



September 22, 2025

***In Case You Missed It:***

[The 5th Fairness Challenge will run October 6-10, 2025; Register to Participate](#)

*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.*

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- [HB 393](#) (Reps. Brewer, Click) **CBCFs; ID Cards**, referred to Committee, 9.15.25. The bill requires CBCFs to assist inmates in obtaining state identification cards prior to release.
- [HB 441](#) (Reps. Mathews, Stewart) **Libel and Slander**, referred to Committee, 9.15.25. The bill provides that for purposes of the one-year limitations period for libel or slander, the cause of action starts from publication of the libelous matter or when the slanderous words were spoken, regardless of when the aggrieved party discovered the libelous matter or slanderous words.
- [HB 446](#) (Reps. Mathews, Stewart) **Probate and Trust Law**, introduced 9.15.25. The bill is a product of the OSBA's Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Section that will make changes to the Fiduciary Claims Statute, the Ohio Trust Code, the Ohio Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act and the Uniform Power of Attorney Act.
- [HB 447](#) (Rep. Stewart) **Caps on Civil Damages**, introduced 9.15.25. The bill increases the dollar-amount caps on noneconomic damages and punitive or exemplary damages in civil actions and provides a procedure for the Department of Taxation to make annual adjustments of those caps based on the consumer price index.
- [HB 457](#) (Reps. Daniels, Williams) **Politically-Motivated Violent Crimes**, introduced 9.17.25. The bill creates new aggravated murder offenses for political motivation; creates a mandatory prison term for politically motivated offenses of violence; and adds "political motivation" to sentencing factors for felonies and misdemeanors.
- [HB 459](#) (Reps. Gross, Williams) **Moving Human Remains**, introduced 9.17.25. The bill creates an offense and specification related to moving or removing human remains. The offense has no statute of limitations.
- [Proposed changes](#) to the **Rules of Appellate Procedure, Rules of Civil Procedure, Rules of Criminal Procedure, and Rules of Juvenile Procedure** have been published for public comment. [Rules of Superintendence](#) are being restructured into the Rules of Practice and Procedure. Comments due to [RuleAmendments@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:RuleAmendments@sc.ohio.gov) by 10.24.25.
- **Reminder:** [Sup.R.5\(F\)](#) is effective as of 9.1.25 and requires a local rule on reporting to law enforcement. The local rule must establish procedures and timelines for obtaining and submitting fingerprints and reporting information regarding protection orders; establish procedures and timelines for reporting information to the BMV and DPS; establish procedures to ensure completeness and accuracy of records in the event of an audit by state, local, BCI or FBI auditors. [Guidance](#) provided by the Supreme Court includes sample local rules, reporting templates for fingerprinting and protection orders, and procedures for sealed and expunged records.
- There are **grants available from BCI** for [electronic reporting](#), for [disposition recovery](#) and for LiveScan [fingerprinting devices](#) (either for the court itself or to pass along to a law enforcement agency).

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



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