

J. BERNIE QUILTER
CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
BIOGRAPHY



J. Bernie Quilter was sworn in as Lucas County Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas on April 15, 1999, succeeding Harry Barlos who had been appointed to the Board of Lucas County Commissioners a month earlier. Mr. Quilter was subsequently elected to a full term in November of 2000.

Among his accomplishments as Clerk, Mr. Quilter has instituted several important technological advances; all aimed at improving the level of service the Clerk's office provides to both attorneys doing business with the court as well as individuals having business with the court. In addition to overseeing the conversion to an improved statewide automobile and watercraft title computer system, Mr. Quilter launched a long-awaited searchable on-line application allowing persons to access the Court of Common Pleas case docket and view the register of actions for current and past court cases. As a result, our clients now have the ability to track filings and case information via the internet from their offices and homes. In its first year, this helpful research tool received over one million inquiries from the public.

Mr. Quilter became an Acceptance Agent for the United States Department of State for processing United States Passports. He established the "One Stop Passport Centers" located in each of our four Automobile and Watercraft Title Branch offices which are conveniently located in Lucas County.

In September of 2005, Mr. Quilter worked with the Lucas County Sheriff in establishing an "After Hours Bail Program" designed to allow individuals arrested on lesser crimes to post bail on weekends and after normal business hours. This program allowed the Sheriff to address overcrowding issues at the Lucas County Corrections Center.

In 2006, Mr. Quilter opened the Lucas County Imaging Lab. This lab was the first of its kind in the State of Ohio and one of the first nationwide. The Clerk of Courts partnered with individuals from Lott Industries, an employer of individuals with developmental disabilities, to back-file the imaging of documents for county agencies and successfully provide for a true office setting for the workers provided from Lott Industries. A number of articles have appeared nationally about the success of the Imaging Lab. Among them are "The County News", "The IACREOT News", "Government Computer News", "National Association of County Recorders News", as well as numerous locally written articles.

In an effort to improve collection of unpaid court costs, he successfully contracted with the Ohio Attorney General's office and through this Court Cost Collection program has seen a dramatic increase in the recovery of outstanding and unpaid court costs. Realizing the Ohio Attorney General's office has the resources and personnel to pursue individuals who are negligent in payment of monies owed Lucas County, Mr. Quilter has worked closely with the Ohio Attorney General in providing a positive solution outcome to the collection of past due account.

Prior to becoming Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Mr. Quilter served two terms as an Oregon City Councilperson, being first elected in 1995 and re-elected in 1997. Mr. Quilter received the highest number of votes among candidates in both elections and was elected by his peers in December of 1997 to be President of Oregon City Council. While serving on council, he was Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, member of the Building, Lands and Roads and the Sewer-Water Committees and assisted in overseeing the steady expansion of the City of Oregon. Do in part to his hard work and stewardship, the City of Oregon became one of the fastest growing areas in Northwest Ohio. Among Mr. Quilter's accomplishments while on city council was assisting in the City of Oregon's water treatment expansion project which increased the municipal water capacity from eight million gallons per day to roughly twelve million gallons per day.

Mr. Quilter is a member of the Ohio Clerk of Courts Association and served as its President during 2007. He is a member of the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers (IACREOT), was appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Rules of Superintendence in 2007 by then Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Thomas Moyer and was re-appointed in 2007. In April of 2008 Mr. Quilter was appointed to the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board by former Governor Ted Strickland. The records board is responsible to records planning for the State of Ohio and its members represent both public and private archives, record offices and research institutions throughout the State of Ohio. This board also reviews grants that are submitted to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. In January of 2011, Mr. Quilter was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Ohio Council of County Officials, and subsequently elected President of the Ohio Council of County Officials in January of 2015. The Ohio Council of County Officials is a

statewide organization representing county officials and their offices throughout the state. The purpose of the Ohio Council of County Officials is to unite governmental entities and both represent and assist them in proposing legislation and supporting existing legislation that has a positive impact on county government and to promote efficient and fiscal responsibility among county governmental agencies.

Mr. Quilter has received a number of awards for his work with individuals with developmental disabilities. Among these are the Northwest Ohio Placement Award (NOPA), the Community Partner Award from the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and the ARC Award for his continued support of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Mr. Quilter has been a strong advocate for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and has testified before the Ohio House of Representatives regarding restoration of funding for respite care and other programs. Mr. Quilter has a personal interest in Alzheimer's Disease as his late mother, Mary Quilter passed away due to complications of Alzheimer' Disease.

J. Bernie Quilter is a graduate of Cardinal Stritch High School, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Toledo. Prior to becoming a public servant, Mr. Quilter was employed by Toledo Edison. He is a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Toledo. He resides in Oregon with his wife Michelle and they have three children, Kenny, Michael and Kathryn. Mr. Quilter is the son of the late Barney Quilter and his wife Mary Quilter. Barney Quilter was a member of the Ohio House of Representatives and was the former Ohio House of Representatives Speaker Pro Tempore.