



## || Municipal & Public Entity Law

The various legal challenges faced by Michigan municipalities, as well as other public entities, are complex and require experienced counsel to address. The key to successfully tackling these challenges is to find the right lawyer, with the right firm, that will fit a client's needs. The right lawyer is a strong advocate; a source of key information and wisdom that comes with first-hand experience.

The attorneys in Foster Swift's Administrative and Municipal Law Group are skilled at serving the diverse needs of local governments—from A (Annexation) to Z (Zoning) and from the simplest ordinances to the most complex bond issues. Our firm stays on the cutting edge of municipal law. Several of our lawyers are acknowledged municipal law specialists that are frequently called upon to teach at educational programs for municipal officials and other municipal lawyers.

Foster Swift has earned a reputation as one of the premier municipal law firms in Michigan through decades of experience serving townships, cities, villages, counties, libraries, and other public entities.

Examples of matters regularly handled by the Administrative and Municipal Law Group include:

- **Municipal Litigation:** Representation of municipal governments in litigation involving civil rights claims, constitutional claims, and governmental immunity as well as frequently defending municipalities in cases involving municipal liability, workers' compensation, and negligence.
- **Labor Relations and Employment Law:** Handle wide range of labor and employment issues, from bargaining to grievance proceedings, unfair labor allegations, employment policies, litigation and more.
- **FOIA and OMA:** Assist municipalities in navigating complexities under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Open Meetings Act (OMA) to uphold their obligations and remain compliant to avoid violations.
- **Public Finance:** Assist with complicated infrastructure projects throughout the including public buildings, parking facilities and highways.
- **Library Law:** Address library matters as General Counsel and on a special project basis.

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### **PRACTICE CONTACT(S)**

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### **ATTORNEYS**

#### **Shareholder**

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### **RELATED PRACTICES**

Administrative Law  
Condemnation & Eminent Domain  
Employment Law  
Environmental Law  
Freedom of Information Act  
Labor Relations

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- Environmental Law: Foster Swift was one of the first firms anywhere to litigate an environmental case. Foster Swift attorneys advise municipalities on PFAS and PFOS, solid waste planning under Part 115 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act ("NREPA"), landfill contamination issues, and help obtain reimbursement of environmental response costs. In addition, Foster Swift attorneys represent clients in matters involving permitting and licensing under various Michigan Acts and work with municipalities to address land use issues that may impact natural resources.
- General Municipal Counsel: Provide full-service advice to municipalities, including drafting ordinances, First Amendment issues, election law compliance, land use and zoning.
- General Administrative Counsel: Provide full-service advice for regulated and unregulated entities, such as telecommunications, energy and utility entities. Handle matters involving the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC).
- Municipal Utility Law: Provide guidance on such issues as sanitary sewers, storm sewers, county drains and water service authorities.
- Prosecution Services: Deliver efficient, economical, and effective prosecution of ordinance violations including the Uniform Traffic Code (UTC) and violations of the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.
- Commercial litigation: Advise and represent municipalities in range of litigation matters; Foster Swift is approved counsel for the Michigan Township Participating Plan.
- Appeals: Draft and argue appeals in all state and federal courts and administrative agencies, including occupational licensing, state construction and EGLE matters.
- Property taxes and Tax Tribunal proceedings: Represent municipalities and local governments in property tax appeals before the Michigan Tax Tribunal and Court of Claims. Our work in this area includes significant commercial and industrial appeals, assistance on tax assessments, tax collection, and special assessment issues - particularly in complex cases - and assist municipalities with drafting millage language.

Library Law  
Municipal Prosecution  
Open Meetings Act  
Property Tax  
Public Finance - Bond  
School Law Services  
Telecommunications  
Zoning & Land Use

- Condemnation and Eminent Domain: Assist with the selection of qualified appraisers, consultants, and engineers to consider the construction and design of the project. Represent parties in lawsuits and appeals. Ensure compliance with project construction and design requirements.
- Help clients understand and comply with state and federal statutes and regulations including HIPPA, ECPA, and others. Advise clients in all aspects of cybersecurity and data protection.

In addition to its significant administrative and municipal law capabilities, Foster Swift offers access to various subject matter specialists throughout the firm, whenever a need arises. The firm's ability to marshal and organize a range of multi-disciplinary skills on behalf of clients is an important advantage and point of differentiation between Foster Swift and many of its competitors.

Clients rely on the members of our group for practical, responsive, and informed results. Whatever administrative or municipal legal matters you may have, Foster Swift has the experience, track record, resources, and know-how to serve you in an efficient and effective manner.

### **ECONOMIES OF SCALE**

Clients benefit from our wide range of attorneys, knowledgeable on a variety of issues. Moreover, Foster Swift boasts a database of model language, gleaned from several decades of our attorneys working with our clients. So, we are able to provide efficient counsel at any time and on any case. And while, Foster Swift benefits from the size and experience of our attorneys, our focus remains on the quality and efficiency of our service.

Our attorneys are highly regarded by peers, have a history of success in the field, and serve the needs of clients - resulting in many client relationships that span decades. Clients rely on the members of our group for practical, responsive, and informed results.

The reasons clients turn to Foster Swift vary. Whatever the matter, clients value the firm's experience, track record and our easy-to-work with demeanor.

### **PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS**

Federal Trade Commission Prohibits Noncompete Agreements for Almost All U.S. Workers, Legal Challenges Expected, *Foster Swift Labor & Employment Law News E-blast*, April 24, 2024

Q&A: New DOJ Rule Requires State & Local Government Websites, Apps to be ADA Accessible, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, April 22, 2024

Lindke v. Freed: When Public Officials Can Be Held Liable for Blocking Individuals on Social Media, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 25, 2024

Short-Term Rental Regulation Act: What Local Governments Need to Know, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 20, 2024

Update: Whitmer Signs Energy Bills, Restricting Facilities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, November 30, 2023

Proposed Bills to Affect Energy Facilities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, November 16, 2023



Carbon Sequestration Wells: A New Land Use to Consider in Zoning Ordinances, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, September 19, 2023

The Next Controversial Land Use: Utility-Scale Battery Facilities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, September 18, 2023

What Does Tyler v Hennepin County Mean for Foreclosures in Michigan?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, June 15, 2023

Proposed Changes to PACE: What You Need to Know, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, June 14, 2023

Distribution of Michigan's \$81M Share of Opioid Settlement to Begin, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 2, 2023

Using Low-Cost DIY Legal Services: Risks Far Outweigh Benefits, *Foster Swift Business & Tax Law News*, January 24, 2023

Eligible Municipalities Encouraged to Register in Historic Opioid Settlement, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, December 6, 2021

Municipality Wind Turbine Tax Revenue at Risk as Utilities Continue to Press Tax Appeals, *Municipal Law News*, October 12, 2021

American Rescue Plan Act Provides Federal Funding for Michigan Local Governments, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, March 23, 2021

Court of Appeals Holds Nuisance Claims Must Be Brought within Six Years, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 8, 2021

New Requirements for the Open Meetings Act – SB 1108, *Foster Swift Library Law News E-blast*, October 26, 2020

An Update on OMA Legislation Amendments, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, October 19, 2020

Pending OMA Legislation: What You Need to Know, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, October 14, 2020

How Do Recent Michigan Supreme Court and MDHHS Orders Regarding COVID-19 Impact Employers?, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, October 6, 2020

Michigan Supreme Court Upends Governor Whitmer's Authority to Issue Executive Orders, *Foster Swift Eblast & Coronavirus Resource Page*, October 2, 2020

Guide to Bringing Back Workers and Resuming Operations for Michigan Municipalities, July 29, 2020

Whitmer Enacts Mandatory Mask Executive Order, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, July 10, 2020

Emails to Your Personal Attorney May Not Be Privileged If Sent or Received on a Work-Provided Email Address, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, June 16, 2020

New Executive Orders Lift Some Restrictions on Libraries in Northern Michigan and the UP, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, June 5, 2020

Libraries may reopen on June 8, 2020, *Foster Swift Library Law News E-blast*, June 1, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions by Public Libraries During COVID-19, *Foster Swift Library Law News E-blast*, April 28, 2020

Update to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, March 20, 2020



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Zoning for Dollars, *Michigan Township Focus Magazine*, February 2020

Municipalities Held Hostage: Addressing the Rise of Ransomware, *The Review (Michigan Municipal League)*, January 7, 2020

Clinton Township Found Liable in Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act Lawsuit, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, November 14, 2019

REMINDER: November 1 is Deadline for Municipalities to "Opt Out" of Recreational Marijuana Establishments, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, October 17, 2019

Marijuana Emergency Rules: What Municipalities Should Know, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 8, 2019

A Look at State and Federal FOIA, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 7, 2019

Michigan Supreme Court Rules that Building Inspection Fees Must Reasonably Relate to the Costs of Services Provided by a Municipality's Building Department, *Inside 208 Blog, Michigan Municipal League*, August 6, 2019

November 1 is Deadline for Municipalities to "Opt Out" of Recreational Marijuana Establishments, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, July 18, 2019

Direct Purchases of Bonds By Banks: A Popular Alternative for Municipalities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 27, 2019

How Marijuana Laws Affect Workplace Policies for Municipalities in Michigan, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 22, 2019

New Policy Makes it Easier for Municipalities to Terminate Participation in MERS Defined Benefit Plan, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, February 27, 2019

Funding Capital Improvement Projects: Financing Options for Michigan Libraries, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 12, 2019

New amendments to the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, January 23, 2019

New Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act – Public Act 523 of 2018, *Michigan Police Chiefs (Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police)*, January 14, 2019

Foster Swift Secures Major Victory for Almer and Ellington Townships in Lawsuits Brought by Wind Energy Company, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, November 8, 2018

Five Policies that Every Michigan Library Should Have in Place, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, November 7, 2018

Michigan Voters Approve Recreational Marijuana Ballot Proposal, *Foster Swift Municipal Law E-blast*, November 7, 2018

New Case Law Restricts Local Zoning Control Over Medical Marijuana, *Foster Swift Municipal Law E-blast*, November 1, 2018

The Dos and Don'ts of Leasing Property Owned by a Municipality, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 15, 2018

As Public Pension Plan Funding Continues to Decline, Employers Explore Other Options, *Foster Swift Employment Labor & Benefits News E-blast*, May 30, 2018

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- Can Your Community Get Connected to Broadband?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, April 24, 2018
- Maintaining Attorney-Client Privilege in Public Meetings, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, April 24, 2018
- Tough Times for Township Assessors: Michigan Supreme Court Relaxes Property Tax Exemption Rules for Charities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, April 24, 2018
- Ten Critical Issues that Every Michigan Library Trustee Must Know, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 15, 2018
- After Menard Inc. v City of Escanaba, What's Next for Big Box Store Appeals?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Newsletter*, November 28, 2017
- The Risks of Social Media Use by Employees, and How Public Employers Can Create Strong Social Media Policies, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, July 27, 2017
- Nuts and Bolts of the New Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, April 14, 2017
- U.S. Supreme Court Vacates Lower Court Decision Which Ruled Against High School's Bathroom Policy for Transgender Students, *Foster Swift School Law News*, March 6, 2017
- Department of Justice and Department of Education Withdraw Transgender Guidance Letters, *Foster Swift School Law News*, February 24, 2017
- Just in Time for Winter: New Law Further Protects Municipalities from Sidewalk "Slip and Fall" Lawsuits, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 6, 2017
- Municipalities now Prohibited from Banning Plastic Bags, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 3, 2017
- Michigan Court of Appeals Upholds Ann Arbor Public School's Policies Prohibiting Licensed Concealed Weapons on School Grounds, *Foster Swift School Law News*, December 19, 2016
- I Demand a Recount: Options for Local Michigan Candidates on November 9, *LinkedIn*, November 2, 2016
- Michigan Supreme Court Declines to Weigh in on Non-Public School Funding, *Foster Swift School Law News*, October 5, 2016
- Governor Snyder Signs Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, September 28, 2016
- Can a School Ban Someone from School Property?, *Foster Swift School Law News*, July 20, 2016
- New Freedom of Information Act Case: Documents Do Not Have to be Produced by the Time the FOIA Response is Due, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, July 19, 2016
- The Impacts of Menards Inc. v City of Escanaba, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, June 30, 2016
- Bringing Light to Michigan's "Dark Stores", *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, May 31, 2016
- Court of Appeals Issues Critical Decision on "Big Box" Store Property Tax Appeals, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, May 27, 2016
- Federal Court Temporarily Bans State From Enforcing New Election Law That "Gags" Local Governments and Schools, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 5, 2016
- Behind Closed Doors: What Can a Public Body Discuss in Closed Session?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 26, 2016
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Election Law Updates and How They May Affect Your Local Government, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 26, 2016

When Does Off-Duty Use of Smartphones Result in Compensable Overtime?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 26, 2016

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

2016 MTA Conference, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, October 30, 2015

Dispute Between City of Howell and Homeowner Over Grass Cutting Ordinance Ends Up in Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, September 23, 2015

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

Email and the Freedom of Information Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, April 30, 2015

Develop FOIA Documents for New Requirements, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 30, 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

Complying with the New Freedom of Information Act Changes, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 27, 2015

When is Whistleblowing Not a Protected Activity?, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 27, 2015

New Changes to the Freedom of Information Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 16, 2015

Going To Pot: How Medical Marijuana Impacts Employer Drug Policies, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, November 24, 2014

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

On Your Mark, Get Set, Go: Court of Appeals Decision Creates Race to the Courthouse in Actions to Quiet Title Involving Municipalities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, July 30, 2014

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

Attorney Fees Awarded Even for Technical Violations of The Open Meetings Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 30, 2014

Social Media Perils for Public Employers, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 30, 2014

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

Court Limits Road Commission Authority to Resolve Inter-Township Roadway Disputes, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 30, 2013

Motor Vehicle Exception to Governmental Immunity, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, May 2013



Dealing with Employment Issues and Complying with the Open Meetings Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 2013

2012 Year in Review: Changes Impacting Michigan County Road Commissions

Legislation Alert: New House Bill Proposes to Change Bidding Procedure on Township Funded Roads, *Foster Swift Road Commission Law News*, February 19, 2013

New State Legislation Regarding Road Commission Weigh Masters Takes Effect in 2013, *Foster Swift Road Commission Law News*, February 19, 2013

How Michigan's New Right-To-Work Legislation Will Affect Municipalities, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 2013

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

New Notice Requirements Added to the Open Meetings Act, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Bulletin*, January 10, 2013

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

New Law Mandates that Municipalities' Election Commission Must Appoint a Receiving Board, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Bulletin*, October 4, 2012

New FOIA Bill Introduced – HB 5879, *Foster Swift Municipal Law Bulletin*, September 19, 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

HB 5335: A Proposed Change to the OMA to Prohibit Voting by Telephone and Video Conference, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, March 2012

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

Noteworthy 2011 Foster Swift Events – A Quick Summary, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, January 2012

Labor Corner: 2011 Labor Law Changes Impact Municipalities, *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

Governor Snyder Has Signed Legislation Changing the Process for Arbitration of Public Safety Labor Disputes, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, August 2011

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

Open Meetings Act & Closed Sessions – Beware in Preparing Session of the Open Session, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, July 2011





**NEWS**

Preparing Women Business Leaders for 2024 Legal Challenges, *Meltwater Newswire*, February 20, 2024

Grand Rapids Attorneys Listed as 2023 Top Lawyers, *Grand Rapids Magazine*, November 8, 2023

Foster Swift to Welcome Attorneys and Staff from Loomis Law Firm, *EIN Newswire*, November 7, 2023

Foster Swift Listed in "Best Law Firms" 2024, *Best Lawyers in America*, November 2, 2023

Foster Swift Wins Major Victory for County Treasurers, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News E-blast*, October 26, 2023

Goodenough to Receive 2023 Theodore W. Swift Civility Award, *Ingham County Bar Association*, October 6, 2023

Municipal Attorney Courtney Gabbara Agrusa Joins Foster Swift, *Detroit Legal News*, August 21, 2023

Foster Swift Attorneys Named 2024 Best Lawyers in America, *Best Lawyers in America*, August 17, 2023

Foster Swift Best Lawyers® 2024 "Ones to Watch", *Best Lawyers in America*, August 17, 2023

Real Estate Attorney Roragen Joins Lansing Firm, *Ingham County Legal News*, July 10, 2023

City of East Lansing Prevails in Electric Franchise Fee Appeal, April 14, 2023

Foster Swift Welcomes Associate to Municipal Practice, *Grand Rapids Legal News*, March 28, 2023

Seuryncck Recognized as a Notable West Michigan Lawyer, *Grand Rapids Business Journal*, March 20, 2023

Foster Swift Elects Officers for 2023, *Ingham County Legal News*, February 15, 2023

Foster Swift Elects Three New Shareholders, *Ingham County Legal News*, January 30, 2023

Grand Rapids Law Firm Welcomes Two Associates, *Grand Rapids Legal News*, November 14, 2022

Foster Swift Attorneys Named 2023 Best Lawyers in America®, *Best Lawyers in America*, August 18, 2022

Foster Swift Wins Victory for City in Marihuana Ordinance Appeal, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, July 18, 2022

Thibodeau Selected to NBL "40 Under 40" List, *The National Black Lawyers (NBL)*, April 12, 2022

Foster Swift Elects EC Members for 2022, February 21, 2022

Foster Swift to Participate in Mansfield Rule Program Focused on Diversity in Leadership, September 14, 2021

Foster Swift Attorneys Named to 2022 Best Lawyers in America®, August 19, 2021

Koerner Discusses Dapper Dads on Michigan Business Network, *Michigan Business Network*, August 19, 2021

Thibodeau Receives 3 in 10 Award, *Grand Rapids Bar Association*, August 10, 2021

Firm Welcomes New Chief Operating Officer, *Grand Rapids Business Journal*, July 29, 2021

Attorney Joins 2021 Dapper Dads for Good Cause, July 15, 2021

Foster Swift Attorneys Offer Advice for Those Interested in Law School, *Detroit Legal News*, April 29, 2021

Firm Elects EC Members and Practice Leaders in 2021, February 17, 2021

Foster Swift Elects Six Shareholders in 2021, January 13, 2021



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Foster Swift Ushers in Three New Associates, December 17, 2020

Resource Published to Help Organizations Link to Trending Legal Issues, *Foster Swift Business & Tax Law News*, November 17, 2020

Foster Swift Attorneys Named Best Lawyers® 2021 "Ones to Watch", August 20, 2020

Dickinson Receives GRBA 3 in 10 Award, July 21, 2020

A sidebar with ... Anne Seuryneck, *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*, April 24, 2020

Hillman Appointed Judge for 55th District Court of Ingham County, April 7, 2020

Minimizing Legal Impact of Coronavirus for your Organization, *Foster Swift Legal Update E-blast*, March 17, 2020

Foster Swift Participates at the 2020 MTA Conference, *Foster Swift Municipal Law News*, February 16, 2020

Foster Swift Elects Anne Seuryneck as President of the Firm, February 13, 2020

Conference Provides Insight to Michigan's Infrastructure Challenges, November 6, 2019

Thibodeau Quoted in Mlive on 5G Antenna Approval in Grand Rapids, *Mlive*, June 12, 2019

Foster Swift Announces Women in Leadership, *Michigan Business Network*, June 5, 2019

Firm Elects Executive Committee Members for 2019, *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*, March 7, 2019

Foster Swift Presents at 2019 MTA Conference, February 8, 2019

Genovich Quoted in Herald-Palladium Regarding Income Tax Challenge, *The Herald-Palladium*, January 24, 2019

Southfield Office Welcomes Municipal Attorney, December 4, 2018

Foster Swift Welcomes Five New Attorneys, November 16, 2018

Foster Swift Rated Tier 1 in 27 Practice Areas in Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms", November 1, 2018

Genovich Honored with Property Tax Award, August 29, 2018

45 Foster Swift Attorneys Listed in Best Lawyers in America© 2019, August 15, 2018

Hamameh Elected to SBM Board of Commissioners, July 3, 2018

Foster Swift Secures Victory for Coloma Charter Township after Long Running Battle over Gun Range, March 30, 2018

46 Foster Swift Attorneys Named to 2018 Best Lawyers in America®, August 21, 2017

Leading Southwest Michigan Law Firm DeFrancesco, Dienes & Smith, PLLC to Join Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC

Business Attorneys release series of Legal Essential Videos for Business Start Ups, June 17, 2015

Free Webinar Addresses How to Discipline and Terminate Employees, June 5, 2015

Foster Swift Elects Laura Genovich and Liza Moore shareholders, January 19, 2015

Foster Swift Welcomes Lisa J. Hamameh, April 22, 2013

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21 Foster Swift Attorneys named to 2011 Michigan Super Lawyers; 4 named Michigan Rising Stars, September 12, 2011

Foster Swift's 2011 Best Lawyers, August 17, 2010

## **EVENTS**

Campaign Finance Act: What Can We Say?, *Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference 2024*, April 24, 2024

Can They FOIA That?, *Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference 2024*, April 24, 2024

Substance Use Policies and Your Township, *Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference 2024*, April 23, 2024

Boosting Board Engagement and Ground Rules for Great Meetings, *Michigan Townships Association*, October 5, 2023

Controversial Land Uses, *Michigan Townships Association*, October 4, 2023

Innovative Approaches to Wind and Solar, *Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM)*, June 7, 2023

Property Tax Exemptions, *Mid-Michigan Association of Assessing Officers*, June 22, 2022

The Who, What, When and How of Campaign Finance, *Foster Swift Second Wednesday Morning Break*, June 8, 2022

Is a Social District Right for Your Township?, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, April 27, 2022

What to Do with a Marijuana Initiative Referendum, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, April 27, 2022

Best Practices for Townships for Complying with ADA & Fair Housing Act, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, April 26, 2022

Small Box Discount Retailers & Big Dollar Zoning Issues, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, April 26, 2022

The Latest on Marijuana in Michigan, *Michigan Municipal League*, March 16, 2022

Municipal Ordinances, *Michigan Rural Water Association Annual Conference*, February 21, 2022

What You Need to Know Now About Renewable Energy Ordinances, *Michigan Townships Association: Planning & Zoning Retreat*, October 28, 2021

Marijuana Petitions Ballot Proposals, *Michigan Municipal League (MML)*, September 24, 2021

Meeting Myths, Mysteries and Misconceptions, *Michigan Townships Association (MTA) Conference*, April 21, 2021

Meeting Virtually: Amendments to the Open Meetings Act, *Foster Swift*, November 10, 2020

Municipal Regulation of Wireless Telecommunication Facilities in the Public Right of Way: Guidance for Counsel, *Strafford*, October 29, 2020



Now That the Stay at Home Order is Lifted, What do Municipalities Need to Know?, *Michigan Municipal League*, June 8, 2020

Employer Guidance for a Lawful and Safe Re-Opening, *Foster Swift*, May 27, 2020

A Michigan Condemnation Law Primer for Commercial Property Owners, *International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)*, February 13, 2020

Building Michigan's Infrastructure Through P3s, *National Council for Public Private Partnerships (NCPPP)*, December 3, 2019

Funding and Financing the Project, *National Council for Public Private Partnerships: P3 Showcase*, December 3, 2019

Understanding Michigan's Regulations & P3 Water Infrastructure Challenges, *National Council for Public Private Partnerships: P3 Showcase*, December 3, 2019

Contracting in Public Projects, *Construction Law for Public Projects Seminar: HalfMoon Education Inc.*, November 13, 2019

Public Procurement Law Applicable to Construction Contracting, *Construction Law for Public Projects Seminar: HalfMoon Education Inc.*, November 13, 2019

Cost Recovery Options (And Hurdles!), *Michigan Township Association (MTA), Emerging Issues in Emergency Services*, September 25, 2019

Modules for Michigan Laws Concerning Public Transit, *Michigan Public Transit Association*, August 1, 2019

Modules for Michigan Laws Concerning Public Transit, *Michigan Public Transit Association*, June 6, 2019

Working with Weed: How Marijuana Laws Will Affect Your Business, *Old Town Commercial Association*, May 20, 2019

Modules for Michigan Laws Concerning Public Transit, *Michigan Public Transit Association*, May 9, 2019

Ethics Boot Camp, *MTA Annual Conference & Expo, April 2019*, April 3, 2019

What the Heck is an SAD?, *MTA Annual Conference & Expo, April 2019*, April 3, 2019

Parliamentary Procedures at its Worst, *MTA Annual Conference & Expo, April 2019*, April 2, 2019

Zoning Law Updates, *Legal Institute - MTA Annual Conference & Expo, April 2019*, April 1, 2019

Understanding the General Law Village Act, *Michigan Municipal League (Capital Conference & Annual Expo)*, March 19, 2019

Perspective of Defense Counsel Representing Municipalities in Religious Land Use (RLUIPA) Issues, *Federal Bar Association: Civil Rights Law Section*, October 30, 2018

Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act: Back to the Basics, *Michigan Municipal League: 2018 Convention*, September 20, 2018

Alternative Energy Regulation Tips, *2018 MTA Annual Conference: Michigan Townships Association*, April 25, 2018

Regulating Liquor Licensing in your Community, *2018 MTA Annual Conference: Michigan Townships Association*, April 25, 2018



That's Unconstitutional! Fact and Fiction Regarding Townships and the Constitution, *2018 MTA Annual Conference: Michigan Townships Association*, April 25, 2018

Drafting and Policing Developments, Developers and Development Agreements, *2018 MTA Annual Conference: Michigan Townships Association*, April 24, 2018

Lessons Learned from Menard Inc. v. City of Escanaba, *2018 MTA Annual Conference: Michigan Townships Association*, April 23, 2018

Social Networking and Human Resources Hot Topics, *Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association*, April 27, 2017

WEBINAR: Social Media Use by School Employees-From Worst Case Scenarios to Best Practices, April 26, 2017

Medical Marijuana: What's Legal, What's Not, and What Can We Do?, March 6, 2017

The ABCs of the FOIA, *MTA: Upper Peninsula Municipal Law Seminar*, February 15, 2017

Legal Essentials for Municipal Officials, January 18, 2017

Medical Marijuana: What's Legal, What's Not, and What Can We Do?, *Lake Charter Township Berrien*, November 14, 2016

Michigan Tax Tribunal Presentation, *Michigan Association of Counties*, August 16, 2016

WEBINAR: Local Government Ethics, *Michigan Municipal League*, April 27, 2016

Funding for Public Projects, *Michigan Townships Association*, April 26, 2016

Webinar: A Current Guide to Municipal Bonds and Debt, April 20, 2016

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

Behind Closed Doors: What Can Be Discussed in Closed Session?, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Educational Conference & Expo*, January 20, 2016

New Legal Trends in Zoning and Land Use Regulation, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Educational Conference & Expo*, January 20, 2016

Social Media Policies for Townships, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Educational Conference & Expo*, January 20, 2016

Why Can't We Get Along? How to Avoid Legal Issues by Working Together, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Educational Conference & Expo*, January 20, 2016

Newest Danger Facing Your Department— Social Media, *Michigan Townships Association Emerging Issues in Emergency Services*, October 14, 2015

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

WEBINAR | What Every Municipality Needs to Know about Liquor Licensing, *Foster Swift*, April 22, 2015

Learning the Ins and Outs of Negotiating Contracts and Agreements, *Michigan Townships Association The Art of the Deal Workshops*, March 2015

Bond Offerings: Compliance and Training for Involved City Officials, *29th Annual Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys Advanced Institute*, March 24, 2015

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



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- Liquor Control Updates, *Macomb Michigan Townships Association Chapter*, February 20, 2015
- WEBINAR | New Changes to the Freedom of Information Act, February 17, 2015
- Major Changes to Michigan's Freedom Of Information Act, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, January 29, 2015
- Providing Library Services, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, January 29, 2015
- Special Assessments: Risk or Reward?, *Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference*, January 29, 2015
- WEBINAR | Open Meetings Act: What Every Municipality Should Know, August 12, 2014
- Hot Topics in Zoning & Planning, *Michigan Townships Association*, Frankenmuth, Gaylord & Kalamazoo, July 2014
- WEBINAR | What Municipalities Need to Know about Michigan Campaign Finance Law, *Foster Swift*, October 8, 2013
- Chapter 7 bankruptcy issues, *Bankruptcy Best Practices Seminar*, September 27, 2013
- Annual Update of Michigan Law: Land Use and Zoning, *HCC Public Risk Claim, Inc., Annual Seminar*, September 5, 2013
- WEBINAR | Ten Things to Know Before Your Municipality Borrows Money, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, May 9, 2013
- Public Employment and Labor Law – The Basics, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*
- WEBINAR | Public Sector Employment Law - The Basics, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, April 18, 2013
- WEBINAR | Avoid Common Freedom of Information Act Mistakes, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, March 14, 2013
- WEBINAR | Zoning and Land Use: What You Need to Know, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, February 12, 2013
- WEBINAR | Municipal Ethics – Avoiding Common Mistakes, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, January 15, 2013
- WEBINAR | Nuts & Bolts of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, *Foster Swift Webinar Series for New Municipal Officials*, December 13, 2012
- Annual Update of Michigan Law: Land Use and Zoning, *HCC Public Risk Claim, Inc., Annual Seminar*, September 13, 2012
- WEBINAR | An Update on the 2011 Labor Law Changes and the Impact on Michigan Municipalities, June 6, 2012
- Social Networking and Human Resources Hot Topics, *Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association Advanced Institute*, May 2, 2012
- WEBINAR | Millages: What You Need to Know About Drafting Proposals and Placing Them on the Ballot, April 19, 2012
- Ask a Lawyer - Municipal Litigation and Appeals, *Michigan Townships Association*, January 25, 2012
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WEBINAR | Open Meetings Act: What Every Municipality Should Know, November 17, 2011

Top 10 Open Meetings Act Mistakes & How to Avoid Them, *Michigan Municipal League Annual Convention*, October 5, 2011

WEBINAR | Problem Patrons: Developing and Enforcing Patron Behavior Policies, September 6, 2011

WEBINAR | Social Media: Developing and Implementing an Effective Policy for Your Municipality, August 16, 2011

Your Individual Legal Powers, Duties and Responsibilities as a Road Commission Officer and Employee, *Michigan County Road Commission Self Insurance Pool Annual Meeting*, July 2011

"Urban Chickens", Zoning and Land Use, *Michigan Townships Association*, June 14, 2011, June 15, 2011

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

Legal Ethics & Law Firm Risk Management, *Legal Assistants' Retreat*, May 16, 2008

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