

Newly Established Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Great Lakes Bay Region

By: Julie A. Gafkay of Gafkay & Gardner, PC, President of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Great Lakes Bay Region

The opportunities for women lawyers in Saginaw County have now been increased with the newly formed Great Lakes Bay Region of the Women Lawyers Association ("Region").

Our Region became effective October 21, 2009. It encompasses the counties of Saginaw, Bay and Midland. The purpose of the Region is to secure and advance the interests of women members of the legal profession, especially in the counties of Saginaw, Bay, and Midland, to promote and support women lawyers, to improve relations between the legal profession and the public, to facilitate professional relationships among attorneys in the Saginaw, Bay, Midland County area, and neighboring counties, and to encourage the continued legal education of lawyers. The Region looks forward to welcoming new members from all three counties to create a plan to accomplish its mission. We hope to advance our members through local media including newspaper, radio, billboard, internet and television. The Region will participate in functions of the WLAM and coordinate activities for the Region in the interests of our members.

We encourage local lawyers, judges, and law students in the Great Lakes Bay Region to join the Region. We plan to meet on a quarterly basis. Our first official meeting is planned for Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 12:00 (noon) at Hotel Bay Valley Resort & Conference Center, Heatherfields Restaurant, 2470 Old Bridge Road, Bay City, Michigan 48706. Our program will include Marilyn Hackett, the ProBono Coordinator for Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. She will speak on opportunities to serve as a probono attorney. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more about the organization. If you are interested, please contact Donna K. Mallonee (Treasurer), Julie A. Gafkay (President), or Gera Brown (Secretary).