

**COUNTY CLERK
REGISTER OF DEEDS**

Lisa Posthumus Lyons

**Annual Report &
Elections 101**

June 22, 2023



Presentation Overview



Leadership & Office Overview



Annual Report



Significant Accomplishments



A Look Ahead



Elections 101 & Update



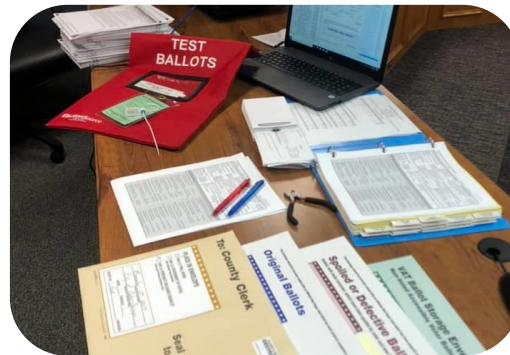
LISA POSTHUMUS LYONS

COUNTY CLERK / REGISTER OF DEEDS

Robert J. Macomber
Chief Deputy



CLERK
Vital Records



CLERK
Elections



REGISTER OF
DEEDS



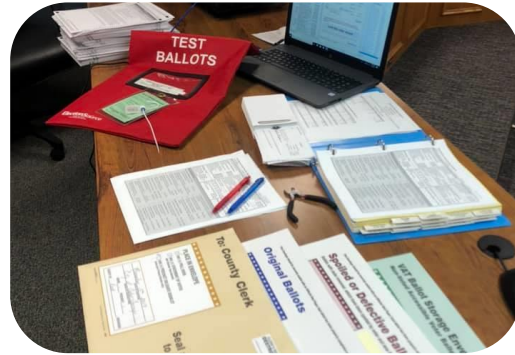
CLERK OF THE
CIRCUIT COURT



**CLERK
Vital Records**

**ROB MACOMBER
CHIEF DEPUTY
8 FTE (2 MPP)**

Birth & Death Certs
Marriage Licenses
Business Registrations
Notaries
Concealed Pistol License
Clerk of the Board



**CLERK
Elections**

**MIKE SULLIVAN
ELECTIONS DIRECTOR
4 FTE (2 MPP)**

Countywide Election Oversight
Campaign Finance Compliance
Election Inspector Trainings
Board of Canvassers
Recounts
Post-Election Audits



**REGISTER OF
DEEDS**

**JERRY CZAJA
CHIEF DEPUTY
8 FTE (2 MPP)**

Real Property Recordings
Plat Board



**CLERK OF THE 17th
CIRCUIT COURT**

**AMY DOERING
CHIEF DEPUTY
27 FTE (5 MPP)**

Maintain Court Files
Accept Court Filings
Collects Fines & Restitution



2022 Annual Report

CLERK – VITAL RECORDS

NEW RECORDS	2019	2020	2021	2022
BIRTH CERTIFICATES	12,549	11,727	11,691	11,567
DEATH CERTIFICATES	6,379	6,884	7,216	6,754
MARRIAGE LICENSES	4,391	3,738	4,196	4,305
DBA REGISTRATIONS	2,249	2,175	2,034	1,460
NOTARIES PUBLIC	1,286	1,109	1,261	1,330
CONCEAL. PISTOL LICs	5,616	9,249	8,468	6,651
CERT. COPIES ISSUED	Unavailable; previous software	58,158	75,321	73,122



2022 Annual Report

CLERK - ELECTIONS

2022 ELECTIONS	PRECINCTS	TURNOUT	% ABSENTEE	PRECINCTS AUDITED
MARCH SPECIAL	36	15%	67%	0
MAY SPECIAL	68	17.7%	56.8%	2
AUGUST PRIMARY	250	29.4%	49.9%	6
NOVEMBER GENERAL	250	61.7%	38.7%	12



2022 Annual Report

REGISTER OF DEEDS

YEAR	DOCUMENTS RECORDED
2017	108,429
2018	100,912
2019	103,415

YEAR	DOCUMENTS RECORDED
2020	126,929
2021	139,726
2022	96,029

- Record High Recordings (2006): 140,065
- 2022 Lowest Recordings in over 23 years



2022 Annual Report

CLERK OF THE 17th
CIRCUIT COURT

YEAR	CASE FILES OPENED	DOCUMENTS FILED
2017	11,468	340,452
2018	11,743	391,294
2019	11,487	382,461
2020	9,861	291,717
2021	11,809	337,082
2022	12,016	373,159

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

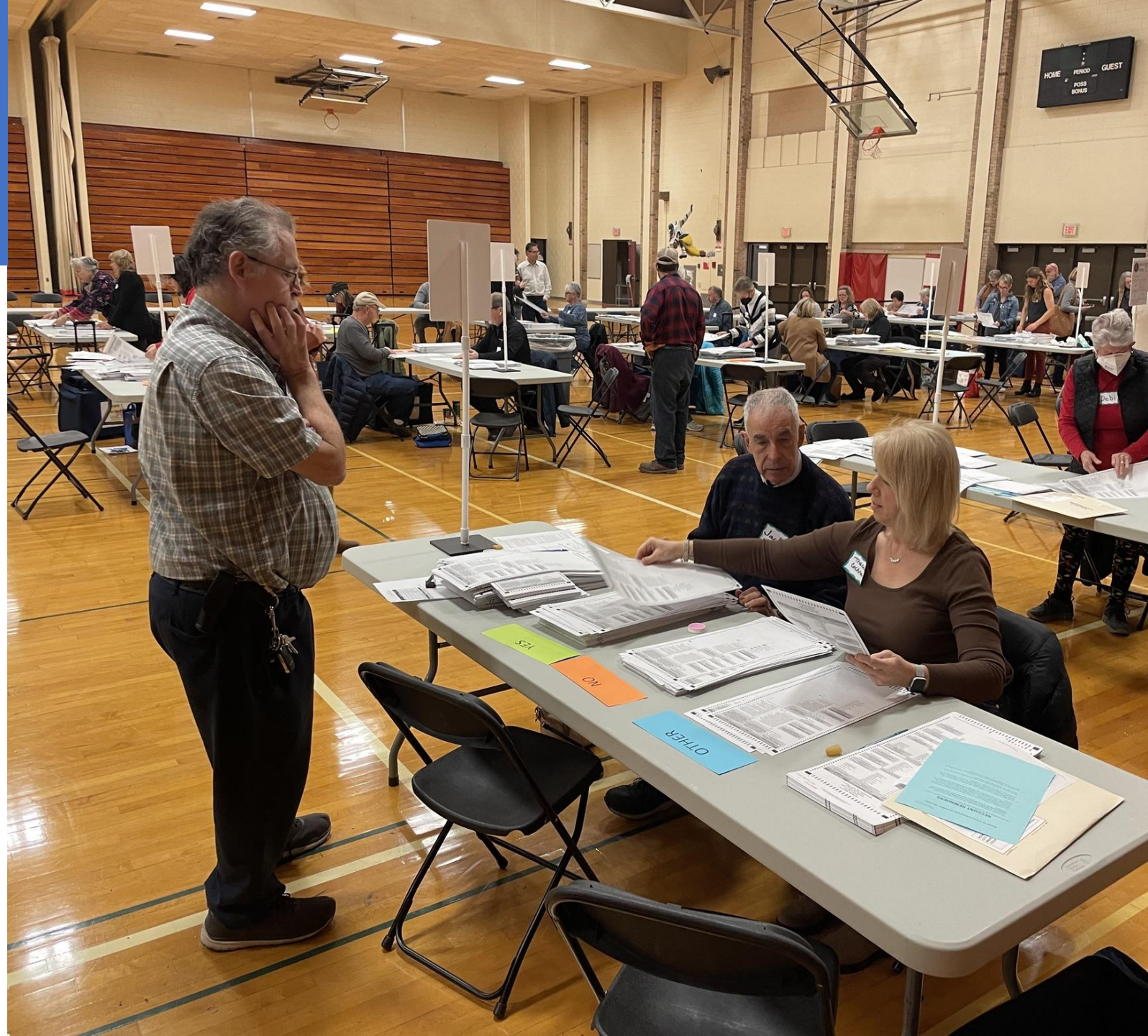
✓ **ELECTIONS 101 ON THE ROAD PRESENTED TO COMMUNITY GROUPS THROUGHOUT KENT COUNTY**

You'll hear the presentation today and we'd love to talk to government classes, community groups, or service clubs in your districts!



SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

- ✓ **KENT COUNTY
RECOUNT OF
PROPOSAL 2022-03
(December 2022)**
- **150 precincts recounted**
- **162 workers - paid and
volunteers**
- **Completed in three days**



SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

- ✓ REORGANIZATION OF ARCHIVES FACILITY SPACE
- ✓ IMPLEMENTED PURGE OF COURT RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH RETENTION SCHEDULE



SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

✓ **TWO EMPLOYEES
RECOGNIZED FOR
QUALITY SERVICE
AWARDS**

Danielle Harp-Beckley
Sr. Docket Clerk
Clerk of the Court

Kate Dubridge
Office Administrator
Clerk's Office



A LOOK AHEAD (2023-2024)

❖ Budget Challenges

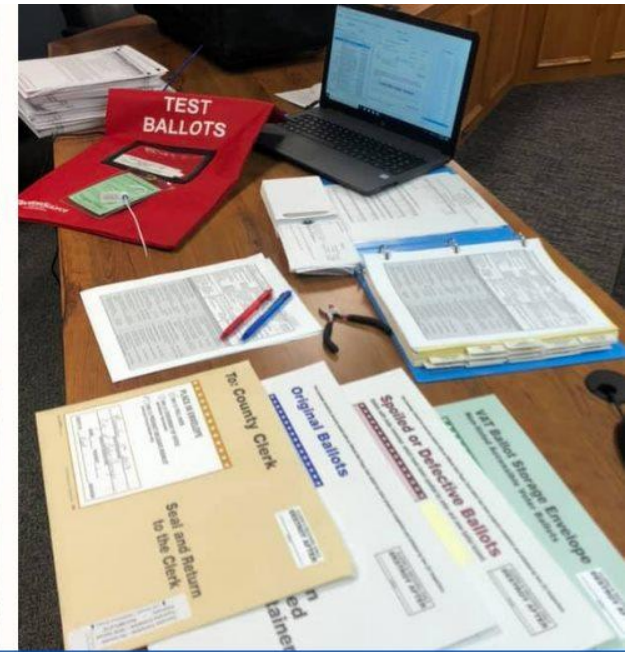
- Increasing cost of elections
- Decreasing Register of Deeds revenues

❖ Legislative Impacts

- Court office: *Clean Slate / conviction set-asides*
- Proposal 2022-2 Implementing Legislation

❖ Title Fraud Notify System Implementation

QUESTIONS ABOUT ANNUAL REPORT?



KENT COUNTY CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS

Lisa Posthumus Lyons

ELECTIONS 101



KentCountyVotes.com

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Kent County Clerk / Register of Deeds

MICHIGAN'S UNIQUE HIGHLY DECENTRALIZED ELECTIONS

- 1 Secretary of State
 - State Bureau of Elections
- 83 County Clerks + staff
- 280 City Clerks + staff + Election Inspectors (workers)
- 1,240 Township Clerks + staff + Election Inspectors (workers)
- Board of State Canvassers (2 Republicans / 2 Democrats)
- County Board of Canvassers (2 Republicans / 2 Democrats)
- County Election Commission (Clerk, Chief Probate Judge, Treasurer)
- City and Township Election Commissioners

ABOUT KENT COUNTY

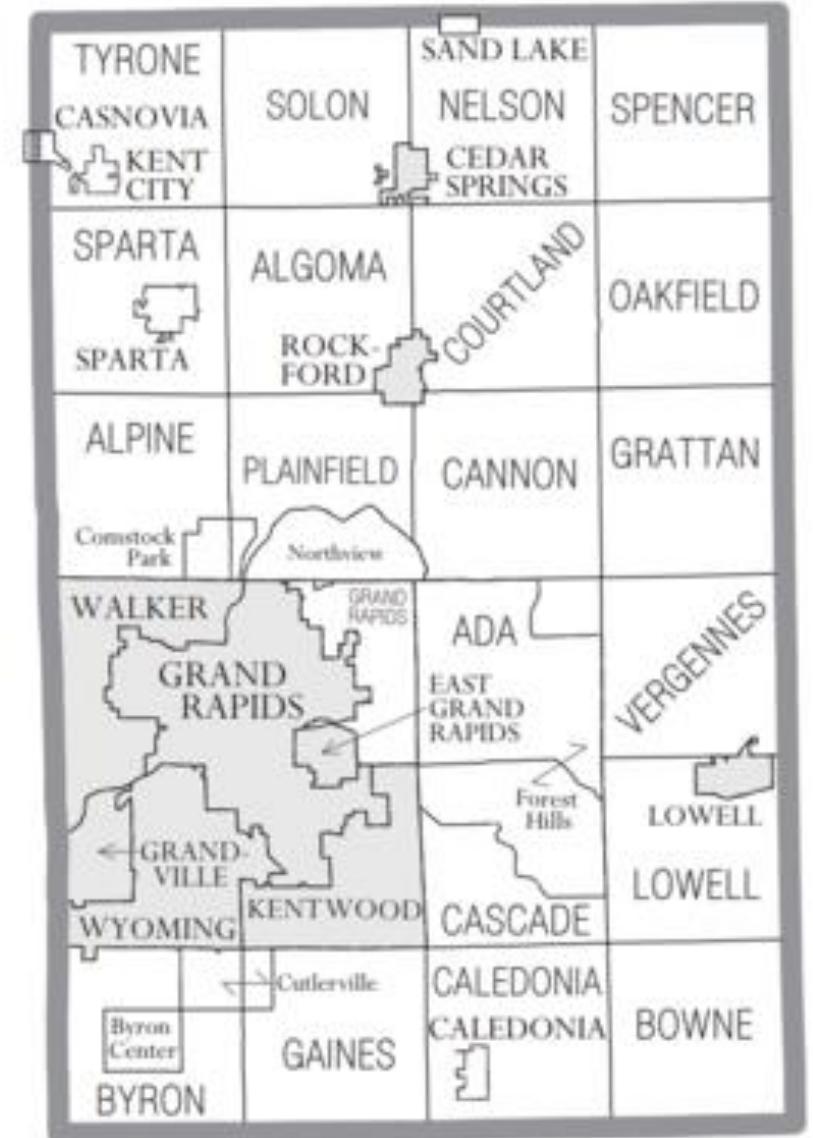
Michigan's 4th largest county (population)
Grand Rapids is Michigan's 2nd largest city

30 Jurisdictions – all sizes and demographics
21 Townships; 9 cities (plus 5 villages)

29 School Districts, including 2 community colleges

659,083 Population (2022 estimate)

506,364 Registered Voters



WHEN DO WE VOTE IN KENT COUNTY?

*At least three times every year in **May, August,**
and November – sometimes more for Presidential
Primaries and Special Elections to fill a vacancy.*

There have been **21 elections** in Kent County since I
became Clerk in 2017.

TYPES OF ELECTIONS

PRIMARY ELECTIONS – AUGUST

Multiple candidates for each party. Determines which candidates for each party will be “nominated” to advance to the General Election.

GENERAL ELECTIONS – NOVEMBER

One candidate represents each party, or without party affiliation (rare).

SPECIAL ELECTIONS – MAY OR WHEN CALLED AS NEEDED (resignation, death, etc).

School or other government funding proposals.

WHO VOTES IN KENT COUNTY?

NOVEMBER 3, 2020 – *72.89% Turnout*

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

PRESIDENT / CONGRESS / STATE LEGISLATIVE / COUNTY COMMISSIONERS / JUDGES / PROPOSALS

AUGUST 2, 2022 – *29.44% Turnout*

STATEWIDE PRIMARY

GOVERNOR / CONGRESS / STATE LEGISLATIVE / COUNTY COMMISSIONERS / JUDGES / PROPOSALS

NOVEMBER 8, 2022 – *61.74% Turnout*

STATEWIDE GENERAL

MAY 2, 2023

SPECIAL ELECTION – *18.52% Turnout*

SCHOOL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS

HOW DO WE VOTE?



OFFICIAL BALLOT
General Election
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Kent County, Michigan
Caledonia Charter Township, Precinct 1

Partisan Section	State Boards	Nonpartisan Section
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2	Judicial
Democratic Party <input type="radio"/>	Pamela Pugh <small>Democratic</small> <input type="radio"/>	Justice of Supreme Court Vote for not more than 2
Republican Party <input type="radio"/>	Mitchell Robinson <small>Democratic</small> <input type="radio"/>	Kerry Lee Morgan <input type="radio"/>
Libertarian Party <input type="radio"/>	Tamara D. Carlone <small>Republican</small> <input type="radio"/>	Brian Zahra <small>Justice of Supreme Court</small> <input type="radio"/>
U.S. Taxpayers Party <input type="radio"/>	Linda Lee Tarver <small>Republican</small> <input type="radio"/>	Richard Bernstein <small>Justice of Supreme Court</small> <input type="radio"/>
Working Class Party <input type="radio"/>	Donna Gundle-Krieg <small>Libertarian</small> <input type="radio"/>	Kyra Harris Bolden <input type="radio"/>
Green Party <input type="radio"/>	Bill Hall <small>Libertarian</small> <input type="radio"/>	Paul Hudson <input type="radio"/>
Natural Law Party <input type="radio"/>	Ethan Hobson <small>U.S. Taxpayers</small> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State	Mary Anne Hering <small>Working Class</small> <input type="radio"/>	Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Incumbent Position 6 Year Term Vote for not more than 1
Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for not more than 1	<input type="radio"/>	James Robert Redford <small>Judge of Court of Appeals</small> <input type="radio"/>
Gretchen Whitmer <input type="radio"/>	Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2	<input type="radio"/>
Garlin D. Gilchrist, II <small>Democratic</small> <input type="radio"/>	Mike Behm <small>Democratic</small> <input type="radio"/>	Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Incumbent Position Partial Term Ending 01/01/2025 Vote for not more than 1
Tudor M. Dixon <input type="radio"/>	Kathy White <small>Democratic</small> <input type="radio"/>	Christopher Yates <small>Judge of Court of Appeals</small> <input type="radio"/>
Mary Buzuma <input type="radio"/>	Lena Epstein <small>Republican</small> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brian Ellison <small>Libertarian</small> <input type="radio"/>	Sevag Vartanian <small>Republican</small> <input type="radio"/>	Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Non-Incumbent Position Vote for not more than 1
Donna Brandenburg <input type="radio"/>	Eric Larson <small>Libertarian</small> <input type="radio"/>	Kathleen A. Feeney <input type="radio"/>
Melissa Carone <small>U.S. Taxpayers</small> <input type="radio"/>	Joe Sanger <small>U.S. Taxpayers</small> <input type="radio"/>	Raymond P. Voet <input type="radio"/>
Kevin Hogan <input type="radio"/>	Sherry A. Wells <small>Green</small> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Destiny Clayton <small>Green</small> <input type="radio"/>	Kathleen Oakford <small>Natural Law</small> <input type="radio"/>	Trustee of Michigan State University Vote for not more than 2
Daryl M. Simpson <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doug Dern <small>Natural Law</small> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Judge of Circuit Court
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Secretary of State		

ENSURING SECURITY & INTEGRITY



PRE-ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICES;
INSPECTOR TRAINING;
EQUIPMENT TESTING



VOTING

ABSENTEE SIGNATURE
VERIFICATION;
VOTER ID ON ELECTION DAY



POST-ELECTION

TRIPPLICATE PAPER TRAIL;
CANVASSER CERTIFICATION;
RECOUNTS & AUDITS

EVERY STEP TRANSPARENT / OPEN TO PUBLIC

STATEWIDE PROPOSALS

MAJOR ELECTION CHANGES

PROPOSAL 2018-3 *“Promote the Vote”*

Passed 66.9%

- Straight-Ticket Voting
- Automatic Registration
- Same-Day Registration (Election Day)
 - No-Reason Absentee Voting
 - Statewide Audit of Results

PROPOSAL 2022-2 *“Promote the Vote”*

Passed 59.9%

- Early Voting at least 9 days, in person
- Military & Overseas ballots accepted based on postmark, not receipt date
 - Voter ID codified current law
 - Automatic Absentee Ballots
- State Funded Postage for Absentee
- Allow Donations to Fund Elections
- Audits Conducted By Election Officials Only

HOW TO HELP ENSURE INTEGRITY

KNOW YOUR
CLERKS AND
INSPECTORS

ELECTION INFO
FROM CREDIBLE
SOURCES

ATTEND TESTING,
CANVASS,
AND AUDITS

BE AN ELECTION
INSPECTOR

SHARE ACCURATE
INFORMATION



KENT COUNTY CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS

Lisa Posthumus

Edit



kentcountyclerk ...

Following

Message



Lisa Posthumus Lyons • Kent County Clerk/Register

Government Official

Official IG of the @kentcountymi Clerk/Register of Deeds Office.

linktr.ee/kentcountyclerk

Followed by wrightwing23, ameneely1, wyomingkentwoodchamber + 4 more



Kent County Clerk / Register of Deeds

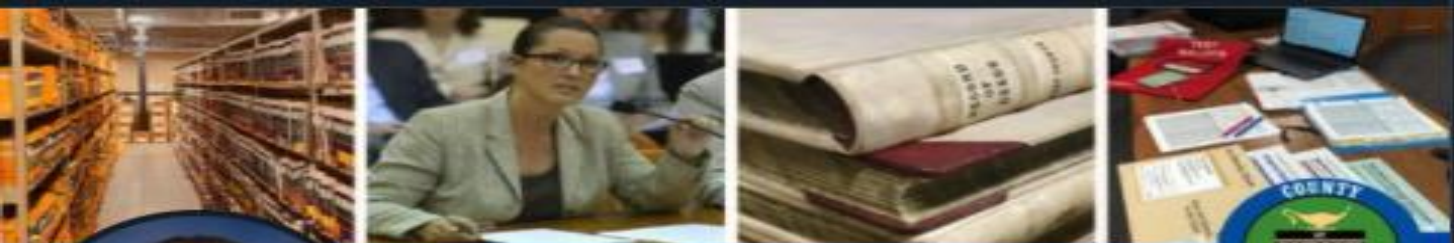
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