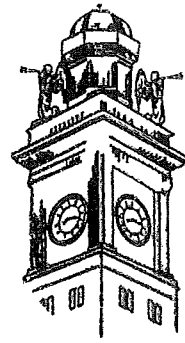




# The Court of Common Pleas Stark County, Ohio



Diane Barr  
Administrative Assistant

Jacquelyn Brenner  
Balliff

Gretchen Stocker  
Magistrate

HONORABLE  
FRANK G. FORCHIONE  
Judge

**To: Attorneys with Civil Cases Pending in the Stark Co. Court of Common Pleas**

The Judges of the General Division of the Stark County Court of Common Pleas are pleased to announce that they will host a Settlement Week in the Court from August 24 through August 28, 2020. With the disruptions of our public health crisis, courts are developing new ways to meet the needs of the public in providing a fair, impartial, and speedy resolution of pending civil cases without unnecessary delay.

The local Settlement Week will use the skill and experience of retired Stark County Judges and trained Court Mediators who serve as Settlement Week facilitators. Parties will have the opportunity to negotiate and resolve their cases on mutually agreeable terms with the assistance of the trained mediators. The independent and neutral mediators will help the parties and their counsel to negotiate and analyze their cases more effectively in off-the-record discussions. The retired Judges and Mediators will not report details of the candid discussions to the Court except to indicate the outcome of the talks.

It is the hope of the Court that litigants will support this joint effort to improve the local justice system by: (1) screening and scheduling your civil cases that are appropriate for mediation; and (2) educating and advising your clients and the general public on the value of mediation as a more efficient and less expensive way to resolve cases.

If the parties in a civil case are interested in participating in Settlement Week, their attorneys should contact the Court Administration Office (330-451-7931) or view the Court's website (<https://www.starkcountyohio.gov/common-pleas>) for further instructions on scheduling and mediation of disputes.

Thank you in advance for your efforts to enhance the process of justice in the community and our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank G. Forchione", written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Frank G. Forchione  
Administrative Judge

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