

July 20-22, 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: Chief judge removed as head of 36th District Court

"The chief judge at 36th District Court says he was ousted today as head of the financially-strapped court, though he remains on the bench. Judge Kenneth King, who had been chief judge of the troubled court since January 2012, said he was asked by the court's special administrator, Court of Appeals Judge Michael Talbot, 'to resign or be removed.' "

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: 36th District Court: Lead, follow, or get out of the way ...

[Full story](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Judge Kenneth King removed as head of 36th District Court

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Federal judge to consider pension funds' lawsuit Wednesday in first Detroit bankruptcy hearing

"U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes has declared that his court has the authority to rule on a dispute between the city's pension funds and the City of Detroit — not the state court in Ingham County. Rhodes, in an order filed today, said he will hold a hearing on Wednesday at 10 a.m. to consider the city of Detroit's request to put all lawsuits filed before the city filed for bankruptcy on hold."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: First Detroit bankruptcy hearing set for Wednesday

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Judge sets first hearing for Detroit bankruptcy

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Federal court hearings set in Detroit bankruptcy case

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Detroit asks bankruptcy judge for order stopping state court pension cases

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Ingham County judge to rule July 29 on Detroit bankruptcy pension case

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Judge on Detroit bankruptcy: Can't allow Michigan Constitution to become Swiss cheese

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: First court hearing on Detroit Chapter 9 bankruptcy set for Wednesday at 10 a.m.

[Full story](#)

Crain's Detroit Business: OTHER VOICES: Biz courts hold great promise for state

"One of the most significant state legislative enactments pertaining to the legal process in recent memory was the creation of specialized business dockets for Michigan courts for cases with a value greater than

\$25,000. Recently, the courts began to operate in Wayne and Oakland counties, and those in Macomb and Kent counties have been in operation for a year. As of July 1, 17 circuit courts were designated as business courts."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Court rejects lawyer's appeal; Attorney can't represent 2 women in Livingston synthetic pot case

"The Michigan Court of Appeals ruled a Madison Heights attorney cannot represent two Livingston County women on charges they sold synthetic marijuana. In a decision released Friday, the court said Smokers Depot owner Ronda Lee Roszak and store manager Melissa Ann Dzierwa's constitutional right to counsel is not absolute and a court 'must balance the defendant's right to counsel of choice against the public's interest in the prompt and efficient administration of justice.' "

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: WMU trustees approve affiliation agreement with Cooley Law School

"Western Michigan University trustees approved an affiliation agreement July 18 that will allow the Thomas M. Cooley Law School to become the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School, a move Cooley's board of directors already approved."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Surveys aimed at improving public's experience with courts

" 'Finding the courthouse was easy.' 'The way the case was handled was fair.' 'As I leave the court, I understand what happened in my case.' These are some of the items in a public satisfaction survey that Michigan trial courts will administer to improve public service."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Jackson County Legal News and the Washtenaw County Legal News.

Ingham County Legal News: 36th District Court launches out county collections program

"A fine for speeding in Detroit and a right-turn-on-red ticket in Livonia can now be paid in a single court visit, thanks to a new collaboration by the 36th District Court and other district courts in Wayne County."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Third Annual Lawyers Got Talent a success

"Again the lights dimmed in the ballroom of the Lexington Lansing Hotel on the evening of July 12th for the Third Annual Lawyers Got Talent extravaganza. The lawyer/performers, unusually nervous for this non-courtroom appearance, were in the wings. The judges, Hon. Donald Allen, Hon. Joyce Draganchuk and Hon. Andrea Larkin were in place and the house band composed of Rush Clement, Ron Bretz, Greg Hodge and Dan Mead, was ready."

[Full story](#)

Jackson County Legal News: Court of Appeals rules on brownies made with pot

"Brownies that contain extract from cannabis resin are not 'usable' marijuana under the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, the Michigan Court of Appeals has decided, addressing an issue of first impression."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: ADB denies reinstatement petition: attorney continued to practice law

"... In September 2008, the ADB suspended Keith J. Mitani's law license for one year because he violated a court order, 'made a false statement by omission' and was 'intentionally evasive' during a circuit court hearing. He filed a petition for reinstatement in January 2012.... The ADB affirmed the hearing panel in a July 18, 2013 opinion."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Michigan juvenile lifers: Joint hearing scheduled on proposed changes to unconstitutional state law

"State lawmakers are expected to hear testimony next month on proposed changes to Michigan's 'juvenile lifer' law, which was deemed unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court more than a year ago. Chairs of the House Criminal Justice and Senate Judiciary committees have scheduled a joint session on August 14 for testimony -- but not a vote -- on bipartisan legislation to update state law in response to the ruling."

[Full story](#)

The Morning Sun: Santini admitted to State Bar of Michigan

"Andrew J. Santini was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan to practice law. Supreme Court Justice Michael Cavanaugh presided over the swearing-in ceremony at the State of Michigan Supreme Court Hall of Justice on June 5. Santini's sponsor for the motion to admit him to the State Bar was Jodi Latuszek, JD, a management analyst with Child Welfare Services in the State Court Administrator's Office. Latuszek served as Santini's mentor the last two years he worked in her division."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Help Desk assists pro se litigants at courthouse

"The Oakland County Bar Association and Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc. (LAD) are jointly sponsoring a help desk for pro se litigants at the Oakland County Courthouse. The help desk is open on Thursdays from noon to 2 p.m. in the lobby of the north entrance of the courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph Road in Pontiac."

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Governor Seeks Applicants For Isabella County District Judgeship

"Governor Snyder is seeking applications from qualified members of the bar for a judgeship in the 76th District Court in Isabella county. The appointment will fill the seat of retiring judge William Rush. The application deadline is August 15, 2013."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Another View: Top court recommends judicial cuts

"Taxpayers should not pay for more government than they need. The statement applies to every level and every branch of government, from local and county to state and federal. For Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young, who has stated this many times over the past few years, these are not just idle words."

[Full story](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: 36th District Court union workers reject proposed contract

"The stakes just got higher for nearly 200 workers at 36th District Court. They shot down a proposed one year contract that would have cut their pay and downgraded their insurance. The top negotiator for Judge Michael Talbot said it was a short sighted and uninformed decision to reject the contract."

[Full story](#)