



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

John Nevin, Communications Director

Ph: 517-373-0129 Twitter: @MISupremeCourt FB: facebook.com/misupremecourt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chief Justice John Roberts to Present William H. Rehnquist Award to Ann Arbor Judge Libby Hines

National Award is "One of our nation's highest judicial honors"

LANSING, MI, September 6, 2018 – The Supreme Court announced today that [15th District Court Judge Elizabeth "Libby" Hines](#) has been chosen to receive the 2018 [William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence](#). The award, which will be presented by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., at a November 15, 2018, ceremony at the United States Supreme Court, "is one of our nation's highest judicial honors."

"Judge Hines has worked tirelessly and effectively on a wide range of issues assisting judges and courts to become more responsive to the public," said Chief Justice Stephen J. Markman. "For example, she is a national leader in developing best practices and in training judges how to handle cases of domestic violence. The entire Court congratulates her on this singular and well-deserved honor."

"As a state supreme court justice, I work with and watch many judges," said Supreme Court Justice Bridget McCormack, in her [letter nominating Judge Hines](#). "My deep appreciation for Judge Libby Hines' ongoing contributions and selfless service grows with each year. She is a quiet treasure."

Presented annually by the National Center for State Courts, "this prestigious award honors a state court judge who demonstrates the outstanding qualities of judicial excellence, including integrity, fairness, open-mindedness, professional ethics, sound judgment, intellectual courage, and decisiveness."

Judge Hines served 15 years as a Washtenaw County prosecutor before being elected to the district court bench in Ann Arbor in 1992. Of particular note among many accomplishments, Hines launched the Street and Outreach Court, which provides individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness the opportunity to productively resolve civil infractions and non-violent misdemeanors with the help of local service providers.

Judge Hines also played a key role in developing and promoting court rule recommendations regarding "ability to pay" that were ultimately adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court.

Hines serves on the Board of Governors for the American Judges Association (AJA). The AJA honored Hines' work by creating the Judge Elizabeth Hines Award in 2012, where she was the first recipient of the award.

For more information and past recipients, visit the National Center for State Courts [website](#).