





WHAT ARE APPEALS COURTS?

Appeals courts hear and decide all appeals from decisions of Ohio's trial courts except mayors' courts as explained above. Appeals courts also have original jurisdiction to hear certain special proceedings, which means such proceedings are filed directly in the appeals court rather than a trial court.

Ohio is divided into 12 appellate districts, with each district having three or more judges. Each case before the court of appeals is heard by a panel of three judges. These courts generally do not hold trials or hear evidence. They decide matters of law based on the record of the trial court, the written arguments called briefs, and the oral arguments before the court. After hearing arguments about the trial court's decision, the appeals court may either affirm or reverse the trial court, or remand the case to the trial court for further proceedings. Appeals courts issue formal decisions called opinions, which are based upon whether or not prejudicial errors were made at the trial court level.

CONTACT US:

-  41 N. Perry Street, Room 104, Dayton, OH 45422
-  937-496-7623
-  Clerkhelpcenter@mcoho.org
-  Monday-Friday 8:30AM to 4:30PM

To view our outreach schedule or find out more information, please visit our website at WWW.COURTHOUSETOYOU.COM.



OUR DIVISIONS:

- CIVIL: 937-225-4512
- CRIMINAL: 937-225-4536
- DOMESTIC RELATIONS: 937-225-4562
- RECORDS: 937-496-7762
- AUTO TITLE: 937-225-4480
- EASTERN MUNICIPAL COURT (HUBER HEIGHTS): 937-496-7231
- WESTERN MUNICIPAL COURT (TROTWOOD): 937-687-9099



Find us on
Facebook
CLERK OF COURTS MIKE FOLEY

**BRIDGING THE JUSTICE GAP ONE
CONSTITUENT
AT A TIME.**

OHIO'S COURTS

MIKE FOLEY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
CLERK OF COURTS





WHAT COURTS HAVE JURISDICTION IN OHIO?

All states, including Ohio, have a two-court system: state courts and United States (also known as federal) courts. This pamphlet contains a general outline of the two systems.

WHAT DO MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY COURTS DO?

Municipal and county courts have limited jurisdiction and can only hear civil cases that fall within that court's territorial area, and only if the claim does not exceed \$15,000. (Note: Jurisdiction refers to the power and authority of a court to hear a case. Venue refers to the geographical area where a case is tried.)

In criminal cases, these courts are limited to hearing misdemeanor offenses, but they can hold preliminary hearings in felony cases if it is determined that probable and reasonable cause exists to hold the defendant. In such a situation, the case is then transferred to the common pleas court following the preliminary hearing. The municipal and county courts are created by state statute. Some municipal courts may have geographical jurisdiction only within their corporate limits. In criminal cases, these courts are limited to hearing misdemeanor offenses, but they can hold preliminary hearings in felony cases if it is determined that probable and reasonable cause exists to hold the defendant. In such a situation, the case is then transferred to the common pleas court following the preliminary hearing. The municipal and county courts are created by state statute. Some municipal courts may have geographical jurisdiction only within their corporate limits; but not countywide; still others have county wide jurisdiction. If there is an area within a county where no municipal court has jurisdiction, then a county court is established.

All municipal and county courts also have what is known as a small claims court. These courts have limited monetary jurisdiction and are established to enable people to represent themselves when the amount in question is not large and the cost of litigation would be more than the value of the claim.



For information about the division of municipal and county courts known as small claims court, contact the Ohio Judicial Conference at 614-387- 9750 or visit www.ohiojudges.org.

WHAT ARE COMMON PLEAS COURTS?

Every county has a common pleas court consisting of one or more judges. A common pleas court hears cases involving such matters as real estate, personal injury, criminal and felony cases, breach of contract, marital conflicts, probating of estates, guardianship.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SCAN QR CODE

