

December 11, 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: Tearful Bashara admits murder-for-hire plot, gets up to 20 years

"Wiping tears from his eyes, Grosse Pointe Park businessman Bob Bashara apologized and admitted his responsibility in a murder-for-hire plot on a handyman accused of killing Bashara's wife. But Bashara didn't explain during his sentencing Monday why he wanted Joseph Gentz dead."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Tearful Bashara sent to prison in murder plot; He gets up to 20 years for seeking death of accused killer of his wife

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Small talk with Benjamin Stanczyk

"Benjamin Stanczyk, 97, a retired Detroit Common Pleas Court judge, was among the first in Michigan to sell liquor following the end of Prohibition on Dec. 5, 1933. He worked as a clerk at a Hamtramck drugstore where crowds formed that morning, anticipating the repeal of the 18th Amendment banning alcohol."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Supreme Court orders ex-judge to pay \$16.5K (fourth article)

"The Michigan Supreme Court has ordered ousted Inkster judge Sylvia James to pay \$16,500 in costs to the Judicial Tenure Commission.... James lost her seat on the 22nd District Court bench earlier this year after the Michigan Supreme Court found she committed judicial misconduct."

[Full story](#)

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

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: MSC to former judge: Pay up!

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Senate confirms Berg for federal bench (third article)

"A prosecutor has been approved as a new federal judge in Detroit. Terrence Berg was confirmed last Thursday by the U.S. Senate. He's worked in the U.S. attorney's office in Detroit and served as interim leader for more than a year until 2010."

[Full story](#)

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

Detroit Legal News: Given his due: District Judge Stewart Newblatt feted at official unveiling of portrait

"Stewart Newblatt had picked his career. He was going to be an engineer, after a stint in the Army at the end of World War II. But after being sent overseas as a young soldier in an investigative unit, with orders to find and bring back a deserter, Newblatt had an awakening that led him into the field of law."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: Genesee County commissioner says judge can pay for insuring girl who wasn't biological daughter

“County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jamie Curtis said he'll take Circuit Judge Archie Hayman up on an offer to pay back any benefits he was improperly given. Jack Belzer, an attorney for Hayman, said last week that DNA testing shows the judge is almost certainly not the father of a girl he claimed was his biological child when he registered her for county health insurance in 2011.”

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Obituary: [former Judge] James Fleming

“Died at the age of 83 years on Sunday, December 9, 2012 after a courageous battle with brain tumors.... Jim was a prominent figure in Jackson County and state politics. He served two terms as a Circuit Court Commissioner, three terms as Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney, one term as a City Commissioner, two terms as State Senator for the 19th District, and three terms as a Jackson County Circuit Judge.”

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kalamazoo man who fired gun amid crowd gets probation, chance to keep felony off record

“A Kalamazoo man who fired a gun amid a crowd gathered near Western Michigan University will stay out of jail if he completes his education and stays out of trouble.... The [94-day] jail term is to begin Dec. 1, 2013, but will be suspended if [Patrick] Russell completes his general-education degree and pays off his court costs and state fees before that date.”

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Man with suspended license wins appeal (third article)

“The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled in favor of a Detroit-area man who fought a conviction of driving with a suspended license.... The appeals court ruled recently that [Kazem] Hammoud’s conviction must be thrown out and he can’t be charged again. He had been sentenced to 30 days in jail.”

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: New law in effect regarding Tasers; legal to carry for concealed pistol license holders

“... In June, Michigan State Police Trooper James Willing at the Bay City Police had received so many questions from citizens and gun dealers that he faxed a media release explaining the changes. He reported Senate Bill No. 29 was amended to allow properly trained and qualified individuals to purchase and possess a Taser with a concealed weapons permit.”

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Inside Edition piece focuses on D'Andre Lane's conviction for murdering daughter Bianca Jones

“Inside Edition, a national news and entertainment TV program, is airing a piece about D'Andre Lane, who was convicted of murdering his daughter Bianca Jones. What makes the story unique — beyond the fact that a father was convicted of murdering and then driving around with and disposing of his 2-year-old daughter's corpse — is that Bianca's body has never been found; and both her parents believe she was abducted and is still alive.”

[Full story](#)

Saginaw News: Judge denies Ken Bluew a new trial, says he would have been convicted 'anywhere on the planet'

“Kenneth T. Bluew, the former Buena Vista police officer convicted of murdering the woman who was eight months pregnant with his son, will not get a new trial. At least not from Saginaw County Circuit

Judge Darnell Jackson.... With the judge's decision, Bluew's case now can proceed to the state Court of Appeals, where Bluew has filed an appeal."

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: Attention Fans of Anatomy of a Murder

"The fans of the classic Anatomy of a Murder are legion, but they are particularly plentiful and fervent in Michigan, as the book was authored by a Michigan Supreme Court justice and the movie was filmed in Marquette, Michigan. So SBM Blog thinks it's important to let you all know that Lansing, Michigan-based film makers Claire Wiley and David C. Jones are creating a documentary film about what happened in 1959, when Hollywood director Otto Preminger and his crew invaded Marquette, Michigan to film the classic courtroom drama, 'Anatomy of a Murder.' "

[Full story](#)