



January 26, 2026

In Case You Missed It:

Ohio Supreme Court Report "Advancing Timeliness in Ohio Courts"
Highlights Case Flow and Timeliness

Ohio Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on Children and Families Published "Planning for Parenting Time: Ohio's Guide for Parents Living Apart"

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



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• [SB 56](#) (Sen. Huffman) **Recreational Marijuana** and [HB 247](#) (Rep. Miller, K.) **Dangerous Dogs** were signed into law late in 2025. The Enactment Summaries are available on the [OJC website](#). Both bills have an effective date of 3.20.26, although Ohioans for Cannabis Choice is initiating a referendum of SB 56, and has filed petition language with the Attorney General, which is the first step in the process. If the group is successful in obtaining the requisite number of signatures, then pursuant to Article 2, Section 1c of the Ohio Constitution, the effective date of the bill is stayed until the referendum vote, which will be held during the November general election.

• [HB 631](#) (Reps. Ghanbari, Miller, K.) **Underage Marijuana Use Prohibitions**, introduced 12.17.25. If a person is charged with violating 3796.06 (G)(1) [underage purchase, use, possession of marijuana], a court may order the juvenile into a diversion program and hold the complaint in abeyance. If the juvenile completes the diversion program satisfactorily, the complaint is to be dismissed and the record sealed. A child is ineligible for participation in such a diversion program if the child has previously been diverted.

• A dismissed lawsuit must be refiled within one year of the date of dismissal, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in [Sauter v. Integrity Cycles, L.L.C.](#) (Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-88). On 1.15.26, the court reversed a 10th District Court of Appeals decision that allowed Thomas Sauter to extend the one-year refiling period by beginning the count on the day *following* the case's voluntary dismissal.

• A party does not have 3 additional days to object to a magistrate's decision when the clerk of court sends the decision by U.S. mail or through a commercial carrier. Civ.R. 6(D) does not extend the time a party has to object to a magistrate's decision, the Ohio Supreme Court of Ohio ruled in [Eagleston v. Wood](#), Slip Opinion No. 2025-Ohio-5292 on 11.26.25.

• Applications are still available from BCI Grants for [electronic reporting](#), [disposition recovery](#), and [LiveScan fingerprint devices](#). Submit fully completed applications and any other supporting information to the relevant email address at the Attorney General's Office. Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and funding awards will be determined every 90 days, until the grant funds are exhausted.

• Beginning 3.1.26, the Ohio Public Defender will require that all **appointed counsel bills** be submitted through the [Court-Appointed Billing System](#). You can learn how CABS will replace paper billing by attending one of several virtual webinars (2.4.26, 2.12.26, 2.18.26, and 2.26.26). In addition, the Supreme Court is hosting a Court Café on 1.27.26 – registration is through [OhioCourtEDU](#).

• **Did you know?** The Ohio Judicial Conference updates the [Exemptions to Garnishment](#) every three years, per the Ohio Revised Code. They are then also published in the [Register of Ohio](#). The OJC last updated these figures in 2025. If your court provides forms for order of garnishment, please make sure you have the most updated monetary amounts.

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



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