



**Builders Owners and Managers Association  
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## **BOMA of Metropolitan Detroit's Government Affairs Committee Honored for its Recent Accomplishments in the Local Commercial Real Estate Industry**

**Farmington Hills, Mich., February 27, 2008 – The Building Owners and Managers Association of Metropolitan Detroit's (BOMA) Government Affairs Committee was recently honored by BOMA International at the 2008 Annual Winter Business Meeting in Miami, Florida.**

At BOMA International's recent Winter Business Meeting and Leadership Conference in Miami, Florida, BOMA Chairman Brenna S. Walraven, RPA, CPM, presented BOMA of Metropolitan Detroit with the Government Affairs Award for the best Government Affairs Committee for its strong advocacy efforts to further the association's mission of actively representing the state's commercial real estate industry.

Through its work with a coalition of Michigan business groups, the association was active in efforts to rescind the onerous service tax, and is working to develop long-term alternatives. If this tax had passed, a building owner's liability would have been 7-10 cents per square foot in recoverable operating expenses, and 63-90 cents per square foot in unrecoverable ownership costs. Janet Langlois, BOMA's Executive Director, adds, "We must remain vigilant in our efforts to ensure Michigan promotes an inviting business climate for a stronger economic future."

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The committee was also instrumental in protecting the private property rights of commercial real estate when legislation was introduced that would have given cable and video service providers unfettered access to commercial buildings. Members, in conjunction with the association's lobbyists, worked with legislators to ensure that forced access would not be an unintended consequence of the bill through the addition of clarifying language.

Each year, BOMA International's State Government Affairs Committee acknowledges the outstanding work of BOMA local association volunteers in advocacy and education through the Government Affairs Awards of Recognition Program. Awards are bestowed in three categories: Outstanding Government Affairs Committee; Single Government Affairs Issue; and Single Government Affairs Program/Seminar. This year's awards cycle saw the largest numbers of entries in the program's history.

For additional information on the BOMA of Metropolitan Detroit Government Affairs Committee, contact Janet Langlois at [janglois@bomadet.org](mailto:janglois@bomadet.org) or visit [www.bomadet.org](http://www.bomadet.org).

*Founded in 1908, BOMA of Metropolitan Detroit is a professional, nonprofit trade association whose nearly 400 members either own or manage commercial real estate, or provide goods and services to the industry. **BOMA Michigan members represent organizations managing more than 250 million square feet of office and industrial space, with employees and tenants totaling more than 1.25 million people in Michigan.** BOMA of Metro Detroit provides commercial real estate professionals the opportunity to work together for professional growth, advocacy rights, corporate profit, and the benefit of the nine Southeastern Michigan communities it serves. For more information on BOMA and membership, visit [www.bomadet.org](http://www.bomadet.org).*

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Photo available by contacting Becky Hartford at 248-848-3714 or at [rhartford@bomadet.org](mailto:rhartford@bomadet.org)