

Bureau of Employment Relations  
**MERC PANEL MEMBER BIOGRAPHY**

Barnes, Tom  
Attorney at Law

**Business:** Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt et al  
Bridgewater Place  
PO Box 352  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352  
616-336-6000

**Experience:**

Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, Labor and employment relations litigation, 1972 to present. 1967-1970, Labor Relations consultant to employees, professional associations and Unions with Associated Professional Advisors. Extensive negotiation experience for both labor (formerly) and management (present). Arbitrial experience in health care, secondary and higher education, municipal, police and fire, furniture, auto supplier and retail.

**Education:**

J.D. Wayne Law School, (1972 Editor in Chief, Wayne Law Review). B.A. Accounting (1965) & Political Science (1966) Michigan State University

**Advocacy:**

Extensive negotiation experience for both labor (formerly) and management (present).

**Professional Organizations:**

Michigan Bar (Labor Section Chairperson-elect 1988-89), American Bar (NLRB Practice & Procedure Comm.), Grand Rapids Bar, IRRRA; Author business & professional journals; Speaker ICLE; MI Bar, ABA, MLLI

**Charges:**

PER DIEM: \$900.00 - hearing, study, travel & preparation time

CANCEL: \$450.00 - within 14 days of scheduled hearing date; \$900.00 - within 7 days of scheduled hearing date

POSTPONEMENTS: \$450.00 - (not resulting in cancellation) made within one week of scheduled hearing date.

Expenses will be billed at cost.