

Dan Hawkins



Office: Franklin County – Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Age: 42

Residence: Westerville, OH

Email: judgetanhawkins@gmail.com

Website: www.JudgeDanHawkins.com

Occupation: Judge, Franklin County Environmental Court

Education: J.D. from The Ohio State University College of Law, B.S. in Criminal Justice from Bowling Green State University

Work Experience: Judge, 2013-present; Special Victims Unit Director for Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney, 2005-2013; Assistant Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney, 2001-2013

Family: Married with 3 children

Affiliations: American Judges Association, Ohio Judicial Conference, Association of Municipal County Judges of Ohio, Ohio State Bar Association, Columbus Bar Association

Endorsements: N/A

Bar Association Ratings: Received highest ranking in the Columbus Bar Association Judicial Performance Poll

http://www.cbalaw.org/CBA_PROD/Main/News_Items/Columbus_Bar_2017_Judicial_Performance_Poll_Results_Announced.aspx

Judicial Votes Count



WHAT'S AT STAKE?

In 2018, Ohio voters elected judges to the Supreme Court of Ohio and all 12 districts of the Court of Appeals, as well as most courts of common pleas and county courts.

Election Results

2019 Voter Registration Deadlines

For Primary Election: April 8, 2019

For General Election: Oct. 7, 2019

[Register to Vote Online or Update Your Name/Address Here](#)

2019 Election Dates

Primary Election: May 7, 2019

General Election: Nov. 5, 2019

Polls are open on Election Days from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

CONTACT US



jvc@uakron.edu

(1) List your judicial experience (courts and years):

Judge, Franklin County Municipal Court Environmental Division –
2013-present

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

Being a judge requires the ability to make difficult, life-changing decisions on a daily basis. My experience prior to taking the bench provided me with the proper experience and perspective to make these tough decisions. Before I became a judge, I spent 14 years as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Franklin County handling juvenile, domestic, grand jury and criminal cases. After only 2 years as an assistant prosecutor, I was awarded a spot in the office's prestigious Special Victims Unit, which handles crimes of violence against women and children including sexual assaults, domestic and sexual homicides, child homicides, child abuse, human trafficking, and internet child exploitation.

In 2005, I was promoted to the position of Director of this unit, making me responsible for not only prosecuting these cases but also overseeing a staff of six SVU prosecutors. I provided training to prosecutors, attorneys, law enforcement and medical professionals from all over the state on topics including evidence, forensics, and responding to sexual assault and domestic violence. In 2011, I traveled to the former Soviet Republic of Georgia at the request of the U.S. Department of Justice in order to help that country update its laws and judicial system. Over the course of my career, I conducted well over 100 jury trials, including six death penalty cases. In 2009, I received the Award of Commendation from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for the prosecution of internet child predators. All of this experience helped prepare me to become the judge that I am today: fair, hardworking, and unafraid to make tough decisions.

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

At the end of 2018, three highly regarded Common Pleas judges are being forced into retirement due to age restrictions, resulting in over 64 years of experience leaving the bench in Franklin County. Concern over this tremendous loss of experience led a number of attorneys, judges, and community leaders from both political parties to approach me about running for the seat that is currently held by the retiring Judge Charles Schneider. Given all of the success we have had in the Environmental Court over the past 5 years, I was originally reluctant to make such a move. However, the outpouring of support I have received and the demand for experienced judges during such difficult times was ultimately the deciding factor in me seeking this seat on the Common Pleas Court. As a Judge, I have presided over a docket that involves several thousand criminal and civil cases. As a prosecutor, I tried over 100 jury trials that involved society's most heinous and serious crimes. I am uniquely qualified for the position of Common Pleas Judge and I am excited to serve our county in that role. With that, I respectfully ask for your vote.

Thank you.