



**Fairfield County  
Common Pleas  
Court**

*General Division*  
Judge Richard E. Berens  
Judge David A. Trimmer

*Domestic Relations  
Division*

Judge Laura B. Smith

**Fairfield County  
Juvenile Court**

Judge Terre L. Vandervoort

**Fairfield County  
Common Pleas  
Court Clerk**

Branden C. Meyer

**Fairfield County  
Municipal Court**

Judge James A. Fields  
Judge David L. Landefeld

**Fairfield County  
Municipal Court  
Court Clerk**

Valeda A. Slone

**Fairfield County  
Prosecutor**

R. Kyle Witt

**Lancaster City  
Prosecutor &  
Law Director**

Randall T. Ullom

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Fairfield County Courts, Clerks and Prosecutors Collaborate on Bail Bond Forms and Process***

**Standardization of Bond Forms and Procedure Between all Courts.** Currently all courts in Fairfield County use different bond forms. All offices are working together to have identical bond forms and a similar procedure regarding the process of bonds.

This collaboration involves the following offices:

- Common Pleas Court, General and Domestic Relations Divisions;
- Common Pleas Court Clerk's Office;
- Juvenile Court;
- Municipal Court;
- Municipal Court Clerk's Office;
- County Prosecutor's Office;
- Lancaster City Prosecutor's Office; and
- Local Area Law Enforcement.

There are three types of bonds that are typically used: Cash Bond, Recognizance or Signature Bond, and 10% or Surety Bond. These new bond forms will be utilized by Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Court, Juvenile Court, and Municipal Court. Common Pleas Court Clerk, Branden Meyer said that "having a more uniform and less complicated process will make it easier on law enforcement and all parties involved in the bail bond process."

**All bail bonding companies and agents who desire to work in Fairfield County will register at the Fairfield County Common Pleas Court Clerk's Office.** To register as a bail bondsman, an Agent will be required to provide the following to the Fairfield County Common Pleas Court Clerk's Office: copy of surety bail bond license, copy of driver's license or state identification card, and a certified copy of the surety bail bond agent's appointment by power of attorney for each insurer. This shall be done by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August each odd numbered year (see ORC 3905.87). A registration form that includes contact information for the bail bondsman and company shall also be required. If registration information is submitted to another court it will be forwarded to the Common Pleas Court Clerk's office for filing. One registration list will be maintained by the Common Pleas Court Clerk's office and shared by all courts. If a bail bondsman fails to fulfill their obligations or duties at one court, they will be removed from the list and not be allowed to post bonds at any court in Fairfield County until the next renewal period. Municipal Court Clerk, Valeda Slone said that "having one shared list for registered bail bondsmen will make them accountable for the bonds posted."

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