

2026 Fellows Nomination Form

COMPLETE

#29


The Michigan State Bar Foundation is currently seeking nominations for the Class of 2026 Fellows. ONLY active Fellows are eligible to complete the nomination form. Nominations may not be submitted by persons related by blood or marriage to the nominee.

Following is the criteria for the Fellows Program:


- * Attorneys who have demonstrated professional excellence.
- * Attorneys who serve their community.
- * Attorneys who practice law for a minimum of 10 years.
- * Attorneys who are in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.

Please answer each question as thoroughly as possible.

CREATED

 PUBLIC
May 21st 2026, 8:58:11 pm

IP ADDRESS

 184.175.144.162

* Nominee's Name:

Stefania Gismondi

* Nominee's P Number (please enter number only):

74277

* Nominee's Email Address:

sgismondi@fosterswift.com

Nominee's Address:

28411 Northwestern Hwy., Ste. 500
Southfield
MI
48034
United States

* Total Years Admitted to Practice Law (a minimum of 10 years required). Also, include in your total the years practiced out of state.

16

Do you have a vitae, resume or bio for your Nominee? If not, you will be asked to answer additional questions below.

Yes

Upload Your Nominees Bio

stefania_gismondi_bio.pdf

Provide below a link to your nominee's bio:

(see attached)

Please list State Bar, local or affinity bar associations and other community activities:

(No response)

Please list legal teaching, publications, professional recognition and/or memberships:

(No response)

*** PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHY YOU BELIEVE THIS CANDIDATE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FELLOWS PROGRAM:**

I confess to a bias as Stefania works in my law firm. But I'm very proud of her and am nominating her to become a MSBF Fellow. She handles insurance defense matters and works within a high-volume group of lawyers in my firm where the stress can be high and opposing counsel uncivil. Yet, she maintains high standards and a consistently pleasant demeanor at all times. She also has become involved in bar association activities and is the incoming Chair of the Italian American Bar Association of Michigan. Earlier this month, the Oakland County Women's Bar Association singled her out as its "Member of the Year." She has authored a few articles, mainly covering an interest she has in autonomous vehicle liability. I hope you'll agree that Stefania belongs within the group of 2026 MSBF Fellows.

*** Nominator's Name:**

Julie I. Fershtman

*** Nominator's P Number (please enter number only):**

39282

*** Nominator's Email Address:**

jfershtman@fosterswift.com



Stefania Gismondi

Shareholder

Southfield, MI

248.538.6332

sgismondi@fosterswift.com

Overview

Stefania Gismondi is a Shareholder and a member of the General Litigation Practice Group in our Southfield office. Her practice includes:

- Defense and representation for businesses and individuals in insurance coverage disputes.
- Managing and resolving first and third-party no-fault automobile claims
- Defending against claims for uninsured/underinsured motorist benefits
- Advising insurance institutions on administrative and compliance matters under the regulatory framework imposed by Michigan's Insurance Code and the DIFS
- Insurance and liability issues and trends regarding autonomous vehicles

Whether she is handling a motion hearing, pre-trial conferences, depositions, case evaluations, or preparing for settlement conferences or trial, Stefania approaches her practice with a problem-solving centered strategy.

Prior to joining Foster Swift, Stefania represented individuals in a broad range of legal disputes, including first- and third-party automobile claims, general negligence claims, and premises liability claims. She also represented medical providers.

During law school, Stefania was recruited and selected as an intern by the Chief Judge, Gerald Rosen, of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan. She also separately interned for Magistrate Judge Paul Komives of the Eastern District.

Stefania is fluent in Italian and proficient in French. She enjoyed using her language skills when she attended the Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne in Paris, France through a special program for U.S. law students run by Cornell Law School. Today, she keeps her Italian and French sharp through family, friends, colleagues, and international travel. She also enjoys learning about wines and cuisines of different cultures.

Practices

Litigation

No-Fault Litigation

Insurance Defense

Insurance Law

Education

Wayne State University Law School, J.D., (2010)

University of Michigan, B.B.A., with High Distinction, (2006)

Bar & Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court

State Bar of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Experience

- Co-chaired a first party no-fault jury trial in Wayne County Circuit Court which resulted in a verdict in favor of the client
- Drafted, argued, and secured summary disposition in favor of an insurance company where the Court held that the claimant's alleged injuries of over \$1,000,000 were unrelated to the motor vehicle accident
- Drafted and argued a winning appeal that reversed the trial court's denial of a motion for summary disposition and resulted in a dismissal based on the claimants' lack of standing to file the lawsuit
- Drafted, argued, and secured summary disposition in favor of an insurance company where the Court determined that another carrier was higher in priority to pay the claims
- Drafted, argued, and secured summary disposition in favor of an insurance company on claims exceeding \$200,000 where the injured parties sued the wrong company

Honors & Recognition

Women's Bar Association - Oakland Region of WLAM, "Member of the Year", 2026

Michigan Lawyers Weekly, "Influential Women of Law" Honoree, (2022)

Best Lawyers® in America "One to Watch," Commercial Litigation, (2021-2025)

Memberships & Affiliations

Legal Affiliations:

- State Bar of Michigan
 - Negligence Law Section
 - Insurance Indemnity Law Section
 - Litigation Section
- Italian American Bar Association of Michigan
 - Board Member, Vice President, Present
 - Board Member, Secretary, (2024-2025)
 - Board Member, Treasurer, (2023-2024)
- American Bar Association
 - Litigation Section
- Oakland County Bar Association
 - Oakland County Bar Foundation Fellow

- Detroit Bar Association
 - Inn of Court Member (2016-2018)
- Women Lawyers Association of Michigan
 - Women Bar Association, Oakland County, Member

Community Affiliations:

- Ross Alumni Club of Southeast Michigan
- University of Michigan Alumni Association
- Women's Bar Association Book Club
 - Co-Chair

News & Resources

Publications

July 25, 2021 | State Bar of Michigan - The Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law

Autonomous Vehicles: Who Should be Liable for Accidents Involving Them?

September 2, 2020 | Foster Swift Litigation News Update E-blast

Summary of Meemic v Fortson

September 2, 2020 | Foster Swift Litigation News Update E-blast

Summary of Glasker-Davis

September 2, 2020 | State Bar of Michigan (SBM): The Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law

A Practical Approach to Preserving and Asserting No-Fault Fraud Defenses in the Wake of Haydaw, Fortson and Glasker-Davis

June 3, 2020 | Foster Swift Agricultural Law News

What the New Michigan No-Fault Laws Mean for Employees Injured in Accidents while Occupying an Employer-Owned Vehicle

Events

2019 No-Fault Reforms in Focus - Q & A

February 9, 2022

Who is Liable When No One is Behind the Wheel?

September 20, 2021

Autonomous Vehicles: Who is Liable?

News

March 19, 2026 | Women's Bar Association - Oakland Region of WLAM

Gismondi Named WBA Oakland Region's 2026 "Member of the Year"

August 15, 2024 | Best Lawyers in America

Seven Foster Swift Attorneys Listed as Best Lawyers® "Ones to Watch" 2025

February 20, 2024 | Meltwater Newswire

Preparing Women Business Leaders for 2024 Legal Challenges

August 17, 2023 | Best Lawyers in America

Foster Swift Best Lawyers® 2024 "Ones to Watch"

August 18, 2022 | Best Lawyers in America

Foster Swift Best Lawyers® 2023 "Ones to Watch"

March 28, 2022 | Michigan Business Network

New Virtual Program Addresses Legal Strategies for Women Business Leaders

August 19, 2021

Foster Swift Best Lawyers® 2022 "Ones to Watch"

August 20, 2020

Foster Swift Attorneys Named Best Lawyers® 2021 "Ones to Watch"

June 9, 2020 | Michigan Business Network

Gismondi Shares What New Michigan No-Fault Laws Mean For Employees

January 13, 2020

Foster Swift Elects Badalucco and Gismondi as Shareholders