

News Release Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Ohio Judicial Conference Hires New Executive Director

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio Judicial Conference announced today that retiring Justice Paul E. Pfeifer will be joining the conference as its new Executive Director. Justice Pfeifer has been a justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio since January 2, 1993.

Prior to being elected to the Supreme Court, Justice Pfeifer served in both houses of the Ohio General Assembly, including one term in the House of Representatives and four terms in the Senate. He held a variety of leadership posts in the Senate, and served as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee for 10 years.

"I think I'm bringing a unique perspective to this position," Justice Pfeifer said. "I'll be able to draw on my experience in both the Judiciary and the General Assembly, and I will be working with our judges to help members of the General Assembly better understand the impact that legislative proposals can create at the courthouse."

Justice Pfeifer grew up on his family's dairy farm near Bucyrus, Ohio. His first job after graduating from The Ohio State University College of Law was as an assistant attorney general under William Saxbe. As an assistant AG, Pfeifer tried eminent-domain cases associated with the building of Ohio's highway system. In 1972, he became a partner in the law firm of Cory, Brown & Pfeifer, where he practiced – primarily as a trial and tax lawyer – for 20 years. He also served several years as an assistant prosecutor for Crawford County.

"Early in my career, I had the good fortune of trying cases all over our state," Justice Pfeifer said. "Now, after 24 years on the Supreme Court, this position – representing the more than 700 judges of the Ohio Judicial Conference – offers new challenges and exciting opportunities. I'm looking forward to getting started."

Judge James A. Shriver, Judge of the Clermont County Juvenile/Probate Court and current Chair of the Ohio Judicial Conference said that "the Ohio Judicial Conference is honored to be led by a great icon of the Ohio Judiciary. His vast judicial experience and knowledge and his robust energy and ideas will serve both the judiciary and the citizens of Ohio quite well."

Justice Pfeifer and his wife, Julie, have two daughters, Lisa and Beth, a son, Kurt, four granddaughters and one grandson. Pfeifer still lives near Bucyrus, and he and his family raise purebred Angus cattle on their Crawford County farm.

The **Ohio Judicial Conference** is a state agency within the judicial branch created by statute in 1963 "for the purpose of studying the co-ordination of the work of the several courts of Ohio, the encouragement of uniformity in the application of the law, rules, and practice throughout the state and within each division of the courts as an integral part of the judicial system of the state; to promote an exchange of experience and suggestions respecting the operation of the judicial system; and in general to consider the business and problems pertaining to the administration of justice and to make recommendations for its improvement."

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