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# Diana Colavecchio



Office: Summit County - 9th District Court of Appeals

Age: 58

Residence: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Email: dianacolavecchio@gmail.com

Website: Facebook: Colavecchio for Judge

Occupation: Clerk of Courts - Stow Municipal Court

Education: JD: University of Akron (1989); BA: English, University of

Akron (1986)

Work Experience: Private legal practice (2002 - 2015); UAW-LSP staff

attorney (1991-2002)

Family: Married to Paul Colavecchio, daughter Gabrielle Colavecchio

**Affiliations**: Stow Chamber, Cuyahoga Falls Chamber, Nordonia Hills Rotary, Cuyahoga Falls Historic Review Board, Akron Bar Association,

American Bar Association

Endorsements: N/A

Bar Association Ratings: N/A

(1) List your judicial experience (courts and years): Magistrate – Cuyahoga Falls Mayor's Court (2016) 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



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

Courts are becoming more and more complex and the judicial officials elected to run our Courts must have the proper experience, temperament, education (both legal and technological) and balanced approach to the administration of justice. I have built a record of relevant legal experience based on having spent nearly 30 years devoted to the legal system in various capacities. I served in a judicial role (Magistrate in Cuyahoga Falls Mayor's Court in 2013), in a municipal legislative capacity (Cuyahoga Falls City Council 2006-2013) and represented everyday citizens practicing law from 1989-2015 (probate, bankruptcy, real estate, guardianship, adoption, estate planning). Over the years people have trusted me to be their fiduciary - I have been a Legal Guardian, a Power of Attorney, a Veteran's Payee, an Executor and a Trustee. For the past 2 years as Clerk of the Stow Municipal Court I administer a docket of some 19.500 cases (16.000) criminal/traffic and 3,500 civil) and oversee an office budget of .2 million. I also manage 23 employees. As Clerk, our office implemented online eFiling. Our Court is the only municipal Court in Summit County to do so.

Judicial officials should have a balanced approach to decision making — the decisions they make should be thoughtful and discerning while understanding the impact on the litigants and others similarly situated. There is always a big picture to consider — decisions should not be made in a vacuum. I have always believed that actively participating as a volunteer in my community has made me a better public servant because working with people who run organizations outside of my profession has helped me shape a balanced approach to decision making in my role as an elected official. I do not operate within a vacuum.

Most recently, I have served as: Member, Cuyahoga Falls Historic Review Board; President-Elect, Nordonia Hills Rotary and Member, Stow Chamber and Cuyahoga Falls Chambers of Commerce. Over the years, I have served as: Co-Chair, Cuyahoga Falls Library Renewal Levy; Member, 2012 Cuyahoga Falls Bicentennial Committee; Treasurer, Summit County Catholic Social Services; Member, Cuyahoga Falls Schools Excellence Initiative. I have even served on a jury!

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

The 9th District Court of Appeals is a Court that reviews lower Court decisions by Judges across all of Summit, Lorain, Medina and Wayne Counties. It is the final stop before having your case heard by the Ohio Supreme Court. Unfortunately, not many cases find their way to the Ohio Supreme Court because it cannot and does not accept all appealed cases. That is why it is very important for the 9th District Court Judge to thoughtfully discern your case and the unique issues you present to the Court and analyze each issue with a view toward determining how the result will impact not just your life, but the lives of people similarly situated and those lives tangentially affected as well. I think all people would agree that that is the basic duty of the 9th District Court Judge. I am running because I believe that the 9th District Court Judge should do more. The Judge should make decisions that balance our Constitution and related laws with the conscience of society. This means that the core values of people from of all walks of life need to be considered, not just those who are privileged. When people have faith that their judicial officials can adequately balance these competing forces, then they can have confidence in their Courts.

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