



August 12, 2022
Report from District 7
Honorable Michelle M. Rick

Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia

MICHIGAN:

1. Conference work:

Michigan continues to work on the 2022 annual conference. A recent addition to the conference programming is attorney Barry Scheck. He is the Co-Director of the Innocence Project, a national litigation and public policy organization dedicated to exonerating the wrongly convicted through DNA testing and reforming the criminal justice system to prevent further injustice. Mr. Scheck and Wayne County Prosecutor/former Judge Kym Worthy will share a stage for a plenary session on wrongful convictions.



A separate break-out session will be held with Mr. Scheck, Prosecutor Worthy, Wayne County Conviction Integrity Unit Chief Valerie Newman, criminal defense attorney Mary Chartier, and several Michigan exonerees.

2. New members:

Michigan added more members in June. We are pleased to welcome:



Michigan Court of Appeals Chief Judge Elizabeth Gleicher



Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Sima Patel



36th District Court Judge Jacquelyn A. McClinton



41A District Court Judge Kimberley Wiegand

3. MI Member News

Michigan's contingency is active! **State co-chair, Judge Cori Barkman**, is coordinating a MentorJet activity at Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The event will be IN PERSON. It is scheduled for October 7, 2022 from 5:30 – 6:45. Those interested in participating should contact Karen Poole, poolek@cooley.edu.

MI and the State Bar of Michigan will host a joint, virtual MentorJet with several law schools in September, 2022. More details to follow.

State co-chair, Zenell Brown, continues to amass recognition for her outstanding talents as Executive Administrator of the 3rd Circuit, mediator, author, DEI specialist. The National Association of Court Managers awarded Zenell with the Perkins Award at their annual conference in July, 2022. The Perkins Award was established in 2013 to honor long-time association manager, Linda Perkins, who was the first recipient. The award is given to an individual who consistently goes above and beyond to make behind-the-scenes contributions to the field of court administration and their court. At the ABA annual meeting in August, Administrator Brown received the Robert B. Yegge Award for Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Judicial Administration. This award is given each year to the person who best emulates the many outstanding contributions to the field of judicial administration. The award honors Robert B. Yegge, former Dean Emeritus of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and former Chair of the Lawyers Conference (1987-88). We are so proud of you, Zenell!

Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice, Bridget Mary McCormack and **Nicole Smithson**, Michigan Indigent Defense Commission, Lansing, have been recognized by Michigan Lawyers Weekly as 2022 Influential Women in the Law.

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Elizabeth Welch was interviewed by Fox 47 News in a segment entitled 'A look at Michigan's Supreme Court'. You can read the article and see the video by clicking here: <https://www.fox47news.com/neighborhoods/state-capitol/a-look-at-michigans-supreme-court>

OHIO:

No report.

WEST VIRGINIA:

No Report.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Rick