

# Judge pulls out from hearing county case

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Oakland County Circuit Judge Hilda Gage will hear contempt of court charges against a Bloomfield Hills attorney who allegedly told his client — convicted of manslaughter in a Farmington Hills traffic death — not to show up for sentencing.

The hearing on contempt of court charges against attorney Stanley Kurzman was reassigned to Gage after Circuit Judge Norman Lippitt disqualified himself Dec. 15, the date Kurzman's show-cause hearing was scheduled.

Lippitt disqualified himself because he brought charges against Kurzman after the attorney allegedly told his client, Connie Doa, 24, not to appear in court for her scheduled sentencing.

Kurzman's hearing has not yet been scheduled, according to court information.

Charges against Kurzman include obstructing justice, fraud, aiding and abetting a fugitive, and deceit, according to Lippitt's court personnel. Conviction carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail.

Kurzman was unavailable for comment.

DOA WAS convicted of manslaughter in the death of Beverly Ann Lambert, 20, of West Bloomfield Township.

Lambert was killed when the car she was driving was struck head-on by Doa's car. The accident occurred about 11:30 p.m. March 18, 1985, at the intersection of Farmington Hills Road and the intersection of Farmington Hills Road and the intersection of Farmington Hills Road.

Doa's blood-alcohol level taken after the collision was .13 percent — three-tenths of a percent higher than the .10 percent blood-alcohol level at which people are considered legally drunk.

Doa appealed her conviction and sentence, which included five years' probation and a six-month jail sentence. Lippitt allowed Doa to remain

free pending her unsuccessful appeal. Doa had begun serving her probation.

An arrest warrant was issued for Doa when she failed to appear for sentencing Dec. 1.

Additional charges were not brought against Doa when she appeared before Lippitt Dec. 3. At that time, Lippitt enforced the six-month jail sentence, which Doa will begin serving May 1. Lippitt is allowing Doa time to complete bonding with her before trial.

LAMBERT'S FATHER, Bob Hack of West Bloomfield, believes Doa should not only complete the jail sentence but also should perform some type of community service. "I don't think there is such a thing as justice being served. Six months or six years — won't bring back my daughter."

"A jail sentence of some type?"

## Proposal permits parking for buses

Parking would be allowed on a portion of Raphael Street giving Farmington school bus drivers a chance to park and refuel, according to an ordinance introduced Dec. 1 by the Farmington City Council.

Both sides of the street — which runs to the east side of Ten Mile Community School and the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center — are currently posted "no parking" areas.

The Farmington Public Schools bus lot also exists onto the street. About 40-50 buses line up four times each day along both sides of the street waiting to be refueled, according to Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman.

"It is very difficult for other traffic to use the street during the time that buses are being refueled," he said, voicing concern over the potential for a head-on collision as drivers

try to maneuver between the two lines of buses.

The ordinance change would allow parking on one side of the street between 6 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and includes a requirement that buses stand a minimum of 20 feet north of the driveway to the refueling station.

It would prohibit parking on the entire east side and on the west side from Shawwassee to a point 638 feet north.

"I can't hate the woman. It doesn't do any good."

Yes, Hack should do community service relating to drinking and driving or victim's counseling," Hack said.

Hack is convinced Doa and others convicted in traffic deaths involving alcohol should learn the real-life effects their actions have on victims' families. Hack spent a year with a bereavement group at West Bloomfield's Temple Israel following his daughter's death.

"The major problem is that people think they can drink and drive — and get away with it," Hack said.

Community service with victim organizations "might make them (those convicted of drunk driving) have more insight into their actions. Whatever can be done for this Connie (Doa) to have insight into what she has done."

It was proposed by the city's Department of Public Safety. Deadman estimates the change would allow 14 buses to wait in line at one time and provide "clear vision for other vehicles traveling through the hill and curve area on the street."

"They'll have to schedule them (buses) differently so they don't arrive there at the same time," Deadman said, because the arrangement would allow fewer buses to stand on Raphael.

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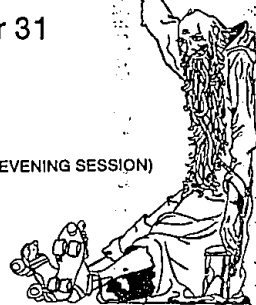
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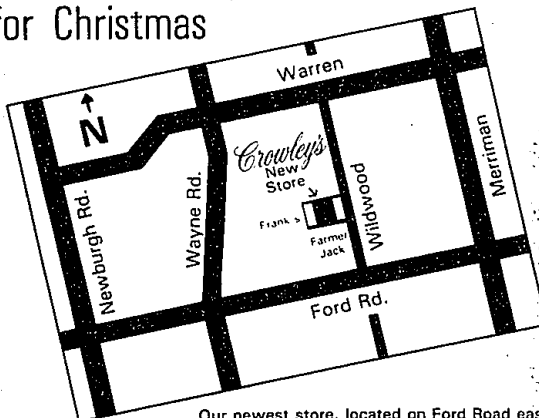


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