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James M. Biernat Jr., Chief Judge
16th Judicial Circuit Court,
Macomb County Probate Court,
42nd District Courts

News



For Immediate Release

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SUPREME COURT REAPPOINTS HON. JAMES M. BIERNAT, JR. AS CHIEF JUDGE

The Michigan Supreme Court has reappointed the Hon. James M. Biernat, Jr. for an additional two-year term as Chief Judge for the 16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate, and 42nd District Courts. Chief Judge Biernat was appointed to the Bench in 2011, and elected as a Judge in 2012. He began serving as Chief Judge in 2015 upon the retirement of former Chief Judge John C. Foster. Judge Biernat was appointed to a full two-year term as Chief Judge beginning January 2016, and to a second two-year term as Chief beginning January 2018. During his tenure as Chief Judge, the Circuit and Probate Courts have completed a multi-year campus renovation project, the Circuit Court has brought on two additional judges to serve the rapidly growing population of the County, and the Circuit Court has expanded its e-filing pilot project, among many other initiatives. Prior to his career in the judiciary, Judge Biernat was a Macomb County Commissioner and an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.



Over the next two years, Chief Judge Biernat looks forward to working with the Office of the County Executive to improve the delivery of indigent defense. Chief Judge Biernat is also focused on implementing many suggestions received through recent employee satisfaction outreach to improve employee engagement and retention.

Chief Judge Biernat said "It really is a humbling vote of confidence to be reappointed as Chief Judge by the Michigan Supreme Court. There has been so much progress on so many important projects in this Court system, and it is great to be able to continue this work. I thank my colleagues and the Court staff for all of their assistance and amazing dedication to the justice system and the citizens of Macomb County. None of our collective achievements would be possible without all of these talented people!"

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