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Giancarlo "Carlo" Cappuccino, former Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor's 18-month-old Lagotto Romagnolo puppy, left, rides in the Justice in Motion tour bus. SARAH WIRE/USA TODAY

March of robes

Judges go on the road to fight for their independence

Sarah D. Wire USA TODAY

Michael Donnelly is used to speaking to the public through his judicial opinions.

No more, the former Ohio Supreme Court justice said.

So Donnelly, along with a bipartisan group of sitting and retired state and federal judges, did what their profession trains them not to do: speak out in public about what is happening to the courts.

"It's not something I'm comfortable about. During my 20 years on the bench, I never went out and spoke about my opinions. I just let our opinions speak for themselves," Donnelly said. "But these are not normal times and when you see the politicization of the judiciary taking place and at the speed in which it is ... I have no other choice than to get out and speak out about it."

Traveling by bus over four days this week, the group made a dozen stops across Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan, speaking with elementary and high school students, lawyers, activists and concerned citizens about the importance of an independent

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Former Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor speaks with students during the Justice in Motion bus tour. SARAH D. WIRE/USA TODAY



Judge Chris Trebilcock, of 2nd District Court of Appeals, speaks July 10 during the tour. KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/DETROIT FREE PRESS VIA USA TODAY NETWORK

Flock data sharing halted

Audit finds possible immigration searches

Jordan Laird

Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther has ordered Columbus police to stop sharing data from Flock Safety license plate reading cameras statewide after an audit found thousands of possibly immigration enforcement-related searches on July 10.

"Columbus resources are meant to keep our residents safe and thriving. Any other use is unacceptable," Ginther said in an emailed statement to The Dispatch. "By my order, CPD has stopped statewide data-sharing from our license plate reader network. This means Columbus Police will still have access to this tool, which has played a role in approximately 60% of recent

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EXCLUSIVE

Sheriff admits jail violated his ICE policy

Man held for 12 hours after he posted bond

Jordan Laird

Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin admitted jail staff violated his policy when they held a man last year for 12 hours after he posted bond so Immigration and Customs Enforcement could arrest him.

The admission came after The Dispatch obtained an ICE detainer from the March 2025 case that two

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