

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



December 6, 2021

In Case You Missed It:

[*Federal Prisoner Statistics Collected Under First Step Act; Bureau of Justice Statistics, November 2021*](#)

[*Jury Holds Pharmacies Responsible for Role in Opioid Crisis; Associated Press, November 24, 2021*](#)

[*Public Nuisance Laws in Opioid Cases Give Hope to Both Sides; Associated Press, November 26, 2021*](#)

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

- [**SB 36**](#) (Sens. Manning, S. Huffman) **Crime Victim Reparations**, signed by the Governor, 12.1.21. The bill includes two additional types of victims who may receive an award of reparations, and it modifies the information that the Attorney General must include in the finding of fact and decision when making an award of reparations to increase transparency. The bill goes into effect in 90 days.
- [**SB 54**](#) (Sen. Gavarone) **Telecommunications Fraud**, signed by the Governor, 12.1.21. The bill provides the Attorney General the authority to pursue robocallers in state court, as well as in federal court. The bill criminalizes “spoofing” and increases penalties in cases where it can be shown that the spoofer or robocaller intentionally targeted certain individuals, such as the elderly, disabled, or a veteran or their spouse. The bill goes into effect in 90 days.
- [**SB 272**](#) (Sen. Brenner) **Revise Terminology in Landlord/Tenant Law**, introduced 11.29.21. The bill changes all instances of “landlord” in the ORC to “lessor” and all instances of “tenant” to “lessee.” It is not yet clear how this may impact state and federal rights and responsibilities associated with the terms “landlord” and “tenant.”
- [**HB 500**](#) (Reps. Lampton, Stewart) **Mandatory Juvenile Bindover**, introduced 12.2.21. The bill eliminates mandatory bindovers and reverse bindovers, and modifies discretionary bindovers of an alleged juvenile offender from a juvenile court to an adult criminal court. The bill also eliminates the mandatory SYO (Serious Youthful Offender) designation.
- The Ohio Supreme Court recently [decided a case](#) relating to appeals of denials of **Marsy’s Law rights**, and held that a writ of prohibition, in this case at least, was the proper method for the victim to pursue the appeal. (State ex rel. Suwalski was decided on 11.18.21).
- As a result of the passage of [SB 175](#) (Stand Your Ground) last year, the Ohio Jury Instructions Committee recently made changes to the following **jury instructions**: CR 421.19, Self-defense, non-deadly force; CR 421.191, Defense of another, non-deadly force; CR 421.21, Self-defense, deadly force; CR 421.211, Defense of another, deadly force and CR 421.23, Presumption of self-defense. The new instructions will be available on the [OJC website](#) until they are formally published.
- Learn more about federal programming and **funding opportunities** available to state and local courts during a webinar at **2:00, 12.16.21**. Officials from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice will share information on relevant programming for courts, an outlook for the fiscal year 2022 grant season, highlights of administration priorities, and other training and technical assistance opportunities for courts. [Register online.](#)

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



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