

2026 Fellows Nomination Form

COMPLETE

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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, 8:29:26 pm

IP ADDRESS

 184.175.144.162

* Nominee's Name:

Kirsten Joan Silwanowicz

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

79844

* Nominee's Email Address:

silwanowicz@dhcmi.org

Nominee's Address:

1301 E. Jefferson Ave.
 Detroit
 MI
 48207
 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.

11

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

Provide below a link to your nominee's bio:

<https://sbm.reliaguide.com/lawyer/48375-MI-Kirsten-Silwanowicz-67307>

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:**

Kirsten is the current President of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. She is also Chief General Counsel for the Detroit Housing Commission. She is also active in the National Association of Women Lawyers. She is a Vice-Chair of the ABA Section of Public Contract Law. I've met her through bar association activities and have been very impressed. She leads by example and she really gets things done. She'd be an outstanding Fellow.

*** Nominator's Name:**

Julie I. Fershtman

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

39282

*** Nominator's Email Address:**

jfershtman@fosterswift.com



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Kirsten Silwanowicz

Chief General Counsel for the Detroit Housing Commission

Kirsten J. Silwanowicz is the Chief General Counsel for the Detroit Housing Commission. She is a distinguished in-house counsel with extensive expertise in federal grants, contracts, litigation, compliance, and risk management. She provides strategic legal guidance and develops tailored solutions that drive organizational growth while aligning with mission-critical objectives. Kirsten has served the Detroit community through roles at the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation and the Great Lakes Water Authority, where she led complex contract negotiations, managed litigation, ensured regulatory compliance, and supported state and federal funding initiatives.

A passionate advocate for public service and advancing women in the legal profession, Kirsten is a leader within the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan (WLAM) and the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL). She serves as President-Elect of the WLAM State Board and past President of the WLAM Wayne Region. Through her leadership and publications in the Women Lawyers Journal, she champions women's rights and equality in the legal field.

Kirsten holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from Michigan State University, where she became fluent in Spanish. She began her legal career in Dallas, Texas, before returning to Michigan to continue her impactful practice and advocacy efforts.

Kirsten Silwanowicz

Detroit Housing Commission

Detroit MI, US

www.linkedin.com/in/kirsten-silwanowicz-58029a25/

Send a Message

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