



# Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office  
Child Welfare Services

## Foster Care Review Board

3034 W. Grand Boulevard, #8-400  
Detroit, Michigan 48202  
Phone (313) 972-3280



Kelly Howard  
Director

## JURIST OF THE YEAR

On an annual basis, the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) will recognize one jurist (referee or judge) from the State of Michigan for exemplary judicial service to abused/neglected children. Nominations may be submitted by agencies, court personnel, CASAs, foster parents, FCRB staff and review board members, or any interested person familiar with the nominee. **The FCRB will accept nomination forms through September 15, 2010.** They may be submitted by email (preferred), fax, or postal service. Blank nomination forms are available on the Foster Care Review Board program page of the Michigan Courts web site at <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/fcrb/fcrb.htm>.

Persons interested in nominating a jurist (referee or judge) for this award should consider the following attributes and criteria:

- Provides exceptional services on behalf of children and their families in the child welfare system.
- Exhibits the highest standards of practice and commitment to judicial ethics.
- Demonstrates leadership in moving children to safe and timely permanency by ensuring timeliness and thoroughness of required hearings.
- Promotes a courtroom environment of respect, safety, sensitivity, and inclusion.
- Demonstrates leadership in ensuring children’s safety and well being by actively monitoring the care and supervision provided by the assigned child welfare agency.
- Demonstrates leadership in holding caseworkers and attorneys to practice and policy standards established to facilitate safe and timely permanency for children under the court’s jurisdiction.
- Requires, values, and utilizes information provided by the persons assigned to care for the children (e.g., L-GALs, foster care workers, therapists, foster parents, CASAs) when making decisions regarding the children’s best interests.
- Possesses extensive knowledge about the array and effectiveness of services available in the community to serve the needs of children and families.
- Demonstrates leadership in establishing collaborative relationships within the community to improve the array and effectiveness of needed services.
- Demonstrates strong leadership on initiatives designed to instill public trust and confidence in the Michigan courts.
- Has at least five years of experience as a jurist assigned to child welfare cases.

You are encouraged to nominate any jurist who meets the above criteria. The recipient of this award will be selected by a committee comprised of FCRB board members, advisory committee professionals and advocates, child welfare professionals, and FCRB program staff. The award recipient will be recognized at the FCRB annual training conference in early November.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please submit the attached nomination form via email, fax, or postal service **no later than September 15** to:

Email (preferred):  
[FalconelloK@courts.mi.gov](mailto:FalconelloK@courts.mi.gov)

Fax:  
313-972-3289

Mail:  
FCRB Award Nomination  
Attn: Kathy Falconello  
3034 W. Grand Blvd. Suite 8-400  
Detroit, MI 48202

# Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office

Child Welfare Services

Foster Care Review Board

## NOMINATION FORM

# JURIST OF THE YEAR

**Nominee:**

Name

Court

Address

City, State, Zip

County

Phone

Email

**Nominator:**

Name

Organization

Address

City, State, Zip

County

Phone

Email

**Nominee's years of experience as a jurist:**

**Nominee's other legal/professional experience:**

**Please describe and/or provide examples related to the following items:**

- Outstanding skills/attributes in processing cases to timely permanency:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Outstanding leadership abilities demonstrated both on the bench and in collaboration with other aspects of the child welfare system off the bench:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Significant contributions to the profession or community related to child welfare:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Describe any additional significant contributions and achievements: