



THE SUMMONS

Saginaw County Bar Association



★ ★ ★
**NATIONAL PRO BONO
CELEBRATION**
== WEEK ==
October 25 – 31, 2020

A week nationally dedicated to showcasing those that make a difference to the nation, its system of justice, the communities, and most of all, to the clients they serve. As a week to also encourage more attorneys to volunteer and help meet the legal needs of the individuals of this country. Legal Aid of Eastern Michigan needs volunteers to assist in accepting cases and volunteering at legal aid clinics.

MEETING DATES FOR 2020/21

(Go to www.saginawbar.org for meeting updates)

Board Meeting

(All Board Meetings will be held via ZOOM until further notice 1st Wednesday of every month at 12:00 PM)

Pro Bono Committee Meeting via RING

(All PB Meetings held via RING until further notice 3rd Tuesday of every month at 12:00 PM)

Pro Bono Week

October 25 to October 31, 2020

Annual Pro Bono Appreciation Event via ZOOM

Thursday, October 29, 2020

Keynote Speaker: Attorney John Humphreys



Christmas Party

*Friday, December 4, 2020
Horizons*



(If you want your committee meeting dates listed here, send them to Kelli Scorsone, Executive Director)

Plan.



Plan with professionals - After first understanding your needs, let's map out a financial plan together that is focused on your definition of success. Call us to schedule a financial review and build your plan.



**ISABELLA
WEALTH**

plan • build • manage

📍 isbellawealth.com

☎ 800.378.2555

THE SUMMONS

SAGINAW COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Immediate Past President

Katherine M. Baluha

President

Millicent E. Shek

Vice-President

Nathan J. Collison

Treasurer

Bethany McGrandy

Secretary

Alexandria J. Brady

Directors

One-Year Term

Andrew Collison

William Cowdry

Two-Year Term

Christopher A. Swartz

Kosta D. Povich

Three-Year Term

Adam D. Flory

Schivan I. Pedawi

Editor

Thomas R. Luplow

Assistant Editor

Ann R. Van Haute

Executive Director

Kelli Scorsone

scba@saginawcounty.com

Representative Assembly

Randy L. Price

Jennifer vanBenschoten Jones

SCLA-President

Jennie Jordan

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message.....	2
In Memoriam	3
Saginaw County Lawyers' Auxiliary.....	4
SCBA Executive Director's Report	5
Drug Treatment Court	6
Community Resolution Center	8
U.S. Department of Labor Issues Telework Timekeeping Guidance. Pay for What You Should Have Known.....	10
In The News	10
Bankruptcy Case Notes.....	12
Updates on Case Evaluations	14
Legal Services of Michigan	16



SCBA Website

www.saginawbar.org

Lawyer Referral Service

1-800-968-0738

The articles in THE SUMMONS, unless clearly designated otherwise, are those of the author. They do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Saginaw County Bar Association or its members. Please direct your comments on THE SUMMONS, to its Assistant Editor, Ann R. Van Haute, 4301 Fashion Square Boulevard, Saginaw, Michigan 48603 • (989) 498-2100.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Millicent E. Shek

Welcome, October!

"Leaf peepers," as they're known, eagerly await a new opportunity to find picturesque autumnal landscapes across the state of Michigan. Halloween looms ominously at the end of the month, giving way to the winter months and holiday season - a busy, exciting and seemingly very quick time of year.

School has been in session for a little over a month. I hope those with young children have now obtained a grasp on virtual learning without encountering too many technical difficulties. For those with older children, I hope you've become comfortable with the fact that your teenager is home alone while you are at work.

October is when we emphasize the importance of and need for pro bono

work in the legal field. The State Bar of Michigan has designated October as Pro Bono Month for the twelfth consecutive year and the SCBA is designating the final week of October (25th-31st) as Pro Bono Week. Everyone reading this is encouraged to take part in a pro bono case or make a financial donation online through the Access to Justice Fund by visiting www.atjfund.org. Find volunteer opportunities listed online at www.michbar.org/probono.

Please be advised that this year's annual Pro Bono Appreciation Luncheon, which was to be held via Zoom on October 29, 2020, is cancelled.

I'd like now to bring attention to and thank the attorneys working at the Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. Legal aid work is evidence of our

Yeo & Yeo's **experienced** valuation, fraud and forensic specialists have the **training and credibility** essential for your case.

- Business Valuation
- Litigation Support
- Divorce & Disputes
- Expert Witness Testimony
- Forensic Accounting
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Estate & Gift Taxes



SAGINAW | 800.968.0010 MIDLAND | 800.701.3574

yeoandyeo.com

profession's recognition that we have not only an obligation to our individual clients but also an obligation to assist in the administration of justice for the general public through pro bono work.

Formal discussions of jury trials have commenced despite the courthouse remaining in somewhat of a holding pattern in terms of returning to full capacity. Expect jury trials to be held off-site from the courthouse at a venue large enough to allow for proper social distancing. As of the time of this writing, the Dow Event Center has been designated as utilizable space for jury trials. A plan is or has been submitted to the Michigan State Court Administrative Office for approval. Once approved, the courthouse will begin scheduling and conducting jury trials.

As a reminder, SCBA dues will be arriving in your email starting November 1st, 2020. We appreciate everyone's continued participation in SCBA and we look forward to another great year, even as we continue to overcome the challenges presented by this year.

COVID19 has prevented us from getting together as an association to remember those who have passed away. We have not forgotten those members of our community. We remember: Gary J. Goodman, Kirk C. Ellsworth, Mark T. Mahlberg, Honorable Robert H. Bright, Gary E. Gottlieb, and the Honorable William J. "Bill" Caprahe of Bay County whom many practiced in front of for years.

"More important than your obligation to follow your conscience, or at least prior to it, is your obligation to form your conscience correctly." - Antonin Scalia



I LOVE AUTUMN



In Memoriam

NONE

Please help the Memorial Committee make sure no member is forgotten. Contact SCBA office at 790-5285 or scba@saginawcounty.com regarding the passing of any Saginaw County Attorney.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those who lost loved ones to Coronavirus.



SAGINAW COUNTY LAWYERS' AUXILIARY

By: Claudia J. Wallace

Due to the Covid-19 and times of today, the SCLA will be running as a “committee of the whole”. This will allow more open exchange of ideas and views without the urgency of a final vote. Every member of the organization can serve. Members of a committee commit their efforts to accomplishing a given task. Until we can meet again in person, the meetings will be run using Zoom. Jennifer Jaffe and Kari Burns will be conducting the meetings.

In May of 2020, we awarded our annual \$1,000.00 academic scholarship through the Saginaw Community Foundation. Also, during this time the SCLA gave \$375.00 to the Buena Vista Police Department to support their department’s needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Lastly, we gave \$125.00 to support the Adult Felony Drug Treatment Court program. We want to and will continue to do what is best in meeting the organization’s objectives. Thank-you Marti Triantafillou (community research) and Jennifer Jaffe (treasurer).

As many of our activities have been cancelled for September and October, we are looking forward to our annual Wreath and Poinsettia sale in November. Pat Moore will be chairing the sale again this year. Orders will be due mid-

November and pick-up early December. Place and times to be announced.

FYI, the American Lawyers Alliance Auxiliary has marketed a new brochure which explains what they do and who they are. Please take a look at this impressive brochure at www.american-lawyersalliance.org/order-brochures. Consider becoming a member. They are doing many wonderful things throughout the United States.

2020 lessons learned during these trying times have been endless. Each of us has a collection of our own as we live each day just trying to make sense of the world around us. I think Tim McGraw’s #Humble and kind movement which began in 2016 makes us all stop and think of what’s important on a daily basis. A good read and reminder, Tim McGraw on the profound impact of living a compassionate life, Countryliving.com.





SCBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By: Kelli Scorsone, Executive Director

2021 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We will be offering again the Field of Practice program that runs July to July. The FOP attorneys are listed on the website, distributed to the Saginaw County Libraries, the Clerks offices, LSEM, and available to individuals who request mailed copies.

SCBA is not a mandatory bar association, but it serves as a professional organization to advance the interests of its members, assists in the promotion of the legal field in Saginaw, and encourages comradery among local attorneys.

It proudly maintains a membership of more than three quarters of the Saginaw's registered attorneys which includes practicing and non-practicing.

Enrollment will begin November 1st and dues will be expected by January 1st. Prompt payment saves SCBA--and me--time. So please return by the due date, which is January 1, 2021.

And please, encourage other local attorneys who are not members to join. Our membership caters to all local attorneys. We have members that are actively practicing in all areas of the law, as well as corporate attorneys, emeritus, retired and even those who have put their practice on hold for a while.

During these hard Coronavirus days we need to stay in touch with each other. I know I have missed seeing each and every one of you. Renew Today!

LAW DAY 2021

Chairperson Nathan Collison is working on ideas for next year's Law Day. We have already reached out to the schools for suggestions on how best to proceed since we have no idea how schools will be operating by next May.

If you have worked with schools in the past or are interested let Nate or I know you are still in for whatever this upcoming year may bring.

**LET'S
KICK IT UP
A NOTCH.**

1-989-799-8744 www.joltcu.com

jolt
CREDIT UNION



DRUG TREATMENT COURT UPDATE

By: Judge Janet M. Boes

Graduation, Court, and Treatment amid Pandemic

During July our Drug Treatment Court had 5 people graduate from the program! Judge Borrello and Judge Boes presided over a ceremony for our graduates at the Dow Event Park with social distancing and safe practices in place. County Commissioner Chair Webster was also in attendance, along with family, friends, and the Drug Treatment Court team.

Despite the pandemic these Drug Court participants stayed clean and sober – continued to engage in treatment and NA meetings (online and more recently in person), as well as meet all Drug Treatment Court graduation requirements! Most have jobs as well. One of these graduates who had struggled with addiction for over 20 years graduated with 574 days of sobriety.

Notably, despite all restrictions related to the pandemic, our Drug Treatment Court is continuing to function, regularly conduct drug tests, meet with participants and accept new participants. You can continue to make **referrals** with the online application/referral form for Drug Court at saginawcounty.com. Please make referrals as soon as possible in the course of a case. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact our Coordinator Sue Smith: ssmith@saginawcounty.com.



Securing Lifes Biggest Investment.

Locally Owned And Operated.

Services Include:

- Written Searches • Owner Policies
 - Loan Policies
- Leasehold Policies • Land Contract Policies
 - Construction Loan Policies
- Junior Loan Policies (2nd Mortgages)

Closing Services

- Residential Closings • Commercial Closings
 - Land Contract Closings
 - Mortgage Closings

24 Hour Turnaround

*We cover all counties in the state of
Michigan and are willing to come to you
for the closing!*

HomeLand Title Services



**4835 Towne Centre • Suite 102 • Saginaw, MI 48604
Phone: 989.498.0081 • Fax: 989.498.0082**

Owners:

Ann Collison, Kathy Chauvette, Linsie Smith



COMMUNITY RESOLUTION CENTER

Co-authors:
Dayna Harper, Exec. Director of CR
Judge Patrick McGraw



In our ever-changing world of living during a pandemic, we have new technology and resources available to help us better serve the people of our community. The Community Resolution Center (CRC) continues to support our Saginaw Courts and surrounding community with innovated programs. The CRC now conducts all mediations via the Zoom platform and through the statewide service MI Resolve. With more than 50 mediations completed to date, the CRC mediators are finding the remote format works very well in helping parties reach a resolution. The CRC is able to schedule a mediation within 14 days or less (depending on the parties' availability).

**Available for
Facilitation Services
with 48 years
experience.**

Contact: Fred L. Borchard at
(989) 245-8583
or email
sagjudgefb@gmail.com

All CRC mediators are qualified under the guidelines set forth under the Michigan Court Rules MCR 2.411 for General Civil and MCR 3.216 for Domestic Relations.

<https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/SCAO/OfficesPrograms/ODR/Pages/Mediation.aspx>

The CRC Volunteer Mediator Roster consists primarily of practicing and retired attorneys, business professionals, educators and healthcare professionals.

All online mediations are conducted following the consideration and protocol set forth by the State Court Administrative Office, Office of Dispute Resolution. The CRC staff hosts all Zoom mediations and facilitations. All documents are sent via email for electronic signatures.

<https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/SCAO/OfficesPrograms/ODR/Documents/Zoom%20Online-Mediation%20Considerations%20v1.pdf>

The CRC has the same intake process to request online mediation as they used for in person mediations via phone call, fax or email. Please include parties' names, relationship, address, phone number, email address and nature of the case or a Court

Order, if applicable.

Community Resolution Center

Phone: 989-799-5949

Fax: 810-239-9545

Email: CRC@mediation-crc.org

MI Resolve is the relatively new service that is now available in all counties in Michigan to resolve many different types of disputes such as; money disputes, minor landlord/tenant matters (like the return of a damage deposit), contract matters, and neighborhood disputes. MI Resolve is an easy system to navigate and can be used if a dispute isn't already filed in court, this system allows seven days to negotiate with the other party, and if you haven't reached a resolution, a mediator will join the conversation. If you already have a pending court

case, a mediator will be automatically assigned. The MI Resolve mediators meet the same qualifications as all volunteer roster mediators. If parties agree on a particular resolution, the system produces an agreement form that is a binding contract. The system also produces any necessary forms for filing in court.

For more information about MI Resolve: <https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/SCAO/OfficesPrograms/ODR/Pages/MI-Resolve.aspx>

To start a case: <https://cii2.courtinnovations.com/MICRC>

The CRC is accepting Volunteer Mediator Applications. To request an application or for any questions, please contact: Dayna Harper, Ed.D., Executive Director at: 989-799-5949.

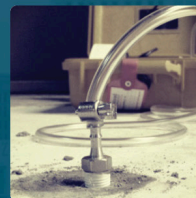
Serving Saginaw since 1989.



Site Assessments



Vapor Intrusion



Lead & Asbestos



Brownfield Redevelopment

AKTPEERLESS

We create a better environment for your business.

aktpeerless.com

800-555-5555

SAGINAW

LANSING

DETROIT

GRAND RAPIDS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUES TELEWORK TIMEKEEPING GUIDANCE: PAY FOR WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN

By: Logan Byrne
Masud Labor Law Group

Teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic has presented a variety of issues to employers and employees. Notably, employers have struggled to comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act (“FLSA”) employer pay obligations. The FLSA requires employers to track and pay employees for all hours that they work, including overtime. Due to confusion surrounding telework timekeeping responsibilities, the United States Department of Labor (“DOL”)

issued telework timekeeping guidance on August 24, 2020.

The DOL’s guidance clarifies employer telework compensation obligations. As expressed in 29 C.F.R. § 785.11-12, employers are required to pay employees for all of the hours that they work. According to the DOL guidance, this includes “work not requested but suffered or permitted, including work performed from home.” The guidance explains that employers must

In The News



Valerie Kutz-Otway

Valerie has been selected as a “Rising Star” by Super Lawyer Magazine in 2019 and 2020. She frequently lectures on the topic of guardianships and conservatorships and has set precedent with published cases in both the Michigan Supreme Court and the Michigan Court of Appeals.

compensate employees if employers “should have acquired knowledge of such hours worked through reasonable diligence.” Simply put, if the employer knows or should have known that work was performed, then the employer is required to compensate employees for those hours.

As noted in the DOL’s guidance, an employer can satisfy the “reasonable diligence” standard by “establishing a reasonable process for an employee to report uncompensated work time.” Once the reasonable process is established, it becomes the employee’s responsibility to report unscheduled hours through the established procedure. However, the guidance makes clear that employers cannot prevent or discourage employees from accurately reporting time.

Similarly, the DOL guidance reiterates that employers “bear the burden of preventing work when it is not desired.” Thus, an employer must pay for all work even if the employer did not want or request the work to be performed. For this reason, employers should create rules and policies to prevent employees from performing unwanted work. Moreover, employers should make every effort to enforce these rules and policies because merely making policies does not prevent employees from being compensated for the unwanted work.

The DOL guidance further explains that employers are not required to employ investigative practices to determine whether employees are being fully compensated for unreported work time. As such, employers do not need to comb through their databases or employee files to determine whether employees have worked more hours than reported. Employers should rely

on work hours reported through established procedures.

So, what does all this mean for employers? First, employers should establish reasonable procedures for employees to report unscheduled work. Establishing reasonable reporting procedures passes the burden of identifying unscheduled work hours to the employee. Second, employers should not prevent or discourage employees from reporting all hours worked. Finally, employers should create and enforce policies to prevent employees from performing unwanted work.

For advice and consultation on how to comply with FLSA’s telework timekeeping requirements, or any timekeeping requirement matter, employers are strongly encouraged to contact experienced labor and employment counsel.



Dornbos Printing impressions



Call Us Today at (989) 755-2116

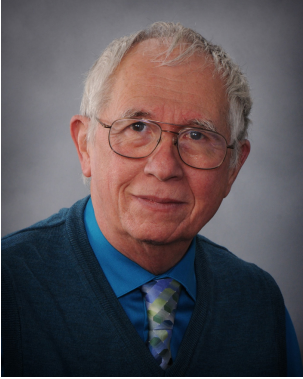
***Dornbos Printing Impressions is
one of the oldest printing companies
in the Downtown Saginaw area.
Let us build a relationship with you!***



PRINT SERVICES OFFERED
Union Bug Printing • Color Copies • Black & White Copies
Die Cutting • Foil Stamping • In-House Mailing
Graphic Design • Offset Printing • Poster & Banners
and much more, just give us a call!

**SAVE YOUR OFFICE TIME AND MONEY HAVE US
DO ALL YOUR HIGH VOLUME COPYING!**

www.dpimpressions.com



BANKRUPTCY CASE NOTES

By: Jack Weinstein

May a debtor exempt cash in his/her bank account? That was the issue before bankruptcy Judge Joel Applebaum of the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division, in the case of Kim Richardson, 20-30790-jda (2020). Debtor claimed an exemption of \$2,214.71 consisting of cash in her bank account citing Michigan exemption MCL §600.5451(1)(b) which provides that debtors may exempt provisions and fuel for each family householder for 6 months. Her Trustee objected.

Factually, debtor filed a voluntary Chapter 7 petition on March 26, 2020. At that time debtor had \$32 on hand, \$2,177.71 in her checking account and \$5 in her savings account. Debtor exempted all monies citing MCL §600.545(1)(b). The Trustee objected stating that the Michigan statute did not refer to cash or funds in a bank account; therefore, those assets were not exempt.

Debtor cited the case of Barlow, Case No. 17-48802-MBM (Bankr. E.D 2017) (Dkt. Nos.17,18) arguing that the funds in the bank account and on hand may be exempt under MCLA §600.545(1)(b) so long as the funds are de minimis, and are used

by the debtor for food, fuel, and other living expenses.

Judge Applebaum, in arriving at his decision, cited the United States Supreme Court decision in Bostock v Clayton County, Georgia, 590 US ____ 140 S. Ct. 1731 (2020) wherein that court stated “the primary goal of judicial interpretation of statutes is to ascertain and give effect to the intent of the legislature.” Judge Applebaum interpreted the statute in accordance with that decision wherein the Supreme Court looked at the terms used at the time of its enactment.

Judge Applebaum held that Bostock instructed that a court’s analysis should begin by examining the case’s statutory terms before applying them to any case “In this case the key statutory terms at issue are “provisions” and “comfortable subsistence.”

Judge Applebaum determined that the Trustee had a very restrictive definition of the word “provisions” by excluding cash in light of the statute’s language regarding provisions. Therefore, the court had to define the term “comfortable subsistence” along with the term “provisions.”

Judge Applebaum determined that

the word “comfortable” meant affording security; or enjoying physical comfort free from vexation, stress or tension citing the Merriam Webster dictionary definition.

Judge Applebaum cited the cases of *In re Sassak*, 426 B.R. 680 (E.D. Mich. 2010) wherein that court held that “A fundamental component of an individual debtor’s fresh start in bankruptcy is the debtor’s ability to set aside certain property as exempt from the claims of creditors. Exemption of property, together with the discharge of claims, lets the debtor maintain an appropriate standard of living as he or she goes forward after the bankruptcy case.” Further, the Louisiana Bankruptcy Court in the case of *In re Brown*, 189 B.R. 653, 660 (Bankr. M.D. La. 1996) held that “the purpose underlying (Louisiana’s exemption statute) is to provide for the subsequenence, welfare and “fresh start” of the debtor, to that end that his or her family will not be destitute and so that the debtor will not become a charge on the state.”

Those were the same concerns that Judge Applebaum had and for those reasons he concluded that “cash on hand or on deposit falls within

the meaning of MCL §5451(1)(b) as provisions...for comfortable subsistence...(for) each householder in his or her family for six months.” Judge Applebaum further cited the case of *Barlow*, Case No. 17-48802-MBM (Bankr. E.D 2017). In that case the debtor sought to exempt \$400 in her checking account which was objected to by the trustee. However, that court held that “While cash is not, technically, ‘provisions and fuel’, this Court finds that money used to purchase provisions and fuel qualifies under this exemption. In 2017, people do not store six months of provision and fuel, they purchase goods on a weekly or monthly basis. This Court finds that the provisions and fuel exemptions applies to a de minimus amount contained in a checking account, which is most certainly necessary for debtor to buy groceries and pay her utility bills.”

In summary, Judge Applebaum concluded that cash falls within the definition of provisions. since “cash can be utilized for the comfortable subsistence of the debtor and his or her family members up to the statutory limit.”



SAGINAW BAY
UNDERWRITERS

The Clear Advantage™ for the legal profession

Call (989) 752-8600

- Professional liability
- Directors & officers liability
- Key person life
- Own occupation disability
- Umbrella policies
- Group health benefits



UPDATES ON CASE EVALUATIONS

By: Iris McCree
Circuit Court Supervisor

We are quickly approaching a new year with many updates and unknowns due to COVID-19. Over the past few months case evaluations have had to change by way of Zoom. As you know, Zoom is new to everyone and like any new technology, it can be difficult or simply not always easy for everyone to adapt to a new way of operating, quickly. The court is currently operating, primarily by Zoom; therefore, the ADR Clerk is in need of the following.

- 1) A new list of active evaluators
- 2) A list of evaluators who are willing to conduct case evaluations via Zoom
- 3) A list of evaluators who are willing to host case evaluations via Zoom
- 4) Attorney emails updated via mainframe/list-serve due to several incorrect email addresses discovered.

In addition, I have encountered several evaluators whom have retired over the past year and will need the list modified for that purpose as well. I would like to thank all the evaluators who have notified the court in advance of cancellations due to vacations, events, etc. Please continue to keep the ADR clerk informed as much as 6

months minimum to one-year notice, when possible. Again, we recognize that emergency circumstances do arise, however to reduce the havoc involved in redirecting a case evaluation to include rescheduling, check exchange, cancellations, etc., the ADR Clerk needs time for prepping, now so more than ever due to what's involved with Zoom.

I cannot express how grateful I am for the case evaluators taking time out of their busy schedules to ensure we have the meetings as scheduled. I commend them all for taking on these new challenges we have endured. Thank you again for helping to maintain a healthy flow to the case evaluation system and helping to keep it accommodating for all involved.

Note: So long as we continue to use Zoom, the usual process will take place for pickup of briefs/checks, preferable Monday, the week of case evaluation, at the courthouse. Please call to make pickup arrangements.





RED MASS POSTPONED

For 33 years beginning in 1987, the Thomas More Society and the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw have sponsored an annual Red Mass. In October, the lawyers and judges of Saginaw, Bay and Midland Counties and surrounding areas, celebrate the Red Mass and marking a rededication to the of The Rule Of Law in our country and state.

It was patterned after an ancient tradition begun in England around 1300, at the opening of each term Court which was attended by members of the Bench and Bar. The service was open to all members of the legal profession, their families and friends, regardless of their faith or denomination, and here in Saginaw, featured the awarding or the Edward J. McCardle Memorial Tribute to a distinguished member of the community who had displayed legal excellence, had made significant contributions to their profession and their community, and who had put the principles and ideals of St. Thomas More into practice in his/her everyday life. It also included a reception, following the service, where those in attendance could meet fellow members of their profession from other jurisdictions for friendly conversation and exchanging of ideas.

This year 2020, of course, is far different than those years of the past, which we remember fondly. The Covid-19 Virus has changed the lives of us all. We hoped that by October things might change dramatically and positively, so that we could once again celebrate this fine tradition. But unfortunately, the Pandemic is still very much with us, and there are predictions of a “second wave” by health authorities and governmental leaders.

Therefore, after careful and prayerful consideration by our planning committee, and out of an abundance of caution for everyone concerned, we have decided that this Red Mass, scheduled for October, will not take place. While we are certainly not cancelling this very worthwhile ceremony, we believe that it should be postponed until October of 2021, when, hopefully, there will be a viable vaccine available for everyone and when we will be able to honor the tradition in our usual manner, without fear of harm or injury to anyone.

Until then, Be Well and Stay Safe! And God’s blessing to all of you.

Respectfully,

The St. Thomas More Society

LEGAL SERVICES OF MICHIGAN

By: Amy L. Meilink

WE NEED YOU! All of us at Legal Services of Eastern Michigan (LSEM) encourage SCBA attorneys to participate in pro bono work because such work is good for the community and good for the soul. Pro bono cases provide newer attorneys with the opportunity to handle a case with a LSEM attorney who can direct and oversee the case events. Experienced attorneys, moreover, are critical to the success of any legal service or pro bono program. LSEM has many local Saginaw attorneys who kindly accept more difficult cases for representation – divorce cases with property issues, probate and guardianship matters, consumer issues, bankruptcy, etc. An experienced attorney may provide advice on the case, co-counsel with LSEM attorneys, mentor a new attorney, or take the case as his/her own. Currently there is a great demand for volunteer attorneys in the areas of estate planning and probate law, bankruptcy and family law. Please join us!

Most years, LSEM and the SCBA work together to host multiple pro bono activities. Events often include at least three Ask the Lawyer events at local libraries and monthly Legal Advice Clinics. Multiple events were planned for

2020, including several Ask the Lawyer events, our regular Legal Advice Clinics and an Expungement Clinic, but COVID unfortunately has curtailed those events. We currently are exploring options to host virtual/remote legal advice clinics and we hope to set dates for such clinics soon.

Nonetheless, LSEM has some exciting pro bono projects even if we all continue to work remotely. In October of 2020, LSEM plans to launch a pro bono website (www.lsem-mi-volunteer.org) that will provide attorneys with a list of cases or activities to conduct pro bono work. LSEM also aims to obtain a “pro bono bus” to use as a mobile law office throughout our fourteen county service area. LSEM staff attorneys and volunteers will provide legal advice at courts, senior centers, churches, and other local sites by traveling on the “pro bono bus.” We hope to bring the legal community directly to the clients rather than have the clients travel to Flint.

We appreciate all levels of pro bono assistance and we always are willing to find a pro bono project for any SCBA attorney. Come take a bus ride with us in 2021.

CLASSIFIED ADS

LAW OFFICE FOR SALE - Very nice law offices overlooking the Tittabawassee River on Midland Rd. between State and Gratiot Road in Saginaw Township. Email bobmorford@themillergroup.com or call 989-980-4865 for a brochure.

The Saginaw County Bar Association accepts classified advertising of 30 words or less. The rate is \$15 for attorneys and \$30 for non-attorneys for one issue. This is the ideal way to inform your colleagues about selling equipment, practices, homes, cottages, or vacation property for rent or sale, leased office space available, etc. If you are interested in placing a classified ad, please submit it in writing to the Assistant Editor, Ann R. Van Haute, 4301 Fashion Square Blvd., Saginaw, MI 48603, or email: annvan@braunkendrick.com.

10th Circuit Court Referees

The 10th Circuit Court has appointed Maricella Rodriguez as our new Domestic Relations Referee.

Effective October 1, 2020, the Referee case split will be as follows:

A-G: Katheryn Houck
H-O: Maricella Rodriguez
P-Z: Randy Price



Video conferencing Available & Complimentary Conference Rooms:

Detroit	Bloomfield Hills
Farmington Hills	Mt. Clemens
Troy	Novi
Ann Arbor	Livonia
	Southfield



Contact us for all your Court Reporting and Conference Room needs.
888-800-0876 info@hansonreporting.com

Saginaw County Bar Association
Saginaw County Bar Association
Executive Director Kelli Scorsone
111 S. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602

**Support the 2020 Advertisers of
THE SUMMONS**

AKT Peerless.....	9	Isabella Bank.....	IFC
Dornbos Printing Impressions.....	11	Jolt Credit Union.....	5
Hanson Renaissance.....	IBC	Saginaw Bay Underwriters.....	13
HomeLand Title Services.....	7	Yeo & Yeo, PC CPAs.....	2