



## MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Michigan Supreme Court Officially Welcomes Justice Kurtis T. Wilder at Investiture

LANSING, MI, October 17, 2017 – The Michigan Supreme Court today officially welcomed Justice Kurtis T. Wilder at his formal investiture. In addition to Chief Justice Stephen J. Markman and Justice Brian K. Zahra, speakers at the event included Governor Rick Snyder and Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon. Justice Wilder was appointed in May by Governor Snyder and heard oral arguments with the Court for the first time last week.

“Justice Wilder has already hit the ground running, putting his trial and appeals court experience to good use,” said Chief Justice Markman. “My colleagues and I are pleased to formally welcome Justice Wilder to the bench and report that our work is already benefiting from his dedication to the people of Michigan and the rule of law.”

“Kurt is one of those people you can’t say enough good things about. There is always something else good to say because Kurt is a good man,” said Justice Zahra. “I admire Kurt because he is a leader – he’s a leader in his church, he’s a leader in the community, and he’s a leader at work.”

“I believe that my job is to say what the law is, not what it ought to be,” said Justice Wilder. “I respect the separation of powers that our framers so ably designed, and yet understand that the powers granted to the judiciary must be wisely, carefully, thoughtfully, and compassionately exercised toward the end of equal justice under the law.”

Justice Wilder was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Supreme Court to replace retired Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. Prior to his Supreme Court appointment, he spent nearly 20 years on the Michigan Court of Appeals and previously served as a Washtenaw County trial judge, including service as Chief Judge. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan Law School.

In addition to many professional achievements and other community endeavors, Justice Wilder serves on the boards of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation, and Interlochen Center for the Arts.

The ceremony was held in the sixth floor courtroom at the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing. The colors were presented by the Michigan Wing Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard and included performances by the Interlochen Arts Academy Chamber Singers.

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