

MUNICIPALITIES OPERATING MAYOR'S COURT MUST REGISTER, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2015

Municipalities that would like to operate a mayor's court in 2015 must register with the Ohio Supreme Court beginning this week.

The online registration opened on January 1, 2015, and the mayor's courts have until January 15 or 15 days before the first court session of the New Year, whichever is later. Courts may register using the mayor's court portal or mail the annual registration form. Both are located on the Ohio Supreme Court [website](#). The form necessary to complete the required registration can be found on the OSC website, under the "Rules, Forms and Instructions" heading and then through the "Mayor's Court Annual Registration Form" icon.

Currently available records indicate that in 2014, there were 298 municipal corporations in 65 of the state's 88 counties operating mayor's courts that registered and reported activity to the Supreme Court. Mayor's courts hear only cases involving violations of local ordinances and state traffic laws. Mayors do not need to be attorneys to preside over cases and their rulings can be appealed to municipal or county courts.

In 2004, the Supreme Court was granted authority by state lawmakers to provide court procedures and require legal education for mayors hearing cases.