August 15, 2016

Legislation and Policy in the News:

Jury Trials Vanish and Justice is Served Behind Closed Doors; New York Times, August 8, 2016

Legal Clinic Receives High Interest Among Transgender People; Columbus Dispatch, August 12, 2016

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

Legislative News: Two Week Review

- **SB 343** (Sens. Seitz, Skindell), **Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act**, introduced 8.3.16. The bill would adopt the UELMA in Ohio. The Act aims to provide online legal material with the same level of trustworthiness traditionally provided by publication in a law book by requiring that official electronic legal material be authenticated, preserved, and accessible.
- **HR 472** (Rep. Rosenberger) **Rep. Derek Merrin**, introduced and passed 8.2.16. The resolution acknowledges that Rep. Derek Merrin will fill the vacancy of the unexpired portion of Rep. Barbara Sear's term serving the 47th District (Fulton & Lucas counties).
- **HR 473** (Rep. Rosenberger) **Rep. Theresa Gavarone**, introduced and passed 8.2.16. The resolution acknowledges that Rep. Theresa Gavarone will fill the vacancy of the unexpired portion of Rep. Tim Brown's term serving the 3rd District (Wood County).
- **HB 587** (Rep. Boyce) **Body Cameras**, introduced 8.1.16. The bill requires law enforcement officers to use dashboard cameras and body cameras during any time that they are interacting with any member of the public while in the performance of their duties. The bill contains an appropriation to provide state financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies for the purchase of such cameras.
- The **Ohio Criminal Recodification Committee** is now scheduled to release its recommendations 11.1.16.
- The FDA denied a petition to re-schedule marijuana as something other than a Class I controlled substance, keeping marijuana illegal federally. Ohio's Medical Marijuana Law, enacted before the summer recess, goes into effect 9.8.16. Ohio's Board of Professional Conduct issued an advisory opinion on the topic.
- With the help of the OJC, the Sentencing Commission updated the Vehicular Manslaughter and Vehicular Murder chart, which is available online.
- The OJC is currently working on its 2017-2018 Legislative Platform, which will guide our work throughout the next General Assembly. If you have an idea for a legislative change, please send it to Marta.Mudri@sc.ohio.gov for review by our Legislative Committee.
- Save the Date: **The OJC's Annual Meeting, "…And Justice for All: The American Promise,"** (9.75 total CJE hours) will take place on September 15 & 16 in Columbus. Registrations have been mailed and it is possible to register via mail, fax, or online.
- **The OJC is looking for an Executive Director; for more information, look here.**

For a complete list of bills that affect the judiciary, please visit the OJC website.

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