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## For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Chief Judge James Biernat, Jr. Date: October 14, 2015

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## Honorable James M. Biernat, Jr., Reappointed Chief Judge

The Michigan Supreme Court reappointed Judge James M. Biernat, Jr. as Chief Judge of the 16th Circuit, Macomb Probate and 42nd District Courts today, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2015-01. His appointment is effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

Judge Biernat graduated from Hillsdale College in 1991, and received his law degree from the University of Detroit Law School in 1997. He was a Commissioner for the 16th District on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners from January 1993 through December 1998. Judge Biernat worked as an Assistant Prosecutor for the Macomb County Prosecuting Attorney's Office from January 1999 until his appointment to the bench by Governor Snyder in 2011. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Macomb County Bar Association and currently presides over the high risk offenders in the 16th Circuit's Adult Drug Court. He served as Chief Judge Pro Tempore under Chief Judge John Foster and was appointed as Chief this year upon Judge Foster's retirement. Today's appointment continues his term for another two years.

"I am honored to have been reappointed by the Supreme Court. We have a great Bench here in Macomb County and I look forward to continuing to support my fellow judges and work cooperatively with the Macomb County Board of Commissioners and County Executive Mark Hackel," stated Chief Judge Biernat. "Additionally, I am grateful for the outstanding staff we have here at the Court. I appreciate their hard work, excellent customer service and professionalism."

The Michigan Supreme Court appoints chief judges for the trial courts to two-year terms. For a copy of the Supreme Court Order, please go to:

http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/rules/court-rules-admin-matters/Court%20Rules/2015-01 2015-10-14 formatted CJ%20Appointments.pdf
For more information regarding Judge Biernat, please see:

http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-JamesBiernatJr