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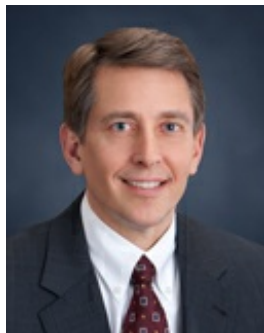


To Promote The Art Of Advocacy
And The Efficient Administration Of Justice

MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Membership Update

Message From The Chair



James E. Tamm

ABOTA's Commitment to Civility and Judicial Independence

Among the primary tenants of ABOTA is a devotion to elevating the standards of integrity, honor, ethics, civility and courtesy in the legal profession. Through its Civility Matters program and a long history of responding to unfair attacks on judges who are ethically prohibited from responding to such attacks, ABOTA has promoted professionalism and judicial integrity. During the recent election season, public examples of civility have reached new lows and judicial

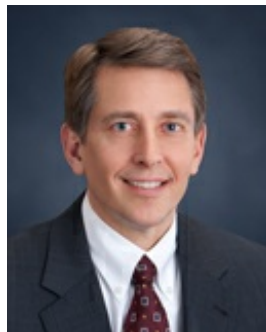
integrity has come under attack. Recent statements by presidential candidate Donald J. Trump, a litigant in a case pending before federal district court judge Gonzalo Curiel, questioning the judge's fairness and impartiality based upon his Mexican heritage are a recent example of the threat to an independent judiciary.

National ABOTA president Charles H. Baumbrger issued a strong statement in support of Judge Curiel. He noted that the judicial code of conduct and prevents jurists like judge Curiel from responding to such attacks. There is a legal mechanism to address complaints of conflict of interest and impartiality by seeking a recusal of a judge. Despite being represented by capable legal counsel, Mr. Trump has not sought recusal of Judge Curiel, demonstrating the political nature of Mr. Trump's public comments.

As attorneys and members of ABOTA, we are in a special position to be able to respond when unfair attacks on the judiciary occur. All of us have been on the wrong side of a judicial ruling at one time or another. Respect for the rule of law demands that we address our differences and disputes through appropriate channels. Whether through an appeal of an adverse decision or seeking recusal in those exceedingly unusual cases where actual bias exist, there are appropriate remedies for judicial bias, actual or perceived. Members of the public at large often do not have the benefit of the perspective of those who participate in the legal process on a daily basis. Attacks asserting bias based on the racial or ethnic background of a judge constitute a threat to the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law. It is our duty as lawyers to protect against such unfair criticism.

[Read Full Article](#)

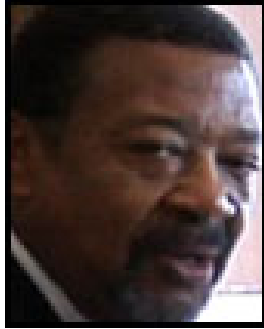
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[James E. Tamm](#)



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National Board Representative
C. Kenneth Perry, Jr.



National Board Representative
Daniel J. Scully, Jr.



Executive Director
Madelyne C. Lawry

New ABOTA Members

We would like to welcome and congratulate eight new members approved for membership in January 2016.

Edmund O. Battersby



The Sam Bernstein Law Firm

Email Edmund O. Battersby [HERE](#)

Learn More about Edmund [HERE](#)



William J. Brickley

Garan Lucow Miller PC

Email William J. Brickley [HERE](#)

Learn More about William J. Brickley [HERE](#)



David E. Christensen

Christensen Law

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Michael W. Edmunds

The Williams Law Firm

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Lawrence García

Garcia Law Group PLLC

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Steven Gursten

Michigan Auto Law

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William C. Hurley

Riley & Hurley PC



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David R. Nauts

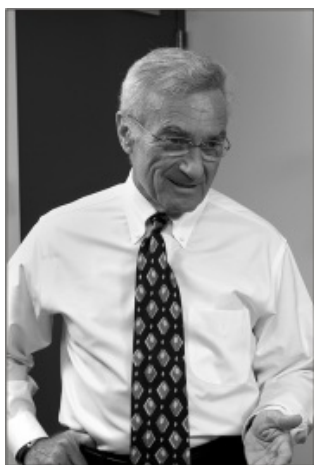
Tanoury Nauts McKinney & Garbarino PLLC

Email David R. Nauts [HERE](#)

Learn More about David R. Nauts [HERE](#)

2016 Award Recipients

Richard B. Baxter Exemplary Advocate Award



George A. Googasian

[Email](#)

Prior Recipients:

- 2015 Paul Manion
- 2014 Robert S. Krause
- 2013 *George J. Bedrosian
- 2012 Daniel J. Scully Jr.
- 2011 Robert F. Garvey & Paul A. Rosen
- 2007 Honorable Dennis Archer
- 2006 *John E. S. Scott
- 2004 James Feeney

2003 David W. Christensen

2002 Pat O'Leary

* Deceased

Lifetime Judicial Achievement Award



Hon. Gershwin A. Drain

[Email](#)

Prior Recipients:

2015 Gerald E. Rosen

2014 Pamela R. Harwood
Law Offices Pamela R. Harwood PLLC

2013 2013: Honorable Damon J. Keith, Senior Judge for the United States Court of Appeals Sixth Circuit

2012 2012: Honorable Julian Abele Cook Jr.
United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

2011 2011: Honorable Robert Holmes Bell
United States District Court, Western District of Michigan

2008 2008: Honorable Dennis C. Kolenda
Kent County Circuit Court Judge 1989 to 2008

2007 2007: Justice Marilyn J. Kelly, Michigan Supreme Court
Honorable William B. Murphy, Michigan Court of Appeals

2004 2004: Honorable John Feikens,
United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

2001 2001: Honorable James L. Ryan
United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

Scully Award for Outstanding Service



James R. Kohl

[Email](#)

Prior Recipients:

2015 C. Kenneth Perry, Jr.

Civility Award



William F. Mills

[Email](#)

Submit Names for Potential Members

Please submit names to the Chapter for potential members!

email your requests to Robert F. Riley

rriley@rileyhurley.com

Save The Date! Annual Meeting & Holiday Party



Friday, December 2nd, 2016

Cocktails at 6:00

Dinner at 7:30pm

Cliff Bell's

2030 Park Ave.
Detroit, MI 48226
Email: info@cliffbells.com
Phone: (313) 961-2543



What Does ABOTA Do?



Visit Our Website
at www.ABOTAMI.org



View our Membership Directory

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