

August 25-27, 2012

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.

Detroit Free Press: Proposal to allow 8 new Michigan casinos fails at election board, despite 2-1 vote in favor

"A proposed constitutional amendment to allow eight new Michigan casinos remained off the Nov. 6 ballot today after the Board of State Canvassers fell one vote short of the three it needed for approval."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit News: State canvassers block casino expansion question from ballot

[Full story](#)

Detroit News: Commentary: Casino petition approval would be wheel of misfortune

[Full story](#)

Crain's Detroit Business: Casino proposal gets second chance at ballot after Supreme Court overrules appeals court

[Full story](#)

M-Live: Casino expansion proposal likely headed back to court after Board of Canvassers fails to put it on November ballot

[Full story](#)

M-Live: Michigan ballot proposals: More key decisions on which ones voters will face expected Monday

[Full story](#)

WKAR: Supreme Court Decision Helps Pro-Casino Campaign

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Appeals court rejects challenge to collective-bargaining-rights ballot proposal

"The Michigan Court of Appeals rejected this afternoon a challenge to a ballot proposal aimed at enshrining collective bargaining rights in the state constitution."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit News: Appeals Court orders collective bargaining proposal onto ballot

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Michigan court's collective bargaining rights decision will be sweeping

"For now, all eyes are on the Michigan Court of Appeals. The court is expected to decide by Monday whether to allow on the Nov. 6 ballot a proposed state constitutional amendment to enshrine collective bargaining."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Guest commentary: To avoid flurry of ballot proposals, Michigan should have held a constitutional convention

Tom Watkins writes "It is said we get the government we deserve. Watching the scramble to get various initiatives on the ballot to change the State Constitution, it seems quite ironic. Remember, it was just two years ago when the opportunity presented itself for voters to vote to change our state Constitution. Sec.

3 Articles XII of the Michigan Constitution mandates that Michigan voters be asked every 16 years whether they want a constitutional convention."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Conviction in 32-year-old murder case overturned by court

"There was evidence that Jimmie Nelson sold his pickup truck and was covering his tracks after Cherita Thomas disappeared 32 years ago, but that wasn't enough to convict him for murder years later, a three-judge state appeals court panel said Friday."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Detroit police paid 10% less despite judge's order

"Detroit police officers received 10% less in their paychecks on Friday even though a Wayne County Circuit judge issued a temporary restraining order earlier this month to block city-imposed wage cuts.....On Aug. 16, Judge Kathleen Macdonald issued the order that prevents the city from altering police wages, work hours and working conditions."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Daily Briefs

"The Wayne County Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of Labor Day. The Third Circuit Court Civil, Criminal and Family Divisions will be closed Sept. 3 in observance of Labor Day. The Wayne County Probate Court will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 3 and will reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 4 at 8 a.m. In observance of Labor Day, the 36th District Court will be closed to the public on Monday, Sept. 3. Only criminal arraignments will be conducted."

[Full story](#)

Herald Palladium: Commissioners consider contracts for indigent legal defense needs

"Berrien County Commissioners should begin considering whether to renew contracts with lawyers hired to defend the indigent, or seek proposals from other attorneys, Administrator Bill Wolf said Thursday.....Berrien Trial Court Chief Judge Al Butzbaugh and Probate Judge Tom Nelson also touched on the subject during their own budget presentations to Elliott's committee."

[Full story](#)

M-Live: Peaceful begging is protected speech, federal judge in Grand Rapids rules

"A federal judge has ruled that a state law that criminalizes peaceful panhandling violates the First Amendment."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Courts closed

"The Oakland County Circuit and Probate Courts will be closed Monday, Sept. 3, in observance of Labor Day."

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: About Those Bedbugs In The Courtroom

"For folks itching to know all the details about the [bedbug incident in Judge Cylenchia LaToye Miller's courtroom](#) in which a courtroom was cleared in the 36th district court last Thursday, the judge has posted some clarifications on her Facebook page."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Supreme Court should re-affirm 2003 ruling of Michigan Law's admissions policy, attorney says

"The importance of increasing diversity in law schools is the subject of a New York State Bar Association brief calling for re-affirming a 2003 Supreme Court decision that could be impacted by a Texas case slated to be heard in the fall. He and Tennant believe the high court should re-affirm its landmark ruling in *Grutter v. Bollinger*, 539 U.S. 306 (2003). In that case, the Supreme Court ruled the University of Michigan Law School's race-conscious admissions policy was not unconstitutional and that the school had a compelling interest in promoting class diversity."

[Full story](#)