

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Judicial leaders” of Michigan trial courts, Court of Appeals named by Michigan Supreme Court; chief judges to promote efficiency, public service High court continues trend of appointing one chief judge to oversee multiple trial courts

LANSING, MI, October 18, 2013 – Improving public service and court efficiency are on the to-do list for a group of newly-appointed state court chief judges. The Michigan Supreme Court announced the appointments today; the two-year chief judge terms begin January 1, 2014.

Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., called the chief judge appointees “judicial leaders” who will further the Supreme Court’s goals of improved public service, more efficient courts, and greater innovation, including increased use of technology.

Starting in 2011, the Supreme Court began requiring candidates for chief judge to submit applications detailing their goals for their courts, Young explained. As provided in Michigan Court Rule 8.110, chief judges oversee their courts’ internal operations, finances, case management, work assignments, and more.

“Being a chief judge is a demanding job; it requires leadership, vision, and administrative skills,” Young said. “In making these appointments, my fellow Justices and I look for all of those qualities, plus practical, innovative ideas about improving the courts. Our chief judges have to be committed to the goal of courts working smarter for a better Michigan.”

Of the 148 chief judges the Supreme Court appointed today, 46 will oversee more than one trial court in their judicial circuits, Young noted. “Increasingly, circuit, probate, and district courts in the same judicial circuit are consolidating some functions and administration for greater efficiency and savings. The Supreme Court not only encourages but drives this movement, in part by appointing a single chief judge for multiple courts, rather than a separate chief judge for every circuit, probate, and district court.”

The Supreme Court also announced that Court of Appeals Chief Judge William B. Murphy, who has served as that court’s chief judge since January 2010, will continue as chief judge through 2014, to be succeeded by Judge Michael J. Talbot in January 2015. Talbot is currently serving as special judicial administrator of Detroit’s 36th District Court.

“Traditionally, a chief judge of the Court of Appeals serves only two two-year terms, but with Chief Judge Murphy serving a fifth year, Judge Talbot will be able to continue in his role at the 36th District Court,” Young said.

The chief judge appointments are as follows:

Alcona, Arenac, Iosco, and Oscoda Counties 23rd Circuit Court Alcona County Probate Court Arenac County Probate Court Iosco County Probate Court Oscoda County Probate Court 81st District Court	Honorable Allen C. Yenior
Alger, Luce, Mackinac, and Schoolcraft Counties 11th Circuit Court Alger/Schoolcraft Probate District 5 Luce/Mackinac Probate District 6 92nd District Court 93rd District Court	Honorable William W. Carmody
Allegan County 48th Circuit Court Allegan County Probate Court 57th District Court	Honorable Margaret Bakker Honorable Michael L. Buck Honorable William A. Baillargeon
Alpena and Montmorency Counties 26th Circuit Court Alpena County Probate Court Montmorency County Probate Court 88th District Court	Honorable Michael G. Mack
Antrim, Grand Traverse, and Leelanau Counties 13th Circuit Court Antrim County Probate Court Grand Traverse County Probate Court Leelanau County Probate Court 86th District Court	Honorable Philip E. Rodgers Honorable Norman R. Hayes Honorable Melanie Stanton Honorable Larry J. Nelson Honorable Michael Stepka
Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties 12th Circuit Court Baraga County Probate Court Houghton County Probate Court Keweenaw County Probate Court 97th District Court	Honorable Charles R. Goodman
Barry County Trial Court 5th Circuit Court Barry County Probate Court 56B District Court	Honorable William M. Doherty

<p>Bay County 18th Circuit Court Bay County Probate Court 74th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable Kenneth W. Schmidt</p>
<p>Benzie and Manistee Counties 19th Circuit Court Benzie County Probate Court Manistee County Probate Court 85th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable James M. Batzer for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2014</p>
<p>Benzie and Manistee Counties 19th Circuit Court Benzie County Probate Court Manistee County Probate Court 85th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable John Mead for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2015</p>
<p>Berrien County Trial Court 2nd Circuit Court Berrien County Probate Court 5th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable Thomas E. Nelson</p>
<p>Branch County 15th Circuit Court Branch County Probate Court 3A District Court</p>	<p>Honorable P. William O'Grady</p>
<p>Calhoun County 37th Circuit Court</p>	<p>Honorable James C. Kingsley for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2014</p>
<p>Calhoun County 37th Circuit Court</p>	<p>Honorable Conrad Sindt for the one-year period commencing January 1, 2015</p>
<p>Calhoun County Calhoun County Probate Court 10th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable Michael L. Jaconette Honorable John A. Hallacy</p>
<p>Cass County 43rd Circuit Court Cass County Probate Court 4th District Court</p>	<p>Honorable Susan L. Dobrich</p>

Charlevoix and Emmet Counties

33rd Circuit Court
57th Circuit Court
Charlevoix/Emmet Probate District 7
90th District Court

Honorable Richard M. Pajtas
Honorable Charles W. Johnson
Honorable Frederick R. Mulhauser
Honorable James N. Erhart

Cheboygan and Presque Isle Counties

53rd Circuit Court
Cheboygan County Probate Court
Presque Isle County Probate Court
89th District Court

Honorable Scott Lee Pavlich

Chippewa County

50th Circuit Court
Chippewa County Probate Court
91st District Court

Honorable James P. Lambros

Clare and Gladwin Counties

55th Circuit Court
Clare/Gladwin Probate District 17
80th District Court

Honorable Thomas R. Evans
Honorable Marcy A. Klaus
Honorable Joshua M. Farrell

Clinton and Gratiot Counties

29th Circuit Court
Clinton County Probate Court
Gratiot County Probate Court
65A District Court
65B District Court

Honorable Randy L. Tahvonen

Crawford, Kalkaska, and Otsego Counties

46th Circuit Court
Crawford County Probate Court
Kalkaska County Probate Court
Otsego County Probate Court
87A District Court
87B District Court
87C District Court

Honorable Janet M. Allen
Honorable Monte Burmeister
Honorable Lynne Marie Buday
Honorable Michael K. Cooper
Honorable Patricia A. Morse
Honorable Lynne Marie Buday
Honorable Monte Burmeister

Delta County

47th Circuit Court
Delta County Probate Court
94th District Court

Honorable Stephen T. Davis

Dickinson and Menominee Counties

41st Circuit Court, Dickinson and
Menominee Counties

Honorable Mary Brouillette Barglind

Dickinson County Probate Court
Menominee County Probate Court
95A District Court
95B District Court, Dickinson County

Honorable Thomas D. Slagle
Honorable William A. Hupy
Honorable Jeffrey G. Barstow
Honorable Christopher S. Ninomiya

Eaton County
56th Circuit Court
Eaton County Probate Court
56A District Court

Honorable Thomas K. Byerley

Genesee County
7th Circuit Court
Genesee County Probate Court
67th District Court
68th District Court

Honorable Richard B. Yuille

Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties
32nd Circuit Court
Gogebic County Probate Court
Ontonagon County Probate Court
98th District Court

Honorable Anders B. Tingstad, Jr.
for the one-year period
commencing January 1, 2014

Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties
32nd Circuit Court
Gogebic County Probate Court
Ontonagon County Probate Court
98th District Court

Honorable Joel L. Massie
for the one-year period
commencing January 1, 2015

Hillsdale County
1st Circuit Court
Hillsdale County Probate Court
2B District Court

Honorable Michael R. Smith

Huron County
52nd Circuit Court
Huron County Probate Court
73B District Court

Honorable M. Richard Knoblock
for the one-year period
commencing January 1, 2014

Huron County
52nd Circuit Court
Huron County Probate Court
73B District Court

Honorable David B. Herrington
for the one-year period
commencing January 1, 2015

Ingham County
30th Circuit Court
Ingham County Probate Court

Honorable Janelle A. Lawless
Honorable Richard Garcia

55th District Court	Honorable Thomas P. Boyd
Ingham County, <i>Third Class District Courts</i>	
54A District Court	Honorable Louise Alderson
54B District Court	Honorable Andrea Larkin
Ionia and Montcalm Counties	Honorable Raymond P. Voet
8th Circuit Court	
Ionia County Probate Court	
Montcalm County Probate Court	
64A District Court	
64B District Court	
Iron County Trial Court	Honorable C. Joseph Schwedler
41st Circuit Court, Iron County	
Iron County Probate Court	
95B District Court, Iron County	
Isabella County Trial Court	Honorable Paul H. Chamberlain
21st Circuit Court	
Isabella County Probate Court	
76th District Court	
Jackson County	
4th Circuit Court and	
Jackson County Probate Court	Honorable Thomas D. Wilson
12th District Court	Honorable Michael J. Klaeren
Kalamazoo County	
9th Circuit Court and	
Kalamazoo County Probate Court	Honorable Curtis Bell
8th District Court	Honorable Paul J. Bridenstine
Kent County	
17th Circuit Court	Honorable Donald A. Johnston, III
Kent County Probate Court	Honorable David M. Murkowski
63rd District Court	Honorable Sara J. Smolenski
Kent County, <i>Third Class District Courts</i>	
59th District Court	Honorable Peter P. Versluis
61st District Court	Honorable Jeanine Nemesi LaVille
62A District Court	Honorable Pablo Cortes
62B District Court	Honorable William G. Kelly
Lake County Trial Court	Honorable Mark S. Wickens
51st Circuit Court, Lake County	

Lake County Probate Court
79th District Court, Lake County

Lapeer County
40th Circuit Court
Lapeer County Probate Court
71A District Court

Honorable Nick O. Holowka

Lenawee County
39th Circuit Court
Lenawee County Probate Court
2A District Court

Honorable Timothy P. Pickard
Honorable Gregg P. Iddings
Honorable James E. Sheridan

Livingston County
44th Circuit Court
Livingston County Probate Court
53rd District Court

Honorable David Reader

Macomb County
16th Circuit Court
Macomb County Probate Court
42nd District Court

Honorable John C. Foster

Macomb County, *Third Class District Courts*

37th District Court
38th District Court
39th District Court
40th District Court
41A District Court
41B District Court

Honorable John M. Chmura
Honorable Carl F. Gerds, III
Honorable Catherine B. Steenland
Honorable Joseph Craigen Oster
Honorable Michael S. Maceroni
Honorable Sebastian Lucido

Marquette County
25th Circuit Court and
Marquette County Probate Court
96th District Court

Honorable Thomas L. Solka
Honorable Roger W. Kangas

Mason County
51st Circuit Court, Mason County
Mason County Probate Court
79th District Court, Mason County

Honorable Peter J. Wadel

Mecosta and Osceola Counties
49th Circuit Court
Mecosta/Osceola Probate District 18
77th District Court

Honorable Scott P. Hill-Kennedy

Midland County
42nd Circuit Court
Midland County Probate Court
75th District Court

Honorable Stephen Carras

Missaukee and Wexford Counties
28th Circuit Court
Missaukee County Probate Court
Wexford County Probate Court
84th District Court

Honorable William M. Fagerman

Monroe County
38th Circuit Court
Monroe County Probate Court
1st District Court

Honorable Jack Vitale

Muskegon County
14th Circuit Court and
Muskegon County Probate Court
60th District Court

Honorable William C. Marietti
Honorable Maria Ladas Hoopes

Newaygo and Oceana Counties
27th Circuit Court
Newaygo County Probate Court
Oceana County Probate Court
78th District Court

Honorable Anthony A. Monton

Oakland County
6th Circuit Court
Oakland County Probate Court
52nd District Court

Honorable Nanci J. Grant
Honorable Elizabeth M. Pezzetti
Honorable Julie A. Nicholson

Oakland County, *Third Class District Courts*
43rd District Court
44th District Court
45th District Court
45A District Court
46th District Court
47th District Court
48th District Court
50th District Court
51st District Court

Honorable Joseph Longo
Honorable Terrence H. Brennan
Honorable Michelle Friedman Appel
Honorable James L. Wittenberg
Honorable William J. Richards
Honorable Marla E. Parker
Honorable Kimberly Small
Honorable Cynthia Thomas Walker
Honorable Richard D. Kuhn, Jr.

Ogemaw and Roscommon Counties
34th Circuit Court
Ogemaw County Probate Court

Honorable Richard E. Noble

Roscommon County Probate Court
82nd District Court

Ottawa County

20th Circuit Court
Ottawa County Probate Court
58th District Court

Honorable Edward R. Post
Honorable Mark A. Feyen
Honorable Bradley S. Knoll

Saginaw County

10th Circuit Court
Saginaw County Probate Court
70th District Court

Honorable Fred L. Borchard

Sanilac County

24th Circuit Court
Sanilac County Probate Court
73A District Court

Honorable Donald A. Teeple

Shiawassee County

35th Circuit Court
Shiawassee County Probate Court
66th District Court

Honorable Gerald D. Lostracco
Honorable Thomas Dignan
Honorable Ward L. Clarkson

St. Clair County

31st Circuit Court
St. Clair County Probate Court
72nd District Court

Honorable Daniel J. Kelly

St. Joseph County

45th Circuit Court
St. Joseph County Probate Court
3B District Court

Honorable Paul E. Stutesman

Tuscola County

54th Circuit Court
Tuscola County Probate Court
71B District Court

Honorable Kim David Glaspie

Van Buren County

36th Circuit Court
Van Buren County Probate Court
7th District Court

Honorable Frank D. Willis

Washtenaw County

22nd Circuit Court and
Washtenaw County Probate Court

Honorable David S. Swartz

14A District Court

Honorable Richard E. Conlin

Washtenaw County, *Third Class District Courts*

14B District Court

Honorable Charles Pope

15th District Court

Honorable Elizabeth Pollard Hines

Wayne County

3rd Circuit Court

Honorable Robert J. Colombo, Jr.

Wayne County Probate Court

Honorable Milton L. Mack, Jr.

Wayne County, *Third Class District and Municipal Courts*

16th District Court

Honorable Sean P. Kavanagh

17th District Court

Honorable Karen Khalil

18th District Court

Honorable Mark A. McConnell

19th District Court

Honorable Sam A. Salamey

20th District Court

Honorable David Turfe

21st District Court

Honorable Richard L. Hammer, Jr.

22nd District Court

Honorable Sabrina L. Johnson

23rd District Court

Honorable Geno Salomone

24th District Court

Honorable John T. Courtright

25th District Court

Honorable Michael F. Ciungan

27th District Court

Honorable Randy L. Kalmbach

28th District Court

Honorable James A. Kandrevas

29th District Court

Honorable Laura Redmond Mack

30th District Court

Honorable Brigette R. Officer

31st District Court

Honorable Paul J. Paruk

32A District Court

Honorable Roger J. La Rose

33rd District Court

Honorable Jennifer Coleman Hesson

34th District Court

Honorable Tina Brooks Green

35th District Court

Honorable James A. Plakas

36th District Court

Honorable Nancy J. Blount

Grosse Pte. Municipal Court

Honorable Russell F. Ethridge

Grosse Pte. Farms Municipal Court

Honorable Matthew R. Rumora

Grosse Pte. Park Municipal Court

Honorable Carl F. Jarboe

Grosse Pte. Woods Municipal Court

Honorable Theodore A. Metry

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