



Justice Brian K. Zahra was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Supreme Court on January 14, 2011. The people of Michigan subsequently elected him in 2012 to a partial term and then re-elected to full term in 2014 and 2022.

Justice Zahra received his undergraduate degree from Wayne State University and graduated with honors from the University of Detroit School of Law, where he served as a member of the Law Review and as Articles Editor of the State Bar of Michigan's Corporation and Finance Business Law Journal. Upon graduation he served as law clerk to Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan before joining and eventually becoming a partner in the law firm of Dickinson, Wright, Moon, Van Dusen & Freeman.

In 1994, Governor John Engler appointed him to the Wayne County Circuit Court where in 1996 he was elected to a six-year term. In December of 1998, he was appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Governor Engler. He was elected to six-year terms in 2000 and 2006.

Justice Zahra has served on many professional and legislative committees, including the Michigan Civil Jury Instructions Committee, the Circuit Court Appellate Rules Committee, the Domestic Violence Legislation Implementation Task Force, and the Michigan Board of Law Examiners, which reviews Bar applicants for character and fitness, and drafts and grades the Bar examination.

In 2021, Justice Zahra was appointed chair of the Justice for All Commission, which is a coalition of state leaders and access to justice advocates. This commission is working to substantially open access to the civil justice system. He also serves as the Supreme Court's liaison to the Board of Law Examiners, the State Bar Board of Commissioners, and the Michigan Business Courts, which currently operate within 17 circuit courts.

Justice Zahra taught as a Senior Fellow of Law and Public Policy at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, and is a Distinguished Fellow at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI. He previously served on the adjunct faculty at the University of Detroit-Mercy Law School and the Michigan State School of Law.