



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Honorable J. Joseph Rossi Appointed Second Business Court Judge for 17th Circuit Court in Kent County

LANSING, MI, February 1, 2017 – The Honorable J. Joseph Rossi has been appointed a second business court judge for the 17th Circuit Court, replacing Judge George Jay Quist, who has been serving in that capacity on an interim basis. Rossi was elected to the 17th Circuit Court in Kent County in November 2016 to replace Judge George Buth, who retired. Rossi joins Judge Christopher Yates, helping to handle the growing Business Court docket in Kent County.

“Business courts are specialized dockets within circuit courts that resolve cases more efficiently and consistently,” said Justice Bridget M. McCormack. “Business court judges have specialized knowledge and experience in business to help them write timely opinions that accurately reflect statutes and case law.”

Rossi began his legal career in 1995 at Smith Haughey Rice and Roegge, handling employment, insurance, and construction litigation matters and has spent the majority of the last 20 years as a civil litigator involved with many complex business cases. For example, in 2002, he joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Grand Rapids, representing the U.S. in tort, employment, and civil rights claims, as well as affirmative litigation to recover money taken from the U.S. by fraud.

He returned to private practice in 2010 at the firm of Drew, Cooper and Anding, participating in complex cases including breach of contract, insurance, UCC, and banking cases. Rossi’s substantial business litigation expertise includes case management, alternative dispute resolution including mediation, facilitative mediation, and binding arbitration, e-discovery, and document production and management.

Business courts are intended to provide a case management structure that facilitates more timely, effective, and predictable resolution of complex business cases. Specialized dockets benefit litigants and improve the efficiency of the courts; [searchable opinions](#) in more than 1,200 cases can be found on the Michigan Supreme Court webpage.

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