

January 24, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Michigan's newest justice takes seat on Supreme Court

"Bridget Mary McCormack was sworn in as Michigan's newest Supreme Court justice Wednesday afternoon in a festive and traditional investiture ceremony attended by family and friends. McCormack, who left a University of Michigan law professorship to join the state's highest court, was the top vote-getter among candidates for two eight-year seats."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Ann Arbor.com: The Detroit News: Ann Arbor's Bridget McCormack sworn in as Michigan's newest Supreme Court justice

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: McCormack sworn in as MSC's newest justice

[Full story](#)

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: New Michigan Supreme Court Justice Sworn In

[Full story](#)

Justice McCormack praised, welcomed to Supreme Court in investiture

[Press release](#)

The Detroit News: Attorney general asks commission to probe Justice Hathaway's real estate deals

"Attorney General Bill Schuette has asked the state's Attorney Grievance Commission to investigate the real estate transactions of former Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway that caused her to step down from the high court Monday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Schuette questions Diane Hathaway's competency as a lawyer

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: AG Bill Schuette asks that Grievance Commission investigate a former state Supreme Court justice

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Schuette asks ADB to investigate Hathaway

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Nolan Finley: Save the prison cells for those who scare us

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Ruling revives suits against pharmacies; Cases claim state, consumers denied savings from generics

"Lawsuits alleging Michigan pharmacies failed to pass savings from generic drugs along to customers including the state Medicaid program will get a hearing after the Michigan Court of Appeals on Wednesday reversed a trial court's conclusions. CVS, Rite-Aid, Walgreen's, Target, Wal-Mart and nearly every major retail pharmacy in the state has been named a defendant in the case."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Appeals court: Deer defense won't work in wreck

"A deer defense has failed for an Iosco County man who was convicted of a wreck that injured two passengers.... But the Michigan appeals court this week says one of the passengers didn't see a deer, and the investigating officer says a deer was never mentioned."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Appeals court: Deer defense won't work in wreck

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran on WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.

Detroit Free Press: Supporters of marijuana leniency net legal victories

"... In Grand Rapids, a judge ruled Wednesday against the Kent County prosecutor's effort to block a new city charter amendment that would dramatically reduce penalties for possessing small amounts of pot.... Also this week, the Michigan Court of Appeals sent a case back to Oakland County Circuit Court after ruling that a 72-year-old Lake Orion woman -- a retired police dispatcher and school bus driver, who said she used marijuana for her arthritis -- should have been allowed to tell a jury that she was a registered medical-marijuana user."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Grand Rapids Press: Decriminalize GR hopeful after judge's ruling in Grand Rapids' marijuana vote

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Court of Appeals sends medical marijuana case back for hearing

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Macomb County prosecutors seek to block release of convicted sex offender

"Prosecutors plan to ask a Macomb Circuit Court judge to block the release of a convicted sex offender from prison. Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith said Wednesday representatives from his office will appear in circuit court on Feb. 4 to seek the reversal of the state Parole Board's decision to release Mark Liske, 47."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Macomb Daily: Macomb prosecutor fights child molester's prison release

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Oakland Press.

Detroit Free Press: Tragic death of Tameria Greene highlights struggle to save abused children

"... Despite efforts to remove the girl from the home, Tameria was still in her mother's care when she was fatally stabbed last month, leading to questions about whether the state's child welfare system failed her.... In addition to an internal investigation by the Department of Human Services, the Free Press has learned that the case is being reviewed by the State Court Administrative Office's Child Welfare Services division, which assists family divisions of circuit courts."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: U.S. Rep. Dave Camp: Tameria Greene's death shows work must be done to protect kids

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Jane Bashara killing: One year later, mystery still surrounds strangled woman's death

"Sex, lies and hit men. It sounds like the title of a fictional crime novel, but they are the sordid details surrounding a murder mystery that, for a year, has captivated metro Detroit. One year ago, Jane Bashara went missing."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Detroit News reporter accused of threatening to kill Treasurer Andy Dillon's ex-wife

"A Detroit News reporter who covered the City of Detroit, including its dealings with the state over its finances, is being accused of threatening to kill the ex-wife of state Treasurer Andy Dillon with a baseball bat, according to a personal protection order she filed in Wayne County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

C & G News/Warren: Court elevator at center of injury lawsuit

"A Warren woman who claimed she was injured when an elevator door closed on her at the 37th District Court is suing the city, seeking damages in excess of \$25,000. The lawsuit was filed in Macomb County Circuit Court Dec. 28 on behalf of 44-year-old Marilyn Jordan."

[Full story](#)

The Daily Tribune: Ads in last Michigan Supreme Court election were like a 'drive-by shooting'

"With a vacancy on the Michigan Supreme Court, it's time to look at undisclosed spending in judicial campaigns and how replacements to the high court are selected, says Rich Robinson, from the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, and Susan Smith, from the League of Women Voters. The two are planning four forums in February and March to push for changes to Michigan campaign finance law and to the selection process for filling vacancies on the Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb Daily, the News-Herald/Southgate, the Oakland Press and the Press & Guide/Dearborn.

The Daily Tribune: Judge will give away controversial cash

"Stuck under an ethical cloud, Warren District Judge John Chmura said Wednesday he will donate to charity the \$1,500 that attorneys and others contributed at a birthday party for the jurist, which he intended to spend on an upcoming Las Vegas vacation."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb Daily and the Oakland Press.

The Daily Tribune: Towar: New Royal Oak judge all about community

Columnist Jeanne Towar writes "... The judicial investiture of [44th District Court Judge] Derek Meinecke on Jan. 17 packed the huge Royal Oak Middle School auditorium to standing room only, while the stage was four rows deep with federal, county and district court judges and magistrates, community leaders and close family."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Founder

"The Honorable Thomas E. Brennan, founder, dean emeritus, former president, Cooley Law School and former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice, addresses the graduates during Cooley Law School's commencement ceremony on Sunday, Jan. 20. The school presented 456 individuals with the degrees of juris doctor or master of laws during the school's 112th commencement ceremony."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Court records show how union's fight against privatization at Grand Rapids veterans home failed

"More than 140 unionized caregivers at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans were given layoff notices this week, the culmination of a months-long battle against a plan by the state to privatize the jobs.... The ultimate undoing of the union's fight against privatization are spelled out in state court documents, which show a legal challenge brought by veterans home resident Anthony Spallone was dropped in December 2012."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Meet the Judges Reception a stellar evening

"On the evening of January 17th the Judges were in; in Lansing's Cooley Center Lobby, that is, for the second annual Ingham County Bar Association (ICBA) Meet the Judges Reception. Judges from District, Circuit, Court of Appeals, and the Michigan Supreme Court attended. While most were from Ingham County, there were also judges from Eaton, and Clinton/Gratiot Counties."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Supreme Court conducts public hearing Jan 30

"Rules for retaining and destroying case files and other court records in various juvenile cases--such as child protection, personal protection orders against juveniles, and juvenile delinquency--would be clarified under proposed changes to Michigan Court Rule 3.925."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Retention, destruction of juvenile case records is subject of proposed court rule change on agenda for Supreme Court Jan. 30 public hearing

[Press release](#)

Lansing State Journal: Documents detail Lansing attorney's alleged embezzlement

"Lansing attorney Mark Canady admitted last year that he 'misappropriated' \$45,000 from the account of a young boy whose father died in a vehicle crash, according to documents obtained by the Lansing State Journal."

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only.**

Macomb County Legal News: Deadline for judicial applications extended

"The deadline for interested individuals to apply for consideration to fill federal judicial vacancies on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan has been extended one week. The Judicial Advisory Committee established by Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow will accept applications through 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Costs accord could re-ignite court relocation talks

"Attorneys for Shelby and Macomb townships apparently have reached agreement on how to allocate retiree health care and other long-term costs should the 41A District Court relocate.... While the agreement does not ensure the court will relocate from Shelby to Macomb Township, it does remove a major hurdle that had stalled talks."

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Midland County judge leaving bench, joining law firm coming to East End development

"Midland County Circuit Judge Jonathan E. Lauderbach has announced he is leaving the bench to help launch a new office of the Warner Norcross & Judd LLP law firm in the East End development under way in downtown Midland. The chief judge's resignation is effective March 1."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Saginaw News: Report: Midland County Chief Circuit Judge Lauderbach resigning to head to private sector

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: MSC appoints assistant prosecutor to AGC

"The Michigan Supreme Court has appointed Valerie White, Branch County assistant prosecutor, to the Attorney Grievance Commission. White was a Hillsdale County prosecutor from February 1996 to Dec. 31, 2012. White's term ends Oct. 1, 2015."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Valerie White of Hillsdale appointed to Attorney Grievance Commission

[Press release](#)

Oakland County Legal News: District court introduced

"The Oakland County Bar Association New Lawyers Basic Skill Seminar Series 'Introduction to Practice' covered the topic of 'District Court' on Thursday, Jan 10, at the Oakland County Bar Center. Among those leading the seminar were Stanley Wise of Wise & Wise PLC; Oakland County 47th District Court Judge Marla Parker; and Farmington Hills attorney Barry Brickner."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Pontiac teenager, charged as adult, sentenced as juvenile in father's death

"A Pontiac 16-year-old charged with killing his father has been given a second chance at life as a free man after being sentenced as a juvenile Wednesday. James Kincaid pleaded guilty to manslaughter last month in the death of his father, Leo Stewart. Kincaid was accused of stabbing Stewart in the leg on March 30 at their Pontiac home."

[Full story](#)