

## Legislative News: Two-Week Review



October 15, 2024

### In Case You Missed It:

[October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)

[Ohio Recreational Marijuana Sales Approach \\$100 Million Mark; cleveland.com, 10.10.24](#)

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.

- **HB 671** (Reps. Click, Santucci) **Prohibit Unlawful Presence in Ohio**, introduced 10.8.24. The bill prohibits any person unlawfully present in the U.S. from knowingly entering or being present in Ohio. There is an affirmative defense for pending departure and pending visa or asylum determination. A violation is an F5 (F4 on repeat offense) with a mandatory prison sentence of 12 months and a mandatory fine of at least \$500.
- [Attorney General Opinion 2024-005](#) responds to questions regarding current law and “squatting.” Under current law, conduct commonly known as “squatting” would constitute criminal trespass (or something more serious) and a law enforcement officer may enter onto a property and make an arrest for criminal trespass.
- Public comment is currently open for [proposed changes](#) to the Rules of Superintendence, which change a variety of **probate forms**. Any comments should be submitted in writing before 11.18.24, to [ruleamendments@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:ruleamendments@sc.ohio.gov).
- Public comment is still open for [proposed changes](#) to the Rules of Practice and Procedure, which mostly reflect recently enacted **constitutional and statutory provisions for victims**. Any comments should be submitted in writing before 10.21.24, to [ruleamendments@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:ruleamendments@sc.ohio.gov).
- [Issue 1](#) on the November ballot would change the Ohio Constitution to create an Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission in place of the current Redistricting Commission. The commissioners will be chosen by a bipartisan screening panel (along with a search firm); **the panel is to be comprised of 4 retired judges**. The application process and qualifications are outlined in the amendment language, as is the work of the panel.
- The Supreme Court of Ohio **Reentry Task Force** released its [report](#), 9.11.24. Recommendations made by the Task Force that impact the judiciary include expanding **specialized court dockets** focused on reentry and enacting legislation to join the [Clean Slate Initiative](#), a national effort to **automatically seal records** for eligible individuals to improve their ability to find jobs and housing. The report also suggests increasing **judicial release rates** by having the Judicial College partner with the Office of the Ohio Public Defender “to create a guide and ongoing training for common pleas court judges and court administrators focused on reducing commitments and increasing release practices with supportive services and ongoing education.”
- **Save the Date:** The Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) is hosting a legislative reception on 11.12.24 from 5 to 7 p.m. for **county elected officials**, legislators, and statewide office holders. All county elected officials are invited and encouraged to participate. [Register](#) to attend and please let [Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:Justin.Long@sc.ohio.gov) at the OJC know if you plan to attend so that we can provide you with talking points.

[For Tools & Bench Aids, and the latest Bill Impact Statements, please visit the OJC Website](#)



[Marta Mudri](#)

Legislative Counsel  
Civil Law; Specialty  
Courts; 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