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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

Media Contact: Judge Richard Caretti (586) 469-5137

Date: August 6, 2015

Judge Richard Caretti Assigned Business Court Judge

The Michigan Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 2015-01 on August 4, 2015, assigning Judge Richard L. Caretti to serve in the role of Business Court Judge for the 16th Judicial Circuit Court in Macomb County. Judge Caretti's assignment is effective immediately and will continue through April 1, 2019.

Macomb County launched the first Business Court in the State of Michigan under then Chief Judge, Mark Switalski, on November 1, 2011. Judge John Foster was assigned as the first Business Court Judge in the State of Michigan and served until his retirement earlier this year. Judge Kathryn Viviano is currently serving in the role of Business Court Judge and Judge Caretti will soon start accepting business court cases on his docket.

The Business Court docket is specifically geared toward the efficient and timely management of complex commercial cases. The Supreme Court appoints judges who have an interest and expertise in the area of business law for assignment to these dockets across the state. Through the use of innovative case management, enhanced technology and specialization in the area of business law, Business Court Judges are able to efficiently preside over complex cases that might otherwise be cumbersome if left on the general civil docket.

Macomb Circuit Court was recognized by the National Association of Counties for its initiation of the first Business Court in Michigan in June of 2013. NACo awarded the 16th Judicial Circuit a 2013 Achievement Award in the Court Administration and Management category for its "exceptional results and unique innovations."

Judge Richard Caretti has extensive civil litigation knowledge and experience which makes him an ideal Business Court Judge. Judge Caretti graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wayne State University in 1975. He then graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Detroit College of Law in 1979. While attending college and law school, he served as a Detroit police officer. Judge Caretti was in private practice as a civil litigator for 23 years. He was a partner with the law firm of Strobl, Cunningham, Caretti & Sharp prior to being appointed to the Bench in 2002. Judge Caretti has been elected twice to six year terms, previously served as Chief Judge and is currently the Presiding Judge for the Civil and Criminal Division of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court. He is a member of the Macomb Bar Association and Italian-American Chamber of Commerce.

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Chief Judge Biernat is very happy with the Supreme Court’s decision to appoint Judge Caretti to the Business Court docket. “Judge Caretti is well suited to the Business Court Docket. He has extensive experience in civil litigation, a great legal mind and he is extremely effective at efficiently managing his docket. He is an excellent choice.”

Judge Caretti stated, “I am honored that the Supreme Court assigned me to this new role. The business court approach to complex litigation is an excellent model and I look forward to taking on this docket.”

For more information regarding Macomb’s Business Court, please go to <http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-BusinessDocket>.

For Judge Richard Caretti’s profile, please go to: <http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-RichardCaretti>.

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