

Tammie K. Hursh



Office: Lima Municipal Court

Age: 50

Address: Bluffton

E-mail:
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Website: None provided

Occupation: Judge, Lima Municipal

Court

Education: B.S. – Bowling Green State University; J.D. – University of Toledo College of Law; Graduate Studies – Indiana University

Work Experience: Private Practice; Staff Attorney – CSEA; Magistrate; Assistant County Prosecutor – Hardin County; Assistant and Deputy Law Director – City of Lima; Chief Prosecutor – Lima Municipal Court; Adjunct Faculty Member – Tiffin University and ONU College of Law

Family: Married with 2 children

Affiliations: Former Board Member – Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Allen County, Lima YWCA, Family Abuse Prevention Team; Former Member of DV Protocol Committee of Allen County; Advisory Board Member – Lima/Allen County (YWCA of Northwest Ohio), Engaging Communities Coalition; Elder – Bluffton Presbyterian Church

Endorsements: No answer provided

Bar Association Ratings: No answer provided

(1) List your judicial experience (courts & years).

I was appointed by Governor John Kasich as Judge in the Lima Municipal Court on September 22, 2014. Since that time I have administered the judicial functions at the Court and have been able to reduce the time period in which cases are heard and disposed of by the Court. Also I have started a Drug Court with the application for official certification pending with the Ohio Supreme Court. I have experience hearing criminal, traffic, and civil matters. I have presided over numerous arraignments, motion hearings, and trials. Prior to this appointment I served as a Magistrate in the Allen County Juvenile Court from 1997-2002. During this five year period I presided over cases that involved Delinquent (Felony and Misdemeanor offenses) and Unruly Children, Traffic matters, Parentage/Custody, and Dependency, Neglect and Abuse proceedings.

(2) What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

I have worked in various capacities as an attorney. I have represented private parties, governmental agencies, the City of Lima, and have served as a prosecutor in both misdemeanor and felony matters. Based upon these experiences, I truly appreciate the importance of the Lima Municipal Court. Citizens are more likely to encounter this court than any other in our community. Therefore their impression of the justice system is, in all likelihood, a result of their experiences in this trial court. Based upon my background in this Court for many years I understand the importance of treating individuals professionally and fairly. Maintaining the decorum and efficiency of this busy court can be difficult but is absolutely necessary for justice to be done. Additionally, this Court is at the forefront of the narcotic abuse epidemic. The Lima Municipal Court often sees individuals first who are addicted, prior to them committing a more serious criminal offense. We are offering services to these individuals with serious drug addictions sooner with the Treatment Court initiative. We are addressing their illness but still hold them accountable to the community for their criminal acts. I am currently maintaining the Treatment Court Docket and will work tirelessly, with Court staff, to make a positive impact in our community. I will also continue to explore other initiatives to better the Court. My experience, energy, and willingness to make changes to improve Lima Municipal Court qualify me to be a Judge in this Court.

(3) Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I would like to continue our efforts to improve the Court, particularly related to improved use of technology, efficient scheduling of cases, and expansion of specialized dockets. But in order to continue this progress the Court needs Judges that are highly motivated, energetic, reasonable, consistent, and respectful. I strive to live up to this challenge every day and will continue to do so if voted into office for a full term. Additionally, I understand that each case is unique and that persons appearing before the court deserve to have their case heard, not merely processed. I will continue to improve the court scheduling with the use of technology in order to address the needs of various parties. Some examples of how this can be accomplished are by the use of effective interpreter services, video pre-trial conferences, and video arraignments. Also, I would like to improve our collaborative efforts with treatment providers and expand our Treatment Court docket to include those with serious mental illness and developmental disabilities. This would enable the Court to be more proactive in preventing further criminal acts. If elected I will provide firm, fair, and creative solutions to the controversies litigated in Lima Municipal Court.

Project Partners: Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron The Ohio State Bar Association
The League of Women Voters of Ohio The Ohio Newspaper Association The Ohio Association of Broadcasters