



**JUSTICE  
MICHAEL F. CAVANAGH**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Justice Michael F. Cavanagh received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1962 and a juris doctorate in 1966 from the University of Detroit Mercy Law School.

His initial legal employment was as a judicial law clerk for the Michigan Court of Appeals in 1966. He was chosen to represent the city of Lansing as City Attorney in 1967 and served in that position until 1969, when he entered private practice in Lansing. In 1973, he was elected District Judge of the 54-A Judicial District and served until January 1, 1975. He was elected to a ten-year term on the Court of Appeals beginning January 1, 1975.

After serving on the Court of Appeals for 8 years, Justice Cavanagh successfully ran for a seat on the Michigan Supreme Court. He assumed the office of Justice on January 1, 1983. He was elected Chief Justice on January 8, 1991, reelected Chief Justice on January 7, 1993, and served until January of 1995. Justice Cavanagh commenced his fourth 8-year term on the Court on January 1, 2007.

Justice Cavanagh and his wife, Patricia, are the parents of three children, and have three grandsons and two granddaughters. The Cavanagh family resides in East Lansing.

Justice Cavanagh has participated in numerous community and professional activities, including Michigan Indian Tribal Courts/Michigan State Courts, *Supreme Court Liaison* (1990-present); the Hall of Justice Project, *Supervising Justice* (2001-present); Michigan Judicial Institute, *Supervising Justice* (1986-1994) and (2001-present); Supreme Court Sentencing Guidelines Committee, *Supervising Justice* (1983-1994); American Judicature Society; American Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; Michigan Bar Association; Ingham County Bar Association; Institute of Judicial Administration, New York University Law School, *Member*; Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers (1970-present), *President* (1987-1988); Commission on the Future, University of Detroit Mercy (1995-1996); Conference of Chief Justices, *Second Vice President* (1992-1994); Conference of Chief Justices, Courts and Children Committee, *Chair* (1992-1994); National Interbranch Conference of Funding the State Courts, *Chair* (1994-1995); National Center for State Courts, Court Improvement Program, *Member* (1994-1995); Michigan Justice Conference (1994-1995); Michigan Justice Project (1994-1995); Michigan Court Reporting and Recording Board of Review, *Chairman* (1981-1982); Michigan Judicial Planning Committee, *Chairman*; Judicial Coordinating Committee; Committee on Statewide Funding of the Judicial System; Michigan Crime Commission; Michigan Legislative Commission on Courts; Felony-Sentencing Steering Committee; Court of Appeals Committee of State Bar of Michigan; Rules Committee, Michigan Court of Appeals; The Rotary Club of Lansing, *Honorary Member* (1993-1996); Thomas M. Cooley Law School, *Board of Directors* (1979-1988); and Lansing YMCA, *Board of Directors* (1977-1978).

With the American Heart Association of Michigan (1970-present), he has handled the following responsibilities: *Chairman of the Board* (1984-1985); *Member*, Administrative Council; *Member*, Legislative and Policy Committee; *Member*, Long Range Planning Committee; *Member*, Research Council; and *President*, Tri-County Heart Unit (1976-1977).

Justice Cavanagh has contributed to the following publications: *Michigan's Story: State and Tribal Courts Try To Do the Right Thing*; *University of Detroit Mercy Law Review*, Volume 76, page 709 (1999); *Appellate Courts*, *Michigan Bar Journal*, Volume 72, No. 9, page 892 (September 1993).