

CLERK OF COURTS

Yearly Comparison

2022

2012-2021

	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Legal	\$166,089	\$182,312	\$157,515
Titles	\$449,945	\$536,355	\$455,254
B.M.V.	\$100,504	\$110,421	\$86,922
Dept. Taxation	\$12,583,063	\$19,617,505	\$15,185,959
Passports	603	323	416
Cert. of Title	31,153	33,861	26,839
Notations of Lien	8,946	9,602	6,976
Memos	8,684	9,855	6,937
Duplicates	1,444	1,742	1,378
W/C Cert of Title	458	586	447
W/C Notations	20	15	20
Salvage	204	220	223
Divorces Granted	94	95	72
Dissolutions	79	65	76
Total Cases Filed	1,054	982	973
Civil	436	334	429
Domestic	242	253	233
Criminal	366	375	291
<u>Court of Appeals</u>	26	20	20
Foreclosures (included in Civil)	188	134	255

*The Clerk of Courts has two main divisions -
- the legal office and the title office.*

*The clerk's team places a priority on customer
service. Our mission is to provide prompt,
courteous, accurate service to each
of our customers.*



SUSAN S. HAZEL

Huron County Clerk of Courts

www.huroncountyclerk.com

Email clerk@huroncountyclerk.com

2 East Main Street, Norwalk, OH 44857

419-668-5113 Legal

419-663-4048 Legal FAX

Huron County Title Office

305 Shady Lane Drive, Norwalk, OH 44857

Email: titles@huroncountyclerk.com

419-668-5717 Title

419-668-6034 Title FAX

Legal Department

Nancy Sisson, Chief Deputy

Jodi Stang, Acct. Manager

Margaret Hardy, Dep. Clerk II

Tiffany Blair, Deputy Clerk II

Melanie Grof, Deputy Clerk

Tiffany Ellis, Deputy Clerk

Christine Hemenway, Deputy Clerk

Amy Harris, IT Administrator

Title Department

Carrie Felver, Title Supervisor

Tammy Cutcher, Dep. Clerk

Jennie Cherry, Dep. Clerk

Bailey Fannin, Dep. Clerk

HURON COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS



2022

A Year in Review

There were a number of projects which were implemented during 2022 in the clerk's offices. The state-initiated Consumer Title Portal went "live" in July of 2022. This portal provides the option for members of the public to apply for basic title transfers online. While the CTP has gotten off to a slow start, numerous area dealerships are now successfully working with the Huron County Title office to complete electronic title transfers.

An agreement with RealAuction was legislated for online sheriff sales of foreclosed properties. The clerk, sheriff, court and prosecutor worked cooperatively to prepare for this electronic process. RealAuction started conducting internet sales in Huron County in August.

In October, the clerk's legal division implemented a significant case management system upgrade. The new programming provides the foundation for increased electronic processing of court documents and future e-Filing of records.



HURON COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS 2022 ANNUAL REVIEW

- ◇ Title transactions were down approximately 20% from 2021.
- ◇ The title office collected more than 15 million dollars for the Department of Taxation. While this was 20% above the ten-year average, it was substantially less than the 2021 record high of 19.6 million.
- ◇ Fees collected by the clerk for the county general fund were down by 14% in both the title and legal offices from the previous year.
- ◇ 973 total new cases were filed in 2022—about 8% less than the ten-year average.
- ◇ 72 Divorces were granted in 2022—24% fewer than the prior year.
- ◇ 255 Foreclosures were filed in 2022—almost doubling 2021 foreclosure case numbers.
- ◇ 291 Criminal cases were filed in 2022—20% less than the ten-year average.



According to Clerk of Court, Susan Hazel, "It's all about respectfully working with others. Staff at both offices professionally work daily with members of the general public, as well as attorneys and area business people. I think that people would be surprised how frequently the clerk's office also interacts with our other government offices. For instance, in civil foreclosure cases, the case documents and processes are shared with the court, the county prosecutor, county treasurer, sheriff and recorder. At the state level, for example, the clerk interacts with the Ohio Attorney General's office for collection of bad debts, filing of tax liens and submission of details for BCI final disposition cards. As passport acceptance agents, the clerk's office works with the U.S. Department of State at the federal level."

Hazel pointed out that, "While much of what the clerk does is dependent on technology and computers, the "heart" of the clerk's operation is our dedicated staff. In the courthouse, the legal division has 7 staff members with 100 years of combined experience. That experience is so valuable when dealing with filings on domestic, civil, criminal, judgment liens and appeals cases. The title office currently has 4 full-time team members. Their coordinated efforts have improved the office efficiency."