

OPINIONS

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

— FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

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EDITORIAL QUICK HITS

Return monitor fees

Detroit's lawyers raise a fair point in federal court in seeking a return of the \$10 million in fees paid by the city to Sheryl Robinson Wood, the federal monitor or appointed to oversee the city's compliance with court orders to reform the Detroit Police Department. Wood was the monitor from 2003-09. However, it was revealed that she had a "secret, personal relationship" with disgraced ex-Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, which caused her dismissal. She clearly violated the trust of both the court and the city's residents, who have paid enough for the former mayor's misbehavior. The firms for whom she worked while federal monitor should have some liability for that breach of trust.

UDM's new president

The University of Detroit Mercy's Board of Trustees has named a new president to replace the Rev. Gerard L. Stockhausen, who stepped down in June to take a post with the national Jesuit Conference in Washington, D.C. The trustees have chosen Antoine M. Garibaldi, president of Gannon University in Erie, Pa. Like Detroit Mercy, Gannon is a Catholic school. Garibaldi will be the first lay president in Detroit Mercy's history. He has served a president of Gannon since 2001. During his tenure, the school's enrollment increased by nearly one quarter and gained nearly \$40 million in private gifts and government and foundation grants. The University of Detroit Mercy and its predecessor institutions have served students in this area for more than 130 years. It is a key institution in the

region and we wish President Garibaldi well as he takes the helm of Detroit Mercy.

Probate judge's contribution

Congratulations to Chief Wayne Probate Judge Milton L. Mack, who has received the William W. Treat award from the National College of Probate Judges. Mack, a 20-year veteran of the court, was honored for his work on reforming the law's treatment of mental health patients. The award, which honors lawyers and judges who have made significant contributions to the administration of probate or related legal fields, has previously gone to people such as former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Harvard law Professor James Casner. Mack is the first recipient of the award from Michigan. William W. Treat was the founder of the National College of Probate Judges.