



MICHIGAN APPELLATE BENCH BAR CONFERENCE FOUNDATION

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The co-Chairs of the 2019 Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference, Mary Massaron and Phillip J. DeRosier, along with the entire MABBCF Planning Committee, are pleased to announce the release of the MABBCF's 2019 Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference Summary Report.

The conference, titled: "Just the Facts: The Importance of Facts and the Appellate Record to Responsible Decision-Making and Appellate Advocacy," took place on March 27-29, 2019 at The Inn at St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth, with the participation of Michigan's appellate justices, judges, chief clerks, and court research and commissioner staff.

The conference Summary Report provides a comprehensive overview of all of the conference sessions, including a compilation of notes taken of each of the breakout sessions by volunteer reporters, as well as the full transcripts of the plenary panel discussions.

"The 2019 Bench Bar Conference was a truly excellent convening of the judges and lawyers who work to make sure our appellate courts are providing the best possible advocacy and adjudication for all of Michigan's litigants," said Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget McCormack. "The curriculum was substantive and engaging and the Justices of the Supreme Court were eager participants. As always, we learned a great deal and will use it to improve our processes. We are grateful to the conference organizers for their work and dedication to always improving our service to Michigan litigants."

Michigan Court of Appeals Chief Judge Christopher Murray echoed the Chief Justice's comments:

"The 2019 Appellate Practice Section Bench Bar Conference was another top-notch event. The plenary sessions took on some of the broader issues affecting appellate practice, while the break-out sessions allowed practitioners and appellate judges and staff to delve deeper into these and other important issues. These practical discussions always do, and did again this year, lead to new ideas, reforms, and a greater collegiality between bench and bar. And, for those who missed out, the Conference Summary Report is a great tool to discover all that occurred at the Conference."

The conference included plenary sessions with panels consisting of Michigan Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, and court staff. Discussions focused on issues relating to the facts and record on appeal, what's working and what might be improved in our appellate courts, technology and the record, and Supreme Court practice tips. The conference report includes transcriptions of the complete discussion of many plenary sessions, with incisive comments on appellate advocacy and judging, with a special focus on the facts.

Attendees also chose from over 30 breakout sessions that tackled a broad array of topics covering many practice areas, including civil, criminal, family, and child welfare.

The full Summary Report is available here: [2019 Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference Summary Report](#)

For more information about the conference, visit the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference website: <https://benchbar.org/>

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