

September 17, 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.

## **State Court Administrator Chad C. Schmucker named National Judicial College President; second Michiganian to serve in both posts**

[Press release](#)

## **SBM Blog: Do Michigan's New Court Interpreter Rules Measure Up?**

"In an engaging press conference last week, Chief Justice Robert Young and Justice Bridget McCormack unveiled Michigan's new rules on providing translation services to court users with limited English proficiency."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Michigan Supreme Court kicks off new session by directing consistent, meaningful access to foreign language interpreters; Justices Young and McCormack announce new rule**

[Press release](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Dearborn judge's assets an issue in \$1.2M case**

"A former high-ranking court employee who is trying to collect nearly \$1.2 million from a Dearborn judge is asking for an asset freeze. Dearborn Judge Mark Somers has paid only \$420 since a jury in 2011 ruled in favor of Julie Pucci. She claimed her rights were violated when her job as deputy court administrator was eliminated and she wasn't promoted to top administrator."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **The Detroit News: Dearborn judge's assets an issue in \$1.2M case**

[Full story](#)

## **Associated Press: Dearborn judge's assets an issue in \$1.2M case**

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Western Michigan, Cooley Law to sign affiliation agreement today**

"Thomas M. Cooley Law School and Western Michigan University plan to formally sign an affiliation agreement between the two schools. Today's event at Western Michigan's campus in Kalamazoo is expected to include officials and graduates of both schools."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **The Detroit News: W. Michigan, Cooley to sign affiliation agreement today**

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Legal News: Judge Small declines to run for U.S. Senate**

"A Michigan judge has decided not to run for the U.S. Senate seat opening up with the retirement of long-time Democratic Sen. Carl Levin in 2014. Oakland County District Judge Kimberly Small's friend and adviser Paul Welday says Monday that Small told him of her decision this weekend."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **The Oakland Press: Small out of consideration for Michigan U.S. Senate race**

[Full story](#)

## **Bridge Magazine: Why 'dark money' matters when you stand before a Michigan judge**

"The State Bar of Michigan this month urged Secretary of State Ruth Johnson to require everyone who contributes money to Michigan judicial campaigns to be publicly identified.... State Bar President Bruce Courtade said its request for a ruling from Johnson about such ads is designed to add transparency and promote public confidence in the impartiality of Michigan's judges."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **MLive.com: Why secret political contributions - 'dark money' - matters when you stand before a Michigan judge**

[Full story](#)

## **Gaylord Herald Times: A Step Back in Time: Colorful history of the Otsego County Courthouse**

"The first courthouse was located at the site of the present Otsego County Building. The frame building was constructed in the 1880s and had a jail on the second floor."

[Full story](#)

## **Macomb County Legal News: Panel OKs mental health courts legislation**

"Mental health courts could be more easily established in Michigan under legislation recently approved by the House Judiciary Committee. The package of bills would statutorily create mental health courts in Michigan law. State Rep. Kevin Cotter, sponsor of one of the bills and chair of the House Judiciary Committee, applauded the passage of the bills."

[Full story](#)

## **The MiLW Blog: 36th District Court continues reorganization**

"In what is being called an effort to improve operations at the 36th District Court, Chief Judge Nancy M. Blount has named presiding judges for each of the court's seven divisions. She also announced assignments of the court's judges to each division, which are to begin Oct. 1 and are to remain at their assignments indefinitely."

[Full story](#)

## **Mining Journal/Marquette: People's Law School about to start fifth year**

"Returning for its fifth year, the People's Law School will begin later this month with five sessions scheduled through the end of October.... During the opening session, Marquette County Probate Court Judge Cheryl Hill will discuss 'The 10 Most Surprising Things About My First Year on the Bench.' Northern Michigan university professor Steven Nelson and attorney Steven Pence will discuss origins of law and the structure of courts."

[Full story](#)

## **The Oakland County Legal News: No parental rights for man after mom married**

"A northern Michigan man's bid to establish parental rights to a 2-year-old boy was shot down by the state appeals court in a decision that rested on the marital status of the mother when the child was born. It's another case where a man has no automatic right to paternity in Michigan if a child is born to a woman while she's married to another man."

[Full story](#)

## **Oakland County Legal News: Free seminar removes the mystery of Probate Court**

“On Monday, Sept. 30, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar titled ‘Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court’ at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield from 2 to 4 p.m.”

[Full story](#)