



**Summit County
Domestic Relations Court**
Administrative Judge Katarina Cook

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISSUED: Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Hon. Katarina Cook
Administrative Judge

Hon. Kani H. Hightower
Judge

Chief Magistrate
Elisa Hill

Magistrates

Jason Adams
Stephan Collins
Erin Dazey
Diane Dougherty
Brittany Durieux
Cara Ford
Rebecca DiDonato
Heimbaugh
Elisa Hill
David Lombardi
Kimberly Smith Rivera
P. Lynn Seifert
Christopher Snyder

**Mediator
/Community Outreach
Director**

Paul M. Henry

Court Administrator

Thomas McLaughlin

**Family Court Services
Evaluators**

Randy Flick, Director
Cortney Crew
Jean Dietz
Alissa Endicott
Lisa Radaker
Joan Shaffer

CONTACT

Paul M. Henry, Community Outreach Director
PHenry@DRCourt.org
330-643-7845

Delivering Justice Just Got Easier

Summit County Domestic Relations Court invited the Ohio Justice Bus to Akron

The Domestic Relations Court is proud to host the Ohio Justice Bus on Wednesday, March 15th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Akron Bar Association (57 S Broadway St, Akron, OH 44308).

This pop-up event will provide members of the community with a “One-Stop Shop” legal aid service and court access.

Summit County Domestic Relations Court is committed to providing equal access to a fair and effective system of justice for all. Innovative events, such as the Ohio Justice Bus, benefit the community by empowering those who need help. Each year the Court encounters hundreds of unrepresented people who desire legal aid. The lack of legal counsel can cost the community time and money. Hosting the Ohio Justice Bus helps bridge this gap.

The Ohio Justice Bus provides technology to address legal needs to underserved peoples and helps solve legal challenges to help improve financial security, health, and safety.

Administrative Judge Katarina Cook shared, “the legal process can take time but when you can meet with an attorney for free, file your paperwork correctly and see a judge all in the same day – that’s providing access”

Summit County Domestic Relations Court is collaborating with the following agencies: Child Support Enforcement, Community Legal Aid, Victim Assistance Program and Asian Services In Action to empower the community of Summit County. “People need access to justice and that’s not just the ability to walk into the court house – that is being connected with community resources”, stated Judge Cook.

Volunteer Attorneys are needed to make this project a success. Please contact the Court’s Community Outreach Director if you have two hours available on March 15, 2023 from 11AM-3PM.

Summit County Domestic Relations Court wishes to give a big thanks to Akron Bar Association for hosting the first Summit County Ohio Justice Bus Event. The Court will invite the Ohio Justice Bus on a quarterly basis with the next Pop-Up event being in June, location to be decided.

~30~



**Summit County
Domestic Relations Court**
Administrative Judge Katarina Cook

Hon. Katarina Cook
Administrative Judge

Hon. Kani H. Hightower
Judge

Chief Magistrate
Elisa Hill

Magistrates

Jason Adams
Stephan Collins
Erin Dazey
Diane Dougherty
Brittany Durieux
Cara Ford
Rebecca DiDonato
Heimbaugh
Elisa Hill
David Lombardi
Kimberly Smith Rivera
P. Lynn Seifert
Christopher Snyder

**Mediator
/Community Outreach
Director**

Paul M. Henry

Court Administrator

Thomas McLaughlin

**Family Court Services
Evaluators**

Randy Flick, Director

Cortney Crew
Jean Dietz
Alissa Endicott
Lisa Radaker
Joan Shaffer

Mission Statement of the Summit County Domestic Relations Court

The mission of the Summit County Domestic Relations Court is to provide fair, effective and compassionate legal resolution to conflicts involving families and children within the parameters defined by Ohio law.

Vision Statement

The Court will provide equal access to a fair and effective system of justice for all without excess cost, inconvenience, or delay, with sensitivity to an increasingly diverse society.

The Court will offer appropriate methods of dispute resolution and mediation services while preserving the constitutional right to trial by an impartial tribunal.

The Court will ensure a safe environment for the public and will strive to implement innovative programs for the benefit of the community.

The Court hears and rules on Domestic Relations cases, which includes:

- Divorce
- Dissolution
- Annulments
- Legal Separations
- Parentage Cases involving Unmarried Parents
- Legal Custody Cases involving minor children who are not wards of another court
- Parental rights & Parenting Time
- Child Support
- Civil Protection Orders
- Dating Violence Protection Orders

Court Resources

Administrative Judge Katarina Cook Bio:
<https://drcourt.org/wp/directory/judge-katarina-cook/>

Summit County Domestic Relations Court Main Website:
<https://drcourt.org/wp/>

Ohio Justice Bus

<https://www.ohiojusticefoundation.org/grantees/ohio-justice-bus/>