

July 4-5, 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.

Oakland County Legal News: Citizens recognized during Juror Appreciation Month

"The Michigan Supreme Court has designated July as 'Juror Appreciation Month' to acknowledge citizens who serve as jurors during the month and to encourage others to answer the call to jury service throughout the year."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

State Supreme Court Recognizes Michigan Citizens for Jury Service during July Juror Appreciation Month, Encourages Others to Serve Throughout the Year

[Press release](#)

The Detroit News: Court rejects Snyder's bid for early right-to-work ruling

"The Michigan Supreme Court has rejected Gov. Rick Snyder's request for an advisory opinion on whether the state's six-month-old right-to-work law is constitutional. 'We are not persuaded that granting the request would be an appropriate exercise of the Court's discretion,' a unanimous court said Friday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Supreme Court rejects governor's request for advisory opinion on right-to-work law

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Daily Press & Argus, the Lansing State Journal and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

Associated Press: Mich. court won't rule on right-to-work law early

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Midland Daily News, Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor, WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit, WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit and WILX-TV(10)/Lansing.

MLive.com: Right to work: Michigan Supreme Court denies advisory opinion request from Gov. Snyder

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: MSC won't issue opinion on state's right-to-work law

[Full story](#)

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Supreme Court Rejects Gov's Request For Opinion

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Michigan court takes appeal in Brighton demolition case

"The Michigan Supreme Court has agreed to hear a dispute between the city of Brighton and the owners of two downtown properties that need repairs. Brighton wanted two vacant homes and a garage demolished, telling Leon and Marilyn Bonner that the cost of improving the structures would exceed their value. But two courts so far have said the city ordinance is illegal because it doesn't offer a repair option if the owners are willing."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court takes appeal in Brighton demolition case

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Mich. court takes appeal in demolition case

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal, the Oakland Press and WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.

Detroit Free Press: 36th District Court layoffs begin, but union vote on concessions looms

"When Detroit's 36th District Court reopens Friday, it will be operating with about 80 fewer employees who were laid off as officials look for ways to reduce spending. Many of the cuts — including nearly two dozen judicial clerks, as well as other types of clerks, and eight probation officers — went into effect Wednesday but may not be permanent."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Snyder names Jennifer Faunce to Macomb County Circuit Court bench

"Gov. Rick Snyder this week announced the appointment of Jennifer Faunce, a Warren district court judge, to the Macomb County Circuit Court bench. She fills the vacancy created when Snyder appointed David Viviano a state Supreme Court justice in February. Snyder made the announcement Wednesday and also named Brian Kirkham of Battle Creek a judge in the 37th Circuit Court in Calhoun County. Kirkham, an attorney and a former mayor of Battle Creek, replaces Judge Allen Garbrecht, according to a release from Snyder's office."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Macomb Daily: Faunce appointed to Macomb circuit court

[Full story](#)

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

The MiLW Blog: Faunce appointed to Macomb County Circuit Court

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Governor Appoints Jennifer Faunce to Macomb Circuit Court

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Governor Appoints Brian K. Kirkham To Calhoun Circuit Court

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: David A. Moran: Reforms to make sure justice is served to the right people

"... In the mid-1990s, when I was at the State Appellate Defender Office, I was assigned to represent [Harold] Wells, who had been sentenced to four years in prison for stealing a car after a trial lasting only 30 minutes. But there were serious problems with the prosecution's case that appeared to have escaped the notice of the lawyer who was supposed to be representing him at trial. And that's why I'm pleased that Gov. Rick Snyder signed indigent defense reform legislation Monday."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Legal News: 61st District Court announces traffic/parking tickets waiver program

"The 61st District Court of Grand Rapids announced today they will be granting waivers to any citizen who comes in and pays in full their outstanding Traffic and/or Parking Civil Infraction Tickets that have

gone into default. The Court will waive all court-imposed late fees except the \$45 License Suspension Reinstatement Fees. The program will be in effect from July 1, 2013 to Oct. 1, 2013."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: City Center II foe's challenge rejected

"A foe of the failed City Center II project in downtown East Lansing filed a baseless lawsuit against the city last year in an apparent attempt to harass officials, a state appellate court has ruled. The Michigan Court of Appeals upheld a lower court decision there was no basis to Phil Bellfy's claims the city violated the Open Meeting Act on or near November 1, 2011, after he accused a city official of misconduct."

[Full story](#)

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

Macomb County Legal News: State court website praised in case study

"Michigan's 'One Court of Justice' website is the focus of a recent Microsoft case study, which praises the site as 'clear, concise and intuitive.' The court's website was redesigned in 2012, using Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Microsoft case study highlights Michigan's "One Court of Justice" website

[Press release](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Court: No rights broken in talk with parole agent (second article)

"A Jackson robbery suspect's confession to a parole officer can be used against him, even if he wasn't told he could remain silent. The Michigan Supreme Court recently overturned a decision by the state appeals court and reinstated the conviction of Samuel Elliott. The decision was 5-2."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Domestic violence matters discussed

"A recent seminar held at Macomb County Circuit Court dealt with identifying and effectively representing clients with domestic violence issues. Among the speakers were Katie Strickfaden, legal director of Wayne County's Domestic Violence Prevention Court; Macomb County Circuit Court Judge Tracey Yokich; Ashley Lowe, co-chair of the State Bar of Michigan's Domestic Violence Committee; and Kristin Stone, immediate past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan-Macomb region."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Lawyers lambaste judges in Culinary Challenge

"Despite gritty determination to wield the barbecue fork with the finesse usually reserved for the gavel, the judges were trounced again in the grill competition at the 6th Annual Bench Bar Culinary Challenge held recently in Huntington Woods."

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Carras sworn in as circuit judge; County now has two circuit, one district judge

"A simple, short ceremony was all it took to officially promote a district judge to a circuit judge — a historic first for Midland County. The swearing in ceremony for the county's newest circuit judge, Stephen P. Carras, was conducted Tuesday afternoon in the county's courtroom before family, friends and courthouse staff. Circuit Judge Michael J. Beale presided."

[Full story](#)

The Morning Sun: Mt. Pleasant lawyer disbarred for stealing money

"A Mt. Pleasant lawyer who practiced for 11 years has been disbarred by the State of Michigan Attorney Discipline Board. A hearing panel originally recommended that lawyer Mark J. Tyslenko's license simply be suspended for 45 days, but the attorney discipline board imposed the full sanction of revoking Tyslenko's license."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon County Legal News: The Honorable Kathy Lynn Hoogstra sworn in as 14th Circuit Court Judge

"There was great anticipation and excitement in Judge Timothy Hicks' courtroom on July 1, 2013, and a standing-room only crowd, as Kathy L. Hoogstra received her investiture as the newest 14th Circuit Court Judge. Hoogstra was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder in May to complete the remaining term of the Honorable John C. Ruck who retired earlier this year."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Muskegon Chronicle: Kathy Hoogstra welcomed in as newest Muskegon County Circuit Judge

[Full story](#)