



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Justice Wilder Receives ‘Hon. Harold Hood Award’ and ‘Men of Excellence’ Honor

LANSING, MI, July 6, 2017 – Michigan Supreme Court Justice Kurtis T. Wilder was recently presented with the Association of Black Judges of Michigan (ABJM) “Honorable Harold Hood Award.” In addition, Justice Wilder has been inducted into the *Michigan Chronicle* “Men of Excellence” Class of 2017.

“I am thrilled to see Justice Wilder honored for his contributions to the legal field,” said Supreme Court Chief Justice Stephen J. Markman. “He is an outstanding jurist who has spent decades serving the people of Michigan at every level of the judiciary. In addition to being recognized by these organizations, his work is also highly respected and distinguished across the state. Justice Wilder is an inspiration for all who strive to ensure a fair and just judiciary.”

Justice Wilder was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Supreme Court in May to replace retired Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. Prior to his Supreme Court appointment, he spent nearly 20 years as a judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals and previously served as a Washtenaw County trial judge.

The “Honorable Harold Hood Award” was presented to Justice Wilder by outgoing ABJM President Judge Debra Nance, of the 46th Circuit Court in Southfield. The award, named in honor of the late Michigan Court of Appeals judge from Detroit, recognizes an ABJM member who exemplifies integrity and dedication to equal justice. Judge Hood founded the ABJM in 1979, and the award in his name was established in 2003, following his retirement as Chief Judge Pro Tem of the Michigan Court of Appeals. Throughout his time on the bench, he was known for his dedication to fairness for all who encountered the legal system. Judge Hood passed away in 2015 at the age of 84, following a battle with leukemia.

Now in its 10th year, the *Michigan Chronicle* “Men of Excellence” celebration honors 50 African American men who inspire others through leadership, exceptional achievement, and public service. These inductees serve as examples of success to all living in Michigan.

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