FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUDGE C. ALLEN MCCONNELL

TOLEDO MUNICIPAL COURT

JULY 8, 2015

ON MONDAY, JULY 6, I DECLINED TO MARRY A NON-TRADITIONAL COUPLE DURING MY DUTIES ASSIGNMENT. THE DECLINATION WAS BASED UPON MY PERSONAL AND CHRISTIAN BELIEFS ESTABLISHED OVER MANY YEARS. I APOLOGIZE TO THE COUPLE FOR THE DELAY THEY EXPERIENCED AND WISH THEM THE BEST. THE COURT HAS IMPLEMENTED A PROCESS WHEREBY SAME SEX MARRIAGES WILL BE ACCOMMODATED. I WILL CONTINUE TO PERFORM TRADITIONAL MARRIAGES DURING MY DUTIES ASSIGNMENT.

I AM ALSO SEEKING AN ADVISORY OPINION FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO AT THIS TIME AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I CAN OPT OUT OF THE ROTATION.

UPON RECEIPT OF THE ADVISORY OPINION FROM THE SUPREME COURT, I WILL ABIDE BY ITS DECISION.

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MIKE ZENK, DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE TOLEDO MUNICIPAL COURT AT 419-936-2122.

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