



September 12, 2016

Legislation and Policy in the News:

[New Geography of Prisons: The New York Times, September 2, 2016](#)

[Ohio Law Allows Legal Marijuana Businesses Within 500 Feet of Schools; Columbus Business First, September 7, 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 350** (Sen. Eklund) **Testimonial Privilege**, introduced 8.30.16. With some exceptions, the bill creates a testimonial privilege for communications between a qualified advocate rendering advocacy services and a victim of sexual violence, menacing by stalking, or domestic violence.
- **SB 353** (Sen. Schiavoni) **Dissemination of Sexual Images**, introduced 9.8.16. The bill creates the criminal offense of disseminating private sexual images without consent (known as "revenge porn"). The bill requires that certain property involved in the offense be criminally forfeited and creates certain legal rights and employment protections for a victim of such an offense.
- **HB 50** (Rep. Pelanda) **Guardianship Guides**, becomes effective 9.13.16. The new law requires probate courts to distribute Guardianship Guides, created either by the Office of the Attorney General or by the Ohio Judicial Conference. The OJC's Guardianship Guide is available [online](#).
- On 9.8.16, the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission's Judicial Branch and Administration of Justice Committee heard testimony about improvements to the **grand jury system**, specifically about utilizing a grand jury advisor to answer questions jurors may have, as is done in other states, including Hawaii.
- The Criminal Sentencing Commission recently published a guide to **extradition in interstate compact cases**. It outlines Ohio's responsibilities either as a receiving state or a sending state when either supervising an interstate compact offender for another state if a warrant is issued or when issuing a warrant for an Ohio offender being supervised by another state. The guide can be found [here](#).
- The OJC is currently working on its 2017-2018 Legislative Platform, which will guide our work throughout the next General Assembly. Ideas for a legislative change should be sent to Marta.Mudri@sc.ohio.gov for review by the Legislative Committee.
- The OJC welcomes its newest employee, Shawn Welch. Shawn comes to the OJC from the Office of the Ohio Public Defender. As part of the OJC legislative team, Shawn will be staffing the following committees: Probate Law and Procedure, Juvenile Law and Procedure, and Domestic Relations Law and Procedure.
- The OJC offices will be closed for several days for the **Annual Meeting, "...And Justice for All: The American Promise,"** and related meetings taking place September 14 - 16.
- **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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