

Judge Hohman wins state CASA honor

■ Probate Court Judge John Hohman was honored with the outstanding judge award by state organization.

BY DANIELLE PORTEUS
dportteus@monroenews.com

Probate Court Judge John A. Hohman, Jr. was recently honored as Outstanding Judge of the Year by the Michigan Court Appointed Special Advocates Association.

Dot Stacy, associate director of the Monroe County CASA, nominated Judge Hohman for the award. "I think he is well respected, not just locally, but on the state level is well," Ms. Stacy said. "He really listens to the recommendations of the CASA volunteers and takes the recommendations seriously."

Judge Hohman looks out for the best interest of each child, Ms. Stacy said.

Judge Hohman was selected from judges throughout the state who have made significant contributions to abused and neglected children and who have supported the CASA program.

"I was extremely honored," Judge Hohman said.

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Elizabeth A. Weaver presented the award.

Judge Hohman has served as presiding judge of the Family Court Division of Circuit Court, and has served three terms as the chief probate judge of Monroe County.

In August, the judge was elected president of the Michigan Probate Judges Association by his peers.

The award cited Judge Hohman for his dedication to area youth. In 2001, he led a team of area professionals through a three-week training for the implementation of a juvenile drug court in Monroe County. That training resulted in Monroe County receiving a \$500,000 grant in

2002 from the U.S. Department of Justice for the Juvenile Drug Court.

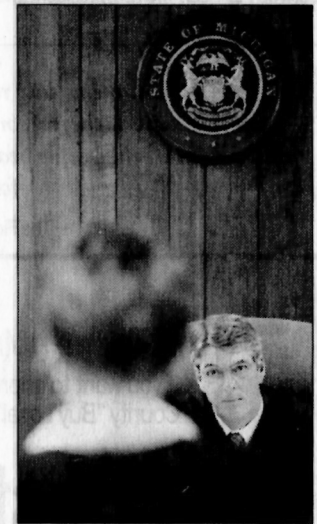
That grant was the largest grant awarded by the Department of Justice for any drug court in the nation. Has been operating since November, 2002, and has served more than 119 families.

Since CASA of Monroe County formed, Judge Hohman has been involved. He has participated in training classes for new volunteers for the past 11 years, said Ms. Stacy.

CASA is another tool to help justices, Judge Hohman said.

"Our job as judges is to find the truth," he said. "CASA brings another layer of truth."

The Outstanding Judge of the Year award was presented at the CASA state conference in Traverse City Nov. 7. Fellow Probate Judge Pamela Moskwa attended the conference, along with 14 Monroe County CASA volunteers and staff members.



— Evening News file photo

Judge John A. Hohman offers advice to a local teen during a court hearing.