

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2025
FROM BOB GENETSKI
COUNTY CLERK AND REGISTER
OF DEEDS
TO THE ALLEGAN COUNTY
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

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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

| YEAR | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mortgage Documents | 6,041 | 4,973 | 4,664 | 5,727 | 7,339 | 7,883 | 5,268 | 3,625 | 3,819 | 4,335 |
| Land Transfers | 5,089 | 6,373 | 6,265 | 6,074 | 6,256 | 7,128 | 6,341 | 5,757 | 5,840 | 5,806 |

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Total Documents Recorded</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 2025 | 20,968 |
| 2024 | 19,302 |
| 2023 | 19,011 |
| 2022 | 24,019 |

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

| Year | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Real Estate Transfer Tax- State | 5,886,885 | 7,302,414 | 7,417,146.25 | 6,014,928.75 | 6,600,446.25 | \$7,511,456.25 |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax – County | 878,164 | 1,092,204 | 1,181,615.05 | 893,578.40 | 980,098.35 | \$1,120,858.75 |
| Recording Fees | 618,094 | 677,957 | 529,568 | 416,851 | 425,862 | \$458,699.00 |
| State Remont Fees | 102,688 | 115,640 | 88,552 | 69,188 | 70,664 | \$76,392.00 |
| Copy Sales | 99,509 | 122,343 | 98,111.20 | 81,129.90 | 87,192.90 | \$91,045.90 |

The Automation Fund took in \$104,845 during 2025. The amount taken out of the Fund from the County for its Cost Allocation Plan was \$11,421.

Passports

| Year | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| Number | 281 | 353 | 349 | 129 | 263 | 392 | 565 | 376 | 415 |

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:

TOTAL TRANSACTIONS IN VITAL RECORDS: \$369,855.14

| 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 |
| 2025 | 5,359 |

Births Recorded in Allegan County

| YEAR | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| BIRTHS | 30 | 29 | 35 | 22 | 32 | 39 | 42 | 30 | 34 | 51 |

Marriage License Applications

| YEAR | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| APPLICATIONS | 821 | 815 | 850 | 775 | 669 | 797 | 731 | 750 | 805 | 827 |

Number of Honorable Discharge Papers Recorded by Military Veterans

| YEAR | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| NUMBER FILED | 1 | 44 | 24 | 16 | 6 | 28 | 19 | 15 | 8 | 12 |

In 2025, there were 2,945 Concealed Pistol Licenses applied for from Vital Records, 914 death certificates recorded, and 250 Notaries Public conferred. During the same time, applications for small business licenses (Doing Business under an Assumed Name- DBA's) numbered 360.

ELECTIONS DIVISION:

The Elections Division managed 3 Elections in 2025. The May Special Election, August Special Election, and the November General Election (for city councils) and Special Election.

The May 6th Special Election

There were proposals or milage requests from the following:

Caledonia Public Schools
Delton Kellogg Public Schools
School District of the City of Holland
Otsego Public Schools
Zeeland Public Schools
Ottawa Area ISD

Of the 41,674 eligible registered voters, turnout was 20.30%

The August 5th Special Election

There were nine proposals before voters affecting ten jurisdictions:

Laketown Township (2)
Lee Township (1)
Manlius Township (3)
Fennville Public Schools
School District of the City of Holland

Turnout was 16.42% or 3,753 of the eligible 22,861 voters.

The November 4th General Election

Thirteen precincts in eleven jurisdictions saw action as ten proposals and twenty-three candidates appeared on different ballots throughout the county. Elections were put on for:

The School District of the City of Holland
Fillmore Township (3)
Hopkins Township
Zeeland Public Schools
Kent Intermediate School District
Lake Michigan College (2)
The City of Holland – Mayor, City Council Members
The Village of the City of Douglas - - City Council
The City of Fennville – City Commission
The City of Saugatuck – City Council
The City of Wayland – City Council

Of the eligible 21,860 voters, 21.78% or 4,762 turned out.

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS DIVISION:

Overview of New Cases Filed with the 48th Circuit Court

Appeals: 32 Adoptions: 33 Criminal: 612 Civil: 212 Domestic: 550

Juvenile/Neglect: 389 Personal Protection Orders: 411 Misc Family: 0

Breakdown in Personal Protection Orders

Adult PPO's (Domestic): 253

Adult PPO's (Non-Domestic): 152

Juvenile PPO's: 6

Collection and Disbursement of Monies for the Court

The Circuit Court Records Division collected \$242,795 and paid out \$290,257 to victims of crimes in adult cases.

For Juvenile cases, the office collected \$27,678. Of that, deputy clerks mailed \$29,537 to crime victims.