

## **Judges of Delaware County Succeeded by Delaware Circuit Court**

**Compiled by Linda Ralu Wolf**

**As of September 1, 2023**

From History of Delaware County by G.W.H. Kemper, Found at the Muncie Public Library, Delaware County Judges archive and other sources noted below

Delaware County in the state of Indiana was established by act of Indiana General Assembly on January 26, 1827 (effective April 1, 1827 which was a Sunday). An election was held Monday, April 2, 1827. John Rees and Lewis Rees were elected associate judges.

1827 – 1829 Miles C. Eggleston with the assistance of John Rees and Lewis Rees, see above

1830 – 1835 Charles H. Test

1836 – 1838 Samuel Bigger

1839 - 1845 David Kilgore

1846 - 1852 Jeremiah Smith

1853 - 1858 Joseph Anthony

1859 – 1869 Joseph S. Buckles

1870 – 1872 Joshua H. Mellett

1873 John J. Cheney  
Silas Colgrove

1874 – 1878 Silas Colgrove

1879 – 1885 L. J. Monks

1885 – 1892 O. J. Lotz

(The 46<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit consisting of Delaware County was formed by the legislature early in 1885. O. J. Lotz, the defeated candidate the previous fall for Judge of the 25<sup>th</sup> Circuit, was appointed judge of the 46<sup>th</sup> Circuit by the governor.)

Circuit Court Judges of Delaware Circuit Court (continued)

1893 - 1898    George H. Koons

1898 - 1910    Joseph Grant Leffler

Further research indicates the following:

1911 - 1916    Frank Ellis

November 17, 1916 - November 15, 1922    William A. Thompson

November 15, 1922 - 1929    Clarence W. Dearth

1929 – 1940    Leonidas Guthrie

1941- 1946    Clarence Higi

1947 – 1952    Joseph H. Davis

1953 – 1958    Paul Leffler

1959 – 1982    Alva Cox

1983 – 2002    Steven Caldemeyer

2002 – 2022    Marianne Lafferty Vorhees

2023 -    Judi L. Calhoun

Compiled from the vertical files and court records in the Muncie Public Library and further research in the local newspapers, namely, *The Muncie Star*, *The Muncie Evening Press*, and *The Muncie Star Press*.

Linda Ralu Wolf, August, 2023

**DELAWARE SUPERIOR COURT NO. 1  
SUCCEEDED BY DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT NO. 3**

1909 – 1911	Patrick H. Elliott
1911 – 1919	Robert M. VanAtta
1919 – 1935	Robert F. Murray
1935 – 1943	Claude C. Ball
1943 – 1959	Paul A. Lennington
1959 – 1966	Corbett McClellan
1967 – 1970	George S. Koons
1971 – 1978	Mario Pieroni
1979 – 2008	Robert L. Barnet, Jr.
2009 - August 31, 2023	Linda Ralu Wolf (her retirement)
September 1, 2023 -	Douglas K. Mawhorr (Appointed by Gov. Eric Holcomb)

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Linda Ralu Wolf, August, 2023

**JUDGES OF DELAWARE SUPERIOR COURT NO. 2  
SUCCEEDED BY DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT NO. 2  
JUNE 30, 2000**

1959 – 1975	Ralph Rector
1976 – 1982	Steven R. Caldemeyer
1983 - October 15, 2011	Richard A. Dailey
Late 2011 through 2012	Alan K. Wilson (Appointed by Gov. Mitch Daniels)
2013 -	Kimberly S. Dowling

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Linda Ralu Wolf, August, 2023

**DELAWARE COUNTY COURT NO. 1**  
**DELAWARE SUPERIOR COURT NO. 3 (June 30, 1983 through June 30, 2000)**  
**DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT NO. 4 (July 1, 2000 to present)**

January 1, 1976 – 1980	Jerry Baumgartner (Appointed by Judge Alva Cox, Delaware Circuit Court)
July, 1980 – June 8, 1995 (her retirement)	Betty Shelton Cole (Appointed by Gov. Otis Bowen)
June 9, 1995 - successor's appointment	Jack O'Neill (Appointed Judge Pro Tempore by Indiana Supreme Court)
1995 – December 31, 1996	Barbara Gasper Hines (Appointed by Gov. Evan Bayh)
1997 – July 3, 1998 (his death)	A.J. Hall
August, 1998 – December 31, 2002	James J. Jordan (Appointed by Gov. Frank O'Bannon)
2003 -	John M. Feick

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Linda Ralu Wolf, August, 2023

**DELAWARE COUNTY COURT NO. 2**

**DELAWARE SUPERIOR COURT NO. 4 (June 30, 1983 to July 1, 2000)**

**DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT NO. 5 (July 1, 2000 to present)**

January 1, 1976 to December 31, 1976	Steven R. Caldemeyer (Appointed by Judge Alva Cox, Delaware Circuit Court)
1977 – 1982	Richard A. Dailey
1983 – 1996	Robert Robinson - (Appointed by Gov. Robert Orr)
1997 – February 24, 1998	Joseph G. Edwards Suspended June 27, 1997 Resigned 02/24/1998
July, 1997 – September, 1997	Thomas McNichols, Jr. (Judge Pro Tempore Appointed By Indiana Supreme Court)
September, 1997 – August, 1998	Betty Shelton Cole (Acting Judge by Indiana Supreme Ct.)
August, 1998 – April, 2008	Wayne Lennington (Appointed by Gov. Frank 'Bannon)
May 16, 2008 – December 31, 2008	Chris Teagle (Appointed by Gov. Mitch Daniels)
2009 -	Thomas A. Cannon Jr.

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