

Meet the Newest Medina County DR Magistrate, by Kate Feeks, Courthouse Reporter for CZ Court Reporter at www.czcourtreporter.com



Medina County Domestic Relations Judge Mary Kovack with Magistrate John Mascolo

Learning to understand and grasp the concepts of commitment and priorities can lead to a very fulfilling life and career. That is what I learned after meeting with Magistrate John Mascolo.

Earlier this year, John Mascolo was appointed Magistrate in the Medina County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relation Division by Judge Mary R. Kovack. Mr. Mascolo, a native of Akron, is married with three children.

Marriage, family and his faith are very important to him. He and his wife love to travel and are very active. His wife, an avid cyclist, recently competed in a 25 mile "sweet corn challenge". Mascolo on the other hand, enjoys running. "I never thought I would consider myself a runner earlier in my life, but it keeps you healthy". He is committing to the Road Runner marathon, a large community event held in Akron at the end of September.

Mascolo is also very involved in many church and community organizations. It is his past experience and these organizations that have helped prepare him for the position that he holds today.

Mr. Mascolo obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1986 from the University of Akron. In 1993, he graduated from the University of Akron School of Law and he began his legal career as an assistant prosecutor with the City of Akron from 1993-1998.

In 1997, he served as the first Domestic Violence Prosecutor in Akron Municipal Court. From 1998-2000, he worked in the Civil Division of the Akron Law Department, handling cases in the area of public records, collective bargaining and employment law.

In 2001, Mascolo was appointed as an assistant Summit county prosecutor in the Criminal Division where he prosecuted felony offenses in two courts. In early 2002, he was appointed as the Director of the Community Prosecution Program where he supervised prosecutors and staff assigned to the Community Prosecution Program, the Domestic Violence Unit and the Felony Drug Court in Common Pleas Court.

From 2003-2009, Mr. Mascolo obtained and administered three federal grants from the Office on Violence Against Women for Summit County totaling over \$1.9million. These grants were awarded to develop a collaborative felony Domestic Violence Unit involving the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, the Summit County Adult Probation Department, the Battered Women's Shelter and the Victim Assistance Program.

Mascolo worked in 2003 with Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Walsh and her office to form the Domestic Violence Unit. Domestic violence has been a long standing social problem, and for the last thirty years we have been taking it more serious. The government has taken steps to end this cycle of violence. Mascolo served as the first full-time Director of the Domestic Violence Unit and handled cases at the felony level. "From this experience I have an understanding of dynamics in which helps with my job today".

"Everyday I deal with people that are at a low point in their lives so it is important to use what I have learned from being a prosecutor and listen to the needs of the victims in crimes and be concerned with how these litigants and witnesses are being treated". He knows it is difficult for most people to go to court so in turn he works hard to give dignity and respect that they deserve in these difficult times.

Mascolo and his co-workers believe that litigants do not need to run into problems with the people that work in the courts. Mascolo says "the people that work here treat everyone that comes to the court very well, their personalities make for a nice atmosphere both to litigants and attorneys." "I

applaud Judge Kovack for setting this kind of tone here." He feels this helps in making it his favorite part of his job.

Marriage and family still remain the most important accomplishments in Mascolo's life. "A husband and father are major commitments in anyone's life", "I feel very blessed to be where I am today, and I don't take it for granted especially after seeing what people through each day in my career". According to Jude Kovack when asked why Mr. Mascolo was chosen to be magistrate she said, "John had the appropriate temperament and life experiences that are a fit for this position".

With all his experiences and insight Magistrate John Moscolo has seemingly been placed for success.