

The Circuit Court for the



Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Michigan
Family Division

FAMILY DIVISION JUDGES

Hon. William C. Marietti, Chief Circuit Judge
Hon. Gregory C. Pittman, Presiding Judge
Hon. Kathy L. Hoogstra
Hon. Brenda E. Sprader

CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Sandra Vanderhyde

Superintendent/Clinical Director
Lindsay Nelson

Chief Referee
Robert S. Engel

MEDIA ADVISORY -- PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For Immediate Release: June 19, 2017

Contact: Holly Spoelman, phone: 231-724-6368

FIRST ANNUAL MUSKEGON COUNTY REUNIFICATION DAY CELEBRATION:

Free Event – Public Welcome!

(MUSKEGON, MI) –The American Bar Association’s Center on Children and the Law has designated June as National Reunification Month in an effort to recognize families and the many professionals who support them in having their children successfully returned home from foster care. Michigan is one of 27 states that have held “Reunification Day” events. At last year’s celebration at the Hall of Justice, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack expressed her hope that this event would become a tradition and counties all across Michigan would hold their own reunification event in coming years. In response, Muskegon County will be holding its First Annual Reunification Day Event. Justice Bridget Mary McCormack will be the Keynote Speaker. **Awards will be presented by Judge Pittman and Justice McCormack:** **1)** A family that has been reunited will be honored for their commitment to achieving and maintaining reunification. **2)** The **Honorable John C. Ruck Award for Outstanding Dedication to Reunification** will be presented to a Muskegon County Foster Care Worker. **3)** The **Honorable Neil G. Mullally Award for Outstanding Reunification Services** will be presented to an individual from a Muskegon County agency that provides reunification services to families. The Muskegon County Board of Commissioners has adopted a Proclamation declaring June 30, 2017 as Reunification Day.

DATE & TIME: Friday, June 30, 2017

3:00 P.M. Live Music By Bob & Jackie Engel And Exhibitor Booths

4:00 P.M. Program: Hon. Gregory Pittman, Presiding Judge of Family Court, Master Of Ceremonies

Keynote Speaker: Justice Bridget Mary McCormack, Michigan Supreme Court

LOCATION: Muskegon Farmer’s Market, 242 W. Western Ave., Muskegon, MI **(Event is free and open to the public)**

PARTICIPANTS:

- Awardees
- Justice Bridget Mary McCormack, Michigan Supreme Court; Judge Gregory C. Pittman, Presiding Family Court Judge;
- Honorable Kathy L. Hoogstra; the Honorable Brenda E. Sprader; the Honorable John C. Ruck (ret.); and the Honorable Neil G. Mullally (ret.).
- Muskegon County Commissioners and other elected officials

VISUALS-PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: available throughout the ceremony and afterward.

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Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice • 990 Terrace Street • Third Floor • Muskegon, MI 49442
Juvenile Division Neglect/Abuse (231)724-6234 • Fax (231) 724-1108
Friend of the Court (231) 724-6421 • Fax (231) 724-1108

Juvenile Transition Center • 205 East Apple Avenue • Muskegon, MI 49442
(231) 724-8850 • Fax (231) 332-3978