

December 31, 2013-January 2, 2014

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.

The Detroit News: Michigan mental health courts get OK for expansion; Legislation regulates operations for handling mentally ill defendants

"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signed legislation Monday allowing for the expansion of Michigan's mental health court program, which experts say lowers the recidivism rate of convicts and helps accused criminals with mental issues get medical assistance and guidance.... The signing of mental health court legislation represents a collaboration by all three branches of state government, Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. said Monday in a statement."

[*Full story*](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signs bills allowing Michigan to expand mental health court program

[*Full story*](#)

Note: The Associated Press article also ran in the Lansing State Journal, the Midland Daily News and other media outlets.

Detroit Legal News: Lt. Gov. signs bills allowing creation of mental health

[*Full story*](#)

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

Detroit Legal News: Mental health courts see recidivism drop

[*Full story*](#)

The MLW Blog: Mental health court expansion bills become law

[*Full story*](#)

Mental health court bills hailed by Chief Justice Young as "good government reform"

[*Press release*](#)

The Detroit News: New mayor sworn in, says he'll work to move Detroit 'back to elected leadership'

"Mike Duggan is officially Detroit's 75th mayor after taking the oath of office just after 11 a.m. Wednesday in the mayor's office on the 11th floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. Duggan was sworn in by City Clerk Janice Winfrey as his father, U.S. District Judge Patrick Duggan, held a Bible. Outgoing Mayor Dave Bing also stood by his side."

[*Full story*](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Mike Duggan sworn in as mayor of Detroit

[*Full story*](#)

Detroit Free Press: Activist and his attorney could pay \$48,000 for suing Duggan without good reason

"Highland Park activist Robert Davis and his attorney could face a bill of close to \$48,000 after a judge ruled they improperly filed a lawsuit against Detroit Mayor-elect Mike Duggan and other defendants on the eve of the Nov. 5 Detroit mayoral election. Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo agreed to impose the costs as sanctions Dec. 12 after ruling that the Davis lawsuit — which alleged Duggan was part of a conspiracy to appoint Detroit emergency manager Kevyn Orr — did not have a factual or legal basis."

[*Full story*](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Brian Dickerson: Missing the point on juvenile lifers

"... [S]tate Sen. Rick Jones [persuaded his Senate colleagues to exclude current juvenile lifer prisoners, and a version approved by the House would include them only if federal or state Supreme Court justices insisted.] The Michigan Supreme Court could do just that when it takes up the cases of three currently incarcerated juvenile lifers sometime in 2014. Justices have already agreed to hear arguments by lawyers for Dakota Eliason, Raymond Carp and Cortez Davis."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Top legal news of the year

"2013 presented a wide range of legal news in Michigan. New leadership and layoffs at the 36th District Court. The lightning-fast relocation of the Court of Claims. Judicial misconduct charges hit new levels. Business courts in full swing. A Supreme Court justice goes to jail. Controversial new court rules. A law school twice in court. Here are some of the most popular legal topics and stories of 2013."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Asked and Answered: Kim Foster on Electronic Juror

"The federal judges of the Western District of Michigan have approved an electronic juror questionnaire process in the district. The electronic process was pilot tested over the last several months and has been well-received by all participants. Kim Foster is the Chief Deputy Clerk of the U. S. District Court for Western Michigan. A native of Midland, Michigan, has worked in courts for over 30 years."

[Full story](#)

The Evening News/Sault Ste. Marie, MI: Lambros named chief judge of Chippewa County

"Judge James Lambros of the 50th Circuit Court has been appointed chief judge for a two-year term beginning on Jan. 1, according to a letter from Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. 'As a judicial leader, you are charged with great responsibility,' wrote Young congratulating Lambros on his appointment."

[Full story](#)

Lapeer Area View: Tea Party to host Justice David Viviano Jan. 7

"The Lapeer County Tea Party Patriots will hold its monthly membership meeting on Jan. 7. The featured speaker will be Justice David Viviano, Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Justice Viviano will speak to the importance of the court and how the courts decisions affect our everyday lives."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Top 13 Michigan political stories of 2013: Medicaid expansion, abortion insurance and more

"... Hathaway resigns: Embattled Michigan Supreme Court Judge Diane Hathaway confirmed her retirement in early January amidst accusations of bank fraud. The Democratic-nominee was later sentenced to one year and one day in prison. Meanwhile, the state Supreme Court is considering the fate of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade McCree. The 'buff judge,' who earned that nickname in 2012 after sending topless photos of himself to a female court officer, is now accused of having an affair with a woman who appeared in his court."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Facing suspension, Muskegon attorney Shawn P. Davis will no longer represent man charged with killing baby

"Prominent Muskegon trial attorney Shawn P. Davis will no longer be representing Anthony Casanova, who is charged with murder in the death of his 10-week-old son on Jan. 4, 2013. Davis, whose law

license will be suspended for two years beginning on Jan. 3, 2014, announced the decision at a hearing on Monday, Dec. 30. Davis is being suspended for his admitted misappropriation of thousands of dollars from the law firm for which he used to work, Nolan & Nolan & Shafer PLC."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Institutional knowledge: Michigan judge shares court's core values, culture of service while in Uganda

"... In the Ugandan legal system, that sense of trust and fairness has been lacking among its citizens, whether legitimately or only in perception. One of Michigan's most respected judges, the Hon. Cynthia Stephens, was invited recently to help turn around that perception."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: ASKED & ANSWERED: Donald Shelton on DNA evidence

"Washtenaw County Trial Court Chief Judge Donald Shelton teaches Forensic Science in the criminology department at Eastern Michigan University during the spring as well as Forensic Science Evidence at Cooley Law School in the summer semester. He is also the author of 'Forensic Science in Court.' The Legal News talked to Shelton about DNA forensic technology."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Veterans Court set to start in Jackson County

"Jackson County has started a Veterans Court that will provide aid and assistance to struggling veterans. The Veterans Court will be embedded as a pilot program in Jackson County Judge Susan Beebe's already established Recovery Court, which is a 16-month program that is a sentencing alternative to jail or prison."

[Full story](#)