

Legislative News: Two-Week Review



May 9, 2022

In Case You Missed It:

[The Bureau of Justice Assistance Launches a Podcast called "Justice Matters"](#)

[Governor DeWine Launches Ohio Crime Lab Efficiency Program](#)

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 328](#) (Sen. Hackett) **Fairborn Municipal Court**, introduced 4.27.22. The bill adds a judge to the Fairborn Municipal Court in Greene County; that court currently has a single judge. See also [HB 635](#) (Rep. Lampton), introduced 5.2.22.
- [HB 634](#) (Rep. Sobecki) **Reimbursement to Law Enforcement**, introduced 4.26.22. The bill prohibits political subdivisions from requiring reimbursement for the cost of law enforcement officers' assisting victims of certain offenses.
- [HB 636](#) (Rep. Hicks-Hudson) **Sealing Eviction Records**, introduced 5.2.22. The bill provides a procedure for sealing eviction records in cases where the eviction had been dismissed; where the defendant prevailed in the eviction action; where the plaintiff prevailed and 5 years have passed since the eviction action or any judgment against the defendant and defendant has satisfied any judgment for unpaid rent; where the plaintiff agrees to the eviction; where the eviction judgment was improperly granted; or where the court decides the sealing is appropriate under SupR 45. The bill caps eviction sealing at 5 times.
- [HB 640](#) (Reps. Grendell, Young) **OVI Homicide Penalties**, introduced 5.2.22. The bill requires a court to impose child maintenance restitution on an offender who commits OVI aggravated vehicular homicide if the victim is survived by at least one minor child, except if a civil action results in a judgment that would cover the cost of child maintenance. The offender must pay child maintenance restitution for each of the victim's children until age 18 and the procedure for payment is similar to the current restitution procedure.
- On 4.27.22, the Ohio Supreme Court [decided 31 cases](#) that had been held for [State v. Maddox](#) (Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-764, decided 3.16.22). A defendant's challenge to the constitutionality of the recently-enacted **Reagan Tokes Law** (R.C. 2967.271) is ripe for review on direct appeal. In 2019, lawmakers enacted R.C. 2967.271, which authorizes ODRC to extend the time for incarceration beyond a convicted offender's minimum prison term for several reasons, without any court approval.
- In [State Ex Rel. Yost v. Burns](#), (Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-1326) decided 4.26.22, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that a public official cannot be held **strictly liable under R.C. 9.39** for the misappropriation of public money when neither the official nor any of the official's subordinates controls the funds.
- In [State v. Hudson](#), (Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-1435), decided 5.4.22, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that the general division of a common pleas court does not have jurisdiction over an offender who was arrested at the age of 20 for felonious acts he allegedly committed as a juvenile; the **juvenile court has exclusive jurisdiction** over that person.

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



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