulatory Reform Commission; explored issues with non-US lawyers practicing law in Maryland at the direction of Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera, Court of Appeals of Maryland; offered comments regarding online filing and searching following a presentation by the Deputy Director of SDAT on SDAT's initiative to provide better customer service and leverage technology; and participated in an ad hoc task force formed by the Court of Appeals and led by the Hon. Sean D. Wallace to present a symposium to evaluate Maryland's Business & Technology Courts Case Management program. It prepared legislation, subsequently signed by Governor Larry Hogan, to clarify the duties of directors of Maryland Corporations,

and continued to provide written support or opposition, as appropriate, and testimony on other legislation pertaining to Maryland Corporate and unincorporated business entity law. The Section's Advanced Business Law Institute provided CLE following a luncheon at which Department of Commerce Secretary R. Michael Gill presented the current state of Maryland's business economy. It also encouraged pro bono work throughout the year via the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law's "Just Advice" program.

CONSTRUCTION LAW

Anthony F. Vittoria, Chair

This Section held a networking/social event as well as a dinner program entitled "The Benefits and Problems of Building Information Modeling (BIM) for Construction Projects" in the fall. It also cosponsored another networking/social event, "The Fundamentals of Surety Law and Subcontractor Default Insurance – What Every Litigator Should Know", with the Litigation Section. The Section will present a primer on new residential construction defect litigation at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY

Michael A. Ostroff, Chair

This Section submitted an Amicus Curiae brief upon request of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court on the affect of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Harris v. Viegelaahn*, 135 S. Ct. 1829 (2015) on attorney's fees paid upon conversion or dismissal of Chapter 13 bankruptcy cases. See *In re Margret E. Brandon*, Case No. 14-23735 (Sept. 10, 2015). It also produced a spring CLE entitled "Personal Injury Claims in Bankruptcy". It made advancements in the development of a flyer, website, and telephonic referral service in order to disseminate information to distressed homeowners for inclusion in the initial foreclosure paperwork required by the State. The Section also: initiated a process for proposing a Maryland Rule and/or forms dealing specifically with the stay issues in State proceedings; participated in Money Power Day for the first time; provided free "brown bag" lunch presentations on topics of interest to its members; and hosted the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court and the Assistant U.S. Trustee, who delivered reports to its members. It will present an educational program entitled "Bankruptcy and State Proceedings: Am I Stayed or Should I Go?" at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

CORRECTIONAL REFORM

Booth M. Ripke, Chair

This Section stimulates interest in the administration of the correctional system among members of the Maryland Bar; seeks necessary improvements and reforms in correctional facilities and services; and coordinates activities in the field of correctional reform with other organizations and associations working in the field.

CRIMINAL LAW & PRACTICE

Hon. Charles B. Day, Chair

This Section, in keeping with its mission to stay at the forefront of issues of significance to the criminal law practitioner, heard from several national and local leaders on such matters. It also surveyed its membership in order to begin its strategic planning to improve the delivery of programs, benefits, and services to the Section. The Section continued to monitor and provide input on legislative concerns in the area of criminal law. It also: sponsored several educational events, including programs on the law of confessions, the forensics of cell towers and cell phones; bestowed its highest recognition of an outstanding lawyer, the Robert C. Heeney Award, during a dinner gathering; and will sponsor an educational program at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

DELIVERY OF LEGAL SERVICES

Laurence Anne Ruth, Chair

This Section focused on expanding its legal referral training sessions for librarians and engaged in several trainings, including a few at the Enoch Pratt Free Libraries in Baltimore City, as well as a presentation at the statewide librarians' conference in May. It also initiated a discussion with members of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the MSBA to collect data on the utility – to the courts, for lawyers, and to the public – of the new limited-scope representation rules. The Section will present an educational program in conjunction with the Criminal Law & Practice Section at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

ELDER LAW & DISABILITY RIGHTS

Elena S. Boisvert, Chair

This Section: presented a full-day CLE program on “Housing Options for the Elderly and Disabled” in October; saw heavy participation, both in person and via the web, for its December meeting focusing on “Negotiating the Medical Application Maze”; collaborated with the Estates and Trusts Section to present a February program on “Using and Drafting Trusts”; presented a CLE program on “Guardianships” in the spring; and will present a CLE program on “Hot Topics in Elder Law” in late June. Its legislative efforts included: working on legislation that would allow for augmented estates while simultaneously protecting testamentary special needs trusts of vital importance to clients, as well as legislation allowing guardians of Medicaid recipients to receive some form of payment for their services; sponsoring an evening reception in Annapolis so that Section members might meet with representatives in a more informal setting; and co-sponsoring a February meeting with the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys in Annapolis, affording Section members the opportunity to talk with Maryland legislators about various initiatives impacting the elder and disability communities. The Section continued its Law Day initiative, in which members draft Health Care Powers of Attorney and Advance Directives for seniors and members of the disability community throughout the state. It will present an educational program devoted to exploring all facets of guardianship at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS LAW

Nakia V. Gray and Pamela K. Riewerts, Co-Chairs

This Section: provides a forum for communication among MSBA members with a shared interest in entertainment and sports law issues through educational information, networking, and professional opportunities; offers continuing legal education on a range of topics focusing on sports and entertainment matters; facilitates career development by promoting expertise in these and relate practice areas; conducts meetings and other collaborative events; and engages in a variety of outreach activities for its target audiences, including the general public.

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

12 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Jon A. Mueller, Chair

This Section co-hosted a meeting on Maryland's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits with the Real Property Section in November. It also held breakfast meetings discussing Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs and environmental insurance. Section members traveled to Conowingo Dam, sponsored by Exelon, to discuss the company's relicensing efforts before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. It will host its Annual Dinner, featuring former US EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Liaison Jeff Corbin, on May 23, and will present a program offering guidance on assisting clients in satisfying Maryland stormwater-related regulations designed to meet the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load requirements at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

ESTATE & TRUST LAW

Charles S. Abell, Chair

This Section continued to work with the General Assembly to propose, review, and testify on legislation affecting the practice of estate and trust law in Maryland, working with Maryland legislators on a number of bills, including a bill to clarify fiduciary access to digital assets. Its members attended three joint meetings with the Registers of Wills, Orphans' Court judges, the Maryland Comptroller's Office, and the Office of the Attorney General to review common concerns regarding legislative developments, estate and inheritance tax matters, guardianships, and estate and trust administration. The Section continued to provide its members with a number of educational opportunities, including the annual Advance Estate Planning Institute, the annual estate tax day at the Advanced Tax Institute, and numerous stand-alone CLE and study group programs, as well as its biannual newsletter.

FAMILY & JUVENILE LAW

Craig J. Little, Chair

This Section presented several CLE programs, including: "The Resistant Child", exploring the struggles, problems, and causes as well as treatment and solutions with regard to the child who is resistant to the custody schedule; its ever-popular "Hot Tips in Family Law"; and a five-part series on "Drafting Documents". It continued to monitor and testify on legislation that may affect the practice of family law in the years ahead. The Section also: thoroughly revised its web page, www.msba.org/sections/family, which now includes minutes from all Section Council meetings and a monthly "Top Ten List" of practice tips; prepared and distributed its newsletter, the *Maryland Family Law Advocate*; and continued its collaboration with the Maryland People's Law Library to ensure the availability of accurate and up-to-date information to the public. The Section, in conjunction with the Administrative Office of the Courts, also launched Family Law for the Public (FLFTP), an initiative to bring to the general public an understanding of Family Law and Court procedures in such a way that the general public is able to comprehend, holding its well-attended first FLFTP seminar in the early summer, with plans to expand the program to all Maryland jurisdictions in the coming year. It also opened several of its monthly Section Council meetings to all members of the Section in order to provide them with an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process of the Section Council.

HEALTH LAW

Randolph S. Sergent, Chair

This Section held five open programs on topics that included: an update on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, five years after its passage; the Telephone Consumer Protection Act; "Right to Try" legislation; and a legislative wrap-up.

IMMIGRATION LAW

Kellie N. Lego, Chair

This Section focused its efforts on pro bono service, partnerships, and legal education with, among other things, its monthly brown bag lunch program, as well as monthly educational webinars provided at no cost to Section members. It offered a spring CLE program for the fourth consecutive year, this time focusing on Immigration Fundamentals and Advanced Topics of Discussion, followed by a reception for all attendees. The Section also: re-launched its newsletter, published three times a year; co-hosted a Trivia Night with the Young Lawyers Section, providing an opportunity to network with colleagues and learn in a fun environment; and partnered with various local non-profits to provide pro bono volunteers for Naturalization and Adjustment of Status Clinics for the Maryland immigrant population. Its members, assisted by local clergy, will introduce half-day pro bono legal consultations with immigration law attorneys to the Eastern Shore community during the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Julie A. Hopkins, Chair

This Section held a networking happy hour for its members at La Cuchara restaurant in Baltimore. It hosted its first IP Roundtable on the Patent Trial and Appeal Board Appellate Landscape in February, with a second IP Roundtable, on a trademark topic with a guest lecturer from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, planned for May. The Section also: organized and presented an IP Career Panel at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law featuring IP lawyers from industry, law firms, and the government who practice patent, trademark, and copyright law discussing their careers with students and young lawyers in May; collaborated with the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and the University of Baltimore School of Law for the Third Annual Bright Ideas Baltimore, a networking event for students, lawyers, and Maryland innovators; and in March hosted Commissioner for Trademarks Mary Denison to discuss the state of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. It will present an educational program on intellectual property issues faced by the craft beer industry at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW

Darryl G. McCallum, Chair

This Section continued to inform its members of legal developments in state and federal labor and employment law via its quarterly newsletter. It co-sponsored a program entitled “Essentials of Maryland Labor and Employment Law”, which included presentations on, among other things, wage and hour issues, the FMLA, and discrimination law in November. The Section sponsored its semi-annual Employment Law Institute in April, featuring presentations on changes in state and federal employment and labor law, as well as a question-and-answer session with the EEOC and the MCCR and insights from the bench. It sponsored a dinner meeting featuring David Lopez, General Counsel of the EEOC, who discussed the Commission’s strategic enforcement efforts, including two new cases filed by the Commission concerning LGBT rights under Title VII’s sex discrimination provision, and will present an educational program on developments in the law regarding reasonable accommodation for religion following the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *EEOC v. Abercrombie & Fitch* at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

LEGAL EDUCATION & ADMISSION TO THE BAR

D. Jill Green, Chair

This Section continued to review and rule on Rule 16 applications for supervised law student practice in Maryland Courts and also scrutinized several new proposals affecting Maryland lawyers and students. It reviewed and approved re-certification applications from participating law schools. The Section also hosted executive members of the Maryland State Board of Law Examiners for a discussion on the recent bar exam results as well as the Unified Board Exam (UBE).

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

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Jonathan P. Kagan, Chair

This Section held an appellate practice program for its members entitled “Nuts and Bolts of Maryland Appellate Practice” in Easton and Frederick, and also co-sponsored, with the Construction Law Section, the program “The Fundamentals of Surety Law and Subcontractor Default Insurance – What Every Litigator Should Know”. It honored Judges on Maryland’s Courts of Appeal and the United States Circuit Court for the Fourth Circuit at its annual dinner, in which the fifth annual Judge of the Year Award was presented to the Honorable Glenn T. Harrell, Jr. (ret.), Court of Appeals of Maryland. The Section also published two editions of its newsletter, *The Maryland Litigator*, and presented revisions to the “Discovery Guidelines of the State Bar” (Title 2, Maryland Rules of Civil Procedure, Chap. 400) to the Board of Governors for review and approval. It will present three educational programs – “United States Supreme Court Year in Review”, “Razzle Dazzle the Jury: The Do’s and Don’ts of Using Technology in the Courtroom”, and “Are You Smarter than a Law Clerk?” – at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

NEGLIGENCE, INSURANCE & WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

Wanda G. Caporaletti, Chair

This Section held Outreach Programs on “Effective Utilization of AMA Guidelines” and “Effective Practice Before the Workers’ Compensation Commission” in January and April, respectively. It will present the CLE program “2016 Hot Tips in Workers’ Compensation” in May, as well as host a program at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

REAL PROPERTY

Ann L. Ramsey, Chair

This Section: held its Advanced Real Property Institute in October; co-sponsored with the Environmental Law Section a February breakfast program on Emerging Issues in PACE Financing and Green Building; and continued to publish its *Ground Rules* blog, as well as contributed articles to the October “Real Property” issue of the *Bar Bulletin*. Its Commercial Real Estate Discussion Group held monthly luncheons in Baltimore, topics of which included Current Anti-Money Laundering Issues in Com-

mercial Real Estate Finance Transactions, Weeding Out the Real Estate Issues with Medical Cannabis in Maryland, and an annual review of Maryland legislation and hot topics in real estate law. The Section Council developed an online member survey designed to encourage broader participation from Section members outside the Baltimore/Annapolis/Capital Beltway corridor in various projects, events, and Section committees. It will present a CLE program featuring a discussion from a national and state perspective of the legal aspects of cultivating and selling medical marijuana at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference, where the Section will also present its Distinguished Real Estate Practitioner of the Year Award.

SENIOR LAWYERS

Rob Ross Hendrickson, Chair

This Section continued working to maintain connections among older lawyers whose long career knowledge and experience in the law is something worthy of recognition and preservation by hosting lunch meetings in alternating months, offering a wide variety of meeting programs of interest to members, as well as publishing a newsletter for its members following each meeting. It invites any MSBA member in good standing 60 years of age or older, whose Association dues have been paid or waived, and whose Section dues have been paid, to join.

SOLO & SMALL FIRM PRACTICE

Kimberly Ann Kline, Chair

This Section, in a determined effort to reach out to those Section members located outside of the Baltimore Metropolitan Area, held two networking events – “Network with Other Solo Practitioners” in July in Easton, and “Learn, Connect & Socialize with Solo/Small Firm Practitioners” in October in Frederick – and plans to extend this outreach in the coming years. It presented its traditional “Hanging Out a Shingle” program in July and again in March, offering educational programs on starting a solo practice, keeping clients, avoiding malpractice, handling stress, and learning new technology. The Section also hosted its 15th Solo and Small Firm Conference in November, featuring educational sessions on “Maximizing Your Practice Potential” as well as a networking lunch component.

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Stephen J. Orens, Chair

This Section sought to grow its membership by increasing member services such as: the annual networking event at Rams Head; the “Point-Counterpoint” website forum highlighting significant cases; and the Annual Institute for Law Day featuring lunch speaker Brian Frosh, Attorney General of Maryland. It also awarded its inaugural scholarship to a Section member to fund his or her attendance at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference. The Section will present an educational program entitled “Has Suing the Government Become Our National Pastime?” at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

TAXATION LAW

Robb Adam Longman, Chair

This Section: continued its tradition of staffing its U.S. Tax Court Pro Bono Program; assisted the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service with its pro bono tax training; and co-sponsored the annual Advanced Tax Institute, the premier educational program for tax lawyers in Maryland. It again hosted a successful Tax Networking Night in November, enabling members to network with tax and accounting colleagues, including Maryland and federal tax officials. The Section also held an educational program featuring a panel debate about current cases regarding tax debts and having them discharged in bankruptcy. It will present its Tax Excellence and J. Ronald Shiff Memorial Pro Bono Awards at its annual Irving Shulbank Memorial Dinner and Program in May, and will host an educational session on resolving IRS and state tax issues at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

VETERANS’ AFFAIRS & MILITARY LAW

Hon. C. Philip Nichols, Jr., Chair

This Section lent its efforts toward helping to launch the first Veterans Treatment Docket in the District Court for Baltimore City, with Judge Halee Weinstein, an Army veteran, presiding, in October. It is presently

working to initiate a Veterans Treatment Docket in the District Court of Anne Arundel County, with the goal of adding two Veterans’ Treatment Courts each year. The Section also continues to work with the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, the United States Attorney’s Office, and U.S. Parole and Probation to establish a Veterans’ Diversion Program for certain misdemeanors in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland. It referred more than 70 veterans to Section members for legal services, and co-sponsored Veterans’ Conferences featuring nationally recognized speakers to provide both basic and advanced training for attorneys in the field of veterans’ issues.

YOUNG LAWYERS

Thomas M. Weschler, Chair

This Section’s members traveled throughout the state for the Section’s monthly “Wills for Heroes” program, assisting first responders in drafting proper wills in order to protect their respective family interests. Its members also: volunteered for several veterans’ programs, including Operation Welcome Home and National Honor Flight; raised several thousands of dollars for Warrior Canine Connection by way of the 25th Annual Charity Event; and raised money and awareness for Special Olympics Maryland via participation in the 20th Annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge. It also: hosted monthly expungement clinics throughout the State; presented an educational series addressing issues on depositions, family law, criminal procedure, civil procedure, and real estate law; reinforced the Section’s strong partnership with the University of Baltimore School of Law and University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law with the “Pathways to Success” event; partnered with the Oyster Recovery Partnership on its “Heroes on a Half Shell” program, educating several hundred children about the importance of the Chesapeake Bay; and hosted several networking events where current and potential new members were able to meet and speak with seasoned MSBA members.

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STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET & FINANCE

John J. Murphy, III, Chair

This Committee reviews budget requests from the various Sections, Committees, and other MSBA-related programs and submits a final budget for the Board of Governors' approval. It also makes recommendations to the Board regarding budget amendments, financial policies, and long-range fiscal plans.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Rebecca L. N. Strandberg and James Parsons, Co-Chairs

This Committee provides high-quality, cost-effective, and self-supporting CLE while generating revenue for the MSBA that helps keep members' dues low. It conducted a planning retreat to set short- and long-term goals for the CLE Department's growth and ability to stay technologically advanced to meet members' needs. The Committee also: reviewed and decided on numerous course proposals from third-party presenters; helped recruit authors; developed an interactive promotional activity for the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference to highlight the variety of MSBA CLE products; and published an article in the *Bar Bulletin* celebrating the CLE Department's fifth anniversary. It also: oversaw the delivery of educational content to more than 2,000 lawyers across the State through almost 40 live seminars, and many more webcasts, online/on-demand programs and video replays; published eight legal reference books or supplements to existing books, with an upcoming brand-new *Civil Pattern Jury Instructions*; and planned the relocation of the CLE Department to new space at Bar Headquarters to enable growth.

ETHICS

Patricia M. Weaver, Chair

This Committee issues written opinions on the proper interpretation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, which are indexed and available on MSBA's website. It also publishes an opinion in each issue of the *Maryland Bar Journal*. The Committee provides oral advice on the interpretation and application of the Rules through the operation of a telephone "hotline" service, announcing the volunteer names each month in the *Bar Bulletin* and on the website.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

Sidney A. Butcher, Donna E. McBride, and Dennis M. Robinson, Jr., Co-Chairs

This Committee interviews and evaluates applicants for judicial vacancies at trial and appellate levels throughout the State. It is authorized, pursuant to the MSBA's bylaws, to advise the Judicial Nominating Commissions and the Governor that it finds an applicant for judicial appointment is "highly recommended," "recommended," "not recommended," "not recommended at this time," or that the Committee has "insufficient information" to form an opinion as to the applicant's qualifications; the Committee's recommendations apply to any future applications for the same judicial position within eighteen (18) months from the interview date. The Committee reviews the questionnaires of applicants, interviews the applicants, contacts references and other members of the legal community, and then votes on the qualifications of each applicant.

LAWS

Hon. Kevin F. Arthur, Chair

This Committee prepares the MSBA Legislative Program, which sets forth the Association's positions on such legislative issues as the regulation of the legal profession, the administration of justice, and the independence of the judiciary, for consideration by the Board of Governors. It reviews all bills filed during the state legislative session, recommends positions on bills of interest to MSBA, and presents the Association's positions on bills through written and/or oral testimony during the session. The Committee also assists in amending proposed legislation and securing passage of MSBA-supported bills.

LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Hon. William G. Simmons and Jay D. Miller, Co-Chairs

This Committee continued to expand its services, offering comprehensive lawyer assistance to help members who are experiencing a broad range of problems and personal concerns such as: alcohol; drugs; mental health; stress; family; and wellness issues. It receives more than 100 referrals to assist judges, attorneys, and others in the legal community who have trouble in their professional or personal lives annually. The Committee holds monthly core group meetings and quarterly business meetings to identify, facilitate, and support those experiencing problems.

LOCAL AND SPECIALTY BAR LIAISON

Michael W. Siri and Taren Butcher, Co-Chairs

This Committee held the 56th Annual Conference of Bar Presidents on October 29-31, 2015 in Wilmington, Delaware. The gathering of local and specialty bar leaders from across Maryland met for plenary sessions and networking opportunities. The Conference also concurrently hosted the monthly Board of Governors meeting and the Young Lawyers Summit. The Committee is developing an additional event during the bar year to facilitate discussion amongst the incoming chairs and presidents of the local and specialty bar associations.

MEMBERSHIP

Michelle K. Wilson, Chair

This Committee focuses on recruitment and retention of members, communication within and outside the Association, and the provision of tangible benefits to MSBA members.

PATTERN JURY INSTRUCTIONS

Sara H. Arthur, Chair

This Committee issued the *2016 Supplement* to its *Second Edition*. The Civil Pattern Jury Instruction Committee finalized and will publish its *Fifth Edition*, which will include a chapter on employment law, later this summer.

PLANNING

E. Regine Francois, Chair

This Committee implemented the Planning Retreat, which it hosts every five years to serve as a think tank in which diverse cross-sections of bar leadership come together to discuss and analyze various topics that will affect the bar and profession in the coming years. The Retreat, which drew nearly 80 attorneys and judges from across the state, also featured three subcommittees that vetted and studied the following topics: the changing landscape of web-based legal service and its implication for the unauthorized practice of law; improvement of Section orientation and protocol and continuing protocols for the Planning Committee; and reciprocity by lawyers admitted in other states. It will present its recommendations and research for each of these areas, as well as the full Retreat report, to the Board of Governors in May.

PROFESSIONALISM AND CIVILITY

Hon. Robert B. Kershaw and Barry M. Nudelman, Co-Chairs

This Committee promotes professionalism and civility among Maryland lawyers, judges, and citizens. It launched an MSBA Speakers' Bureau to assist local and specialty Bars with planning and presenting professionalism programs throughout the state. The Committee will co-sponsor a CLE program entitled "Responding to Attorney Grievance and Judicial Disability Complaints" at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

PROGRAM

Alice S. Chong and Michael J. Winkelman, Co-Chairs

This Committee planned educational programs on current topics, including opportunities for social interaction as well as the MSBA Midyear Meeting, held in February in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and continues to seek opportunities to make all of its programming timely, relevant, innovative, and instructional to address the needs of the various MSBA Sections and Standing and Special Committees. It is planning the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference, which will feature substantive law and practice programs in June in Ocean City.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Hon. Karen A. Murphy Jensen and Gwendolyn S. Tate, Co-Chairs

This Committee enhances the public's understanding of the law through community education and outreach. It facilitates several ongoing public service projects on behalf of MSBA, including: a series of 24 public awareness legal information guides, which are disseminated to the public free of charge; its Speakers' Bureau, through which volunteer attorneys go out into the community and educate the public about the law; and, in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Section, the One Bar/One Community volunteer opportunities, which this year included Hero Dogs; Special Olympics Maryland, by way of the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge; BARCs; the Friends of Patterson Park; Operation Welcome Home; Our Daily Bread; and many more. The Committee also sponsored its annual Law Day program, a lawyer/student/teacher conference in conjunction with the Citizenship Law-Related Education Program (CLREP), the focus of which was "Miranda: More than Words".

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

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Charles O. Fisher, Jr., Chair

This Committee is composed of an Executive Council, consisting of a Chair and seven Vice Chairs, and more than 100 members who volunteer to act as Client Representatives and Arbitrators. Its Executive Council meets approximately four times per year to vote on the disposition of cases.

RULES OF PRACTICE

P. Tyson Bennett, Chair

This Committee's principal function is to follow the proceedings of the Court of Appeals' Committee on Rules, and to serve as the liaison between the Association and the Court's Committee. The MSBA Committee representatives interact with MSBA leadership and staff as appropriate.

TECHNOLOGY

Diane P. Kilcoyne and C.J. Persson, Co-Chairs

This Committee works to improve the access to and use of available technology by MSBA members. This year, it worked to develop a social media policy; assisted in the development of a user's guide for remote video access to MSBA Committee meetings; participated in a program with the Solo & Small Firm Practice Section on electronic filing; worked to develop a technology email discussion group for use by MSBA members; and continued to develop a database of business and technology *nisi prius* decisions for use by MSBA members

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

APPOINTMENTS

Bernard A. Cook, Chair

This Committee publicizes vacancies on the boards of directors for the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, and the Legal Aid Bureau, interviews interested candidates, and makes recommendations to the Board of Governors.

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR

Rajni K. Sekhri, Chair

This Committee works to raise the standard of legal services provided to Maryland's Asian-American Communities. It is seeking new members and encourages participation from lawyers who have an interest in supporting the Committee's mission. (Please note that this call for committee members is not limited to lawyers who are of Asian descent.)

CIVICS & LAW

Mary Ellen Flynn and Alicia Lynn Wilson, Co-Chairs

This Committee – a partnership between MSBA, the Maryland Judiciary, CLREP, and the Maryland Public School System – engages young people of high school age in learning about law and civics. It coordinated three Civics & Law Academies around the state, in Wicomico, Carroll, and Washington Counties, featuring a faculty of volunteer lawyers and judges providing participants with a minimum of four hours of focused instruction and interactive discussions on topics such as Law and Justice; Rights and Responsibilities; Free Speech, School Speech, and Protected Speech; and Power and Empowerment.

COURTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Hon. Marcella A. Holland and

Hon. Robert B. Kershaw, Co-Chairs

This Committee is addressing some of the numerous problems facing courthouses in Baltimore City. It is assisting the courts in developing plans for an additional, new courthouse to house the Circuit Court's criminal division and some units of the District Court.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Hon. Toni E. Clarke and Robert T. Gonzales,

Co-Chairs

This Committee has been tasked with developing a diversity and inclusion statement for the MSBA; a draft of same has been completed and the final recommendation will soon be ready for presentation and consideration for approval by the Board of Governors. It planned a diversity Town Hall event, featuring Dr. Artika Tyner, Professor of Law at the St. Thomas School of Law, held May 16 at Westminster Hall in Baltimore, an invited all minority and specialty bar associations in Maryland, Maryland BLSA's (University of Baltimore and University of Maryland), and Law Professors. The Committee is also developing recommendations of goals and objectives for MSBA's future diversity and inclusion initiatives.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY

Courtney A. Blair, Chair

This Committee oversees production of the *Maryland Bar Journal* and the *Bar Bulletin*, providing to members beneficial information regarding the legal profession. The *Journal*, available in print and online, features timely legal theme issues, while the *Bulletin* includes a range of substantive legal topics as well as practical information relevant to Maryland lawyers.

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

Rachel T. McGuckian, Chair

This Committee fielded several inquiries this year, none of which were determined by the Committee to be of such a significantly serious nature as to warrant a public response from the MSBA.

INVESTMENT

Cleaveland D. Miller, Chair

This Committee oversees MSBA's prudent investment of Association assets. Its investment objective is to earn a fair return while ensuring that sufficient funds are always available for the smooth operation of MSBA functions.

LAW REFORM

Henry E. Dugan, Jr., Chair

This Committee continued to closely monitor the issue of Judicial Elections in the legislature and expects to follow up again next year as this is certainly going to be a long-term fight that will not easily be brought to a successful conclusion. Several subcommittees also continued to work on thorny issues like Joint Tortfeasor Law and Administrative Appeals.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Hon. Lisa A. Hall Johnson and

William Carl Isler, II, Co-Chairs

This Committee, via its Leadership Academy, continued its mission of nurturing and developing diverse groups of young lawyers who have been identified from a competitive pool of applicants as having superior leadership potential. This year's class of Fellows focused its public service project on connecting various local juvenile service providers, in an effort to create a united force to combat juveniles' adversarial interaction with the legal system in Baltimore.

2015/2016 MSBA SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

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Stanford G. Gann, Jr., Chair

This Committee received the proposed Marketing Plan of the external marketing consultant, the retention of whose services were approved by the Board of Governors last year, in March, and is presently considering implementation of that Plan insofar as to whether and to what extent the marketing consultant or others should be retained to assist and/or oversee the MSBA staff's implementation activities. It will present its recommendations to the Board of Governors at its May meeting; pending what level of engagement of the marketing consultant or others the Board approves, the Committee will focus its next year on measuring and evaluating the results of implementation of the plan and, thereafter, reassess the Plan as needed.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Michael J. Baxter, Chair

This Committee met in the fall and the spring of the bar year. It continues to discuss issues of importance to the MSBA, including the future plans for Bar Headquarters, the recruitment of a new Executive Director, and the continued participation of Past Presidents in the ABA House of Delegates and the National Conference of Bar Presidents.

VETERANS' TREATMENT COURTS

Charles M. Blomquist, Chair

This Committee works closely with the courts in order to establish a treatment court or docket specifically addressing the special needs of veterans while involved in the legal system.

VOIR DIRE

Sherrie L. Krauser and Paul M. Sandler, Co-Chairs

This Committee is composed of more than 40 members, including judges and lawyers from across Maryland, who continue to work on the development of model Voir Dire questions.

WELLNESS

Hon. Wayne A. Brooks, Chair

This Committee, an initiative of President Judge Pamila J. Brown, works to promote all aspects of lawyer wellness by attempting to identify factors that impact the emotional and physical well-being of attorneys and educating members of the bench and bar about wellness issues and available resources. It developed a website, Be Fit to Practice (www.befit-topractice.org), which provides information about, among other things: managing finances; delicious and healthy meal ideas; and various athletic events and suggestions on preparing oneself to participate in such events, as well as highlights of members and the wellness events and activities in which they were involved. The Committee also sponsored a wellness event for MSBA members, their families, and friends at Crazy 88 Mixed Martial Arts in February. It will sponsor another wellness event at the MSBA Annual Meeting and Joint Bench-Bar Conference.

MSBA
EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP
BENEFITS & SERVICES

- ABA Retirement Funds
- Advance Business Systems – Document Specialists
- American Bar Association Publications
- Annual Meeting & Exhibit Show
- Annual Report
- Bar Bulletin
- Car Rentals (Avis, Budget & Hertz)
- Courthouse Identification Badges
- Credit Card Processing (Law Pay)
- Ethics Hotline
- Ethics Opinions
- Fastcase (Free Online Legal Research)
- Hanging Out a Shingle Seminars
- Infinite Conferencing Services
- *The Insider*– Weekly E-Newsletter
- Law Day
- Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP)
- Legal Career Center (Your M
- Legal Education and Legal Publications
- Legal Logs
- Legislative & Governmental Relations
- Mailing Lists
- *Maryland Bar Journal*
- *Maryland Lawyers' Manual*
- Media Relations
- Mentor Program
- Mid-Year Meeting
- Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance
- Office Depot
- On-Line Services
 - Ethics Opinion Index
 - Member Directory
 - Electronic Discussion Lists
 - Update Member Information
- Overnight Delivery/Shipping (UPS)
- Postini[®] E-mail & Virus-Filtering Services
- Practice Management Software
 - Clio (Cloud-based)
 - CosmoLex
 - EasySoft (Real Estate & Family Law)
 - Legal Logs
 - MyCase
 - RocketMatter
- Practice Management
- Public Awareness Brochures
- Publications/Newsletters
- Section Memberships
- Solo & Small Firm Conference
- T-Mobile Service
- TriBridge Partners (Insurance)
- Websites (EsqSites 123.COM)
- Wednesday Webinars

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