

Matthew Rambo



Office: Geauga County – Geauga County Common Pleas Court

Age: 39

Residence: Russell Township, OH

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Occupation: Associate Attorney Collins & Scanlon LLP

Education: B.S. Electrical Engineering The Ohio State University, 2002; J.D. The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, 2005

Work Experience: Magistrate at the Court of Claims of Ohio 2006-2013, Staff Attorney for Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Judge Richard McMonagle 2013-2016, Judge Maureen Clancy 2016-2018

Family: Married with 2 sons

Affiliations: Geauga County Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Geauga County Township Association

Endorsements: N/A

Bar Association Ratings: N/A

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

Magistrate of the Court of Claims of Ohio, 2006-2013 Staff Attorney, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, 2013-2018

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

As a Magistrate for the Court of Claims of Ohio for 7 years, I presided over a docket of approximately 125-150 case at any given time. In that capacity, I regularly presided over bench trials and authored hundreds of decisions as a result. I was responsible for the management of my docket, including conducting attorney conferences, issuing case management schedules, making all necessary pretrial orders and rulings. Working at the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court put me in the trenches of Ohio's busiest Common Pleas Court. I worked closely with the Judges to resolve cases and manage the civil case docket. I performed all research and writing required during the adjudication of a case and authored decisions of the Court as necessary. I also assisted with criminal proceedings including jury trials and sentencing hearings. In private practice, I have appeared on behalf of clients in the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, the Lake County Common Pleas Court, the Lorain County Common Pleas Court, the Medina County Common Pleas Court, Rocky River Municipal Court, and Willoughby Municipal Court. These cases range from small claims cases and evictions to complex commercial litigation. Working at the Court of Claims and in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court has provided me with the experience and knowledge necessary to operate a courtroom and preside over a full docket of criminal and civil cases from the first day I take the bench. It has also allowed me to understand and appreciate how cases should be viewed from a judicial point of view. Working in the private sector has permitted me to hone my skills as an advocate to gain a valuable understanding of the relationships attorneys have with their clients. Having worked as an attorney from both sides of the bench has given me a broader view of the legal system that would be invaluable to me as a judge and makes me uniquely qualified to serve Geauga County as its Common Pleas Judge.

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

I am running for Geauga County Court of Common Pleas because I want to serve the community in which my family and I live. My experience as a magistrate and in the common pleas court will allow me

to smoothly transition to the Common Pleas bench. This sets me apart from my opponents in this race because I am the only candidate with judicial experience. I joined the Court of Claims of Ohio directly after passing the Ohio Bar and was shortly thereafter promoted to Magistrate of the Court and assigned a docket that required me to manage cases from filing to resolution. I have presided over hearings and bench trials and authored hundreds of opinions. After seven years serving the Court of Claims in that capacity I joined the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court which put me "in the trenches" of the practice of law at the trial level and I worked closely with two different Common Pleas Judges to manage both criminal and civil dockets. I will draw on this experience to fairly and efficiently administer justice from the bench in Geauga County. I am confident in stating that I am the most qualified candidate in this race. Combined with my age, taking the bench now gives me the opportunity to ensure that Geauga County remains a wonderful place to live, all while being accountable to the voters. Our country is facing an Opioid Crisis, and Geauga County has felt the troubling effects of these insidious drugs flooding the streets. When elected, I will employ Specialized Dockets as outlined by the Supreme Court of Ohio to combat the opioid and addiction issues we face in Geauga County. I will work with law enforcement, mental health agencies and treatment facilities in the county to hold people accountable for their actions and ensure efficiency among everyone involved. Studies have shown that utilizing treatment over jail in the right cases saves the County money in the long run. Funding for a specialized docket, whether it be a mental health court, a veteran's court or a drug court can be obtained from the state and federal level. The Ohio Supreme Court has taken the lead in this fight, Geauga County must join it. Serving Geauga County as Common Pleas Judge is my way of investing in the welfare and safety of my family and of Geauga County as a whole.

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