

Medina County Common Pleas Court

PROBATE AND JUVENILE DIVISIONS

93 PUBLIC SQUARE, ROOM 104, MEDINA, OHIO 44256

Kevin W. Dunn

Judge

MEDIA RELEASE

October 8, 2013

Judge Kevin W. Dunn Recognizes National Unity Day

Judge Dunn aims to help lower bullying rates in Medina County

MEDINA – Judge Kevin W. Dunn and his staff will wear orange Wednesday, October 9, 2013 in support of bully prevention on National Unity Day.

In 2012, 14 percent of Medina County Youth reported they had been electronically or cyber bullied within the past year while 32 percent reported being bullied on school property, nine percent above the state average in Ohio, according to the Medina County Community Needs Assessment 2012.

Dunn said these statistics should not be overlooked.

“We see juveniles in our Court everyday because of how they reacted to bullying or maybe because they themselves are the bully,” he said. “We need to address this and realize that statistics show bullying may lead to very serious outcomes, such as suicide.”

The Medina County Community Needs Assessment 2012 reports that the most common form of bullying is verbally, being teased or taunted, at 28 percent. Other forms of bullying may include physically hurting someone or their property, cyber bullying through email, instant messaging or social network sites, and indirect bullying by spreading rumors and excluding others from a “group.”

“We don’t always see the extent of bullying,” Dunn said. “It may be online or in person, we can’t monitor our kids every minute of the day, but I think we as a community need to be aware that it happens, how it affects them, and that we try our best to help.”