



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

John Nevin, Communications Director

Ph: 517-373-0129 Twitter: @MISupremeCourt FB: facebook.com/misupremecourt

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2017

Keeping Families Whole Focus of Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Kenneth L. Tacoma

Who: Wexford County Judge Kenneth L. Tacoma to receive the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award for Exemplary Service to Michigan's Children and Families during Adoption Day festivities at the Hall of Justice. Tacoma's judicial colleague and nominator, Honorable Audrey Van Alst, will present the award.

What: The award, jointly sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, was established in honor of the late Daniel J. Wright of Grand Ledge. As director of the Friend of the Court Bureau and Child Welfare Services division of the State Court Administrative Office, Wright helped create the state's "adoption forums" to deal with adoption barriers that were keeping children in foster care. He worked on legislation to give foster children a great voice in decisions about their lives. The law now requires courts to consult the child when holding a hearing about permanent home placement.

When: Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.
Supreme Court Courtroom, 6th Floor
925 W. Ottawa, Lansing

Why: With the theme of "Giving Thanks for Families," courts statewide will celebrate Adoption Month, 2017. Held on or near the Tuesday before Thanksgiving each year, Adoption Day has become a holiday tradition, highlighting the importance of adoption and the needs of children in foster care. Many courts will finalize adoptions, while others will hold informational events to reach potential adoptive parents.

The Court broadcasts its oral arguments and other hearings [live](#) on the Internet via streaming video technology. Streaming will begin shortly before the ceremony begins.

A list of statewide events is available [here](#).

-MSC-