



QUARTERLY UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2021

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY UPDATE OF ACC MICHIGAN

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In my final President's Message, as I close out my term, I would like to share a bit about where we are headed as the ACC Michigan Chapter, focusing both on the next few months, as well as the trajectory set for the next few years.

Here are a few highlights of what has transpired in the past few months since my last message:

I'll start by mentioning that our Pro Bono Committee has just awarded grants to four worthy applicants. They will receive their grants by the end of September, as we close out our fiscal year. ACC Michigan is committed to giving back through the skills provided by licensed attorneys. The grant program is one way our chapter can successfully do that from year to year. See page 2 for details on the four grant applicants.

Furthermore, our 24th Annual ACC Michigan Golf Outing is scheduled for next week, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center. We are looking forward to once again connecting in person, especially since we've not had many opportunities to do so over the past eighteen months.

Last month you should have received a membership survey that was sent to the entire membership requesting input as to how the chapter could better serve its members. We thank all of you who completed this survey, as it was a great benefit to us as we went into our annual strategic planning meeting. Your feedback was critical to the process of formulating our long-term strategic plan.

At our strategic planning meeting, several themes emerged as we sought to chart our course for the next few years.

First, we want to take measures to assure that our chapter membership is inclusive of a wide and representative swath of the in-house legal community from a variety of law departments, industries and backgrounds.

Second, we intend to pursue additional opportunities for our members to develop professionally, which would include mentoring, coaching, and training in skills and subject matter areas not addressed in law school or typical law firm sponsored programming.

Lastly, we want to do even more to facilitate and encourage participation in community service opportunities for our membership, both through our pro bono offerings and by supporting worthy nonprofit organizations through our grants.

While many details will need to be worked out in the coming months, these broad themes provide us with key guidewires for organizational movement.

It has truly been a pleasure to serve as your President over the past year. We've had some challenges with COVID-19 along the way, and those challenges are not completely behind us just yet. However, I have confidence that our chapter is well positioned to continue to thrive in the years to come.

Christopher Haven
Sr. Counsel, Meijer, Inc.
ACC Michigan President



ACC MICHIGAN PRO BONO COMMITTEE AWARDS 2021 GRANTS

The following organizations have been awarded grants by ACC Michigan:

Michigan Community Resources
615 Griswold, Suite 805
Detroit, MI 48226

“Originally known as Community Legal Resources, we began in 1998 as a project of Michigan Legal Services and the ABA Business Law Section Pro Bono Committee. Modeled after national business pro bono law programs, our purpose was to leverage the private bar to provide pro bono legal services to qualified nonprofit organizations. The intent was to effectuate change in low-income communities and keep community organizations sustainable.

MCR matters to the communities we serve because we meet the unmet needs of the community-based organizations and nonprofits doing great work, as well as small businesses in underserved communities by leveraging professional services at no cost. We are the only organization of this kind in the state that supports and empowers community organizations through pro bono transactional legal & organizational capacity building services.”

Legal Aid of Western Michigan
25 Division Avenue, Suite 300
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

“We are a nonprofit law office. We deliver free, high-quality legal help to people and families who live in or near poverty. People come to us when civil legal problems threaten their lives and livelihoods. Our clients include:

- families facing homelessness due to lost wages,
- people seeking safety from domestic abusers and,
- seniors pursuing access to benefits that deliver basic healthcare and food security.

As a civil legal aid organization, our mission is delivering meaningful access to justice to low-income and marginalized Michiganders. Our Pro Bono Program engages corporate counsel and law firm volunteers as partners, and we offer several free attorney education programs annually. We serve as: 1) “connective tissue” in the profession, as so many attorneys and legal professionals from varied work settings unite around our mission, and 2) a channel for volunteers to use their skills in service to Michigan’s most vulnerable people and families.”

Detroit Crime Commission
26211 Central Park Boulevard, Suite 304
Southfield, MI 48076

“The Detroit Crime Commission was founded in 2011 as a tax exempt public charity to serve as a citizen ally with agencies and organizations to improve public safety in Southeast Michigan.

The Detroit Crime Commission is requesting a grant which will be used to support its Safeguard initiative. Project Safeguard’s goal is to provide safe housing and/or relocation for witnesses of violent crimes who have come forward to testify as part of an ongoing investigation or court case in Wayne County. All requests for witness safe housing/relocation are vetted through the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office. To date the initiative has assisted in keeping over 70 witnesses in a safe place while they assist law enforcement and prosecutors investigate and try cases of violent crime.”

Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc.
613 Abbott, Suite 610
Detroit, MI 48226

“Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc., (LAD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit provider of free civil legal services to low and moderate income persons in Wayne, Macomb and Oakland Counties. LAD’s mission is to provide holistic, innovative legal services that improve the quality of life and empower vulnerable and underserved individuals, families and communities.

LAD provides free comprehensive civil legal services for survivors of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, and in matters regarding public benefits (food stamps, Medicaid, SSI), landlord-tenant defense, mortgage and tax foreclosure defense and criminal record expungements. We also provide outreach through various shelters and other community agencies. These services help clients secure personal safety for themselves and their families, secure and retain safe and affordable housing, and increase their household resources to help meet their basic living needs. Prioritizing and providing these services helps bridge the justice gap for many of our clients who cannot afford to pay an attorney for legal help but greatly need advice and representation to resolve their legal matters. We also provide a variety of legal education for the community and social service agencies.”



CORPORATE COUNSEL ANNOUNCES 2021 AWARD WINNERS

Corporate Counsel announced the honorees for the 2021 Women, Influence & Power in Law Awards!

The awards honor general counsel, in-house leaders and law firm partners who have demonstrated commitment to advancing the empowerment of women in law.

Pervin Taleyarkhan, Legal Counsel for Whirlpool Corp., has been honored with the Collaborative Leadership—In-House award. Congratulations to Pervin!

To view more award winners, click on the link below.

[Read Corporate Counsel Article](#)



SUBMIT AN ARTICLE FOR THE ACC MICHIGAN QUARTERLY UPDATE

If you would like to submit an article for a future issue of the ACC Michigan Quarterly Update, suggest a topic, or if you would like some guidance on possible article topics, you may contact the editorial team at michigan@accglobal.com.

Already have an article ready to submit? You can submit your article by clicking on the button below.

Submissions for the 2021 Winter Issue are due Friday, November 5, 2021.

[Submit Your Article](#)

IPLS PROCEEDINGS 2021 PUBLICATION

Our State Bar of Michigan's IP Law Section has rolled out content in their "IPLS Proceedings" publication, and this year the content covers lots of topics pertinent to in-house counsels, including Trade Secret protection and Design Protection, and even social media and intermediary status.

The various authors are Malak Christian Mercho (a 3L at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law); Mindy Morton of Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP; Megan Bannigan of Debevoise & Plimpton; and Leonard R. of Wissing Miller LLP.

FROM THE IPLS PUBLICATION

Intermediary Status-Social Media's Sword & Shield: Content Creators Beware

If you are reading this, you are a product of the 21st century. We all have been able to lay witness as the Internet has transformed the ability for the world to speak and share information in unprecedented ways, merely one example of which is through social media platforms. With such an abundance of ever-growing opportunity to share and express thoughts, you can imagine how much policymakers worldwide have debated (and continue to debate) how to maintain the avenues for free expression on the Internet while minimizing the risks and occurrences of defamation and other harmful online speech—one such method is via "intermediaries," which will be discussed in more detail in the sections below.

There may not be a better example to highlight the power that social media platforms hold than the hottest platform on the planet right now, TikTok. TikTok, a video-sharing social networking platform with an estimated user base of about 1.1 billion monthly active users, is no stranger to immense commercial opportunity. The app is now available across 154 countries worldwide, in 75 different languages, and is estimated to have pulled \$500 million in revenue from the U.S. alone in 2020. Typically, a top trending song on TikTok becomes a top trending song on the popular music streaming service Spotify—further illustrating the power of the platform. Combined with an unprecedented rise in the user base of millennials and Gen Z, TikTok has come to dominate the market of "virtual branding."

[Read the IPLS Publication](#)

FOLLOW ACC MICHIGAN ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

ACC Michigan is up and running on multiple social media platforms, so give us a like or a follow, and don't forget to share this information with your colleagues!



@accmichapter



@AccMichigan



@acc_michigan

UPCOMING 2021 EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2021



2021 ACC Michigan Golf Outing

Tuesday, September 28th | 11:00 AM

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, Plymouth, MI

Join ACC Michigan at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center on September 28 for our 24th Annual Golf Outing! Participation in the outing supports our chapter's scholarship program for some of Michigan's best and brightest future in-house counsel. Join us for a relaxing day of golf, re-connecting and forming new relationships. We hope to see you there!

[Register Here](#)

OCTOBER 2021



ACC Michigan Symposium Event

Monday, October 11th | 3:30 - 5:45 PM

Sponsored by: Warner Norcross + Judd

CANCELED

SPONSORED BY:

 Warner Norcross + Judd LLP



Educational and Social Event: Are You a Craft Beer Aficionado?

Friday, October 27th | 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Sponsored by: Miller Canfield

Miller Canfield craft beverage attorneys Joe Infante and Chris Gartman will explore the tastes, aromas and surroundings that contribute to a beer's overall flavor, featuring some of Michigan's time-tested beers highlighting how our bodies and brains perceive and detect flavor. Joe and Chris will also discuss different types of liquor licenses; non-profit special licenses and events; raffles/auctions involving alcohol, as well as interesting information on varying liquor laws in MI and around the country.

[Register Here](#)

[Presenter Information](#)

NOVEMBER 2021

November 2021 - Educational Event with Cocktail Hour | More Details Coming Soon

DECEMBER 2021

December 2021 - Evening Social Event & Dinner | More Details Coming Soon



www.acc.com/chapters-networks/chapters/michigan