METRO

Judge under scrutiny on ruling

Days after unrelated suspension, Ogden faces writ in custody case

Stephanie Kuzydym
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Just two days after Jefferson Family Court judge Lauren Ogden agreed to a suspension regarding her conduct on the bench, a new document calls into question another one of her rulings.

This time, though, the legal complaint wasn't filed with Kentucky's Judicial Conduct Commission. On Oct. 28, Louisville attorney Bryan Gowin, who primarily practices in family court, filed a writ of mandamus / prohibition with the Kentucky Court of Appeals, regarding a February custody case. Gowin represents the biological mother in the case.


Ogden

He said the mother should not have to wait for the case to be resolved before being able to protect her due process rights.

"A writ is an extraordinary measure that can only be taken under limited circumstances, generally when a judge is acting outside the scope of what they should be doing," Gowin told The Courier Journal. "If a judge is not following the laws, the statutes or what we believe the case law is, then sometimes it's not equitable or fair or reasonable to have to wait until the end result in a case."

The writ focuses on prohibiting Ogden's rulings in a February custody case that is still active in her court. In the case, Ogden awarded custody of a child to a stepfather instead of its biological mother allegedly without due process, which Gowin argues is against not only Kentucky statute, but the United States Constitution.

The stepfather filed for sole custody of his then 8-year-old stepchild in February, saying he was the "defacto parent of the child singe age 1." But, the writ alleges, Ogden did not allow the biological mother an opportunity to present evidence or witnesses, or confront witnesses.

The new filing asks the higher court to vacate all of Ogden's legal rulings made in the case because, the filing said, they were made "without due process, without a hearing under oath, without clear and convinc-

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La Raíz, a Mexican-inspired restaurant and bar, opened in early October at 835 E. Main St., the former location of Nami Modern Korean Steakhouse. AMANDA HANCOCK/COURIER JOURNAL

6 restaurants, bars open, 2 cookie shops close in October in Louisville

Amanda Hancock
Louisville Courier Journal
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Louisville's food scene saw another busy month of openings, including the launch of Empanadas Alchemy and Voilà Cocktail Bar. Two cookie shops closed in October, including the Frankfort Avenue location of Please & Thank You and the St. Matthews location of Crumbl Cookies.

As October ends, here's your recap of restaurant happenings over the last month in Louisville.

Applebee's | IHOP combo restaurant opens

The newest dual-branded Applebee's | IHOP restaurant in Louisville opened in late October at 4535 Outer Loop.

The Oct. 27 opening marked the fourth dual-branded restaurant in the Louisville area and adds to the concept's nearly 50 locations nationwide.

Patrons have the the flexibility to enjoy IHOP's world-famous pancakes and breakfast offerings alongside Applebee's fan-favorite boneless wings, burgers, and appetizers in one integrated dining experience.

"We're excited to continue growing the presence of dual-branded Applebee's and IHOP restaurants in the Louisville area and bring both iconic brands together in another convenient location," Marshall Claycamp, vice president of Company Restaurants for Dine Brands Global, said in a news release. "By offering everything from pancakes in the morning to wings and cocktails at night, this restaurant gives guests more choice and value throughout the day while creating a welcoming neighborhood gathering place for the community."

The blended menu features offers exclusive items like the Loaded Buffalo Chicken Omelette and Ultimate Breakfast Burger, along with specialty cocktails such as a Bloody Mary or Good Morning Mimosa, along with seasonal and limited-time offerings from both brands, including Applebee's Spooky Sips and Sizzlin' Skillets, alongside IHOP's Stuffed French Toast, Pumpkin Spice Pancake Combo, and Pumpkin

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The House of Marigold opened its newest location Oct. 16 at Norton Commons.
PROVIDED BY THE HOUSE OF MARIGOLD


A new dual-branded Applebee's | IHOP restaurant opened in late October at 4535 Outer Loop in Louisville. PROVIDED BY DINE BRANDS GLOBAL

TARC offers free rides on Election Day

Lillian Metzmeier
Louisville Courier Journal

The Transit Authority of River City is offering Louisville residents free rides to the polls on Election Day, according to an Oct. 23 news release.

All TARC fixed-route services and paratransit services will operate fare-free Nov. 3, a service TARC has provided each primary and general election since 2020, according to the release. Jefferson County Clerk David Yates said the partnership helps ensure transportation is not a barrier to voting.

"Voting is one of the most important rights we have as citizens, and no one should miss the opportunity to cast a ballot because they lack transportation," Yates said in the release. "We are grateful to TARC for continuing to provide free rides on Election Day and helping make the voting process more accessible for Jefferson County residents."

Yates also encouraged Kentuckians to have a voting plan and review their sample ballot before heading to the polls.


Mid-City Mall, shown here May 8, is slated to be demolished and redeveloped into five new buildings plus a Publix grocery store. The mall was built in 1962. MATT STONE/COURIER JOURNAL

Mid-City Mall prepares for demolition

Ruby Grisin
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Residents surrounding Mid-City Mall center received notices Oct. 20 that on-site demolition could begin before 2027.

In January, developers announced the Bardstown Road shopping center would be reimagined as Mid-City Market. The 11.5 acres will house a new 50,000-square-foot grocery, additional green space and other service-focused tenants, under a $60 million plan from Atlanta-based Branch Properties.

In a letter, nearby residents were informed of the demolition and encouraged to reach out to the developer for more information. Development Manager Charlie Williams said demolition should begin by the end of the year, depending on "permitting, utility disconnection, and pre-demolition work."

"The existing enclosed mall building will be removed in full, along with the associated paving, curbing, site lighting, signage and underground utilities within the work limits," Williams said. "The demolition is the first phase of the Mid-City Market redevelopment."

Williams clarified the nearby Heine Brothers Coffee and Raising Cane's locations will remain untouched by the construction.

A Branch Properties spokesperson said, "We're preparing the site for redevelopment, and this notice is the first of several updates we'll share with neighbors as plans come together."

Reporter Matthew Glowicki contributed. Reach breaking news reporter Ruby Grisin at rgrisin@usatodayco.com.