

# NONPARTISAN JUDICIAL

## Circuit Court — contested

Circuit court is a court of general jurisdiction, trying both criminal and major civil cases. The 6th Circuit comprises all of Oakland County. Terms are six years.

In the contested race, there are two candidates. Vote for one.

Candidates were asked to answer in 50 words or less: What problems do you see facing the Circuit Court, and how would you resolve them?

### Robert C. Anderson

Age 55, of Pontiac. 51st District judge. Education: Pontiac High—president senior class, 1943; Washington University, 1943-44; Army Air Corps, Michigan State University, 1946-48; Detroit College of Law, 1952. Qualifications: 20 years law practice, past president, Oakland County Bar and District Judges Association.

Major problem is the proliferation of lawsuits resulting in crowded docket. Solution is difficult and will not be achieved until all of us within and without the legal system educate ourselves in how to live and resolve many of our problems prior to and instead of going to court.

### James F. McCarthy

Material not available from candidate at time of printing.

## Circuit Court — uncontested

Three incumbent circuit judges are seeking full six-year terms without opposition. You may vote for all three:

Richard D. Kuhn

John N. O'Brien

Frederick C. Ziem

One incumbent circuit judge is seeking to fill the remaining four years of a six-year term without opposition. You may vote for one:

George LaPlata

## Probate Court

The Probate Court has original jurisdiction in cases of juveniles. A major function is handling matters pertaining to wills, estates, adoption, guardianship and commitments. Term is six years. Vote for two.

Eugene Arthur Moore, incumbent, of Bloomfield Township, unopposed.

John J. O'Brien, incumbent, of Southfield Township, unopposed.

## District Courts

District courts have exclusive jurisdiction over civil cases up to \$3,000 and minor criminal cases. Term is six years. In Oakland County, a district court may cover one to a dozen communities.

Each candidate was asked to answer in 50 words or less:

What problems do you see facing the District Court and how would you resolve them?

### 43rd District

Cities of Ferndale, Hazel Park and Madison Heights. Vote for one.

### Montague Hunt

Incumbent, age 52, of Ferndale. District judge. Education: BA University of Michigan, 1949; LLB Wayne State University, 1959. Qualifications: Law practice; assistant prosecutor; Probate Court attorney; adoption department attorney; creation of effective probation; establishment of Duncan MacDonald Home for Boys; operation of substance abuse education; 15 years judicial.

The increasing caseload (already the highest per judge in Oakland County) may force an emphasis toward "dispositions" and away from case by case attention. The widespread decline in the "rehabilitative ideal" may be reflected locally. If so, positive efforts in crime prevention and substance abuse education suffer.

### Douglas Voss

Material not available from candidate at time of printing.

### 46th District

Cities of Lathrup Village and Southfield; Southfield Township. Vote for one.

### Stephen Cooper

Age 36, of Southfield. Attorney since 1969. Education: Brandeis University, Wayne State University. Qualifications: Elected by Oakland County's Lawyers to the State Representative Assembly; former city councilman; seven years director, Southfield Bar Association; National Law Fraternity award; Barristers president; referee, Attorney Discipline Board.

Recent legal developments are expanding the District Court's jurisdiction. This will increase the possibility of creating an expensive fourth judgeship, unless new adjournment policies, mediation, docket control efforts and reduced judge's personal leave are instituted. Citizens' problems, small claims and code enforcement must be given more emphasis by the Court.

### Clarence Reid Jr.

Incumbent, 52, of Southfield. Attorney. Education: Degrees, Tri-State College and Detroit College of Law. Regular and graduate work, National Judicial College. Qualifications: Justice of peace, South-

field Township, 1957-58; municipal judge, city of Southfield, 1958-68; judge, 46th District Court 1969 to date. Seminars, University of Denver, Harvard Law School, Stanford University, Michigan Judicial Institute.

Keeping current on the caseload. Court is current on ordinance, state, small claims and landlord-tenant cases. However, the civil matters are backed up. Solution is by continuing to conscientiously handle the workload.

### 47th District

Cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. Vote for one.

### Jack Burwell

Age 50, of Farmington Hills, attorney. Education: BA, Wayne State University; JD law, WSU; graduate study, HPA 3.857. Qualifications: 20 years courts, state, federal; administrative agencies; legislative liaison; business management; city council member; Air Force officer; courts martial; judge advocate.

Largest problems are: budget constraints, case load and docket control. Apart from budget constraints, we need hard working judges, vigorous and consistent enforcement of criminal and other laws. Where practical, the District Courts also should establish a mediation arm to alleviate docket congestion.

### Margaret Schaeffer

Incumbent, 59, presiding judge, 47th District Court. Education: University of Michigan, JD with distinction. Qualifications: Judge since 1975; practicing attorney 25 years; president, Oakland County District Judges, 1979; formerly council member, Farmington Hills; formerly Farmington Township trustee.

The number and complexity of cases continue to increase. Violations by young people are a problem for court, and community. I have helped establish a professional probation department. I will continue to encourage probation volunteers, to hold night court, and to decide all cases fairly and impartially.

### 48th District

Cities of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake; townships of Bloomfield and West Bloomfield.

Incumbent Judge David F. Breck of Birmingham is unopposed.

### 52nd District, 1st Division

Cities of Novi, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom. Townships of Commerce, Highland, Lyon, Milford, Novi, Rose and White Lake.

A new judgeship has been created. Vote for one.

### Harold Bulgarelli

Age 48, of Walled Lake. Education: University of Detroit, 1957 PhD; Wayne State

University Law School, 1969, JD. Qualifications: General practice, 19 years; attorney, city of Wixom, township of Milford, Walled Lake schools, Multi-Lakes Conservation Club; mediator, Oakland County Circuit Court; active, community affairs.

Crowded docket, lack of space. I am known in the community to be honest, industrious and not afraid to work long hours and will carry these traits to the bench. I would attempt to secure more needed space which makes for faster and more efficient work production.

### Thomas Connelly

Age 40, of Milford. Attorney. Education: AB, University of Detroit; JD, University of Detroit Law School. Qualifications: Prosecutor during the past six years for Wolverine Lake, Wixom, Milford Township, Camp Dearborn, Kensington Park and the village of Milford.

The major problem of our court is the overwhelming caseload and the consequent lack of time the judges have been able to apply to the cases they handle. I plan to make the time and adopt as my primary objective the application of personal attention to first-time offenders.

### 52nd District, 3rd Division

City of Rochester; townships of Addison, Avon, Oakland, Orion, Oxford and Pontiac. Vote for one.

### James P. Sheehy

Age 37, of Lake Orion. Attorney at law, private practice, Rochester; civil counsel and prosecutor, Charter Township of Pontiac. Education: University of Detroit, BS; University of Detroit Law School; JD.

Case backlog is a continuous problem burdening the courts. In performing the duties of judge, I promise to maintain the highest standards. I further promise that I will work a full day to help reduce any court backlogs and to administer properly the court's duties.

### Mildred A. Vlaich

Incumbent, of Rochester. District judge. Education: BA, Wayne State University; LLB, JD, Wayne State University Law School; Additional professional studies. Qualifications: Assistant prosecutor, county supervisor, mediator in Circuit Court, arbitrator, State Bar, grievance committee, trial attorney over 20 years (civil, immigration, and criminal).

Thousand of cases, both civilly and criminally, are initiated annually. This in turn creates problems such as: lack of space, personnel and court time. To resolve same, I would employ constant vigilance and application of available new systems of docket management, jury utilization and better usage of court time.

### 52nd District, 4th Division

Cities of Clawson and Troy. Incumbent Judge Bristol E. Hunter of Clawson is unopposed.