



December 9, 2019

**Legislation and Policy
in the News:**

[Ohio Trying to Reduce Parole Officer Caseloads; Toledo Blade, November 26, 2019](#)

[Ohio Governor to Unveil Simplified, Speedier Pardon Process; Associated Press, December 3, 2019](#)

The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. It is the primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open, and effective administration of justice.

Legislative News: Two Week Review

- [SB 239](#) (Sen. Manning) **Sexting**, introduced 11.20.2019. The bill prohibits the electronic dissemination of a nude photograph (also known as “sexting”) between two juveniles. For anyone younger than 19, the offense is a misdemeanor requiring diversion. The bill requires all juvenile, municipal, county, and common pleas courts to utilize a diversion programs in these cases.
- [HB 431](#) (Reps. Abrams, Carfagna) **Sexual Exploitation Database**, introduced 11.26.19. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to create and maintain a Sexual Exploitation Database. Whenever a person is convicted of certain prostitution offenses, the clerk of courts must send the offender’s record to the Attorney General. The database does not require registration; names stay on the database for 5 years, unless there is a repeat offense. This database is in addition to any sex offender registration that may be required.
- In [State v. Allen, Slip Opinion No. 2019-Ohio-4757](#), decided on 11.21.19, the Supreme Court ruled that a bank that cashes a forged check and then credits the depositor’s account is a victim to which the forger may be required to pay restitution.
- In [State v. Gwynne, Slip Opinion No. 2019-Ohio-4761](#), decided on 11.21.19, the Supreme Court ruled that R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12 have no application to consecutive-sentencing review in a court of appeals, i.e. when reviewing a sentence, courts of appeals are not authorized under RC 2929.11 nor 2929.12 to review a decision to stack sentences consecutively.
- A [memorandum in support of jurisdiction](#) was submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court on 10.28.19 to ask that the Court determine whether a denial of a CQE requires judicial findings.
- The **Ohio Community Corrections Act** was passed nearly 4 decades ago in an effort to divert felony offenders from state prisons and provide sanctions and services for these offenders locally. The University of Cincinnati has finalized its Community Correction Act program study and the [final report](#) is now posted on the UC Center for Criminal Justice Research reports website.
- The Supreme Court has updated its online information about [fingerprinting and criminal reporting requirements](#) with matrices for each jurisdiction, flowcharts of the reporting process, a list of offenses that requirement fingerprints to be taken, and resources on audit compliance standards. A webinar series (1.14.20, 2.26.20) will cover this information; questions? Contact Kyana.Pierson@sc.ohio.gov.
- The **Ohio Jury Instructions for Self Defense** have been updated and are available on our [website](#). Please email Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov if you have trouble accessing them.
- **Did You Know?** Every year Common Pleas Judges are responsible for appointing members to their county’s [Veterans Service Commissions](#). This duty is important: Veterans Service Commissioners have authority over large budgets and hire civil service employees. For more on the process and your role, please review the [guidelines](#) available on the OJC website.

For a complete list of bills & the latest issue of **BillBoard**, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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