

## Janet Rath Colaluca



**Office:** Judge-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court

**Political Party Affiliation:** Republican

**Age:** 51

**Residence:** Bratenahl, OH

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**Occupation:** Magistrate

**Education:** JD-Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (1991), BS.BA.-John Carroll University (1986), High School-St. Joseph Academy (1982)

**Work Experience:** Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Probate Court (Present), Judge-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (2 years.), Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (8 years), Staff Attorney-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (2 years), Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court (3 years), Magistrate-Village of Bratenahl Mayor's Court (6 years), Private Practice (when not a full-time Magistrate)

**Family:** Married with (2) children

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

Judge-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (2 years) (2012-2014) Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (8 years) Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court (3 years) Magistrate-Cuyahoga County Probate Court (1 year) Magistrate-Village of Bratenahl-Mayor's Court (6 years) Staff Attorney-Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court (2 years)

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

I have devoted my entire legal career of 24+ years, exclusively, to working with individuals and families involved in family law issues. I have a strong working knowledge and command of the extremely specialized body of law required to serve on the Court. I am a wife and a mother of (2) children, which has afforded me the ability to understand how truly important it is to maintain healthy family dynamics, wherever possible. I have significant experience as a private practitioner in the Court, and am acutely aware of the significant emotional and financial toll domestic matters can take on both the individual and the entire family. I would bring compassion and creative ideas to bear in all judicial decisions. I am a certified mediator and would apply those skills and principles which I have honed over my many years of practice, to allow parties to take control of the outcomes of their own matters, with the guidance and support of the Court.

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

My proven judicial experience in the Domestic Relations Court of (2)

**Affiliations:** Catholic

**Endorsements:** Cement Masons' Local 404, to date.

**Bar Association Ratings:** Not yet rated in this race.

years as a sitting judge and over (8) years as a Magistrate, make me the most uniquely qualified, and tested, candidate for Judge in the Domestic Relations Court. While serving as both a Judge and Magistrate in the Court, I have heard thousands of cases involving domestic relations and domestic violence issues involving: emotional parenting issues, complex property division, support (both child and spousal) as well as civil protection orders. I have served, and will continue to serve, the Court with both honor and distinction. I believe it is critical to have Judges on the Domestic Relations bench who will treat all persons who come before it with dignity and respect and will strive to create an environment which minimizes conflict, allows parties to come together, to focus on their strengths, and to preserve parental relationships wherever possible. I have demonstrated that I possess the integrity, even temperament, knowledge base, experience, and diligence required to serve the families that appear before the Court. Individuals and families need to know that the person presiding over their cases will be accessible and available to work with them to achieve the most positive outcome possible. I have demonstrated that I have the ability to move a docket of cases so that parties' needs will be addressed in a timely and efficient manner, while being afforded the individualized attention each case deserves. The Domestic Relations Court is no place for "on the job learning" by its Judges, and the families of Cuyahoga County need to know that I can immediately serve their needs during one of the most stressful times in their lives. I respectfully ask for your support of my candidacy and want you to know that I am committed to working with each and every party that appears before the Court to forge the most positive outcomes possible.

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