

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



July 18, 2022

In Case You Missed It:

[Ohio Governor Announces Launch of New eWarrant System, July 6, 2022](#)

[New Mental Health Emergency 988 Line Goes Live July 16, 2022](#)

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.

- **SB 354** (Sen. Blessing) **Foreclosures**, introduced 7.14.22. The bill would alter who is eligible to bid in a foreclosure sale and to create the Ohio Housing Study Committee.
- The Ohio Supreme Court is accepting public comment on a proposed [webform](#) to inquire about **case status and delays** in court cases. Comments on the proposal should be submitted to casemgmt@sc.ohio.gov by 8.12.22.
- New [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#) took effect 7.1.22. Among the changes is a requirement that courts provide for case filing by electronic means. [SCR 16](#) recently disapproved a number of proposed Rules, mainly recommendations of the iCourt Task Force, that would have codified the use of remote proceedings in certain circumstances.
- New [Rules of Superintendence](#) took effect 7.1.22, among them amendments to Rule 66 regarding ward visitation and elder abuse education.
- The Ohio Supreme Court heard 7 cases this week, including: In *State v. Fisk*, a county prosecutor argued that Marsy's Law allows the state to **appeal on behalf of an alleged victim**; in *State v. Morris* the issue is whether a trial judge must explain on the record **how age was factored into a sentence** handed down to a juvenile offender; in *State v. Bailey*, a man sentenced to up to 46.5 years for rape, robbery, and kidnapping claims that his sentence should be shorter because the rape and kidnapping charges should have been **merged for sentencing**; in *State v. Ashcraft*, a man who pleaded guilty to failure to register as a sex offender and was sentenced under two different statutes argues he **cannot be sentenced under both**; In *re Adoption of H.P.*, a father who registered with the **Putative Father Registry** 17 days after his child was born maintains its rules do not apply if the biological father establishes paternity prior to a probate court hearing.
- The [Office of Criminal Justice Services](#) is accepting grant applications for the \$10 million **Ohio Court Backlog Reduction Program**. [HB 169](#) recently dedicated \$250 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to first responders, and that money is meant to support "every aspect of our criminal justice system," according to a statement from the Governor's office, including courts.
- The OSBA is sponsoring a virtual educational opportunity on 7.21.22 at 1pm on limited scope representation or unbundled legal services, so judges know when to accept an attorney appearing on a limited basis and understand the rules governing the use of limited scope representation. The webcast is accredited for 1.0 hour of CLE Professional Conduct credit.
- **Save the Date:** the Ohio Judicial Conference's **Annual Meeting** takes place 9.15.22 and 9.16.22. This year's theme is "Envision this World: A Modern Judiciary." Join us for a U.S. constitutional law update and for discussions on judicial wellness and stress management; eWarrant implementation; medical marijuana; active shooters; and high-tech stalking of domestic violence victims. Registration is now open via the Ohio Judicial Conference's [website](#).

For a complete list of bills & the latest issue of BillBoard, please visit the [OJC website](#).



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