



LAKE LEGAL VIEWS

Regard for the Public Welfare is the Highest Law

VOLUME 79, NO. 300

LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

JULY 2026



PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION

**Christopher Tucci, Esq.
LCBA President 2026 - 2027**



Happy 250th Birthday America

One of my favorite holidays is July 4th. The day brings summertime fun, community, and reflection. July 4th not only represents American independence, it also runs much deeper, bringing together seasonal traditions, shared gratitude, and an appreciation for community spirit. It is a holiday that balances celebration with self-reflection, and for 2026, we celebrate this great nation's 250th birthday!

On July 4th communities come alive. From parades to the simple pleasure of an afternoon cookout, the holiday creates an environment where people naturally gather. The air is filled with the magnificent scents of the grill, the sound of laughter, and the feeling of fellowship. In a fast-paced world, July 4th acts as a welcome pause button. It invites family, friends, and neighbors to step outside, share a meal/beverage, and connect over timeless traditions that bridge generations.

As I expressed in a previous Lake Legal Views article, I love everything BBQ. July 4th is the single most popular day of the year for grilling in the United States, with roughly 71% of grill owners cooking out. Whether you use charcoal, gas, propane, electric or live fire to grill your food, the goal is the same—produce the best tasting food for your family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy.

On July 4, 2026, I plan to grill two of my favorite items: steak and corn in the husk. In the spirit of community and BBQ-fellowship, here are two go-to recipes.

Steak

This recipe assumes the steak is at least 1 inch thick.

Coat the entire steak with your favorite seasoning. The following works very well for a homemade steak seasoning: 2 Tablespoons kosher salt; 3 Tablespoons coarse ground black pepper; 1 Tablespoon paprika; 1 Tablespoon garlic powder; and 1 Tablespoon onion powder. Mix seasonings together.

Let the steak sit for a few minutes to absorb the seasoning. Now you're ready to grill.

The grill should be HOT---so hot that you can hold your hand over the grill grates for less than a second.

Place the steak on the hot grill. Grill the first side for 3 minutes, then flip and cook the second side for 3 minutes, then flip every two minutes until you reach your desired internal temperature, minus 5 degrees. For example, a medium rare steak takes approximately 9-10 minutes on the grill using this method.

Then, cover the steak lightly with tinfoil and let it rest for about 10 minutes to allow the juices to reabsorb and the internal temperature to rise. After 10 minutes, enjoy!

Corn in the Husk

Peel off each cob's layers of husk until there are only two layers left. Peel back the remaining husk to remove the silk. Place remaining husk back over the cob.

Heat your grill to medium-high heat, which is 375 to 450 degrees.

Place the corn in the husk on the grill. Turn the corn to get an even blackening on the outside of the husk. This should take 10 to 20 minutes depending on the size of each cob.

After the husk has been evenly charred, remove corn from grill, let it cool a bit, remove the husk, add butter/your favorite seasoning, and enjoy!



Building for the Future: The New Lake County Jail and Sheriff's Office Initiatives¹

By Judge Jeffrey W. Ruple

The current Lake County Jail opened in 1990, replacing the former Lake County Jail that was built in 1859 and served the county for more than 130 years. That facility was located where the Lake County Courthouse parking lot now stands.

In approximately one year, one of Lake County's largest and most significant public projects will be completed with the opening of the new Lake County Public Safety Center. Recently, I had the opportunity to bring my entire staff through the current construction site. Besides being in awe of the size of the construction site, what struck me about the new jail is the incredible thought and planning that has gone into maximizing the use of the space.

The new jail is the culmination of the significant efforts of the Lake County Commissioners, the Lake County Sheriff's Office, and its partners HOK, Gilbane Building, K2M Design, and Lakeland Construction Group to ensure that this project is delivered on time and under budget.

The new jail will feature 504 beds, a significant increase from the current capacity of 353 beds. The facility will include four levels and encompass approximately 210,000 square feet. Plans also include secured staff parking spaces, as well as public parking and a detached Sheriff's garage to be used to store emergency vehicles and secure vehicles for evidence. Careful consideration was given to the architecture, which will feature red brick, limestone, and gabled roofs designed to complement the character of historic downtown Painesville.

Beyond its obvious role in incarceration, the new facility will play an important part in achieving the goal of returning inmates to the community better prepared for successful lives. While the jail houses individuals who must be held accountable for their actions, more than 90 percent will eventually return to their families and communities. The new facility will provide sufficient space and resources to address medical needs, mental health challenges, substance abuse issues, anger management, educational opportunities, and other rehabilitative services.

In addition to the jail itself, the Sheriff's Office Training Center was established in 2023 with the goal of modernizing law enforcement training throughout Lake County. Simply shooting at paper targets is no longer sufficient. Modern law enforcement training must integrate every aspect of policing, including defensive tactics, verbal communication, de-escalation techniques, and, when

¹ Thank you to Sheriff Frank Leonbruno, Chief Deputy Robert Izzo, and County Administrator Jason Boyd for their assistance in providing information for this update.

necessary, escalation of force. Such training requires specialized facilities and expertise to safely simulate real-world scenarios. Conducting this training in a secure environment will enhance learning, decision-making, and preparedness for critical incidents.

The new training complex includes a traditional live-fire range, as well as two specialized training buildings. The center provides classroom space for firearms instruction, legal updates, defensive tactics training, and virtual instruction from experts across the United States. It also features a decision-making simulator that places officers in realistic scenarios, allowing them to practice and refine responses in a safe environment before confronting similar situations in the field.

The second building houses a Simunition training environment, utilizing paint-marking projectiles that simulate live-fire encounters. A movable-wall design allows officers to train for encounters with armed suspects, felony traffic stops, officer-down rescues, and civilian rescue scenarios.

One of the most valuable aspects of the new training center is its ability to accommodate multiple agencies simultaneously in separate training areas. It also provides opportunities for officers from departments across Lake County to train together, improving coordination and interoperability during critical incidents that require a multi-agency response.

Finally, the new Lake County Sheriff's Office Basic Police Academy (BPA), which began on September 25, 2025, represents a unique collaboration between the Sheriff's Office and Lakeland Community College. The academy was established to help address the growing shortage of individuals pursuing careers in law enforcement.

The BPA provides local police agencies with a nearby training option for new recruits while also creating opportunities for individuals interested in law enforcement careers to enroll in a local academy. Without the BPA, Lake County would not have a basic police academy of its own. The academy's goal is to create a permanent and continuous pipeline of qualified law enforcement professionals for local communities.

This partnership also allows cadets to earn college credit through Lakeland Community College while attending the academy. In addition, it provides Lakeland students with a direct pathway into a rewarding career in law enforcement.

Together, the new Public Safety Center, the Sheriff's Office Training Center, and the Basic Police Academy represent a long-term investment in the future of public safety in Lake County. These initiatives reflect the commitment to providing modern facilities, advanced training, and professional development while ensuring that deputies and law enforcement partners are equipped to serve our community with excellence, integrity, and compassion for generations to come.

LCBA Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

Present: Lydia Gross (President); Christopher Tucci (Vice President); Josephine Begin (Treasurer); Beckie Castell (Secretary); Kevin Goodman (Trustee); Jessica Wright (Trustee); Susan Seacrist (Trustee); Heikki Talikka (Executive Director);

Approval of the Minutes from the April 3, 2026 meeting: Cost for annual meeting incorrectly listed at \$35. Cost should be \$30/person. Golf outing dates listed at August 28, 2026, then subsequently changed to August 14, 2026 due to date conflict. Tucci moved to approve minutes; Begin seconded motion. Motion passed.

April Financial Statement: April has been reconciled but does not include Law Day expenses; April rent will be included in May's statement. Begin moved to approve April's Financial Report; Tucci seconded motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Common Pleas Cafeteria: Coffee supplier/vending supplier discussed. Need to determine if a full remodel is needed or upgrade the existing equipment. Plan to contact Mark Iafelice for more information. Question posed for how lunches are handled for jurors and how the cafeteria can accommodate this need. Auburn Career Center may have students that can assist with build out and/or food.

Foundation Reimbursement update: Some expenses approved at this date but need to check status on reimbursement check.

2026 Spring Family Event: Penitentiary Glen shelter June 6, 2026. Discussed need for sponsorship/cost of entertainment and possible food options. RSVP's due May 22, 2026.

LCBA Annual Meeting: June 12, 2026. \$30/person at Mooreland Mansion. Lunch options discussed. Need to check availability of podium and microphone.

GOLF OUTING: August 14, 2026 at St. Denis Golf Course. Start will be at 9am this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Law Day: positive reviews regarding food. Income was \$7,645 and costs were just under \$5,000. Possibly use Pine Ridge again for 2027? Pine Ridge has maximum capacity of 75 people, which may be a limitation.

Accountants: Discrepancy in contract language and cost; need to clarify.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pitney Bowes Equipment: Mail machine lease terminated and equipment returned. Credit pending.

Grievance Reimbursement: Plan to apply for quarterly reimbursement vs. annual reimbursement of expenses. Director to maintain records time devoted to enforcement, not compliance.

Computer Equipment Upgrade: LCBA computer has limited available memory; discussed cost of upgrade existing unit or replacement.

Law Student/Paralegal Student Membership: Discussed waiving membership fee for students.

Podcast: upcoming guests include Magistrate Lisa Garvin (Lake County Probate Court) May 4, 2026 and Carl DiFranco, Lake County Clerk of Courts May 11, 2026.

Gross moved to end meeting, Tucci seconded, Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm.



LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GOLF OUTING REGISTRATION FORM Friday, August 14th



FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 2026
8:00 AM REGISTRATION
9:00 AM SHOTGUN START
3:00 PM DINNER



ST. DENIS GOLF CLUB
10660 CHARDON ROAD
CHARDON, OHIO 44024

Registration Fees include Green fees & cart, door prize, breakfast, lunch, & dinner.

Payments may be made on the website at www.lakecountyohio.com or

Please return your completed Registration Form and check, made payable to the **Lake County Bar Association** with "Golf Outing" written on the memo, to -

LCBA
25 North Park Place
Painesville, OH 44077

Forms may also be emailed to heikki.talikka@lakecountyohio.gov

Questions? Contact the LCBA office for additional information.

REGISTRATION FEES

\$135/PLAYER, \$540/TEAM

\$35 DINNER ONLY

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JULY 31ST

Captain and Crew

Team Name _____

Player 1 (Captain) _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

Email _____

Player 2 _____

Email _____

Player 3 _____

Email _____

Player 4 _____

Email _____

☐ I need a pairing
☐ I do not need a pairing
☐ Dinner Only



LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GOLF OUTING HOLE SPONSORSHIP FORM *Friday, August 14th*



FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 2026



**ST. DENIS GOLF CLUB
10660 CHARDON ROAD
CHARDON, OHIO 44024**

MORE THAN 120 GOLFERS AT THIS
ANNUAL EVENT!!

SPONSOR THE OUTING AND RECEIVE:

* HIGH VISIBILITY FOR YOUR COMPANY

*COMPANY NAME RECOGNITION AT
DINNER

* COMPANY NAME RECOGNITION IN
BAR PUBLICATION AND NEWSLETTER
REACHING OVER 300+ ATTORNEYS

PLEASE RETURN FORM AND/OR DOOR
PRIZE DONATION TO:

LCBA
25 North Park Place
Painesville, OH 44077

Forms may also be emailed to
heikki.talikka@lakecountyohio.gov

**Questions? Contact the LCBA office for
additional information.**

**HOLE SPONSOR - \$150.00
PLEASE RESPOND BY JULY 31ST, 2026**

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

☐	Yes, I would like to support the Lake County Bar Association and help sponsor the annual golf outing.
Payment Options (check box that applies)	
☐	I have included a check for the hole sponsor amount of \$150 with this commitment form payable to: Lake County Bar Association
☐	Pay online at the LCBA Payment Portal. Reference "Golf Sponsor"
Regarding Your Sign (check box that applies)	
☐	I have a sign from a previous sponsorship that the LCBA may use for the golf outing.
☐	I have a sign of my own and will drop it off at the Lake County Bar Association for use at the golf outing.
☐	I do not have a sign and need a sign made. • Signs will have no more than 3 lines of text. • I will provide artwork in .SVG or .EPS format

Sponsorship Sign Text

AVAILABLE NOW!!

NO FURTHER QUESTIONS - AN LCBA PODCAST

EXHIBIT 1

PILOT EPISODE W/ LCBA PRESIDENT LYDIA GROSS

EXHIBIT 2

MAGISTRATE JEFF BLACK

EXHIBIT 3

FAMILY LAW W/ ANNA PARISE & DARYA KLAMMER

EXHIBIT 4

MAGISTRATE LISA MONTONI GARVIN

EXHIBIT 5

CLERK CARL DIFRANCO

NEW EPISODE

EXHIBIT 6

THE FAIRWAY AND THE COURTROOM

↑
Tap to Listen



The Lake County Public Defender's Office, located in Painesville, Ohio, has immediate openings for two full-time attorneys to represent clients in its misdemeanor division. Yearly salary starts at \$75,000, commensurate with experience.

Assistant Lake County Public Defender - Misdemeanor Division

Job responsibilities include representing indigent clients in misdemeanor criminal cases at all stages of the criminal process, including arraignments, discovery, motion hearings, pleas, trials, sentencings and post-sentencing hearings; conducting client interviews and gather relevant information for case preparation; reviewing discovery and conducting investigations in conjunction with staff investigator; researching and analyzing legal issues related to assigned cases; drafting legal documents for court filings; negotiating plea agreements with prosecutors when appropriate; advocating for clients' rights and best interests throughout the legal process; and working collaboratively with other members of the defense team, including investigators, paralegals, social workers, law clerks and legal interns.

Experience and Skills: Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from an accredited law school; licensed to practice law in Ohio; strong written and verbal communication skills; legal research, writing and oral advocacy skills; ability to work independently and manage a caseload effectively; commitment to providing quality legal representation to underprivileged individuals; knowledge of criminal law and procedures, evidence and professional responsibility and ethics; and excellent judgment and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate and work effectively with clients, office personnel, court personnel, prosecutors, law enforcement, probation officers, social workers and the general public.

Pay: The salary varies depending upon the number of years of experience as a criminal defense attorney, but the minimum starting salary is \$75,000.

Work Hours: Normally 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, but longer hours may be required with evening or weekend work depending upon status of cases.

Benefits: Retirement through Ohio Public Employees Retirement System; Health Insurance (includes medical, dental and eye); Employee Assistance Program; Life Insurance, Paid Time Off via Vacation, Sick, Personal Days and Federal and State Holidays, Continuing Education Credits; and Loan Forgiveness.

Please submit cover letters and resumes to Lake County Public Defender Vanessa Clapp via email at vanessa.clapp@lakecountyohio.gov or call the office at 440-350-3200 for more information.



LAKE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
CLE
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Remain current, satisfy your credit requirements, and strengthen your practice through Continuing Legal Education designed to support your professional workflow.

Wednesday, July 22nd @ 12pm
CLE - Professionalism in 2026 w/ Judge Joe Gibson

Wednesday, August 26th @ 12pm
CLE - AI in Practice w/ Judge Eugene A. Lucci



An established Northeast Ohio law firm in Lake County with offices in Painesville and Cleveland seeks a motivated, self-starting associate attorney at least one to five years' experience in domestic relations, in Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake counties. Successful candidate will possess solid domestic and family law knowledge, have actual trial experience, strong communication and people skills, and be able to independently manage a significant existing case load. Excellent benefits package and work environment with salary commensurate with experience.

Send resume and writing sample to: Kristy Keeper, Office Manager, Dworken & Bernstein, Co., LPA, 60 South Park Place, Painesville, Ohio 44077 or email to: kkeeper@dworkenlaw.com. No phone calls. An Equal Opportunity Employer.



<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office/ Ashtabula County Children's Services
<u>POSITION TITLE:</u>	Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Ashtabula County Children Services Board
<u>HOURS:</u>	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m, Full-time, 40 hours per week
<u>SALARY:</u>	\$85,000 annual starting salary minimum, with higher starting salary option based on the qualifications of the candidate, + Numerous County Benefits.
<u>DEADLINE TO APPLY:</u>	Until position is filled

The lists below are not all-inclusive, but provide a representative sample of requirements for the position.

QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND ABILITIES NEEDED:

- Must be a lawyer in good standing with the Ohio Supreme Court.
- Maintain all required licensures and certifications, by attending professional education and training sessions, seminars, and workshops as directed.
- Must be able to pass a drug screen as well as a criminal background check through the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

GENERAL DUTIES:

- Prosecution of abuse, neglect and dependency case docket.
- Assessment and preparation of cases by reviewing evidence, meeting with witnesses, and seeking a fair and just resolution.
- Research of legal issues applicable to assigned cases and drafting of appropriate legal motions or briefs in response.
- Provide legal advice and assistance to employees of Ashtabula County Children Services as needed.

NOTICE: This position is an at-will employment position. This means that either the employer or employee can end the employment at any time without advance notice. The employment relationship can end at any time, for any reason permitted by law, with or without cause, and with or without notice.

SEND COVER LETTER AND RESUME TO:

April R. Grabman, Ashtabula County Prosecutor, at argrabman@ashtabulacounty.gov

This job posting will remain open until filled.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER • DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE



Bruce Hutton	2
Honorable Robert Patton	6
Honorable Vincent Culotta	12
James Dugan	12
John M. Rogers	14
Lori Kilpeck	15
Honorable Jeffrey Rupple	19
Mark Ziccarelli	23
Robert Gambol	26
Jon Axelrod	28
Robert Winston	28
Laura DePledge	31
James O'Leary	31

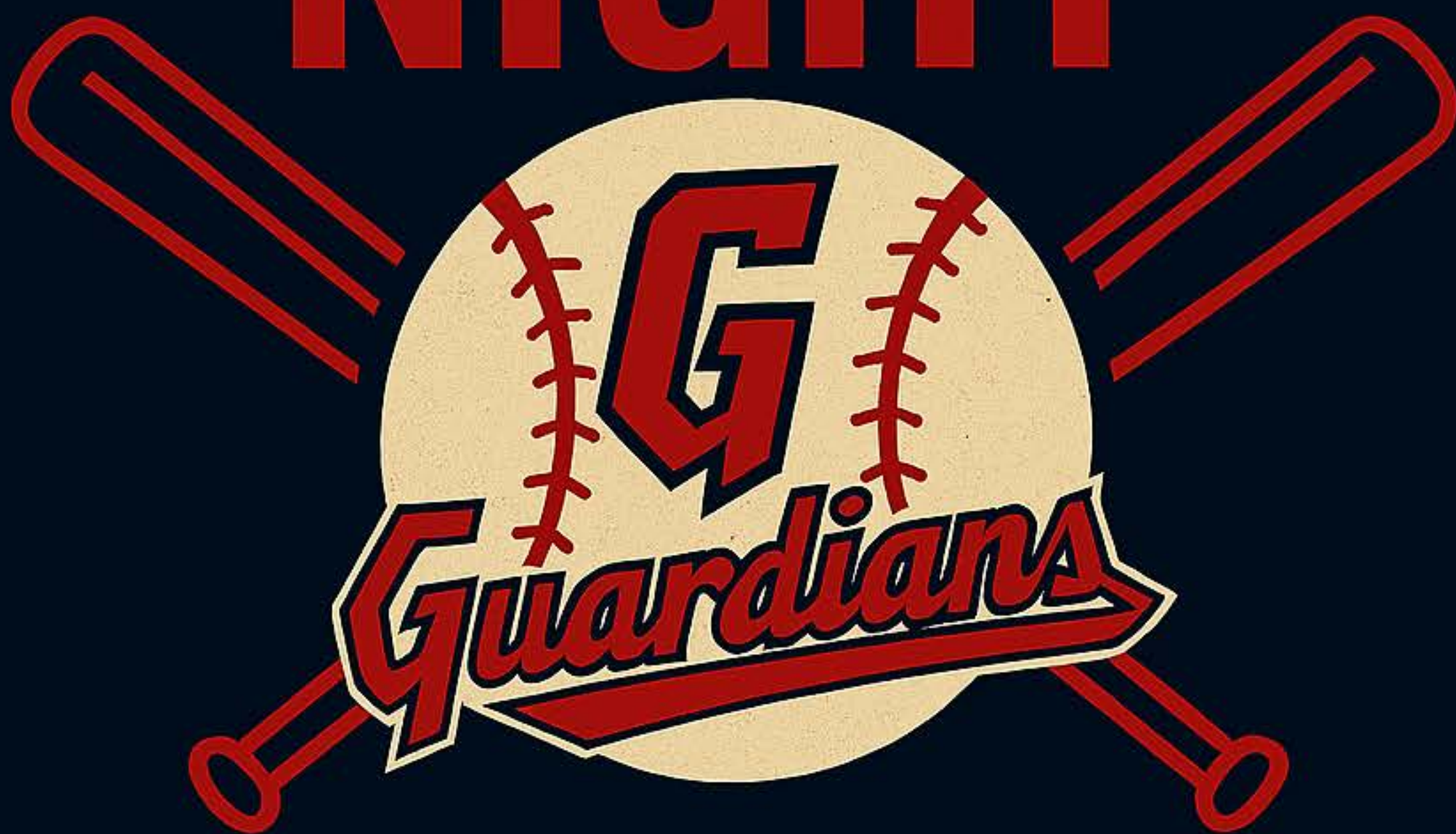
July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1 Notary Renewal Class	2	3 New Notary Class	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Notary Renewal Class	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 11:30 am - 1:00 pm CLE w/ Professionalism in 2026 w/ Judge Gibson (APC)	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5 Notary Renewal Class	6	7 New Notary Class	8
9	10	11	12	13	14  8:00 am - 5:00 pm 2026 Annual Golf Outing at St. Denis Golf Club	15
16	17	18	19 Notary Renewal Class	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 11:30 am - 1:00 pm CLE w/ AI in Practice: A Quick Reference Guide w/ Judge Eugene A. Lucci	27	28	29
30	31					

LCBA BASEBALL NIGHT



GUARDIANS v WHITE SOX

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

\$45 PER TICKET

TRANSPORTATION AND ADMISISION

**DEPARTURE/ARRIVAL FOR THE LIMO WILL BE AT
HAPPY MOOSE, 7693 REYNOLDS RD, MENTOR, OH**

Purchase Ticket at LCBA Events Page

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, 8/14

NOTICE OF VACANCY

801 West Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
www.ohnd.uscourts.gov



The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio currently holds court in Cleveland, Akron, Toledo, and Youngstown and serves the 6 million citizens of the 40 most northern counties in the state. It is among the 17 largest U.S. district courts.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants may apply by emailing [ONE PDF](#) document with the subject line "Term Law Clerk Application" to Judge Clay's Chambers [HERE](#) containing the following:

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Copy of law school transcripts
- Three professional references with contact information
- Two writing samples, each no more than 10 pages, prepared without use of generative artificial intelligence (please do not submit law review articles)
- Application for Federal Judicial Branch Employment found [HERE](#)

**ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE
PROVIDED TO BE CONSIDERED
FOR THIS POSITION**

TERM LAW CLERK TO U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE VACANCY #26-28

Duty Station: Toledo, Ohio **Posted:** June 30, 2026
Status: Full-time Temporary
Classification: JSP 11 – JSP 13 **Salary Range:** \$74,678 - \$138,370
Compensation will be set based on the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate subject to the policies and guidelines set forth in the Judiciary Salary Plan.
Closing Date: *Open Until Filled. First consideration will be given to submissions received by August 14, 2026.*

POSITION OVERVIEW

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio is accepting applications for the position of Term Law Clerk to Magistrate Judge Darrell A. Clay located in Toledo, Ohio. The ideal start date for this appointment is in or around January 2027. Although Judge Clay and his staff regularly telecommute, this is envisioned primarily as an in-person position, thus the candidate should reside near (or be willing to relocate to) Northwestern Ohio. Candidates having prior experience as a federal court law clerk or staff attorney and/or substantial experience in Social Security disability law may be considered for a hybrid or fully remote work status. This appointment is anticipated for a two-year term with potential for extension (but in no case exceeding 4 years) at the discretion of the successful applicant and Judge Clay.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary duties of the position include administrative and traditional law clerk responsibilities such as researching substantive issues of federal and state law, drafting legal memoranda, opinions, and orders, and attending court proceedings and settlement conferences, with a heavy emphasis on social security disability and habeas corpus matters. Additional duties include interacting with chambers staff, court personnel, litigants, and the public, and generally providing trusted legal support to Judge Clay. The selected candidate may perform other duties as assigned. The successful candidate must exhibit the highest standards of excellence and integrity, and display, always and to all persons, a courteous, professional, and cooperative attitude. Good character, maturity, absolute discretion, fastidious attention to detail, a congenial disposition, and willingness to work long hours while juggling overlapping deadlines are also required. Occasional travel to other Northern District of Ohio courthouse locations may be required.

JUDICIARY BENEFITS

- Paid Holidays (11)
- Pre-Tax Benefit Programs
- Health Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Group Life Insurance
- Commuter Benefits

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible to work without restriction in the United States.
- Completion of FBI background check with law enforcement agencies including fingerprint and criminal records check.
- Employment is considered provisional until the background check is complete.
- Employees of the federal judiciary must adhere to all Judicial Conference regulations, follow the policies in the Guide to Judiciary Policy, and are bound by the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees.
- Employees are considered "at will".
- Employees are required to use direct deposit for payroll.

QUALIFICATIONS

(The first three qualifications must be met at the time of application.)

For consideration, candidates must be a law school graduate from an ABA accredited law school with excellent academic credentials. Candidates also must possess:

- 1) Superior analytical ability and strong research and writing skills.
- 2) Proficiency using Word, Westlaw, Lexis, and related software.
- 3) Ability to work independently in a production-oriented, collaborative, high-volume work environment.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- 4) Prior judicial clerkship or judicial staff attorney position; or
- 5) At least two years of post-law school experience in a comparable position emphasizing legal research and writing.

To achieve pay grade JSP 12 or higher, applicants must also have:

- Membership in a Bar of a state, territory, or federal court of general jurisdiction.
- At least one year of legal work experience in a comparable position emphasizing legal writing and research.

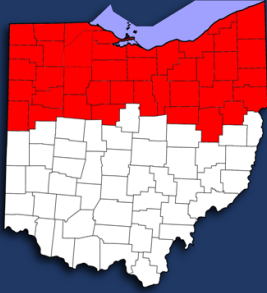
OTHER

Applicants selected for interviews must travel at their own expense and relocation expenses will not be reimbursed. Interviews may take place in-person or via Zoom.

The Court reserves the right to fill more than the advertised number of positions with this announcement, may modify the conditions of this job announcement, or may withdraw the announcement, any of which may occur without prior written or other notice.

NOTICE OF VACANCY

801 West Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
www.ohnd.uscourts.gov



The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio currently holds court in Cleveland, Akron, Toledo, and Youngstown and serves the 6 million citizens of the 40 most northern counties in the state. It is among the 17 largest U.S. district courts.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants may apply by emailing the following documents in **ONE PDF** to apply@ohnd.uscourts.gov:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Three professional references with contact information
- Two writing samples; no more than 15 pages (*do not submit law review articles*)
- Copy of law school transcripts. Law Students must include year 2 grades
- Application for Federal Judicial Branch Employment found [HERE](#)

ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE PROVIDED TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS POSITION

TERM LAW CLERK TO U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE VACANCY #26-29

Duty Station: Cleveland, Ohio **Posted:** July 2, 2026
Status: Full-time Temporary **Closing Date:** Open Until Filled
Classification: JSP 11 – JSP 13 **Salary Range:** \$77,977 - \$144,481

Compensation will be set based on the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate subject to the policies and guidelines set forth in the Judiciary Salary Plan.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio is accepting applications for a Term Law Clerk position with U.S. District Judge-Designate Michael J. Hendershot in Cleveland, Ohio with an anticipated start date in August or September 2026. This position is anticipated to be a one-year term with potential for extension at the discretion of the successful applicant and Judge-Designate Hendershot.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary duties of the position include traditional law clerk responsibilities such as researching substantive issues of federal and state law, drafting legal memoranda, opinions, and orders, and attending court proceedings. Additional duties include interacting with chambers' staff, court personnel, litigants and/or the public, and generally providing trusted legal support to the Judge. The selected candidate may perform other duties as assigned. The successful candidate must always and to all persons exhibit the highest standards of excellence and integrity, professionalism, and cooperative attitude.

QUALIFICATIONS (must be met at the time of application)

For consideration, candidates must be law school graduates from an ABA accredited law school with excellent academic credentials. Candidates also must possess:

- 1) Superior analytical ability and strong research and writing skills. The ability to prepare bench memoranda and draft opinions on complex civil cases is critical to this position. Applicants must have significant research and writing experience, as well as a demonstrated ability to work proficiently and independently on complex matters.
- 2) Proficiency in computer and word processing skills.
- 3) Ability to work independently in a production oriented high-volume work environment; and

JUDICIARY BENEFITS

- Paid Holidays (11)
- Pre-Tax Benefit Programs
- Health Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Group Life Insurance
- Commuter Benefits
- Transit Subsidy
- Fitness Center

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible to work without restriction in the United States.
- Completion of FBI background check with law enforcement agencies including fingerprint and criminal records check.
- Employment is considered provisional until the background check is complete.
- Employees of the federal judiciary must adhere to all Judicial Conference regulations, follow the policies in the Guide to Judiciary Policy, and are bound by the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees.
- Employees are considered "at will".
- Employees are required to use direct deposit for payroll.

QUALIFICATIONS CONTINUED

To achieve pay grade JSP 12 or better, applicants must also have:

- 4) Membership in a Bar of a state, territorial, or Federal Court of general jurisdiction; and
- 5) At least two years of legal work or experience in a comparable position emphasizing legal writing and research.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Prior federal clerkship

OTHER

Due to the high volume of applications anticipated, the Court will only contact those who will be considered for interviews. Applications will be reviewed, and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis. Interviews may take place in-person or via video. Applicants selected for in-person interviews must travel at their own expense. If selected, relocation expenses are not reimbursable.

The Court reserves the right to fill more than the advertised number of positions with this announcement, modify the conditions of this job announcement, or withdraw the announcement, any of which may occur without prior written or other notice.

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

SAVE THE DATE

2026
Character and
Fitness Seminar

Tuesday,
September 29, 2026

The Bar Admissions Section of the Supreme Court of Ohio is pleased to announce the 2026 Seminar on Character and Fitness. This program will cover the framework of the character and fitness process, best practices, and related topics. The seminar will be held via Zoom and is tentatively scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. CLE credit is being requested for this event.

Please share this invitation with admissions committee members and others who may benefit from the program.

Additional details will be provided in early August 2026.

Questions? Email: Elizabeth.Arcos@sc.ohio.gov



COMMON PLEAS SEMINAR
Thursday, October 15, 2026

SAVE
THE
DATE
DETAILS
COMING
SOON

PREMIUM OFFICE SUITE

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