



2016 ANNUAL REPORT  
20<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT  
OTTAWA COUNTY PROBATE COURT

*Fulfilling Our Mission*

**Presented by Court Administrator Kevin J. Bowling, JD, MSJA.  
April 11, 2017**

**Good afternoon Commissioners and thank you for the opportunity to present the 2016 Annual Report for the 20th Circuit Court and the Ottawa County Probate Court. As Court Administrator I have the privilege of working with a remarkable group of dedicated public servants, including judges, a great leadership team, managers and frontline staff, as well as competent attorneys and collaborating agencies throughout the County. Together, we have provided another year of excellent service to the citizens of Ottawa County.**

**The County and State Court Administrative Office websites, provide significant details on budgets, statistics and performance measures (<http://www.miottawa.org/Courts/> and <http://courts.mi.gov/education/stats/pages/default.aspx>) – so in the short time available, I will focus on highlights and respond to any questions you may have. If there is insufficient time to respond to your questions today, I will certainly make myself available to meet at your convenience.**

- ▶ Circuit Court
- ▶ Constitution of Michigan, 1963
- ▶ Article VI, Section 1, Judicial Power in court of justice; divisions.
  - ▶ "The judicial power of the state is vested exclusively in one court of justice which shall be divided into one supreme court, one court of appeals, one trial court of general jurisdiction known as the circuit court, one probate court and courts of limited jurisdiction that the legislature may establish..."
- ▶ Revised Judicature Act of 1961; Act 236 of 1961
  - ▶ MCL 600.521 Twentieth Judicial Circuit

"ONE COURT OF JUSTICE"

*Fulfilling Our Mission*



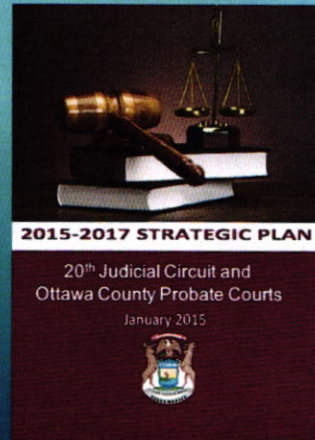
**The authority for the 20<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court and the Probate Court to operate in Ottawa County can be found in the Michigan Constitution, Article VI, Section 1.**

## Five Strategic Focus Areas

1. Resources and Infrastructure
2. Access, Services, and Programs
3. Timely Resolution and Efficient Operations
4. Community Relations and Collaboration with Partners
5. Employee Development and Innovative Work Culture

## STRATEGIC PLAN

*Fulfilling Our Mission*



**In addition to legal requirements for court operations contained in the Constitution, statutes, court rules and caselaw, we are also guided by the Courts' Strategic Plan ([http://www.miottawa.org/Courts/20thcircuit/pdf/reports/2015-2017\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.miottawa.org/Courts/20thcircuit/pdf/reports/2015-2017_Strategic_Plan.pdf)), which targets performance improvements in five strategic focus areas including; 1. Resources and Infrastructure, 2. Access, Services, and Programs, 3. Timely Resolution and Efficient Operations, 4. Community Relations and Collaboration with Partners, and 5. Employee Development and Innovative Work Culture. The link is provided so you can review the Plan at your leisure.**