



for the

First Quarter 2012

RECORD

NEWS FOR THE OHIO COURTS

DIRECTIONS

RETIRED JUDGE MARK R. SCHWEIKERT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OHIO JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

FULFILLING OUR PURPOSE

The Ohio Judicial Conference is an independent statutory entity within the judicial branch of Ohio government. We like to call ourselves the voice of Ohio judges, but of course, as the statute provides, there is a process that leads us to and empowers the voice we exercise. Ohio Revised Code section 105.91 sets forth our purpose:

- To study the co-ordination of the work of the several courts of Ohio,
- To encourage 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
- To consider the business and problems pertaining to the administration of justice and to make recommendations for its improvement.

On April 13th we sponsored a workshop for judges who have a particularly negative perspective on the value and relevance of the Transitional Control program offered by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and

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Correction. The ODRC is proud of the program and is disappointed that some judges are unaware, or suspicious, of its virtues. The OJC Community Corrections Committee sponsored the event and invited a national expert on the subject of prisoner transition back to free society after a long period of institutionalization which is the focus of the Transitional Control program. We also invited the managers from ODRC and the halfway house providers who operate the programs as well as a few judges that value the Transitional control program as part of the sentencing continuum and a majority of judges who didn't. So why would we bring together those with such divergent perspectives? To learn where the disconnect might lie between the parties to encourage and promote collaboration, to identify recommendations for improvement, and to give guidance and understanding to the voice of all Ohio judges.

The Judicial Conference is not likely to adopt a major policy statement or make recommendations for legislation as a direct result of this workshop. But, I am certain that all of those who attended, including the national expert, left with greater knowledge about judicial perspectives in Ohio and greater respect for the others who participated. Some practices might change as a result. All will continue to seek the best outcomes for their communities. And the Ohio Judicial Conference will have again fulfilled its purpose within the fabric of Ohio government. Thanks to all who attended.

Judge in the News

JUDGE TERESA BALLINGER *MARION COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT*



Judge Teresa Ballinger

Congratulations to Judge Teresa Ballinger of the Marion Municipal Court on being selected as the 2012 recipient of the Athena Award for excellence in leadership. Presented by the Women's Business Council of Marion, this award is given annually to a business and professional woman who has demonstrated her passion to help other women reach their goals in business.

Judge Ballinger was nominated for her role in the creation of Marion Matters, a program based on a nationally known and recognized program, Bridges Out of Poverty. The initiative provides the structures, ideas, and concrete tools a community needs to prevent, reduce, and alleviate poverty.

This is the 15th year the Council has presented the award locally. Judge Ballinger joins a list of more than 6,000 women in more than 500 communities who have been recognized nationwide since 1982.

Proclamations from the City of Marion, Marion County Board of Commissioners and the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate were read at the presentation. Mayor Scott Schertzer complimented Ballinger's work through Marion Matters for offering "a hand up, not a hand-out" to people struggling in the community and for her work with his administration which has worked in tough financial conditions the past few years. "What a pleasure it has been to sit down with this lady and work through them," he said.

STATE PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE

WWW.PUBLICNOTICE.OHIO.GOV

The Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Office of Information Technology, has launched the State Public Notice Website providing a free statewide website to post public notices. The most recent state budget bill charged the state's Office of Information Technology with creating this website to provide a no cost method for state and local government entities in Ohio to post public notices.

Ohio Revised Code §7.16 details the requirements for legal notices that are permitted to be posted on the state's public notice website. The requirements are as follows:

- There must be a statutory requirement to publish a notice or advertisement two (2) or more times in a newspaper of general circulation.
- The first publication still must be made in its entirety in a newspaper of general circulation.
- The second publication may be in an abbreviated form in a newspaper of general circulation and on the newspaper's website. The abbreviated form must meet the following requirements:
 - o Must be published in the same newspaper as the first notice.
 - o Must be published in the newspaper's website
 - o Notice must contain the following:
 - Title
 - Summary paragraph that clearly describes the purpose of the notice
 - Statement that the notice or advertisement is posted in its entirety on the state public notice website, including the website address: www.publicnotice.ohio.gov
 - Internet address of the newspaper's website if full notice is posted there
 - Internet address of the state agency posting, if full notice is posted there
 - Name, address, phone, and email of state agency
- Any further newspaper publications may be eliminated so long as the requirements of the first and second publication have been met.

Accordingly, for a court or clerk to utilize this cost-saving feature there must be a statutory requirement for two or more publications of the legal notice in a newspaper. This limits the applicability of the website to specific statutes. A list of the public notices a court may consider utilizing are noted in the chart below:

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KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS AFFECTING OHIO JUDGES AND OHIO COURTS BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE!

WWW.OHIOJUDGES.ORG

STATUTE	SUMMARY
R.C. 109.18	Court service by publication in an action in quo warranto.
R.C. 133.70(G)	Court of Common Pleas notice of the order in a complaint for validation of securities and proceedings.
R.C. 339.08	Court of common pleas notice of hearing on application by hospital trust for permission to resign from and relinquish the obligations of the trust.
R.C. 1545.03	Probate court notice of a hearing on an application on the creation of a park district.
R.C. 1545.38	Probate court notice of the hearing on the dissolution of a park district.
R.C. 2107.082	Service of process for petition for judgment declaring validity of will
R.C. 2107.32	Probate court notice of admitting a will or copy of will under R.C. 2107.29 to 2107.31
R.C. 2117.02	Probate court notice of presentation executor or administrator's claim against an estate.
R.C. 2119.02	Probate court notice of appointment of a trustee for an absentee.
R.C. 2121.02	Probate court notice of the filing of a complaint of a presumption of death.
R.C. 2129.07	Notice of Proceedings to admit foreign will to record
R.C. 2329.44	Clerk of courts of common pleas notice of excess payable to debtor
R.C. 2719.04	Service of notice of application provided for in R.C. 2719.02
R.C. 2733.11	Court service by publication in an action in quo warranto.
R.C. 5309.15	Clerk of the court of common pleas or probate court notice of a property title examiner's report as part of application to register title of land.
R.C. 5721.14	Clerk of the court notice of foreclosure and forfeiture proceedings against vacant lands.
R.C. 5721.18	Clerk of the court notice of foreclosure proceedings on lien of state.
R.C. 6117.15	Probate court publication of notice of a sewer district case appeal.

In order to post notices on this website, courts must first be registered with the Ohio Business Gateway (“OBG”). Once you have created your account and logged in to the OBG, go to the “Start a Service or Transaction” section of the page and select “PublicNotice.” The “Start a Service or Transaction” section will expand to show the Public Notice functions. The public notice content consists of three fields, all of which are required:

1. Notice Type: select from the dropdown list the category that best characterizes the notice. If none of the categories fits, select “Other.” This field will assist the public in narrowing down their search results by notice type.
2. Publish Date: this is the date the notice will first appear in the public-facing search site. The publish date may be from 1 to 30 days in the future.
3. Public Notice Content: this field contains the text that makes up the public notice.

In order for any action on the OBG to take effect, it must go through the checkout process. Click on the “Checkout (File and Pay)” button to start the process. On the next screens, you will have the opportunity to select the transaction for checkout and confirm the transaction. Since public notice is a free service, all dollar amounts will be zero. If you do not go through checkout, your notice will not be published. The system also allows you to edit or revoke your notice should that become necessary.

Courts and clerks of courts may consider utilizing this website when faced with the statutory requirement of multiple legal notices to be published in the local newspaper/s. Not only does the system provide courts with a small cost savings on these printed publications, but it also provides the public with one central website from which to access these public notices.

To get started, visit the Ohio Business Gateway Electronic Filing website at <http://business.ohio.gov/efiling/help/publicnotice.stm>

JUDGES HELPING JUDGES: THE OLAP JUDICIAL ADVISORY GROUP

JUDGE DEBRA BOROS
JAG Co-CHAIR
LORAIN COUNTY DOMESTIC RELATIONS/JUVENILE COURT

The Judicial Advisory Group (JAG) is a group of judges that work with the Ohio Lawyers Assistance Program (OLAP) to help judges with personal and professional issues.

For many years now, OLAP has worked to help all lawyers with problems surrounding alcohol or substance abuse and mental health. OLAP’s experience, and success, helping lawyers is unmatched. They have built an extensive network of contacts and referral services across the state. As judges, who share many characteristics with lawyers, and being lawyers ourselves, we can access the OLAP services also.

But while judges are lawyers, we also face some unique circumstances. We are elected officials, working in a political environment and an open, public context. We are called on to resolve issues that are the subject of heated disputes and to render decisions with immense impact on the lives of those before the court. We are also prone to isolation—our judicial role at times constrains our private lives, and judicial rules of conduct strictly limit how much of our professional lives we may discuss with others.

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When we judges face problems in our personal lives or with meeting standards of professional behavior, we can be difficult to help. Our role in adversarial proceedings and engagement in political life can make us cautious about expressions of concern and offers of help. Since our professional lives depend on public approval, it can be difficult to admit that something is wrong and act to correct it.

What better group to help overcome this than a group of fellow judges? That is the role of the JAG.

The JAG is set up to enhance OLAP's ability to help judges in its traditional areas of concern. JAG judges will help OLAP screen referrals about judges to make sure they represent genuine concerns and are not attempts to discredit a judge based on judicial decisions or other acts. The judges on JAG may also work with OLAP to develop a plan of assistance that responds to the constraints and demands of judges' positions.

The JAG will also be able to address issues that fall outside of OLAP's traditional concerns: JAG judges are available to address issues of judicial temperament or diligence. These issues may include patterns of erratic courtroom behavior, persistent conflicts with attorneys or other local officials, or other issues. Sometimes these reflect underlying problems with alcohol or substance abuse, but other times they do not. In either case, the JAG judges will consider referrals and determine whether it is appropriate to attempt to help the judge in question.

In both of its capacities—helping OLAP or addressing other concerns—the JAG may address issues that could lead to actual misconduct. It is important to understand that there is a sharp line between OLAP/JAG and disciplinary processes:

- OLAP/JAG is neither a substitute for nor a diversion from disciplinary proceedings. OLAP and JAG do not remedy possible misconduct; they work to help judges who are experiencing problems.
- Referral to OLAP/JAG does not discharge the duty to report possible misconduct. If a referral to OLAP/JAG describes behavior that may constitute misconduct, the referrer will be encouraged to contact appropriate disciplinary entities.

The sharp line between OLAP/JAG and disciplinary processes goes both ways—judges and others who act on behalf of OLAP/JAG will maintain complete confidentiality.

- OLAP is covered by confidentiality and immunity provisions in the Ohio Revised Code as well as in professional rules.
- If OLAP staff or members of JAG learn about possible misconduct in their OLPA/JAG capacities, they are exempt from the duty to report it.
- No information about interactions between OLAP/JAG and a judge will be released to anyone in any form unless the judge signs a waiver.

Attorneys and judges can trust that OLAP and JAG offer completely confidential help.

For some years now, attorneys in Ohio have benefited from the work of OLAP, and so have judges. But we also know, for example from survey questions asked at CLE events, that judges do sometimes observe colleagues act in ways that indicate they may need help—with substance abuse, with mental health issues, or with maintaining professional standards—and hesitate to turn to OLAP to find help for that judge.

We hope that JAG, a group of judges selected by the six judicial associations, will make judges more inclined to turn to OLAP for help, on their own behalf or on a colleague's behalf. The JAG judges know what it means to be a judge. They can help OLAP adapt its assistance to a judge's situation, and they can provide help with professional issues that go beyond OLAP's expertise.

Chair	
Judge Debra L. Boros	Lorain Co. Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court
Members	
Judge Colleen C. Cooney	ex officio member, Eighth District Court of Appeals
Judge Matthew J. Crehan	Retired, Butler Co. Common Pleas Court
Judge Theresa Dellick	Mahoning Co. Juvenile Court
Judge John J. Donnelly	Retired, Cuyahoga Co. Probate Court
Judge Carrie E. Glaeden	Franklin Co. Municipal Court
Judge Mary Katherine Huffman	Montgomery Co. Common Pleas Court
Judge Roger L. Kline	Fourth District Court of Appeals
Judge Denise H. McColley	Henry Co. Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court
Judge Jack R. Puffenburger	Lucas Co. Probate Court
Judge David Sunderman	Delaware Municipal Court
Judge Joan Synenberg	Cuyahoga Co. Common Pleas Court
Judge William W. Weaver	Retired, Lake Co. Juvenile Court

If you know a judge who may need assistance, contact either OLAP or a JAG member. OLAP and JAG will work together to assess the issue and determine an appropriate course of action.
OLAP has a 24/7 hotline: 1-800-348-4343

HOUSE BILL 86: UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION IMPLEMENTATION

ANDRE IMBROGNO, ESQ.
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Since House Bill 86 took effect on September 30, 2011, the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) has been developing policies and procedures necessary to implement those provisions in the act that DRC is either exclusively or principally responsible for administering. To that end, DRC has adopted or amended the following administrative rules, all of which can be found on DRC's official website, www.drc.ohio.gov, under "Agency Policies."

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Rules recently adopted or amended by DRC include the following:

5120-2-03.2—Determination of multiple sentences. The rule was amended to specify how, in light of House Bill 86's enactment, the Department will compute earned credit for offenders serving multiple sentences subject to different earned credit requirements.

5120-2-06—Earned credit for productive program participation. The rule was amended to specify the number of credit days to which offenders will be entitled under House Bill 86.

5120-2-14, 5120:1-1-17, 5120:1-1-41, 5120:1-1-42—Risk reduction sentence. The rules were enacted or amended to establish procedures for identifying offenders who have received risk reduction sentences, assessing them for programming and treatment, calculating their early release dates, and supervising them after they are released.

5120-9-23—Escapes. The rule was amended to reflect the requirement enacted in House Bill 86 that every victim of a felony offense of violence receive notification when the offender who committed the crime against them escapes from the Department's custody.

5120-13-01—Ohio risk assessment system. The rule was enacted to satisfy House Bill 86's requirement that the Department identify a single, validated risk assessment system to be used statewide. The rule identifies the Ohio Risk Assessment System as that system.

5120-14-01—Certificate of achievement and employability. The rule was enacted to establish eligibility criteria for the new certificate of achievement and employability created by House Bill 86. The rule also establishes procedures for awarding and revoking certificates.

5120:1-5-10—Probation improvement and incentive grant. The rule was enacted to establish criteria for receiving the new probation and improvement grant created under House Bill 86. The rule also establishes procedures for applying for the grants and for prioritizing grant applications.

DRC has not yet adopted administrative rules and policies governing the new judicial release process enacted by House Bill 86 in R.C. 2967.19 because amendments to that statute, which were formulated by the DRC in cooperation with the Ohio Judicial Conference and other interested parties, are currently pending in the General Assembly. Likewise, DRC is continuing to develop administrative rules that House Bill 86 requires that the Department adopt establishing criteria for admissions to certain community corrections programs and facilities that are based upon offenders' felony level and risk of reoffending.

Lastly, DRC has developed a procedure by which courts of common pleas that are sentencing offenders for fourth or fifth degree felony offenses who qualify for mandatory community control under House Bill 86's sentencing changes may request from the Department a list of available community control sanctions. Courts may request a list of available sanctions by downloading and completing Form 2599, which can be found at DRC's website at, www.drc.ohio.gov/web/apa.htm. Completed forms should be scanned and emailed back to DRC at DRC.JudicialRequest@odrc.state.oh.us.

The following article is part of a series related to courts participating in the Supreme Court of Ohio's Bridges Out of Poverty Project. Working to integrate the concepts delineated in Bridges Out of Poverty into various court programs, the overall goal of this project is to develop model court programs within a continuum to serve as learning sites for Ohio communities. More information on Bridges Out of Poverty and the project will be forthcoming in future editions of For the Record.

HOW BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY “CHANGED THE GAME” FOR CLERMONT COUNTY

JUDGE JAMES A. SHRIVER
CLERMONT COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

It is not uncommon for the judicial system to be the primary agent of change for individuals who live with chronic crisis. Those who have been trained in the Bridges Out of Poverty curriculum understand that many individuals live in the tyranny of the moment, meaning they need to act on concrete, immediate problems; they do not have the time or energy to focus on future problems or challenges, or to learn new skills needed to improve their lives. It is well debated among researchers and those who study criminal behavior the extent poverty has on crime. Regardless of the link or contribution, Bridges teaches us that poverty is a painful place to stay.

Those in poverty often cannot stop bad things from happening as one crisis often leads to a pileup of crises in a short amount of time. As a result of living in adversity, they have a difficult time following and making plans. They rarely receive the maximum benefits from resource driven agencies because of a lack of mutual respect, an inability to build trusting relationships and difficulty accessing services. Most importantly to the courts, they have a difficult time learning new skills that help reduce risk factors associated with new crimes.

The focus of this article is not only to recognize the framework of individuals who frequently use the court system, but to encourage the courts to explore and develop Bridges concepts and strategies to enhance day-to-day court operations.

Courts are continuously forced to make procedural changes to comply with administrative rules, statutory requirements for sentencing, and specific research standards that require ongoing procedures and practices to be in place. Ohio courts are known for being progressive in the area of change. The evolving changes, sometimes knowingly and unknowingly, are a result of best practice models and common sense approaches to deal with overcrowded prisons and jails. In the past for example, court systems would have multiple hearings and eventually incarcerate individuals who could not afford to pay court-ordered financial sanctions or fines. Today, court systems allow indigent individuals to perform community service hours to satisfy the payment of an outstanding fine. Furthermore, it is not uncommon practice for courts to modify conditions and sanctions if it will cause undue hardship for the individual.

In 2009, the Clermont County Municipal Court explored how services are delivered to the majority of consumers utilizing judicial and public resources. An initial inventory was conducted of the day-to-day court operational services. Once the services were identified and prioritized, the court evaluated how efficiently and effectively those services were delivered to the consumer. The process was meaningful in determining what strategies and procedures

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were needed to enhance operations. Best practice models were key in changing procedures that assisted to reduce barriers (i.e.: childcare, transportation, crisis management, housing) that in turn reduced unnecessary court hearings by increasing compliance with court orders. Being mindful of the lessons learned from Bridges and the challenges people in poverty face, the court redesigned its organizational structure to more effectively serve its user. The restructuring of services that integrated Bridges concepts helped to streamline procedures to meet individual needs resulting in better outcomes.

Probation

In hopes of producing better outcomes, probation officers were encouraged to become more accommodating to individuals on reporting probation while maintaining a consistent framework of supervision that is respectful and realistic. The probation officers all had a good understanding of the Bridges concepts, but were unsure of the department's philosophy as a whole in regards to the strategy and degree in which the concepts were to be applied. For consistency, the department's policy and procedures were revised.

A modification that was easier to implement into the department's operations included an encouragement of the probation officers to be more flexible with appointment times. Transportation is a common barrier to most individuals on supervision, but even more so for those who are living in chaos and poverty. They lack a support system or the ability to build relationships with family or friends that they can rely on for help in meeting their obligations or improving their life situation. Individuals are now offered the opportunity to receive free-of-charge passes to schedule rides with the county's public transportation system. The passes are often given to individuals to get to their court ordered obligations – probation, treatment, community service, social service agencies and other entities.

Additionally, since this population has difficulty keeping simple obligations and taking care of basic life responsibilities, probation officers were encouraged to be less critical when individuals reported early or late for appointments. For example, individuals reporting early or late for scheduled appointments but demonstrating an effort to comply with keeping their appointments would be seen. Previously, these individuals were required to reschedule their appointments.

Revising and fostering new philosophies in policy and procedures for a department is a process that will take months and for some concepts years. The short-term and long-term benefits of change will eventually save needed correctional monies and jail space while improving the lives of those in poverty.

Assessment & Case Management

In December 2009, the Clermont County OVI Court Program came together with the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board to request grant funds from the Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati to implement enhanced treatment and support services for OVI Court participants. The request for funds came out of an awareness that individuals would benefit from an in-depth assessment at a cost of \$10.00 when first involved with the court system. The funding paid for a full-time certified alcohol and drug counselor to perform needed substance abuse assessments located at the court. The added position eliminated the need for two appointments and provided the court

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CONTRIBUTE TO *FOR THE RECORD!!!*

We are always looking for interesting articles to print in *For the Record*. If you know of a good topic, are willing to write an article, or if you participate in an association, committee, commission or other group covering important information regarding the Ohio or national judicial system, please email Jennie Long at: Jennie.Long@sc.ohio.gov or Jeff Jablonka at: Jeff.Jablonka@sc.ohio.gov to let us know. We will contact you for more information.

staff with immediate feedback for case planning and intervention. The process was streamlined so individuals get immediate access to an assessment appointment resulting in a reduction in the time it takes to engage in treatment; it previously took thirty days or more to get an appointment for an assessment.

The grant assisted in determining eligibility for OVI Court, and it provided the adult probation department with needed substance abuse information to develop meaningful supervision and treatment plans appropriate for sentencing recommendations on pre-sentence investigation reports and other individuals placed on reporting community control. The increased communication between the court and treatment allows for the assessor to consider valuable information collected by the court system which includes risk and needs information to determine the appropriate dose of treatment and intervention. The assessment process helped to identify key barriers such as food, clothing, shelter and transportation.

Since individuals in the court system typically struggle with day-to-day basic needs, enhanced case management services appeared to be critical. In an attempt to effectively serve this population, the local alcohol and drug treatment provider, the Clermont Recovery Center, partnered with the court to provide a full-time case manager position dedicated to work with the adult probation department.

Many probationers are unemployed or have only seasonal work. Nearly all OVI offenders have lost their driving privileges due to legal charges so transportation is a major issue for them, as they live in a rural county with limited public transportation. The Recovery Center and the adult probation department provide Clermont Transportation Connection bus passes for individuals. The case manager has also provided transportation to various appointments, including medical and children protective services visits. It is also not uncommon for probation officers to transport individuals from the probation department to the Recovery Center for scheduled appointments.

The case manager also began monitoring and assisting individuals weekly at the Workforce Resource Center for employment services. Many clients are unemployed or underemployed. They have assisted individuals in picking up food for themselves and their families, and connected them with local charity organizations that provide toys for their children during the holidays. This position has further provided assistance with medication counts, filing for medical and social security benefits as well as meeting with individuals in crisis and coordinating referrals to residential facilities such as the Prospect House and Women's Recovery Center. The case manager also developed a local resource manual to direct individuals to various resources as needed.

The Board requested additional funds from the Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati to allow OVI Court participants to become involved with a family therapist. The Board, along with the court, understood the value of working with families and support systems to increase the likelihood of long-term recovery.

The family component of the grant was added to the individual's treatment due to the understanding that those in poverty place an added importance on relationships and if those relationships are positive and supportive in treatment then the individual has a higher likelihood of success. The Clermont County Municipal Court views family involvement as an important component of recovery and is supportive of this aspect of the treatment process. The family involvement process began slowly and was met with a great deal of resistance from individuals. A large percentage of the individuals stated that their families would not participate due to the many bridges that had been burned by their previous actions. Broadening the understanding of family to include more than biological members was addressed. Individuals then began to see that sponsors, friends, and neighbors also represented family. Gradually, a few members began bringing someone to participate and by June 1, 2009, the Family Relapse Prevention group had begun. This group meets two times per week for eight weeks and a "family" member is required to be present one night per week on the designated Family Night. If an individual has maintained sobriety, has a stable living environment, and appears to have internalized recovery, the individual is then successfully discharged from treatment.

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In one instance, the court ordered an individual who had previously completed treatment to return and meet with a family counselor for individual sessions to deal with a strained family relationship.

Community Service

In 2011, the Clermont County Municipal Court ordered approximately 2,099 misdemeanor individuals to complete 84,886 community service hours. The court routinely sentences misdemeanor individuals to complete community service hours as an alternative to jail to free needed jail space. Several years ago, it was not uncommon for these individuals to be taken back to court for multiple hearings to address issues of non-compliance with the completion of hours. In an attempt to reduce violation hearings, the court examined the entire lifecycle of the individual performing community service.

It was determined that an internal organizational restructuring was needed to produce better outcomes by redesigning procedures based on understanding needs that help reduce barriers to performing hours. The internal changes focused on streamlining necessary resources and prioritized needed services which evolved into making day-to-day business more user friendly for the consumer. Program and procedural changes were made from the beginning when the individual is sentenced to perform community service hours in the county to the end when individual satisfaction surveys are collected.

These program and procedural changes were implemented to better serve a population who commonly feels overwhelmed due to vulnerable and unstable life situations that impede problem solving. They often do not have the resources to plan, do not have reliable transportation or a valid driver's license and are not able to keep scheduled appointments as a result of the tyranny of the moment.

A few examples of how the Bridges concept was applied to the community service program follows:

- To encourage a one stop process, individuals meet with an intake officer immediately after court thus eliminating another appointment. No appointments are necessary and intakes are conducted during weekdays on a first come first serve basis. Individuals who are not able to complete a same day intake are given five (5) business days to register for community service. This approach gives individuals an opportunity to make arrangements to return.
- Each individual is evaluated to ensure that obstacles are identified and potential barriers minimized or removed. Individuals having transportation issues, lack of childcare, little or no family support are encouraged to provide input and suggestions and are often placed at government or non-profit agencies close to home.
- With the work crew operating seven (7) days a week, individuals placed with the work crew are given the flexibility to choose report days. This approach allows the individuals to continue working and not jeopardize regular employment. Work crew employees serve as role models and mentors to participants; often demonstrating appropriate work ethic, project coordination and team work while supervising individuals in the field.
- To encourage compliance, individuals are able to consult with agency supervisors to coordinate a work schedule that allows report times to revolve around employment, family responsibilities, and treatment obligations. If individuals are making progress towards completing hours, extensions are given to allow more time for completion. In an attempt to increase compliance, warning letters are sent as reminders before probation violations are filed.
- In some cases, individuals may have medical limitations that prohibit placement. The community service staff obtains pertinent medical information as part of the intake process and if applicable will request that a physician statement of limitation form be completed by the primary care doctor and returned for further review.
- The community service department prepares daily court reports for the judges or magistrate detailing

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specific case information that addresses individual non-compliance that is mindful of the individual's barriers to performing hours.

- The community service department serves both Municipal and Common Pleas Courts and on occasion will provide courtesy supervision for neighboring counties. Courtesy supervision allows individuals to complete community service within their residential community which in turn alleviates barriers to success. This also allows for a consistent and shared resource for all adult individuals ordered to perform community service.

Summary

The Clermont County Municipal Court realized that individuals who utilize court services live in the tyranny of the moment, meaning they need to act on concrete and immediate problems. They do not have the time or energy to focus on future problems or challenges. Typically, they move from one crisis to another, impeding new learning that is needed to improve lives and to become self-sufficient. Those who have been trained in Bridges concepts and strategies know that improved court operations will better assist and enhance judicial and public resources. Courts are encouraged to nurture, evaluate and improve court operations by becoming streamlined or user friendly by using systematic strategies that reduce barriers.

The court continues to improve court operations on an on-going basis by revising and modifying policies and procedures and partnering with local resources to enhance programming. It was clear that some day-to-day operations needed to become more accommodating to effectively reach and serve individuals utilizing probation services. Probation officers were trained in Bridges and encouraged to be more flexible with reporting requirements which includes appointment times. Probation policy and procedures were revised to reflect the Bridges concepts to help improve relationship and outcomes.

The OVI Court understood that in-depth substance abuse assessments were the key to early intervention and the sharing of information was important to the development of meaningful treatment plans. The case management services were essential in helping the court to address basic life needs of individuals to improve their situation. The Family Component was a needed model that improves relationships and fosters healthy support system to maintaining long term recovery for OVI and other individuals in the court system that suffer from addiction.

The community service program recognized that an internal organizational restructuring was needed to reduce barriers of individuals required to perform hours. The restructuring allowed individuals to perform court-ordered hours easier and provided more flexibility as to how those hours are performed. Overall, the Clermont County Municipal Court reports a slightly higher than average graduation rate of 70% for OVI Court and a 68% average completion rate for community service hours. Many factors associated with better outcomes in criminal justice programs are primarily the core principles of Evidence-Based Practices. However, integrating the concepts delineated from Bridges including developing best practices models for new and improved court programs cannot be underscored as to their importance.

As a model court program selected by the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Clermont County Municipal Court is still examining and identifying the benefits associated with the Bridges model. We are encouraged with the initial results and are continuing to explore the Bridges model with a community continuum by partnering with outside agencies.

Bridges Out of Poverty has "changed the game" for the Clermont County Municipal Court by enhancing and streamlining court operations needed to better deliver services. Not only has the Bridges project "changed the game" for our court system, it has helped to "change the lives" for those individuals who utilize its services.



OSBA ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR INNOVATIVE COURT PRACTICES AWARD

The Ohio State Bar Association Judicial Administration and Legal Reform Committee is accepting nominations for the Innovative Court Practices Award. The purpose of this award is to bring greater visibility to exemplary programs in Ohio's courts and facilitate the transfer of those programs to other courts in the state.

Any individual may submit a nomination along with a completed nomination form to the OSBA Judicial Administration and Legal Reform Committee. The committee will review all nominations and select one program which is deemed to be an outstanding example of innovation. All submitted programs or practices which are determined to meaningfully enhance the work of the judicial system will be appropriately publicized.

The following criteria will be considered:

- Newness—Will the program be between nine months and five years old by the submission deadline?
- Creativity—Does the program represent a new and creative approach to solving a problem or issue?
- Effectiveness—Has the program achieved its goals and purposes to this point?
- Transferability—Could the program be easily transferred to other courts?
- Significance—Does the program address significant issues or problems which are regional in scope?

The recipient of this award will be recognized at the annual meeting of the Ohio Judicial Conference. Visit www.ohiobar.org to download a nomination form. Nominations should be sent to Jessica Emch at jemch@ohiobar.org by May 31, 2012.

OHIO STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
Judicial Administration & Legal Reform Committee
Innovative Court Programs and Practices Award

NOMINATION FORM

Name of Court: _____

Name of Program: (if any): _____

Contact Person for Program: _____
Name

Title Telephone E-mail

Please provide a two-sentence description of the program. (This description may be used if the program is chosen for an honorable mention or the 2012 Successful Program List): _____

Briefly describe the issues or problems that the program was designed to address: _____

Why is the program considered to be creative or innovative? _____

Nominator: _____
Name Telephone E-Mail

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS: Please provide additional information which addresses: how long the program has been operational; how is the program funded; what were the start up costs; what is the annual operational cost; and what additional equipment or software was necessary to implement the program. Also, please briefly describe how the program is effective in addressing the defined problem or issue. You may attach or submit any other additional information or material which describes the program.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: May 31, 2012.

SUBMIT TO: Judicial Administration & Legal Reform Committee, Ohio State Bar Association, 1700 Lake Shore Drive, Columbus, OH 43204 or Jessica Emch at jemch@ohiobar.org.

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO JUDICIAL COLLEGE

2012 Course Schedule

(for Judges, Magistrates, Acting Judges, Court Personnel, & Judicial Candidates)
(phone) 614.387.9445 (fax) 614.387.9449 (e-mail) Patti.Reid@sc.ohio.gov

<u>DATE</u>		<u>COURSE</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
MAY				
3	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (5 of 12)	Attorneys	Holiday Inn French Quarter - Perrysburg - Toledo
3 - 4	Thu - Fri	Capital Cases	Judges	Embassy Suites Dublin - Columbus
4	Fri	Sex Offender Course	Probation Officers	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
7 - 11	Mon - Fri	PO Academy Firearms Module	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
10	Thu	Domestic Relations Court Personnel Course	Domestic Relations Court	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
11	Fri	Municipal Course (1 of 2): Debtor - Creditor	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
18	Fri	Civil Procedures by the Numbers Part III	Judges & Magistrates	Crowne Plaza Dublin - Columbus
22	Tue	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (9 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
23	Wed	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (10 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
JUNE				
1	Fri	Judicial Candidates Seminar (1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)	Judicial Candidates	Ohio Judicial Center - Columbus
5 - 7	Tue - Thu	Ohio Associations of Juvenile/Probate/Domestic Relations Judges Summer Conference	Judges*	Bertram Inn - Aurora
8	Fri	Computer Lab - Personal Technology	Judges & Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
12	Tue	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (11 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)	Attorneys	Hilton Akron/Fairlawn
13	Wed	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (12 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Hilton Akron/Fairlawn
13	Wed	Plan-Project Meeting (1 of 2)	Probation Officers	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
14	Thu	Plan-Project Meeting (2 of 2)	Probation Officers	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
14 - 15	Thu - Fri	Ohio Courts of Appeals Judges Association Summer Conference (OCAJA)	Judges*	Cherry Valley Lodge - Newark
15	Fri	Municipal (2 of 2): Debtor - Creditor	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Embassy Suites Airport - Columbus
20 - 22	Wed - Fri	Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association Summer Conference (OCPJA)	Judges*	Kalahari - Sandusky
21	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (6 of 12)	Attorneys	Mansfield
28 - 29	Thu - Fri	Juvenile Court Clerks Course	Juvenile Court Clerks	Embassy Suites Dublin - Columbus

JULY

9 - 13	Mon - Fri	Juvenile Detention TOT	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
10	Tue	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (7 of 12)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
11	Wed	Magistrate Practice: General Division	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
11	Wed	Magistrate Practice: Juvenile Course	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
12	Thu	Law, Life & Literature (Magistrate Practice)	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
12	Thu	Magistrate Practice: General Interest	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
13	Fri	Magistrate Practice: Business Entities Issues in Municipal and County Courts	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
13	Fri	Magistrate Practice: Domestic Relations Course	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
13	Fri	Magistrate Practice: Probate Course	Magistrates	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
16 - 18	Mon - Wed	Association of Municipal/County Judges of Ohio (AMCJO) Summer Meeting	Judges*	Cherry Valley Lodge - Newark
25	Wed	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (13 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Hilton Garden Perrysburg - Toledo
25	Wed	PO Academy: PSI Writing	Probation Officers	Doubletree Worthington - Columbus
26	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (14 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Hilton Garden Perrysburg - Toledo
26	Thu	PO Academy: Search and Seizure Classroom	Probation Officers	Doubletree Worthington - Columbus
27	Fri	PO Academy: Verbal Tactics	Probation Officers	Doubletree Worthington - Columbus
31 - 1	Tue - Wed	Annual Planning Meeting	Invited Participants	Columbus

AUGUST 2012

3	Fri	Delinquency & Unruly	Judges & Magistrates	Video Teleconference
6 - 10	Mon - Fri	Parent Project TOT	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
7	Tue	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (8 of 12)	Attorneys	Wyndham Garden Dayton South
14 - 16	Tue - Thu	PO Academy: Search & Seizure Drills	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
15	Wed	PO Academy: Special Populations	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
16	Thu	Judicial Candidates Seminar (1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)	Judicial Candidates	Ohio Judicial Center - Columbus
17	Fri	Computer Lab - ELR	Judges & Magistrates	Ohio Judicial Center - Columbus
23	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (15 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Holiday Inn Boardman - Youngstown
24	Fri	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (16 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Holiday Inn Boardman - Youngstown

SEPTEMBER 2012

5 - 7	Wed - Fri	CMP 2014 Court Performance Standards - Courtools	CMP Students	Embassy Suites Airport - Columbus
6	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (9 of 12)	Attorneys	Deercreek State Park - Mt. Sterling
7	Fri	Abuse, Neglect, Dependency	Judges & Magistrates	Video Teleconference
12	Wed	Ohio Courts of Appeals Judges Association (OCAJA) Fall Conference	Judges*	Hilton Polaris - Columbus

SEPTEMBER 2012

13 - 14	Thu - Fri	Ohio Judicial Conference Annual Meeting	Judges*	Hilton Polaris - Columbus
14	Fri	Court Reporters Course	Court Personnel	Embassy Suites - Columbus
19	Wed	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (17 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
19 - 21	Wed - Fri	CMP 2013 Level II Module IV: Visioning and Strategic Planning	CMP 2013 Tier II Class	Embassy Suites Airport - Columbus
20	Thu	Acting Judge Course (2 of 4): Avoiding Potential Minefields	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Holiday Inn French Quarter Perrysburg - Toledo
20	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (18 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
25	Tue	PO Academy: Substance Abuse	Probation Officers	Crowne Plaza North - Columbus
26	Wed	PO Academy: Street Smart on Drugs	Probation Officers	Crowne Plaza North - Columbus
27	Thu	Organizational Culture (1 of 2)	Probation Officers	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
28	Fri	Clerks Course	Court Clerks	Doubletree Worthington - Columbus
28	Fri	Organizational Culture (2 of 2)	Probation Officers	Quest Conference Center - Columbus

OCTOBER

3 - 5	Wed - Fri	CMP 2012 Module VI: Managing Human Resources	CMP Participants	Ohio Judicial Center - Columbus
3 - 5	Wed - Fri	Ohio Association of Magistrates (OAM) Fall Conference	Magistrates*	Crowne Plaza North - Columbus
9 - 10	Tue - Wed	Mentally Ill Youth in the Courts	Probation Officers	Crowne Plaza North - Columbus
10	Wed	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (19 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Wyndham Garden Dayton South
11	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (20 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Wyndham Garden Dayton South
12	Fri	Juvenile Traffic	Judges & Magistrates	Video Teleconference
15 - 19	Mon - Fri	Juvenile Detention TOT	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
18	Thu	Constitutional Law	Judges	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
19	Fri	Judicial Ethics and Access to Justice & Fairness	Judges	Embassy Suites Beachwood - Cleveland
23	Tue	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (10 of 12)	Attorneys	Holiday Inn Boardman - Youngstown
24 - 25	Wed - Thu	Faculty Development	Invited Participants	Ohio Judicial Center - Columbus
26	Fri	Municipal Course: Damages	Magistrates	Video Teleconference
26	Fri	Pretrial Services Course	Court Personnel	Columbus

NOVEMBER

1	Thu	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (21 of 24) (1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Athens
1	Thu	PO Academy: Basic Defensive Tactics (2 of 2)	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
2	Fri	General Division Course	Magistrates & Judges	Embassy Suites - Columbus
2	Fri	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (22 of 24) (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Athens

NOVEMBER

2	<i>Fri</i>	PO Academy: Advanced Defensive Tactics (2 of 2)	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
8	<i>Thu</i>	Acting Judge Course (3 of 4): Avoiding Potential Minefields	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Holiday Inn Strongsville - Cleveland
14	<i>Wed</i>	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (11 of 12)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
14	<i>Wed</i>	Probate Seminar	Magistrates & Judges	Video Teleconference
15	<i>Thu</i>	New Americans	Court Personnel, Judges & Magistrates	Doubletree Worthington - Columbus
16	<i>Fri</i>	Evidence	Judges	Embassy Suites Airport - Columbus
16	<i>Fri</i>	Judicial Transitions	Probation Officers	Webinar
30	<i>Fri</i>	Magistrate Ethics	Magistrates	Video Teleconference

DECEMBER

4	<i>Tue</i>	Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges (OADRJ) Winter Conference	Judges*	Embassy Suites Dublin - Columbus
5 - 7	<i>Wed - Fri</i>	Defensive Tactics Faculty	Probation Officers	OPOTA - London
5 - 7	<i>Wed - Fri</i>	Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association (OCPJA) Winter Conference	Judges*	Embassy Suites Dublin - Columbus
6	<i>Thu</i>	Acting Judge Course (4 of 4): Avoiding Potential Minefields	Magistrates, Judges & Acting Judges	Crowne Plaza Dublin - Columbus
6 - 7	<i>Thu - Fri</i>	Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges (OAJCJ) Winter Meeting	Judges*	Hilton Polaris - Columbus
10 - 14	<i>Mon – Fri</i>	New Judge Orientation Part I	New Judges	Embassy Suites Dublin - Columbus
11	<i>Tue</i>	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (23 of 24) (1:00 - 4:30 p.m.)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
12	<i>Wed</i>	Guardian Ad Litem 3 Hr Course (24 of 24). (8:30 a.m. - noon)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus
14	<i>Fri</i>	Ethics	Judges	Video Teleconference
18	<i>Tue</i>	Guardian Ad Litem 6 Hr Pre-Service Course (12 of 12)	Attorneys	Quest Conference Center - Columbus

TO VIEW THE MOST UPDATED VERSION OF THE COURSE CALENDAR

PLEASE VISIT THE JUDICIAL COLLEGE WEBSITE AT

www.supremecourt.ohio.gov

JUDICIAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

AMCJO

OJC Liaison: Kristin Schultz

The Association of Municipal/County Judges of Ohio had a great winter conference. The association met at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, OH from February 1st-3rd. The educational sessions featured presentations on the following: legislative update, HB 86, veterans and the criminal justice system, judicial ethics, sealing of convictions and dismissed cases, summary judgment, procedures/privileges/penalties, U.S. and Ohio Supreme Court criminal case law update, ORAS, and court administration issues.

During their winter meeting, the Association of Municipal/County Judges of Ohio elected their officers and trustees. The officers and trustees were sworn in by Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton. The new slate of officers and trustees for the association is as follows:

Officers

President

Judge Mark B. Reddin

1st Vice President

Judge John T. Rohrs, III

2nd Vice-President

Judge Beth Root

Secretary

Judge William A. Grim

Treasurer

Judge Michael T. Brandt

Past President

Judge James A. Shriver

Trustees

Judge Teresa Lyn Ballinger

Judge Chad Lee Carey

Judge Gary Dumm

Judge Carrie E. Glaeden

Judge Michael R. Goulding

Judge Carl Sims Henderson

Judge Gary W. Herman

Judge Deborah A. LeBarron

Judge Stephen B. McIlvaine

Judge Barbara R. Oswick

Judge Fanon A. Rucker

Judge John B. Street

Judge David Sunderman

Judge Diane S.A. Vettori

Judge Michael T. Brandt was the recipient of the Association of Municipal/County Judges of Ohio's President's Award. The award was presented to Judge Brandt by Judge Mark B. Reddin, AMCJO President, recognizing his dedication and service to the association.

OCPJA

OJC Liaison: Kristin Schultz

The Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association had a great winter conference. The association met at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, OH from December 7th through December 9th. The educational sessions featured presentations on the following: *National Union Fire v. Wuerth*, HB 86, Veterans and our courts, criminal law update, summary judgment motions, prescription abuse, merger, affidavits of disqualification, voice spectrography analysis, pro se defendants, visiting judge assignments, and dealing with impaired attorneys.

During their winter meeting, the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association elected their officers and trustees. The officers and trustees were sworn in by Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor. The new slate of officers and trustees for the association is as follows:

Officers

President

Judge Peter J. Kontos

Secretary

Judge Mark K. Wiest

President Elect

Judge Howard H. Harcha, III

Treasurer

Judge Roger B. Wilson

First Vice-President

Judge Jonathan P. Hein

Past President

Judge Reginald J. Routson

Second Vice-President

Judge Guy L. Reece II

Trustees

Judge Randall L. Basinger

Judge Howard E. Hall

Judge Linda J. Jennings

Judge Jody M. Luebbbers

Judge Brett M. Spencer

Judge Elinore Marsh Stormer

Third Vice-President

Judge Thomas M. Marcelain

Fourth Vice-President

Judge David T. Matia

Judge Janet R. Burnside was the recipient of the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association's President's Award. The award was presented to Judge Burnside by Judge Reginald J. Routson, OCPJA Past President, recognizing her dedication and service to the association. Additionally, the Golden Gavel awards were distributed to the following individuals recognizing ten or more years of service on the common pleas general division bench:

Judge Patricia A. Cosgrove, *retired*, Summit Co. Common Pleas Court

Judge Frederick W. Crow, II, *retired*, Meigs Co. Common Pleas Court

Judge Thomas H. Gerken, *retired*, Hocking Co. Common Pleas Court

Judge Timothy J. McGinty, *retired*, Cuyahoga Co. Common Pleas Court

Judge A.J. Wagner, *retired*, Montgomery Co. Common Pleas Court

Judge William W. Young, *retired*, Warren Co. Common Pleas Court

OCAJA

OJC Liaison: Jennie Long

The Ohio Courts of Appeals Judges Association 2011 Fall Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 7th at the Hilton Columbus Polaris. Topics on the education agenda included:

- New Media and the Courts
- Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts
- U.S. and Ohio Supreme Courts Criminal Case Law Update

The following were elected to serve as officers for 2012:

Chief Justice	Judge Sheila Farmer, Fifth District Court of Appeals
Chief Justice Elect	Judge Stephen W. Powell, Twelfth District Court of Appeals
Secretary/Treasurer	Judge Gary Tyack, Tenth District Court of Appeals
Past Chief Justice	Judge Gene Donofrio, Seventh District Court of Appeals

OAPJ

OJC Liaison: Jennie Long

The Ohio Association of Probate Judges is comprised of all judges in Ohio with probate court jurisdiction. Each county in Ohio has one judge with probate court jurisdiction with the exception of Cuyahoga and Marion Counties which each have two judges with probate jurisdiction.

The OAPJ is preparing for the summer educational and business meeting for judges as well as planning for the annual seminars for probate court investigators and deputy clerks.

OAJCJ

OJC Liaison: Jennie Long

The Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges Winter Conference was held on Thursday and Friday, December 1-2, 2011 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin.

- Mental Health Disabilities, Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- HB86
- Case Law Updates
- Alternative/ Differential Response
- Ohio Department of Youth Services Update
- Update on Detention Officer Training
- Hot Topics in Juvenile Law

In partnership with the Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges and the Governor's Council on Juvenile Justice, the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) presented the Third Annual Community Recognition Awards on December 1, 2011. These awards (the J. Thomas Mullen Achievement Award; the Thomas J. Stickrath Re-entry Award; the Community Award; and the Director's Award, highlight youth who have done an outstanding job of turning their lives around, and also recognizes community partners for providing valuable services to youth.

OADRJ

OJC Liaison: Jennie Long

The Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges Winter Seminar was held on Tuesday, December 7th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin with the following educational topics:

- Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts for Children with Mental or Physical Disabilities in Domestic Relations Court
- Domestic Relations Case Law Analysis
- Mental & Emotional Impairment of Attorneys in the Courtroom
- Developmentally Appropriate Parenting Time Plans

The following will serve as 2012 association officers:

President

Judge Denise Herman McColley

Treasurer

Judge Christopher Geer

President-Elect

Judge Richard P. Wright

Immediate Past Presidents

Judge Jeffrey A. Hooper

Judge Steven L. Hurley

Vice President

Judge Diane M. Palos

Trustees

Judge Craig R. Baldwin

Judge Tiffany E. Beckman

Judge Colleen A. Falkowski

Judge Diane M. Palos

Judge Dana S. Preisse

Judge Beth A. Smith

Magistrate Pam Heringhaus

Secretary

Judge Dan W. Favreau

OAPJ, OADRJ, OAJCJ Annual Summer Conference

OJC Liaison: Jennie Long

The three associations are busy preparing for the upcoming summer conference. To register for the conference go to: www.ohiojudges.org and login to be directed to the Judges Resource page for a link to the registration packet. Education topics will include:

Ohio Association of Probate Judges

6 total hours of Continuing Judicial Education credits have been applied for by the Judicial College (4 General hours and 2 hours Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts)

- Legislative Review
- Case Law Update
- Removal of Counsel and/or Fiduciary
- Financial Exploitation of the Elderly
- Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts for Substance Abusers (S.B. 117)
- Access to Justice and Fairness in the Courts for Pro Se Litigants in Probate Court
- Niche Problem Areas – Medicaid Recovery/Charitable Trusts
- Hot Topics in Probate Law

Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges

6 total hours of Continuing Judicial Education credits have been applied for by the Judicial College

- Civil Procedure for Civil Protection Orders
- Professionalism From the Bench
- Parenting Plans, Domestic Relations Forms, and other DR Hot Topics
- Safe and Together: Working together to make good decisions for children impacted by domestic violence perpetrators

Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges

This session is also open to probate and domestic relations judges

2.75 total hours of Continuing Judicial Education credits have been applied for by the Judicial College

- Bridges Out of Poverty for Judges

Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges

2.75 total hours of Continuing Judicial Education credits have been applied for by the Judicial College

- Legislative/Case Law Updates
- Stewards of Children: Working With the Community to Decrease Child Abuse from the Bench
- Legislative Actions Effecting Juvenile Court Proceedings

This year, in addition to the golf outing and trap shoot, arrangements have been made for fly fishing, and you also have the opportunity to attend an Akron Aeros ballgame. Details about all of these activities and others in the area are included in the registration packet. The annual directory of judges with probate, juvenile and domestic relations jurisdiction will be available at the summer conference. If you have questions or need more information please call one of the host judges: Judge Paula C. Guilitto, Portage Co. Domestic Relations Court at 330-297-3880 or Judge Tim Grendell, Geauga Co. Probate/Juvenile Court at 440-279-1830.

OJC CITIZENS GUIDE BROCHURES

How to Order

The Judicial Conference has created a series of brochures to help judges inform the public about Ohio's judicial system. We have seven tri-fold brochures with general information about aspects of the judicial system and one 25-page guide to small claims court. The back panel of each brochure has space for a standard size mailing label with contact information for a local court or judge.

Tri-Fold Series

The Citizens Guide tri-fold series consists of seven of the following brochures:

- Jury Service
- Grand Jury Service
- Legal Terminology
- Electing Judges
- Representing Yourself
- Ohio Courts
- Mediation

The brochures can be ordered in bulk at a low cost of 15 or 20 cents per copy, depending on the number ordered.

Small Claims Court Guide

The Small Claims Court brochure is a new edition of a brochure that was previously published by the Ohio State Bar Foundation. It has been updated and redesigned.

This guide can be ordered for 58 cents per copy.

Ordering Information

Individual brochures are available for download at www.ohiojudges.org on the "Publications" webpage. You may also place your orders for large quantities of the Citizens Guide Brochures on this same page or retrieve a downloadable order form on this page that can be faxed.

You may also contact Trina Bennington at Trina.Bennington@sc.ohio.gov or 614-387-9750 to obtain ordering information or for general questions regarding the brochures.

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