



## MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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### **Foster Father and Former Foster Child Rob Scheer to speak at Michigan Supreme Court Adoption Day Ceremonies**

LANSING, MI – November 16, 2017 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that the guest speaker at Adoption Day festivities on November 21 will be foster father and former foster child, Rob Scheer. Profiled in outlets ranging from the Washington Post to the Huffington Post (see excerpt below) and featured on the “Today” and “Ellen” shows, Scheer is dedicated to

helping foster children avoid the trauma he faced without a forever home.

*Excerpt from the The Huffington Post*

#### **[Rob Chasteen-Scheer: From Homeless Teen to Tireless Advocate for Foster Kids](#)**

*Rob often calls the circumstances of his early life “the cards I was dealt.” There’s no doubt he was dealt a losing hand. His mother married six times and had 10 children, of whom Rob was the youngest. Addicted to drugs, Rob’s mother raised her family in conditions that he thought were normal — being shuffled from shelter to shelter, in and out of foster care, siblings in and out of jail. His stepfather was a sadistic predator, sexually abusing Rob from an early age.*

*“My father would hold a gun to my or to my sister’s head and ask my mother, ‘Which one do you want me to shoot tonight?’” he says. “And that was just fun for them. They would drink and laugh.”*

*“I remember, it was my 18th birthday. It was a weekday. My foster father, when he realized no more checks were coming, put my clothes into a trash bag and I became homeless my senior year of high school.”*

Scheer and his husband, Reece, are parents of four children adopted through the foster care system. The children all arrived with their belongings in trash bags – exactly Rob’s experience. The memory was so powerful that it inspired Rob and Reece to found Comfort Cases, a charity that provides overnight bags filled with comfort items to children entering the foster care system. A nonprofit organization staffed by volunteers, Comfort Cases has helped more than 30,000 foster children.

Courts statewide are celebrating Adoption Month throughout November, highlighting the importance of adoption and the needs of children in foster care.

The Supreme Court’s Adoption Day event will take place on Tuesday, November 21, at 10:00 a.m. at the Hall of Justice. Details about other events statewide are available [here](#).

The Court broadcasts its oral arguments and other hearings [live](#) on the Internet via streaming video technology. Watch the stream [live](#) only while the Court is in session and on the bench.