

HONORABLE COLLEEN M. O'TOOLE

EDUCATION

- **DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Durham, North Carolina**
 - May 2020, Master of Laws
- **CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW, Cleveland, Ohio**
 - August 1987 to May 1990, Juris Doctorate
- **JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, Ohio**
 - 1983, Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science
 - Master of Arts in Soviet Studies, non-matriculated

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ASHTABULA COUNTY PROSECUTOR/CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER January 2021 to present

Elected prosecutor managing/litigating complex criminal and civil cases with a full-service criminal docket and a full-service civil docket of approximately 3,000 cases, managing 29 people, representing 43 civil clients, compliance, risk management, contracts, torts, real estate, employment, and construction and mediation matters for a large governmental entity. Managing/litigating over 400 cases in state and federal courts and managing victim service initiatives within the county.

ABU DHABI JUDICIAL ACADEMY PART TIME FACULTY March 2019 to present

Teaching law in the Abu Dhabi Judicial Academy to judges, prosecutors, defense, and other justice system stakeholders on various rule of law/common law topics utilizing international best practices.

JUDGE/LEGAL EXPERT – ABU DHABI JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT UNITED ARAB EMIRATES March 2019 to December 2020

- One of two American judges selected to pioneer an International Commercial Court in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, presiding in the expert chamber, decided complex commercial cases of substantial value utilizing Emirati law as applied.
- Legal consultant advising the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department regarding modern best practices in civil and common law courts and the rule of law initiatives. Consulting on international compliance and coordination with the World Bank doing business objectives and evaluations.
- Advisor on creating small claims court and other common law best practices, including Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) initiatives.

JUDGE - 11th DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS, OHIO 2005 to 2011 2013 to 2019

- Written over 800 published opinions for criminal and civil appeals.
- Appointed as Court of Appeals representative to the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission.
- Appointed to serve as a visiting judge at the Ohio Supreme Court.

- Managed professional staff and court administration.
- Trained in mediation/team building.

FOUNDER - ON DEMAND INTERPRETATION SERVICES, LLC

2011 to 2016

- Award-winning entrepreneurial technology startup company providing certified courtroom interpreters in 170 languages initiated through mobile devices or apps.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

LITIGATOR, CRIMINAL/CIVIL AND APPELLATE PRACTICE

1998 to 2005

- Sole Practitioner.
- Litigated civil & criminal cases from filings, discovery, and appeal in State and Federal Court.
- Argued/litigated extensively before numerous Boards and Administrative bodies.
- Trained arbitrator.

IN-HOUSE LITIGATION MANAGER, National Interstate Co., Cleveland, Ohio

- Managed all facets of commercial company litigation, including supervising attorneys in 23 states.
- Drafted coverage opinions.
- Established and reviewed reserves recommended by claims adjusters.
- Compliance officer.
- Researched and advised on individual state insurance case law for possible exceptions or contract concerns.
- Evaluated and recommended a comprehensive litigation strategy.
- Worked with re-insurance carriers on re-insurance limits and risk/policy assessment.
- Negotiated terms for fee agreements with local counsel for representation in appropriate jurisdictions.
- Managed outside counsel file review, discovery/deposition evaluation, and docket management.
- Wrote and recommended coverage opinions.
- Provided legal advice to claims staff, corporate staff, and Human Resources.
- Implemented comprehensive litigation management policies for legal and claims personnel.

OHIO PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

- Major Trial Litigation and Appellate Attorney -criminal, juvenile custody, and appellate defense work before trial and appellate courts. Sole case management responsibility for 200 cases annually.

PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES, Cleveland, Ohio

Customer Service Manager

- Managed professional operations, underwriting, quality control, and claims.
- Supervised 34 employees in underwriting, claims, and collections.
- Drafted/administered performance evaluations, hiring, termination, and staffing.
- Human resources, annual budgeting, purchasing, and training for all departments.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

(PRESENT AND PAST)

- Federal Society Member
- Jo Ann Davidson Leadership Institute
- National Association of District Attorneys/Faculty
- Appellate Judges Education Institute Board
- ABA Appellate Judges Conference Board
- Ohio Judicial Conference:
 - Criminal Rules and Procedure Committee
 - Court Administration Committee
 - Ad Hoc Committee on Community Corrections
 - Court Technology Committee
 - Joint Subcommittee on Court Reporting and Transcripts

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS (continued)

- Ohio Prosecuting Attorney Association:
 - Victims' Rights Committee
- Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission
- Board of Directors-Greater Cleveland Ecology Association
- American Bar Association
- Appellate Judges:
 - Technology Committee
 - Outreach Committee
- Board Member Appellate Judges Education Institute affiliated with Duke Law School
- Ohio State Bar Association, Criminal Law Committee
- Ohio State Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Chairman, Board of Zoning Appeals, Highland Heights, Ohio
- National and International Association of Women Judges
- Appointments:
 - Governor's e-Warrant Task Force, 2022
 - Ohio Sentencing Commission, 2008-2012

LICENSES

- Admitted to Ohio Bar, July 1991
- Admitted to U.S. Northern District, December 1995
- Admitted to U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, May 1998
- Admitted to U.S. Supreme Court, April 1999

PRESENTATIONS/LECTURERS

- Presenter Appellate Judges Education Institute - Annual Summit, 2018-2022
- Presenter ABA 2022 Annual Conference, "The Metaverse, What You Should Know"
- Presenter ABA 2022 Midyear Meeting "Emojis Coming to a Courtroom Near You"
- International Panelist/Presenter Abu Dhabi Judicial Department International Symposia 2019- Present
 - "The Role of the Prosecutor"
 - "Human Rights and the Administrative Judiciary"
 - "Force Majeure and Frustration of Contract"
 - "Child Welfare and the Rights of the Child"
 - "International Best Practice and Human Rights for Judiciary"
- Adjunct Professor, Kent State University-Trumbull County, Ohio 2008- 2013
- Adjunct Professor Business Law, John Carroll University, 1999-2008.
- Adjunct Professor, Lakeland Community College - Domestic Relations 2001

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Northern Illinois Law Review Fall 2024

Git Gud: The case for virtual prison games in the fourth industrial revolution

Lake Legal Views, Lake County Bar Association, "A More Rational Approach to Delayed Appeals," April 2015.

Lake Legal Views, Lake County Bar Association, "Making Sense of Sentencing," September 2013.

For the Record, News for Ohio Courts, Ohio Judicial College - "Just What You Need For 21st Century Justice" - Published First Quarter 2009

Lake Legal Views, Lake County Bar Association, "Greetings and Salutations for the New Year," January 2009

For the Record, News for Ohio Courts, Ohio Judicial College - Professional 2010

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Legal computer research Westlaw, Lexis and Microsoft applications