

Honorable Barbara P. Gorman '77
Francis J. Conte Special Service Award

Judge Gorman, the Presiding Judge of the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court, has been a General Division judge since 1987. She serves as the Personnel Committee Chair, and serves on the Criminal Practice, Executive, and Budget Committees. She has previously presided over the Common Pleas Court Drug Court and Non-Support Court.

Judge Gorman received an Honors B.A. from Marquette University in 1970, an M.A. from the University of Dayton in 1974, and her J.D., Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Dayton School of Law in 1977. In 1993, Judge Gorman was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Dayton School of Law Alumni Association.

Prior to judicial service, Judge Gorman was a teacher in the Dayton School system from 1971-1973. She was a Montgomery County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney from 1977-1987. Since 1987, Judge Gorman has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Dayton School of Law.

Judge Gorman is a member of the American, Ohio and Dayton Bar Associations, Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association, Carl D. Kessler Inn of Court, and the Dayton Lawyer's Club. Judge Gorman is on the Advisory Board of the University of Dayton School of Law and a member of the Boards of the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association, the Linda Vista, Inc., and the Brunner Literacy Center.

She is past President of the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association, the Carl D. Kessler Inn of Court, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, and past Chair of the Sienna Springs Board of Trustees and Chaminade-Julienne High School Board of Trustees. She has also served on the Boards of the Legal Aid Society of Dayton; the American Red Cross, Dayton Chapter; and City Folk. She was also named one of the Top Ten Women by the Dayton Daily News in 1996.

“I would like to nominate Judge Barbara Gorman for the Special Service Award. Judge Gorman was a member of the 1977 graduating class at UDSL. Since that time, she has quietly, and without any effort to draw attention to her work, tirelessly promoted the mission of UDSL. Judge Gorman taught trial practice at UDSL for 27 years and is a long-time member of the Advisory Council, where she is currently co-chairing the recruitment efforts for the Law School’s new Leadership Honors Program, as well as member of the Alumni Board of Trustees. Judge Gorman was instrumental in the establishment, along with Larry Lasky, of the Lee Falke Scholarship, and she is currently serving as the co-chair of the Alumni Scholarship Committee. For almost forty years she has mentored attorneys in the community, students from the law school, and has served as an extern supervisor to many UDSL students, including international students. Her biography speaks for its in terms of her community involvement. Judge Gorman is an unwavering advocate for UDSL and should be honored for her special service to UDSL.”