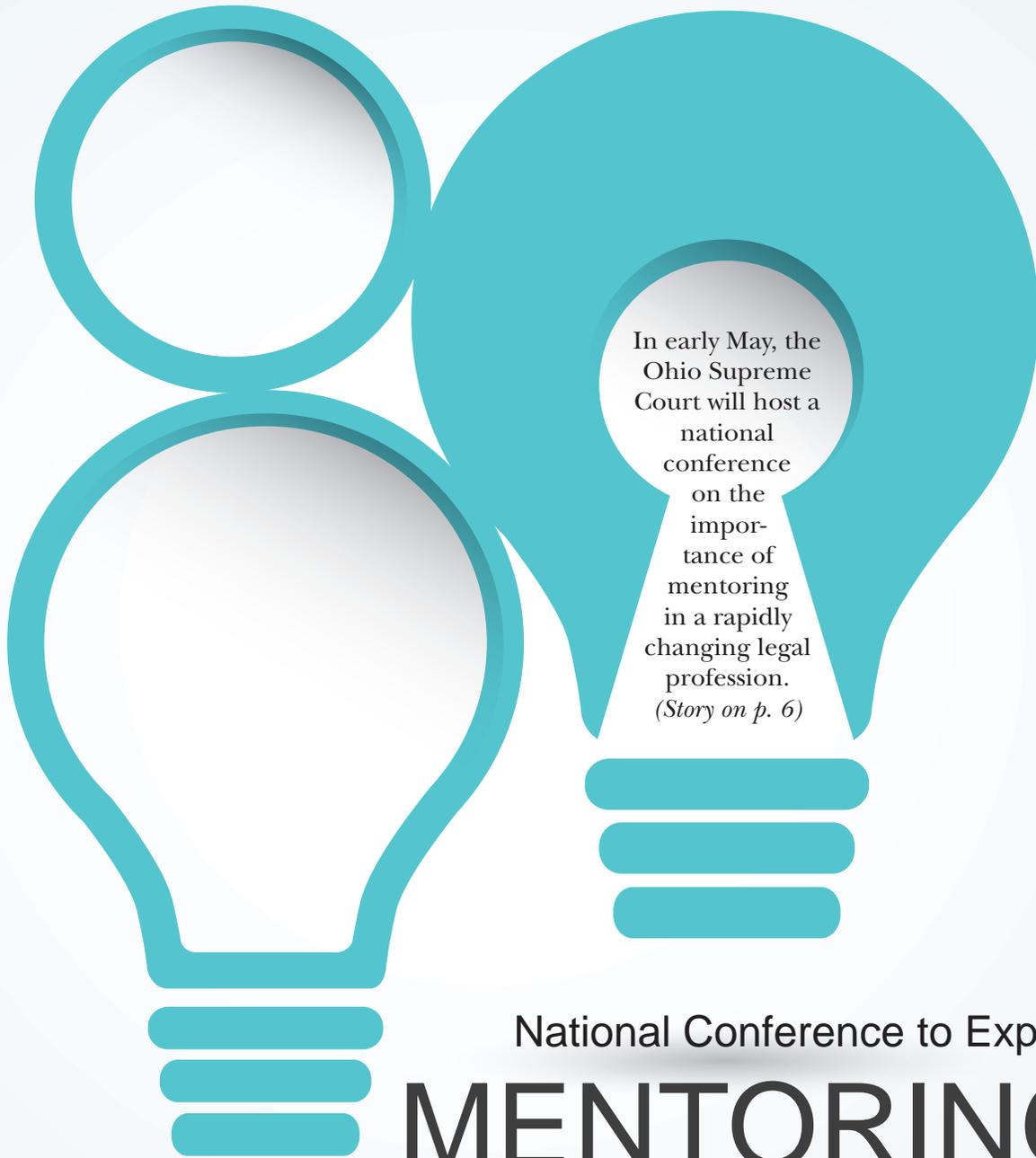


CNO REVIEW

April 2014



In early May, the Ohio Supreme Court will host a national conference on the importance of mentoring in a rapidly changing legal profession.
(Story on p. 6)

National Conference to Explore

MENTORING INNOVATIONS

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](https://www.facebook.com/courtnewsOhio)), a Twitter feed (@courtnewsOhio), and a YouTube channel ([youtube.com/CourtNewsOhioTV](https://www.youtube.com/CourtNewsOhioTV)).

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Cases

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

Supreme Court of Ohio

Supreme Court: Ohio's Child-Enticement Law Too Broadly Written

The Supreme Court ruled March 6 that Ohio's child-enticement statute is unconstitutional because it could prohibit a significant amount of constitutionally protected activity. In the 5-2 decision, authored by Justice **Judith Ann Lanzinger**, the judgments of both the Tenth District Court of Appeals and the trial court were upheld because the broad language of the statute can lead to criminal charges against a person in many innocent situations.

State v. Romage
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-783

Courts Must Expressly Consider Youth as Mitigating Factor Before Imposing Life-Without-Parole Sentence on Juvenile

A trial court must reconsider the life-without-parole sentence of a juvenile convicted of two 2009 murders in Cincinnati, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled March 12. In an opinion authored by **Justice Lanzinger**, the court held that the record must show that a trial court separately considered the youth of a juvenile offender as a mitigating factor (a circumstance that may lessen the punishment) before it sentences a juvenile to life in prison without parole. The 5-2 decision reverses the judgment of the First District Court of Appeals.

State v. Long
Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-849

Court Issues Disciplinary Sanctions in Five Cases

In five separate disciplinary cases,

the Supreme Court issued sanctions against attorneys from across the state.

On March 25, Warren attorney **Kenneth N. Shaw** was disbarred for representing clients while suspended and paying himself legal fees without the court's permission. In a unanimous per curiam decision (not authored by a specific justice), the court rejected the sanction of an indefinite suspension recommended by the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, and instead imposed disbarment.

Also on March 25, Cleveland attorney **David A. Streeter Jr.** received a two-year suspension with 18 months stayed for misappropriating \$230,000, engaging in a Ponzi-like scheme, and not promptly admitting his misconduct. In the per curiam decision, the court rejected the recommended sanction, which included no actual suspension. The court instead imposed the two-year suspension with 18 months stayed.

On March 26, Dublin attorney **Robert Schuler** received an indefinite suspension after his felony conviction for filing a false tax return that omitted \$360,000 of income. The court's 5-2 per curiam decision agreed with the board's recommended sentence of an indefinite suspension with credit for time served on a previous, interim suspension.

Also on March 26, the court in a 4-3 per curiam decision suspended Columbus attorney **Paul Wallace** for two years with one year stayed for mishandling a client's funds and not keeping records of those funds. The court agreed with the board's recommended sanction of a two-year suspension with one year stayed.

On March 27, Cincinnati attorney **Suzanne Land** received an indefinite suspension following her conviction in federal court for filing false documents with the IRS, and faking an email during litigation against her. In the 6-1 per curiam decision, the court agreed

with the board's recommended sanction of an indefinite suspension.

Visit the courtnesohio.gov "Cases" archive to read more about these disciplinary actions.

Courts of Appeals

Appeals Court Reverses Insurance Policy Cancellation Notice Before Premium Due Date

A Cleveland insurance company's cancellation notice before a customer's premium due date did not cancel the policy because a 10-day grace period is built into the state statute, according to a March 6 ruling by the Ninth District Court of Appeals. The appeals court's unanimous decision was authored by Judge **Donna J. Carr**.

Vietzen v. Victoria Auto. Ins. Co.
2014-Ohio-749

Court of Claims

Court of Claims Approves \$2.5 Million Ohio Reformatory for Women Settlement

A \$2.5 million settlement between a Cincinnati family and the Ohio Reformatory for Women will resolve negligence claims surrounding the July 15, 2006 birth of a baby girl with severe brain damage and spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy. The Court of Claims of Ohio approved the settlement agreement on February 28 and notes that the settlement will be "drawn on the account of the Ohio Reformatory for Women through the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction."

Jai'la Michelle Nored, Exec., et. al.
v. Ohio Reformatory for Women
Case No. 2011-10631

Happening Now

News and notes from courthouses across the Buckeye State

New Web Access to Case Information

A new search feature was added to the Supreme Court of Ohio website to help the public track issues accepted for review by the court.

The new service is available through the Supreme Court's Clerk of Court on the homepage under "Issues Accepted for Review." All accepted jurisdictional appeals, accepted certified conflict cases, and accepted certified question of state law cases are viewable while open and for 180 days after they are closed. A search can be done using the issue, case caption, or case number.

"Case information has been available online for quite some time, but now anyone who is interested in certain legal issues will have access to a case database that is searchable by the issue, or propositions of law that are submitted by the parties in the case," Clerk of Court **Mark Reed** said. "This will be a useful tool in many ways, including for attorneys who may be interested in issues that affect their clients, but are not directly involved in the case before the Supreme Court."

The court's website includes other features that can also be used to track all cases, such as:

- Case activity notification service to receive email notification when documents have been filed in a specific case.
- Video archive of oral arguments of cases dating back to 2004.
- Opinions and case summaries of the Supreme Court and Ohio's 12 appeals courts.

Honoring Employee Excellence



The Ohio Supreme Court recognized three employees on March 11 for their professionalism and outstanding service in 2013 during a Courtroom ceremony attended by justices and staff. The annual awards are the highest honors given to Supreme Court staff. Those honored were: **Joseph Caligiuri** (left), chief assistant disciplinary counsel in the Office of Disciplinary Counsel; **John VanNorman**, senior policy and research

counsel in the Office of the Administrative Director; and **Ian Palmer**, a maintenance mechanic in the Office of Facilities Management. This is the 10th year for the employee recognition ceremony.



Professionalism Commission Leadership Holds First Meeting

The new chair and vice chair of the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism led their first meeting March 14.

Akron attorney and former Akron Bar Association president **Michael L. Robinson**, who works in private practice, serves as chair of the commission this year while **Mary L. Cibella**, of counsel with McGinty Hilow & Spellacy Co., LPA in Cleveland, serves as vice chair.

The commission promotes professionalism among attorneys admitted to practice law in Ohio and aspires to advance the highest standards of integrity and honor among members of the legal profession.

In addition to the new leadership, three new commission members attended their first meeting March 14: Franklin County Common Pleas Court Magistrate **Mark Petrucci**; Columbus attorney **Tracie N. Ransom**; a partner in Porter Wright Morris & Arthur's litigation department; and Toledo litigation attorney **Sarah K. Skow** with Cooper & Kowalski, LPA.

The Supreme Court also recently reappointed two commission members: Lake County Common Pleas Court Judge **Richard L. Collins Jr.** and Muskingum County Domestic Relations Court Judge **Jeffrey A. Hooper**.

The commission's membership (two current vacancies) consists of five judges, six lawyers, two law school administrators or faculty, and two persons not admitted to practice law in any state. Commissioners are appointed for three-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive full terms.

Read more about the work of the Commission on Professionalism at supremecourt.ohio.gov/Boards/CP.

Hollon to Leave Ohio Supreme Court After 15 Years

On March 13, the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission unanimously voted to hire **Steven C. Hollon**, the Ohio Supreme Court's administrative director, as executive director. He will begin his duties with the commission sometime in the next month.

As one of only five people to hold the position established in the 1968 Modern Courts Amendment, Hollon served the longest. He worked with three Chief Justices and 16 justices during his tenure.

Hollon joined the Supreme Court in February 1999. As the senior non-elected officer of the Supreme Court, he, along with the chief justice and justices, 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 Supreme Court and the judicial branch.

"It is with great sadness that I will be leaving the Supreme Court, but it is also with a strong sense of accomplishment," Hollon said. "We have been able to bring forward many innovations over the years that have helped improve the operation of the court and the administration of justice statewide. Now, I look forward to the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of working with some of Ohio's finest citizens and legislators in reviewing and making suggestions for improving Ohio's constitution. I greatly appreciate the trust the commission has shown in me and will provide all members with my highest effort."

He led the renovation and the Supreme Court's move to what would become the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center, initiated and led the process for adopting the court's first administrative policies, instituted the court's Professional Excellence Awards, and oversaw the establishment of the Ohio Courts Network, among many other initiatives.

"Over the course of time, Steve Hollon molded the administrative structure of the Ohio Supreme Court into an efficient, modern organization

that is viewed in the highest regard across the United States," said Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor**.

"For 15 years, Steve has led with distinction and vision and has literally brought the Supreme Court into the 21st Century," she said. "There is no one more qualified in the state of Ohio to lead the effort to review the Ohio Constitution."

Chief Justice O'Connor said the court will share details in the coming weeks on the process for hiring a new administrative director. Hollon's exact departure date has not been determined.

The 32-member commission Hollon will now lead is charged with conducting a detailed review of the current provisions of the Ohio Constitution, identifying perceived problem areas, and submitting a report proposing specific amendments for consideration by the General Assembly. It was established through House Bill 188 of the 129th General Assembly.

In an August 8, 2013, news release announcing the search for an executive director, the commission noted that it was looking for a person to "fulfill highly advanced policy development and administration" who possessed "a general understanding and knowledge of constitutional law."

Hollon served as the president of the national Conference of State Court Administrators and is well known nationally as an expert in judicial administration.

Before coming to the Supreme Court, Hollon served as the administrator/staff counsel from 1995 to 1999 for the Second District Court of Appeals. From 1983 to 1990, he served as the administrator/staff counsel for the Twelfth District Court of Appeals. In between working at the



"For 15 years, Steve has led with distinction and vision and has literally brought the Supreme Court into the 21st Century. There is no one more qualified in the state of Ohio to lead the effort to review the Ohio Constitution."

- Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor

appellate courts, Hollon practiced law with Parrish, Fryman & Marcum.

Hollon was admitted to the Ohio bar on November 6, 1981. He received his bachelor's degree in history and communications from Muskingum College, a master's degree in communication from Miami University, and his law degree from the Ohio Northern University Claude W. Pettit College of Law.

National Conference to Explore **MENTORING INNOVATIONS**

In early May, the Ohio Supreme Court will host a national conference on the importance of mentoring in a rapidly changing legal profession.

“**M**entoring in our Evolving Profession” will gather leaders from bar associations, courts, law schools, law firms, and other legal organizations to discuss how to promote, establish, and support successful mentoring experiences.

To be held May 1-3, the event is sponsored by the National Legal Mentoring Consortium and the Supreme Court’s Commission on Professionalism and cosponsored by the American Inns of Court foundation and the ABA Center on Professional Responsibility. The program features welcoming remarks and a dinner on May 1 at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center, an evening reception at the Statehouse on May 2, and educational programming at the Sheraton on Capitol Square on May 2 and 3.

Lori Keating, who serves as attorney services counsel for the Supreme Court and as secretary to the Commission on Professionalism, said the commission was happy to have the opportunity to host the national meeting this year.

Keating chairs the consortium, a group created in 2011 to encourage mentoring in the legal profession by promoting an exchange of ideas and resources to aid in the creation and operation of mentoring initiatives nationwide. The consortium is funded by the Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough Center on Professionalism, which hosted national legal mentoring

conferences in 2008 and in 2010 at the University of South Carolina. In 2012, the consortium moved the national conference to Minneapolis to draw more participation from attendees in the Midwest and West. Keating said holding this year’s conference in Columbus will help boost mentoring efforts in Ohio.

“I have attended these conferences since 2008, and each event has featured interesting, educational programming while providing the opportunity to network with others who are passionate about mentoring,” she said. “I always leave these events having learned something new and excited to apply it to improve our mentoring program here in Ohio.”

Keating administers the Supreme Court’s Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program. Established as a permanent program in 2008 by the Commission on Professionalism, Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring seeks to elevate the competence, professionalism, and success of Ohio lawyers. The one-year mentorship pairs experienced lawyers with those recently admitted to the practice of law. The mentor and mentee meet six times for discussions and activities selected from an approved mentoring plan.

The mentoring program actually began in 2006 as a pilot initiative to guide new lawyers as they begin the practice of law. By pairing new lawyers with experienced attorneys, mentoring provides opportunities to share practical advice and to develop lawyering skills, as well as to impart the importance of professionalism on newly admitted lawyers, Keating said.

The program assigns mentoring pairs throughout the state, provides a mentoring timeline and plan, and offers written materials to help the mentor and the new protégé lawyer engage in meaningful discussion, learning, and skills-development tailored to their practice needs and goals, she said. Since the program’s inception, more than 3,000 new lawyers have successfully completed the program. Nineteen mentors who participated in the program every year were honored during a 2012 awards ceremony that marked the commission’s 20th anniversary.

Conference speakers next month include authors of highly respected

mentoring publications and leaders of innovative mentoring programs from throughout the country and abroad. Some of the topics include: mentoring solo practitioners, mentoring at later career stages, and mentoring for law students and lawyers with disabilities.

One of those speakers is Supreme Court Justice **Terrence O'Donnell**.

Keating said Justice O'Donnell, a former Commission on Professionalism member, deserves much of the credit for the mentoring program's success. Upon joining the Supreme Court in 2003, he made the creation of the program a priority, and he continues to personally recruit mentors and new lawyers for the program each year.

"I had an idea that the mentoring concept would be a good vehicle to increase professionalism in the legal profession in Ohio, which was a goal of the late Chief Justice Tom Moyer," Justice O'Donnell said. "He saw value in mentoring and built a consensus among judges, lawyers, and various bar associations, which helped to launch our program into the successful model it has become nationwide.

"Chief Justice Moyer deserved much of the credit for the success of this effort, and I am pleased to have played a role in that success," he said.

Not long after the program got off the ground, Justice O'Donnell issued a "call to action" to Ohio's legal profession to participate in the program.

"As attorneys and judges, we have the responsibility to help new lawyers," Justice O'Donnell wrote. "We may not be able to employ each and every law school graduate, but we certainly are able to mentor them as they seek our guidance. The success of our mentoring program depends, in large part, on the willingness of lawyers to serve as mentors."

Keating also has pushed to expand the reach of the program and meet recent new lawyers in their element. Specifically, Keating noted the technology-savvy characteristics that define the "Millennial" generation born after 1982. In a 2008 "Ohio

Lawyer" article titled "Why Mentoring Matters Now," Keating wrote that professors had to reevaluate how to reach students better as they multitasked in class.

The Supreme Court had to adapt too. Three years ago, it launched a mentoring program LinkedIn Group. At the time, Keating hoped that both mentors and new lawyers would benefit.

"Using this social media site will enrich the participants' overall experience," Keating said. "With interactive postings, discussions can be open to all group members, rather than limited to individual mentor-new lawyer pairs. And the program's networking opportunities will rise to a whole new level, as group members engage their own LinkedIn networks."

The LinkedIn page also allows for direct communication with participants to keep them informed of curriculum deadlines and upcoming events.

Over time, Keating has been surprised that more mentors are using the LinkedIn page than mentees. She theorizes that new lawyers simply have so many other social media channels that they monitor.

Another outreach avenue concerns hosting city-centric mentoring events where participating pairs network with colleagues at a tour and reception hosted by an individual court.

"During these tours, new lawyers learn practical information that isn't taught in law school," Keating said of the value of these in-person gatherings. "They become familiar with the layout of a courthouse, the technology of the courtroom, and the importance of learning and following the local court's rules and procedures of each judge."

Keating said this personal touch, along with training mentors at orientation about the unique characteristics of the Millennial generation, has been more successful in making connections.



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CONTACT
Lori Keating
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lawyer2lawyer@sc.ohio.gov



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 74, Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Independence)

To expand the offenses of menacing by stalking and telecommunications harassment and to prohibit a person from knowingly causing another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm or mental distress to a family or household member of the other person.

STATUS: Introduced and referred to the House Judiciary Committee on February 20, 2013. Reported out of committee with substitute language on November 20, 2013. Passed the House on December 4, 2013 (89-3). Referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee on January 8, 2014. Second Senate committee hearing was February 25, 2014.

HB 251, Rep. Nick Barborak (D-Lisbon)

To eliminate the special sentencing mechanism that applies for most felonies of the fourth and fifth degree and that generally provides for a community control sanction for such offenses.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on August 21, 2013 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee. An amended bill was reported out of committee on March 12, 2014 after five hearings.

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 (31-0) on March 25, 2014. House concurred with Senate amendments (87-0) March 26, 2014.

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.

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 15-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 second hearing March 26, 2014.

HB 475, Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.)

To permit the flashing on and off of headlights, and the alternate flashing of the lower and upper beams

of headlights, by a motor vehicle operator to convey information to operators of oncoming vehicles, including information concerning the presence of dangers, hazards, or vehicles of interest.

STATUS: Introduced in the House on March 12, 2014 and referred to the House Transportation, Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee. Its first hearing was scheduled for April 1, 2014.

HB 480, Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville)

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 seat belt is inadmissible as evidence in certain criminal actions and to allow the enforcement of child car seat, booster seat, and seat belt requirements as a primary offense.

STATUS: Introduced in the House and referred to the House Judiciary Committee on March 18, 2014.

HB 495, Rep. Connie Pillich (D-Montgomery)

To remove the cap on the amount of compensatory damages that represents damages for noneconomic loss that is recoverable in a tort action when the tort action is brought by a victim of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault.

STATUS: Introduced in the House and referred to the House Judiciary Committee on March 18, 2014. Its first hearing was March 26, 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. Passed the House (88-2) on March 26, 2014.

SB 5, Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo)

To require wireless service providers to provide call location information to law enforcement officers or agencies in certain emergency situations.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate February 12, 2013 and referred to the Senate Public Safety, Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee. Amended and reported out of committee on March 20, 2013. Passed the Senate April 17, 2013 (32-1). Referred to the House Transportation, Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee April 23, 2013. Re-referred to the House Judiciary Committee on October 10, 2013. The third House committee hearing was March 19, 2014.

SB 143, Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati); Sen. Shirley Smith (D-Cleveland)

To revise criminal law.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on June 12, 2013 and referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. Amended language added and bill was reported out of committee on November 13, 2013. Passed the Senate on November 19, 2013 (31-2). Referred to the House Judiciary

Committee on December 4, 2013. The bill was amended in committee on March 19, 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. The second committee hearing was March 11, 2014.

SB 261, Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus); Sen. Gayle Manning (R-North Ridgeville)

To provide that a person who recklessly violates a protection order issued upon a petition alleging that the person committed an act of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, or a sexually oriented offense, is guilty of the offense of violating a protection order.

STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on January 2, 2014 and referred to the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. An amended bill was reported out of committee on March 11, 2014. Passed the Senate on March 12, 2014 (32-0). Referred to the House Judiciary Committee on March 18, 2014. Its second House committee hearing was scheduled for April 2, 2014.



Conferences & Meetings

April 10

Ohio Jury Management Association Conference & Annual Meeting (ohiojury.org)
The Human Side of Jury Service
(register through *Judicial eCademy*)
Judges & Court Personnel
Columbus

April 24 & 25

Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association Spring Training
ohiopa.org
Columbus

April 30 – May 2

Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference
ohiomagistrates.org
Member Magistrates
Painesville

April 30 – May 2

Ohio State Bar Association 2014 Conference
Ohiobar.org
Columbus

May 1 & 2

Ohio Community Corrections Association 13th Annual Conference
occaonline.org
Evidence Based Practice: Why It Works
Dublin

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

April 8

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Assessment & Case Planning (013)
Probation Officers, Toledo

April 10

The Human Side of Jury Service
Judges & Court Personnel, Columbus

April 10 & 11

Capital Cases
Judges, Columbus

April 15

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Understanding Child Protective Services to be a More Effective Advocate
Guardians ad Litem, Columbus
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Motivational Interviewing (016)
Probation Officers, Akron

April 16

Guardian ad Litem Continuing Education Course: Understanding Child Protective Services to be a More Effective Advocate
Guardians ad Litem, Columbus
8:30 a.m. to noon

April 22

Probation Officer Training Program: Introduction to Assessment & Case Planning (013)
Probation Officers, Columbus

April 28 – May 2

New Judges Orientation Part II
Judges, Columbus

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

Dispute Resolution Training

sc.ohio.gov/JCS/disputeResolution

April 7

Early Neutral Evaluation Training
Batavia

April 17 & 18
**Basic Medication/Uniform
 Mediation Act Training**
 Dayton

**Language Services
 Training**
sc.ohio.gov/JCS/interpreterSvcs

April 25 & 26
**Orientation Training
 for Written Exam**
 Interpreter certification candidates
 Columbus

May 3
Court Interpreter Ethics Training
 Columbus

Supreme Court of Ohio
sc.ohio.gov

April 8
Oral Arguments

April 9
Oral Arguments
 At Off-Site Court: University
 of Toledo College of Law

April 15
**Mayor's courts' quarterly report
 submission deadline
 for first quarter, 2014**

April 23 – 25
Domestic Relations Summit 2014
 Domestic Relations Judges &
 Justice-Related Partners, Columbus

April 25
**February 2014 Bar Exam
 Results Released**

April 29 & 30
Oral Arguments

May 1 – 3
**2014 National Legal Mentoring
 Consortium Conference**
 Columbus

May 5
Bar Admissions Ceremony
 Successful February examinees who
 meet all admission requirements
 Ohio Theatre, Columbus

LOCAL COURT ROUNDTABLES

[sc.ohio.gov/JCS]

April 8
**Probate, Mid-Sized
 & Rural Courts**
 Rural & mid-sized counties

May 7
Juvenile Courts, Title IV-E
 All counties

April 11
**Juvenile Chief Deputy Clerks,
 Rural Courts**
 Counties with less than 60K
 population

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ON THE BENCH

IN MEMORIAM | JOE MILTON MOORHEAD



Joe Milton Moorhead, believed to be the oldest retired judge in Ohio, died March 1 at age 105.

Court News Ohio profiled Judge Moorhead on April 26, 2013, on the eve of his 105th birthday.

He graduated from Ohio Northern University's College of Law in 1938, passed the bar the next year, and practiced in Findlay before his election as Hancock County prosecutor one year later. His tenure as prosecuting attorney was interrupted for two years when he served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Judge Moorhead switched from the bar to the bench in 1949 when he was elected

probate judge. In 1953, he was elected to the common pleas bench and served until his retirement in 1976.

Judge Moorhead told The (Findlay) Courier on his 100th birthday that several changes to the courts, including the 1963 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Gideon v. Wainwright* requiring judges to assign attorneys to poor defendants, transformed the justice system.

"It brought a lot of changes by the time I was leaving," Judge Moorhead said at the time. "It was very different."

Born April 27, 1908 in Hancock County's Liberty Township, he was the oldest of six children. He was married to the former Jean Elizabeth Pfau for 63 years before her death on October 19, 2004.

Mahoning County Probate Judge Resigns

Mahoning County Probate Court Judge **Mark A. Belinky** resigned March 14. A March 14 story in The (Youngstown) Vindicator linked Belinky's resignation to "an investigation by the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, which served warrants February 7 at his court office in Youngstown and his Boardman home with the assistance of the FBI and the county sheriff's office."

As required by Rule VII of the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Judiciary of Ohio, a judge leaving early must submit a resignation letter to the governor and a notification letter to the chief justice. Gov. John R. Kasich and Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** received those letters on March 14.

To fill the vacancy temporarily, Chief Justice O'Connor assigned retired Stark County Probate Court Judge **R.R. Denny Clunk** to the Mahoning court for three months beginning March 17 "and to conclude any proceedings in which he participated that are pending at the end of that period," according to the certificate of assignment.

Belinky was appointed to the judgeship by former Gov. **Ted Strickland** in 2007 and was elected to a full six-year term on the probate court in 2008. His unexpired term ends February 8, 2015.

According to Article IV, Section 13 of the Ohio Constitution, the governor has sole authority to fill all judicial vacancies in the state.

Governor Appoints Fischer to Warren County Judgeship



Maineville attorney **Robert S. Fischer** will join the Warren County Court bench April 4 after his March 21 appointment by Gov.

John R. Kasich. He will replace Judge Joseph Kirby, who is moving to the common pleas court's probate and juvenile division.

Fischer must win in November's general election to retain the seat for the remainder of the unexpired term, which ends December 31, 2018.

Fischer was a trial attorney at Sams, Fischer, Packard & Schuessler, LLC, where he handled serious felony cases, domestic relations cases, and child custody cases. Previously, he served as a trial attorney for Kirby & Roberts, LLC in LaGrange, Georgia and as assistant prosecutor in the Mason Municipal Court