

May 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.

Macomb County Legal News: Reform plan outlined in Supreme Court report

" 'Performance, technology, and efficiency' are the elements of Michigan's court reform plan, according to the Michigan Supreme Court's 2012 annual report released Wednesday. Eliminating unneeded judgeships was just the beginning for Michigan court reform, Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., said in a preface to the report."

[Full story](#)

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

Also see:

State court reform plan outlined in Michigan Supreme Court's 2012 Annual Report

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: Big bill in the case of pointy heel, lost eye

"The Michigan appeals court says a woman must pay \$126,000 to another woman who lost an eye after being struck with a stiletto heel in Bay City. The court this week agreed with a Bay County judge who said Rebekah Lloyd is on the hook for triple damages for injuries suffered by Michelle LeBlanc."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Big bill in Bay City case of pointy heel, lost eye

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Big bill in the case of pointy heel, lost eye

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Michigan improperly recruited Detroit emergency manager, activist claims

"A top adviser to Gov. Rick Snyder set up one-on-one phone conferences for members of Michigan's Emergency Loan Board to interview Kevyn Orr for the Detroit emergency manager job three days before the board interviewed him in public, an e-mail released by the state shows."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Lansing State Journal.

Detroit Free Press: Some felons could get records erased under bill heading to Michigan House

"...The [state House of Representatives Criminal Justice Committee] unanimously passed a bill Wednesday that would allow more ex-offenders to get their criminal records erased from the public record, a process called expungement.... The bill has widespread support from judges, attorneys and prosecutors."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Saginaw News: Saginaw State Rep. Stacy Erwin Oakes' conviction expunging bill passes committee

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Lexington woman's cancer, rape fraud case bowls over community

"... [T]he charges come as those who helped [Sara] Ylen reel from the news that the man who spent nearly 10 years in prison for her rape was released last year. A judge said new evidence cast doubt on whether Ylen ever was attacked."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Cancer, rape fraud case bowls over Mich. community

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Switching gears: Former prosecutor embraces new role on circuit court bench

"While attending law school, Byron Kenschuh envisioned a career combining his law degree with his future MBA, perhaps sitting behind a desk writing briefs, or doing research, or some sort of behind-the-scenes work in business."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: A 'Fun'-raiser: Cooley annual benefit supports area veterans

"Anyone looking to enjoy several fun activities and support a worthy cause in the process should set aside the evening of Sunday, June 2 as a time for both. That is when Cooley Law School will hold its 5th Annual Charity Benefit to support the Macomb County Veterans Treatment Court (MCVTC)."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: A need to hike pay for judges in state

David H. Fink writes "It's time to do something about judicial compensation in this state. Michigan judges haven't had a pay increase since 2002. During that time, the Consumer Price Index has increased more than 25 percent, and the pay for non-elected state employees has essentially kept pace with inflation."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Grand Rapids Legal News, the Macomb County Legal News and the Oakland County Legal News.

Grand Rapids Legal News: Michigan Supreme Court censures and suspends Judge Kenneth Post

"In an Order dated May 1 the Michigan Supreme Court publicly censured Hudsonville 58th District Court (Ottawa County) Judge Kenneth Post, suspending him for 30 days without pay."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Judge sentences Steven Storm to life in prison for murder; says he would use death penalty if state allowed

"If Lenawee County Circuit Judge Timothy Pickard has anything to do with it, Steven Storm has enjoyed his last day of freedom. Storm of Vandercook Lake was sentenced Friday morning to life in prison for the murder of Sandra Johnson, and Pickard told Storm he will do everything in his power to make sure he stays behind bars for the rest of his life."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Daily Telegram/Adrian: Kindness led to mother's murder, daughters say at sentencing

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kalamazoo County drug treatment court graduates, success of program to be celebrated Tuesday

"Former addicts will share their stories of redemption and recovery next week in Kalamazoo as part of a special graduation and rally for National Drug Court Month. The event, which is scheduled for 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center and Fairgrounds, will feature The National Association of Drug Court Professionals' 'All Rise America! On the Road for Recovery,' which is making 26 stops as part of a 3,500-mile journey from California to New York, according to a news release issued by Kalamazoo County officials."

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Carras circuit judge appointment praised

"Midland County District Court Judge Stephen P. Carras will soon be changing his title to circuit court judge, a role he relishes.... The announcement that Gov. Rick Snyder appointed Carras was made Wednesday. The appointment is to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of former Judge Jonathan E. Lauderbach."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Legal News: Carras appointed judge of 42nd Circuit Court in Midland County (second article)

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: New ADB director will strive to 'keep up the good work'

"One of Mark Armitage's goals as the new Attorney Discipline Board executive director is to 'not mess up John's good work.' Armitage is, of course, referring to longtime ADB executive director John Van Bolt, who is retiring after 27 years. Armitage takes over the executive director and general counsel position on Oct. 1, 2013. He will be the third director since the Michigan Supreme Court created the ADB in 1978."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

SBM Blog: Michigan Attorney Discipline Board Seeking An Associate Director

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Detroit court intensifies collection tactics; we're going to find you, judge says

"Chief 36th District Judge Kenneth King appeared on the WDET 101.9's 'Craig Fahle Show' Thursday to discuss the aggressive tactics the court is taking to collect overdue traffic citations, fines and court costs due in Detroit. Nearly \$250 million is due to the city, King told Craig Fahle, and the court is taking new steps to make sure it collects on its debts, including intercepting tax returns, garnishments, court hearings and seizing cars and boats."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: District Judge to speak at International Elder Abuse Awareness Day

"The Oakland County SAVE Task Force will celebrate its 8th annual International Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Friday, June 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Oakland County Commissioners' Auditorium in Pontiac. The keynote speaker will be Oakland County 44th District Court Judge Derek Meinecke."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press Blog: Oakland County Circuit Court Open for Business

"On June 3rd, the Oakland County Business Court commences here at the Oakland County Circuit Court. The Michigan Supreme Court has appointed Oakland Circuit Judges Wendy Potts and James Alexander to preside over the docket."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press Blog: Kwame Blames the Lawyer

"... In a recent post-verdict motion for a new trial filed with federal judge Nancy Edmunds, the former Detroit Mayor revealed that he filed a grievance against Mr. Thomas with the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission [which apparently already has been dismissed], and again raised claims of 'ineffective assistance of counsel' in violation of Hizhonor's Sixth Amendment rights."

[Full story](#)

Press & Guide/Dearborn: DEARBORN: Court announces amnesty period for unpaid parking, traffic tickets

"A one-time amnesty program for unpaid parking and traffic civil infraction tickets is running through June 14 at 19th District Court, 16077 Michigan Ave. The court, which covers all of the city, is attached to the back of the police station."

[Full story](#)