



# MEDINA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT

## Probate and Juvenile Divisions

93 Public Square, Room 104, Medina, Ohio 44256

KEVIN W. DUNN  
Judge

MEDIA RELEASE

July 12, 2017

## **Medina County Probate Court and Medina County Recorder's Office Collaborate for Good Deeds Program**

Medina County Recorder Colleen Swedyk and Medina County Probate/Juvenile Court Judge Kevin W. Dunn will be premiering a deed review program at the Medina County Fair from July 31 to August 6, 2017. The program, known as "Good Deeds," is a collaborative effort to assist Medina County residents to better understand the consequences of the deed that they may possess for real property (real estate) and to better understand the issues in transferring such property through the Probate Court.

Utilizing the Good Deeds Program, Medina County residents will be able to (1) identify whether the form of their current deed will require transfer through the Medina County Probate Court upon death; and (2) to allow property owners to consider less expensive and less time-consuming alternatives than a probate transfer. Medina County residents who choose to participate in the program will first obtain a copy of their current deed through the Recorder's Office for review. If the deed does not match the wishes of the property holder, or if an individual does not understand terminology in their deed, a referral may be made to the Medina County Bar Association for further action.

"The purpose of the program is to encourage couples, in particular, to insure that their deed matches their estate planning goals," Judge Dunn said. "Survivorship" language is required in a deed in order for property to avoid the probate process. Such language would include "for their joint lives, remainder to the survivor of them," or similar language, according to Judge Dunn.

Information regarding the program and the Bar Lawyer referral service will be provided for interested community members at the Medina County Probate Court and Medina County Recorder's Office fair booths between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. The Recorder's Office reports they will have a laptop and portable printer available at their booth.

"It is hoped that deed review, preparation, and legal planning for Medina County residents can be accomplished at a reasonable cost," Judge Dunn said. "The goal is to have more proactive, front-loaded legal planning versus post mortem reaction."

For further information on the Good Deeds Program, please contact:

Medina County Recorder Colleen M. Swedyk: 330-725-9782

Medina County Probate Court: 330-722-9395

Medina County Bar Association: 330-725-9794

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*To learn more about the Medina County Juvenile and Probate Court or Court programs, visit our websites at [www.MedinaJuvenile.org](http://www.MedinaJuvenile.org) and [www.MedinaProbate.org](http://www.MedinaProbate.org).*