

August 30, 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: Child protection toolkit to help judges, lawyers with child placements**

"Appropriate placements for children in abuse and neglect cases - either reuniting child and family or finding another permanent home - is the goal of a new online toolkit aimed at judges and lawyers who handle child protection cases."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Child protection toolkit to help judges, lawyers with child placements**

[Press release](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Appeals court overturns conviction of former state trooper accused in sex case**

"A former Michigan state trooper convicted of second-degree criminal sexual conduct had his conviction overturned and a new trial ordered by the Michigan Court of Appeals earlier this week. David Morikawa was convicted in 2011 of two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a 12-year-old girl."

[Full story](#)

### **The Detroit News: Unofficial count shows Duggan winning primary - with 4,000 more votes**

"Mike Duggan won the Detroit mayoral primary — gaining 24,750 votes more than Wayne County's tally and 4,300 more than Detroit's count — according to an unofficial state count included Friday in Attorney General Bill Schuette's appeal of [Ingham County Circuit Judge Joyce Draganchuck's] order blocking a state certification of the vote."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Detroit News: Court order blocks Detroit mayoral primary from being certified; canvassing complete**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Judge halts state review of Detroit's write-in ballots in mayoral primary**

[Full story](#)

### **MLive.com: Attorney General expected to challenge order that halted state review of Detroit election results**

[Full story](#)

### **WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: AG to overturn judge's stay on state review, certification of Detroit primary**

[Full story](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Michigan Attorney General to appeal decision that stopped state certification of Detroit primary**

[Full story](#)

### **The Allegan County News: Grant would set up regional veterans court**

"Allegan County commissioners approved the 57th District Court applying for a grant to establish a regional veterans treatment court. It would serve veterans in Allegan, Van Buren and Barry counties sentenced for non-violent misdemeanors and felonies. According to the grant application, the court would aim to enroll no more than 20 in its first year."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Nomination deadline Sept. 6 for FCRB's Child Welfare Awards (second article)**

"The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) is seeking nominations for its annual Child Welfare Awards which honor judges, lawyers, foster care workers, and foster parents for exemplary service to children in Michigan's foster care system."

[Full story](#)

### **Grand Rapids Press: Ionia court has to reconsider life sentence for teen convicted of 80-year-old's murder**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled that the Ionia County Circuit Court must take another look at the life sentence for the teen who murdered an 80-year-old Hubbardston woman in 2006. Justin Stephens, 24, was convicted by a jury in July of 2011 of killing Bernita 'Billie' Cunningham, 80, in her Hubbardston home in November of 2006. Stephens was 17 at the time of the murder."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Daily News/Greenville: UPDATED: Court of Appeals remands sentence of Hubbardston murderer**

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson Citizen Patriot: City of Jackson rejects settlement offer in stormwater utility class action lawsuit**

"City of Jackson officials will not take a settlement offer in a class action lawsuit against the city.... [The class action lawsuit filed earlier this month was in response to] a Michigan Court of Appeals ruling Aug. 1 found the city's stormwater utility fee illegal but did not require the city to pay back residents their stormwater fee – only plaintiffs in the suit, including the County of Jackson, Jackson Coffee Company and Klein Brothers."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Building connections: New judge puts emphasis on serving community**

"Community-driven. That's one way to describe the newest member to the 44th District Court bench, but it would only be the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the many facets of Judge Derek Meinecke."

[Full story](#)

### **MLive.com: Michigan marijuana advocate: New federal policy a 'game changer' in push for medical dispensaries**

"New federal guidelines on marijuana enforcement could be a 'game changer' for efforts to re-establish marijuana dispensaries in Michigan, according to one of the men who helped spearhead the state's medical law.... Bipartisan legislation introduced by state Rep. Mike Callton, R-Nashville, would revive medical marijuana dispensaries in Michigan after the state Supreme Court, in a February ruling, determined they are not allowed under current law."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Award honors work in support of families, kids**

"Nominations are open for the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award, jointly sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Department of Human Services, to honor exceptional service to Michigan's children.... The deadline is Friday, Sept. 27."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Union charges fee to handle grievances, foundation responds with lawsuit**

"In one of the first challenges to a Union's response to Michigan's Right to Work legislation, the Mackinac Center Legal Foundation filed a complaint on Aug. 22 alleging that Teamsters' Local 214 policy of requiring employees to pay a fee for handling grievances and arbitration, but exempting employees who are members in good standing, is unlawful because it violates the Public Employment Relations Act and the Union's duty of fair representation obligations."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Appeals court rules parents can sue over sex-abuse case**

"A federal appeals court has ruled that a couple can sue Oakland County prosecutors, who had claimed the father sexually assaulted his severely autistic daughter. The U.S. Court of Appeals said Wednesday that a lawsuit brought by Julian and Thal Wendrow of West Bloomfield Township can proceed to trial."

[Full story](#)

### **Three Rivers Commercial-News; Court affirms restitution award in metal fixture theft case**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals Thursday [August 15] affirmed the specific restitution award required of defendant Jess Knapp by the St. Joseph County Circuit Court. Knapp was convicted of larceny of property valued at \$1,000 or more but less than \$20,000, based on the theft of 400 pounds of metal fixtures from Graber Industries and the sale of those items to various scrap yards."

[Full story](#)

### **Three Rivers Commercial-News: Local court applying for Swift and Sure grant**

"The St. Joseph County Circuit Court will be applying for the Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, a federal grant for counties to enhance felony probation services.... Circuit Judge Paul Stutesman, along with Day Reporting Center director Tony Callaway, Twin County Community Probation Center director Tom Miles and St. Joseph County Undersheriff Mark Lillywhite are spearheading the application process."

[Full story](#)

### **Three Rivers Commercial-News: Electronic records for courts; First step: Friend of Court Office and Clerk's**

"Conversion of the St. Joseph County Courts system to electronic data management will begin with the records of the Friend of the Court and the county clerk's domestic relations case load following a decision by the county commission to participate financially in the process."

[Full story](#)