



**MACT 2016 Winter  
Educational Conference  
Novi, MI  
Conference Speaker Biographies**

## **FOIA RULES & REGULATIONS**

**Dave Stoker** – David G. Stoker has been practicing county and municipal law and public sector labor law for over 30 years. He has represented numerous municipal entities including townships, counties, cities, villages, and numerous intergovernmental agencies. The firm of Cohl, Stoker & Toskey, P.C. is one of the few firms in Michigan specializing in county law and public sector labor law representing over 30 counties.

**Ann Vrablic**

**Karen Coffman**

## **FORECLOSURES**

**Peter Goodstein**

EDUCATION and LICENSE

B.A. – University of Michigan, 1965

M.B.A. – University of Chicago, 1967

J.D. – University of Michigan, 1969

Admitted to practice law in the State of Michigan, U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, U. S. bankruptcy court for the Western District of Michigan, and United States Supreme Court. Practice concentrates on the representation of governmental entities with an emphasis on property tax matters. Clients include Arenac County Treasurer, Bishop International Airport Authority, City of Frankenmuth, Charter Township of Flint, Genesee County Treasurer, Genesee County Land Bank Authority, Mt. Morris Charter Township, Sanilac County Treasurer, Tuscola County Treasurer.

**Charles Lawler** – Charles A. Lawler (Charley) is a member based in Clark Hill's Lansing, Michigan office. Clark Hill PLC is a top full- service law firm serving clients in all areas of business legal services, government and public affairs and personal legal services. Since 1890, our firm has proudly represented a diverse array of clients - from individuals and new entities to Fortune 500 corporations. With well over 300 attorneys in 12 markets nationwide, Clark Hill consistently delivers the results and solutions that our clients have come to trust. Prior to joining Clark Hill, Charley was involved in private business as both an owner and manager where he gained personal experience in identifying and resolving legal issues facing business owners. Charley's prior business ownership provides his client's the opportunity to engage an

attorney who has real first hand business experience he can bring to their issues. Along with being an attorney and advisor, he is a business problem solver. Charley is fully experienced in civil and commercial litigation proceedings including bankruptcy, real estate, creditor's rights, property tax and construction matters. His business experience includes lease negotiations, human resource issues, marketing, product procurement, bank negotiations, managing litigation, community relations, insurance procurement, and other issues necessary to manage a business. Charley received his B.A., with honors, from Michigan State University and received his J.D., cum laude, from Michigan State University College of Law. Charley is admitted to practice in Michigan, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan. Charley is a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, and the Ingham County Bar Association. Charley and his wife Karen have two children, Stephen and MacKenzie.

**Katy Twinings** – Katy Twining has been the Operations Manager in the Homeownership Division at the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) since February 2008. When the State was allocated \$498.6 million in federal Hardest Hit Funds to help Michigan and its homeowners recover from the economic crisis in 2010, Katy was asked to help create and manage the Step Forward Michigan program. Prior to working for the State, Katy held numerous positions in mortgage banking. She is a Michigan State graduate and FAN!! And lives in Fenton Township, Genesee County.

### **Sherry Earnest**

**Anne Giroux** – Anne Giroux has served as Marquette County Treasurer since July 2007. She previously served as Director of Finance and Human Resources for the Marquette County Road Commission and as Business Manager for the County's redevelopment of the former KI Sawyer Air Force Base. She has a Bachelor's degree in Accounting/Computer Information Systems and a Master of Public Administration degree both from Northern Michigan University. She serves as Chair of the Marquette County Land Bank Authority and Treasurer of the Marquette County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. She also serves as First Vice President of the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, President of the Upper Peninsula Association of County Treasurers and serves on the Board of Directors of the newly established Michigan Association of Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities.

## **STATE OF MICHIGAN PANEL**

**Phil Boone** – Phil Boone has worked for the Michigan Department of Education for over 7 years. In his position as a Financial Analyst he works primarily on calculating State School Aid payments for 863 Michigan School districts and public school academies. In addition, Phil has spent the last year working with Department of Technology, Management, & Budget to re-program the payment system using up to date software in order to ensure the long-term viability of the system. Phil holds a bachelor's degree in Business Studies from Davenport University, and an MBA from the University of Michigan.

**Jessica Harden** – Jessica Harden is an archivist at the Archives of Michigan. She currently works with records from the Office of the Great Seal, staffs the reference desk, works with local government agencies that send records to the Archives, gives presentations about Archives of Michigan resources, and contributes to digitization projects. Jessica earned a Master of Library and Information Science degree and archives administration graduate certificate from Wayne State University in 2009.

**Cary Vaughn** – Cary Jay Vaughn has worked for the Michigan Department of Treasury for 23 years. He is the manager over the Audit Section of the Local Government Financial Services Division which performs and reviews auditing and accounting throughout the state. He is a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager.

## **ROD – SB599 & ROD PROCESSES**

**Stewart Sanders** – Born and raised in the White Cloud area, Stu Sanders graduated from White Cloud High School in 1975 and upon graduation, Stu attended Ferris State College (University) receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics in 1979 and his Master of Arts of degree in administration from CMU in 1985. Stu taught Sr. Hi mathematics and coached in Newaygo for 33 years retiring after a 2012 bid for the 100<sup>th</sup> District House Seat and along with teaching in Newaygo, Stu has been an adjunct math instructor for Baker College for 20 years. Stu is a licensed general contractor in our area having worked with dozens of clients over the years. Stu has served as race director for the St. Nick Kick in Newaygo, he currently sits on the Gerber Foundation Scholarship Committee, is head trustee of the Helen Sanders Memorial Scholarship, Vice Chair of United Way/Fremont, Vice President of the WC Rotary, and was elected District 2 Chair for MARD. Stu has been married for 38 years to Cindy and they have adult children, Ashley and Gabriel. Cindy is an office manager in Fremont, Ashley graduated with her PhD. in History from MSU in May of 2015, and Gabriel has an MBA in entertainment business from Full Sail University in Orlando. Stu and his family currently reside on the 130-year old family farm Northeast of Fremont in Lincoln Township. Having spent much time in his father's surveying business sparked Stu's interest in the geography of our state. His presentation will focus on the early development of the State of Michigan, the land transactions resulting from this development, and the impact that the population push has had on the Register of Deeds office.

**Cathy Lunsford**

**Val Thornburg**

## **TREASURER'S PANEL**

**Richard (Rick) Brzezinski** – Rick was appointed Treasurer of Bay County on October 1, 2004 and has been elected to three 4-year terms. He worked for the former County Treasurer for nine years as an accountant. In addition to his Treasurer's duties he also is the Vice Chair of the fully-funded Bay County Employees Retirement System. Rick earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Northwood University and spent the first 17 years of his career working for two state-wide banking organizations holding positions in management, lending and auditing. A lifelong resident of Bay County, he is active in his community as a member of the Lions Club and has served many youth sports teams including 17 years of coaching little league and pony league baseball teams. Rick has held many leadership positions in Michigan Association of County Treasurers including the office of President and is currently the President of the Bay County Treasurers Association made up of the local unit treasurers in Bay County. He enjoys traveling, card playing, attending sporting events and is involved in the long-term quest to become a bogey golfer. Rick and his wife, Kay, a retired nurse, have three adult sons, two daughters-in-law, with a third joining the family in October. In March of 2015, they had the distinct pleasure of becoming grandparents to granddaughter Addison and grandson Henry, born two weeks apart.

### **Jenny Beemer-Fritzing**

**Sherry Comben** – Sherry Comben has worked for Antrim County for the past 28 years, serving as County Treasurer during the last 15 years. She was President of the Michigan Association of County Treasurers in 2012. Sherry served 20 years as a Bellaire Public Library Board of Trustee member. Sherry has an Associate Degree in Accounting as well as 5 years of experience in local government as a township deputy treasurer. Sherry enjoys fishing and reading in her spare time.

**Anne Giroux** – Anne Giroux has served as Marquette County Treasurer since July 2007. She previously served as Director of Finance and Human Resources for the Marquette County Road Commission and as Business Manager for the County's redevelopment of the former KI Sawyer Air Force Base. She has a Bachelor's degree in Accounting/Computer Information Systems and a Master of Public Administration degree both from Northern Michigan University. She serves as Chair of the Marquette County Land Bank Authority and Treasurer of the Marquette County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. She also serves as First Vice President of the Michigan Association of County Treasurers, President of the Upper Peninsula Association of County Treasurers and serves on the Board of Directors of the newly established Michigan Association of Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities.

### **Tim Novak**

### **Steve Pickens**