

Clerk Seminar

Wednesday evening at the seminar will be full. In addition to early registration, there will be a new clerk orientation, a computer vendor demonstration and an interactive CD Rom presentation on Ethics. The presentation will be shown on a screen so many people can watch it, and we are hoping that Jane Schetter, District Court Administrator for District 8, will lead the session. As there are several scenarios, clerks can feel free to come and go from the session.

As always, the Friday session at the Clerk Seminar will be with the DOT. The format will be different however, as there will only be about a 15-minute general presentation by Kent Buehler and Judy Weger. That will be followed by breakouts into very small groups with other members of the DOT for discussion of the form described elsewhere in this newsletter.

Regional Seminar

The Bureau of Transportation Safety of the DOT, NHTSA and the Resource Center on Impaired Driving are sponsoring a two and a half day "Regional Alcohol Conference" to be held December 6 – 8, 1999 at the Concourse Hotel in Madison.

The Municipal Judge Education Committee will be considering the granting of municipal judge education credit for this program at their meeting on September 2. The Office of Judicial Education will inform the Resource Center of the number of credits, if any, that will be granted municipal judge attendees.

Brochures with registration forms will be available from the Resource Center in September and will be mailed to all municipal judges.

From the DOT

The Division of Motor Vehicles Revocation & Suspension Section is in the process of combining two of the most commonly used court forms into one form. The two forms are the MV3029 (Court order of Suspension/Revocation) and the MV3435 (Conviction Status Report).

Combining the two forms into one is the first step in a process that will eventually lead to faster processing of court orders, and courts having the option of electronically transmitting data to the Revocation & Suspension Section versus using the mail.

The combined form will be distributed the week of September 13, 1999. Staff from the Revocation & Suspension Section will review the form with the municipal court clerks at their annual seminar on Sept. 17 in Fond du Lac.

Any questions concerning the project can be directed to Kent Buehler, supervisor in the Revocation & Suspension Section, 608/266-2266.

Of Interest?

The 2nd District Court of Appeals has recommended that the case of *Village of Menomonee Falls v. Meyer*, #98-3195, 8/4/1999 be published.

That case holds that in order for a party to get a new trial in circuit court, the case must have had a trial on the merits in municipal court.

Review of municipal court action other than a trial on the merits can be had in Circuit Court only by means of a review of the transcript of the municipal proceeding.

[Ed. note] Although not explicitly stated, the case seems to make it clear that default judgments may not be appealed as there was no trial on the merits and no record for the circuit court to review.