



## Press Release

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### **Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys Names 2011 William L. Steude Ethics and Civility in Local Government Award Winner**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan – (Oct. 4, 2011)** Attorney Don M. Schmidt, Of Counsel at Miller Canfield in its Kalamazoo office, has been honored with the 2011 William L. Steude Ethics and Civility in Local Government Award by the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys (MAMA). The award was announced at the annual MAMA Awards Luncheon on October 4 in Grand Rapids, preceding the 2011 Michigan Municipal League Convention.

The William L. Steude Award was established to honor individuals for significant and tangible achievement in the field of local government ethics and civility. Nominees are an official or employee of a member municipality of the Michigan Municipal League, a member of the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys, or associated with local government.

Recipients are selected by an awards committee comprised of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys and the president and the executive director of the Michigan Municipal League. The award is dedicated to the memory of William L. Steude, former general counsel of the Michigan Municipal League and a good friend of the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys.

Schmidt was nominated for the award by Howell City Attorney Dennis Perkins, one of many municipal lawyers who have over the years turned to Schmidt for advice on various complex legal issues involving public entities. Schmidt is widely recognized as a preeminent authority on the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act, and regularly provides training and advice to municipal attorneys and public officials across the state.

“I, like many of my brother and sister attorneys in municipal law, have relied on Don over the years as it relates to issues concerning the Freedom of Information Act and the Opening Meetings Act in particular. I look upon Don as the guru for legal advice and assistance with respect to those two acts,” said Perkins in his nomination letter. “Having listened to Don over the course of years and knowing the type of individual that he is and the respect that he has earned from his partners at Miller Canfield specifically and the Municipal Bar generally, there is no question that he meets the criteria for such an award.”

Schmidt’s professional accolades include recognition among the Best Lawyers in America since 2007 and Michigan Super Lawyers since 2008. In 2009 he won the MAMA Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award.

For photo, click [here](#).

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