

CNO REVIEW

May 2014



International House of Justice

For more than 20 years, the Ohio Supreme Court has worked with lawyers, judges, legislators, and government officials from abroad to learn the basics of the U.S. legal structure and receive an overview of the Supreme Court and Ohio's judiciary. **Story on page 6.**

About Court News Ohio

Court News Ohio is a service of the Office of Public Information of the Supreme Court of Ohio and Ohio Government Telecommunications. Court News Ohio includes a website (courtnewsOhio.gov), a monthly print publication (CNO Review), a television program (CNO TV), a Facebook page (facebook.com/courtnewsOhio), a Twitter feed (@courtnewsOhio), and a YouTube channel (youtube.com/CourtNewsOhioTV).

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Cases

Visit courtnews.ohio.gov for the most current decisions from the Ohio Supreme Court, Courts of Appeals, and Court of Claims.

Supreme Court of Ohio

Death Sentence of Butler County Man Upheld

The Supreme Court on April 22 rejected the third death-penalty appeal of a Butler County man, **Von Clark Davis**, convicted of shooting and killing his ex-girlfriend in 1983. In a 6-1 decision, the court affirmed the judgment of the Twelfth District Court of Appeals upholding his death sentence.

State v. Davis
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-1615

Cincinnati Attorney Suspended

On April 22, the Supreme Court suspended a Cincinnati attorney for two years for violating rules of professional conduct. The final 18 months of the suspension will be stayed if the attorney meets certain conditions. The Cincinnati Bar Association, which filed the charges in this case, and **Steven J. McBeth** agreed to the facts concerning McBeth's misconduct in a consent-to-discipline agreement that the court unanimously adopted.

Cincinnati Bar Assn. v. McBeth
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-1611

Formal Request to Suppress Evidence Does Not Need Highly Detailed Statement of Facts and Law

The Supreme Court on April 17 ordered a trial court to hold a hearing to consider a woman's request to suppress evidence gathered by police during a traffic stop in North Ridgeville. The trial court refused to hold a

hearing because it said the woman's allegations did not provide enough details. In a 6-1 decision written by Justice **Judith Ann Lanzinger**, the Supreme Court held that a motion to suppress need not describe "in excruciating detail" the basis for arguing for suppression of the evidence to trigger a hearing on the topic. Instead, the motion must provide sufficient notice to the state of the issues to be considered.

State v. Codeluppi
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-1574

Property Appraisal Amount Trumps Remote Sale Price When Setting Property Tax Values

When a property was sold more than 24 months before the lien date in a reappraisal year, and the reappraisal does not use that sale price as the property value, the sale should not be presumed "recent" when determining the property's value for that year, the Supreme Court ruled April 16.

Akron City School Dist. Bd. of Edn.
v. Summit Cty. Bd. of Revision
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-1588

Courts of Appeals

Appeals Court Makes Ruling in Former Kalida Coach's Case

A former coach at a Putnam County school will have his consecutive sentences for sex-related charges re-examined after a ruling by the Third District Court of Appeals. In a unanimous decision issued on April 14, the three-judge appeals panel overruled all but one of **Jeremy Stober's** nine claims that errors

were made in his 2013 trial for gross sexual imposition, sexual battery, and importuning for charges related to incidents with former students at Kalida High School. However, Judge **Stephen Shaw** wrote in the opinion that based on Ohio law, the trial judge made only two of the three findings needed before imposing consecutive sentences against Stober.

State v. Stober
2014-Ohio-1568

Court of Claims

Student Hit by Bus Settles Suit with The Ohio State University

An Ohio State University student hit by an OSU-owned bus settled his personal injury suit with the school. Cincinnati resident and OSU student **Connor A. Fox** was "lawfully proceeding" at a crosswalk in Columbus on February 10, 2009, when he was hit by a bus driven by **Patricia A. Harris**. According to the complaint, Fox was crossing during a "walk" signal when Harris hit him. In a pre-trial statement, Fox said Harris was negligent because she failed to yield on a left turn, causing his injuries and damages of medical expenses and lost wages. OSU attorneys said Harris had the right of way and that Fox ran outside of the cross walk, so Harris could not see him. The attorneys added that while Fox was thrown to the ground, he did not appear to be injured. Before going to trial, Fox and the university on April 15 settled for \$12,500.

Connor A. Fox v. The Ohio State University
Case No. 2013-00003

HappeningNow

News and notes from courthouses across the Buckeye State

Wells Named Interim Administrative Director at Ohio Supreme Court

Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** named **Mindi L. Wells** interim administrative director of the Supreme Court of Ohio effective April 30, 2014.

Wells previously served as the assistant administrative director at the Court.

Wells will lead the administrative functions until a permanent administrative director is selected and then assume the role of deputy director/chief operating officer. The Supreme Court will conduct a nationwide search to fill the director vacancy. **Steven C. Hollon** announced in March that he is leaving after fifteen years as the court's administrative director to become the Executive Director of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission. Wells will work closely with the court's transition team which includes **W. Milton Nuzum III**, Director of Judicial Services; **D. Allan Asbury**, Administrative Counsel; and **John S. VanNorman**, Senior Policy & Research Counsel.



Wells

The Administrative Director is a constitutional position and is the senior non-elected officer of the court who, in conjunction with the Chief Justice, the Justices of the court, the Ohio Judicial Conference, and the judges of the state, is responsible for developing and communicating the long-term vision, values and direction of the court and the judicial branch of Ohio government. The Office of the Administrative Director is the lead office in the Administrative Division and is responsible for providing oversight to the other offices within the division and to the other divisions of the court.

Wells joined the Supreme Court in 2012 as assistant administrative director where she served as an operationally focused senior assistant to the administrative director on matters affecting the administration of the Supreme Court and oversight of the Ohio judicial branch and was responsible for assisting the administrative director with special initiatives, developing administrative policies and in providing oversight and executive level support to divisions, offices, and sections of the Ohio Supreme Court.

Wells brings over 16 years of executive leadership experience having worked in legal education and higher education administration prior to joining the court. Wells came to the court from Ohio Northern University where she served for eight years as assistant dean for administration and student services at the Pettit College of Law and was responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the law school including managing its budget, facilities and construction projects, non-academic personnel, communications and marketing, continuing legal education program and student organizations. Previous to serving as assistant dean, Wells helped to create the personnel services (human resources) department at ONU and served as the leader of that department for nearly six years.

Wells earned her law degree from ONU and is licensed to practice law in Ohio and Florida and before the Supreme Court of the United States. She

National Experts to Discuss Marijuana Law

Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** will moderate the discussion at the next installment of the Ohio Supreme Court's Forum on the Law lecture series on the topic "Marijuana Legalization and the Law of Unintended Consequences."

Three experts will discuss the developing area of law surrounding the regulation of marijuana. The discussion will focus on the challenges in such places as Colorado, where a product and business is now legal under state law, but illegal under federal law.

The forum will be on May 13, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center in Columbus. It will be streamed live online at OhioChannel.org and sc.ohio.gov, and it will be broadcast on the Ohio Channel at a later date. The event is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. R.S.V.P. to forum@sc.ohio.gov or 614.387.9251 by Friday, May 9.

Ohio's County Courthouses Subject of Symposium

Hosted by the Supreme Court of Ohio, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, the Ohio Historical Society, Heritage Ohio, AIA Columbus, and others, the Ohio County Courthouses Symposium coincides with the 10th anniversary of the restoration of the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center. Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** will give the keynote address on the evening of May 15 at the Moyer Judicial Center. Sessions will be the following day at the Columbus Athenaeum, and will include discussions about court security and economic development.

Specialized Dockets Conference Call for Proposals

There are more than 150 specialized docket programs like drug courts operating in Ohio courts. To help facilitate training and interaction

between the courts, the Supreme Court of Ohio will host the Ohio Specialized Dockets Annual Conference at The Ohio State University's Fawcett Center in November.

The Supreme Court Specialized Docket Section is currently taking proposals to present 75-minute workshops covering appropriate topic areas, including: Specialized docket best practices, best practices for treatment of military veterans, human trafficking, alternative therapy methods, team building, and effective data collection.

Proposal criteria include the expertise of the proposed presenters, the focus of the topic, and strategies for courts to implement the material. Successful applicants will receive a time slot on the conference agenda during which to make their presentations. Only electronic submissions will be accepted, and proposals should be returned no later than May 30. Submitters will be notified by August 1 if their proposals have been accepted or denied. More details are available online at www.sc.ohio.gov/JCS/specDockets/sdpm/proposals.pdf.

Rule Amendment Summary

A summary of select significant rule amendments proposed or enacted by the Ohio Supreme Court

Court Interpreter Rule. The court adopted changes to Rules 80-88 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio that govern foreign and sign language interpretation in Ohio's courts. Among the changes that will take effect July 1 is the addition of standards for using a foreign language interpreter over the phone.

Judicial Title Rule. The public comment period recently closed on proposed rule amendments that outline under which circumstances a lawyer who is a retired or former judge may use a judicial title. Two sections would be added to Rule 8.2 of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct.

New Ideas Will Bring Changes to DR Courts

Serving as a judge for the better part of two decades, Lucas County Domestic Relations Judge **David Lewandowski** knows judicial education is an ongoing process, which is why he and several of his court staff attended the three-day Domestic Relations Summit 2014 in Columbus.

Ohio's domestic relations courts hear cases involving divorce or dissolution of marriages, annulment, legal separation, spousal support, and allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children.

Judge Lewandowski joined hundreds of Ohio court personnel at the summit looking to improve the lives of those going before their courts. The summit focused its efforts on minimizing conflict for Ohio children and families.

"It's always good to exchange ideas," Judge Lewandowski said. "Other courts, other areas of the state, might have different ways of approaching a problem that we may not have heard of yet."

Judge Lewandowski said his team learned how to prioritize and "make the divorce experience a little less painful.

"We had a session on how to triage cases, which we discussed in our court how we do that," Judge Lewandowski said. "Ten percent of our cases take up 80 percent of our time, so we looked to expedite cases and pay as much attention to other cases that need hands-on court intervention."

Between two pre-summit meetings and the actual summit, Judge Lewandowski said his team looked for best practices and ideas about "current hot-button issues" that will work for Lucas County.

"We hope to implement changes to how we handle cases to make it less stressful for clients and lawyers," Judge Lewandowski said.

Stephanie Graubner Nelson, policy and research counsel in the Children & Families Section at the Supreme Court, said the summit will lead to real change in the lives of children and families in transition.

"The presentations focused on caseload management, minimizing conflict by promoting the well-being of families and the best interest of the children, protecting families from abuse, and dispute resolution," Graubner Nelson said.

Graubner Nelson said the objective of the summit was for courts to assess their current case management, resources, and challenges while developing local plans and solutions for improving case management. The courts then assessed and made new strategies for their own courts.

Henry County Family Court Judge **Denise McColley** said the summit exposed her court to "cutting-edge research and practices," which, she said, will help improve how her court will work with families.

"Going through a divorce, dissolution of marriage or post-decree dispute is an extremely difficult and stressful process for most litigants," Judge McColley said. "Having the summit has given each court and its team the opportunity to focus on current practices in the court while learning ways to improve the process of divorce, dissolution, or post-decree disputes. The ultimate goal is to make the court process less painful and more productive for the families who appear before the court."

Judge McColley said her team will implement what they learned at the summit, and she hopes the court will improve service to those appearing before the Henry County Family Court.

"We are working on improving domestic violence screening and on identifying ways to make proper referrals early in the court process; promoting unbundled legal services, particularly to help those who would otherwise appear pro se; and on improving our court evaluator process," Judge McColley said.

The Supreme Court will summarize the strategies determined during the summit and post online all resources related to cost-efficient and effective case management on the Supreme Court's Judicial eCademy website.



International House of Justice

Among many aspects of American life taken for granted is arguably a legal system based on the rule of law and a government founded on a system of checks and balances.

For more than 20 years, the Ohio Supreme Court has worked with lawyers, judges, legislators, and government officials from abroad to learn the basics of the U.S. legal structure and receive an overview of the Supreme Court and Ohio's judiciary.

Groups from Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Armenia, and Serbia have traveled to Ohio over the last decade as their governments have undergone transitions and/or undertaken developing independent judiciaries.

Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** welcomed the most recent foreign delegation – seven Libyan judges – last month. She spoke about the interplay of the three branches of government and the interdependence and independence of the judicial, legislative, and executive branches. She also listened as the Libyan officials described their judiciary.

While this was the first delegation to visit from Libya, the Supreme Court has hosted officials from the Ukraine multiple times. The late Chief Justice **Thomas J. Moyer** often commemorated the Ukrainians' week-long stay to study the American judicial system by presiding over a ceremony that featured the traditional Ukrainian custom of hosts presenting bread and salt to visitors.

In 2005, Chief Justice Moyer had this to say about the Ukraine connection:

“In 1992, our Court formed a partnership with the Supreme Court of Ukraine and the Supreme Rada (parliament) of Ukraine in the belief that an exchange of ideas between Ohioans and Ukrainians could lead to further

developing and strengthening of democratic ideals and judicial institutions in both countries.”

After Ukraine gained its independence, Chief Justice Moyer led efforts to introduce the country to the importance of the rule of law. In fact, he helped write the Ukrainian Constitution.

Along with the judicial and legal presentations, delegations typically tour the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center, observe Supreme Court oral arguments, and travel to a local court if possible.

The presentations don't necessarily only focus on generalities concerning the rule of law either. For instance, members of the China International Economic Trade and Arbitration Commission learned about dispute resolution in Ohio courts during a visit in 2007. A 2009 Korean delegation studied the administration and use of jury trials. A 2010 Russian delegation placed special emphasis on juveniles in the Ohio judicial system as the creation of separate juvenile courts in Russia was relatively new at the time. The Serbian delegation in 2012 learned about asset forfeiture and financial investigative work from local sheriffs and prosecutors. That same year Turkmenistan delegates learned about Franklin County's commercial docket program from the judges overseeing the pilot project.

But it's not all work and no play for the foreign dignitaries. Delegates stay with local families in order to experience American family life. They participate in several cultural and community activities designed to expose them to the wide array of American customs and pastimes, including visiting popular locales in the area, attending sporting events, and sampling restaurants. The Libyan group went bowling and shopped at an antique mall in the Hocking Hills, among other outings.



2005: Ukraine

Oleksandra Volodymyrivna Ahrykova, a judge in the Kyiv Regional Arbitration Court, accepts bread and salt from the late Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer. The visit was part of a 10-day trip to the United States to provide a timely opportunity for U.S. political leaders to meet with a wide range of distinguished Ukrainian leaders in the early weeks following the election of President Viktor Yushchenko.

2008: Azerbaijan

A delegation of Azerbaijani government officials and business leaders discuss the U.S. and Ohio justice systems with the late Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer during a June 25, 2008 visit.



2012: Turkmenistan

John VanNorman (*far left*), policy & research counsel at the Ohio Supreme Court, and Franklin County Common Pleas Court Judge Richard A. Frye (*second from left*) explain Ohio's pilot commercial docket program to a delegation visiting from Turkmenistan.

2010: Armenia

Ohio Supreme Court administrators briefed a delegation of 10 Armenian attorneys on court responsibilities and operations on July 21, 2010. Over the course of two weeks, the delegates met with an array of attorneys, judges, court administrators, and educators in the Cincinnati area.



2014: Libya

For the first time, the court welcomed a delegation of judges from Libya in a visit designed for them to learn about the U.S. system of justice. Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor led the welcoming party and spoke about the interplay of the three branches of government.



2007: China

Members of the China International Economic Trade and Arbitration Commission, the most prominent arbitration institution in China, paid a visit to the Supreme Court of Ohio on December 7, 2007.

Most of the trips have been organized through the Columbus International Program in partnership with the Open World Program. Managed by the independent Open World Leadership Center under Congressional mandate, Open World enhances understanding and cooperation between the United States and Russia by developing a network of leaders who have gained significant firsthand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and free-market system.

The U.S. Congress established Open World in 1999 and expanded the program in 2003 to all post-Soviet states. Thanks to Open World, some 15,000 current and future Eurasian leaders have experienced American civil society and have been exposed to new ideas and practices they

can adapt for use in their own work. Open World also promotes partnerships and continued communications between delegates and their American hosts and professional counterparts. Open World operates exchanges for political and civic leaders from Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

The Supreme Court has reciprocated over the years by sending court personnel to foreign lands to complete the cross-cultural exchange.

In 2009, as part of a U.S. State Department project to assist Argentina in the reform of its juvenile court system, Chief Justice Moyer met with judges, prosecutors, defense counsel, and non-government organizations. Two years earlier, the



CNO Legislative Digest

Each month, Court News Ohio Review tracks bills and resolutions pending in the Ohio General Assembly that are of interest to the judicial community.

Photo courtesy of the Ohio Statehouse Photo Archive

HB 129, Rep. Peter Stautberg (R-Cincinnati)

To specify that aggravated menacing, menacing by stalking, and menacing include words or conduct that are directed at or identify a corporation, association, or other organization that employs the victim or to which the victim belongs, to authorize the corporation, association, or other organization that employs two or more victims or to which two or more victims belong to seek protection orders in certain cases, and to increase the penalty for aggravated menacing or menacing by stalking if there are four or more victims.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on April 16, 2013 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Substitute language accepted and reported out of committee on December 10, 2013 during its fifth hearing. Passed the House on January 22, 2014 (87-0). Referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee on February 4, 2014. Its second Senate committee hearing was April 1, 2014.

HB 223, Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R-Grove City); Rep. Mike Curtin (D-Marble Cliff)

To establish summary actions to foreclose mortgages on vacant and abandoned residential properties, to expedite the foreclosure and transfer of unoccupied, blighted parcels, to make other changes relative to residential foreclosure actions, and to terminate certain provisions of this act on December 31, 2019.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on June 26, 2013 and referred to the House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee. Substitute language accepted during its first hearing on October 30, 2013. Bill was amended and reported out of committee during its sixth hearing on February 25, 2014. Passed the House on April 2, 2014 (87-0). Referred to the Senate Finance Committee on April 8, 2014.

HB 261, Rep. Jim Butler Jr. (R-Oakwood)

To modernize and streamline the Court of Claims of Ohio.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on September 10, 2013 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Amended language added and bill was reported out of committee on December 4, 2013. Passed the House on January 29, 2014 (89-0). Referred to the Senate Civil Justice Committee on February 4, 2014. The bill was amended and reported out of the Senate Committee on March 12, 2014. Passed the Senate on March 25, 2014 (31-0). House concurred with Senate amendments on March 26, 2014 (87-0). Signed by the Governor on April 10, 2014. Effective July 10, 2014.

HB 369, Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay)

To require the Medicaid program and health insurers to cover certain services for recipients with opioid addictions; to establish requirements for boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services regarding treatment services for opioid addiction to help defray payroll costs associated with a court's employment of drug court case managers; to provide a state share of the capital costs of recovery housing projects; and to make appropriations.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on December 3, 2013 and referred to the House Health & Aging Committee. Substitute language accepted and referred to the House Finance Committee on March 12, 2014 after five committee hearings. Amended language accepted and reported out of committee on April 8, 2014. Passed the House on April 9, 2014 (70-20).

HB 397, Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville)

To increase the penalty for violations of failure to stop after an accident and failure to stop after a nonpublic road accident that result in the death of a person or serious physical harm to a person.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on December 23, 2013 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee. The bill was amended and reported out of the House committee on March 12, 2014. Passed the House on April 2, 2014 (86-1). Referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee.

HB 452, Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville)

To require children's residential facilities to provide specified information to local law enforcement agencies, emergency management agencies, and fire departments and to require the Department of Job and Family Services to implement a Child Placement Level of Care Tool Pilot Program.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on February 20, 2014 and referred to the House Health & Aging committee. Reported out of committee on April 9, 2014 after three hearings.

HB 469, Rep. Terry Johnson (R-McDermott); Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville)

To allow, by court order, a first-time alcohol-related OVI offender to drive with an ignition interlock device rather than under court-ordered limited driving privileges as in current law, to eliminate the fifteen-day period in current law during which such an offender is subject to a driver's license suspension without limited driving privileges, and to make other changes to the law governing OVI offenses.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on March 6, 2014 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Its third hearing was April 2, 2014.

HB 497, Rep. Ron Amstutz (R-Wooster)

To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2016.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on March 18, 2014 and referred to the House Finance & Appropriations Committee. Amended and reported out of committee on March 25, 2014. Passed the House on March 26, 2014 (88-2). Passed the Senate on April 1, 2014 (30-1) after being reported out of Senate Finance Committee on the same day. Signed by the Governor on April 1, 2014.

HB 508, Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood)

To expand the offense of murder to also prohibit causing the death of another as a proximate result of selling the person a controlled substance when the death is caused by an overdose and to provide special life sentences for a violation of the prohibition.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on March 25, 2014 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

HB 514, Rep. Tom Letson (D-Warren)

To place the office of chief justice of the supreme court and justice of the supreme court first and second, respectively, in order on the nonpartisan ballot.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on April 3, 2014 and referred to the House Policy & Legislative Oversight Committee.

HB 516, Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake); Rep. Tracy Heard (D-Columbus)

To allow a person who is convicted of an offense that, at the time of conviction, is excluded from the operation of the Conviction Record Sealing Law to apply for sealing of the record of that conviction if, prior to the making of the application, the offense is changed so that it no longer would be excluded from the operation of that Law.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on April 8, 2014.

SB 177, Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood)

To include the protection of companion animals in temporary protection orders, domestic violence protection orders, anti-stalking protection orders, and related protection orders.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on August 12, 2013 and referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. Substitute language accepted during the third committee hearing on April 8, 2014.

SB 302, Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman)

To allow the enforcement of child car seat, booster seat, and seat belt requirements as a primary offense and to repeal a provision of law that declares that the failure of an operator of a motor vehicle to secure a child in a car seat, in a booster seat, or with a seatbelt is inadmissible in certain civil and criminal proceedings.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on March 27, 2014 and referred to the Senate Transportation Committee.

SB 313, Sen. Eric Kearney (D-Cincinnati)

To provide a qualified immunity from arrest, prosecution, conviction, penalizing, and supervised release sanctioning for a minor drug possession offense or a drug paraphernalia possession or use offense for a person who seeks assistance for self or another person who is experiencing an emergency drug overdose.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on March 31, 2014 and referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee.



Conferences & Meetings

May 13 - 16

Ohio Association for Court Administration Spring Conference (OACA)
Columbus
ohiocourtadministration.org

May 21 – 23

Ohio Association of Municipal/County Court Clerks Spring Conference
Dublin
oamccc.org

June 5 & 6

Ohio Bailiffs & Court Officers Association Spring Conference
Cleveland
ohiobailiffs.com

LOCAL COURT ROUNDTABLES

sc.ohio.gov/JCS

May 7

Juvenile Courts, Title IV-E
All counties

May 9

Common Pleas Judges, Rural Counties
Rural Counties

The Agenda

Upcoming events, training opportunities, and conferences for judges and court staff. For more information, contact the event sponsor at the website provided.

Judicial College Courses

judicialecademy.ohio.gov

May 6

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Report Writing
Guardians ad Litem, Cleveland
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Offender Skill Building (017)
Probation Officers, Dayton

May 7

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Report Writing
Guardians ad Litem, Cleveland
8:30 a.m. to Noon

May 12 – 16

Firearms Qualification Course
Probation Officers
OPOTA in London

May 13

Guardian ad Litem Pre Service Course (4 of 9)
Guardians ad Litem, Columbus

Probation Officer Training Program: Professional Communication - Oral and Written Communication Skills (014)
Probation Officers, Toledo

May 16

Judgment Day and the Civil Rules (1 of 2)
Judges & Magistrates, Columbus

Advanced Junior Driver Improvement Program (AJDIP)
Juvenile Judges, Magistrates & Court Personnel, Webinar

May 20

Basic Defensive Tactics (1 of 2)
Probation Officers, London

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Offender Skill Building (017)
Probation Officers, Akron

May 21

Advanced Defensive Tactics (1 of 2)
Probation Officers, London

May 28

Probation Officer Training Program: Professional Communication - Oral and Written Communication Skills (014)
Probation Officers, Columbus

May 29

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Understanding Child Development
Guardians ad Litem, Cincinnati
1 to 4:30 p.m.

May 30
Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Understanding Child Development
 Guardians ad Litem, Cincinnati
 8:30 a.m. to Noon

June 3
Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Offender Behavior Management (018)
 Probation Officers, Dayton

June 6
Technology and the Courts
 Judges & Magistrates, Columbus

Dispute Resolution Training

sc.ohio.gov/JCS/disputeResolution

May 29 & 30
Domestic Abuse Issues: Training for Mediators & Other Professionals
 Dayton

Language Services Training

sc.ohio.gov/JCS/interpreterSvcs

May 3
Court Interpreter Ethics
 Columbus

May 23
Written Exam for Court Interpreter Certification
 Columbus

Supreme Court of Ohio

sc.ohio.gov

May 12
Late Application Deadline to take the July 2014 Bar Exam

May 13
Forum on the Law
 Columbus

May 13 & 14
Oral Arguments

May 15
Ohio Courthouses Symposium
 Columbus

May 27
Oral Arguments

Ohio Center for Law-Related Education

ocltre.org/calendar

May 6
Youth for Justice 2014 Projects Due

Project Citizen 2014 Projects Due

May 15
We the People Middle School State Showcase
 Columbus

May 16
Youth for Justice 2014 Virtual Summit

Project Citizen 2014 Virtual Summit

May 20
Moot Court Competition
 Columbus

WELLS: Story continued from p. 4

also holds the Professional in Human Resources certification and will earn her Certified Court Manager (CCM) credentials from the National Center for State Courts this fall. In addition to her law degree, Wells also earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with distinction in economics and political science from ONU and is pursuing a PhD at Bowling Green State University.

“I am pleased to select Mindi Wells as Interim Administrative Director for the Supreme Court,” Chief Justice O’Connor said. “She brings a solid understanding of the court’s responsibilities to administer justice, manage the legal profession, and oversee the judicial branch. Mindi is a proven administrator who will reliably serve our state judicial system until the position is filled permanently.”

“I am honored by the confidence the court has placed in me,” Wells said. “We have a solid team of knowledgeable and dedicated professionals at the court who are committed to public service and I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve in this capacity with them. My top priority is to maintain the high standards Mr. Hollon set for the administration of the Supreme Court and successfully lead the team until a permanent director is hired.”

O’Connor said the court will launch a nationwide search this month for a permanent replacement.

INTERNATIONAL: Story continued from p. 6.

Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina initiated a judicial modernization process, which involved access to justice, case management, and court administration issues. Argentine officials invited Chief Justice Moyer to share ideas about Ohio’s juvenile justice system.

Chief Justice Moyer saw the trip as “a recognition of the innovative and effective programs in Ohio that

Story continues on page 12.

Judicial Appointments

Todd M. McKenney | Barberton Municipal Court



Former Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge **Todd M. McKenney** took the bench on April 21. He replaced Judge Christine L. Croce, who was appointed to the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division.

McKenney must win in November 2015 to retain the seat for the remainder of the unexpired term, which ends December 31, 2017.

“I can’t wait to get started in my service as a municipal court judge,” McKenney said. “Everyone has been so helpful. I am just so grateful, and it will be such an honor to serve.”

McKenney worked at Leiby, Hann, Rasnick, Towne, Evanchan, Palmisano & Hobson, LLC as a private-practice attorney. He previously served as a state representative for the 43rd Ohio House District and as a judicial law clerk to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. McKenney received his law degree from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

Frederick W. Dressel | Kettering Municipal Court

Kettering Municipal Court Acting Judge **Frederick W. Dressel** will remove the word “acting” before his title on May 19, after his appointment to the court’s vacancy by Gov. **John R. Kasich**.

Dressel replaces former Judge **Robert L. Moore** who died February 1. Dressel must win in the November 2015 general election to retain the seat for the remainder of the unexpired term, which ends December 31, 2019.

Dressel received his bachelor’s degree from Ohio University and earned his law degree from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Since 1993, he has practiced law at Ruffolo, Stone & Dressel and has served as acting judge and acting magistrate since 1995. He was admitted to the practice of law in Ohio in November 1981.

Dressel previously served as acting magistrate for the Vandalia Municipal Court and as assistant public defender for the Montgomery County Public Defender’s Office. He has served as legal product analyst and acquisition coordinator at Mead Data Central and as law clerk in the office of **John A. Dicke** in Denver, Colorado.

Dressel has been recognized as Outstanding Citizen Advocate of the Year by the Centerville Education Foundation and received the Appointed Counsel Special Recognition Award from Montgomery County. An active member of the community, Dressel has served in a number of roles including precinct captain for the Montgomery County Republican Party, mock trial coach and adviser at Centerville High School, member of the Dor-Wood Optimist Club, member of the Americana Festival Committee, and coach for many youth baseball and basketball teams.

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address issues ranging from juvenile delinquency to the timely placement of children in foster care.”

Chief Justice Moyer’s 2009 trip wasn’t his first visit to the South American country. In 2002, he also was invited by the State Department’s Speakers Bureau to share information and answer questions about the U.S. judiciary and the use of alternative dispute resolution by the courts.

In 1995, former Administrative Director **Steven C. Hollon** co-presented a three-day series of lectures in Kiev, Ukraine, on judicial administration as part of the Ukraine-Ohio Rule of Law Project. The project came about after judicial system reformers in Ukraine highlighted the state of the judiciary as a key problem in the early 1990s. The leftover influences from the Soviet system had left Ukraine with a corrupt and politicized judiciary.

A band of reformist judges — dubbed the “judicial opposition” — continued to push for reform and eventually gained support from local administrations to end judicial corruption. Major changes to the judicial system arrived in 2002 with the passage of “on the court system” law. The law created a new level of judiciary and enacted institutional safeguards to insulate judges from political pressure.

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