

About the Probate Judge

As your elected official since 1991, I am honored and privileged to serve as your Probate & Juvenile Judge. I continually strive to fulfill the duties that the citizens of Perry County have entrusted in me.



Contact Us:

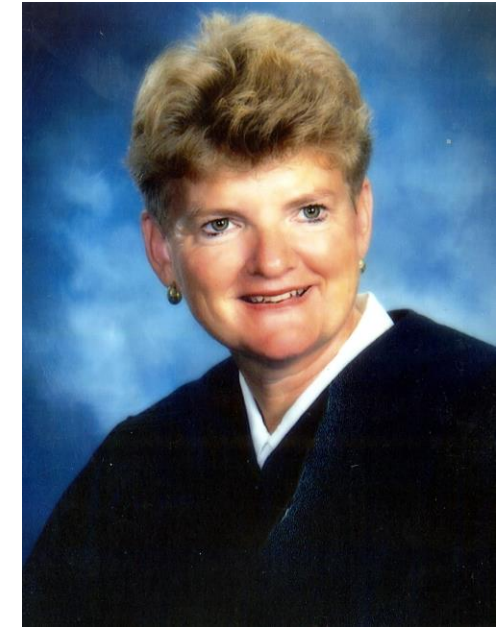
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PERRY CO. PROBATE COURT
105 N. Main St. P O Box 167
New Lexington, Ohio 43764



PERRY COUNTY PROBATE COURT

Judge Luann Cooperrider

The Ohio Revised Code places over two hundred separate duties upon the Probate Court. Those duties range from issuing marriage licenses to overseeing testamentary trusts. The Court has jurisdiction over probate wills, guardianships, adoptions, legal name changes, registration of birth, minor settlements, estate administration, genealogy research, civil actions, and appointments of boards of commissions.



ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES

The largest responsibility of the Court is to supervise any decedent's estate that has been filed in this Court. The Court appoints a fiduciary who is responsible for collecting the assets of the deceased, paying all legal obligations and debts, and distributing the remaining assets to those that are entitled. The Court oversees approximately 200 cases annually.

ADOPTIONS

All adoptions filed in Perry County must be finalized in the Probate Court. A home study is required to determine the suitability of the adoptive parents. The hearing and records of adoptions are confidential by law.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

The Probate Court has the authority to issue a delayed birth record and to correct any record that can be proven to be incorrect. This Court has birth records dated 1867-1909. Birth records after 1909 are recorded at the Perry County Health Department.

TRUSTS

This office oversees several different types of trusts including testamentary trusts that are established by a decedent's will, wrongful death trusts for protection of minors, and supplemental needs trusts.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The Perry County Probate Court issues an average of 225 marriage licenses annually. Both applicants must appear in person and the consent of a parent is required for a minor. Positive identification is required and the license is valid in any county in the State of Ohio.

GUARDIANSHIPS

It is the major responsibility of the Probate Court to protect people of this county who are unable to protect themselves. This includes adults that are mentally incompetent and minors. These individuals may not be able to protect their finances and/or their person. The Court will appoint a guardian that will be accountable to the Court.

MENTAL ILLNESS

The Probate Court oversees the involuntary commitment of individuals who are alleged to be mentally ill. The Court will convene a hearing to determine the need to have the patient hospitalized and the length of stay. All patients involved have legal representation during this process. These cases are confidential by law.



COURT OFFICERS

The Honorable Luann Cooperrider is the Judge and Clerk of the Perry County Probate Court. This Judgeship is an elected position that carries a six year term. The Judge is responsible for keeping and maintaining all records and filings in the Probate Court.

DEPUTY CLERKS

The Constitution of the State of Ohio and the Ohio Revised Code authorizes the Probate Judge to appoint Deputy Clerks to assist in performing the daily business of the Court. The Clerks have a wide range of duties and act in an official capacity to certify records and accept filings for the Probate Court. They are prohibited by law from giving legal advice or assistance in preparing forms that are filed with the Court.

COURT JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of the Probate Court is defined in the Ohio Revised Code. The pamphlet has listed a brief description of some of those duties in hopes that this will be informative information.