



Friday
November
4, 2022

WinterMeeting

The Future of Law and Your Practice.
How to Strengthen Your Skills
and Become a Better
Lawyer, Colleague, and Manager

Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel 2111 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48375



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2022 Winter Meeting • Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel
2111 Haggerty Rd, Novi, MI 48375

Friday, November 4, 2022

Program Schedule

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast & Networking

8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Welcome

8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Reginald M. Turner

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Panel: Diversity & Inclusion in the Modern Practice

A more diverse and inclusive legal profession is not only beneficial for attorneys and law firms, but also for our clients. Diverse attorneys and teams provide diverse opinions, which goes directly to the heart of the legal profession. But diversity and inclusiveness is not borne out of policies and programs. So how do we foster an environment of diversity and inclusion? What does it mean? And how can we be leaders in the industry?

The panelists will address diversity and inclusion as it relates to race, ethnicity, and gender as well as an overview of relevant LGBTQIA+ topics, including sexual orientation and identification. The panelists will also provide useful tips concerning pronouns, gender, sexuality, and identification that can aid practitioners and the clients we serve. Members will be taught best practices that can be implemented in their law firms and businesses.

Carmen Bickerdt, *Bowman and Brooke LLP*

Kristina Bilowus, *Michigan State University*

Moderator: Reggie Turner, *Clark Hill*

10:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Refreshment Break

10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Discovery Preservation, Collection, and Production in a Virtual Workplace

The pandemic has affected us all in many ways, personally and professionally, and this holds true for data and data sources. Virtually overnight employees around the globe made the shift from in-office to at-home work. With this came accelerated adoption of cloud-based collaboration and communication tools like Microsoft Teams and Zoom. What used to make up a minor portion of discoverable data has now come to the forefront. Cloud-based communication data is no longer emerging, it has emerged. John Winkler and Nimisha Patel from FTI Consulting will cover what this shift in discoverable data means for your practice from a practical (and ethical) perspective, how to adapt your practice and adjust your client's data management policies, and effective approaches to handling this new landscape.

John Winkler, *FTI Consulting*

Nimisha Patel, *FTI Consulting*

11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Use of Technology at Trial: Best Practices

In the last decade, every aspect of our lives has been dramatically changed through the advent and use of technology... so why is trial practice any different? Despite its limitless opportunity for improving our ability to communicate, many lawyers remain hesitant to incorporate it into their practice. Pat Muscat, a renowned expert on litigation technology will share his wealth of knowledge regarding matters ranging from the basics of setting up equipment to the theory behind crafting a presentation that will persuade the trier of fact.

APA Patrick Muscat, *Wayne County Prosecutors Office*

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch/Luncheon Presentation - MDTC/MAJ Respected Advocate Award

Every year, MDTC and MAJ each present a "Respected Advocate Award." The MDTC annually gives the award to a member of the plaintiff's bar for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the individual's history of successful representation of clients and adherence to the highest standards of ethics. The MAJ does the same annually for a defense practitioner. In doing so, we promote mutual respect and civility.

RAA Recipient: Deborah A. Lujan

RAA Recipient: Donna M. MacKenzie

Lunch/Luncheon Presentation -Best Article Award

In May each year, the editor and associate editors will select the three finalists from the four issues in the prior volume. If the editor or an associate editor wrote an article that was published in those issues, they are excluded from participating in the selection. Once the editors have selected three articles, they are sent to three current Michigan judges who select the Best Article Award recipient. The selection process for the editors and judges may be collaborative. If they cannot agree on the finalists or award recipient, each editor or judge will score each article under consideration on a scale of 1-5 for each criteria listed below. The scores for each article will be added together to determine the three highest scores for the finalists or the final score for the award recipient. Multiple award recipients are permitted if the judges' scoring results in a tie. The award will be announced in September.

Best Article Award Recipient: Michael J. Cook

Best Article Award Recipient: Trent B. Collier

Program Schedule

12:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Getting to Yes: 5 Keys to Persuasive Communication

Our guest speaker, Michael Angelo Caruso, teaches presentation skill and will deliver a thought-provoking presentation about how we can be even more effective and persuasive as attorneys. Michael says these techniques will work for us at home, too!

Michael Caruso

2:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Panel: Best Practices For Effective (Virtual) Advocacy and Tips for the Young Lawyer

As jury awards have been in a notable upward trend so has the evolution of aggressive attorneys. This change in culture and the shield of virtual platforms has cultivated an almost accepted practice of bullying opposing counsel. This is not limited to just one side. Not only are highly experienced attorneys getting bullied, but young lawyers are being virtually silenced and shamed for their youth and/or gender. This presentation will provide the tools for young (and experienced) attorneys on how to recognize escalating situations and how to handle aggressive or out of control depositions and not be embarrassed by the transcript.

David Ottenwess, *Ottenwess Law PLC*
Jodi Munn Schebel, *Bowman and Brooke LLP*
Honorable Julie Gatti, *16th Circuit Court*

Moderator: Sarah Cherry, *Ottenwess Law PLC*

3:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Refreshment Break

3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Future of Law Firms in a Post-COVID World

Where and How Do You Work? The mahogany office; the lonely desk lamp shining well into the night; the daily suits and ties, high heels and wingtips. While some of these stereotypes of our practice were receding before the pandemic, COVID has forced all firms to re-think the basic questions of our everyday experience. In this session managing partners from two local firms will share their experience in handling the post-pandemic law office, including how to manage return to work policies to be responsive to employee wishes but also to ensure productivity, employee retention, trends in office space and usage, and building glue and a cohesive firm in a virtual world.

Stephanie Ottenwess, *Ottenwess Law PLC*

Deborah Brouwer, *Nemeth Law PC*

Moderator: Thomas Isaacs, *Bowman and Brooke LLP*

4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

A year in review in the Michigan Supreme Court

Discussion and debate on the major opinions released in the 21-22 term, including some related to medical malpractice, governmental immunity, and trucking. We will provide practice tips aimed at making trial counsel better when defending their clients. We will also peek ahead to identify issues that may arise in the 22-23 term, including anticipated opinions in premises liability and no-fault.

Timothy Diemer, *Jacobs & Diemer PC*

Eric Conn, *Jacobs & Diemer PC*

Michael Cook, *Collins Einhorn Farrell PC*

Moderator: Morgan Esters, *Honigman LLP*

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Carmen Bickerdt is a Partner in Bowman and Brooke's Detroit office. She is an experienced litigator representing clients in product liability, toxic tort and warranty litigation. Based in Michigan, Carmen's work has taken her all over the country defending both individual claims and coordinated mass actions, including Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Texas, Florida, Missouri, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Iowa and South Carolina.

Dedicating the majority of her practice to defense of the automotive industry, Carmen has extensive experience in catastrophic personal injury litigation involving company car accidents, autonomous vehicle technology, restraints as well as asbestos and warranty matters on behalf of multiple domestic, Asian and European motor vehicle manufacturers. One of her notable assignments was as regional counsel that defended a major automotive manufacturer in its widely publicized unintended acceleration litigation. In addition, Carmen defends other large corporations in a broad range of commercial, premises, subrogation and product liability litigation, including industrial equipment manufacturers, medical device manufacturers, a national retailer, a hotel chain, an energy utility provider, a global appliance manufacturer, and multiple trucking companies.

She is a member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Partner Committee. In that role, she promotes the firm's overall Diversity and Inclusion efforts with a specific emphasis on Associate Attorney development.

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Kristina Bilowus is an Assistant Director of Career Development at MSU College of Law. Previously, Kristina worked in private practice as a family law and criminal defense attorney in the metro Detroit area. She also served as an adjunct professor at WMU Cooley Law School. She currently serves on various boards and professional organizations including being the Chair of DE&I Committee of the Oakland County Bar Association, Co-Chair of the DE&I Committee for the Ingham County Bar Association, Immediate Past President of the Women Bar Association, and Immediate Past Chair of the Young Lawyers Section (YLS) of State Bar of Michigan. DE&I is a near and dear topic to Kristina, as she has presented, written articles, and collaborated on various projects in this field. Her work includes presenting and moderating with Michigan Lawyers Weekly on allyship, women in the law, collaborating with the OCBA on pronouns and updates in queer education, presenting and writing about equity, and well as volunteering her time with name change clinics through Michigan State University College of Law.

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Reginald Turner represents corporate and governmental clients in litigation regarding commercial, employment, labor, class action and public policy matters. He also advises clients in the negotiation, drafting, and administration of labor and employment contracts.

Reginald is a highly accomplished government affairs advocate and strategic advisor. As an experienced lobbyist, Reginald advocates effectively for corporate clients in federal, state and local matters. He has significant government service experience at all three levels. Reginald served as a White House Fellow under President Bill Clinton and worked for U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretaries Henry Cisneros and Andrew Cuomo. He has also had gubernatorial, mayoral and county executive appointments in Michigan.

Reginald serves as President of the American Bar Association. He has served as the State Delegate for Michigan in the American Bar Association House of Delegates, and as chair of the ABA House of Delegates Rules & Calendar Committee, the Committee on Issues of Concern to the Profession, and the Committee on Credentials and Admissions. Reginald is also a past chair of the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession and the Commission on the Lawyer's Role in Assuring Every Child a Quality Education. Reginald served as editor of the labor law chapter of the fourth edition of the ABA's Business & Commercial Litigation treatise.

From 2000-2003, Reginald represented Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer on the Detroit Board of Education. In 2003, Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Reginald to the Michigan State Board of Education, and he won a statewide election for a full term in 2006.

Reginald also serves on Clark Hill Executive Committee.

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As a Director for FTI's Technology segment, John Winkler partners with law firm and corporate clients to provide sound advice and best practices in connection with the management of electronically stored information for litigation and investigation. Leveraging over 20 years' experience in the legal technology arena, Mr. Winkler works with clients to effectively reduce the proposed scope of discovery through industry leading technologies, and provides consultative expertise and solutions related to the identification, preservation, collection, analysis and production of electronically stored information.

Prior to joining FTI in October of 2018, Mr. Winkler gained extensive expertise recommending technology solutions across the electronic discovery reference model with large-scale e-discovery organizations. Notably, Mr. Winkler worked alongside litigators, corporate counsel, and C-level executives within the States of Ohio and Pennsylvania to define and execute effective solutions for handling ESI.

Mr. Winkler obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Providence College.

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Nimisha Patel is a managing director in the FTI Consulting's Technology segment and is based in New York. Ms. Patel is an expert in unstructured data management and processing, for the purpose of accelerating review and fact-finding for legal and regulatory needs, including electronic discovery and information governance. In this role, Ms. Patel advises corporate, law firm and internal stakeholders on data management and processing workflows, leads a global team to ensure consistent processes and levels of service, and leverages her expertise to evaluate, advise and build new technology solutions for clients

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Patrick Muscat joined the Wayne County Prosecutors Office (WCPO) in 1993 after working for the Third Circuit Court in 1992. Pat was no stranger to public service as his father – Inspector Patrick H. Muscat, Detroit Police Dept. (Ret.) – served the City of Detroit for over three decades and commanded the Department’s Mounted Police section for most of his career and his mother—Mary Louise Muscat—was a school teacher in Detroit. During APA Muscat’s twenty-five years of service to Wayne County, he has tried over one hundred homicide jury trials as well as innumerable other capital trials. Pat’s extensive practice as a frontline prosecutor and experience as a Felony Trial Division manager led to his appointment as Director of the WCPO’s Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) in 2009. The CIU conducted evidence-based postconviction case review where forensic science was at issue. Many of these cases involved working with various Innocence Projects from within the state and around the country.

MDTC/MAJ Respected Advocate Award History

Every year MDTC and MAJ each present a "Respected Advocate Award." The MDTC annually gives the award to a member of the plaintiff's bar for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the individual's history of successful representation of clients and adherence to the highest standards of ethics. The MAJ does the same annually for a defense practitioner. In so doing, we promote mutual respect and civility.

MDTC Recipients

- 1997 George Googasian
- 1998 Paul Rosen*
- 1999 Dave Christensen
- 2000 Edwin Jakeway
- 2001 Kathleen Bogas
- 2002 Loren Gray
- 2003 Sherwin Schreier
- 2004 Timothy J. Donovan
- 2005 Elizabeth L. Gleicher
- 2006 William N. Kritselis*
- 2007 Wayne Miller
- 2008 Norm Tucker
- 2009 William F. Mills
- 2010 Mark Granzotto
- 2011 Thomas J. Evans
- 2012 Katherine Smith Kennedy
- 2013 Jesse M. Reiter
- 2014 Tom Behm
- 2015 George T. Sinas
- 2016 Jules B. Olsman
- 2017 Ven Johnson
- 2018 Liisa Speaker
- 2019 Daniel Swanson
- 2020 Jody L. Aaron
- 2021 Jabran G. Yasso

MAJ Recipients

- 1997 J. P. O'Leary
- 1998 Edmond M Brady*
- 1999 Robert Siemion
- 2000 Richard G. Ward
- 2001 Walter P. Griffin
- 2002 Daniel P. Makarski
- 2003 Roger Smith
- 2004 Donald Ducey
- 2005 Paula L. Cole
- 2006 William Hurley
- 2007 Pete Dunlap
- 2008 Bruce Bigler
- 2009 William W. Jack Jr.
- 2010 Paul Manion
- 2011 Paul Lazar
- 2012 Laurel F. McGiffert
- 2013 Steven B. Galbraith
- 2014 John McSorley
- 2015 Robert F. Riley
- 2016 Michael R. Janes
- 2017 J. Brian MacDonald
- 2018 William Chaklos
- 2019 Cynthia Merry

* Deceased

+ Awarded posthumously

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Deborah handles litigation in the areas of general negligence, professional liability, employment law, auto negligence, legal malpractice, fair debt collection, municipal liability, and product liability. She has tried numerous personal injury, professional liability, and employment cases in Wayne, Oakland, Ingham, and Genesee Counties. She serves as a court-appointed case evaluator in Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne Counties. Deborah has also defended civil engineers in claims involving design defects and other claims of negligence.

Some of her accomplishments are; Best Lawyers® “Lawyer of the Year” (Metro Detroit), Best Lawyers of America® (Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants (2021-2022), Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (2018-2022), and Litigation – Insurance (2018-2022)).

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Donna MacKenzie devotes a majority of her practice to representing individuals injured as a result of nursing home neglect and abuse or medical malpractice. Known for having recovered millions of dollars for nursing home injuries and wrongful death, Donna was also one of the lead attorneys in securing an \$8 million settlement against Farid Fata, M.D., who fraudulently misdiagnosed patients with cancer and who is currently serving a lengthy prison sentence. In addition, in a medical malpractice case involving a medication error by a doctor, she obtained a \$4.4 jury verdict in favor of her client.

Ms. MacKenzie is also a leader in several state and national organizations. She is currently the Treasurer of the Negligence Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan. She is also a Past President of the Michigan Association for Justice, Past Chair of the American Association for Justice Nursing Home Litigation Group, and the 100th President of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan (WLAM). She also serves as a team co-captain for the annual "Walk to End Alzheimer's" and "The Longest Day" events, benefiting the Alzheimer's Society.

Best Article Award

Criteria and Selection

Submissions

The Quarterly is organized by volume. There are four issues in each volume, typically published in June, October, January, and April. Each issue is generally comprised of articles and reports. Only articles will qualify for consideration. One article from each volume will be selected for the Best Article Award.

Selection

In May each year, the editor and associate editors will select the three finalists from the four issues in the prior volume. If the editor or an associate editor wrote an article that was published in those issues, they are excluded from participating in the selection. Once the editors have selected three articles, they are sent to three current Michigan judges who select the Best Article Award recipient. The selection process for the editors and judges may be collaborative. If they cannot agree on the finalists or award recipient, each editor or judge will score each article under consideration on a scale of 1-5 for each criteria listed below. The scores for each article will be added together to determine the three highest scores for the finalists or the final score for the award recipient. Multiple award recipients are permitted if the judges' scoring results in a tie. The award will be announced in September, and **presented at the Winter Meeting Luncheon.**

Criteria

The editors and judges will consider the following criteria when selecting finalists and the award recipient:

- Timeliness — Does the article address a novel issue or developing area of the law?
- Originality — Does the article offer a unique perspective on an issue?
- Organization — Does the article follow a logical progression?
- Writing Style — Is the writing clear, succinct, and understandable? Is it engaging?
-

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Mike's practice focuses on appellate and post-verdict litigation. After clerking for Michigan Supreme Court Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., Mike worked in the commercial-litigation department of a large Detroit-area law firm before joining Collins Einhorn's appellate department. The majority of Mike's practice involves briefing and oral advocacy in state and federal appeals. But his practice reaches beyond appellate courts. He has been retained to work with trial counsel to minimize risk exposure and posture a case for appeal through dispositive and other pre-trial motions. His post-trial work commonly includes addressing thorny entry-of-judgment issues, prevailing-party costs, and post-judgment motion practice aimed at framing issues for appeal.

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Trent Collier's practice focuses on civil appeals, professional-liability defense, and commercial litigation. Before joining Collins Einhorn, he was a partner at another major Detroit-area law firm. He served as a judicial clerk for Justice Robert P. Young, Jr at the Michigan Supreme Court from 2003 to 2005. Trent has successfully defended clients in federal, state, and bankruptcy courts and both the trial and appellate levels. In addition to his work at Collins Einhorn, Trent was an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan Law School for the 2018-19 academic year. He is a frequent author, writing on areas including appellate practice, judicial philosophy, evidentiary issues, and constitutional matters. In March 2020, the Michigan Bar Journal featured his article, "The Argument Clinic," which asserts that focusing on civility leads to better advocacy. His April 2022 article, "Open Letter to a DEI Skeptic" appeared in Michigan Lawyers Weekly, as well as legal newsletters in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

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MichaelAngeloCaruso.com

Michael Angelo Caruso teaches people how to be better speakers and presenters so they can help more people and amp up their careers.

He utilizes his unique background in the technology sector and a separate career in the entertainment business to deliver keynote speeches that feel like a combination of your best teacher and your favorite comedian.

Michael delivers about 70 presentations and keynote speeches a year. He has spoken on five continents and in 49 of the 50 states.

Michael is known for getting extremely fast results with his clients. He can make anyone a better communicator and regularly demonstrates his effective communication strategies by helping audience members improve during *his* presentation.

Caruso is founder and President of Edison House, an international consulting firm specializing in corporate and personal improvement. Edison House clients include Hallmark, Bank of America, Verizon Wireless, Rayovac, Citgo, Nissan and the United States Navy.

Michael has authored *Work Hacks*, the audiobook, *Dear Michael Angelo -- A Father's Life Letters to His Son* and the *Present Like a Pro* DVD. All are available at www.MichaelAngeloCaruso.com. He also has a highly rated online speaker coaching masterclass titled, *Present Like a Pro*.

A lifetime Rotarian, Michael loves giving back. He enjoys exercise, movies, non-fiction books and travel.

David Ottenwess

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David is the Founding Partner of Ottenwess Law and has been litigating for 35 years. He has defended highly contentious cases with some of the most notoriously aggressive attorneys in the state of Michigan. Although this panel is not long enough for all of his war stories, he has tried and tested tools that can be implemented by both young and experienced attorneys.

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Jodi Munn Schebel focuses her practice on automobile product liability defense litigation and holds significant experience with discovery coordination and eDiscovery in commercial and business cases, complex litigation and class action matters. She currently serves as national discovery counsel for multiple automobile and medical drug and device manufacturer on class action and other product liability matters in both state and federal courts throughout the United States. She is the Managing Partner of Bowman and Brooke's Detroit office.

With respect to her discovery practice, Jodi develops and implements protocols for handling all aspects of case discovery including case strategy, case management conferences, claw back agreements, deposition protocols, ESI agreements, protective orders, privilege logs and document collection and review. She is responsible for drafting and arguing discovery and dispositive motions in courts across the country, and is actively involved in all areas of the discovery process, including drafting case management orders, initial disclosures, discovery requests and responses, and overseeing the entirety of the document collection and review process, including the retention and management of in-house and off-shore document review teams, as well as contract document reviewers. Because of her expertise Jodi has testified before Congress concerning document sealing issues at trial.

Honorable Julie Gatti

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Judge Gatti was elected to the Macomb County Circuit Court bench and began her term in January 2019. She was previously in private practice as a Divorce and Family Law attorney for 22 years.

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Sarah is a Partner at Ottenwess Law whose practice focuses primarily on medical malpractice defense, professional liability, and executive employment matters. As a young(er) female attorney, she has been bullied by aggressive opposing counsel over the years and has some (not so secret) tactics that young attorneys can implement to find their voice and shut down the bullies.

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Stephanie Ottenwess is the Managing Partner of Ottenwess Law. She is a healthcare attorney who provides counsel to clients in transactional matters and compliance with federal and state healthcare regulations, including federal Stark and state self-referral laws, federal and state anti-kickback laws, HIPAA and state privacy laws. Stephanie has a special interest in telemedicine and has counseled health care providers in providing and billing for telemedicine and teleradiology services. She also represents executives and physicians in employment contract negotiations and related matters.

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Ms. Brouwer practices exclusively in labor and employment law, with particular experience in the defense of lawsuits against employers, including claims of race, age, religion, national origin, gender and disability discrimination, harassment and retaliation, as well as FLSA, FMLA and non-competition suits. She also provides harassment training and conducts discrimination and harassment investigations for employers. She has extensive experience in appearing before administrative agencies, including the EEOC, MDCR, MIOSHA, OSHA and the NLRB. She also appears frequently before the Michigan Court of Appeals and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

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Tom Isaacs has extensive experience representing a diverse lineup of businesses in class action and general litigation cases, including in product liability, personal injury, commercial, regulatory, and business tort matters. Tom is responsible for all phases of such cases, including pre-litigation claim assessment, development and execution of case strategy, written discovery, depositions, motion practice, expert witness retention and preparation, settlement negotiations and overall case management. In addition, Tom has wide experience serving as discovery counsel representing corporate defendants in several large class actions as well as in product liability, consumer, and commercial litigation.

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Tim Diemer has been practicing law for nearly 20 years and has represented corporations, insurance carriers, small businesses, hospitals and doctors, municipalities, and other civil litigants in state and federal courts of appeal, including the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Diemer's primary practice concerns appellate matters involving challenges on appeal, compelling interlocutory reversals of adverse evidentiary rulings or wresting the case away from the trial court when controlling questions of law present an opportunity for early appellate review before valuable resources are poured into a trial that may not be necessary.

Over the years, Mr. Diemer has garnered numerous awards and accolades that recognize him for his talent as an appellate specialist. At the age of 32, Mr. Diemer was honored as a biographee in Best Lawyers of America, making him one of the youngest Appellate Lawyers in America to be so recognized. At the age of 35, Mr. Diemer became the youngest to ever serve as President of Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, a statewide association of trial lawyers who nominated an appellate lawyer to advocate on their behalf and serve as their leader. Michigan Lawyer's Weekly named Mr. Diemer one of Michigan's Up & Coming Lawyers for 2012. These accolades follow additional recognition as a Top Lawyer by dBusiness Magazine and as a Michigan SuperLawyer for his work with the appellate team at Jacobs and Diemer.

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With his background as both a litigator in the trial and appellate courts, Mr. Conn brings his unique skill set to round out the appellate practice group of Jacobs and Diemer. At times trial court litigation skills are necessary, including insurance coverage declaratory judgment matters, a burgeoning practice area of the firm. Where necessary to meet the needs of existing firm clients, Mr. Conn will employ his litigation skills on coverage matters, during post-judgment proceedings, or in the appellate court system.

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Mike's practice focuses on appellate and post-verdict litigation. After clerking for Michigan Supreme Court Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., Mike worked in the commercial-litigation department of a large Detroit-area law firm before joining Collins Einhorn's appellate department. The majority of Mike's practice involves briefing and oral advocacy in state and federal appeals. But his practice reaches beyond appellate courts. He has been retained to work with trial counsel to minimize risk exposure and posture a case for appeal through dispositive and other pre-trial motions. His post-trial work commonly includes addressing thorny entry-of-judgment issues, prevailing-party costs, and post-judgment motion practice aimed at framing issues for appeal.

Morgan Esters
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Morgan Esters is a litigation attorney who focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation. She has represented a broad range of corporate clients in all phases of litigation. Her experience includes conducting legal research, handling discovery matters, and drafting pleadings and motions, including dispositive and pre-trial motions. She has successfully argued motions regarding highly contested discovery disputes as well as procedural issues in federal and state courts. Morgan also served as first-chair trial counsel in a federal constitutional claim jury trial that tried to a winning verdict.

NOTICE TO ATTENDEES OF MDTC INDOOR EVENTS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The MDTC Board of Directors believes that persons attending MDTC in-person events should be aware of the CDC's current COVID-19 guidelines. Those guidelines currently state that when the local COVID-19 Community Level (typically by County) is High, individuals can protect themselves and others by wearing a high-quality mask or respirator when indoors in public. Whether to wear a mask is an individual decision.

The MDTC Board also asks that you follow these guidelines before attending our in-person events: If you have experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 48 hours, please do not attend an in-person meeting.

- fever or chills
- new loss of taste or smell
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- congestion or runny nose
- fatigue
- nausea or vomiting
- muscle or body aches
- diarrhea
- headache

Additionally, if you have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID in the past five days, the CDC recommends that you wear a mask when attending indoor public events.

Adopted by electronic vote on September 23, 2022

These are no longer the CDC guidelines on quarantine or isolation.