



Laura J. Genovich

Shareholder

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Laura is a shareholder in the firm's Grand Rapids office and has an extensive bankruptcy law practice. Laura serves as a Chapter 7 (liquidation) trustee and as a Chapter 12 (farm and family fishermen) trustee for the Western District of Michigan, and she has served as a Chapter 11 Examiner. Read more about Laura's work as a trustee [here](#).

Because bankruptcy affects all industries, Laura helps her individual and business clients navigate the bankruptcy system in numerous ways:

- Represents secured and unsecured creditors in Chapter 7, 11, 12, and 13 bankruptcy cases in various matters, including filing motions for relief from the automatic stay and motions to allow administrative claims, objecting to reorganization plans, preparing proofs of claims, and prosecuting nondischargeability actions.
- Represents buyers wishing to purchase assets from bankruptcy estates.
- Defends individual and business clients against preference demands and lawsuits.
- Advises businesses and municipalities about how to protect their interests when a customer, supplier, or taxpayer files bankruptcy.
- Helps families (and their lawyers) understand the interplay between bankruptcy and divorce law.
- Represents other Chapter 7 trustees in all matters related to estate administration.

With her breadth of knowledge and experience, Laura can handle any matter related to bankruptcy, collections, or commercial transactions.

PRACTICE AREAS

Appellate Practice
Bankruptcy & Restructuring
Collections / Creditor - Debtor Rights
Election & Campaign Finance Law
General & Commercial Litigation
Insurance Defense
Municipal & Public Entity Law
School Law Services

EDUCATION

Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D., 2008, *summa cum laude*
Ohio University, B.S., 2005, *summa cum laude*, Communications

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals

HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

Thomas M. Cooley Alumni Association Distinguished Student Award
Pace National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, National Quarter-Finalist



REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Served on legal team for major secured creditor in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case of Family Christian Stores, LLC.
- Represented bankruptcy trustee in corporate Chapter 7 case and filed more than 40 avoidance lawsuits against preference recipients, resulting in the recovery of more than \$500,000 for the bankruptcy estate.
- Represented creditor against trustee's demand for more than \$170,000 in alleged preference payments and negotiated favorable settlement for client.
- Represented auto lender in obtaining a nondischargeability judgment based on debtor's fraudulent conduct.
- Defended national telecommunications company against claims for violating the automatic stay and discharge injunction.

State Bar of Michigan 1L Oral
Advocacy Competition - First Place

Michigan *Super Lawyers* "Rising
Star," 2012-2015

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

WEBINAR | Millage Proposals and Campaign Finance Issues,
March 29, 2016

**Recent Decisions Impacting Bankruptcy Practice in the Western
District of Michigan,** *Federal Bar Association*, August 1, 2015

What Every Treasurer Should Know About Bankruptcy, *Livingston
County Treasurers' Association*, June 9, 2015

Nuts and Bolts of Bankruptcy Practice, *Federal Bar Association*,
April 30, 2015

**WEBINAR | The Borrower in Bankruptcy: Top 10 Mistakes Banks
& Lenders Make in Consumer Bankruptcy Cases,** *Foster Swift*,
April 28, 2015

What Every Treasurer Should Know About Bankruptcy, *Bay
County Treasurers' Association*, April 21, 2015

What Every Treasurer Should Know About Bankruptcy, *Macomb
County Treasurers' Association*, March 24, 2015

Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Issues, *2014 Bankruptcy Best Practices
Seminar*, September 18, 2014

Mock Meeting of Creditors, *Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy
Section Bankruptcy Boot Camp*, September 8, 2014

Case Law Update, *Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section
Seminar*, August 1, 2014



Foster Swift Attorney Discusses Creditors' Rights In Stamp Farms Case, *Michigan Farm Bureau*, December 21, 2012

2012 FBA Bankruptcy Section Seminar, *FBA*, July 19, 2012

Seminar Panel - Chair of Exemption Practice, *Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section Seminar*, July 28, 2011

WEBINAR | The Medical Marijuana Act - and the Issues It Presents to Municipalities, May 18, 2011

Ask a Lawyer, *Michigan Townships Association*, January 26, 2011

Township Codes of Ethics, *Legal Institute, Michigan Townships Association Annual Educational Conference & Expo*, January 25, 2011

Roundtable at the Western District of Michigan Trustee Meeting, *The Office of the United States Trustee*, June 25, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Federal Court Temporarily Bans State From Enforcing New Election Law That "Gags" Local Governments and Schools, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 5, 2016

New Law Silences Local Governments During 60 Days Before Elections, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 8, 2016

Too Small to Notice: Are Tiny Houses Subject to Municipal Zoning Ordinances in Michigan?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 7, 2015

Solar Energy: A "Hot" Topic at the Local Level, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 30, 2015

Standing to Sue: When May a Property Owner Bring Suit to Restrain Zoning Violations?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 27, 2015

Michigan Legislature Changes Taxable Value "Uncapping" Rules for Family Transfers, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, October 30, 2014

Recent Amendments Give Municipalities More Control Over "Urban" Farming, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, June 19, 2014

Donating Public Property May Raise Constitutional Problems, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, October 30, 2013

Bankruptcy Court Approves Sale of Stamp Farms Assets to Boersen Farms, *Foster Swift Agricultural Law Update*, February 2013

Municipal Law Refresher: The "Equal Dignity" Doctrine, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 2013

Federal Courts Strike Down Anti-Solicitation Policy And Anti-Begging Law, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, October 2012

New Fireworks Law May Spark Overhaul of Local Regulations, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Bulletin*, July 2, 2012

Time to Revisit Existing Firework Ordinances, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, May 31, 2012

Federal Court Hears Cable Franchise Dispute, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 2012



Ordinances 101: What Every Municipal Official Should Know, *The Review Magazine (Michigan Municipal League publication)*, January/February 2012

Court of Appeals Holds that Medical Marihuana Dispensaries are Not Authorized by Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Bulletin*, August 24, 2011

Michigan Court of Appeals Holds that State Aid Rules for Libraries are Unlawful, *Foster Swift Library Law News*, August 17, 2011

Michigan Legislature Reinstates "Very Serious Consequences" Rule for Mining Operations, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 2011

New Test To Gauge Validity of Zoning Ordinance or Decision Relating To Mineral Extraction - "No Very Serious Consequences" Test Is Eliminated In Place of "Reasonable" Test, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News: MTA Edition*, January 2011

Public Library Successfully Challenges State Aid Rules, *Foster Swift Library Law E-News*, October 2010

No-Fault Work Loss Benefits Are Not Barred by Lack of Sworn Earnings Statement or Failure to File Income Tax Return, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, April 1, 2010

No-Fault Insurers Must Strictly Comply with Statute Requiring Warning Language for Named Driver Exclusion, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, March 25, 2010

Car Dealership's Insurer is Priority Insurer in Third Party Suit Brought Against Test-Driving Customer, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, June 18, 2009

Michigan Court of Appeals Clarifies Application of No-Fault Act's One Year Back Rule to Fraud Claims, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, May 15, 2009

New Medical Marijuana Law Presents Legal Challenges to Michigan Municipalities, *Public Corporation Law Quarterly (Also published in the May 2009 Foster Swift Municipal Law News)*, Summer 2009

No-Fault Insurers May not "Bypass Legal Process" to Seek Reimbursement from Uninsured Owners, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, February 26, 2009

Michigan Court of Appeals Interprets No-Fault Act's "Unlawfully Taken Vehicle" Exclusion, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, February 16, 2009

Michigan Supreme Court Limits the MCCA'S Obligation to Indemnify Insurers for "Unreasonable" Expenses, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, December 31, 2008

Court of Appeals Limits No-Fault Insurers' Liability for Homecare Expenses, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, December 17, 2008

Court of Appeals Addresses Family Member Joyriding Exception in Published Opinion, *Foster Swift No-Fault E-News*, December 9, 2008

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Legal Affiliations:

- Grand Rapids Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section (Western District of Michigan), Steering Committee Member



Industry & Professional Associations:

- National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees
- Grand Rapids Young Professionals
- Inforum
- American Bankruptcy Institute

Community Involvement:

- Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus, Board of Directors 2011-2012