

Employee Spotlight: Aimee Cory



You were recently named Probate Register of the Year. What does this recognition mean to you?

"It's truly an honor. The Association is made up of incredibly dedicated professionals who generously share their knowledge statewide. To be recognized by such an exceptional group is incredibly meaningful. I'm deeply grateful to our Probate Register for nominating me—it means more than I can say to know that the work I've contributed to improving our court's operations has made a difference."

Aimee's supervisor notes that this award could not be more deserved. In one of Michigan's busiest probate courts, Aimee has been instrumental in streamlining workflows, enhancing public service, and strengthening statewide collaboration. Whether she is mentoring new employees or helping shape court procedures across the state, Aimee approaches every challenge with professionalism and grace.

For those who may not be familiar, can you describe your role as Chief Deputy Probate Register and its impact on the community?

"I oversee the day-to-day operations of the Probate Clerk's Office, collaborate with our Probate Register and Judges, update policies and procedures as laws evolve, and help implement new technology that improves service for both the community and court staff."

Aimee shared that most individuals who visit Probate Court are facing difficult personal moments—caring for aging loved ones, supporting someone with mental health needs, or navigating the loss of a family member.

"These are emotional, often overwhelming times. Our goal is to approach every case with empathy and guide families through processes that can feel confusing and stressful. Assisting them through those moments is at the heart of our work."

You've been with the Court for nearly 30 years. What accomplishments are you most proud of?

"Internally, we now have a shared staff manual with step-by-step procedures, and we've begun our 'Operation Paperless' journey with OnBase, which is especially helpful for new employees. Externally, we've expanded our website to offer more information, forms, and instructions, and we're building online filing to improve access for the community."

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Aimee is proud not only of the systems built but of leaving a strong foundation for the next generation of probate professionals.

How do you support and mentor staff in such a busy office?

"I'm incredibly fortunate to work with a fantastic, hardworking team. We're a close group, and we strive for consistency in our policies and procedures."

Daily huddles, regular staff meetings, and constant communication with the judges help keep everyone aligned.

"Our staff are truly the unsung heroes. They take on challenging tasks and keep the court running. If there's one thing I wish I did better, it would be making sure every employee knows just how much they are appreciated."

Let's switch gears—what's something people might be surprised to learn about you?

"I come from a family of guitar players, and I've been trying to learn guitar over the past few years. My mom tried to teach me when I was young, but I never stuck with it. I can't say I've mastered it in any way, shape, or form, but I keep at it and enjoy the challenge."

(We'll be first in line when she's ready for her debut performance!)

And finally, how do you relax and recharge outside of work?

"I love to walk, ride bikes, listen to music, and spend time with friends, family, and our furbabies. Those moments help me reset and stay grounded. Someday I hope to include playing the guitar on this list, but I can't say it's relaxing just yet!"

Aimee's leadership, compassion, and commitment to public service have made a real difference—not only in Kent County, but throughout Michigan. Congratulations again to Aimee Cory, Probate Register of the Year. We're proud to celebrate you!

