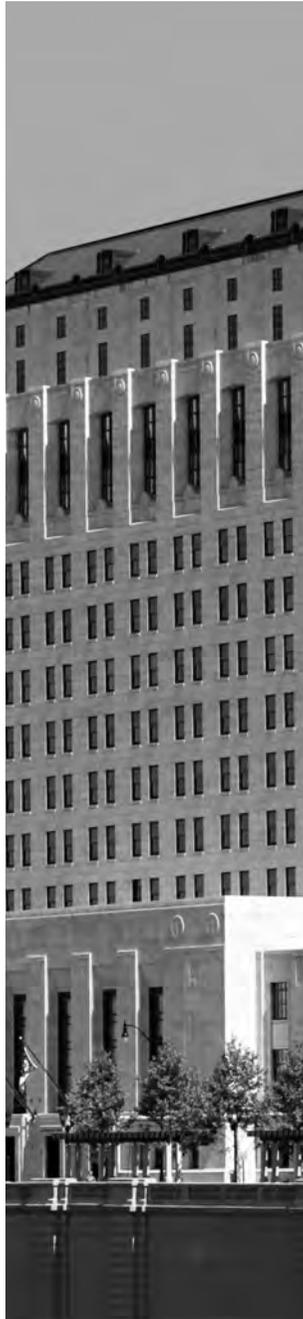


THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO



ANNUAL
REPORT
2014



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ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Maureen O'Connor
Chief Justice

Paul E. Pfeifer
Terrence O'Donnell
Judith Ann Lanzinger
Sharon L. Kennedy
Judith L. French
William M. O'Neill
Justices

Steven C. Hollon
Administrative Director
(Jan. 1, 2014 - April 29, 2014)

Mindi L. Wells
Interim Administrative Director
(April 30, 2014 - Dec. 31, 2014)





DEAR OHIOANS,

In 2014, the Supreme Court of Ohio celebrated an anniversary in a beautifully restored building.

A decade earlier, for the first time in its history, the Supreme Court moved into a home of its own. Before 2004, the court either shared quarters with the legislative branch in the Statehouse or the executive branch in Rhodes State Office Tower.

The court commemorated the occasion by holding an inaugural courthouse symposium in May. The event served to encourage community efforts to save historic county courthouses throughout the state before they fall into disrepair and their treasures are lost to time forever. That almost happened to the building the Supreme Court now calls home.

The event also marked the premier of a new documentary about the history behind the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center. “Justice Finds a Home” was produced by the Ohio Channel to document the life of the structure.

The building opened in 1933 as the Ohio Departments Building, but decades later sat unused until the late Chief Justice Moyer saw the building’s potential as the first facility to solely house Ohio’s judiciary. The film includes never-before-seen interviews with Chief Justice Moyer and with the artisans who restored the building to its former glory.

In this 2014 Annual Report, you will read about this historic event, as well as perennial events such as the Forum on the Law, the off-site court sessions, bar admission ceremonies, and many others.

In these pages, you will also find information about many other developments, activities, and accomplishments by the Supreme Court justices and staff, including a series of technological advances to ensure the fair and efficient administration of justice.

Those who attend meetings here, school children who tour the building, and the professional staff who work here all leave with a sense of awe at the art and architecture within these walls. If you’ve never visited us in Columbus, I encourage you to wait no longer. You won’t regret it.

Thank you for supporting our efforts.

God bless,

Maureen O’Connor
Chief Justice

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10 Years in the
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Ohio Judicial Center



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SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

MAUREEN O'CONNOR, Chief Justice

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor became the 10th chief justice in Ohio history in 2011 and the first woman to lead the state's judicial branch. Since taking office, she has led significant reforms and improvements in the Ohio judicial system, including establishing a task force to examine court funding statewide, creating a committee to examine the administration of the death penalty, and proposing improvements to strengthen judicial elections in Ohio.

PAUL E. PFEIFER, Justice

Elected in 1992, Justice Paul E. Pfeifer is the senior member of the Ohio Supreme Court. He grew up on his family's dairy farm near Bucyrus, and still lives down the road, where he raises Black Angus cattle. He served in both houses of the Ohio General Assembly, as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee for 10 years, and he crafted the legislation creating the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority.

TERRENCE O'DONNELL, Justice

Since joining the Ohio Supreme Court in 2003, Justice Terrence O'Donnell has led statewide efforts to increase professionalism among lawyers and judges. Previously, he served on the common pleas and appellate benches and worked as a school teacher. He also served as chairman of the Ohio Legal Rights Service Commission, which oversees the protection and advocacy of the developmentally disabled and mentally ill statewide.

JUDITH ANN LANZINGER, Justice

After 27 years on the bench and now serving her second term on the Ohio Supreme Court, Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger is the only person ever elected to all four levels of the Ohio judiciary. She maintains an educational blog about the court, *justicejudy.blogspot.com*, and is the 150th justice and seventh woman to serve on the Supreme Court. She also was recognized for her 12 years of service on the faculty of the National Judicial College.

SHARON L. KENNEDY, Justice

A former Butler County Domestic Relations Court judge, Sharon L. Kennedy won election to an unexpired term on the Supreme Court in November 2012 and was elected to her first full term on Nov. 4, 2014. She served on the bench in Butler County from 1999 to 2012, where, as administrative judge, she improved its case management system to ensure the timely resolution of cases for families and children. Before becoming a judge, she was special counsel to the attorney general and a part-time magistrate. She began her career as a police officer.

JUDITH L. FRENCH, Justice

Former appellate judge Judith L. French became the 155th justice of the Ohio Supreme Court in January 2013, after her appointment by Gov. John Kasich. She won election to her first full term on the Supreme Court on Nov. 4, 2014. Before serving as an appellate judge, she was chief legal counsel to Gov. Bob Taft, as well as an assistant attorney general, and then chief counsel to the attorney general. Twice, she argued before the U.S. Supreme Court – most recently on behalf of the state in the Cleveland school-vouchers case.

WILLIAM M. O'NEILL, Justice

A former Army officer, Vietnam veteran, reporter, registered nurse, and appellate judge, Justice William M. O'Neill – a member of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame – joined the Ohio Supreme Court in January 2013. He is a retired Army lieutenant colonel and a retired Judge Advocate General (JAG) lieutenant colonel in the Ohio National Guard. He received the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam.

STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Justice Judith L. French, Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger, Justice Sharon L. Kennedy, and Justice William M. O'Neill.

SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Justice Paul E. Pfeifer, Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, and Justice Terrence O'Donnell.





STAFF NOTES

The employees of the Ohio Supreme Court are guided in their work by a vision statement, a mission statement, and three strategic directives.

Vision Statement

For the Supreme Court of Ohio to administer justice with integrity and provide leadership for the Judicial Branch of Ohio government.

Mission Statement

The Supreme Court will accomplish its vision by:

- Applying and promoting standards of impartiality and fairness.
- Strengthening the judiciary, courts, and bar of Ohio.
- Fostering collaboration with its justice system partners.
- Serving as a catalyst for the strategic direction of the justice system.

Strategic Directives

Foster uniformity, achieve internal efficiencies, and support the judiciary.

PICTURED: Justices and staff gathered in the Courtroom on May 13 for a group photo to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the dedication of the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center. PHOTO CREDIT: George Anderson.







SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM UNDERGOES LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Members of the Supreme Court's senior staff engaged in a year-long leadership development process in 2014.

Monthly workshops and individual coaching sessions culminated in a Dec. 17 all-day training session off-site. During the concluding session, Chief Justice **Maureen O'Connor** thanked the managers for participating, shared her views on leadership, and conducted a question-and-answer session with the group to learn her preferences on working through problems.

Monthly discussion topics centered on building cross-functional leadership, learning about trust behaviors, becoming self aware of individual leadership styles, and many others. Worksheets and team-building exercises were designed to remove some of the "silos" that can exist in an organization no matter how well-intentioned. In addition to committing to a leadership charter to guide interactions with colleagues, superiors, and subordinates, members of senior staff each received a leadership handbook to increase each person's leadership awareness and development.

ABOVE LEFT: Supreme Court senior staff wrapped up a year-long leadership development process on Dec. 17.
ABOVE RIGHT: Senior staff participate in a fall workshop designed to develop a leadership culture.



TRANSITION TEAM

Following the departure of Administrative Director Steven C. Hollon, **Mindi L. Wells** was named interim administrative director, effective April 30. For the remainder of 2014, Wells led the court's administrative functions and worked closely with the court's transition team, which consisted of **Milt Nuzum**, director of Judicial Services; **Allan Asbury**, administrative counsel; and **John VanNorman**, senior policy & research counsel, to ensure all operations ran smoothly. On Nov. 18, after a nationwide search, the court announced **Michael L. Buenger** as administrative director. When Buenger begins his duties Jan. 5, 2015, Wells will assume the role of deputy director/chief operating officer.

Members of the court's transition team (clockwise from top left): **Mindi Wells**, **Milt Nuzum**, **Allan Asbury**, and **John VanNorman**.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Several employees were promoted to Senior Staff positions in 2014.



SANDRA HUTH GROSKO

Clerk of the Court

The first woman to fill the reporter of decisions position in the history of the court became the third woman to serve as clerk of the court on July 1. The justices approved the appointment of **Sandra Huth Grosko** to replace **Mark Reed**, who returned to his former position as the clerk of the Court of Claims of Ohio. Grosko served as the reporter since August 2011.

Grosko joined the Supreme Court in 1995 as a law clerk to Justice Deborah Cook and later served as case management counsel in the Office of the Clerk for nine years. Grosko earned her law degree cum laude from the University of Toledo and also earned Certified Court Manager credentials from the National Center for State Courts Institute for Court Management.



JASON MACKE

Reporter of Decisions

Jason (Jay) Macke began his new duties as reporter of decisions on Oct. 6. Macke joined the court in July 2013 as a senior judicial attorney for Justice **William M. O'Neill**. Previous to serving Justice O'Neill's office, Macke worked for nearly six years in the Office of the Ohio Public Defender, most recently as the supervisor of Legal Services in the Appeal and Postconviction Section.

Macke graduated cum laude from Ohio University with a bachelor's degree in philosophy. He received his law degree from Ohio State, where he was a member of the Ohio State Law Journal and was a Public Service Fellow.



CHRISTY TULL

Interim Director,
Ohio Judicial College

With more than 27 years of experience in education, **Christy Tull** was named interim director of the Ohio Judicial College on Sept. 1. Tull has worked with the college since 1997, most recently serving as manager of

curriculum development. Before coming to the court, Tull worked at the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education and the Legislative Office of Education Oversight.

Tull received her bachelor's degree in speech communication from Albion College and her master's degree in public policy and management from The Ohio State University. She also holds the Certified Court Manager credentials from the Institute for Court Management.



BRET CROW

Director of Public Information

Bret Crow was named director of public information effective Sept. 1. Crow has served as public information officer/manager with the court since 2008. Before joining the court, Crow served in several communication roles with statewide agencies and in reporting and editing jobs at three daily newspapers.

Crow received his bachelor's degree from Ohio State's School of Journalism.



JEFF WHITE

Director of Human Resources

Jeff White was promoted from manager to director of Human Resources on April 14. White started at the court in October 2013, and he has more than 12 years of leadership experience working in human resources and is a licensed attorney.

White received his bachelor's degree in history from The Ohio State University, his Masters of Business Administration from Ohio Dominican University and his law degree from Capital University Law School.

SUPPORTING CIVIC EDUCATION & THE LEGAL PROFESSION



TOP: Founder's Award honoree **Rick Dove** (center) with OCLRE Board of Trustees President Marion Smithberger and Executive Director Lisa Eschleman. **BOTTOM:** **Pierce Reed** (center) speaks during a meet and greet session to help educate OCLRE staff about the court's resources.

The Ohio Supreme Court has long supported efforts that promote civic education and improve the administration of justice.

Law and Leadership Institute

The court started the Law and Leadership Institute (LLI) as a pilot program in the summer of 2008 to prepare students from underserved communities for post-secondary and professional success. Today, LLI is a nonprofit organization that provides effective law and leadership programming to more than 400 high school students, on eight law school campuses across the state.

Ohio Center for Law-Related Education

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) provides civic education programs to teachers and hosts mock trials and civic competitions for students with a goal of bringing citizenship to life. In fiscal year 2014, the court provided funds toward OCLRE's programming. Each year, court employees – including the chief justice and many of the justices – volunteer with OCLRE. For his 20 years of service, **Rick Dove**, secretary to the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, was awarded the Founders' Award in 2014 for his significant contributions to the ideals and growth of law-related education. Throughout his tenure on the OCLRE Board of Trustees, Dove served in every officer position and volunteered for many programs, including Mock Trial, We the People, and Youth for Justice. **Pierce Reed**, senior judicial attorney for Chief Justice O'Connor, has been a program volunteer since 2005 and a member of the board for four years.

Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation

The Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation was established in 1994 to fund and enhance civil legal aid for Ohioans. Money for the fund comes from interest on lawyers' trust accounts, the interest on title agent trust accounts, and a civil filing fee surcharge to ensure that Ohioans have access to justice regardless of their income. In fiscal year 2014, the court awarded the foundation a grant from the Attorney Services Fund. The chief justice appoints six members of the foundation board, and **John VanNorman**, senior policy & research counsel in the Office of Legal & Policy Affairs, serves as an ex-officio member.

Ohio Lawyers Assistance Program

The Ohio Lawyers Assistance Program (OLAP) is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been helping Ohio's judges, attorneys, and law students obtain treatment for substance abuse, chemical dependency, addiction, and mental health issues since 1991. The court gave OLAP a grant in fiscal year 2014 from the Attorney Services Fund.

HONORS & AWARDS

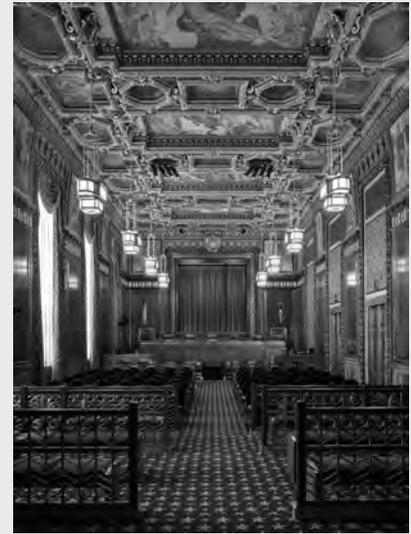


Three employees, **Joseph Caligiuri** (left), chief assistant disciplinary counsel, Office of Disciplinary Counsel; **John VanNorman**, senior policy and research counsel, Office of Legal & Policy Affairs; and **Ian Palmer**, maintenance mechanic, Office of Facilities Management, were recognized on March 11 for their professionalism and outstanding service in 2013. The annual awards are the highest honors given to Supreme Court staff. An additional 39 employees were recognized with 5-year, 10-year, 15-year, 20-year, 25-year, and 30-year service awards.



Lindsey Schmitz (left), **Katrina Webb**, and **Kathy Casper** of the Judicial College were awarded honorary memberships in the Ohio Association of Magistrates (OAM) for their outstanding contribution and devotion to the profession.

Jacqueline Hagerott, Dispute Resolution; **Jeremy Johnson**, Office of Information Technology; **James Landon**, Judicial College; **Stephanie Nelson**, Children & Families; **Christine Raffaele**, Specialized Dockets; **Bruno Romero**, Language Services; **Amy Stone**, Disciplinary Counsel; and Interim Administrative Director **Mindi Wells** graduated from the three-year Court Management Program and received the designation of certified court manager.



RETIREES

Seven employees retired in 2014, with a combined 112 years of service with the court.

Judith S. Conrad
Staff Specialist II
Office of the Reporter

Steven W. Hanson
Manager, Children & Families
Office of Court Services

Steven C. Hollon
Administrative Director

Pamela Leslie
Staff Specialist II
Clients' Security Fund

Benny J. Sawyer
Maintenance Mechanic
Office of Facilities Management

Ellen Seibert
Librarian I
Law Library

Vikkie L. Wilson
Meetings & Events Coordinator
Office of Facilities Management

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS IN THE MOYER JUDICIAL



The Ohio Supreme Court celebrated a milestone in 2014 as it commemorated the 10th anniversary of taking up residence inside the historic Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center.

In 2004, for the first time in its more than 200-year history, the Supreme Court moved into a building devoted solely to the judicial branch. It was former Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer's idea that paved the way for the court to have a home of its own and to emphasize the judiciary's independent role in state government.

Chief Justice Moyer also wanted to instill in the public the rich history of the judicial system by helping form the Civic Education Section. Anyone across the state or country can learn more about Ohio's court system by exploring the building and its Visitor Education Center (VEC).

Thousands of students and adults visit the Ohio Supreme Court and the VEC each year. In 2014, more than 10,665 visitors toured the Moyer Judicial Center. In its 10-year history, more than 130,000 people have visited the building.

"The civic education program is designed to provide visitors with an understanding and appreciation of the history, role, and responsibilities of the Ohio court system," said Jay Wuebbold, the Civic Education Section program manager.

Ohio County Courthouses Symposium

In conjunction with the building's 10-year anniversary and the restoration of the Moyer Judicial

IAL CENTER



LEFT: The late Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer speaks with members of the renovation team before move-in as they work to restore the building to its original glory.

CENTER: All rise, as the justices of the Ohio Supreme Court enter their new courtroom on March 16, 2004.

RIGHT: A Visitor Education Center volunteer leads a tour in the Courtroom in 2014.

Center, the Ohio County Courthouses Symposium on May 15-16 featured nearly 70 courthouses across Ohio listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The event was hosted by the Ohio Supreme Court, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, the Ohio Historical Society, Heritage Ohio, AIA Columbus, and others.

In addition to celebrating the historic buildings, the symposium addressed the courthouses' value to their communities and how to overcome funding challenges to maintain the structures. Session topics included design considerations for courthouse renovation projects, security, technology, and project management.

"These beautiful courthouses are more than buildings. They are

our heritage, and they symbolize our commitment to democratic government and the rule of law," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said.

Building Documentary

The 10-year celebration continued as the Supreme Court debuted a documentary about the Moyer Judicial Center at the symposium.

"Justice Finds a Home" was produced by the Ohio Channel to document the life of what is now called the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center. The building opened in 1933 as the Ohio Departments Building, but decades later it sat unused until the late Chief Justice Moyer saw the potential the building held as the first facility to solely house Ohio's judiciary. The 30-minute film includes never-before-seen

interviews with Chief Justice Moyer and with the artisans who restored the building to its former glory.

The documentary describes the life of the building: from the explosion that killed 11 workers as they constructed the Ohio Departments Building to the vision of the late Chief Justice Moyer by bringing the building back to life and housing the Ohio Supreme Court. The film started airing on public television stations across Ohio in mid-October.

AROUND THE COURT

TASK FORCES NEAR WORK COMPLETION

Three separate Supreme Court task forces either wrapped up their work in 2014 or were close to finishing their work.

1

The **Joint Task Force to Review the Administration of Ohio's Death Penalty** issued its final report and recommendations to the Supreme Court and the Ohio State Bar Association in April, the culmination of more than two years of work. In all, the task force made 56 recommendations with a goal of ensuring that Ohio's death penalty is administered in the most fair and judicious manner possible.

2

The **Task Force on Access to Justice**, charged with identifying obstacles to access the civil justice system, started meeting in August. The task force, which is funded through an American Bar Association grant, reviewed how other states address access issues and heard from Ohio organizations about barriers to the legal system. The group is expected to issue a report and recommendations in early 2015.

3

The **Task Force on the Funding of Ohio's Courts** neared the end of its work as the year closed. The group gathered information from the courts through questionnaires and issued a preliminary estimate that it costs about \$1.1 billion to operate the state's courts. A final report and recommendations are expected in early 2015.

VOTERS KEEP COURT COMPOSITION

Ohio Supreme Court Justices Sharon L. Kennedy and Judith L. French defeated their respective opponents in the Nov. 4 election and will return to the bench to serve full six-year terms.

Justice Kennedy beat State Rep. Thomas Letson with more than 72 percent of the vote.

Joining the Supreme Court in December 2012 after she was elected to an unexpired term, Justice Kennedy will start her first full term on Jan. 1, 2015.

Justice French defeated her opponent, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judge John O'Donnell, with 56 percent of the vote. Gov. John Kasich appointed Justice French to the Supreme Court bench on Dec. 20, 2012, to fill the vacated seat of retired Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton. Justice French's win allows her to serve her first full-term starting on Jan. 2, 2015.

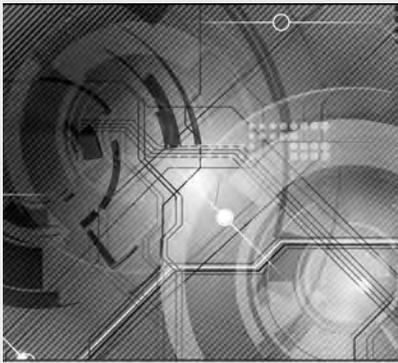


Kennedy

French

SYMPOSIUM ON OPIATE ADDICTION FOCUSES ON COORDINATED EFFORT

Ohio's response to the devastating effects of opiate abuse was highlighted on June 30, 2014, as more than 800 state and local leaders came together to learn about promising judicial practices and options for treatment, including medication-assisted treatment. Judges from 83 Ohio counties and their community partners attended the Ohio Judicial Symposium on Opiate Addiction, presented in collaboration by the Supreme Court, Gov. John Kasich, and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine. A follow-up to that symposium will be held in June 2015 and will focus on responding to addiction issues affecting families who appear in juvenile courts.



ADVANCEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY

The Supreme Court led Ohio courts through several technological achievements in 2014.



CASE MANAGEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Supreme Court partnered with the Gartner Group to conduct a feasibility study for a standardized case management solution for Ohio courts. Money from the Court Technology Fund (the legislature approved \$3.35 million for the fund) is earmarked for the project. The court solicited input from courts statewide as part of the study. The abrupt exit of Amcad as a case management provider left many local courts in a lurch. Key questions Gartner is addressing include: What are the options for the Supreme Court to provide case management capabilities for courts in the state? What are the advantages, disadvantages, and risks associated with the options – a hosted, standardized, integrated, or hybrid case management solution?



DIGITAL LIBRARY

The Ohio Supreme Court set up a digital library that allows employees to access the Law Library’s complete Lexis collection from any location and any type of electronic device, such as tablets, smartphones, and laptops. All other patrons can access the collection from any Law Library computer. Patrons can download the e-books for free, which include the legal volumes Page’s Ohio Revised Code, The Law of Professional Conduct in Ohio, Ohio Civil Practice with Forms, and Corbin on Contracts. Once checked out, Internet access is not required to read the e-book.



ACCESS TO CASE INFORMATION

An addition to the Supreme Court’s Clerk of Court Web page is the new “Issues Accepted for Review” section. All accepted jurisdictional appeals, accepted certified conflict cases, and accepted certified question of state law cases are viewable while open and for 180 days after they are closed. A search can be done using the issue, case caption, or case number.



INTERACTIVE GLOSSARY

Court News Ohio launched an interactive online glossary to help the public understand legal terms that courts and lawyers frequently use. Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger played a key role in developing the court’s first interactive online glossary working with the Office of Public Information to choose legal terms relevant to Ohio and to edit each entry.



DO NOT BUY RESPOSITORY

An agreement between the Ohio Supreme Court and the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) allowed for implementation of a “Do Not Buy from Convicted Thieves” repository using information related to theft convictions gathered from the Ohio Courts Network (OCN). The OCN is currently providing the department with more than 270,000 theft convictions from 196 courts. This aided the ODPS efforts to build the Do Not Buy repository without requiring additional tasks from the courts participating in the OCN.

2014 RULE CHANGES

THE FOLLOWING RULE AMENDMENTS TOOK EFFECT IN 2014.

Continuing Legal Education

On Jan. 1, 2014, changes took effect to double the number of online credit hours attorneys could earn, and to allow attorneys to earn a portion of their hours by engaging in approved pro bono activities. In addition, amendments eliminated the requirement to file final reporting transcripts.

Registration Fees

On Jan. 1, 2014, the annual registration fee for out-of-state attorneys seeking to register for pro hac vice in Ohio increased from \$100 to \$150, and the admission without examination fee for out-of-state attorneys increased from \$1,250 to \$1,500.

Mental Illness Notification

A Jan. 1, 2014 rule required Ohio courts to notify police about violent offenders with a mental illness. Judges must report to law enforcement when they order a mental-health evaluation or treatment for a person convicted of an offense of violence, or if they approve a conditional release for someone found incompetent to stand trial or not guilty by reason of insanity.

Protection Orders

On March 1, 2014, Civil Rule of Procedure 65.1 form changes were made to clarify magistrates' involvement in civil protection order proceedings and discovery related to protection order cases.

Parenting Coordination

Rules authorizing courts to order a parenting coordinator to assist families in implementing parental rights and responsibilities or companionship time orders took effect April 1, 2014. The rules set forth definitions, the role and qualifications of a parenting coordinator, and the responsibilities of the court to adopt local rules governing the use of parenting coordination, confidentiality, privilege, and public access.

Traffic Rules

The requirement that an electronic ticket meet the mandatory "form and content" requirement of a paper ticket was abolished as of July 1, 2014. Amendments also maintain that any paper ticket generated from the e-ticket be of sufficient quality to meet record retention requirements. New rules also clarified that a defendant's signature isn't necessary on an electronically produced ticket.

Law School Requirements

As of July 1, 2014, applicants for admission to the practice of law in Ohio would only be required to obtain a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university before admission to

the practice of law rather than before admission to law school. The change could enable law students to become lawyers one year sooner if Ohio colleges and universities choose to offer accelerated "3 + 3" programs.

Language Interpreters

Effective July 1, 2014, new standards were adopted for using a foreign language interpreter over the phone.

Search Warrants

Changes to Crim.R. 41, which took effect July 1, 2014, addressed issuing and executing tracking-device search warrants.

Commercial Dockets

On Oct. 7, 2014, common pleas courts that establish commercial dockets were given more guidance about designating judges to preside over these cases under new rule amendments, including:

- Instructing the court to submit a written request to select judges and their names.
- Having the subcommittee submit a written report to the chief justice with the number of judges recommended and the specific candidates.
- Directing the subcommittee to consider 11 criteria for reviewing candidates.

THE FOLLOWING RULE CHANGES
WERE ADOPTED IN 2014.
THEY TAKE EFFECT JAN 1, 2015.

E-Filing

Following a pilot-phase implementation late in the year, rules were changed allowing for electronically filing documents with the Supreme Court.

Disciplinary Rules

The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline changed its name to the Board of Professional Conduct. Other amendments include:

- Updating terminology relative to mental illness, mental disorders, and substance use disorders to reflect current, accepted medical standards.
- Allowing for the imposition of an interim impairment suspension when a lawyer or judge is suffering from a medically recognized disorder that substantially impairs that individual's performance of professional duties.
- Adopting a single standard of "confidential" as that term applies to the investigation of grievances; and applying to disciplinary case documents the same standards of public access that are applicable to trial and appellate courts.

Clients' Security Fund

The Clients' Security Fund changed its name to the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. The name change will not affect other aspects of the fund's work.

Presentation of Attorneys

Attorneys approved for admission without examination no longer have to participate in the presentation of attorneys during an official session of the Supreme Court. Amendments give

these attorneys two additional ways to take the oath: being sworn in by an active Ohio judge or being sworn in by a justice in the highest court in another jurisdiction where they are admitted.

Emergency Response

Changes provide clarity as to the chief justice's duties and responsibilities during a judicial emergency, and include requiring the chief justice to:

- Issue an order declaring a judicial emergency and setting forth basic information such as the name of the affected court or division, a description of the circumstances necessitating the declaration, the duration of the judicial emergency (which is initially limited to 30 days), and any other relevant information.
- File the order declaring a judicial emergency with the clerk of the Supreme Court and, if possible, the clerk of the affected court or division.
- Consult with the administrative judge and court administrator of the affected court or division prior to taking action during a judicial emergency.

Judicial Consent

Revisions to rules and forms concerning judicial consent to an abortion by a minor without notification of a parent, guardian, or custodian bring them in line with recent legislative changes.

Probate Forms

The court amended or created 15 new and existing probate forms.



SUPREME COURT RULINGS

Each year, the Supreme Court decides significant cases. Here is a sampling of some cases that generated media interest in 2014.

Common Pleas Court Did Not Have Jurisdiction to Review Legality of Court Costs Paid to Municipal Courts

A common pleas court did not have the authority to review the case of a Cleveland man who alleged that a municipal court charged him and other defendants improper court costs, the Supreme Court ruled on March 25. The court determined that the relief requested by William C. Glick in his class-action lawsuit considered by the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court essentially asked to invalidate part of his sentence from the Berea Municipal Court. Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, who authored the opinion, concluded that the common pleas court had no power to vacate the municipal court's decision and lacked jurisdiction to proceed with the case.

Lingo v. State
138 Ohio St.3d 427, 2014-Ohio-1052

In RICO Cases, Threshold Amount for Corrupt Activity Applies to Each Individual, Not to Criminal Enterprise

On May 13, the Supreme Court overturned the corrupt-activity convictions of two men for participating in a Highland County drug ring because their drug sales did not meet the required statutory amounts. In a lead opinion authored by Justice William M. O'Neill, the court ruled that the threshold monetary amount for "engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity" in the state's racketeering and organized crime law must be applied to each individual in a criminal enterprise, not to the enterprise as a whole.

State v. Stevens
139 Ohio St.3d 247, 2014-Ohio-1932

Cleveland's Curfew Ordinance for Public Square is Constitutional

The Supreme Court on May 28 upheld a Cleveland city ordinance that prohibits people from staying in the city's downtown Public Square overnight without a permit. In a 6-1 decision written by Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger, the court determined that Cleveland's ordinance does not violate the rights to free speech and assembly in the U.S. Constitution. Justice Lanzinger wrote that the law is content neutral, is narrowly tailored to advance a significant government interest, and allows alternative channels of speech. The decision reversed the judgment of the Eighth District Court of Appeals.

Cleveland v. McCardle
139 Ohio St.3d 414, 2014-Ohio-2140

Progressive Group Does Not Have Right to Challenge Constitutionality of JobsOhio

On June 10, the Supreme Court ruled that a public policy group and two legislators are not the proper parties to challenge the constitutionality of JobsOhio, the nonprofit economic development corporation formed by the state. In a 5-2 decision authored by Justice Judith L. French, the court held that ProgressOhio.org, Ohio Senator Michael J. Skindell, and former Ohio House member Dennis E. Murray do not have standing under the public-right doctrine to bring an action against the JobsOhio legislation. The court held that the public-right doctrine does not apply to lawsuits filed in common pleas courts, and that the parties would otherwise still fail to meet the requirements of the doctrine.

ProgressOhio.org, Inc. v. JobsOhio
139 Ohio St.3d 520, 2014-Ohio-2382

Court Decides Payday Loan Case

Legislation passed in 2008 to reform the regulation of payday loans does not apply to similar types of loans made under another section of law, according to a June 11 Supreme Court decision. Writing for the unanimous court, Justice Judith L. French determined that the Short-Term Loan Act does not prohibit lenders registered under the separate Mortgage Loan Act (MLA) from making interest-bearing, payday-style loans. Also, under the MLA, a registered lender is permitted to require that an interest-bearing loan be repaid in a single installment, Justice French wrote.

Ohio Neighborhood Fin., Inc. v. Scott
139 Ohio St.3d 536, 2014-Ohio-2440

Rule Mandating 10 Percent Cash Payment for Bail Is Unconstitutional

A criminal rule giving trial courts authority to order defendants to post a cash payment for 10 percent of their bail was ruled

unconstitutional on July 8 by the Supreme Court. The rule denies the right of criminal defendants to be “bailable by sufficient sureties,” as required by the Ohio Constitution, Justice Sharon L. Kennedy wrote in the 5-2 majority opinion. The majority determined that the Licking County Clerk of Courts and the Wayne County Clerk of Courts must accept surety bonds for the full bail amount, even if their courts required, under Criminal Rule 46(A)(2), a 10 percent cash payment.

State ex rel. Sylvester v. Neal
140 Ohio St.3d 47, 2014-Ohio-2926

Threats to Governor Are Not Public Record

On Aug. 27, the Supreme Court denied a request from a central Ohio media outlet asking the court to order a state agency to release information about threats made against the governor. Threats to the governor qualify under Ohio’s public records law as security records, which are exempt from disclosure, the court ruled in a unanimous per curiam decision.

State ex rel. Plunderbund Media v. Born
141 Ohio St.3d 422, 2014-Ohio-3679

Contract Does Not Prohibit Strip-Mining on ODNR Land

The holders of the mineral rights under more than 600 acres owned by the state in southeastern Ohio have the right to strip-mine for coal, the court ruled on Sept. 17. In a 6-1 decision, Justice Paul E. Pfeifer concluded that the contract between the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the mineral rights holders did not exclude strip-mining as a method to extract coal from about 10 percent of the Jefferson County property. The case was sent back to the trial court to determine the extent of strip-mining that is reasonable, as required by the contract. The decision reversed the judgment of the Seventh District Court of Appeals.

Snyder v. Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources
140 Ohio St.3d 322, 2014-Ohio-3942

Accused May Contest Test Results and Operability of Intoxilyzer 8000

A person charged with operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol has the right to challenge the accuracy of the specific results from the breath analyzer machine used to conduct a breath-alcohol test, the Supreme Court ruled 7-0 on Oct. 1. The decision – authored by Justice Terrence O’Donnell – affirms the appellate court’s judgment, which upheld the trial court’s exclusion of evidence from the breath analyzer used to test Daniel Ilg because the Ohio Department of Health did not comply with a discovery order to provide Ilg with data from the machine.

Cincinnati v. Ilg
141 Ohio St.3d 22, 2014-Ohio-4258

Courts Must Find Probable Cause Before Issuing Arrest Warrants

Arrest warrants issued by the Toledo Municipal Court for a man suspected of stripping materials from a house were invalid because no determination of probable cause was made, the Supreme Court ruled 6-1 on Nov. 4. However, police officers obtained the warrants following a procedure that had been validated by the Sixth District Court of Appeals. Because of that precedent, the officers involved in the case of Brandon Hoffman acted in good faith, and the evidence obtained under the warrants for Hoffman’s arrest will not be excluded, the Supreme Court concluded. Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger, in the court’s majority opinion, pressed the Toledo Municipal Court to change its process for issuing arrest warrants. For at least 17 years, the municipal court violated the U.S. and Ohio constitutions by granting warrants without deciding whether probable cause was shown, she wrote.

State v. Hoffman
141 Ohio St.3d 428, 2014-Ohio-4795

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

January 8

Working in partnership with the Ohio Ethics Commission, Information Technology staff launch an online filing tool allowing judges, judicial candidates, and others to file annual financial disclosure statements online with the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline.

January 9

The Judicial College releases its 2014 course calendar, showing at least 142 courses offered to help the state's judicial system partners meet their continuing legal education requirements.

January 17

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor proposes to expand the scope of the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission to an entity to help all of the state's justice system partners.

February 4

The Supreme Court publishes a reference guide to help judges and court personnel understand the difference between court costs and fines, and includes when enforcing fines by incarceration is appropriate, and how courts can substitute community service as payment for court costs.

February 13

The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline releases its 2013 annual report, which highlights a savings of 2.3 percent in operational expenses due to increased office efficiency.

February 25 - 27

More than 500 applicants take the Ohio Bar Exam. This is the final time the exam will be administered at Veterans' Memorial in Columbus.

February 27

Renowned Columbus architect Curtis J. Moody delivers the keynote speech at the Supreme Court's sixth annual Black History Month celebration.

March 7

A new search feature debuts on the Supreme Court website to help the public track issues accepted for review by the court, including accepted jurisdictional appeals, accepted certified conflict cases, and accepted certified question of state law cases.

March 13

After 15 years of leading the Ohio Supreme Court as administrative director, Steven C. Hollon announces he is retiring to become the state's Constitutional Modernization Commission executive director.

April 9

The justices travel to the University of Toledo, where they hear oral arguments as part of the Off-Site Court Program.

April 11

The court announces that Assistant Administrative Director Mindi L. Wells will become the interim administrative director.



April 21

The Office of Court Security installs three new X-ray machines in the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center, each offering advanced imaging and touch screens to enhance security screening.

April 22

The Supreme Court welcomes a delegation of seven Libyan judges on the first of four trips to the Moyer Judicial Center, where they spend part of their three-week visit to the United States to learn about its judicial system.

April 25

The court announces 283 applicants passed the February Ohio Bar Exam, a passage rate of just over 64 percent.



March 13



May 1 - 3



May 6



April 22



May 13

April 25 - 27

The court hosts several hundred judges and court personnel during a three-day Domestic Relations Summit in Columbus, which focuses on minimizing conflict for Ohio children and families.

May 1

During her annual address to the Ohio State Bar Association, Chief Justice O'Connor calls for an amendment to the Ohio Constitution to move all judicial elections together to odd-numbered years as part of a three-point plan to improve judicial elections and strengthen Ohio courts.

May 1 - 3

The court hosts the National Legal Mentoring Consortium in Columbus, which brings mentoring experts and legal

organization leaders together to discuss mentoring in the changing legal profession.

May 6

More than 225 new attorneys are admitted to the practice of law in Ohio during an official session of the Supreme Court held at the Ohio Theatre in Columbus.

May 13

The Forum on the Law lecture series features a panel discussion on the topic "Marijuana Legalization and the Law of Unintended Consequences," which focuses on the challenges in such places as Colorado where a product and business is now legal under state law, but illegal under federal law.

May 22

The court announces the July 2014 Ohio Bar Exam will be at the Columbus Convention Center – the first time in 55 years that the exam will not be at Columbus' Veterans' Memorial because of its scheduled demolition.

June 23

The Supreme Court unveils new lapel pins depicting the Great Seal of the State of Ohio that appears above the bench in the Courtroom. The Great Seal portrays the sun rising over Mount Logan in southern Ohio.

July 14

The court's Dispute Resolution Section announces the availability of a Parenting Coordination Toolkit to assist courts in writing a local rule for parenting coordination, and includes a sample local rule, sample orders, forms, and evaluation tools.

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

July 21

The Commission on Professionalism releases *Professionalism DOs & DON'Ts: Judicial Professionalism*, its fifth edition of best-practices publications.

July 28

The Supreme Court's request for nearly \$5 million of capital funds is released by the Controlling Board. These funds cover chiller replacements and modernization of the elevator systems at the Moyer Judicial Center. After 10 years in the building, the home of the Supreme Court is developing its long-range facilities maintenance program and identifying the physical improvements or repairs necessary due to the age of the building.

July 29 – 31

More than 1,250 applicants take the July Ohio Bar Exam at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

August 28

Judicial pay and court funding are highlighted in Chief Justice O'Connor's remarks during her State of the Judiciary address to nearly 300 judges at the Ohio Judicial Conference annual meeting in Columbus.

September 2

The Office of Court Security notifies all judges in Ohio of the Supreme Court's security services to local courts. Dozens of local courts responded by requesting

formal security assessments of their court facilities and operations. By the close of 2014, the Office of Court Security had conducted 30 physical assessments for local courts.

September 11

The Commission on Professionalism releases its final best-practices publication, *Professionalism DOs & DON'Ts: Legal Writing*.

September 25

The justices hear oral arguments in Ravenna, Ohio, as part of the Off-Site Court program.

October 1

The court creates the Office of Legal & Policy Affairs, which includes the organization's chief legal counsel, who also serves as director. Attorneys in the new office work on administrative legal matters, contract review, policy analysis, and legislative affairs.

October 15

Using \$7,000 donated by the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center Foundation, the court begins accepting applications for transportation grants of up to \$440 each to help schools offset costs to visit the Moyer Judicial Center.

October 23

With the intent of allowing all attorneys to file electronically in 2015, the Supreme Court launches an e-filing pilot program allowing 85 lawyers who frequently

file case documents with the Supreme Court to file documents electronically.

October 29

Nearly 80 attorneys attend the court-sponsored 2014 Unauthorized Practice of Law Seminar, which focuses on sovereign citizens.

October 31

The Supreme Court announces that 902 applicants passed the July bar exam – a passage rate of almost 77 percent.

The court announces through the publication of the Attorney Services Fund annual report that more than half of the money collected for the fund in fiscal year 2014 went to support the attorney discipline process.

November 7

The Children & Families Section hosts a program titled: "Fostering Resilience in Children After Divorce; Children's Education Programs," as part of a post-Domestic Relations Summit Education workshop, which featured internationally known child psychologist Dr. JoAnne Pedro Carroll.

November 14

Focusing on the "new normal" of legal practice, the court's third Student to Lawyer Symposium draws 127 attendees and brings together students, law school professors, attorneys, and judges



Sept. 2



Morif Nov. 14



Nov. 17



Dec. 3

from Ohio to discuss how law schools and bar associations can better prepare students and new lawyers for the practice of law.

November 17

Nearly 800 new attorneys are admitted to the practice of law during an official session of court at the Ohio Theatre.

November 18

Chief Justice O'Connor introduces Michael L. Buenger as the Supreme Court's new administrative director, effective Jan. 5, 2015, during an all-staff gathering in the Courtroom.

November 20

A record number of almost 500 judges, court staff, probation officers, counselors, and other treatment providers gather to exchange ideas and learn to

improve services at the court's annual Ohio Specialized Dockets Conference. Attendees also learned the latest about the specialized dockets certification process. By the close of 2014, 128 specialized dockets were certified.

December 3

The Clients' Security Fund reports in its fiscal year 2014 annual report that more than \$780,000 in reimbursements was awarded to 125 law clients who sustained financial losses from 40 Ohio attorneys.

The Office of Human Resources hosts more than 130 staff members at two professional development seminars, each focusing on aspects of delivering quality service.

December 17

The Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education issues sanctions for 296 attorneys who failed to comply with their CLE requirements.

December 18

The Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission hires Sara Andrews, a 20-year veteran of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, as its new director, effective Jan. 5, 2015.

December 31

The Information Technology Division reports that 308 local courts are connected to the Ohio Courts Network, representing 86 percent of the state caseload.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

Complete descriptions of the Supreme Court administrative offices are available at sc.ohio.gov/AdminOffices/default.asp. The work of the court's affiliated disciplinary offices is explained at sc.ohio.gov/AdminOffices/default.asp#affiliated.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Administrative Division is the lead division of the Supreme Court. It assists in developing and communicating the long-term vision, values, and direction of the court and the judicial branch of Ohio government. The Administrative Director's Office includes administrative counsel, legislative counsel, and policy & research counsel. This division also oversees court communication and outreach and provides support to the court and Ohio judiciary in the areas of fiscal, human resources, and records management.

CLERK'S DIVISION

The clerk of the court supervises the filing of all case-related items and maintains all case files in matters pending before the court. In addition, the office maintains case dockets, the court's journal, and relevant trial, appellate, board, and agency records. The office also prepares and issues court orders, schedules oral arguments and other case-related matters for the court's consideration, and coordinates interagency communication in death-penalty cases.

ATTORNEY SERVICES DIVISION

The Attorney Services Division assists the Supreme Court in its regulation of the practice of law in Ohio. This division includes the Office of Bar Admissions.

LEGAL RESOURCES DIVISION

The Office of Legal Resources assists in resolving complex legal issues pending before the Supreme Court. The Office of the Reporter publishes Supreme Court, trial, and appellate court opinions. The Law Library is one of the largest state law libraries in the nation, with a comprehensive collection of Ohio, federal, and state legal resources.

JUDICIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Judicial Services Division supports all Ohio trial and appellate courts in the administration of justice by helping develop policies and procedures, training judicial offices and court staff, and providing access to funding and resources. The division provides traditional and innovative court services in response to and with respect for the needs of local courts and the public they serve.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The Facilities Management Division ensures the secure and efficient operation of the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center and maintains internal and external comfort, cleanliness, and building standards. The division provides building management services to Supreme Court employees and other building tenants, ensures the safety and comfort of guests, and offers security assessments and assistance to Ohio courts.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

The Information Technology Division operates the court's information technology systems and processes. The division also develops and implements the Ohio Courts Network, provides guidance to Ohio courts on technology-related matters, and facilitates the development of statewide information-technology standards for Ohio courts.

AFFILIATED OFFICES

In addition to its seven divisions, the court has four affiliated offices with a quasi-independent status because of the nature of their work: the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, the Clients' Security Fund, and the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission.

THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO

2014 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Effective 12.31.14

CHIEF JUSTICE & JUSTICES The Supreme Court of Ohio

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION Mindi L. Wells, Interim Administrative Director

- Office of the Administrative Director
- Office of Fiscal Resources
- Office of Human Resources
- Office of Legal & Policy Affairs
- Office of Public Information
 - Civic Education Section

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE
Richard A. Dove
Secretary

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
Scott Drexel
Disciplinary Counsel

CLIENTS' SECURITY FUND
Janet Green Marbley
Administrator

CRIMINAL SENTENCING COMMISSION
David Diroll
Executive Director

ATTORNEY SERVICES DIVISION

Susan B. Christoff, Director

- Office of Attorney Services
- Office of Bar Admissions

CLERK'S DIVISION

Sandra H. Grosko, Clerk

- Office of the Clerk

LEGAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Kent Shimeall, Director

- Office of Legal Resources
- Office of the Reporter
- Law Library

JUDICIAL SERVICES DIVISION

W. Milt Nuzum, Director

- Office of Judicial Services
- Office of Court Services
 - Case Management
 - Children & Families
 - Dispute Resolution
 - Language Services
 - Specialized Dockets
- Judicial College

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Robert D. Stuart, Director

- Office of Information Technology
 - Application Development Section
 - Network & Tech. Resources Section

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

W. Craig Morrow, Director

- Office of Facilities Management
- Office of Court Security

2014 CASE STATISTICS

In 2014, 2,255 new cases were filed, a 9.73-percent increase from the 2,055 cases filed in 2013. This is the first time in five years in which the court saw an increase from the previous year in the number of new cases filed.

CASELOAD ACTIVITY SUMMARY

788 CASES PENDING JAN. 1, 2014

2,255 CASES FILED

- 1,623 Jurisdictional Appeals
- 513 Merit Cases
- 119 Practice of Law Cases

1,958 CASES DISPOSED

- 1,306 Jurisdictional Appeals
- 530 Merit Cases
- 122 Practice of Law Cases

1,085 CASES PENDING DEC. 31, 2014

87% CLEARANCE RATE



- 20% Civil
- 23% Miscellaneous¹
- 46% Criminal
- 5% Practice of Law
- 6% Domestic Relations, Probate & Juvenile

The breakdown of case types filed with the court has remained relatively consistent over the years. Criminal cases routinely make up approximately half of the court's caseload. In 2011, criminal cases comprised 50 percent, in 2012, 51 percent, and in 2013 and in 2014, 46 percent of cases filed. The percentage of cases filed in the practice of law category has varied little, from 6 percent in 2011 and 2012, to 5 percent in 2013 and 2014. In 2011, civil cases made up 22 percent of filed cases, in 2012, 19 percent, in 2013, 23 percent, and in 2014, 20 percent.

¹See page 31 for notes.

CASES FILED IN 2014

1,623 Jurisdictional Appeals

1,525	Jurisdictional Appeals
5	Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
17	Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
76	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (<i>Murnahan</i> Appeals)

513 Merit Cases

183	Original Actions
40	Habeas Corpus Cases
86	Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
23	Certified Conflicts
2	Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
152	Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
8	Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
2	Appeals from Power Siting Board
6	Death Penalty Cases
0	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in Death Penalty Case
4	Certified Questions of State Law
0	Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15
0	Petition Challenges pursuant to Article II, Section 1g
0	Contest of an Election pursuant to R.C. 3515.08
7	Cases Purporting to Invoke Unspecified Original Jurisdiction

119 Practice of Law Cases²

107	Disciplinary Cases
6	Bar Admissions Cases
5	Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases
1	Other Matters Relating to Practice of Law

2,255 TOTAL CASES FILED

*See page 31 for notes.

FINAL DISPOSITIONS

1,306 Jurisdictional Appeals³

1,217	Jurisdictional Appeals
3	Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
13	Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
73	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (<i>Murnahan</i> Appeals)

530 Merit Cases

166	Original Actions
46	Habeas Corpus Cases
111	Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
32	Certified Conflicts
2	Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
78	Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
6	Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
0	Appeals from Power Siting Board
12	Death Penalty Cases
1	Certified Questions of State Law
0	Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15
0	Petition Challenges Pursuant to Article II, Section 1g
5	Other Merit Cases
71	Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Merit Review

122 Practice of Law Cases

110	Disciplinary Cases
2	Bar Admissions Cases
8	Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases
2	Other Matters Related to Practice of Law

1,958 TOTAL FINAL DISPOSITIONS

*See page 31 for notes.

CASES PENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2014

608 Jurisdictional Appeals

- 573 Jurisdictional Appeals
- 13 Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
- 5 Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
- 17 Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (*Murnahan* Appeals)

408 Merit Cases

- 60 Original Actions
- 6 Habeas Corpus Cases
- 75 Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
- 22 Certified Conflicts
- 124 Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
- 20 Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
- 3 Appeals from Power Siting Board
- 18 Death Penalty Cases
- 5 Certified Questions of State Law
- 1 Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in a Death Penalty Case
- 3 Other Merit Cases
- 71 Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Review

69 Practice of Law Cases

- 62 Disciplinary Cases
- 4 Bar Admission Cases
- 3 Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases
- 0 Other Matters Relating to Practice of Law

1,085 TOTAL CASES PENDING

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: CASES FILED

107 Disciplinary Cases

- 38 Cases on Report of Board
- 7 Consent to Discipline Cases
- 3 Cases on Motion for Interim Remedial Suspension
- 17 Attorney Resignation Cases
- 5 Reciprocal Discipline Cases
- 13 Cases upon Felony Conviction
- 1 Cases upon Default of Child Support Order
- 21 Disciplinary Default Judgment Cases pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(6a)
- 1 Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Bar R. V
- 1 Judge Consent to Discipline Cases

6 Bar Admissions Cases

- 6 Character and Fitness Cases

5 Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases

- 5 Unauthorized Practice of Law/On Report of Board

1 Other Matter Relating to Practice of Law

- 1 Motion for Witness to Show Cause for Failure to Appear at Deposition

119 TOTAL PRACTICE OF LAW CASES FILED

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: CASES DISPOSED

110 Disciplinary Cases

Cases on Report of Board

- 1 Public Reprimand
- 27 Definite Suspension
- 8 Indefinite Suspension
- 3 Disbarment
- 2 Dismissed⁴

Consent to Discipline Cases

- 4 Public Reprimand
- 3 Definite Suspension

Consent to Discipline Cases on Remand

- 1 Public Reprimand
- 1 Definite Suspension
- 1 Indefinite Suspension

Cases on Motion for Interim Remedial Suspension

- 3 Interim Suspension

*See page 31 for notes.

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: CASES DISPOSED, CONT.

Attorney Resignation Cases

- 18 Resignation accepted with disciplinary action pending

Reciprocal Discipline Cases

- 2 Public Reprimand
- 2 Definite Suspension
- 2 Indefinite Suspension
- 1 Interim Suspension

Cases upon Felony Conviction

- 13 Interim Suspension

Cases upon Default of Child Support Order

- 1 Interim Suspension

Disciplinary Default Judgment pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(6a)

- 13 Indefinite Suspension
- 1 Dismissed ⁵

Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Bar R. V

- 1 Public Reprimand
- 1 Definite Suspension
- 1 Indefinite Suspension

2 Bar Admissions Cases

Character and Fitness Cases

- 2 Applicant disapproved, may reapply

8 Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases

Cases on Report of Board

- 3 Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law and civil penalty imposed
- 4 Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law

Cases on Consent Decree

- 1 Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law and civil penalty imposed

2 Other Matters Relating to Practice of Law

- 1 Motion to dismiss granted
- 1 Motion to withdraw motion to show cause granted

122 TOTAL PRACTICE OF LAW CASES DISPOSED

69 PRACTICE OF LAW CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

102% PRACTICE OF LAW CASE CLEARANCE RATE

*See page 31 for notes.

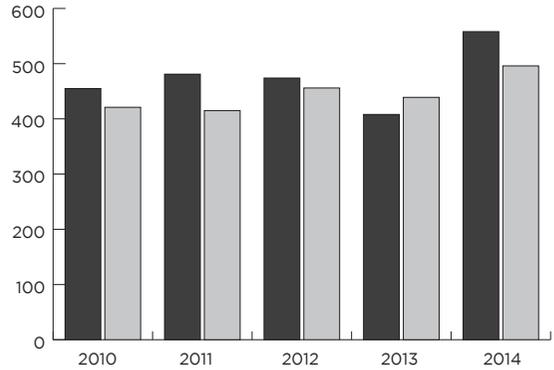
TIME TO DISPOSITION 2010 - 2014

The following charts present the average length of time from filing of an action to final disposition in broad categories of case types, including: All cases, jurisdictional appeals accepted for merit review, original actions, and all cases decided with an opinion. The charts provide data for the years 2010 through 2014 for purposes of comparison.

The time-to-disposition reports show the mean and median number of days taken to dispose of cases, from the date of filing to the date of final disposition of a case. The median is the middle of the distribution of days where half the days are above the median number and half are below.

Jurisdictional Appeals ACCEPTED for Merit Review

From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition



2010 — 101 Cases
455-day mean
421-day median

2013 — 59 Cases
408-day mean
439-day median

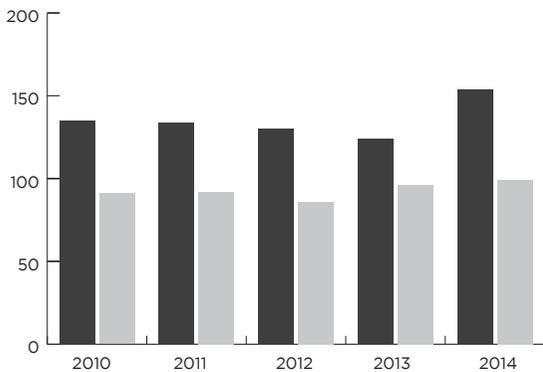
2011 — 54 Cases
481-day mean
415-day median

2014 — 68 Cases
558-day mean
496-day median

2012 — 82 Cases
474-day mean
456-day median

All Cases

From Filing to Final Disposition



2010 — 2,245 Cases
135-day mean
91-day median

2013 — 2,040 Cases
124-day mean
96-day median

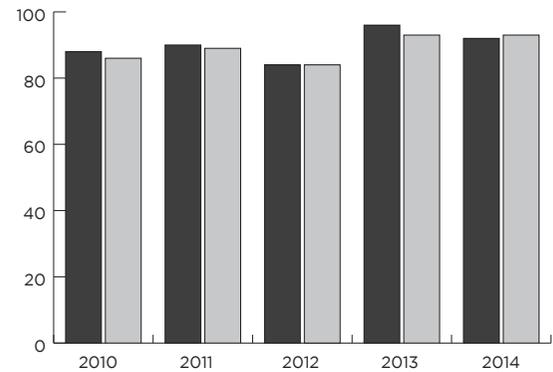
2011 — 2,267 Cases
134-day mean
92-day median

2014 — 1,958 Cases
154-day mean
99-day median

2012 — 2,171 Cases
130-day mean
86-day median

Jurisdictional Appeals NOT ACCEPTED for Merit Review

From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition



2010 — 1,397 Cases
88-day mean
86-day median

2013 — 1,476 Cases
96-day mean
93-day median

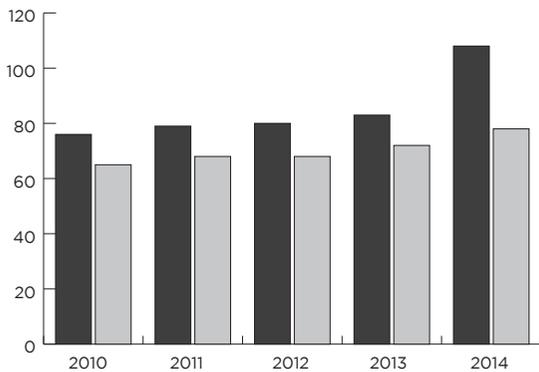
2011 — 1,583 Cases
90-day mean
89-day median

2014 — 1,285 Cases
92-day mean
93-day median

2012 — 1,474 Cases
84-day mean
84-day median

Original Actions⁶

From Filing to Final Disposition



2010 — 233 Cases
76-day mean
65-day median

2013 — 253 Cases
83-day mean
72-day median

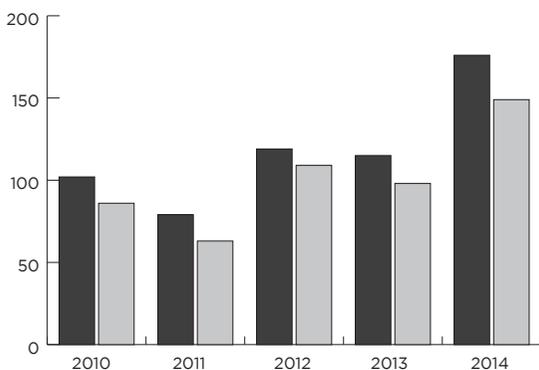
2011 — 207 Cases
79-day mean
68-day median

2014 — 212 Cases
108-day mean
78-day median

2012 — 196 Cases
80-day mean
68-day median

Cases Decided with an Opinion

From Submission to Court Until Issuance of Opinion



2010 — 333 Cases
102-day mean
86-day median

2013 — 192 Cases
115-day mean
98-day median

2011 — 265 Cases
79-day mean
63-day median

2014 — 265 Cases
176-day mean
149-day median

2012 — 338 Cases
117-day mean
109-day median

CASE STATISTICS NOTES

- 1) Miscellaneous cases include Certified Conflict Cases, Certified Questions of State Law, Direct Appeals, Original Actions, and Administrative Appeals.
- 2) See p. 28 for a breakdown of cases relating to the practice of law that were filed in 2014.
- 3) This category includes dispositions where the court declined to accept jurisdiction and did not review the merits of the case.
- 4) Case Nos. 2013-1620 and 2014-0967 were dismissed upon the acceptance of the attorneys' resignations from the practice of law with disciplinary action pending.
- 5) Case No. 2013-1101 was dismissed upon the acceptance of the attorney's resignation from the practice of law with disciplinary action pending.
- 6) This category includes Habeas Corpus cases. In 2014, 46 of the 212 original actions were Habeas Corpus cases.

JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT EXPENDITURES

The Supreme Court of Ohio/Judiciary GRF budget accounts for more than \$143 million, which is used to support the operation of the Moyer Judicial Center, home to the Supreme Court, as well as the payment of the salaries of Ohio judges and courts of appeals staff.

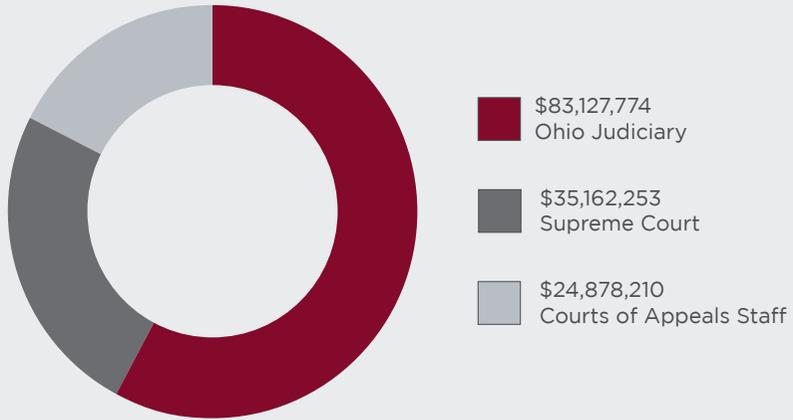
	Expenditures FY 2014*	Percent of Total	Budgeted FY 2015	Percent of Total
OPERATING EXPENDITURES JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT				
Courts of Appeals Judges	\$ 11,635,914	8.1	\$ 11,964,812	8.3
Trial Court Judges	71,491,860	49.9	72,813,720	50.6
TOTAL OHIO JUDICIARY	\$83,127,774	58.0	\$84,778,532	58.9
COURTS OF APPEALS STAFF	\$24,878,210	17.4	\$26,740,307	18.6
SUPREME COURT				
Supreme Court of Ohio Operations	\$ 34,051,632	23.9	\$ 28,713,898	20.0
Ohio Center for Law-Related Education	236,172	.2	236,172	.2
Ohio Courts Technology Initiative	874,449	.6	3,350,000	2.3
SUPREME COURT TOTAL	\$ 35,162,253	24.7	\$ 32,300,070	22.5
OHIO JUDICIARY & SUPREME COURT TOTAL	\$ 143,168,237	100.0	\$ 143,818,909	100.0

* Includes liquidated encumbrances and all fund sources.

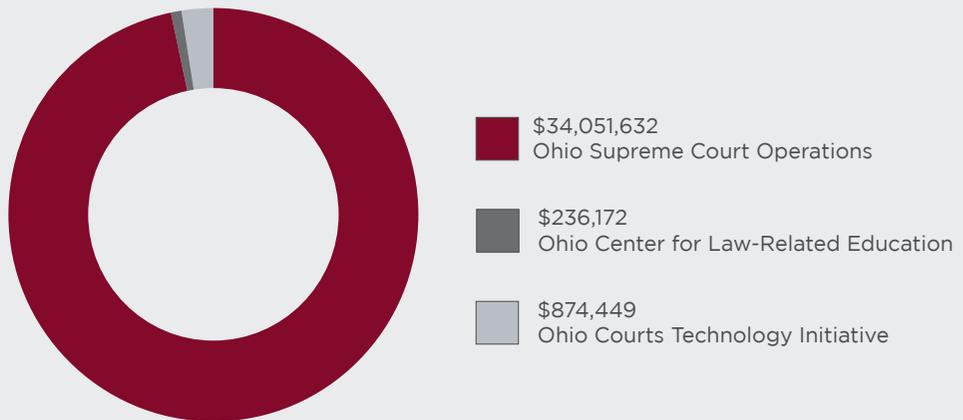
NOTE: Numbers may be rounded up to the nearest dollar.

SOURCE: Legislative Service Commission Redbook.

OHIO JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT FISCAL YEAR 2014 TOTAL EXPENDITURES



SUPREME COURT OF OHIO FISCAL YEAR 2014 TOTAL EXPENDITURES



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According to the Ohio Constitution, in the event of a recusal by a justice from a pending case, the chief justice can select any of the 68 sitting Ohio appellate court judges to sit temporarily on the Supreme Court. The court thanks the court of appeals judges who served as visiting judges for Supreme Court oral arguments in 2014.



HON. EVE BELFANCE
Ninth District
Case No. 2013-0654
*Cleveland Clinic Found.
v. Bd. of Zoning Appeals*
February 25



HON. MELODY STEWART
Eighth District
Case No. 2013-0580
Burkhart v. H.J. Heinz Co.
February 25



HON. PAT DEWINE
First District
Case No. 2013-0283
Sauer v. Crews
February 26



HON. VERNON PRESTON
Third District
Case No. 2012-1653
*In re: Judicial Campaign
Complaint Against O'Toole*
February 26



HON. PATRICK FISCHER
First District
Case No. 2012-1653
*In re: Judicial Campaign
Complaint Against O'Toole*
February 26



HON. MARY EILEEN KILBANE
 Eighth District
 Case No. 2013-0824
U.W. v. Dept. of Youth Serus.
 April 30



HON. MICHAEL E. POWELL
 Twelfth District
 Case No. 2013-0596
State ex rel. Plunderbund Media v. Born
 May 27



HON. SHEILA G. FARMER
 Fifth District
 Case Nos. 2013-1129/2013-1319
State v. Griffin
 May 27



HON. W. SCOTT GWIN
 Fifth District
 Case No. 2013-1277
Walker v. Toledo
 June 11



HON. KATHLEEN A. KEOUGH
 Eighth District
 Case No. 2013-0473
Docks Venture LLC v. Dashing Pacific Group LTD
 July 9



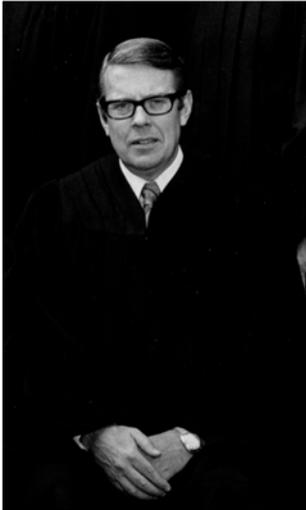
HON. JENNIFER HENSAL
 Ninth District
 Case No. 2013-1731
State v. Keenan
 September 9



HON. STEPHEN A. YARBROUGH
 Sixth District
 Case Nos. 2013-1644/2013-1766
Hulsmeyer v. Hospice of Southwest Ohio, Inc.
 September 23



HON. JOHN W. WISE
 Fifth District
 Case No. 2013-2050
Hope Academy Broadway Campus v. White Hat Mgt., L.L.C.
 September 23



THOMAS M. HERBERT

JUSTICE, JANUARY 1969 TO JULY 1980

Elected in 1968, Thomas Morgan Herbert had the distinction of being one of two father-son successions on the Ohio Supreme Court, taking the place of his father, Justice Paul M. Herbert. Former Justice Herbert died on Feb. 23, 2014, in Columbus at the age 86.

The Herberts joined Edward and John Matthias, as the only other father-son successions in the history of the Supreme Court.

Justice Thomas Herbert defeated Merrill D. Brothers in 1968 to succeed his father, and was re-elected in 1974. In 1979 he announced he would not seek a third term. He resigned in 1980 and joined the Porter, Wright, Morris, and Arthur Law Firm. From 1982 to 1984, he served as a judge with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Justice Herbert served under Chief Justices Kingsley A. Taft, C. William O'Neill, Robert E. Leach, and Frank D. Celebrezze. In 1978, he sought election as chief justice, but lost to Chief Justice Celebrezze.

Before serving on the Supreme Court, the justice was elected to the Tenth District Court of Appeals in 1966. He also served in the Ohio House of Representatives in the early 1960s. His father also served in the Ohio House, as well as the Ohio Senate and three terms as lieutenant governor. At the time of his death, U.S. District Judge James L. Graham told the *Columbus Dispatch* that while Justice Thomas Herbert was part of a political dynasty he established his own judicial legacy. "He was patient and brilliant and always right on point," Judge Graham said. "Justice Tom didn't wander around subjects."

Justice Herbert was noted for his desire to assure those appearing before the Supreme Court received fair and unbiased reviews of their cases. He was particularly concerned that criminal proceedings were free of judicial errors. He wrote the majority opinion in *In re Jackson* (1970) where 16-year-old Leslie Jackson was

charged in juvenile court for being a delinquent child. Jackson allegedly shot at a Cleveland police officer with intent to kill. While the juvenile court did not find him to be delinquent, the court ordered him bound over to Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court to be tried as an adult. Justice Herbert wrote that a child cannot be turned over to a common pleas court until a determination is made by the juvenile court that the child is delinquent. If found to be delinquent, the juvenile court must then provide evidence that the child could not be rehabilitated within the exclusive jurisdiction of the juvenile court before attempting to try him as an adult.

The justice was also known for his careful consideration of death penalty cases. In *State v. Anderson* (1972) the defendant was convicted of first-degree murder without a recommendation of mercy, and scheduled to be executed. The trial judge did not allow jurors to be asked about their views on capital punishment during jury selection. Justice Herbert wrote that this violated *Witherspoon v. Illinois* (1968), and the death sentence was revoked and the defendant was sentenced to life in prison.

Born Dec. 1, 1927, Justice Herbert held bachelor's and law degrees from The Ohio State University. He flew 260 hours of combat in B-29 airplanes during the Korean War and received the Air Medal with cluster. He was married to the former Patricia Mae Harris for nearly 52 years. They raised two children: Lisa Herbert Cobe and current Franklin County Municipal Court Judge Paul M. Herbert II.

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