



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nominations Open for Child Welfare Awards; Foster Care Review Board to Recognize Service to Children and Families Served by the Foster Care System

DETROIT, MI, June 13, 2014 – The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) is seeking nominations for its annual Child Welfare Awards, which honor judges, lawyers, foster care workers and foster parents for exemplary service to children in Michigan’s foster care system.

“Court officials and volunteers who serve the needs of our most vulnerable children and families play a key role in ensuring safety, well-being, and stability for those involved in foster care,” said State Court Administrator John Hohman, Jr. “Publicly acknowledging their efforts highlights the fact that people who care are critical to the success of Michigan’s child welfare system.”

Categories include “Jurist of the Year” (judges and referees), “Foster Care Worker of the Year,” “LGAL of the Year” (lawyer-guardian ad litem), “Foster Parent of the Year,” and “Parent Attorney of the Year.” All nominees will receive a congratulatory letter from the Foster Care Review Board informing them of their nomination and thanking them for their service.

The nomination deadline is September 6, and award recipients will be recognized at the FCRB annual training conference on November 6 in Dearborn. Click on the nomination criteria and forms for:

[*Jurist of the Year*](#)

[*Foster Care Worker of the Year*](#)

[*LGAL of the Year*](#)

[*Foster Parent of the Year*](#)

[*Parent Attorney of the Year*](#)

For more than 30 years, the FCRB has provided a third-party review of the foster care system. The program is administered by the State Court Administrative Office, the administrative agency of the Michigan Supreme Court, and is comprised of citizen volunteers who serve on one of 30 local review boards throughout the state. Local boards review randomly chosen child abuse and neglect cases to assess the performance of courts, the Michigan Department of Human Services, and private child welfare agencies.

For more information, contact Kathy Lohr at LohrK@courts.mi.gov or (313) 972-3288.

-Released on behalf of the Foster Care Review Board-