



# Anne M. Seurynck

Shareholder

1700 East Beltline, N.E. Suite 200 Grand Rapids, MI 49525-7044 T: 616.726.2240 F: 517.371.8200 ASeurynck@fosterswift.com

Anne Seurynck is the practice group leader of the firm's Administrative and Municipal practice group and has focused her career on representing libraries, municipalities and other public entities. Her work includes assisting communities in forming libraries, interpreting the unique library laws, understanding specific privacy laws and developing policies such as patron behavior and internet use. She has guided libraries with requests for information by law enforcement agencies and private entities, including the application of the Library Privacy Act and Patriot Act. Anne also has extensive experience in drafting and reviewing ordinances, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Open Meetings Act issues.

To promote her belief that the best legal strategy is a proactive strategy, Anne is a frequent speaker at seminars and conferences where the educational focus is on municipal law or library law.

Anne is also the chair of the firm's Recruiting Committee. This group is responsible for identifying the firm's need for associate attorneys as well as interviewing and hiring qualified individuals for available positions. Prior to this leadership role, Anne was active on the firm's Diversity Committee. Currently, she also serves as a fellow of the Michigan State Bar Association and serves on the Advocacy Committee for JDRF West Michigan Chapter.

#### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Drafting district library agreements and assisting with all aspects of the district library formation process.
- Amending existing district library agreements, including adding participating municipalities to existing districts.
- Drafting millage proposal and educating library boards regarding the application of the Michigan Campaign Finance laws.

#### **PRACTICE AREAS**

Library Law
Freedom of Information Act
Open Meetings Act
School Law Services
Election & Campaign Finance Law
Municipal & Public Entity Law

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Wisconsin Law School, J.D., 1996

University of Michigan, B.A., 1993

### **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



- Addressing board governance issues, including the application of the Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- Successfully defend clients in FOIA cases.
- Assisting libraries with request for information by law enforcement agencies and private entities, including the application of the Library Privacy Act and Patriot Act.

#### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

WEBINAR: ADA Requirements: What Libraries Need to Know, Michigan Cooperative Directors Association, June 13, 2017

WEBINAR: Parliamentary Procedure: How To Run A Successful Meeting, Michigan Cooperative Directors Association, May 23, 2017

Providing Library Services, Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference, January 29, 2015

WEBINAR | Open Meetings Act: What Every Municipality Should Know, August 12, 2014

Are You Considering Forming a District Library?, Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference, May 2, 2014

The Case for Sharing Libraries, Recreation and Other Public Services, Michigan Association of CPAs, Local Government Summit on Efficiency Creation and Cost Savings, February 28, 2013

WEBINAR | Library Privacy Act: The Fundamentals, December 8, 2011

WEBINAR | Open Meetings Act: What Every Municipality Should Know, November 17, 2011

Ask the Library and Labor Lawyer, Michigan Library Association Annual Conference, October 26, 2011

WEBINAR | Open Meetings Act/Freedom of Information Act: What Every Library Should Know, October 11, 2011

WEBINAR | Library Millages: From the Ballot Language to the Ballot Box, June 7, 2011

Colonel Mustard, in the Library, with the Wrench: Looking for Clues in Cargo Claims, Transportation Law Association's Chicago Regional Seminar, January 21, 2011

SEMINAR | Library Policies Seminar, Walsh College & Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC, August 19, 2010

Rural Libraries and Legal Issues (focused on District Library Establishment), Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference, 2009

"Street Legal" for Library Privacy Issues: Federal and Michigan Law After the Revised USA Patriot Act, Michigan Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee, Spring Workshop, April 2007

What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings in Michigan, December 4, 2001

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

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

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





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

Public Library Successfully Challenges State Aid Rules, Foster Swift Library Law E-News, October 2010 The Freedom of Information Act: Do Emails Qualify as a "Public Record?", Foster Swift Municipal Law

News, June 2009

## **MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

## **Legal Affiliations:**

- State Bar of Wisconsin
- State Bar of Michigan
- American Bar Association
- Fellow, Michigan State Bar Foundation

## **Industry & Professional Associations:**

Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys, Member