



Fall 2012

Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center Educator Newsletter

## CALENDAR

Nov 22–23	State Holidays
Nov 28	Michigan Supreme Court Public Hearing*
Dec 4–5,	Court of Appeals-Lansing, Oral Arguments
Dec 11–12	Court of Appeals-Lansing, Oral Arguments
Dec 11–13	Michigan Supreme Court Oral Arguments*
Dec 24–25	State Holidays
Dec 31	State Holiday
Jan 1	State Holiday
Jan 8–10	Michigan Supreme Court Oral Arguments*
Jan 30	Michigan Supreme Court Public Hearing*

\*Proceedings of the Michigan Supreme Court are broadcast on Michigan Government Television (MGTV). The State Bar of Michigan also archives proceedings online at [www.michbar.org/courts/virtualcourt.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/courts/virtualcourt.cfm).

## Law Day

### May 1, 2013

You and your students are invited to celebrate America's heritage of liberty under law by attending the Learning Center's Law Day event, May 1, 2013. This year's national theme, "Realizing the Dream: Equality for All," explores the movement for civil and human rights in America and the impact it has had in promoting the ideal of equality under the law. The theme was chosen, in part, to acknowledge the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream Speech" in Washington, D.C.

Themed tours and activities will emphasize the core democratic values of justice and equality. Tours will include free curriculum materials and special guest speakers, including members of the judiciary.

Limited openings are available for all grades. Call 517-373-7171 to reserve your tour today.

**Law Day – American Bar Association**

<http://lawday.org>



## Learning Center Website

### New Design, New Address

The Learning Center website has been redesigned and moved to a new web address: <http://courts.mi.gov/education/learning-center>. All information and curriculum resources on the old Learning Center website have been migrated to the new design.

In fact, the judiciary's entire "One Court of Justice" website was redesigned with new navigation features specifically devised for the general public. Check it out at <http://courts.mi.gov>.



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## Michigan Supreme Court Election Results

Following the November 6 elections, there will be changes to the Michigan Supreme Court bench. Two incumbents, Justice Stephen J. Markman and Justice Brian K. Zahra, will return and Justice-Elect Bridget Mary McCormack will join the Court, taking the seat to be vacated by Justice Marilyn Kelly, who was prevented from running due to age. Under the Michigan Constitution, judges and justices may not run for election or be appointed once they reach 70 years of age. ([Const 1963, Art 6, § 19](#)) Changes will become effective at the beginning of the new term, January 1, 2013.



**Justice  
Marilyn  
Kelly**



**Justice  
Stephen J.  
Markman**



**Justice  
Brian K.  
Zahra**



**Justice-Elect  
Bridget Mary  
McCormack**

## In Brief: Domestic Violence

The Learning Center recently opened a new exhibit about domestic violence, which was developed for a student audience. Activities help visitors recognize abusive behaviors that are never acceptable, invite them to identify positive traits they might look for in a partner, and investigate how courts and other agencies protect victims and hold abusers accountable. Below is a synopsis of major events in a domestic violence case.

**Event** – Alleged domestic violence incident occurs. Defendant is arrested.



**Arraignment** – The charge of domestic assault against defendant is read in his/her presence by the judge. Pleads guilty (go to Sentencing) or not guilty (go to Trial). Judge may order no contact between defendant/alleged victim.

**Trial** – Evidence is presented and a jury decides guilty (go to Sentencing) or not guilty (defendant free).



**Sentencing** – Judge gives defendant a sentence, which depends on the severity of the crime and whether there is a criminal history. Probation or jail is typical for a first offense.

### Best of the Web

**DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE,  
TEEN DATING  
VIOLENCE,  
&  
BULLYING**



### Domestic Violence

National Domestic Violence Hotline – <http://www.thehotline.org/>

### Teen Dating

That's Not Cool – <http://www.thatsnotcool.com/default.aspx>

Animated videos and games that use digital examples of controlling, pressuring, and threatening behavior to raise awareness about and prevent teen dating abuse. For middle school and high school.

Dating Violence: It Is a Big Deal, Michigan Department of Human Services –

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dhs/DHS-PUB-0224\\_172099\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dhs/DHS-PUB-0224_172099_7.pdf)

Lesson plans and handouts that make high school students aware of dating violence and its signs.

### Bullying

Kids Against Bullying, Pacer Center – <http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/#/home>

Teens Against Bullying, Pacer Center – <http://www.pacerteensagainstbullying.org/#/home>