

The Supreme Court of Ohio

JUDICIAL COLLEGE

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January 31, 2014

To: Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor
Steven C. Hollon, Administrative Director

From: Sharon Hickson 
Chair, Advisory Committee on the Judicial Family Network

Re: Advisory Committee on the Judicial Family Network 2013 Annual Summary

In 2013, the Advisory Committee on the Judicial Family Network (JFN) continued to provide programming aligned with its mission to identify needs of Ohio judicial families, as well as to provide learning opportunities and a supportive networking environment.

Activity during the year included a program planning meeting in June and two programs for the spouses/partners of new judges in April and December. Advisory Committee members also attended the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Judicial Conference in September.

The April program, *You Do Not Walk Alone*, held during New Judges Orientation, Part II, covered the topics of substance abuse and mental health issues, healthy judicial family relationships, and new media and the courts.

In September, members of the Advisory Committee attended the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Judicial Conference and staffed an informational table for JFN. Advisory Committee Members provided information about JFN, personal security, and judicial wellness to the judges in attendance.

The educational program held during New Judges Orientation, Part I in December, *My Spouse/Partner is a Judge: Now What Do I Do?*, was designed to provide information about judicial family life to the partners of new judges. Presentations were given on swearing-in activities, security away from the courthouse, including information on social media, ethics, and judges' employee benefits.

The Advisory Committee supported the work of the Judicial Family Institute (JFI), a subcommittee of the Past President's Committee of the Conference of Chief Justices, by responding to information requests received through JFN contact information listed on JFI's website.

Advisory Committee Members acted as resource contacts to newly elected and appointed judges' partners and offered individual support related to living private lives in the public arena. Resource notebooks with judicial family life material were distributed to new judges' partners.