



September 8, 2025

In Case You Missed It:

[Ohio Attorney General Releases Opinion on Legal Authority of Counties to Hold ICE Detainees](#)

[September 8 is National 988 Day](#)

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

Legislative News: Two-Week Review

- [HB 417](#) (Reps. Plummer, Young) **Animal Abuse**, introduced 8.19.25. The bill prohibits the abuse of a companion animal corpse; prohibits an animal abuse offender from owning a dog in certain circumstances; and establishes mandatory fines for violations of an animal abuse offense (\$2,500 for an M or F5; and from \$2,500 to the maximum allowed by law for F3 or F4). If a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to these violations, a court must impose a requirement that the offender undergo psychological evaluation or counseling and to pay the costs of the evaluation or counseling.
- [HB 425](#) (Rep. Hoops) **Drones**, introduced 8.28.25. The bill alters Chapter 45 to include a prohibition against trespass and types of unauthorized recording using an unmanned aerial vehicle system; a violation of the new prohibition is an M4.
- **Reminder:** most policy provisions in [HB 96](#), the state's biennial operating budget, go into effect on 9.30.25. This includes the following:
 - The Court Tech Grants formerly administered by the Supreme Court will now be administered by the Attorney General and will be awarded for the purpose of "facilitating the exchange of information and warehousing of data by and between courts and other justice system partners."
 - A court is prohibited from using its special projects fund for training or education that takes place outside of the state. The prohibition goes into effect for county, municipal, and appellate courts 9.30.25, and 6 months later for courts of common pleas.
 - The clerk of a common pleas court is responsible for determining and implementing the best means and methods for storing, maintaining, and retrieving all papers delivered to the clerk, whether in writing or electronic form.
 - R.C. 2151.356 was amended to require a balancing test when sealing juvenile records after a complaint has been dismissed in response to *State ex rel. Cincinnati Enquirer v. Bloom*, 2024-Ohio-5029.
- **Reminder:** [Sup.R.5\(F\)](#) is effective as of 9.1.25 and requires a local rule on reporting to law enforcement. The local rule must establish procedures and timelines for obtaining and submitting fingerprints and reporting information regarding protection orders; establish procedures and timelines for reporting information to the BMV and DPS; establish procedures to ensure completeness and accuracy of records in the event of an audit by state, local, BCI or FBI auditors.
- In [State ex rel. Jennewine v. Puffenberger](#) (Slip Opinion No. 2025-Ohio-3041), decided 8.28.25, the Ohio Supreme Court held that even if an appointment of a township trustee was improper, a fellow trustee cannot compel a probate judge to remove and replace the new trustee. The exclusive remedy here would be an action in quo warranto, and while a writ of mandamus may be issued to compel an appointing authority to fill a vacancy, it cannot be used when no vacancy exists.

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



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