



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Contact: Ann Filkins 269.384.8166

Aefilk@kalcouny.com

The 8th District Court for the County of Kalamazoo announces that Honorable Anne E. Blatchford will be retiring effective July 1, 2021

*after more than 17 years of dedicated service to the
Court.*

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Honorable Anne E. Blatchford announced last week that she would be retiring from the 8th district court effective July 1, 2021, after more than 17 years of dedicated service. Judge Blatchford was first elected in 2004, reelected in 2010, and again in 2018. In addition to her responsibilities presiding over a docket, Judge Blatchford was instrumental in implementing and presiding over programs that focused on therapeutic justice. The 8th district court will await an appointment from Governor Gretchen Whitmer as it begins selecting a new judge.

Judge Blatchford presided over the 9th Circuit Court Women’s Drug Treatment Court Program, established and presided over a Domestic Violence Court Review Program, and set and presided over a Young Adult Diversion Court Program. Throughout her tenure, she was passionate about the need for the judicial system to positively impact the community through programs like these that focus on counseling, education, and support.

The 8th District Court extends its gratitude to Judge Blatchford for her years of service to the 8th District Court and the citizens of Kalamazoo County, stating, “On behalf of Kalamazoo County, we want to say thank you to Judge Blatchford for her dedication to Kalamazoo. For nearly two decades of service and career-long efforts to promote the cause of justice, uphold the rule of law and protect the rights of our citizens. We wish her well in her years of retirement ahead”.

###