

November 9-12, 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.

### **2013 Child Welfare Award winners announced**

Foster Care Review Board recognizes honorees for helping children in foster care

[\*Press release\*](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Controversial Senate bill could affect court cases already under way**

"... All are among hundreds of cases that could be impacted by Senate Bill 652, a controversial piece of legislation that would shake up the way legal actions against the state are handled. The fast-tracked bill cleared the Legislature in two weeks with little debate and is awaiting the signature of Gov. Rick Snyder."

[\*Full story\*](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Hometown Life Newspapers and the Lansing State Journal.

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Free Press: Rudy Hobbs: Michigan GOP tries to rig the rules when it doesn't get its way**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Feedback: Readers debate GOP court shakeup plan**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **The Detroit News: Editorial: Snyder should veto court shake-up bill**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Daily Press & Argus: Editorial: Court shake-up is an affront to Mich.**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Sen. Gretchen Whitmer: Republican weight stands to splinter judicial branch**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **MLive.com: Dems ask Snyder to veto bill they call 'partisan politics masquerading as good government'**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **MLive.com: Rep. Phil Cavanagh: GOP railroads citizens, democratic process while high-jacking Court of Claims (guest column)**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **SBM Blog: Courts of Claims in Perspective**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **WKAR News/East Lansing: Ingham judge blasts Court of Claims move**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **WKAR News/East Lansing: Controller: Court of Claims move could set county back \$500K**

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Willie Lipscomb Jr.: Retired judge worked tirelessly for Detroit**

"Weekend after weekend for about two decades and even after he retired, 36th District Judge Willie Lipscomb Jr. was in a courtroom when he could have been home or out on the boat that he loved.... [Judge Lipscomb] died Wednesday [November 6] at his home on Detroit's east side, said Mr. Lipscomb's daughter Christine Thigpen of Grosse Pointe Woods."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Willie Lipscomb Jr., Detroit: Retired judge was law students' mentor**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Legal News: Respected District Court judge passes**

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.**

**Detroit Free Press: Attorney Corbett O'Meara killed in St. Clair Shores car crash**

"A prominent attorney who was the son of a federal judge was killed in a car crash Saturday in St. Clair Shores. Corbett O'Meara, 47, of Grosse Pointe Farms, died after the 1999 Acura he was driving rear-ended a 2001 Mercedes Benz and then hit a tree, St. Clair Shores police said."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**C & G Newspapers/Warren: Attorney dies in Harper Avenue crash**

[Full story](#)

**The Macomb Daily: Federal judge's son dies in car crash**

[Full story](#)

**The MLW Blog: Lawyer, son of U.S. District Court judge dies in car accident**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Mitch Albom, Damon Keith draw celebs, stars to celebrate racial harmony - and their new books**

"... More than 3,300 people gathered at the Fox Theatre Monday night to take part in 'Detroit Legacies: In Black and White,' an event hosted by Detroit Free Press columnist Mitch Albom and U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Damon Keith. The event also served as a launch party for their books: Albom's 'The First Phone Call from Heaven,' and Keith's biography, 'Crusader for Justice.' "

[Full story](#)

**Ann Arbor Journal: WASHTENAW COUNTY: Area courts receive grants for innovative projects**

"Combating human trafficking, peacemaking court, Smart phone apps that let users check in for court hearings — these are just some of the projects that Michigan courts will be pursuing, thanks to recently announced grants from the Court Performance Innovation Fund."

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Legal News: New Direction**

"On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the Oakland County Adult Treatment Court (ATC) conducted its 36th graduation since its inception in August of 2001. The 145th through the 155th graduates were honored with a ceremony and reception held in the Oakland County Commissioners Auditorium at the Oakland County Courthouse in Pontiac."

[Full story](#)

**Grand Rapids Press: One new judge could be coming to the Kent County Circuit Court bench**

"An 11th judge could be coming soon to the Kent County Circuit Court depending on the ability of the Legislature in Lansing and the County Commission to agree on how to make it happen. Chief Circuit Court

Judge Donald Johnston was at the state capitol last week where he testified before the State House Judiciary Committee in favor of House Bill 5123, which would add a judge to the Kent County bench.”  
[Full story](#)

### **Huron Daily Tribune/Bad Axe: Officials organizing Thumb drunken driving court**

“Officials are using grant funding to organize a Thumb Regional DWI court to address the problem of motorists who drive under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances in Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac counties.... Trial courts in the Tri-County area are using a \$225,000 grant from the State Court Administrative Office, which is funding four pilot programs in Michigan. They are attempting, for the first time, to bring DWI courts to rural parts of the state on a regional, multi-county basis.”

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Saginaw News: Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac counties to organize Thumb Regional DWI Court**

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: Michigan Supreme Court orders arguments in grandparenting visitation case**

“The Michigan Supreme Court is determining whether to review a Court of Appeals ruling that a child’s grandparents had no right to seek visitation of their deceased son’s child because a court involuntarily terminated the son’s parental rights. The Supreme Court has ordered briefing and oral arguments of the split decision in Porter v. Hill.”

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson Citizen Patriot: Judge to have hearing about effectiveness of attorney in 2012 murder case**

“The case against a man convicted of murder in the death of a 22-year-old has been sent back to Jackson County Circuit Court. In an order signed late last month, the Michigan Court of Appeals directed a lower court judge to conduct an evidentiary hearing and make a determination on the adequacy of Roger Stein’s trial attorney, Anthony Raduazo. Stein, 30, who is serving a life sentence, contends he had ‘ineffective assistance of counsel.’ ”

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Court of Appeals upholds \$1M judgment against Jackson National Life**

“The Michigan Court of Appeals court panel has upheld a \$1.09 million jury award to a Laingsburg man who claimed he was fired from his job at Jackson National Life Insurance Co. because of his race. In a 16-page opinion dated Thursday, the court said Michael Clum presented enough evidence for the jury to conclude that race played a factor in his dismissal.”

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Amy Dennis: Students need jury duty exemption**

“I received a jury summons for the 55th District Court in Mason. I am in the midst of my final year in nursing school and immediately made the phone call to be dismissed on the grounds that I am a very busy student. I spoke to a clerk and was told that my jury service could not be dismissed but could be delayed until December.”

[Full story](#)

## **Macomb County Legal News: Video highlights efforts to improve access to courts**

"Michigan courts are moving forward with implementing a new court rule, aimed at ensuring 'consistent, meaningful access' to Michigan courts for those with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), according to Justice Bridget M. McCormack, who appears in a new Court Stories video, 'The Language of Justice.' "

[Full story](#)

## **Macomb County Legal News: UDM Law shines spotlight on Dennis Archer**

"The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law's Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and the State Bar of Michigan's Student Section recently presented 'Dennis Archer: From Law School to the Real World' at UDM Law in Detroit. [Former Michigan Supreme Court Justice] Dennis Archer spoke about managing the law school to the real world transition."

[Full story](#)

## **The Macomb Daily: Macomb County Judge Marlinga to discuss JFK's foreign policy**

"Macomb County Probate Judge Carl Marlinga this week will talk about the life, not the death, of President Kennedy, even as the 50th anniversary of the president's assassination approaches. Marlinga, an admitted 'Kennedy-o-phile,' will be the featured speaker Thursday at the next meeting of the newly formed History Book Club of the Macomb County Bar Foundation."

[Full story](#)

## **The Macomb Daily: Macomb Veterans Courts celebrate first graduates**

"The combination of seeing his then-girlfriend nearly die in a car accident and post-traumatic stress disorder made Jonathan Jordan a 'hot mess' in May 2012 when he entered the district court Veterans Treatment Court program, according to Judge Carrie Fuca. The Army veteran who served in Korea was charged with assaulting a paramedic and a week later was charged with drunken driving."

[Full story](#)

## **Oakland County Legal News: Mich. high court adds juvenile lifers to docket**

"The Michigan Supreme Court will decide whether roughly 360 prisoners serving mandatory no-parole sentences for crimes they committed when they were under age 18 deserve a shot at freedom. The key issue is whether a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling striking down those sentences should be applied retroactively to inmates now behind bars."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **CBS Local/Detroit: Mich. Supreme Court Adds Juvenile Lifers To Docket**

[Full story](#)

## **Oakland County Legal News: Mich. man who claimed excessive police force wins Supreme Court ruling**

"A man who was badly injured in a confrontation with a suburban Detroit police officer has settled a lawsuit for about \$700,000 and received vindication of sorts from the Michigan Supreme Court. Jeff Kodlowski says he was beaten in the head by Westland Officer Kyle Dawley in 2009. The officer was responding to a call about a minor incident involving Kodlowski, his wife and a phone."

[Full story](#)

## **Oakland County Legal News: Salute to Justice Banquet honors judge, professor**

"The Oakland County Republican Party will present the 2013 Salute to Justice Banquet at the Somerset Inn, 2201 W. Big Beaver Road in Troy, on Thursday, Nov. 14, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Salute to Justice was created to recognize members of the legal or law enforcement community for their

substantial contributions to Oakland County. Honorees for 2013 are Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Wendy Potts, a member of the court since 1997, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Prof. David Moran, Distinguished Practitioner of the Year."

[Full story](#)

### **The Oakland Press Blog: Ex-Convict Jailed For Response To Jury Questionnaire**

"There is a little known law here in Michigan that requires residents of any county to completely fill out and return a Jury Questionnaire. Specifically, here is what we are all obligated to do pursuant to a chapter of our 'catchall' statute known as the Revised Judicature Act."

[Full story](#)

### **Press & Guide/Dearborn: Students honor veterans**

"Veterans have protected our freedom and returned home to improve their communities, speakers told students during Lowrey School's Veterans Day ceremony. Stiff winds, 42-degree weather and threatening rain did not keep dignitaries away from Monday's solemn ceremony, the 83rd such remembrance held at the school.... Those attending the event included ... Judge Sam Salamey, Judge Mark Somers, ... and other school and elected officials."

[Full story](#)

### **Traverse City Record-Eagle: Traverse City attorney pleads guilty to drunken driving**

"A prominent Traverse City attorney could face disciplinary action after he pleaded guilty to a drunken driving charge. Authorities stopped Kenneth Petterson, 53, on Oct. 26. A Grand Traverse County sheriff's deputy saw him drive through a parking lot in an apparent attempt to avoid a traffic light at the intersection of U.S. 31 and Holiday Road."

[Full story](#)

### **Tuscola County Advertiser: Glaspie re-appointed county's chief judge**

"Tuscola County District Judge Kim D. Glaspie has been re-appointed as chief judge for the county. The Michigan Supreme Court appoints chief judges every two years. The term begins Jan. 1, 2014.... Before becoming a judge he served as a county commissioner from 1986 to April of 1990 when he was appointed to the bench."

[Full story](#)