

June 11, 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: Judge approves gag order for witnesses in Farmington Hills beating death trial**

"An Oakland Circuit Court judge issued a gag order Monday against witnesses involved in the highly-publicized trial of two young men charged in a fatal baseball bat attack during a 2012 home invasion in Farmington Hills.... Assistant prosecutor John Skrzynski asked Judge Shalina Kumar for a gag order. The judge approved it in part, but exempted the attorneys in the case."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Oakland Press: Judge orders emergency gag order for witnesses in Cipriano murder trial**

[Full story](#)

### **WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Cipriano family member barred from talking about trial**

[Full story](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Judge orders gag order in Cipriano murder trial**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Michigan woman convicted of dad's murder to be sentenced in July**

"A St. Clair County woman who was convicted of killing her father and attempting to murder her mother will be re-sentenced on July 11. Tia Skinner's life sentence will be revisited because the U.S. Supreme Court banned mandatory no-parole sentences for teens convicted of murder. She was 17 at the time of the attack. Skinner could get the same sentence, but a judge will be allowed to consider many factors."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Associated Press: July sentencing for Mich. woman in father's death**

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit and WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.**

### **The Times Herald/Port Huron: Tia Skinner to be re-sentenced**

[Full story](#)

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

### **Detroit Free Press: Michigan panel to debate DNA collection of all arrestees**

"Michigan lawmakers are considering legislation to expand the collection of DNA samples to include people arrested on suspicion of all felony charges.... A sharply divided U.S. Supreme Court last week cleared the way for police to take a DNA swab from anyone arrested for a serious crime."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Detroit News: Panel to debate DNA collection of all arrestees**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Doug Van Epps named recipient of the ACR 2013 Pioneer Award**

"Doug Van Epps, Director of the Office of Dispute Resolution for the Michigan Supreme Court — is the recipient of the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) Michigan Southeast Chapter 2013 Pioneer Award

for his significant work and contributions to the conflict resolution field and to the Alternative Dispute Resolution community.”

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Legal People: Board of Law Examiners (fifth article)**

“Attorney Jana L. Benjamin, a former admissions officer for the University of Michigan Law School, has been named executive director of the Board of Law Examiners, the Michigan Supreme Court recently announced.”

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Contest focuses on 'Equality for All'**

“... Among the dignitaries on hand for the [Macomb County Bar Foundation’s Law Day poster and essay contest] were Macomb County Probate Court Judge Kathryn George, 41B District Court Chief Judge Sebastian Lucido, 39th District Court Judge Joseph Boedeker and Macomb County Circuit Court Judge James Biernat Jr.”

[Full story](#)

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: How judges were stopped from granting two-parent adoptions to gay and lesbian parents**

“About a decade ago, judges stopped approving adoptions for lesbian and gay couples. It stopped after a controversial move by a Supreme Court Judge. Nancy Wheeler is a judge in Washtenaw County who used to preside over the juvenile court where adoptions are recognized. She granted dozens of what are called ‘second-parent adoptions’ to same-sex couples.”

[Full story](#)

### **The MiLW Blog: Michigan Supreme Court approves nonattorney referee rule change**

“The Michigan Supreme Court has approved an amendment to MCR 3.913 that allows nonattorney referees to issue ex parte removal orders in child-protective proceedings. The proposal was adopted despite various concerns that were raised. During the public comment period on ADM File No. 2012-19, most of the comments sent to the Supreme Court were in opposition to the change.”

[Full story](#)

### **Saginaw News: Saginaw man convicted of murder in neighbor's 2011 beating death to get new trial**

“A Saginaw man convicted of second-degree murder in the January 2011 homicide of his neighbor will get a new trial. The Michigan Court of Appeals on Thursday, June 6, reversed Bradford S. Mitchell's May 2012 conviction of second-degree murder in the Jan. 15 beating death of Jay Kolhoff.”

[Full story](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Disciplinary hearing begins for Wayne County Judge Bruce Morrow**

“Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Bruce Morrow is known by some inside his courtroom as ‘Cut ‘em loose Bruce,’ a nickname started by those who think he’s too easy on accused criminals. Now, it’s Morrow asking for leniency at his hearings before the Judicial Tenure Commission begin.”

[Full story](#)