

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



January 22, 2024

In Case You Missed It:

[Federal Panel Finds Exclusion of Unvaccinated Jurors Not 6th Amendment Violation, January 8, 2024](#)

The Ohio Judicial Conference is dedicated to serving all Ohio judges. The Judicial Conference is the voice of the judiciary & a primary resource to ensure the fair, unbiased, open & effective administration of justice.

- On 12.15.23 and 1.18.24, Judges Carroll and Huffman presented a webinar about **Issue 2 and recreational marijuana** in Ohio. Recordings of the webinars are available through the Judicial College and more webinars are coming up: 2.1.24 (forms, potency, and effects of cannabis); 2.16.24 (cannabis and supervision of those on probation or in drug court).
- [Proposed amendments](#) to the **Rules of Practice and Procedure** are now available for their second round of public comment until 2.5.24. The changes apply to the following Rules: AppR 26 (reopening an appeal based on ineffective assistance of counsel); CivR 4, 4.1, 4.7, and 45 (waiver of service, accepting service, and subpoena service); CrimR 4 (probable cause determination and timing of initial hearing); and JuvR 1 (scope of Rules). Comments can be submitted to ruleamendments@sc.ohio.gov.
- **HB 68** (Rep. Click) **Gender-Affirming Care**, Governor's veto overturned 1.10.24. Among other things, the bill prevents a court, when allocating parental time, from considering a parent's behavior towards a child relative gender-affirming care and practices.
- **SB 212** (Sens. DeMora, Kunze) **Age Verification**, introduced 1.16.24. The bill requires age verification for online pornography to determine someone trying to access the material is not a minor. Under the bill, violation of the age verification requirement is an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of R.C. 1345.02.
- **HB 377** (Reps. Santucci, Williams) **Penalty Increases**, introduced 1.16.24. The bill increases the penalty for kidnapping and abduction from an F2 to a F1. For the crime of human trafficking of a minor (younger than 18) or person with a developmental disability, the bill requires an indefinite term with a minimum of 25 years and a maximum of life imprisonment (if the victim is released in a safe place unharmed, the bill requires an indefinite term with a minimum of 15 years and a maximum of life imprisonment).
- Applications for the Supreme Court of [Ohio Technology Grant Funds](#) are being accepted until 2.16.24. This grant opportunity provides financial resources to implement of technology-based projects. For more information and to apply, please visit the Supreme Court of Ohio website.
- Save the Date! The OJC's Court Technology Conference is scheduled for 4.3.24. The Court Tech Conference explores new developments in court technology and serves as a resource to help Ohio judges effectively use technology.
- Save the Date! The OJC's **Annual Judicial-Legislative Exchange** is scheduled for 5.7.24 and is being organized in conjunction with the OSBA's [complimentary CLE panel and Bench-Bar Reception](#). If you would like to participate, please email Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov.

For Tool & Bench Aids, and the latest Enactment Summaries, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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