

GENESEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Professionalism Since 1897

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2025

#### June Notes N' News

LUNCH Time!

# GCBA Senior Attorneys

The GCBA Senior luncheon will be Thursday, June 12, 2025, 12 noon, at Redwood Lodge, located at 5304 Gateway Centre Blvd., off Hill Rd., close to US 23 and I-75. Lunch will be selected from the menu and may

be ordered and paid for individually. All attorneys and their guests are welcome, regardless of age. Let us know if you are coming. RSVP to gcba@gcbalaw.org.

#### **Dues Statement**

Dues statements are being mailed soon. Please return the statement with remittance, phone the GCBA for credit card payment, or renew online at: https://cart.gcbalaw.org/memberships.

#### Thanks

Thanks to **Judge Chris Christenson** for sponsoring dessert at the Annual Meeting & Election of Officers.

#### **Genesee County Bar Foundation**

Thanks to the **Jeremy and Amy Piper Fund** for making a donation in memory of Hon. Archie L. Hayman.

Donate to the Genesee County Bar Foundation by clicking here.

#### **Office Closed**

The GCBA will be closed on Thursday, June 19, 2025, in observance of Juneteenth.

#### **Summer Hours**

The GCBA will close at 4:00 p.m. on Fridays May 30th through August 29th.

# Join Us for the 47th Annual GCBA Golf Outing!

Date: Monday, June 16, 2025 Time: Historic Flint Golf Club



Volunteers are needed to assist at the event with registration or as a hole monitor. If you are interested, please email tyb@gcbalaw.org.

Not a golfer? Join us for dinner and post-round festivities.

Please consider donating a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant for a door prize at the golf outing. Contact Tina at tyb@gcbalaw.org or 810-232-6000 ext. 101 for more information.

Support your bar association. You are not going to want to miss this event.





# 47th Annual Golf Outing

Thanks to everyone who supported the 2025 Annual Golf Outing

### Flag Sponsors:

- Piper Legal In Memory of Harry Barrett
- The Fireplace of Lake Fenton
- Judge Dawn M. Weier
- CF Legal PC
- Judge Jessica Hammon, 67th District Court
- In Loving Memory of Mitra Pagonis
- Jeff Wright, Drain Commissioner
- Judge Chris Christenson
- Rule Eye Care Associates
- Mead & Stout PLLC
- James & Angela Wheeler
- Prosecutor David Leyton
- Law Office of Bruce Leach
- The Law Office of Elias J. Fanous In Loving Memory of Kimberly Bayyouk Fanous
- Hamo Law Firm

### Tee/Green Sponsors:

- Hamo Law Firm
- The Fireplace of Lake Fenton
- McCredie Insurance Agency, Inc
- Soggy Bottom Bar & Wolverine Bump & Paint
- Judge Mark C. McCabe
- Cline, Cline, & Griffin
- Kickers
- Mitchell S. Dembo
- Jeff Wright, Drain Commissioner
- Mead & Stout PLLC
- Attorney Matthew L. Norwood
- Shane Adams Group



- SweetGrass Golf Club
- Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill
- Copper Ridge Golf Club
- Fenton Farms Golf Club
- Little Joe's Tavern
- Spring Meadows Country Club
- Redwood Steakhouse
- Brick Street of Grand Blanc

## Door Prize Sponsors:

Soggy Bottom Bar Ruggero's Goodrich Country Club Brick Street of Grand Blanc Dr. Brian Beissel Sharky's Sports Bar 111 The Fireplace of Lake Fenton Atlas Valley Golf Club North End The Majestic at Lake Walden Pine Koob Golf club Italia Gardens Luigis

<u>Donors:</u> Eugene Butler

Anthony Tomaszewski

## **Donations Needed**

Hon. Brian S. Pickell

Please consider donating a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant for a door prize at the golf outing. Contact Tina at tyb@gcbalaw.org or 810-232-6000 ext. 101 for more information.

# Genesee County Bar Association Board of Directors' Statement on the Rule of Law

May 15, 2025

The Genesee County Bar Association Board of Directors fully supports the March 21, 2025, statement by the State Bar of Michigan officers, which reads:

# STATEMENT FROM SBM LEADERSHIP ON UNPRECEDENTED THREATS TO RULE OF LAW

As officers of the State Bar of Michigan, we are committed to promoting the administration of justice and upholding the rule of law—core principles that are essential to the proper functioning of our democracy comprised of three coequal branches of government.

The rule of law ensures that our legal system in the judicial branch of government operates with fairness, stability, and predictability, affording all individuals equal access to justice under established legal principles.

A strong and independent judiciary is fundamental to this framework, as it safeguards constitutional rights, resolves disputes impartially, and applies the law free from external influence. Judges must be able to decide cases based on the law and facts, rather than outside pressures.

Efforts to undermine judicial independence—whether through threats to judicial security, calls for removal based on case outcomes, or actions that erode the public's trust in the courts—pose risks to the proper functioning of our justice system.

Equally fundamental to the rule of law and the proper administration of justice is the ability of lawyers to advocate for clients, even when those clients and their causes may be difficult or controversial. Our democracy depends on lawyers being able to provide representation to others as a means of ensuring that legal rights are properly asserted and that courts are presented with full and fair arguments.

We affirm the State Bar of Michigan's commitment to supporting the fair and impartial administration of justice in the proper functioning of the courts. We encourage respect for the judicial process and the roles of judges and lawyers in our legal system. We invite members of the bar and the public to visit the State Bar of Michigan's <u>webpage (https://www.michbar.org/ruleoflaw)</u> for further information on the importance of the rule of law in our democracy.

In accordance with our mission and responsibilities at the State Bar of Michigan, we will continue to provide resources, education, and advocacy that support an independent judiciary, the legal profession, and the rule of law, in furtherance of the administration of justice and the proper functioning of our courts now and in the future.

This statement is made by the duly elected officers of the State Bar of Michigan's Board of Commissioners, not on behalf of all individual SBM members. It does not necessarily reflect the views of officers' employers.

As attorneys, we stand firm in our dedication to the oath we swore—to uphold both the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan, and to honor the integrity of our courts and the judiciary. Today, we reaffirm this solemn pledge. We call upon our fellow members of the legal community—and those who rely on it—to join us in recommitting to the fundamental values that sustain our justice system, our profession, and the communities we proudly serve.

This statement is made by the duly elected officers and directors of the Genesee County Bar Association, not on behalf of all individual GCBA members. It does not necessarily reflect the view of officers' or directors' employers, or any other organization or affiliated entities.

# Genesee County Bar Foundation Scholarship Opportunities

# **Neithercut Legal Education Fund**

The Neithercut Fund of the Genesee County Bar Foundation is committed to the continuing legal education of our members who are either sole practitioners or members of law firms. This year the Foundation has increased the scholarship benefits for our members. The Board of the Foundation policy is to encourage seminar participation.

Beginning December 1, 2020 and until further notice, the Neithercut Fund of the Genesee County Bar Foundation will now pay for 60% of the cost of tuition per attorney per year, not to exceed \$500 per Attorney per year, to any

- Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) Seminar of the State Bar of Michigan (SBM);
- American Bankruptcy Institute;
- Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section;
- Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan; and
- Michigan Defense Trial Counsel.

This is not a need-based scholarship but a benefit available to every member whether they pay for their CLE or it is paid by their firm or partnership.

Details on the grant can be found <u>here</u>. To take advantage of this opportunity please contact GCBA/GCBF Executive Director Tatilia "Tina" Burroughs at 810-232-6000 or by email at <u>tyb@gcbalaw.org</u>. This grant program can be discontinued at such time as the Foundation Board determines.

The Neithercut Legal Education Fund was founded with gifts from Edward J. Neithercut, long-time Flint lawyer.



image by Kampus on Freepik