

Attorney William P. Hampton Honored at Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys (MAMA) Award Ceremony as Recipient of Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award



Secrest Wardle Municipal Attorney William P. Hampton received the Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award from the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys (MAMA) on Thursday, October 13, 2016 (Pictured L/R: Honoree William P. Hampton of Secrest Wardle and MAMA President Clyde Robinson; Photo Courtesy of Matt Bach/MAMA.) The Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award is given for outstanding contributions to the practice of municipal law on behalf of cities and villages throughout Michigan, and acknowledges the highest level of professional accomplishment while also serving their colleagues through professional organizations such as MAMA and the International Municipal Lawyers Association.

The award ceremony and luncheon took place in Lansing, Michigan. In attendance from Secrest Wardle's Troy office were Mark E. Morley, Senior Partner and Co-Managing Partner, Derk W. Beckerleg; Executive Partner and Managing Partner of the Municipal

Law Practice Group, Jennifer C. Hill, Associate, and Mr. Hampton's wife, Lanie Anderson.

Mr. Hampton has practiced law for over 50 years and is recognized as a leading authority in the area of municipal law. He has served as general counsel for the City of Bloomfield Hills (39 years), City of Auburn Hills (35 years), Charter Township of Bloomfield (35 years), and Charter Township of West Bloomfield (35 years). He developed Secrest Wardle's Municipal Law Practice Group from its inception into the renowned municipal law practice group it is today.

Derk W. Beckerleg, stated that Mr. Hampton is, "...known for his stringent standards in providing his clients with the best representation available. He has served as a mentor to the municipal attorneys at Secrest Wardle throughout his career." Mr. Beckerleg and Ms. Hill nominated Mr. Hampton for the award. "Mr. Hampton is known for his strong leadership skills, offering direction and sharing knowledge not only with the municipal attorneys at Secrest Wardle, but with other municipal attorneys and colleagues as well. Mr. Hampton has used his invaluable experience and extensive expertise to develop, and execute time and again, proven defense strategies for municipalities, counties, school districts, universities, and state agencies across the state of Michigan."

MAMA President and Kalamazoo City Attorney, Clyde Robinson, reviewed highlights of Mr. Hampton's esteemed career in presenting the award. He has continually shown exceptional leadership skills throughout his positions as Commissioner of the State Bar of Michigan and as an Oakland County Circuit Court Judge, including a term as a presiding Judge. He was also elected to three terms in the Michigan House of Representatives, where his tenure included service as majority and minority leader.

"I am humbled and honored to receive this award and be recognized by my colleagues," said Mr. Hampton about his recent success.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys (MAMA) is a chartered section of the Michigan Municipal League, which is a Michigan nonprofit corporation. MAMA was established in 1935 as an affiliated organization of the League. The Association is governed by a Board of Directors elected by the member municipal attorneys. Membership consists of every city and village attorney, who represents a member of the Michigan Municipal League, their deputies and assistants, and League staff members duly admitted to practice law in the State of Michigan.

Secrest Wardle is a law firm specializing in defense litigation and counsel for insurance, municipal, and commercial clients headquartered in Troy, Michigan, with additional offices in Grand Rapids and Lansing.



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