

July 3, 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.

Grand Rapids Legal News: Judicial report recommends adding two new judges in Kent County

"A report by the State Court Administrative Office proposes cutting a total of eight judgeships from some Michigan courts – but also recommends adding an equal number to other courts that show 'judicial need' based on workload.... [According to the report,] Kent County would receive a circuit judge and a district judge."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Recommendations to cut, add judgeships detailed in judicial resources report

[Press release](#)

Battle Creek Enquirer: Kirkham appointed circuit judge

"Brian Kirkham, a Battle Creek attorney and former mayor, has been appointed to the Calhoun County Circuit Court. Gov. Rick Snyder made the announcement this morning, according to Chief Circuit Judge James Kingsley."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Kirkham named Calhoun County Circuit Court judge

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Home battle in high court; Brighton seeking to appeal ruling

"A legal battle over two vacant houses in Brighton is headed to the Michigan Supreme Court. On Monday, the state's highest court granted a request by Brighton to file an appeal in its lawsuit against Marilyn and Leon Bonner, an elderly Northville couple who own the two homes on North Street in downtown Brighton."

[Full story](#)

The Daily Reporter/Coldwater: Giving wrong name sends molester to prison

"Ryan Terry punched the court room walls as he was taken away Monday. He had asked Branch County Circuit Judge Bill O'Grady for work release. Instead, he got 14 to 24 months in prison for giving police a wrong name when approached May 11 near the Rodeway Inn in Coldwater."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Judge declares he is 'not Santa Claus'

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: LAD conducts Veterans Legal Fair

"... Judge Mark S. Switalski of Macomb County Circuit Court also spoke during the [June 17] ceremony about the Macomb County Veterans' Treatment Court. MCVTC held its first scheduled court session on April 12, 2012, in 41B District Court in Clinton Township. Switalski held his first circuit court session on April 19, 2012 in Mount Clemens and currently holds sessions there every Thursday."

[Full story](#)

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

Detroit Legal News: Snyder signs bills to improve indigent defense

"... The legislation creates a permanent 15-member state commission housed within the judicial branch and appointed by the governor to review counties' indigent defense services and create standards that counties must meet so counsel for defendants is brought up to par.... The Michigan Supreme Court has to sign off on statewide standards set by the panel."

[Full story](#)

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

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Federal court denies murderer's petition for relief; man continues serving life sentence for killing pharmacy clerk

"A U.S. District judge has denied the relief motion of a man serving a life sentence for the 2005 murder of a Walgreens clerk.... [Ronald] Wenman's state appeals failed and he petitioned the federal court in Detroit for habeas corpus, a right of detained Americans to challenge their imprisonment. District Judge Sean F. Cox denied his petition on June 26."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Judge tells Jonetta Woods it's time 'be a grownup' if she hopes to regain custody of her daughter

"A Kalamazoo County judge had some stern advice for Jonetta Woods Tuesday if Woods hopes to regain custody of her 5-year-old daughter — it's time to start acting like a grownup.... [Circuit Judge Patricia N.] Conlon's remarks came during a dispositional hearing at the Gull Road courthouse regarding placement of Woods' daughter, Drayanna O'Day."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Program aims to keep kids safe in homes and out of foster care

"More than 400,000 children are currently in foster care in the U.S. Once a child has entered the system, they remain there on average for nearly two years, according to a federal report. As part of our State of Opportunity project, we looked into a unique program that's working to prevent kids in Michigan from even entering foster care in the first place."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Law practice has 'gone to the dogs'

"Whitmore Lake attorney Michelle Radloff's practice has 'gone to the dogs' ... literally. Radloff's niche is animal welfare and she volunteers with a national nonprofit organization called The Lexus Project, which provides a legal defense for dogs in cases that go to court, reports the Observer & Eccentric."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Status report: Ombudsman settles into role with court

"A one year assignment has grown into at least two for attorney Joel Serlin, who in the winter of 2012 was appointed to the newly-created position of ombudsman for the Oakland County Circuit Court.... The ombudsman post, which is modeled after that used by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, was created to serve as an intermediary between the bench and bar, to principally address administrative and case management issues, according to Serlin."

[Full story](#)

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Dollars behind Juvenile Detention Center closing

"Standing in an empty pod at the St. Clair County Juvenile Detention Center, Gary Rutowski said the decision to shutter the county's juvenile detention and residential treatment programs makes good financial sense."

[Full story](#)

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