

April 5, 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 Macomb Daily: Foster named chief judge of Macomb County Circuit Court**

"John Foster has been named as chief judge of Macomb County Circuit and Probate courts to fill the vacancy left by David Viviano, who was appointed to the state Supreme Court.... Foster also this week was named Macomb's 'business court' judge, a role he has been filling since the court was created more than a year ago. Business court judges also were named at 17 other courts statewide."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Legal News: MSC announces 'Business Court' judge assignments**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

### **The Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: Michigan Supreme Court names 18 business judges**

[Full story](#)

### **The Holland Sentinel: Michigan Supreme Court names 18 business judges**

[Full story](#)

### **"Business Court" judge assignments announced by Michigan Supreme Court**

[Press release](#)

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Michigan Supreme Court to consider medical marijuana ban**

"The Michigan Supreme Court says it will consider the legality of a city's zoning ordinance that prohibits the use, manufacture or cultivation of medical marijuana. The court issued an order Wednesday agreeing to hear an appeal filed by the city of Wyoming in the Grand Rapids area."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Grand Rapids Legal News: Ter Beek v. City of Wyoming will go to Michigan Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

### **The Holland Sentinel: Michigan Supreme Court to consider Wyoming city marijuana ban**

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Justices to consider city medical marijuana ban**

[Full story](#)

### **WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: MI Supreme Court Will Hear Arguments for Medical Marijuana Case**

[Full story](#)

### **WOOD-TV(8)/Grand Rapids: MI Sup. Ct. to consider Wyoming pot ban**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Cooley Law School explores affiliation with Western Michigan University**

"... [Cooley Law School] is looking at a name change, exploring a formal affiliation with Western Michigan University that would rechristen the five-campus private law school the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The arrangement wouldn't be a merger. Cooley would remain a private

school. Both institutions would remain financially independent. But it would provide an opening for blending their academic programs.”

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Legal News: WMU and Cooley to consider formal alliance**

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Cooley exploring affiliation with WMU; Both schools may get lift from deal**

[Full story](#)

### **The Alpena News: Editorial: Alcona Drug Court shining example of alternative way to deal with drug users**

“We all have heard the Chinese proverb ‘give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.’ We’re reminded of that after reading this week the story that Alcona County Probate Judge Laura Frawley was recognized by the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals for running one of most successful drug courts in Michigan.”

[Full story](#)

### **C & G Newspapers/Warren: Macomb board approves court agreement**

“The second hurdle in the building of a new 41-A District Court has been cleared. The Board of Trustees approved, at the March 27 meeting, an interlocal agreement between Macomb and Shelby townships, where the court currently resides. The vote was unanimous.”

[Full story](#)

### **Charlevoix Courier: Odawa Associate Judge Genia remembered for historic legal contributions, desire to serve community**

“Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Associate Judge Jim Genia died from a life debilitating illness Saturday. He was 48. Appointed to Associate Judge for the tribe in 2012, Genia was known for his sense of humor, willingness to never shy away from a difficult case and his devotion as a father to his young family.”

[Full story](#)

### **Daily Press & Argus: High court will hear appeal**

“... In an order released Thursday, the [Michigan Supreme Court] agreed to hear arguments appealing Judge David Reader's decision to suppress murder suspect George Robert Tanner's alleged confession to strangling and burning the body of a 40-year-old Lyon Township man.”

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **SBM Blog: Miranda Alert: Michigan Supreme Court To Reconsider Bender**

[Full story](#)

### **The Daily Press/Escaaba: Safety dance: County to address security concerns**

“Security concerns in the Delta County Courthouse facility was the main topic of discussion at Tuesday's county board of commissioners meeting. A security assessment of the facility was completed by Delta County Emergency Management and the Delta County Sheriff's Department on Jan. 24 and 31 in light of increasing violent activity at schools and governmental buildings throughout the nation.”

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Ex-Meijer attorney disputes allegations that he lied under oath**

"Grand Rapids [attorney Timothy Stoepker] is disputing allegations made by a legal watchdog agency that he lied under oath about Meijer's role in a 2007 recall election of township officials in Grand Traverse County."

[Full story](#)

### **Dowagiac Daily News: Dowagiac woman shows up drunk to OWI sentencing**

"The sentencing hearing for a Dowagiac woman convicted of her sixth drunken driving offense took an unusual twist when the woman came to court drunk. Dawn Mendoza, 49, showed up late for her sentencing hearing before Judge Michael Dodge Friday morning in Cass County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

### **Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Michigan courts taking case management into 'Next Gen'**

"The Michigan Supreme Court, the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), and its Judicial Information Systems division (JIS) continue to implement technological renovations to Michigan courts that are expected to produce long-term dividends for the judiciary."

[Full story](#)

### **Gaylord Herald Times: Guardians and conservators assist those in need**

"There are a variety of reasons vulnerable individuals in the county may be assigned someone to protect them. Bill Knapp has dealt with most of the reasons since becoming a guardian and conservator for the Otsego County Probate Court."

[Full story](#)

### **Grand Rapids Press: Kentwood double-homicide suspect Javonte Higgins refuses to answer judge during arraignment**

"Javonte Higgins, suspected of killing an elderly Kentwood couple, was forced back to West Michigan this week after resisting extradition near Chicago. Judging by his behavior before a court here today, it appears he could continue to be uncooperative with authorities."

[Full story](#)

### **Hometown Life Newspapers: Livonia court offers amnesty program for overdue tickets**

"The city of Livonia and 16th District Court Judges Kathleen J. McCann and Sean P. Kavanagh have authorized the waiver of the \$30 default fee and 20-percent late fee on payable traffic and parking violations May 1-31."

[Full story](#)

### **Ionia Sentinel-Standard: Kincaid honored for service to Veterans' Court for Treatment and Recovery of Ionia**

"John Clay Kincaid is using his experience as a combat veteran to help other veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Kincaid, who served in Vietnam with the United States Marine Corps, is a mentor and one of the founding fathers of the Veterans' Court for Treatment and Recovery of Ionia (VCTRI)."

[Full story](#)

### **Ionia Sentinel-Standard: Judge: Stewart-Matzen not indigent; Removes court-appointed attorney, tells her to pay attorney fees**

"An Ionia County 8th Circuit Court judge has ruled that a Belding woman accused of arson is not indigent and does not qualify for a court-appointed attorney. Judge David Hoort told Cynthia Stewart-Matzen

Tuesday that because she has assets of at least \$98,000, she must pay for her own legal counsel, as well as pay the attorney fees that have been charged so far for her defense.”

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Schuette seeks to dismiss federal right-to-work lawsuit**

“... There are at least three other lawsuits pending, which challenge various facets of the laws, and [Governor Rick] Snyder himself has asked the Michigan Supreme Court to make a declaration on the constitutionality of the laws and, particularly, whether state employees will be subject to the one governing public-sector workers.”

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer and the Times Herald/Port Huron.**

### **The Macomb Daily: DIA tax upheld in court, appeal planned**

“An appeal is expected to a Macomb County Circuit Court ruling that dismissed a legal challenge to the new tax that helps fund the Detroit Institute of Arts.... [Leon] Drolet said a decision on the next step [whether to request Circuit Judge John Foster reconsider his dismissal of the case or to appeal the case to the Court of Appeals] will probably be made within two weeks.”

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune.**

### **The MiLW Blog: COA remands Cooley anonymous blogger case for protective order determination**

“The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled that a trial court must determine whether it has the power to quash a California subpoena issued to identify an anonymous blogger who, the Thomas M. Cooley Law School alleges, trashed its reputation.”

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **SBM Blog: Breaking: Court of Appeals Rules For Defendant In Cooley Defamation Case**

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Lawsuit over criminal defense system proceeds**

“The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled that a long-running lawsuit can continue that challenges the system of appointing lawyers for criminal defendants who can't afford them.”

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **WKAR News/East Lansing: Plan To Overhaul Public Defense Gets Boost From State Court Of Appeals**

[Full story](#)

### **WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Attorney Calls For Better Pay For Court Appointed Attorneys**

[Full story](#)