



THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO

For Immediate Release
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CHIEF JUSTICE MAUREEN O'CONNOR TO DELIVER STATE OF THE JUDICIARY

Final Remarks to the Ohio Judicial Conference

COLUMBUS - Supreme Court of Ohio Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor will deliver her final State of the Judiciary address to the Ohio Judicial Conference. She will look back over her two decades on the Court and forward to the challenges that lie ahead for Ohio.

Chief Justice O'Connor is the 10th chief justice in Ohio history and the first woman to lead the high court. Chief Justice O'Connor has led significant reforms and improvements in the Ohio judicial system in her two decades on the Court.

She joined the Supreme Court in 2003 and was twice elected chief justice, in 2010 and 2016. She will retire at the end of the year due to a constitutionally mandated age limit. Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor is the longest serving, statewide elected woman in Ohio history.

What: Annual State of the Judiciary
When: Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 11:45 a.m.
Where: Hilton Columbus at Easton
3900 Chagrin Dr.
Columbus, OH 43219

The Ohio Channel live stream will begin at 11:50am on OhioChannel.org. The recording will be available for viewing and download after the event. An AV mult will be available for media.

Background

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor has done more to modernize the Ohio courts than any time in history. She brought electronic docketing and e-filing to the Supreme Court and started a program of grants to local courts to enable them to go electronic. Further advancements have increased access and reduced costs for litigants and taxpayers.

When the worldwide COVID pandemic hit, Ohio was ahead of most states in its ability to keep courts open and cases moving.

Chief Justice O'Connor has improved access to justice by advocating for constitutional bail practices and ability to pay assessments for court fines and fees. She is

spearheading the creation of a statewide criminal sentencing database and standardized data for felony sentencing. The chief justice established a task force to study grand jury proceedings in Ohio, created a committee to examine the administration of the death penalty. She initiated and led collaborative efforts of an eight-state initiative to combat the nation's opioid epidemic.

Chief Justice O'Connor is past president of the National Conference of Chief Justices and former chair of the National Center for State Courts Board of Directors. Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor is a graduate of Seton Hill University and the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

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