

## JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS

### ***1st District***

*Term expires*

KAREN FORT HOOD, Detroit . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
KIRSTEN FRANK KELLY, Grosse Pointe Park . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
CHRISTOPHER M. MURRAY, Grosse Pointe Farms . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
CYNTHIA DIANE STEPHENS, Detroit . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017
MICHAEL J. TALBOT, Grosse Pointe . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
KURTIS T. WILDER, Canton . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017

### ***2nd District***

MARK J. CAVANAGH, Royal Oak . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
PAT M. DONOFRIO, Clinton Township . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017
E. THOMAS FITZGERALD, Owosso . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
ELIZABETH L. GLEICHER, Pleasant Ridge . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
KATHLEEN JANSEN, St. Clair Shores . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
HENRY WILLIAM SAAD, Birmingham . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
DEBORAH A. SERVITTO, Royal Oak . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013

### ***3rd District***

JANE M. BECKERING, Grand Rapids . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
JOEL P. HOEKSTRA, Grand Rapids . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017
JANE E. MARKEY, Grand Rapids . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
WILLIAM B. MURPHY, East Grand Rapids, Chief Judge . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
DAVID H. SAWYER, East Grand Rapids . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017
DOUGLAS B. SHAPIRO, Ann Arbor . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013

### ***4th District***

STEPHEN L. BORRELLO, Saginaw . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
MICHAEL J. KELLY, Maple City . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
AMY RONAYNE KRAUSE, Lansing . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
PATRICK M. METER, Saginaw . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2015
PETER D. O'CONNELL, Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2013
DONALD S. OWENS, Williamston . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017
WILLIAM C. WHITBECK, Lansing . . . . .	Jan. 1, 2017

# **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES<sup>1</sup>**

## ***First District Judges***

### **JUDGE**

#### **KAREN FORT HOOD**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Hood was elected to the Court in 2002. She was born in Detroit, Michigan, and received her undergraduate degree in 1980 from the Regents College of the University of the State of New York at Albany and her law degree in 1989 from the Detroit College of Law. Judge Hood's professional affiliations include the Association of Black Judges of Michigan, the Wolverine Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the MSU College of Law Alumni Association, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

### **JUDGE**

#### **KIRSTEN FRANK KELLY**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Kelly was elected to the Court in 2000. Previously, she was a municipal judge (3 terms), a judge of the Wayne Circuit Court, and presiding judge of the Family Division of the Wayne Circuit Court. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University in 1978 and a Juris Doctor degree from University of Detroit School of Law in 1981.

### **JUDGE**

#### **CHRISTOPHER M. MURRAY**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Murray was appointed to the Court in 2002. Previously, he served as a judge on the Wayne Circuit Court in the Family Division, as Deputy Legal Counsel to Governor John M. Engler, and as an attorney in private practice. Judge Murray is the former chairman of the State Board of Ethics and has served as a member of the Local Government Claims Review Board. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, the Catholic Lawyers Society, was a member of the Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions, and currently serves as a member of the Board of Law Examiners.

### **JUDGE**

#### **CYNTHIA DIANE STEPHENS**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Judge Stephens was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2008. Prior to that appointment, she served as a general jurisdiction trial judge for 23 years. She was appointed to the Wayne County Circuit Court in 1985, after serving as a judge of the 36th District Court. Judge Stephens was the Chief Judge Pro Tempore, Mediation Tribunal Chair and presiding civil division judge of Wayne County Circuit Court for 8 years.

An Emory Law School graduate, Judge Stephens has been admitted to practice in Georgia, Texas, and Michigan. Prior to her election to the bench in 1981, she served as vice-chair of the Wayne County Charter Commission, Associate General Counsel to the Michigan Senate, Regional Director for the National Conference of Black Lawyers Atlanta office, and consultant to the National League of Cities Veterans Discharge Upgrade Project.

She has been active in bar work, including 16 years as a Commissioner of the State Bar of Michigan, chairing its Justice Initiatives Committee, Communications Committee, and Children's Task Force. Judge Stephens is a former chair of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan, a former member of the executive Board of the National Bar Association and its Judicial Council and a member of the American Bar Association. She was awarded the State Bar of Michigan's highest honor, the Roberts P. Hudson Award, in 2005.

<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/AboutCourt/biography.htm>

Judge Stephens has served as adjunct faculty at Wayne State University Law School, the Detroit College of Law, and the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. She has also served as a faculty member for the National Judicial College and the Michigan Judicial Institute. She was a contributing author to the Lawyers Cooperative's Michigan Nonstandard Jury Instructions, as well as numerous articles on subjects ranging from jury selection to ethics.

Judge Stephens has served on numerous civic boards and commissions, including New Detroit, the Inner City Business Improvement Forum, the Detroit Metropolitan Association Board of Trustees for the United Church of Christ, the Greater Detroit Area Health Care Council, and the Girl Scouts. She is a resident of Detroit.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **MICHAEL J. TALBOT**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Talbot was appointed to the Court in 1998. Previously, Judge Talbot had been appointed by governors of Michigan to serve as a judge of the Wayne Circuit, Detroit Recorder's, and Detroit Common Pleas courts. Judge Talbot also worked as an attorney in private practice. He was a member of the Judicial Tenure Commission from 2004 to 2010 and presently serves by appointment of the Michigan Supreme Court as chair of the Court Reporting Board of Review. Judge Talbot is a Trustee of Madonna University, Sacred Heart Major Seminary and the AOD Endowment Fund. He is the past chair of the Board of Education for the Archdiocese of Detroit and presently serves as Chair of the AOD Review Board. Judge Talbot received his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and his law degree from the University of Detroit.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **KURTIS T. WILDER**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Kurtis T. Wilder serves as one of 28 judges on the Michigan Court of Appeals. He was appointed to the Court of Appeals by Governor John M. Engler in December 1998, elected in 2000 and reelected in 2004 and 2010. Previously, Judge Wilder served as chief judge of the Washtenaw County Trial Court. Judge Wilder holds memberships in the State Bar of Michigan; the Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation; the Michigan Judges Association; the Association of Black Judges of Michigan; the Federalist Society; and the Wolverine Bar Association. He is a former chairperson of the State of Michigan Community Corrections Advisory Board, and previously served as a member of the State Bar of Michigan standing committee on justice initiatives, and the State Bar's Judicial Ethics Subcommittee.

Judge Wilder serves as the chairman of the Board of Trustees of Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (NEW), trustee of the Interlochen Center for the Arts, and chair of Interlochen's Audit Committee, a member of the President's Advisory Council at Walsh College, and a member of the Board of Advisors of Detroit Pockets of Cool.

### ***Second District Judges***

#### **JUDGE**

#### **MARK J. CAVANAGH**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Cavanagh was elected to the Court in 1988. Previously, he worked as a special assistant attorney general, as an assistant Wayne County prosecutor, and as an attorney in private practice. Judge Cavanagh received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from the Detroit College of Law.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **PAT M. DONOFRIO**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Of Macomb Township; Judge Donofrio was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2002 and elected in 2004 and 2010. He previously served as a Macomb County Circuit Court Judge after

appointment and election in 1997 and 1998 respectively. From 1998 until appointment to the Michigan Court of Appeals he served as the presiding judge of the civil/criminal division of the circuit court. Judge Donofrio received a Bachelor of Science degree from Wayne State University in 1967 and earned his Juris Doctor degree from the Wayne State University Law School in 1970. At the time of entry into the judiciary, Judge Donofrio served as president of a major litigation law firm. Judge Donofrio is a member of the Michigan Judges Association, American Judges Association, the State Bar of Michigan and several local bar associations. He served on the Judicial Crossroads Task Force, a sanctioned independent organization endeavoring to create structural efficiencies and reduce costs across the entire judiciary. Judge Donofrio served as Chancellor of the American Inn of Court, Oakland County Bar division, an organization dedicated to the training of new lawyers in the effective and ethical practice of law. Judge Donofrio serves as chairman of the Court of Appeals settlement committee, and has served on both the executive and delay reduction committees. He has served on the faculty at the Institute for Continuing Legal Education, the National Judicial College, and the Michigan Judicial Institute. Judge Donofrio served three terms on the Michigan Supreme Court Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions and served on the Michigan Supreme Court Task Force on Trial Court Performance Standards. He has earned certificates of accomplishment from the National Judicial College and the National Drug Court Institute. Judge Donofrio has presented numerous guest lectures. He is married with 2 children and one grandchild.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **E. THOMAS FITZGERALD**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Fitzgerald was elected to the Court of Appeals in 1990. He was subsequently reelected in 1996, 2002, and 2008. He was previously on the faculty of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School and he worked as an attorney in private practice. Judge Fitzgerald received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Detroit. He is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar Association, Shiawassee County Bar Association, and the Michigan Judges Association.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **ELIZABETH L. GLEICHER**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Gleicher was appointed to the Court in 2007. Previously, she was an attorney in private practice for 27 years. She began her career at Goodman, Eden, Millender & Bedrosian in Detroit, and opened her own litigation practice in 1994. She is an elected Fellow of the International Society of Barristers (2004) and the American College of Trial Lawyers (2005). She received the Respected Advocate Award from the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel in 2005 and the State Bar of Michigan Champion of Justice Award in 2001. Judge Gleicher has served on the faculty of the Institute for Continuing Legal Education and as an adjunct professor at Wayne State University Law School. She received her bachelor's degree from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and her law degree from Wayne State University Law School.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **KATHLEEN JANSEN**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Jansen was appointed to the Court in 1989. Judge Jansen was the first woman elected countywide to the Macomb County courts, first to the Macomb County Probate Court in 1982, and then to the Macomb County Circuit Court in 1984. She also worked as an attorney in private practice. Judge Jansen received her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, did graduate studies at Western Washington State University, and obtained her Juris Doctorate degree in 1977 from the University of Detroit Law School.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **HENRY WILLIAM SAAD**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Saad was appointed to the Court in 1994, was elected for a 6-year term in 1996, and was reelected in 2002 and 2008. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Saad was a partner at Dickinson,

Wright, Moon, Van Dusen & Freeman, where he practiced law for 20 years. He was also an arbitrator for the Michigan Employment Relations Commission and a hearing referee for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. Judge Saad received his bachelor's degree from Wayne State University School of Business with honors and his law degree from Wayne State University, magna cum laude.

Judge Saad served as an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit/Mercy School of Law and Wayne State University Law School where he taught Evidence, Professional Responsibility and Labor Law. Judge Saad served on the boards of Detroit Public Television and the American Heart Association. He currently serves on the board of Brother Rice High School. In 1992, President George H. W. Bush nominated Judge Saad to the federal district court and in 2001, 2003 and 2005, President George W. Bush nominated Judge Saad to the federal appellate bench.

## **JUDGE DEBORAH A. SERVITTO**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Deborah A. Servitto was born February 17, 1956, in Sewickley, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Oakland University in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and from the Detroit College of Law with a Juris Doctor degree in 1982.

She served from 1982 to 1986 as the first female assistant city attorney for the city of Warren. In 1986, Judge Servitto was elected to the 37th District Court. Governor James J. Blanchard appointed Judge Servitto to the Macomb Circuit Court in 1990, and she subsequently was elected 3 times to that court. Governor Jennifer M. Granholm appointed Judge Servitto to the Court of Appeals effective March 23, 2006, to replace Judge Hilda R. Gage.

During her tenure as a circuit judge, Judge Servitto was instrumental in implementing innovative programs, such as a seminar for divorcing parents aimed at helping their children cope with divorce and a drug court program that provides treatment and intensive supervision to nonviolent, drug-addicted felons. She was also one of the founding directors of Care House, a child-friendly haven for young victims of sexual and physical abuse.

Judge Servitto was honored by the March of Dimes in 1991 as the Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year. In 1996, as an American of Italian descent, she was honored as Woman of the Year by the Columbus Day Committee. The Macomb County Resolution Center awarded Judge Servitto the 2001 Conflict Resolution Advocacy Award for encouraging the amicable resolution of disputes. In 2006, the Warren Family YMCA awarded Judge Servitto its first Community Leader Award.

In November, 2006, Judge Servitto was elected to a full 6-year term to the Court of Appeals, District 2, which includes the counties of Macomb, Oakland, Genesee and Shiawassee.

## ***Third District Judges***

## **JUDGE JANE M. BECKERING**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Beckering was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2007 and elected in 2008. Before taking the bench, Judge Beckering was an attorney in private practice for 17 years. She began her career at McDermott, Will & Emery, P.C. in Chicago, Illinois, before she returned to her hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan and later founded the law firm of Buchanan & Beckering, PLC. She received her undergraduate degree (with distinction) from the University of Michigan and her law degree (cum laude) from the University of Wisconsin. Judge Beckering is a member of the Michigan Supreme Court Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions and an Executive Committee Member of the Michigan Judges Association. She is also a member of the Steering Committee for the Hillman Trial Advocacy Program and a participant in the National Research Judge Program run by the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Center (ASTAR).

**JUDGE**

**JOEL P. HOEKSTRA**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Judge Hoekstra was elected to the Court in 1994. Previously, he worked as an assistant Kent County prosecuting attorney, as a district court judge, and as an adjunct faculty member of Calvin College. Judge Hoekstra received his bachelor's degree from Calvin College and his law degree from Valparaiso University.

**JUDGE**

**JANE E. MARKEY**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Markey was elected to the Court in 1994. Previously, she had served as a district court judge, she was a prehearing attorney and law clerk for the Michigan Court of Appeals, and she worked as an attorney in private practice. Judge Markey received her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and her law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

**JUDGE**

**WILLIAM B. MURPHY**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Murphy was appointed to the Court in 1988. Judge Murphy currently serves as Chief Judge of the Court, and was the Chief Judge Pro Tem from 1992-1996. Previously, he was a member of the East Grand Rapids City Commission, a law clerk for the Michigan Court of Appeals, and worked as an attorney in private practice for seventeen years. Judge Murphy was a member of the Judicial Tenure Commission (1995-2003; Chair, 2000-2003) and the State Bar Board of Commissioners (2001-2008). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan State Bar Foundation as well as an Adjunct Professor at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Judge Murphy received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and his law degree (*cum laude*) from Wayne State University, where he served as a member of The Wayne Law Review Board.

**JUDGE**

**DAVID H. SAWYER**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Hon. David H. Sawyer was elected to the Court of Appeals in 1986. He was elected to the Judicial Tenure Commission by his fellow Court of Appeals judges for a term that began January 1, 2010, and currently serves as the Commission's Secretary. Judge Sawyer currently is Chief Judge Pro Tem of the Michigan Court of Appeals. Before being elected to the bench, he was the Kent County Prosecuting Attorney from 1977 to 1987. Judge Sawyer is a Past President of the Michigan Prosecuting Attorneys Association. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arizona in 1970 and received his law degree from Valparaiso University School of Law in 1973.

**JUDGE**

**DOUGLAS B. SHAPIRO**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Shapiro was appointed to the Court in 2009. Before taking the bench, Judge Shapiro was a partner in the law firm of Muth and Shapiro, P.C., where he practiced civil litigation in both trial and appellate courts for 17 years. Earlier in his career he served as an Assistant Defender with the State Appellate Defender Office, focusing on criminal appeals. He began his career as a law clerk to State Supreme Court Justice James H. Brickley. Judge Shapiro received his undergraduate degree in history from the University of Michigan in 1983 and his law degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1986.

## ***Fourth District Judges***

### **JUDGE**

#### **STEPHEN L. BORRELLO**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Borrello was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2003, elected in 2004 and reelected in 2006. He served as an attorney and partner with the law firm Gilbert, Smith & Borrello, P.C. in Saginaw, Michigan. Judge Borrello also served as an assistant prosecuting attorney from 1988 to 1990 in Saginaw County. He earned his B.A. from Albion College and his J.D. from the Detroit College of Law. He is currently an adjunct professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Saginaw Valley State University where he teaches Criminal Procedure and Evidence.

### **JUDGE**

#### **MICHAEL J. KELLY**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Kelly was elected to the Court of Appeals in 2008. After serving as a judicial advisory assistant to a circuit court judge, he worked as a trial lawyer in private practice for 20 years. He attended Michigan State University and earned his B.A. from the University of Michigan – Flint in 1984. Following his enrollment at the Detroit College of Law, he was accepted as a participant in the London Law Program at Regents College in London, England in 1987 and received his J.D. from the D.C.L. in 1988.

### **JUDGE**

#### **AMY RONAYNE KRAUSE**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Amy Ronayne Krause was appointed to the Court of Appeals in November of 2010. Previously, she was appointed to the 54-A District Court in 2003 and was subsequently elected. She served on the District Bench until her appointment to the Court of Appeals. Judge Krause received her Bachelor of Arts from The University of Michigan and her Juris Doctor from The University of Notre Dame.

Judge Krause began her legal career as a litigation attorney for a private law firm and for the following eight years as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. In 1997, she was appointed an Assistant Attorney General by then Attorney General Frank J. Kelley and was the first recipient of the Frank J. Kelley Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy. Judge Krause worked for the Attorney General's Office for six years. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Krause was elected to serve on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, during which time she chaired the Law and Courts committee. Judge Krause is an adjunct professor for the Thomas M. Cooley Law School and has previously lectured for the Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan. She has also taught numerous courses for the Michigan Judicial Institute, including teaching other district judges at the New Judges Seminar in 2007 and 2009. Judge Krause has also served as faculty for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, training other judges on a national level.

In September 2007, Judge Krause was recognized statewide for her outstanding work with the State Bar of Michigan's Champion of Justice Award. She currently serves her community as a board member with the Lansing Educational Advancement Foundation (LEAF), the Uplift Our Youth Foundation, and the American Red Cross Board of Directors for the Great Lakes Region. Recently, Judge Krause was appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader to the State Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee.

Judge Krause and her husband, Kurt E. Krause, live in Lansing.

### **JUDGE**

#### **PATRICK M. METER**

Term expires January 1, 2015

Judge Meter was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 1999. Previously, he served as a judge of the Saginaw Circuit Court, and he worked as a prosecuting attorney for Saginaw County and

as an attorney in private practice. Judge Meter received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Notre Dame. He serves as a lecturer at Notre Dame Law School's Advanced Trial Advocacy Program and also as an adjunct faculty member at Saginaw Valley State College.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **PETER D. O'CONNELL**

Term expires January 1, 2013

Judge Peter D. O'Connell was elected in 1994 and currently serves on the Michigan Court of Appeals in the Hall of Justice in Lansing, Michigan. He was a trial court judge for 16 years prior to his election to the Court of Appeals and also served as the Chief Assistant Prosecutor in Isabella County. He holds a Juris Doctorate from Detroit College of Law and was the first trial judge in the State of Michigan to obtain a Master's of Judicial Studies Degree from the University of Nevada-Reno. He has served on the faculty of the Michigan Judicial Institute, the Institute for Continuing Legal Education, the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, and the National Judicial College. Judge O'Connell has also served as an instructor at New Judges School and is an adjunct professor at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Judge O'Connell has authored articles in the *Detroit Law Review*, *Criminal Practice Law Review*, *Colleague*, *Benchmark*, *Michigan Bar Journal*, and the case book entitled *Social Science in the Law*.

Judge O'Connell has been on the bench since 1979.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **DONALD S. OWENS**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Judge Owens was appointed to the Court in 1999, elected in 2000, and reelected in 2004 and 2010. Previously, he served as judge of the Ingham County Probate Court from 1974 to 1999. Before that, he was an attorney in private practice in Lansing. Judge Owens received his bachelor's, master's and law degrees from the University of Michigan.

#### **JUDGE**

#### **WILLIAM C. WHITBECK**

Term expires January 1, 2017

Judge William C. Whitbeck has served on the Michigan Court of Appeals since Governor Engler appointed him in 1997. Judge Whitbeck was elected in 1998 and reelected in 2004 and 2010. In the past 14 years on the bench, Judge Whitbeck served 6 years as Chief Judge and 2 years as Chief Judge Pro Tem.

In private practice for over 20 years, Judge Whitbeck was a partner in the law firms of Honigman Miller, Dykema Gossett, and McLellan, Schlaybaugh & Whitbeck.

Judge Whitbeck also served in the administrations of three Michigan Governors: George Romney, William G. Milliken, and John M. Engler. He served on the transition teams of President Ronald Reagan and Governor Engler. Judge Whitbeck served in the U.S. Army Reserves for 6 years and was honorably discharged in 1972.

Judge Whitbeck was an assistant to Governor Romney, Special Assistant to Secretary Romney at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Area Director of the Detroit Office of H.U.D. In the Milliken administration, he served as Director of Policy in the Michigan Public Service Commission. He served as Counsel to Governor Engler for Executive Organization and Director of the Office of State Employer.

Judge Whitbeck is a member of the Michigan State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Ingham County Bar Association, the Michigan Judges Association, the Michigan Law Revision Commission, and Scribes. He is a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar and ABA Foundations. He is a past chairman of the Administrative Law Section of the Michigan State Bar Association. He is a "Master of the Bench" and past President of the American Inns of Court Chapter at the MSU College of Law. He is also a past chair of the Michigan Historical Commission.

Judge Whitbeck graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1966 and Northwestern University School of Journalism in 1963. Judge Whitbeck and his wife are members of St. Mary Cathedral. They reside in Lansing's capitol district in their historic 1878 home. Judge Whitbeck has written his first legal mystery, *To Account for Murder*, which was published in November 2010.