

September 18, 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.

Danielle M. Brown of Troy appointed to State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners by Michigan Supreme Court

[Press release](#)

Benjamin J. Aloia of Shelby Township appointed to Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions by Michigan Supreme Court

[Press release](#)

Michigan Supreme Court announces appointments to Attorney Discipline Board

[Press release](#)

Michigan Supreme Court announces appointments to Attorney Grievance Commission

[Press release](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Former Jackson County judge Chad Schmucker named president of National Judicial College

“State Court Administrator Chad Schmucker, a former Jackson County circuit judge, is leaving his Michigan post to become the president of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev. The college’s board of trustees announced the appointment Tuesday, Sept. 17, and Schmucker will join the college in mid-November, according to a statement from the Michigan Supreme Court.”

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Schmucker exiting SCAO ... and heading to college

[Full story](#)

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

[Press release](#)

The Toledo Blade: EDITORIAL: Mich. courts get it right; High court ordered interpreters for any resident who has business before any judge

“Michigan’s Supreme Court took a big step in the right direction last week, when the justices ordered all courts in the state to provide interpreters for any resident who has business before any judge, magistrate, or referee, either in a civil or criminal case.... Previously, some counties have provided translation series; others haven’t. The decision puts Michigan ahead of Ohio, which requires interpreters for criminal cases, but leaves accommodation in civil cases up to individual counties.”

[Full story](#)

Also see:

SBM Blog: DOJ Letter On Michigan's New Interpreter Rules

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: 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:

Grand Rapids Legal News: State Bar calls for halt to secret funding of judicial campaign ads

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Medical marijuana advocates protest removal of Lansing baby

"The case of a 6-month-old Lansing girl who was removed from her parents after a complaint involving medical marijuana has become a rallying point for groups aligned behind the state's 5-year-old medical marijuana law.... A custody review hearing is set for Friday before Ingham County Probate Judge Richard Garcia, according to court records."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Lawyer: Kids removed from Lansing home due to medical pot

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Medical marijuana advocates decry state removal of children

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Lansing marijuana caregiver fights to get daughter back after CPS removal

[Full story](#)

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Medical Marijuana Users Fight to Keep Infant Daughter

[Full story](#)

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Infant Removed From Home Due To Marijuana

[Full story](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: 6-month-old taken from parents who grow, use medical marijuana

[Full story](#)

The Daily Telegram/Adrian: Michigan Justice McCormack speaks to AC students

"Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack told an Adrian College audience Tuesday that politics can interfere with the perception of cases that reach higher courts. McCormack, who was elected to the court in November, gave the college's second annual Philip J. Prygoski Constitution Day Address."

[Full story](#)

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

The Daily Telegram/Adrian: Drake sworn in as county's new friend of the court

"Attorney Kristi Drake was sworn on Monday as Lenawee County's new friend of the court. She is to replace retiring Dennis Lehman on Friday September 20. Drake has been on the Lenawee County Circuit

court staff for 18 years and serves as a referee and mediator in the friend of the court office as well as a research clerk and magistrate."

[Full story](#)

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

Detroit Legal News: Judge's assets an issue in former court employee's \$1.2M case (third article)

"A Dearborn judge was barred Tuesday from any unusual asset transfers while a former court employee tries to collect more than \$1 million awarded after she claimed she was wrongly fired.... It is still uncertain who's on the hook for the judgment: Somers or Dearborn taxpayers who finance the city's District Court. That dispute likely is headed to Wayne County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Press & Guide/Dearborn: DEARBORN: Judge ordered to not make unusual move of assets in wake of lawsuit

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Wayne County Probate Court training

"The Wayne County Probate Court will conduct its 2013 attorney training session on Thursday, Oct. 10 at the Auditorium in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 13th Floor (City Side). Two sessions will be held: Attorney Training from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1:30-3 p.m."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: All Business

"The Michigan Irish American Chamber of Commerce along with co-sponsors the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and the Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers (ISIAL) hosted a panel discussion for lawyers and business owners on the new business court system on Thursday, Sept. 5, at UDM Law School."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: City looking into multiple drop-off sites for leaves after voting for a law prohibiting piles on city streets

"... Some city officials maintain the ordinance revisions are the best possible way to keep city streets safe and clean following an Aug. 2 court decision that blanked nearly \$1 million in expected revenue this year to pay for leaf pickup services, among other conveniences. City officials voted to stop the services after the court ordered the city stop collecting the stormwater utility fee."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kalamazoo attorney Pamela Enslin named among top female lawyers, honored for dispute resolution

"Kalamazoo attorney Pamela S. Enslin has been named among Michigan's top female lawyers, and has also been recognized on the state level for her work on dispute resolution.... She will receive the Nancy S. Klein Award from the State Bar of Michigan's Alternative Dispute Resolution Section on Sept. 28 in Bloomfield Hills. The award is given annually to a person, group and entity for their leadership in the ADR community."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Day-care molestation case returns to Macomb County

"Although prosecutors this summer won a Michigan Supreme Court ruling in a highly charged child molestation case, how the trial will proceed remains in question. A court hearing was conducted Monday

in the more than 2-year-old case against the formerly married Stanley and Vita Duncan, who are charged for alleged sexual acts on three young girls by Stanley Duncan at his wife's child-care facility in Fraser."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: U.S. Supreme Court "juvenile lifer" decision would not apply to past cases under Senate bill

"Legislation to overhaul Michigan's juvenile lifer law would not apply to inmates already sentenced as teenagers to life without parole. The bills were adopted today by the state Senate Judiciary Committee. The legislation is required because the U.S. Supreme Court struck down automatic life-without-parole sentences for juveniles."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

MLive.com: Michigan juvenile lifers: Senate panel moves bills that would leave most prisoners behind bars

[Full story](#)

The News-Herald/Southgate: EDITORIAL: Resentencing hearings for youthful offenders may be painful for victims' families, but debts to society can be paid in many ways

[Full story](#)

The Morning Sun: For runaways, court aims to help, not punish

"Isabella County Trial Judge William Ervin has seen a lot in his 25 years on the bench. Ervin, who handles family law cases, including juvenile cases in circuit court, has beamed with joy at seeing children being welcomed into their 'forever' families during annual adoption days. He has been a champion for children who have been placed in foster care because of parental rights terminations."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Preserving judicial integrity

"... [Members] currently serving on the [2013 Judicial Tenure Commission] are Michigan Court of Appeals Judge David H. Sawyer, JTC vice chair; Oakland County Circuit Court Chief Judge Nanci J. Grant, JTC chair; and Kent County 62A District Court Chief Judge Pablo Cortes, JTC secretary; along with Crawford County Probate Court Judge Monte Burmeister; ... and Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Michael M. Hathaway."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County 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 48th District Court Judge Kimberly Small's friend and adviser Paul Welday said Monday that Small told him of her decision this weekend."

[Full story](#)

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Behind The Bench with Todd Flood (36:56 minute podcast)

During the September 4, 2013 show, attorney Todd Flood spoke with Michigan Supreme Court Justices Mary Beth Kelly, Brian Zahra and Bridget McCormack regarding their role as Supreme Court Justices.

[Podcast](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Tim Skubick: 'Love-in' on the bench of the Michigan Supreme Court

"Over the years if a political correspondent suffered from writer's block, you could always wander over to the Michigan Supreme Court and find plenty of outrageous grist for the mill.... Until now. It's apparently a new day on the new court and as the Chief Justice says, 'It's Bridget's fault.' Bridget is Justice Bridget McCormack the newest member on the bench and she campaigned on changing the culture of the court and apparently it's working."

[Full story](#)