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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 Joseph Toia (586) 254-1300

Date: August 28, 2015

Judge Joseph Toia Takes the Bench September 1st

Judge Joseph Toia will take the Bench as a 16th Circuit Court Judge on September 1, 2015, following his appointment by Governor Rick Snyder on August 10, 2015. Judge Toia was appointed by Governor Snyder to fill the vacancy left by Judge John Foster's retirement earlier this year. Judge Toia will take over a Civil/Criminal e-filing docket that is currently being handled by Visiting Judge James Biernat, Sr.

Judge Joseph Toia graduated from Wayne State University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration / Finance. He then received his Juris Doctorate from Detroit College of Law (now known as Michigan State College of Law) in 1984. Prior to his appointment, Judge Toia was in private practice for 31 years. Additionally, he served as the prosecuting attorney for Orion Township in Oakland County.

Judge Toia is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, Macomb County Bar Association, and Oakland County Bar Association. He served as past president of the Italian American Bar Association; a mediator in the Macomb County Circuit Court; a member of the Judges United with Students and Teachers Program; a member of Michigan Society of Planners; a past president and Chairman of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce; a past president of Kiwanis Club of Utica/Shelby Township; and former chairman of the Shelby Township Planning Commission.

"I am honored to have been chosen by the Governor and I look forward to serving the people of Macomb County and the State from the Bench," stated Judge Toia.

"My colleagues and I look forward to welcoming Judge Toia to the Bench and believe that Governor Snyder made an excellent choice among a very qualified group of applicants," stated Chief Judge James Biernat, Jr. "Judge Toia is a fine attorney with extensive experience in multiple areas of the law. He is also a gentleman with an outstanding reputation for professionalism in the legal community. He will be an outstanding jurist and great addition to our Bench."

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