

MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN MAY 2014

CLOVERLEAF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE SIMULATED OVI CRASH

Cloverleaf High School juniors and seniors witnessed emergency response to a mock car crash May 6, 2014.

The presentation, held once every two years on the front lawn of Cloverleaf High School, involved local fire and police departments, Juvenile Court, Waite & Sons Funeral Home and University Hospitals MedEvac.

In this situation, six seniors on their way to prom are involved in an accident when student driver, Kevin, 18, chooses to drink and drive. Two students played the role of fatal victims, with three others sustaining injuries.

Junior and senior class students gathered around the crash site to hear narration and watch as emergency response workers pried the roofs off of the cars to retrieve the trained Cloverleaf Drama Club actors screaming for help. On the other side of the crash site, the driver received a field sobriety test from an officer.

After all of the actors were removed from the vehicles, students made their way to the school's track for the next segment of the presentation. Groups traveled around the field to learn what happens after an impaired driving crash. They heard from medical personnel who treat the injured, from law enforcement who have firsthand experience in similar situations, and from funeral



directors on the process of planning the service.

Juvenile Magistrate Susana Lewis also took a spot on the track to teach the groups what charges and consequences Kevin will face in court. In this case, Kevin is 18 years old, so consequences will be different for him as an adult, as can be seen on page two of this newsletter.

In this case, Kevin will receive two counts of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, a felony of the second degree, and three counts of Aggravated Vehicular Assault, a felony of the third degree. Magistrate Lewis told the students if the driver was under 18, he would have also been charged with one count of Offenses Involving Underage Persons, a

misdemeanor of the first degree.

“Because Kevin is an adult in this case, if convicted, he will be sentenced to time in prison,” Magistrate Lewis told the students. “Judge’s have no discretion with that consequence. There are mandatory sentencing guidelines so time must be served.”

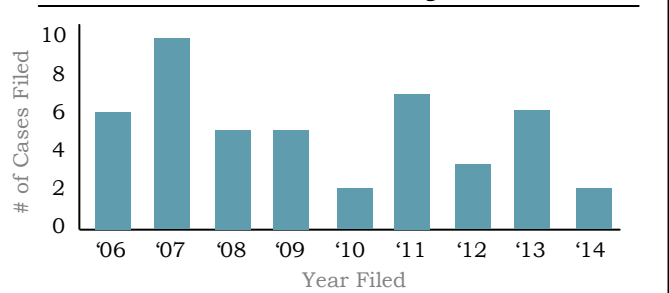
Magistrate Lewis said Kevin may also face civil liability and a lifetime suspension of his driving privileges in addition to court costs and fines.

The final segment of the presentation was an assembly in the school's gymnasium where students heard from a mother who learned first hand the life-altering consequence of drinking and driving when she lost her son ten years ago.

Medina County Sheriff Deputy David Pries closed the morning with some advice for the students based

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OVI cases filed in Medina Juvenile Court



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on what he sees in his profession.

“It’s not just the person stumbling, that one who can’t walk, can’t talk that get into accidents like these,” Deputy Pries said. “It could happen to the person speaking clearly, walking a straight line who says ‘I’m fine.’ Don’t drink and drive, don’t let your friends drink and drive.”

Cloverleaf area agencies devoting their time, equipment and expertise to this event include:

Westfield Fire Department
Lodi Police Department
Westfield Center Police Department
Medina County Sheriff’s Office
Seville-Guilford Fire Department
Lodi Fire Department
Chatham Township Fire Department
Lafayette Township Fire Department
Seville Police Department
Ohio Highway Patrol

Consequences

Juvenile Legal Consequences

(If UNDER 18 when offenses was committed)

Fines: F-2 \$1,000; F-3 \$750; M-1 \$250	Total Maximum Fines = \$4,500.00
Court Costs	
Restitution	Compensation for loss, damages or injuries to victims
DNA sample, Fingerprinting	
License Suspension until age 21	
90 days in Juvenile Detention for each count (90 x 6 = 540)	Total Days on all counts = 540 days
Ohio Department of Youth Services	F-2 Minimum of 1 year to max age 21 F-3 Minimum 6 months to max age 21
Community Control Sanctions	Probation, Community Service, Treatment and Counseling, etc.
Civil Liability	A lawsuit may be filed against juvenile and parents for cost to cover damages.

Adult Legal Consequences

If 18 years of age when these offenses are committed, offenders would face **Adult Prosecution**. If convicted of these charges, in addition to court costs, fines, civil liability, etc., offenders may face a **lifetime suspension of driving privileges** and **mandatory prison** time as follows:

- F-2:** Mandatory 2 year prison term up to 8 years on each count
- F-3:** Mandatory 1 year prison term up to 5 years on each count

NEW JUVENILE COURT PROBATION OFFICERS

Gregory Hutzel

Medina County native Greg Hutzel joined the Juvenile Court Staff as the newest Traditional Probation Officer May 27, 2014.

Hutzel previously held the position of sergeant with the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center, where he began in 2008, before transitioning over to the Court.

“I already have a good, working relationship with a lot of the kids involved with the Court,” Hutzel said. “It helps that I’m familiar with the expectations of the juveniles, court software and certain processes such as drug screening. It’s been a smooth transition so far.”

Pamela Ruesch

Pamela Ruesch, also a Medina County native, will be transitioning from her current position as Programming Department Administrative Assistant with Medina County Juvenile Court to become the newest Specialized Docket Probation Officer.

“I’m excited to be more hands-on with the kids involved in the Court’s specialized docket,” Ruesch said. “I’m looking forward to the challenges and variety I’m sure I will experience each day.”

Ruesch has a degree in psychology from the University of Akron. She has been with the Medina County Juvenile Court since 2012.

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MAGISTRATE SUSANA LEWIS GRADUATES 23RD CLASS OF LEADERSHIP MEDINA COUNTY

Juvenile Court Magistrate Susana Lewis was among 39 graduates of the 2014 Class of Leadership Medina County. The 23rd class of LMC celebrated May 28, 2014 at Medina Country Club among community leaders.

Leadership Medina County is a year-long program intended to educate, connect and involve community leaders.

Lewis, who has been a magistrate in Medina County Juvenile Court since 2005, said the most important thing she learned from her experience with LMC is the importance of being more community-minded.

"One of the stand-out things about Leadership Medina, for me, is how important it is to be involved in the community," Magistrate Lewis said. "I learned to involve myself more and volunteer in order to learn more about our community. It's going to help me provide better service to the people who come before

the Court."

Most recently, Magistrate Lewis volunteered as a facilitator for the United Way e4 Youth Summit in February.

Magistrate Lewis also said Leadership Medina County provided her more interaction with community leaders from both public and private sectors. Graduates of this year's LMC class are leaders in local agencies, including banking, accounting, sales and marketing, business, the legal profession, publishing, economic development, transit authority, nursing and healthcare, local government, and communications.

FirstMerit Bank, The University of Akron/Medina County University Center, and Westfield Insurance and Westfield Bank were corporate sponsors for the event, in addition to 65 other sponsors who assisted with the celebration.

Congratulations to all the graduates of the 2014 Class of Leadership Medina County!

- Erik Allwood**, Branch Manager, FirstMerit Bank, NA
- Chad Basquin**, Accounting Manager, National Interstate
- William Bennett**, President/Sales & Marketing, Automation Tool and Die
- Joseph Canestraro**, President/Operations Mgr, The Money Connection Inc
- Susan Chylik**, Associate Attorney, McGlinchey Stafford
- Kelli Cole-Wagner**, Publisher/Owner, Medina County Women's Journal
- Sandy Davis**, Planning/Economic Developer, CDBG Grants Administrator
- Christopher Gambaccini**, Partner, McManus, Dosen & Company
- J. Brian Gehman**, CFO, Neighborhood Progress Inc
- Debbie Grace**, Exec. Dir/Corps Officer, The Salvation Army Wadsworth
- Dean Harris**, Dir. Fin., METRO Regional Transit Authority
- Marc Hertrick**, Attorney/Partner, Larabee & Hertrick
- Joel Hlavaty**, Partner/Attorney, Frantz Ward
- James Horn**, VP Comm. Credit Portfolio, Manager, Fifth Third Bank
- James Kendel**, Chiropractor, Medina Family Chiropractic Center
- Mary Kennedy**, Chief Nursing Officer, Medina Hospital
- Brian Kerns**, Attorney - Wiles, Boyle, Burkholder and Bringardner Co.
- Maria Kipfstuhl**, Business Mgr., Medina County Economic Development Corp
- Theodore Klimczak**, CPA/Supervisor, Rea & Associates Inc
- Wendy Klubnik**, Volunteer Coordinator, HMC Hospice

- of Medina County
- Susana Lewis**, Magistrate, Medina County Probate & Juvenile Court
- Jarrold Long**, Treasury Management Officer, Westfield Bank
- Leslie Miller**, Councilperson, Village of Seville
- Anne Murphy**, Deputy Treasurer, Medina County Treasurer
- Anmarie Ocacek**, Dir. Of Quality Systems, MCBofDD
- Amy Perrine**, Licensed Social Worker, Medina County Home
- Lee Pickler**, Professor, Baldwin Wallace University
- Ann Plazek**, Outreach Services Manager, Medina County District Library
- Jaclyn Ringstmeier**, Vice President, Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce
- Kelly Rose Stallard**, Provider Relations, Crossroads Hospice
- Keith Siegel**, Chief Operating Officer, ALICE Training Institute
- Robert Skidmore**, Attorney, Skidmore & Hall Company
- Bonnie Skoda**, Vice President/Owner, Mark's Cleaning Service
- Samuel Stevenson**, Vice President, Manager, Reserve Ortho Lab
- Heather Taylor**, Executive Director, Greater Medina Chamber of Commerce
- Kathryn Warner**, President, Warner Communications
- Krista Wasowski**, Health Commissioner, Medina County Health Department
- Allison Wodzak**, Dir. Corp Initiatives, Panther Expedited Services Inc
- Jacinda Yonker**, Dir. Of Curriculum and Gifted Services, MCSESC

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TESTIFY YOUTH CHOIR TO PERFORM AT JDC

Testify Youth Choir will be returning to the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center June 18, 2014 for a performance from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Testify Youth Choir is a non-denominational group comprised of 80-90 sixth through twelfth graders representing approximately 35 churches from Lake Norman, North Carolina.

The choir travels each summer conducting performances at various locations throughout the country, trying to visit two to three detention centers along the way. Testify Youth Choir performed at the Medina County Detention Center in 2012 and have asked to return.

“The residents liked it a lot last time they visited and we look forward to having them

back,” said JDC Superintendent Ron Stollar. “The reason for the performance is that its message is one of hope through a relationship with God, thereby promoting Godly life choices. The performance, like all of our religious services, is voluntary for residents.”

Testify Youth Choir will perform for the residents in the facility’s gymnasium.

JUDGE DUNN JOINS SENIOR CITIZENS DAY 2014 CELEBRATION AT FAIRGROUNDS

Judge Kevin Dunn stopped by the Senior Citizen’s Day 2014 celebration May 20 at the Medina County Fairgrounds Community Center to promote and expand Court collaborations with community agencies.

The theme of this year’s

Senior Citizens Day celebration was “The Wizard of Oz,” with attendees dressed up as Dorothy, the Wizard, the Cowardly Lion, the Scarecrow, the Good Witch, the Bad Witch and Lollipop Kids.

Also in attendance was Court Administrator Sharon Danko

and Volunteer Guardianship Coordinator Nicki Shook. Both Shook and Danko were set up in a booth to hand out information on the Court and the Medina County Volunteer Guardianship Program, which will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary June 5, 2014.



Judge Dunn poses with employees from Willowood Care Center in Brunswick, OH dressed up as characters from The Wizard of Oz.

From left to right: Deborah Lougheed, Barbara Uram, Daniel Kiouis, Shannon Domanich and Judge Dunn



From left to right: Marine Veteran Ed Robnett, Bill Bland, John Harkness and Lynn Harkness from Toys for Tots, and Judge Dunn