

Self-2026 Fellows Nomination Application Form

COMPLETE

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The Michigan State Bar Foundation is currently seeking nominations for the Class of 2026 Fellows.


Following is the criteria to be considered a member of 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.


Your application for nomination will be reviewed and considered by the Fellows Nominating Committee and brought to the Board of Directors for final approval.

CREATED



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IP ADDRESS



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* Name:

Jennifer L. Hartke

* P Number: (please enter number only)

62522

* Email Address

jhartke@lakeshorelegalaid.org

Address:

16250 Northland Drive
Suite 363
Southfield
MI
48075
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:

25

Do you have a Curriculum Vitae, Resume or Bio? If not, you will be asked to answer additional questions below.

Yes

Upload Your Curriculum Vitae, Resume or Bio

[resume_jenniferhartke_2026.pdf](#)

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)

*** Please provide the names of three current members that are Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation that are willing to act as references.**

Ashley Lowe
Akisha Johnson
Heidi Naasko

*** Please summarize below why you would like to join the Fellows Program.**

I am honored to be considered as a Michigan State Bar Foundation Fellow. As a practicing attorney for 25 years, I have dedicated my career to expanding access to legal resources for vulnerable clients in Michigan. I hope to strengthen my contributions to the Foundation's work through the Fellows program.

I currently serve as Director of the Counsel and Advocacy Law Line (CALL), a division of Lakeshore Legal Aid, which provides advice, brief services and pro se assistance to low income and senior residents throughout the state. In that role, I am involved in initiatives to remove systemic barriers by delivering client-centered legal advice to those who might otherwise go unserved. I have seen firsthand the critical role MSBF's support plays in these efforts.

Prior to serving as CALL Director, I was a supervisor and Program Attorney responsible for implementing a streamlined intake process for legal services clients. Throughout my career, I have remained committed to providing support for clients in need, primarily focused on vulnerable populations and survivors of domestic violence.

I serve on several boards and committees, including board member and past President of First Step—Wayne County Project on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Legal Services Association of Michigan, State Planning Body, and Michigan Veterans Civil Legal Workgroup. I previously served as a Member of the State Bar of Michigan Justice for All Committee- Triage and Referral Workgroup and the Affordable Legal Services Committee.

Through the Fellows program, I look forward to expanding my impact by further supporting the Foundation's efforts to advance meaningful access to the legal system.

JENNIFER L. HARTKE

EXPERIENCE

Director, Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel & Advocacy Law Line (CALL), Southfield, MI (January 2019-present) Manage up to 50 attorneys and staff on a statewide legal hotline, providing advice, brief service and pro se legal assistance to low income and senior residents throughout Michigan. Responsible for hiring, training and development of staff. Coordinate and engage with legal services programs and community partners, including a medical-legal support program. Assist with grant writing, reporting and compliance. Serve on various statewide committees.

Program Attorney, Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel & Advocacy Law Line (CALL), Southfield, MI (April 2017-December 2018) Served as liaison between attorney-staffed legal hotline and partner programs throughout Michigan. Facilitated the coordination of a statewide integrated intake system, including triage, online intake and hotline services in partnership with Michigan Legal Help. Assisted with program development, management, training and supervision of attorneys and staff.

Supervising Attorney, Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel & Advocacy Law Line, Southfield, MI (October 2016- April 2017) Provided telephone advice and advocacy to low income families and senior citizens in the areas of family law, housing, consumer protection, public benefits, employment, education and probate law. Assisted with supervision and training of staff attorneys.

Attorney at Law, JL Hartke & Associates PLLC, Plymouth, MI (March 2008-October 2016) Provide legal advice, research, and advocacy to clients in civil law matters, including family and elder law, contracts, real property matters, and estate planning.

Adjunct Professor, Political Science, Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, MI (August 2011-June 2013) Instructed college courses on politics, American government, and public policy.

Independent Government Relations Consultant, Plymouth, MI (March 2006-January 2008) Served as consultant to Lansing-based government relations firm to develop and mobilize statewide coalitions of consumers, organizations and businesses to support legislative initiatives. Prepared correspondence and policy documents. Monitored state and federal legislation.

Staff Attorney, Women's Survival Center, Pontiac, MI (May 2005-Oct. 2005; July 2003-Oct.2004) Represented clients in family law matters. Assisted with implementation of Self-Help Pro Se Legal Clinic. Developed legal forms and instructions for clients representing themselves in divorce and custody matters. Assisted with supervision of student interns. Collaborated on trainings for pro bono attorneys and staff. Involved with community outreach and advocacy.

Acting Director of Legal Services, Women's Survival Center, Pontiac, MI (Oct. 2004-May 2005) Managed the legal staff and interns serving clients with family law matters. Supervised all legal programs including: pro bono assistance program; legal advice clinics; and the Personal Protection Order office. Assisted with grant writing and development. Directed weekly case review meetings.

Staff Attorney, UAW Legal Services Plan, Dearborn, MI (November 2002- June 2003)

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Staff Attorney, Oakland Livingston Legal Aid, Pontiac, MI (July 2001-November 2002)

Provided civil legal representation to clients, specializing in consumer protection, elder law, estate planning, probate, and housing issues.

Legislative Assistant, State Representative Rose Bogardus, Lansing, MI (January 1997-July 2001)

Researched and analyzed legislation; aided in the development of public policy. Resolved complex constituent inquiries and conducted district outreach. Planned and coordinated press conferences, subcommittee meetings, and task force hearings. Drafted press releases, legislative memoranda and newsletters. Managed primary and general election campaigns and fundraising. Supervised and trained student interns.

Communications Analyst, Michigan House Speaker Curtis Hertel, Lansing, MI (July 1996-Jan. 1997)

Advised legislators on strategies for effective communication. Developed and implemented district-specific public relations plans for legislators. Wrote newsletter articles on various legislative issues.

Legislative Assistant, State Representative John Freeman, Lansing, MI (May 1995-July 1996)

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude, Michigan State University College of Law, East Lansing, MI (Dec.2000)

- Dean's List Honors; Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award & Scholarship
- Teaching Assistant—Prof. McCormick, Decedents, Estates & Trusts
- Editor, *Journal of Medicine & Law*
- Secretary, Public Interest Law Society

Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science, Minor: Political Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (May 1995)

- Study Abroad, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
- Intern, Australian National Parliament, Canberra, Australia
- Dean's List Honors

COMMUNITY AND COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

Member, State Planning Body - (July 2022 – present) Association of leaders in the judiciary, the State Bar, and state and regional advocacy programs.

Member, Legal Services Association of Michigan- (December 2017-present) Participate with the largest twelve civil legal aid programs within the state to coordinate efforts to provide direct legal services to over 50,000 Michigan residents each year.

JENNIFER L. HARTKE

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (cont.)

Board President, First Step-Western Wayne County Project on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Wayne, MI (April 2009-2020) **Gala Chairperson** (2023)

Conduct board meetings; provide leadership for organization serving nearly 12,000 clients in Wayne County. Headed the executive search for current CEO. Involved in strategic planning, budget development, and fundraising. Engage in advocacy and public speaking on behalf of the organization.

Board President, George Smith School Parent Faculty Organization, Plymouth, MI (May 2013-August 2016) Represented organization in the process of securing legal status as 501c3 non-profit charity.

PPO Affidavit Attorney, PPO Preparation Clinic, Detroit, MI (April 2016-2020)

Board Member, First Step, Wayne, MI (March 2007-present)

Coordinator & Pro Bono Attorney, First Step Legal Clinic, Wayne, MI (April 2006-March 2020)

Volunteer Attorney, Lakeshore Legal Aid-Oakland Legal Clinic, Pontiac, MI (Oct. 2006-Jan. 2014)

Member, Family Law Section, State Bar of Michigan (2004 – present)

Member, Modest Means Committee, State Bar of Michigan (November 2017- December 2018)

Member/Presenter, ABA Equal Justice Conference Pre-Conference Organizing Committee (December 2017-May 2018)

Advisor, Affordable Legal Services Committee, State Bar of Michigan (December 2018 - 2021)

Admitted, State Bar of Michigan (May 2001)

Admitted, U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan (December 2001)