

## **Where are they now?**

### **Maya Watson, 2006 WLAMF General Motors Scholar**

Only two and one-half years after graduating from Wayne State University Law School, 2006 General Motors Scholar Maya Watson is already making her mark in the practice of law and in her community. An associate at Miller Canfield's Detroit office in the Financial Institutions and Transactions practice group, Maya's practice focuses on banking law. She helps her banking clients with negotiating loans, bond and transactional deals, and workout proceedings related to troubled properties.

Maya was recently appointed to the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association's Barrister Board of Directors. She is chairing the Barristers' partnership with the Fort Street Presbyterian Church in downtown Detroit to administer a food service program in February 2010. Maya also is helping to spearhead the Wolverine Bar Association's Community Outreach efforts. Specifically, she's working with that organization's President-Elect to launch a mentoring program in the Detroit Public Schools (DPS). Her goal is to have lawyers volunteer in high schools and possibly middle schools throughout the City for a two-fold purpose: 1) to expose students to lawyers, providing them with positive role models; and, 2) to facilitate lawyers' increased interactions with the City's children. Maintaining her connection to other women in the law, Maya has attended the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan's Annual Meeting since graduating from law school.

In addition to her extensive bar service, Maya is engaged in several civic activities. Most notable was her appointment to serve on Mayor David Bing's transition team. She also serves on the Board of the Greater Corktown Development Corporation working to enhance economic development activity in one of Detroit's most historic communities.

The General Motors Scholarship that the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation awarded made Maya "appreciative that women lawyers are supportive of female law students. It was heartwarming that successful, accomplished women attorneys wanted to see me succeed."