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**Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas**

**LAW DAY CELEBRATION**

DAYTON, OHIO (May 3, 2023) –After suspending Law Day public events for three (3) years due to the pandemic, Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Presiding Judge Denise L. Cross revived the Law Day celebration on Monday, May 1st in downtown Dayton.

This year’s national theme was Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility and Collaboration. “On May 1st each year we pause to reflect on the foundation of our government. The judicial, legislative and administrative branches, working together to promote and sustain equal justice under law. It is upon this framework that our actions must speak louder than words, for it is our collective contributions that sustain confidence in our American rule of laws. Each of us can start today, by ensuring that even when we think we are on opposite sides of an issue, we can engage in productive discussions keeping our country’s ideals in the forefront of our mind: one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” (*Judge Denise L. Cross*)

An award ceremony, recognizing individuals in the legal community was held in the Old Montgomery County Courthouse, a beloved institution and Dayton landmark.

Judges from Montgomery County Domestic Relations, General Division, Juvenile and Probate Courts, the Montgomery County Clerk of Court, and Dayton Municipal Court Judges recognized persons from the legal community epitomizing community outreach and partnership. County Commissioner Carolyn Rice briefly shared how proud she was of the work being done, and that this would be the first of many Law Day celebrations she would be attending.

A lunch-hour Law Day Information Fair was scheduled to be held in Courthouse Square, but had to be postponed to Monday, June 12th, due to the unseasonable cold and rainy conditions.

Law Day is a national holiday, instituted in 1958 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. This celebration was codified by the 1961 Congress in joint resolution 36 U.S.C. §113.

*36 U.S.C. § 113 states, in part:*

*Law Day, U.S.A., is a special day of celebration by the people*

*(1) in appreciation of their liberties and the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States and of their rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other and with other countries; and*

*(2) for the cultivation of the respect for law that is so vital to the democratic way of life.*

***Submitted by: Jennifer A. Petrella, Esq., C.C.M., Domestic Relations Court Administrator and Magistrate***

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