



September 21, 2020

***In Case You Missed It:***

[\*Creepy Geofence Finds Anyone Near Crime Scene; Wired, September 4, 2020\*](#)

[\*ACLU Report Says Reducing Cash Bail Could Save Ohio Millions; Associated Press, September 17, 2020\*](#)

[\*Ohio Public Health Orders\*](#)

*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.*

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- [\*\*SB 357\*\*](#) (Sen. Dolan) **COVID-19 Relief Funding**, voted out of the Senate 9.2.20. The bill appropriates funding allocated to the state from the federal CARES Act to counties, municipalities, and townships, distributed by population. The bill requires that funds be spent only on pandemic-related expenses, that money not spent by 10.15.20 be redistributed, and that money not spent by 12.28.20 be returned to the state.
- [\*\*SB 359\*\*](#) (Sen. Schaffer) **Actions Against Police**, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee, 9.1.20. The bill creates a civil action for police who are falsely accused of bad behavior or who have their civil rights abridged.
  - On 9.1.20, the Ohio Supreme Court decided [\*State v. Reed \(2020-Ohio-4255\)\*](#) concerning **confinement credit**. The court found that under RC 2967.191(A), a defendant is not entitled to jail-time credit for days spent under house arrest postconviction.
  - On 9.15.20, the Ohio Supreme Court decided [\*State ex rel. Fraley v. ODRC \(2020-Ohio-4410\)\*](#) concerning **concurrent or consecutive gun specifications**. The court stated when a sentencing entry contains a legal error favoring the defendant, the state must appeal the error to correct it.
- **Ohio's prison population** is at 44,523 inmates, its lowest level since 2005. Through the use of the state's overcrowding statute, 160 inmates have been granted emergency early release. Inmates not incarcerated for serious violent crimes, who have 90 days or less remaining on their sentences, have had no prior incarcerations and have had no serious infractions while behind bars are being released once they enter the 90-day window. [\*ODRC data on COVID-19 is available online.\*](#)
- Effective 9.4.20 until 12.31.20, the U.S. Center for Disease Control has issued an [\*order\*](#) to temporarily **halt residential evictions** to slow the spread of COVID-19. The halt in evictions is not limited to federally-supported housing as in the CARES Act, but is limited to cases of non-payment of rent. To prevail, a tenant [\*must show\*](#) certain facts. More information is available [\*online.\*](#)
- The Ohio Judicial Conference has recently updated its [\*Budget Resource Handbook\*](#). The case law is now updated through 2020, new guidance on the use of special project funds is included, and a new section on budget crises has been added.
- On 8.31.20, the Sentencing Commission's Ad Hoc Committee on a **Uniform Sentencing Entry** produced its [\*report with recommendations\*](#), as well as [\*appendices.\*](#)
- Effective 1.1.21, new [\*Rules of Superintendence\*](#) will change [\*certification standards for specialized dockets\*](#) and [\*rules governing guardians ad litem.\*](#) The Court is currently seeking comments on proposed [\*new standards for custody evaluators.\*](#) Comments should be submitted by 10.16.20 to Kyana Pierson, Policy Counsel at [\*CustodyEvaluatorPublicComment@sc.ohio.gov\*](mailto:CustodyEvaluatorPublicComment@sc.ohio.gov).
- The **Ohio Debate Commission** announced that all four of the candidates for the 2020 Ohio Supreme Court races have agreed to participate in a [\*virtual forum\*](#), 10.9.20.

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



[Marta Mudri](#)

Legislative Counsel  
*Civil Law; Specialized Dockets; Community Corrections*



[Shawn Welch](#)

Deputy Legislative Counsel  
*Probate Law; Domestic Relations Law; Juvenile Law*



[Josh Williams](#)

Deputy Legislative Counsel  
*Criminal Law; Traffic Law; Appellate Law; Magistrates*



[Justin Long](#)

Legislative Services Specialist;  
*Publications; PCCO; Professionalism*