

**REGISTER OF WILLS
CLERK OF ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF YORK COUNTY
YORK COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER**

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January 11, 2016

TO: Susan Byrnes, President Commissioner
Doug Hoke, Vice-President Commissioner
Chris Reilly, Commissioner

BRAD

FROM: Bradley C. Jacobs, Register of Wills/Clerk of Orphans' Court

RE: York Co. Register of Wills/Clerk of Orphans' Court 2015 annual report.
Another record year for York County Inheritance Tax Collections!

The Register/Clerk office in 2015 broke another record for Inheritance Tax collections and exceeded statistics in other interrelated areas. I wish to thank my staff for their outstanding performance with their assigned tasks, making this register/clerk office one of the most respected in the commonwealth. Also, the department's working relationship with the Judiciary, in particular Judge Kennedy, Judge Marceca Strong, Judge Platts and Judge Snyder was outstanding and I thank them for their support.

Acting as Agent for the Commonwealth of PA, Department of Revenue, Inheritance Tax Division, the Register collected \$26,615,634.14 in Inheritance Tax payments. This total surpasses last year's record receipts by \$285,533.73. For this collection effort the Department of Revenue reimbursed the county through the register commission totaling \$151,088.42.

The 2015 department budget was \$416,918. As of January 8, 2016 actual expenses for 2015 totaled \$417,657. The department operated \$739. over budget. Since 2000 the department has operated under budget twelve (12) of the past sixteen (16) years.

Total fees collected in 2015 by the department and remitted to the county general fund totaled \$963,092.39. This represents fees for filing documents, IH Tax commission, Act 34, Act 24 and automation fees.

York County estates opened in 2015 numbered 2,190 (+ 2% vs. 2014) and 2,404 marriage licenses were issued as compared to 2,410 for 2014. Decreed adoptions in 2015 totaled 148 (+8% vs. 2014).

The Commonwealth of PA received fees collected by the Register/Clerk office totaling \$119,977.50 (+12% vs. 2014). These dollars represent Judicial Project fees (JCS/ATJ), Act 151, Act 222 and marriage license fees.

Imaged documents for 2015 totaled 32,681 (142,830 actual pages) (+44% vs. 2014). This increase is a result of the department imaging adoptions and transcripts beginning 2015.

The 2000 – 2015 department annual report of individual fees collected is attached for your perusal.

enclosure

cc: President Judge Joseph C. Adams
Judge John S. Kennedy
Judge Andrea Marceca Strong
Judge Gregory M. Snyder
Judge Todd R. Platts
Paul Crouse, Court Administrator
Carl Lindquist, Communications Director
ROW Officers