



Connections

Introducing the Director of Child Welfare Services



Dan Wright

Dan Wright, Director of Child Welfare Services, has worked for the Michigan Supreme Court for almost 20 years.

In November 1989, after practicing law for 15 years, Dan joined the Supreme Court Commissioners' Office, where he served as a commissioner for 12 years. He left the Commissioners' Office to become a special assistant to then-Chief Justice Maura Corrigan in 2002. His assignment was to coordinate the

work of Michigan's Executive and Judicial Branches in the statewide conversion to the federally mandated child support computer system known as MiCSES. The conversion was successfully completed on October 1, 2003. In December 2002, Michigan Lawyers Weekly named Dan "Lawyer of the Year" for his work on MiCSES and his service to the child support program.

Dan came to SCAO in November 2002, when he was appointed director of the Friend of the Court Bureau (FOCB). Under his leadership, the FOCB transformed what had been a contentious relationship into a very good relationship with the Michigan Friend of the Court Association, and this partnership produced a stronger voice for the courts in the child support program. In 2006, SCAO decided to merge the FOCB with Child Welfare Services (CWS). Dan became director of the combined division, which was called Family Services. The experiment lasted 18 months, at which time the FOCB was returned to Trial Court Services and Dan remained Director of CWS.

(Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue:

Judicial Resource Report FAQ — Page 3

Time Guidelines Workgroups — Page 4

Collections Reporting — Page 5

Good Will Garden — Page 5

Screening Domestic Violence Cases — Page 6

MCAP Help Desk — Page 6

"Good News" Coverage — Page 7

Interpreter Testing and Certification — Page 8

Courts to School Program — Page 9

Just For Fun — Page 10

Upcoming Events — Page 11

Links of Interest — Page 13

Furlough Days

The Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and SCAO, including SCAO regional offices, will be closed due to unpaid furloughs on the following days:

Friday, June 19

Monday, July 6

Friday, July 24

Friday, August 7

Friday, August 21

Friday, September 4

On these dates, Judicial Information Systems will staff the Automation Help Desk on a limited basis to provide technical support to the courts in emergencies.

Director of Child Welfare Services

(continued from cover)

CWS has 15 employees and consists of two units, the Court Improvement Program (CIP) and the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB).

The FCRB provides third-party review of cases in the state foster care system. Local five-member review boards, composed of trained volunteers, review randomly selected cases of abused or neglected children whom the courts and the Department of Human Services (DHS) have placed in foster care. In each case, the board submits a report with recommendations to the presiding judge and the DHS office. The local review boards also investigate appeals by foster parents who object to a child-placing agency's decision to remove a foster child from a foster home. As part of the FCRB program, SCAO employs a program manager, three program representatives, and support staff. The program has offices in Detroit, Lansing, and Gaylord.

CWS's other unit administers the Michigan Court Improvement Program by annually applying for three federal grants – the Main Grant, the Training Grant, and the Data Collection and Analysis Grant. The overriding goal is to improve the judicial process for child abuse and neglect cases through increased collaboration between the courts and the state's public and private child welfare agencies.

The primary focus of CWS's Main Grant is to administer a CIP Statewide Task Force, which meets quarterly and has approximately 60 members, including judges, attorneys, referees, private agency workers, DHS caseworkers and central office managers, the Office of the Children's Ombudsman, the State Bar of Michigan, and child welfare advocates. In addition to the quarterly meetings, the task force members participate in committees that address specific categories of court improvement.

The Policy Committee recommends legislative and policy solutions to the gray areas of child welfare in which the law is unclear and practices are inconsistent. The Quality Representation Committee oversees projects that seek to improve the legal representation that children and parents receive in child protection proceedings. The Child and Family Services Review Committee prepares the courts for the federal audit that comprehensively measures our state's performance in providing safety, timely permanent placements, and well being for abused and neglected children. The Quality and Depth of Hearings Committee studies each hearing that occurs in the life of a child protection case and is developing a set of best practices for those proceedings. A new workgroup, the Tribal Court Relations Committee, will work at improving outcomes for Native American children in the child welfare system, preserving Native American families, and strengthening the relationship of Michigan's state and tribal courts.

CWS maintains an extensive training program through the CIP Training Grant and the additional funding provided by

the Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice. The trainings are offered to judges, court staff, attorneys, DHS, and private agency staff, field workers and other child welfare professionals. In 2008, CWS's training unit administered or co-sponsored 39 trainings around the state. These events covered various child welfare topics including legal representation, substance abuse, domestic violence, neglect, non-respondent parents, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and post-termination (of parental rights) review hearings. CWS also conducted regional trainings on Title IV-E and Michigan's upcoming Child and Family Services Review.

Thirty-one trainings have been scheduled for 2009. These include a special symposium for juvenile judges and referees, as well as training for judges who have just recently been assigned to preside over an abuse/neglect docket.

The Data Grant is used to expand the sharing of child welfare data between the courts and the DHS. This will permit both sides to obtain the information needed to measure their performance in serving the children and families that enter the foster care system. In June 2008, SCAO and DHS signed a data sharing agreement, which opened the door to an exchange of data that will one day permit court and agency data to be loaded into a centralized data warehouse. With access to this combination of protective services, foster care and judicial data, both court and agency staff will be able to view the information for the purpose of determining what is working well and what needs improvement in their respective areas of responsibility. Although this project will take several years to reach fruition, a cross-branch team has already developed sixty-two performance measures around which the data can be organized, and courts have begun experimenting with data analysis in three pilot counties.

In addition to these primary activities, CWS is carrying on a host of special projects that target specific areas of court improvement. These include a permanency options workgroup that proposes new legislation, a committee that has drafted a court resource guide for compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act, a mental health court that rehabilitates maltreated infants, an adoption and permanency forum to expedite the process toward permanent placements for foster children, a case collaboration project that has facilitated county-level teamwork on child protection cases, a committee that studies the causes of child deaths to prevent future occurrences, and a reporting system that tracks and locates foster children who have left their placements without legal permission.

CWS is pleased with the progress of the FCRB and the CIP and looks forward to additional challenges in the coming months.

Judicial Resources Report

Frequently Asked Questions

By Laura Hutzell,
Statistical Research Manager

FAQ

FAQ

FAQ

FAQ

FAQ

FAQ

The State Court Administrative Office is in the process of preparing the 2009 Judicial Resources Recommendations (JRR) Report, which upon completion will be submitted to the Michigan Legislature and Governor. The report will include recommendations to change the number of judgeships in specific courts.

Q. How often does SCAO make recommendations to the Legislature and Governor?

SCAO makes recommendations during every odd-numbered year.

Q. What is the basis for SCAO's recommendations?

SCAO conducts periodic time studies to assess the average time expended by judicial officers while handling different case types. These case weights are used to estimate the judicial need within each court and these estimates are used to select courts for secondary analysis. During a secondary analysis, SCAO reviews a number of factors related to judicial workload, such as population trends, filing trends, and any issue presented by the court. The results of both the weighted caseload analysis and the secondary analysis are then used to determine the final recommendations regarding possible changes in judgeships within a court.

Q. If a court is selected for secondary analysis, does that mean that court will automatically be subject to a recommendation to eliminate or add a judgeship?

No. For some courts undergoing a secondary analysis, the final recommendation is that there is no change in the number of judgeships.

Q. What are case weights?

Case weights represent the average number of minutes a judicial officer spends handling one case. Case weights are applied to all new filings, even those that are never handled by a judicial officer, such as uncontested speeding tickets.

Q. Do the case weights include postjudgment time?

Yes. During the time studies conducted in Michigan, participants were asked to report ALL case-related time including pretrial, trial, disposition, and postjudgment time.

Q. Does the weighted caseload formula assume that judges are available 40 hours every week for case-related matters?

No. The formula assumes that judges are available for case-related activity 215 days per year and, depending on the court type and cluster, for between 5.25 and 6.00 hours per day. These assumptions were established by the Trial Court Assessment Commission in 1997.

Q. If a judgeship is eliminated, would an individual judge lose his or her position?

Not likely. SCAO's recommendations are to eliminate positions by attrition and to the best of our knowledge, the Legislature always has used reduction by attrition to eliminate judgeships. Attrition typically occurs when a judge retires and the position is then eliminated.

Q. Who do I contact if I have more questions about the methods used for SCAO's JRR Report?

Laura Hutzell, Statistical Research Manager, by phone at 517-373-2222, or by e-mail at hutzell@courts.mi.gov.

SCAO Convened Eight Workgroups to Discuss Time Guidelines

By Laura Hutzell, Statistical Research Manager

During May, SCAO convened eight workgroups to review and discuss the time guidelines established by Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2003-7. Representatives from numerous professional associations, including judicial associations, court administrator associations, and the State Bar of Michigan, participated in the discussions. Jill Booth, Jim Inloes, and Jennifer Warner, who facilitated these workgroups, presented background information on the time guidelines and pertinent court rules and statutes. Laura Hutzell presented the current guidelines and statewide trends based on the past four years of case-age data and discussed time guidelines used in other states. There are currently 15 states that have mandatory guidelines; 24 states, including Michigan, have voluntary guidelines; and 11 states have no guidelines.

The workgroup discussions were lively and informative. Participants shared best practices for effective caseload management, discussed how the guidelines have an effect on justice, made specific recommendations for changing the guidelines, and discussed some negative consequences of adhering too tightly to the time guidelines. SCAO is currently finalizing minutes of these meetings and preparing a summary of the information for the Michigan Supreme Court.

If you have additional questions, please contact Laura Hutzell at 517-373-2222 or hutzell@courts.mi.gov.

SCAO wishes to thank the following associations for their active participation in these workgroups:

- Michigan Judges Association
- Michigan District Judges Association
- Michigan Probate Judges Association
- Michigan Court Administrators Association
- Michigan Association of Circuit Court Administrators
- Michigan Association of Family Court Administrators
- Southeast Michigan Court Administrators Association
- State Bar of Michigan
- Michigan Association of District Court Magistrates
- Michigan Probate and Juvenile Registers Association
- Referees Association of Michigan
- Friend of the Court Association
- Department of Human Services
- Michigan Sheriffs' Association

Ideas? Comments? Suggestions?

Contact us at: connections@courts.mi.gov or 517-373-2219

Annual Collections Reporting

By Beth Barber, Trial Court Collections Project Manager

Are you tired of generating receivables and collections reports, mailing these bulky reports to the SCAO, and then waiting (and waiting some more) for your court's collection rates? Do you want to see collection rates immediately? If so, then the new Collections Data System (CDS) application is for you!

Beginning in July 2009, the required annual outstanding receivables and payment/adjustment distribution reports will be collected through the CDS application on the Michigan Court Applications Portal (MCAP). The CDS application is a secure, web-based application that has been created to improve reporting and analysis of these collections reports.

The old method of mailing paper reports to the SCAO was inefficient because several months elapsed before courts would receive their collection rates. This new method of submitting reports using the CDS application will provide courts with immediate access to their collection rates. In addition, courts will receive summary reports of their data, including a report that shows the amounts owed to the funding unit as well as those owed to the state and victims.

Courts may submit their annual outstanding receivables and payment/adjustment distribution reports beginning July 1, 2009. Courts have the option of either uploading or manually entering the data. Due to the implementation of this new application, the deadline for reporting has been extended from July 15 to July 31, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 517-373-4831 or collections@courts.mi.gov.

Note: The implementation of the Collections Data System was postponed. The application will be available in a few weeks and courts will be given ample time to submit their annual outstanding receivables and payments/adjustment reports. Please do not mail these reports to SCAO; they will be collected through the new application.

What's Growing in Taylor, Michigan?



Taylor Good Will Garden

By Vicky Bowman, 23rd District Court

The Good Will Garden has begun its eighth year of operation this spring. It is located in Heritage Park in Taylor, Michigan. The garden is divided into two sections, the Service Garden and the Community Garden.

The Service Garden is planted and maintained by community service workers assigned by the judges of the 23rd District Court. The workers are supervised by advanced master gardeners. Judge Geno D. Salomone is actively involved in this community effort.



Judge Geno D. Salomone
Picture provided by the
23rd District Court

The Community Garden is divided into 20-foot plots that are leased to local residents for raising their own vegetables and flowers.

The goal of the Service Garden is to provide fresh, organically grown food to those in need. Last year, the gardens produced more than 2,500 pounds of fresh and chemical-free vegetables for donation to organizations such as Gleaners Community Food Bank, the William Ford Senior Activity Center, and the Fish and Loaves food pantry.

Thank you to the 23rd District Court for sharing this success story.

If your court has a success story to share, please contact us at connections@courts.mi.gov.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
A Guide to Civil & Criminal Proceedings



3rd
EDITION
VOLUME I

Why is it Important to Screen Court Cases For Domestic Violence?

By Mary Lovik, Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention & Treatment Board

Even though Michigan's courts face overwhelming caseloads (88,105 new domestic relations filings were reported in 2008), it is essential that courts take the time needed to screen cases for domestic violence. Such scrutiny allows courts to adopt case management practices that promote safety for the parties, their children, and court staff. For example, when parties cannot safely participate, cases may be excused from court processes such as mediation, conciliation, or joint meetings.

Case screening processes are most likely to open doors to disclosure of domestic violence when a court's staff and environment provides physical safety and other support for disclosure at all stages of a case. Key components of a safe environment where disclosure is encouraged are:

- Staff members who are well-informed about domestic violence and community referral resources.
- Clear, ongoing communication between the staff and the parties about how the court will use the information disclosed, and the extent to which disclosed information may be held confidential.
- Consistent procedures for safeguarding confidential information.
- Ongoing efforts to minimize contact between parties when domestic violence is present.

Awareness that domestic violence may be disclosed incrementally, or late in the life of a case. Some victims of violence may be unsafe making full disclosure immediately after separation because of threats of retaliation by perpetrators. Others may feel safe initially, but may later experience escalated violence at key points during the case, for example, immediately before or after issuance of a child custody or support order.

Courts seeking to implement domestic violence screening processes can consult the following resources:

Domestic Violence and Child Abuse/Neglect Screening for Domestic Relations Mediation, online at: <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/standards/odr/dvprotocol.pdf>. Although designed for mediation, this model protocol contains a questionnaire and case management suggestions that can be useful in other contexts.

The Michigan Judicial Institute's Friend of the Court Domestic Violence Resource Book, online at: http://courts.michigan.gov/mji/resources/focdv/foc_dv.htm. Chapters 2 and 3 of this book contain case management and referral information that can be useful in domestic relations cases.

MCAP HELP DESK

Need Help with Running an "Output" Report?

By Kim Tody, Data Project Coordinator

Have you ever received an error message while running an output report from the Delay in Criminal Proceedings application? Or wondered what steps you should take to submit your caseload verification? The Michigan Court Application Portal (MCAP) Help Desk team is available to answer these and many other questions about the various reporting applications on MCAP.

Questions about accessing MCAP or how to use each application are handled by Kim Tody, who works with SCAO's Statistical Research Team. Some questions may be forwarded to a manager or analyst who administers a specific MCAP

“Good News” Coverage — and How to Get It...

By Marcia McBrien, Public Information Officer

“Tragedy sells.” “If it bleeds, it leads.” True, the media is drawn to stories of violence, corruption, and disaster, because they know their audience is also. But good news also has a place in media coverage. We like to see uplifting stories that show problems being solved, people in need being helped.

Unfortunately, although the justice system helps people and solves problems on a daily basis, it's very difficult to interest the media in the everyday workings of a court. One reporter told me curtly, “It's just not news when public officials do their jobs.” That's frustrating for courts, because so often they are covered only when something goes wrong. What to do?

First, recognize that the media is not going to come to you with a good-news story idea about your court; you have to go to the media. You will have to think like a reporter. What's new at your court? Would it interest the public? Do you have something to teach the public? What, if anything, do you want your audience to do as a result?

Here are some examples of proactive media relations that can result in positive coverage for your court:

- If you have a new service for the public, show media and potential users how it works. For example, if your court just created a self-help web service for pro se litigants, hold a public demonstration of that service. Think about visuals – what images will help to convey your message?
- Invite school groups to court – or take your court to the school. A number of Michigan judges have held proceedings in high school auditoriums, such as sentencings in drunk driving cases. Select a case that the student group can understand, and be sure to get the consent of all parties before taking a case off-site.
- Participate in Law Day, Michigan Adoption Day, Constitution Day, or a similar event. Coming up in July is Juror Appreciation Month, when courts around the state recognize jurors for their service and honor the jury's role in the rule of law. The Supreme Court Office of Public Information offers sample op-eds, speeches, and other materials for Juror Appreciation Month and other events. For more information, please contact Barbara Browne at 517-373-0714 or by e-mail at browneb@courts.mi.gov.

MCAP Help Desk

(continued from page 6)

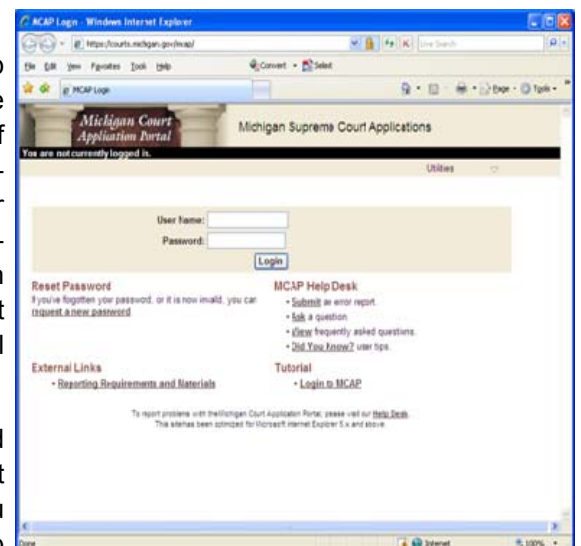


Kim Tody
Data Project Coordinator

application. Technical support questions are handled by the JIS programmers responsible for the development and maintenance of all MCAP applications. This team of programmers is separate from the programmers who are responsible for the case management systems that are used by some trial courts.

In addition to personalized assistance, the Help Desk team provides users knowledge about the many valuable resources available on MCAP. If you have forgotten your password, the reset password feature will e-mail you a new one. User guides, reporting instructions, and FAQs are available for most applications in the downloads section of MCAP; and a video tutorial is now available that guides the user through the steps necessary to login to MCAP. Additional tutorials will be provided in the near future.

The Help Desk section of MCAP is available on the MCAP home page and it can also be accessed by selecting the utilities menu from the upper right corner of the MCAP header and then selecting the Help Desk option. You can contact the Help Desk team in one of three ways: click on the Help Desk link located at the bottom of each MCAP page, send an e-mail to web_app_info@courts.mi.gov, or call Kim Tody directly at 517-373-5538.



Michigan's Interpreter Testing and Certification Program

By Sharon Fox, Program Assistant

Why do we offer interpreters?

In an effort to provide equal justice to every litigant, victim, and witness, there must be a common understanding of the language that is spoken in the courtroom. Because there are non-English speaking parties involved in court cases, courts must offer these individuals access to qualified interpreter services.

An interpreter must be bilingual, but being bilingual alone does not make an individual qualified to provide legal interpretation. A foreign language court interpreter must possess the following three distinct types of proficiencies and knowledge:

- Strong language skills in both English and the foreign language.
- Knowledge of ethical and professional standards and the ability to uphold these standards in a courtroom setting.
- Competence in three modes of interpretation: sight translation, consecutive, and simultaneous.

Legal interpreting requires superior language fluency, mastery of legal terminology, understanding of legal procedures and protocol, training in interpreting techniques, and compliance with legal and ethical standards. These types of aptitude and knowledge are what distinguish a legal interpreter from a general bilingual interpreter.

What process is used to certify the proficiencies and knowledge of interpreters?

In September 1999, the State Court Administrative Office joined the Consortium for State Court Interpretation of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Currently, there are 40 states that are members of the Consortium. The Consortium is a multistate partnership dedicated to development of court interpreter proficiency tests, and making the tests available to member states, while regulating the use of the tests.

At this time, Michigan does not require that foreign language interpreters be certified in order to interpret in the courts. The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) encourages courts only to use certified interpreters when they are available. SCAO currently has the ability to test and certify interpreters in the following languages: Arabic, Cantonese, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, French, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Ilocano, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, and Vietnamese.

A person wishing to become certified as a foreign language interpreter in Michigan must successfully complete a two-step process: (1) passing the written English exam and (2) passing the oral proficiency exam. There is no fee charged to take the written exam. Oral proficiency exams currently cost between \$200 and \$375, depending upon the language tested. Exams are administered in the Hall of Justice in Lansing, Michigan.

The written English exam is designed to measure a candidate's knowledge in three essential areas that are fundamental to the interpreter's ability to produce a minimally qualified level of court interpretation: understanding of (1) the English language, (2) court-related terms and usage, and (3) standards of ethics and professional conduct.

The oral proficiency exam measures an interpreter's skills in the following three modes of interpreting:

- **Sight translation:** The interpreter reads a document in English and translates it into the foreign language. The interpreter then reads a document in the foreign language and interprets it into English.
- **Consecutive:** The interpreter listens to the speaker say a group of words or sentences in one language. The interpreter then interprets those words or sentences into another language.
- **Simultaneous:** The interpreter listens to the speaker and interprets the speaker's words into another language contemporaneously. This is seen in the courtroom when the interpreter whispers into the ear of the non-English speaker, or uses equipment, such as headphones, through which the non-English speaker hears the interpreter.

(continued on page 10)

Courts to School Program

By Michael Dillon, 55th District Court

NEED FOR JUDICIAL EDUCATION: The district court has been called the “Peoples’ Court.” It is referred to as the “Peoples’ Court” due to the types of cases heard by the court, as well as the diversity and number of people who access the district court on a daily basis. Even with this distinction, most individuals have little or no knowledge of district court operations. Court rules, procedures and policies are generally foreign and/or misunderstood.

Citizens learn about the court system both formally and informally. Both means provide little if any practical information. Our schools are charged with formally educating students about the workings of government. Most schools develop curriculums that focus on federal government. Students are taught about the federal court system. There is little emphasis on the Michigan court system, and even less of an emphasis on the district court.

Citizens learn informally about the court system through the media, the entertainment industry and the experience of others. This type of information is often inaccurate and misleading.

Acknowledging these misperceptions, the court felt a responsibility to reach out to the local schools in Ingham County by offering a judicial education program that was both realistic and practical.

COURT-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM: In March of 2009, the 55th District Court launched its Court-To-School Program at Okemos High School. The program was modeled after the highly successful program implemented by the 12th Judicial District Court in Jackson County. The 55th District Court’s Court-to-School Program was developed after meeting with school officials from Okemos High School. This program provides high school students with a better understanding of the judicial system and demonstrates the personal, social and legal ramifications from substance abuse. The program consists of two phases. The first phase consists of educating students about the court system and substance abuse through the traditional style of classroom instruction. The second phase consists of vicarious learning where students observe actual court proceedings being held at their school.

The court requested permission from the State Court Administrative Office through a local administrative order to hold court at Okemos High School. Prosecutorial staff and defense attorneys were asked if they would be willing to participate in the program. Each defendant was informed that participation was voluntary.

Prior to the actual court date, Beryl Frenger, Chief Probation Officer, visited Okemos High School and met with the social studies classes. She gave a presentation concerning what the students would observe when court was held at school. In addition, she discussed the problems associated with substance abuse. Ms. Frenger drew upon her years of experience as a probation officer and provided the classes with real-life examples of substance abuse cases.

On the morning of March 27, 2009, The Honorable Thomas P. Boyd conducted his morning session of court at Okemos High School. Approximately 500 students observed court proceedings that day.

A few days after the program, the court received a letter from Dr. John Lanzetta, Principal of Okemos High School. Dr. Lanzetta said:

The entire project was an extraordinary success. The instruction by the probation officer was exceptional. The court hearings and question and answer sessions were riveting and enlightening. All aspects of the program contributed enormously to the education of our students. Indeed, discussions among students continued throughout the day, and I am confident they will continue in classrooms and hallways for some time to come.

Dr. Lanzetta concluded his letter with: “I look forward to a continued partnership with your court in an ongoing effort to enhance our social studies curriculum and our students’ understanding of the legal process.”

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY OUTREACH: The 55th District Court is committed to educating the community about the district court through community outreach programs. The Court-to-School Program is an example of the court’s commitment. The two-phase program provides for a unique learning experience for the students. Many of the issues during the presentation phase become reality when observed during the court phase of the program.

Because both court and school officials have deemed the Court-to-School Program a success, the court has begun to make the Court-to-School Program available to the other school districts in Ingham County.



Judge Thomas Boyd

Michigan's Interpreter Testing and Certification Program

(continued from page 8)

Where do I Find an Interpreter?

The SCAO website has a list of certified interpreters in Michigan: <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/access/inter.htm>

SCAO maintains an unpublished list of interpreters who are not certified. Some of these uncertified interpreters have passed the written English exam only. This may demonstrate their knowledge of the English language, and familiarity with legal terminology and ethics and professional conduct.

Another resource to find an interpreter is the Michigan Translators/Interpreters Network, Michigan Chapter of the American Translators Association: <http://www.mitinweb.org/>

Resources for telephone interpreter services include:

- Language Learning Enterprises, Inc.: www.lle-inc.com
- Language Line: <http://www.language.com/>
- Bromberg and Associates: <http://www.bromberg-translation-services.com/>

If you have any questions about Michigan's interpreter testing and certification, please contact Sharon Fox at 517-373-6670 or foxs@courts.mi.gov.

J
U
S
T
F
O
R
F
U
N

I	G	A	N	O	C	T	S	A	H	M	N	A	A
I	G	R	A	D	U	A	T	I	O	N	O	N	T
M	A	G	I	L	S	M	R	B	T	O	I	L	I
B	R	E	I	K	L	E	A	N	E	C	T	B	O
D	D	S	I	N	U	A	W	B	I	A	A	F	I
O	E	I	W	N	I	S	B	B	O	V	C	L	S
P	N	S	I	I	R	Q	E	E	E	U	A	H	U
G	I	O	E	A	M	I	R	S	S	E	V	L	N
R	N	N	O	L	E	M	R	E	T	A	W	N	S
S	G	I	G	O	G	N	I	T	A	O	B	R	H
V	T	N	P	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	D	A	I
B	I	B	S	M	I	M	S	I	G	I	A	G	N
I	G	N	V	G	A	S	C	I	N	C	I	P	E
G	M	R	D	C	L	C	R	O	Q	U	E	T	B



- | | | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Baseball | Camping | Gardening | Skiing | Vacation |
| BBQ | Carnivals | Graduation | Strawberries | Watermelon |
| Beach | Croquet | Picnics | Sunshine | |
| Boating | Friends | Reunions | Swimming | |

Upcoming Events

July 2009

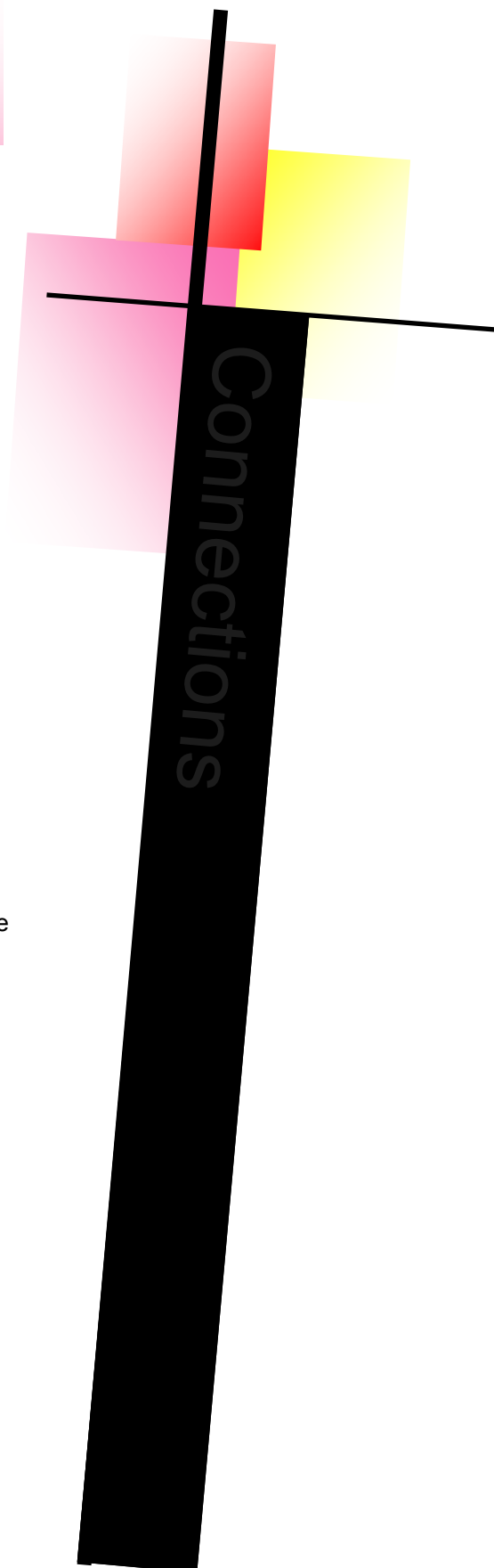
- 3 State Holiday
- 6 Furlough Day
- 13-17 Learning Center Careers Program, 7th-9th Grades
- 23 CWS Training
- 24 Furlough Day
- 28 Magistrate Specialty Seminar
- 31 Juvenile Law Certification Exam (1/2 day)

August 2009

- 7 Furlough Day
- 14 Juvenile Law Certification Exam (1/2 day), Gaylord
- 16-18 Michigan Judges Association (MJA) Conference, Mackinac Island
- 20 CWS Training
- 21 Furlough Day
- 26-28 Michigan District Judges Association (MDJA) Conference, Thompsonville

September 2009

- 1-3 MJI Court Administration Orientation
- 4 Furlough Day
- 9-10 New Friend of the Court Employee Seminar
- 16-18 Michigan Association of Court Mediators Annual (MACM) Conference
Thompsonville
- 17 Constitution Day
- 22-23 Michigan Supreme Court 2009 Annual Judicial Conference, Lansing



Links of Interest

Administrative Memoranda

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/other/proc.htm>

Administrative Orders

Recently Adopted

<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Resources/Administrative/index.htm#administrative>

All Current

<http://courtofappeals.mijud.net/rules/documents/3AdministrativeOrders.pdf>

Archived Webcasts

<http://ustools.you-niversity.com/youtools/companies/mji/archivesLayout2.html>

Benchbooks, Manuals, Handbooks

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/publications/index.htm>

Brochures and Pamphlets

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/publications/pamphlets/index.htm>

Collecting Money from Judgment

http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/selfhelp/collection/collect_help.htm

Complaints—FOCs, etc.

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/complaints/index.htm>

Contacts

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/dirs/scao.htm>

Court Interpreters

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/access/inter.htm>

Court Officers

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/dirs/ctoff.asp?mysort=qctc%20ASC>

Court Reporters/Recorders

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/crr.crr.htm>

Court Rules

<http://coa.courts.mi.gov/rules/>

Proposed

<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Resources/Administrative/index.htm#proposed>

Recently Adopted

<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Resources/Administrative/index.htm#approved>

Finding Legal Information

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/selfhelp/intro/legalinfo.htm>

Grant Opportunities

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/grants/grants.htm>

Interest Rates

<http://courts.michigan.gov/resources/other/interest.pdf>

Local Administrative Orders—Models

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/resources/other/lao.htm>

Self Help Center

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/selfhelphome.htm>

Recent Communications

<http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/features/Mailings/maillist.htm>