

# 2009 Annual Report



## Welcome to Miami County Probate Court

**Miami County  
Probate Court**

**May, 2009**

The Probate Court of Miami County is a division of the Miami County Common Pleas Court. Probate Courts are one of the oldest courts in Ohio, dating back to the Northwest Territory of 1787. The Ohio Constitution of 1851 created a separate Probate jurisdiction in each county.



**Judge W. McGregor Dixon, Jr.**

The Ohio Revised Code places over two hundred separate duties upon the Probate Court. These duties touch the lives of our citizens in fundamental ways, from issuing marriage li-

censes to overseeing wills, estates trusts and guardianships. Under the direction of Judge Dixon, and with help from Deputy Clerk staff Miami County Probate Court proudly serves the community.

## Probate Court Forms on the Web



Most forms used by the Probate Court can be found on the Probate Court website:

**[www.miamicountyprobatejuvenile.org](http://www.miamicountyprobatejuvenile.org)**  
These forms can be completed, printed and then filed with the Probate Clerk's office.

### Probate Court Services

- *Marriage License and Marriage Records—1807 to present*
- *Decedent's Estates—1807 to present*
- *Testamentary Trusts—1807 to present*
- *Birth records—1853-1908*
- *Death records—1867 – 1908*
- *Guardianships for Incompetents*
- *Guardianships for Minors & Minor Settlements*
- *Change of Name*
- *Birth Registration and Delayed Birth*
- *Mental Illness*
- *Adoptions*

## Miami County Probate Judges

Hon. Benjamin F. Powers	1852-1856
Hon. Joseph Pearson	1856-1861
Hon. Samuel S. Davis	1861-1867
Hon. W.N. Foster	1867-1873
Hon. A.S. McKinney	1873-1879
Hon. William Johnston	1879-1885
Hon. W.J. Clyde	1885-1891
Hon. John C. Geyer	1891-1897
Hon. William Freshour	1897-1903
Hon. J. Harrison Smith	1903-1906
Hon. E.W. Maier	1906-1913
Hon. Lewis E. St. John	1913-1921
Hon. E.M. Bell	1921-1923
Hon. Raymond Kerr	1923-1924
Hon. Harry Powell	1924-1925
Hon. Raymond Kerr	1925-1929
Hon. Harry Powell	1929-1933
Hon. Guy O'Donnell	1933-1941
Hon. Carl Felger	1941-1949
Hon. Samuel Faust	1949-1973
Hon. James R. O'Donnell	1973-1974
Hon. Richard A. Goater	1974-1996
Hon. Lynnita K.C. Wagner	1997- 2009
Hon. W. McGregor Dixon, Jr.	2009-present

## 2009 Probate Court

W. McGregor Dixon, Jr. Judge  
 Rebecca Hall, Magistrate  
 Charlene Prestopino, Court Administrator  
 Mary Siegel, Chief Deputy Clerk  
 Lorri Swink, Deputy Clerk  
 Valerie Miller, Deputy Clerk  
 Kathy Olberding, Deputy Clerk  
 Angela Hubbard, Fiscal Officer



## Probate Court Statistical Summary Filing Trend 2004-2009

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Decedent's Estates	614	568	562	546	558	584
Guardianships (Minors)	23	22	51	30	22	16
Guardianships (Incompetents)	59	47	30	65	72	59
Conservatorships	0	0	1	0	1	0
Testamentary Trusts	11	13	4	8	9	17
Civil Actions (will contests etc.)	17	16	9	15	16	18
Adoptions	50	58	55	42	69	45
Mental Illness/Mental Retardation	14	21	14	11	18	14
Minor's Settlement	3	13	14	6	10	8
Wrongful Death	8	4	9	2	8	11
Birth Registrations and Corrections	6	7	6	6	1	0
Change of Name	30	38	45	44	35	51
Marriage Applications	695	718	673	700	690	643
Total Filings	1530	1525	1473	1475	1509	1466