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CNO REVIEW

July 2016



The
JOURNEY
of Ohio's Judicial College

Celebrating 40 years of significant milestones marking high-quality, thorough, and inventive education.
(Story on p. 6).



About Court News Ohio

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Supreme Court of Ohio

Juveniles Entitled to Double-Jeopardy Protection

The Supreme Court held on June 9 that juveniles are entitled to the same constitutional double-jeopardy protections as adults, and juvenile courts must conduct the same double-jeopardy analysis in delinquency proceedings as they do in adult criminal proceedings. The 4-3 opinion written by Justice **Judith Ann Lanzinger** reverses an Eighth District Court of Appeals decision that reasoned because criminal statutes do not apply to juvenile proceedings, the juvenile court did not err in refusing to merge acts that would have merged in adult criminal court.

In re A.G.
Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-3306

Court Resolves How Federal Debt Collection and State Consumer Sales Laws Impact Debt-Buyers and Collection Lawyers

A lawsuit against a debt-buying firm and lawyers seeking to collect on a defaulted credit card account can proceed after the Supreme Court ruled on June 16 on several issues regarding the application of federal and state laws governing debt collection. In a lead opinion written by Justice **Paul E. Pfeifer**, the Supreme Court ruled the estate of Sandra Taylor Jarvis, who defaulted on a credit card in 2005, can pursue claims of unfair collection practices by a firm that bought her debt and sued her five years later in Summit County for nearly twice the outstanding account balance, plus 24 percent for future interest. The case centered on where and when the actual default on the credit card took place because that determined what statute of limitations applied and the deadline for filing a lawsuit. Taylor Jarvis accused the company of illegally trying to collect a “time-barred” debt because the case was filed after the statute of limitations

ran out. Taylor Jarvis died while the case was pending, and Justice Pfeifer wrote the Court reached five key conclusions that allow her estate to continue the litigation:

- The underlying default on the credit card “accrued” in Delaware, the home state of the bank that issued the card.
- The Delaware statute of limitations – through Ohio’s borrowing statute – determines whether the collection action was timely filed.
- A time-barred collection action may form the basis of a violation under both the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) and the Ohio Consumers Sales Practices Act (OCSA).
- A consumer can bring claims under FDCPA and OCSA based on a debt collector’s representations made in legal filings, specifically on the debt collector’s claim for interest that is unavailable to the collector by law.
- Debt buyers of credit card debt and their attorneys are subject to the OCSA.

Taylor Jarvis v. First Resolution Invest. Corp.
Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-3444

Tax Commissioner Must Refund Nearly \$360,000 Income-Tax Penalty

The Supreme Court ruled on June 15 that the Ohio tax commissioner abused his discretion when he refused to refund a penalty to a U.S. congressman and his wife who delayed paying income tax earned by a trust because they relied on a legal interpretation that imposed the tax on the trust. The Supreme Court directed the tax commissioner to refund a \$359,822 penalty plus post-assessment interest to James B. and Tina

D. Renacci of Wadsworth. The Renaccis paid the penalty in 2008, along with \$1.4 million in Ohio income tax in 2007 that was owed for tax year 2000. In a majority opinion authored by Justice **Paul E. Pfeifer**, the Court stated the tax commissioner has broad discretion to impose and refund penalties, but in this case he abused his discretion because the Renaccis had “reasonable cause” to believe they did not owe income tax on the profits going into the trust.

Renacci v. Testa
Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-3394

Standing to File a Foreclosure Requires Injury to Both Note and Mortgage

A foreclosure action consists of both an action at law to collect on a promissory note to repay a mortgage debt and an action in equity to enforce a mortgage interest by sale of the property through foreclosure, the Ohio Supreme Court held. In a majority opinion authored by Justice **Terrence O’Donnell**, the Supreme Court said that if the obligation to pay was discharged in bankruptcy, then the note holder has standing to collect the debt due on the note from a foreclosure sale of the property. The opinion reverses a ruling by the Ninth District Court of Appeals that Deutsche Bank National Trust Company did not demonstrate it clearly possessed a promissory note and mortgage from Glenn E. and Ann M. Holden that would allow the bank to foreclose on the Holdens’ Summit County home. The decision clarifies the Supreme Court’s 2012 *Fed. Home Loan Mtg. Corp. v. Schwartzwald* decision by ruling that in order to have standing to file a foreclosure, a party is required to demonstrate a justiciable claim on the note and the mortgage..

Deutsche Bank Natl. Trust Co. v. Holden
Slip Opinion No. 2016-Ohio-4603

HappeningNow

News and Notes from Courthouses Across the Buckeye State



11,000 Guardians Take Judicial College Course in First Year

As an adult guardian, Sonya Evans (*pictured*) cares for her wards as she does her roses – tending to them with the upmost devotion. “It’s become such a huge need because families have dispersed and are not involved very often anymore and people are left alone,” Evans said. “And so many of them just need a friend and need somebody to make sure they are well cared for, that they are being medically treated correctly, that they are leading as great a quality of life as possible. That’s our job.”

Evans is one of nearly 11,000 guardians who took a six-hour fundamentals course provided by the Ohio Supreme Court. It’s a new course required by rules that went into effect a year ago. The Court’s Judicial College prepared the mandatory one-time course, which serves both attorneys and laypersons.

“Education is a tremendous tool and ... serves a role to really help equip and prepare, and those guardians in this case, to provide the best care and management of those individuals in their care,” Judicial College Director Christy Tull said.

Other guardianship rules that took effect last year include probate courts adopting local rules to address emergency guardianship procedures and to establish a complaint process. Rules also require guardians to take three hours of continuing education annually.

Tull said the Judicial College in June released the first two continuing education courses offered for adult guardians. She said the college plans to add new courses each year to satisfy guardians’ specific needs. Local courts can also provide or approve other education classes for guardians.

Guardianship courses are important for maintaining competent performances of those working within the judicial system. Tull calls the past year a “success” in terms of education and meeting the need of guardians by delivering the fundamentals course live and online.

“We had one person write... ‘This course made me realize that I had to think more about my son’s rights than what I want him to do,’” Tull said.

Evans said the rights of adults under guardians’ care should be the same in every Ohio county. She has worked with four adults in 10-plus years as

At-Risk Families to Get Help at Law School’s Legal Clinic

At-risk families in central Ohio can now get the legal help they need. Attorneys and other staff members from the Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School (FYLaw) started providing legal representation and resources to eligible families on June 1.

The Family and Youth Advocacy Center (FYAC), part of FYLaw, assists parents and families who are at risk of child abuse and/or neglect. Through its Legal Services for At-Risk Families program, staff helps eligible families from Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, and Pickaway counties.

The new program expands on its current legal clinic, which provides resources, such as legal counseling and representation, for those ages 16 to 25 in foster care or the juvenile justice system.

With a platform of promoting positive outcomes for children and families within the child welfare, adoption, and juvenile justice systems, FYAC is staffed by Capital University Law School faculty, FYLaw staff attorneys, and law and social work students.

They assist their clients in obtaining personal documents, sealing and expunging records, creating legal documents, and helping with landlord/tenant issues, including evictions, among other legal needs.

FYAC’s Clinical Director **Fawn Gadel** said staff members provide legal representation and supervision over the five third-year law students, who will be enrolled in the clinic during the 2016-2017 school year.

“We are very pleased to be able to offer our clinical services to at-risk families,” Gadel said. “We believe that with our assistance, parents will be better equipped to overcome challenges that impact family well-being.

FYLaw received more than \$93,000 in grant funds to support the program from the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund. Gadel said FYLaw plans to provide support and other resources to organizations including law schools that may be interested in replicating the program.

Story continues on p. 11.

Bailiff Manages Courtroom at 98 Years Old

On a busy morning at Parma Municipal Court, Bailiff **Michael Zaderecky** doesn't miss a beat.

Lawyers are constantly coming up to him and asking questions during court proceedings. He's also working with the judge to move defendants along as quickly and thoroughly as possible.



It's hard to believe that Zaderecky is 98 years old. Zaderecky has worked as a part-time bailiff at the court for about 35 years. This is after he retired as a building inspector at the age of 62.

"I've worked for just about every judge that was ever here," Zaderecky said.

He began working for Judge **Kenneth Spanagel** when the judge's former bailiff became sick.

"I came in and filled in," he said.

The bailiff later died from his health issues.

"So I inherited the job, and I've been here ever since."

"We call him Uncle Mikey," Judge Spanagel said.

He's friendly like an uncle – as long as a cell phone doesn't go off in the courtroom.

Zaderecky said he has no plans to retire from the court.

"Why do I still work? Well, I like it," Zaderecky said. "It's interesting, OK? And besides that, I tried retirement, and there's only so many beer joints you could go into, so many books you can read before you get bored, and so I prefer this to anything else."

So Zaderecky continues to help run Courtroom 3 with Judge Spanagel. The judge said Zaderecky always shows up early and doesn't leave until everything is finished.

"One of the things about being older, being active is one of the reasons that you have a good life," Judge Spanagel said. "I've always said to him, 'You know you'll tell me if you don't want to do this job anymore or I'll tell you the point of I don't need you.' I don't not need him. I still need him, but at the point where he thinks he cannot do it, he'll tell me."

That's something his coworkers find encouraging.

"You can ask people around the building and everybody just loves his presence," Judge Spanagel said.

And those people are who make getting up in the morning worth it to Zaderecky

"I love the people I work with, OK? I think that's what keeps me coming in here," he said.

Judge Spanagel added: "We look to have a 100th birthday party with Mike still working as bailiff in about 22 months."

New Guidelines Seek to Improve How Courts Process Child Abuse and Neglect Cases

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has released updated guidelines to help courts improve their handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

The "Enhanced Resource Guidelines" build on an earlier document and combine it with previously issued adoption and permanency guidelines to account for the most recent changes or additions in legal requirements.

The report provides guidance for judges on how to:

- make decisions regarding safety, permanency, and well-being at every stage of the process.
- develop effective findings based on assessment of the facts, the individual needs of the child and family, the law, and the best available research and science.
- hold other players in the system accountable by asking questions that raise the practice expectations for all those who come to court.

"The guidelines cover all stages of the court process, from the preliminary protective hearing until juvenile and family court involvement has ended," according to the report.

"The guidelines assume that the court will remain involved until after the child has been safely returned home, placed in a new, secure, and legally permanent home – whether through adoption or legal custody – or the court's jurisdiction has otherwise ended."

The JOURNEY of Ohio's Judicial College

“ [W]e no longer accept the ancient folklore that every lawyer — even every good lawyer — is automatically qualified to fulfill all the functions of a judge simply because he puts on a black robe.

— Chief Justice Warren E. Burger
U.S. Supreme Court
Economic Club of New York
Jan. 23, 1974

The Ohio Judicial College turns 40 this month, and enrollment and services have never been higher. In four decades, the Judicial College has served many of the roughly 1,200 judges and 830 magistrates working now in courtrooms statewide. Besides being the go-to resource for judicial education in Ohio, the College has branched out to deliver substantive, practical instruction to thousands of others instrumental to the judicial branch — court personnel, acting judges, guardians ad litem, and, in the last year, lawyer and non-lawyer guardians for adults. In 2015 alone, 21,276 participants took Judicial College courses. That number included 114 new judges who benefited from the in-depth orientation course and approximately 7,000 adult guardians who gained essential skills for their roles.

Judge **Diane Palos**, of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, has enjoyed the innovative approaches to education that the College offers and the practical know-how she's gained from courses. Judge Palos, who's currently chair of the College's board of trustees, mentions the “thought-provoking” class she took about poverty, which was structured to put attendees in the shoes of poor people who encounter the justice system. She also points to the helpful takeaways, such as checklists and flow charts, that can be used immediately back at the courthouse.

“Judicial education is essential to running a courtroom,” she said. “The combined experience of the judges attending and providing the training will far exceed any individual judge's knowledge or experience.”

Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** adds that this type of tailored and real-world education and training prepares judges for the complex — and often emotional — situations they deal with nearly every day.

“Specialized education for judges helps to serve the public by ensuring the competency of the judicial branch,” the chief justice said. “Through the knowledge and skills gained in Judicial College courses, judges and court personnel are empowered to perform their responsibilities with fairness and integrity, preserving impartiality and access to the justice system.”



40 YEARS OF MILESTONES

Doors Open

Following the creation of the National Judicial College in 1963, Franklin County Municipal Court Judge **R. Patrick West** begins corresponding with Ohio Supreme Court Justice **C. William O'Neill** in the early 1970s about a statewide organization that would design and offer specialized education to judges. After receiving a federal grant, the Supreme Court establishes the Ohio Judicial College in June 1976. The College is governed by a board of trustees, and the leadership finds an office for director **Laurence Stone**, its sole employee the first year, on the second floor of the Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus. Ohio was one of the first states in the country to provide judicial education.

Inaugural Class

The College's first course updates judges on drunk driving laws, after stricter statutes are enacted in the 1970s. The College holds the course in nine locations statewide, and 151 judges attend. They pay no tuition to take the course, which includes lunch and reimbursement of travel expenses. Throughout his

tenure, Stone keeps classes small – 25 people per session – and, after this inaugural course, typically picks six venues across the state.

Mandatory Education for Judges

In 1981, the Supreme Court adopts a rule requiring judges to complete 20 hours of education each year, including one course from the College. This mandate precedes the continuing education requirements for lawyers by eight years. Currently, judges must take 40 hours in each two-year period, while attorneys have to finish 24 hours in that timeframe.

College Adapts and Finds Home with Supreme Court

As federal grant dollars dwindle, the College adjusts – it begins charging \$50 for courses and in 1982 becomes part of the Ohio Judicial Conference. A 1989 court rule moves the Judicial College under the Ohio Supreme Court umbrella and defines the makeup and terms of the College's board of trustees. Tuition for judges remains today, 34 years later, at the nominal \$50 level.

Tailored Education for Referees

The Judicial College expands its audience in 1988 to include courses to assist referees, now referred to as magistrates. The earliest classes focus on their role in courts and the rules of evidence.

Orientation for New Judges Formalized

In 1992, the College develops a day-and-a-half orientation for newly-elected judges before they take the bench. Topics address caseload management, working with the public, and judicial ethics. The College continues a decades-old, annual "New Judges School" for all judges each year after they're sworn in.

Later, the College combines these two efforts, and the orientation becomes more intensive. Part of the more in-depth offering includes a mock trial, with new judges presiding. By 2001, the orientation spans 10 days – five before judges start in the courtroom, and five more a few months after most judges begin their term.

Today, rules require new judges to complete the College's comprehensive orientation program, with

the same two-part training. In addition, judges who hear death penalty cases have to take a capital-case course, and new judges must partner with a mentor judge during the first year of their tenure.

Education Expands to Court Personnel

The College creates a committee that includes Ohio Association for Court Administration members, probation officers, court reporters, and others to increase the educational opportunities for court managers and staff. Out of the committee's work comes courses, about topics such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and jury management, created specifically for court personnel.

College Adopts Education Model Based on Needs of Judges

After **John Meeks** takes the helm at the College in 1996, he travels with two judges and a magistrate to the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education at the University of Memphis. They return with the groundwork for expanded

Continued on p. 8 →

 **The Judicial College serves an ever-broadening audience with ever-expanding coursework. If you have a need to learn, the Judicial College has a course to address that need.**

– Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, Ohio Supreme Court State of the Judiciary, Sept. 3, 2015

MILESTONES Continued from p. 9



faculty development and curriculum-based education, which focuses on what the audience needs to know and do, as well as the different experience levels of participants. The model forms the cornerstone that informs the College's development of courses going forward. Twenty years later, the College has 10 robust education tracks from which to build many well-researched courses.

Program Illuminates Emerging Science and Tech Issues

Judicial leaders form the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource (ASTAR) Center in 2005 after finding that new developments in science and technology presented unique challenges for judges. Ohio and Maryland spearhead the national program. The College designs standardized training to handle the increasing volume of complex, high-tech cases on court dockets and draws judges from 40 states

to the courses. The project, which requires 120 hours of advanced training, receives strong support from then Chief Justice **Thomas J. Moyer**, who serves as ASTAR vice chair for a time. Sessions delve into forensics, agricultural science, genetics, bioethics, reproductive medicine, and computers.

Education Methods Diversify

Live sessions are the heart of the Judicial College's work. Judges report that the chance to chat informally and face to face with their colleagues proves invaluable to their profession. But the College always considers other ways to meet the needs of busy judges. In the early years, courses are videotaped, and judges can borrow tapes from the College's loan library. Audiotapes are popular as well. In 1993, the College receives a grant to launch its first teleconference session.

As the Internet age dawns, the College adapts and

develops live-streaming via webcasts and online courses for all its audiences. The College also finds success with experiential learning. For one non-traditional course, juvenile judges visit detention centers for firsthand knowledge. During another, judges and magistrates travel to Amish regions of the state to expand their understanding of the group's customs and culture.

College Assists Guardians ad Litem

The Court adopts a rule in 2009 setting standards for guardians ad litem, who are appointed to represent a child's best interests in a legal dispute concerning the minor's custody or welfare. The College provides the mandated pre-service and annual education.

Judicial eCademy Launched

The College leverages the web in 2011 to elevate the services provided to its diverse audiences. Judicial eCademy not only enables all people to register online for both live and web-based courses, but also offers webinars and makes pre-recorded courses available on demand.

"The Internet makes learning affordable, convenient, and makes educational information available when needed," said **Milt Nuzum**, who became the College's director in 2007.

Impact of Judicial Education Measured

The Ohio State University conducts a 2011 evaluation of the Judicial College. The research finds the judicial education provided through the College promotes excellence and expertise among both new and experienced judges.

Adult Guardians Join Groups Served

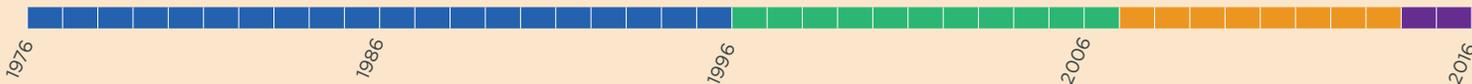
On June 1, 2015, rules take effect to protect vulnerable adults who are under the care of guardians. To help guardians comply with the mandate, the College, now under the leadership of **Christy Tull**, develops fundamental and continuing education courses. Tracks are developed for attorneys and non-attorney professional guardians as well as for layperson guardians, who are often family members, friends, or volunteers. In the first year, nearly 11,000 guardians are educated through sessions via in-person courses, online instruction, and broadcasts.



TOP LEFT: Judges participate in a 2007 ASTAR course. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** An adult guardianship training session is broadcast statewide via the Ohio Channel at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center.

LEADERSHIP

A look at the Ohio Judicial College directors from 1976 to present



1 Laurence Stone
1976 - 1996

“It was an honor and a pleasure to play a role in the early development of the Judicial College. I learned a lot and had a terrific time watching the College grow into the outstanding judicial branch education program that it is today.”

2 John Meeks
1996 - 2006

“Increased staffing at the Judicial College resulted in greatly enhanced education for judges, magistrates, and staff, both in quality and quantity.”

3 W. Milt Nuzum III
2007 - 2014

“The Judicial College equips judges to deal with the ever-changing legal landscape in order to make appropriate judicial decisions on motions and cases that come before them.”

4 M. Christy Tull
2015 - Present

“Thanks to the investment of the judicial branch community, the Judicial College has enjoyed great success on which we will build our next 40 years.”

College Staff Are Leaders Nationally in Arena

Judicial College staff are recognized leaders in judicial education. Stone, Meeks, Tull, and **Margaret Allen** have all served as president of National Association of State Judicial Educators. Allen was hired this year to coordinate the Court Management Program within the National Center for State Courts – a program in which Ohio was a charter member.

Judges from Missouri, Utah, and other states have reached out to Ohio about what the College does and how it’s done. Delegations from Louisiana and Illinois have visited.

“Ohio has been recognized by other judicial educators as one of the top programs in the country for many years,” said Meeks, who is now vice president at the Institute for Court Management in Williamsburg, Virginia.

2,373 courses
in **40 YEARS**
educating
204,638
people



Whether it has been course work regarding capital cases, the new traffic code, or developing the educational program for this conference, the college has been vital to the challenge to improve the skills of judges and court personnel.

— Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer, Ohio Supreme Court, State of the Judiciary and Ohio Judicial Conference annual meeting, Sept. 12, 2002

Bench Card Offers Guidance on Collection of Court Fines, Costs in Juvenile Court

The Ohio Supreme Court on June 15 announced the availability of a bench card for costs, fees, fines, and restitution in juvenile court.

The reference guide – developed by a group led by the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission – seeks to better educate judges and court personnel about appropriate financial sanctions and obligations that can be levied in juvenile court.

The juvenile court bench card follows the release of a 2014 bench card about the collection of fines and court costs in adult court.

The bench card briefly explains the fine schedule per type of offense, assessing obligations on parents for the delinquent acts of a child, and the process for a court to substitute community service as payment for court costs. It also includes citations to state statutes and court cases.

Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** has been a national leader in the elimination of the practice of “debtor’s prisons.” She also serves as co-chair of the National Task Force on Fines, Fees and Bail Practices to address the ongoing impact that court fines and fees and bail practices have on communities – especially the economically disadvantaged – across the United States.

“Education is the key in bringing this problem to light,” Chief Justice O’Connor said. “Just as we developed a bench card for judges in adult courts, we thought it would help juvenile court judges to have at their disposal a handy resource guide to ensure the proper imposition, management, and collection of financial sanctions in juvenile court cases.”

Each juvenile court in the state received notice in early June about the availability of the bench card.

Judicial Appointments



Thomas D. Heekin Jr.

Hamilton County Common Pleas Court

Thomas D. Heekin Jr. took the bench on June 6. He must win in the Nov. 8 general election to retain the seat for the full six-year term commencing on

Jan. 4, 2017. Heekin replaces retired Judge **John A. West**.



Scot A. Stevenson

Summit County Common Pleas Court

Scot A. Stevenson became a judge on June 15 after his appointment by Gov. John R. Kasich on June 10 to fill a vacancy. Stevenson must win in

the Nov. 8 general election to retain the seat for the remainder of the unexpired term, which ends on April 30, 2021. Stevenson replaces Judge **Thomas M. Parker**, who resigned to become a magistrate judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.



New Overtime Rules Could Impact Ohio Court Employees

As with any other sector of the economy, the new overtime rules announced in late May by the U.S. Department of Labor may affect employees working in Ohio’s court system. Ohio judges and court administrators are advised to seek counsel from their county prosecutor or city law director on the application of the increased wage threshold for overtime pay eligibility for court personnel. A summary of the changes prepared by the Labor Department is available at www.dol.gov/sites/default/files/overtime-overview.pdf.



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.

HB 123, Rep. Greta Johnson (D-Akron); Rep. Robert Cupp (R-Lima)

To change the time for notification of an alibi defense in a criminal case, to allow the court in a felony case to impose community control sanctions without a presentence investigation report upon agreement of the defendant and the prosecutor, and to request the Supreme Court to modify Criminal Rule 32.2 to allow the court in a felony case to impose community control sanctions without a presentence investigation report upon agreement of the defendant and the prosecutor.

STATUS: Signed by the Governor on June 14, 2016. Effective date: 90 days after signing.

HB 359, Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington); Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville)

To create an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, human trafficking, trafficking in persons, rape, or sexual battery and to allow wireless service account transfer in a domestic violence situation.

STATUS: Signed by the Governor on June 8, 2016. Effective date: 90 days after signing.

SB 296, Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati)

To specify the conditions under which a court may order that a polling place be kept open for extended hours on the day of an election and to require a person who votes pursuant to such an order to cast a provisional ballot.

STATUS: Vetoed by the Governor on June 17, 2016.



Rule Amendment Summary

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

Commercial Dockets

The Supreme Court published for comment proposed changes to court rules governing commercial dockets. The suggested revisions would alter the process for appointing judges to these dockets, which handle business-to-business litigation. It would also adjust the judges' qualifications, term lengths, and education requirements. Comments are due by July 21.

GUARDIANS: Continued from p. 4

a volunteer guardian through the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging.

The agency's volunteer guardian director, **Julia Nack**, is part of a committee that helped develop the state's guardianship rules. She said the rules were eight years in the making.

"There were a lot of us who cared very deeply about reforming the guardianship work. I was very happy to see the rules adopted, and I think the commitment of the Supreme Court and of the probate courts I work with has been remarkable," Nack said. "Guardianship is a difficult job. People need to be educated."

Nack already trains more than 100 guardians through her volunteer program, and said it's a "wonderful beginning" to help guardians understand their responsibilities and best practices through Judicial College courses.

"I'm just thrilled that people have the support and information they need because of how serious of a responsibility this is, and it feels to me like people are taking the person under guardianship more seriously – understating there's a real human life behind this court appointment, and that person is vulnerable and needs to be supported," Nack said.

Evans visits the person under her legal care about once a week. She offers this advice to anyone considering getting into guardianship: "I'd tell them that they are going to learn a lot, that they are going to provide a service that's absolutely essential, that they're going to fall in love with the person that they're serving, and that they're going to get a lot of satisfaction out of being able to help the people that they're serving."

The National Center for State Courts estimates there are about 40,000 Ohioans who need or have guardians across the state.

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

judicialacademy.ohio.gov

July 12

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Motivational Interviewing
Probation Officers
Toledo

July 19

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course Interview
Guardians ad Litem
Columbus
1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Motivational Interviewing
Probation Officers
Columbus

Supervisor Series (1 of 2)
Court Supervisors
Columbus

July 20

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Interview
Guardians ad Litem
Columbus
8:30 a.m. - Noon

Supervisor Series (2 of 2)
Court Supervisors
Columbus

July 26

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Assessment & Case Planning
Probation Officers
Akron/Fairlawn

August 2

Probation Officer Training Program: Professional Communication: Oral and Written Communication Skills
Probation Officers
Dayton/Beavercreek

August 3

Guardian ad Litem Pre Service Course
Guardians ad Litem
Columbus

Dispute Resolution Training

sc.ohio.gov/JCS/disputeResolution

July 20

Parenting Coordinators Roundtable Teleconference
RSVP at: sc.ohio.gov/JCS/disputeResolution/training/2016/training/PCTeleconference.pdf

Supreme Court of Ohio

sc.ohio.gov

July 6

Laptop Registration Closes at 4 p.m. for the July 2016 Bar Exam

July 12 & 13

Oral Arguments

July 15

Mayor's Courts Quarterly Report Deadline

July 26 – 28

Ohio Bar Exam Administered
Wilmington

Local Court Roundtables

sc.ohio.gov/JCS/roundtables

NOTE: All meetings are at the Thomas J. Moyer Judicial Center in Columbus

July 15

Ohio Juvenile Diversion Association
All Counties

July 19

Domestic Relations Magistrates
Urban & Suburban Counties

July 21

General Division Administrators
Midsized Courts
(Courts with 1 to 5 Judges)

July 29

Domestic Relations Magistrates
Rural & Midsized Counties

Aug. 2

Common Pleas Judges
Midsized & Rural Courts
Midsized & Rural Counties

Miscellaneous

July 11 – 13

Association of Municipal/County Judges (AMCJO) Summer Conference
Cincinnati
ohiocourtadministration.org
oamccc.org