



Adult Court Services

Delaware County Adult Court Services supervises nearly 1,100 individuals under court-ordered conditions.





Auditor

In December, Delaware County Auditor George Kaitisa and his team accepted the Ohio Auditor of State Award with Distinction for outstanding financial reporting for the fiscal year that ended in 2024. This award recognizes a level of clean and accountable financial reporting achieved by only the top 4% of governmental entities audited by the state.





Clerk of Courts

With Juvenile/Probate Judge David Hejmanowski and Recorder Melissa Jordan, Clerk of Courts Natalie Fravel offers estate planning resources through the Good Deeds Program.

Thousands of residents have attended the program, which began in 2019 and helps residents skip the Probate process by designating survivorship and beneficiaries on titled vehicles, boats, and real estate deeds.

The office also provides resources to the community with booths at First Friday in Delaware and the Delaware County Fair.



Legal Division



Delaware Title Office



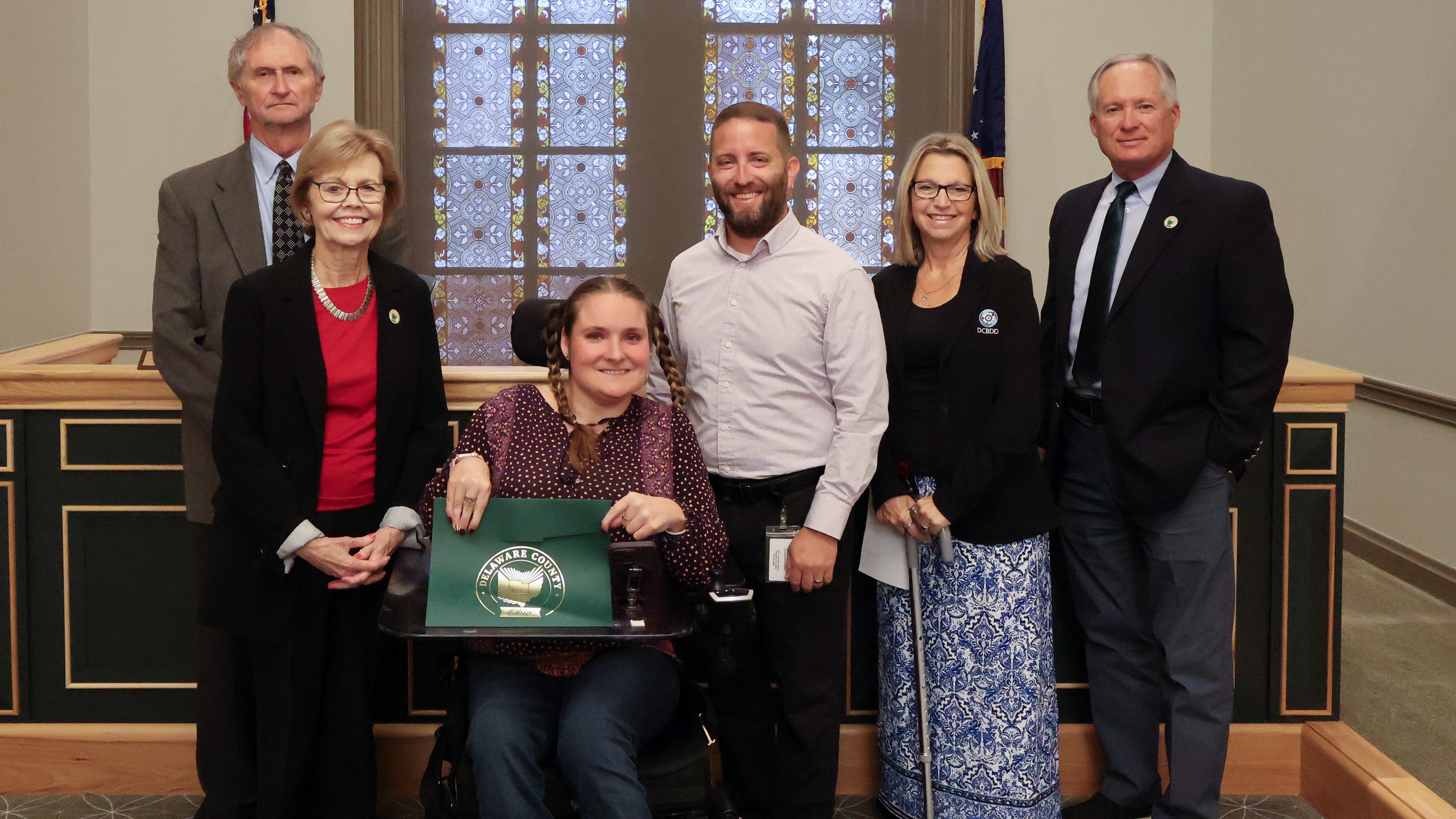
Lewis Center Title Office



Common Pleas Court

The dedication and professionalism of the staff of the Delaware County Common Pleas Court, General Division, are vital to the fair and efficient administration of justice. In 2025, the staff assisted the Court in processing 2,313 incoming cases and concluding 2,130 cases. The staff's hard work and commitment to serving the Court and assisting the public ensures that our legal system functions smoothly each day.





Domestic Relations Court



Judge Randall Fuller received the John E. VanDuzer Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) at their 2025 annual conference. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding contributions and/or achievements by members of AFCC. Judge Fuller has served on the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division since 2017. He instituted the first domestic relations court settlement week program in Ohio and has held settlement weeks in his court twice a year for more than five years. He has presented several roundtables on settlement week and helped many courts develop their own settlement week programs. Judge Fuller created two other successful court dispute resolution programs, Neutral Evaluation and the first Co Parent Coaching Program in the State of Ohio.

Domestic Relations Court



Judge Fuller was also recognized by the Utah Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts for helping model their Mediation Day from Judge Fuller's Settlement Week. Although their program is not a whole week, the Utah Chapter recognized the value of using great mediators to resolve cases from the Domestic Relations docket.

Judge Fuller's leadership in establishing a Domestic Relations Court Settlement Week, as likely the first in the State of Ohio for Domestic Relations, has been recognized by the Supreme Court of Ohio. Other counties in Ohio are starting their Settlement Week Programs around the template developed in Delaware County.





Emergency Management Agency

In 2025, the Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management completed major overhauls of 12 disaster plans. The office also conducted 13 disaster drills, including two HAZMAT response exercises. They also supported the development of a full-scale Child Abduction Response Team exercise and responded to 20 HAZMAT spills.





Engineer

Following the office's relocation to the Byxbe Building, the former Engineer's complex in Delaware was demolished. Homeport, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing, broke ground on a 44-home complex at the Channing Street location.

In July, state and local officials broke ground on a companion interchange along I-71, just south of U.S. 36/State Route 37. The connection will support the future development of Sunbury Parkway, a proposed east-west regional route between Africa Road and Sunbury. The project's first phase will also create a connection to Wilson Road, south of Tanger Outlets.







Juvenile/Probate Court

The Court introduced a new Traffic Diversion Program that provides first-time traffic offenders with hands-on driver training at a reduced cost. The program aims to increase the skillset of youth on the roads while diverting their first-time traffic offenses so that they do not have a driving record. Youth in the program receive both classroom and in-car training that includes spin avoidance, wet braking, and emergency lane changes.

The program is already making a difference for young drivers and received the following feedback from parents:

“The option to do the diversion program was an answered prayer for me as a dad. ... The sentence to the diversion program was exactly what we were looking for but didn't know existed. Thanks again for seeing these teens as people and caring enough to speak and judge with truth and mercy.”

“Your course was invaluable in giving both my girls a lot of confidence in their day-to-day driving, but today it saved her in an emergency situation. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”



Public Defender

In recent years, the office has shifted the majority of legal defense work from outside counsel to internal staff. External assignments have dropped 68%, while internal caseloads have grown 140% since 2021. This reflects a deliberate strategy to handle the most complex cases in-house and assign simpler matters externally.

While the average internal cost per case slightly exceeds external costs, this is driven by the complexity of cases handled internally and rising personnel costs. External costs appear lower largely due to selective case assignment. Without this approach, they would likely exceed \$1,000 per case, consistent with rising trends from \$393 in 2018 to \$910 in 2024. By only assigning out less serious and less time consuming matters, the office has lowered the external cost average.





Regional Planning Commission



Regional Planning Commission staff dedicated more than 360 hours to project-specific work during 2025, including the completion of a Comprehensive Plan update for Shawnee Hills, as well as significant work on plans for Concord and Radnor Townships.





Sheriff



A Naloxone vending machine installed in the lobby of the Delaware County Jail last summer and is available 24 hours a day. The nasal spray, also known as Narcan, is used to temporarily reverse an opioid overdose and is available for free thanks to state and local partnerships.



Sheriff

Rescue Task Force



This training involves multiple first responder agencies coordinating their response efforts to highly volatile emergencies. These reality-based training exercises are crucial to prepare personnel to respond effectively – ultimately saving lives and reducing further harm.

Women's Self-Defense Classes



Sheriff's Office staff have created an interactive, hands-on self-defense class specific to women. Led by deputies with on-site support from victim advocates, this popular program is offered 6 times each year and is open to females ages 15 and older.

Soil & Water Conservation District



In 2025, Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District continued to manage the Farmland Preservation Program on behalf of the County Commissioners. Three additional easements, nearly 108 acres, were added to the program, with 1,954 total acres preserved to date. These agricultural easements will ensure that family farms remain in agricultural production permanently, and will protect farmland from encroaching development in perpetuity.

Soil & Water Conservation District

The SWCD also worked with the Commissioners and Engineer to combine more than 400 single-family subdivisions into the Delaware County Drainage Maintenance District allowing us to improve efficiency and reduce costs for our residents.





Veterans Services



More than 200 veterans turned out for the inaugural VET FEST in 2025, a day for camaraderie, healing, hope and celebration of service. The event aims to strengthen community and shine a light on suicide awareness while reminding veterans that they do not stand alone.



Veteran Services provide many programs to support families in their time of need, ensuring that every service member is remembered with dignity, gratitude, and respect. In one touching case last year, Director Brian Galligher, a U.S. Navy Commander presented the American flag to a grieving daughter of a hero lost to veteran suicide.

