

ANNUAL REPORT

For 2024

From BOB GENETSKI

**COUNTY CLERK AND REGISTER
OF DEEDS**

TO THE

**ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Office of the Register of Deeds	Page 3-4
Office of the County Clerk	
Vital Records	Page 5
Elections	Page 6-7
Circuit Court Records Division	Page 8

COUNTY BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS (EXCERPT)

Act 156 of 1851

46.11 Powers of county board of commissioners.

Sec. 11.

A county board of commissioners, at a lawfully held meeting, may do 1 or more of the following:...

(k) Require a county officer whose salary or compensation is paid by the county to make a report under oath to the county board of commissioners on any subject connected with the duties of that office

Michigan Constitution

Article VII - LOCAL GOVERNMENT

§ 5 Offices at county seat.

Sec. 5. The sheriff, county clerk, county treasurer and register of deeds shall hold their principal offices at the county seat.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS

State Statute

Revised Statutes of 1846 (EXCERPT) Of County Officers

REGISTER OF DEEDS

53.90 Register of deeds; office, location; fees and compensation.

Sec. 90. The register shall keep his office at the seat of justice for the county,

Documents Recorded

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Mortgage Documents	4,785	6,041	4,973	4,664	5,727	7,339	7,883	5,268	3,625	3,819
Land Transfers	6,218	5,089	6,373	6,265	6,074	6,256	7,128	6,341	5,757	5,840

Year Total Documents Recorded

2024	19,302
2023	19,011
2022	24,019

Monies Collected in the Register of Deeds Office (in dollars)

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Real Estate Transfer Tax- State	4,594,170	5,886,885	7,302,414	7,417,146.25	6,014,928.75	\$6,600,446.25
Real Estate Transfer Tax- County	692,515	878,164	1,092,204	1,181,615.05	893,578.40	\$980,098.35
Recording Fees	500,813	618,094	677,957	529,568	416,851	\$425,862
State Remonumentation Fees	85,224	102,688	115,640	88,552	69,188	\$70,664
Copy Sales	90,762	99,509	122,343	98,111.20	81,129.90	\$87,192.90

The Automation Fund took in \$96,470 during 2024. The amount taken out of the Fund from the County for its Cost Allocation Plan was \$11,355.

Passports

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
318	354	281	353	349	129	263	392	565	376

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Revised Statutes of 1846 (EXCERPT)

COUNTY CLERK.

50.67 County clerk; office; compensation; fees.

Sec. 67.

(1) The county clerk shall keep his or her office at the seat of justice for the county,

VITAL RECORDS DIVISION:

Transactions in Vital Records

Year	Number of Transactions
2017	4,210
2018	4,356
2019	4,254
2020	5,129
2021	5,067
2022	4,686
2023	4,386
2024	4,860

Births Recorded in Allegan County

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
BIRTHS	25	30	29	35	22	32	39	42	30	34

Marriage License Applications

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
APPLICATIONS	773	821	815	850	775	669	797	731	750	805

Number of Honorable Discharge Papers Recorded by Military Veterans

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number Filed	4	1	44	24	16	6	28	19	15	8

In 2024, there were 914 deaths recorded, 235 Notaries conferred, 385 DBA's, and 2,479 CPL issued through the County Clerk's Office.

The Vital Records Division took in \$265,431 for the services provided in 2024.

ELECTIONS DIVISION:

The Elections Division ran 4 Elections in 2024 – the Presidential Primary in February, the May Special Election, the Federal and State Primary Election in August and the November General Election.

The Presidential Primary (February 27th)

In addition to the Primary for the Presidency for both major parties, the following had proposals on the ballot:

- City of Fennville Fire Safety Renewal and Increase
- Monterey Township Road Millage Proposal
- Glenn School Operating Millage
- Glenn School Proposal to Increase Number of Board Seats
- South Haven Schools Proposal

Turnout was 24.12% of registered voters or 23,879.

The May Special Election (May 7th)

The Special Election had 12 proposals on the ballot for schools and local governments. They were:

- Casco Township Ambulance Service Millage Renewal Proposal
- Casco Township Police Protection Renewal
- Casco Township Senior Services Millage Renewal
- Bloomington Public Schools Bond Proposal 1
- Bloomington Public Schools Bond Proposal 2
- Hamilton Community Schools Millage Renewal
- Hudsonville Public Schools Millage Renewals (2)
- Plainwell Community Schools Bond Proposal
- Thornapple Kellogg Schools Millage Proposal
- Wayland Union Schools Millage Proposal
- Zeeland Public Schools Millage Proposal

Of the registered voters in Allegan County in the above jurisdictions – 7,721 or 15.88% participated.

The Federal and State Primary Election (August 6th)

In addition to partisan primaries for the offices of U.S. Senate down the ballot to precinct delegate. In non-partisan races, voters advanced two of three candidates for Judge of the 48th Circuit Court to the November ballot. The following proposals were also on the ballot:

- Ransom District Library Millage
- Allegan Public Schools Operating Millage Renewal
- Bloomington Public Schools Operating Millage Renewal
- Fennville Public Schools Operating Millage Renewal
- Van Buren Intermediate School District Special Education Millage Renewal

Allegan County 911 Operating Surcharge Renewal
Allegan County Millage Proposal Road Resurfacing and Reconstruction
Township Proposals (23 of them)

Turnout for the August Primary was 30.29% or 27,559 of the County's registered voters.

The Presidential and State General Election (November 5th)

The General Election ballot allowed voters to cast ballots for the partisan offices of president all the way down to township park commissioner. In addition to the partisan offices, Justices of the State Supreme Court, and appeals courts were decided. Two 48th Circuit Court Judge races were decided as well a Probate Court Judge and a Judge for the 57th District Court.

School Boards seats were decided for the public school districts of: Allegan, Fennville, Hopkins, Martin, Otsego, Plainwell, Saugatuck, and Wayland.

Schools Districts of Plainwell, Fennville and Allegan had proposals on the ballot.

Numerous cities council seats were on the ballot.

The Villages of Hopkins & Martin both saw officers elected.

Allegan District Library elected board members.

Of Allegan County's registered electors, 71.35% or 72,435 cast a ballot in the November, 2024 General Election.

Circuit Court Records Division:

Overview of New Cases Filed with the 48th Circuit Court

Appeals: 35 Adoptions: 47* Criminal: 741 Civil: 209 Domestic: 581

Juvenile/Neglect: 539 Personal Protection Orders: 408 Misc Family: 0

Breakdown in Personal Protection Orders

Adult PPO's (Domestic): 263

Adult PPO's (Non-Domestic): 139

Juvenile PPO's: 6

Collection and Disbursement of Monies for the Court

The Circuit Court Records Division collected \$214,647.62 and paid out \$249,930.70 to victims of crimes in adult cases.

For Juvenile cases, the office collected \$28,211.56. Of that, deputy clerks mailed \$27,595.70 to crime victims.

*(9 were adult adoptions while 38 were minors)

