

## Jim James



**Office:** Stark County-Stark County Common Pleas Court, Family Court Division

**Age:** 59

**Residence:** Magnolia, OH

**Email:** [judgejames@starkcountyohio.gov](mailto:judgejames@starkcountyohio.gov)

**Website:** <https://www.stevebruns.com>

**Occupation:** Judge

**Education:** Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School; Bachelor of Arts from Capital University; General Practice Attorney since 1983; Preble County Common Pleas Court Magistrate since 2009

**Work Experience:** Family Court Judge since 1999, Family Court Magistrate, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

**Family:** Married with 2 children

**Affiliations:** Ohio Judicial Conference- past chair, currently co-chair Juvenile Law & Procedure Committee, Ohio Association of Juvenile Judges, Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges- past president, Stark County Bar Association- past president, Ohio Bar Association, Magnolia Fire Department- past fire chief, Quad Ambulance District past board member and EMT, United Methodist Church

**Endorsements:** N/A

**Bar Association Ratings:** N/A



### 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](mailto:jvc@uakron.edu)

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

I have served as a judicial officer for the Stark County Family Court since 1986, as a Magistrate and Judge. Referee/Magistrate 1986-1989; Chief Magistrate 1989-1999; Judge 1999- present.

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

The majority of my legal career has been devoted to Family Law. I served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Stark and Washington counties and practiced Domestic Relations law. I also served as Village Solicitor for two communities prior to taking the bench. These experiences gave me courtroom experience and a thorough understanding of Juvenile and Domestic Relations law. I have a firm grasp on court procedures and evidentiary rules as well as the issues facing family law practitioners and litigants.

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

I am very proud to represent a progressive Family Court which embraces proven "best practices" when dealing with youth and families. During my tenure, the Family Court has developed an effective Juvenile Drug Court which I oversee, a Teen Court, mediation and parent education, wrap-around services for families and is a "Trauma-Informed Court". Currently, utilizing nationally recognized research on programs which effectively reduce delinquency, the Stark County Family Court has been chosen to participate in a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative which I am anxious to implement.

I have effectively managed my docket, reducing the average length of divorce cases from nearly two years to 6 months. Both the Domestic Relations Division and the Juvenile Diversion close more cases annually than are opened. As Administrative Judge in the Juvenile Division of this court, I have also effectively managed the court's budget and administration. I am anxious to continue the initiatives which have been put in place which make the Stark County Family Court recognized nationally as a court of distinction.