



DEAR MEDINA COUNTY RESIDENTS:

County Auditor's Offices have been called "the most complex and challenging" of all county offices. My responsibility as your Auditor is to ensure that the office runs efficiently and economically and to see that you, the taxpayer, are aware of the services your Auditor's Office has to offer. During the past decade, Medina County and the Auditor's Office have faced record growth. During this same time frame we have vastly increased our services and outreach to Medina County citizens. In spite of these changes, we are tremendously proud to be one of the most fiscally conservative offices in the county. I take great pride in helping to answer your questions and in solving your problems. Please count on us to be here when you need us.

Sincerely,


Michael E. Kovack
Auditor of Medina County

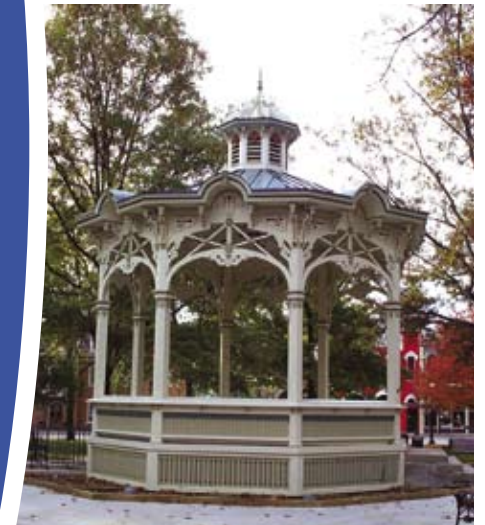
Michael E. Kovack first assumed the office of Medina County Auditor on January 15, 1993 and has been re-elected four times by the voters of Medina County. A Wadsworth High School alumnus, he graduated with honors from Bowling Green State University in 1983 with degrees in biology, secondary education and business administration. A United States Naval Officer from 1984-1989, he served three decorated tours of duty in the Persian Gulf aboard destroyers and mine-sweepers during this time. A Wadsworth City Councilman in 1991-92, he earned his Masters Degree in Public Administration magna cum laude from the University of Akron in 1992 and was named a Presidential Scholar by President George H.W. Bush. Following the events September 11th, Auditor Kovack was recalled to the Naval Reserve. Since 2003 Commander Kovack has been mobilized three times in support of Operations Noble Eagle & Iraqi Freedom, serving with the U.S. Army in Baghdad.

Kovack and his staff are the recipients of many local, state and national awards for excellence. His office has been recognized for "Excellence In Accounting" by the Government Finance Officers Association every year he has been in office and he was Medina County's first recipient of the Ohio Auditor's Association Outstanding Auditor Award in 1998.

MICHAEL E. KOVACK
MEDINA COUNTY AUDITOR



DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



MEDINA COUNTY
AUDITOR'S OFFICE

144 North Broadway St.
Medina, Ohio 44256

www.medinacountyauditor.org

REAL ESTATE Michael E. Kovack, Medina County Auditor, is the assessor of all property within Medina County and, under Ohio law, must view and appraise each of the more than 82,000 parcels of real estate in the county every six years. The Auditor is mandated by state law to update that appraisal every three years and adjust any changes in property values.

The Auditor **CANNOT** and **DOES NOT** raise your property taxes. The taxes you pay are determined by the budget passed by your local township, village or city and authorized by the voters in your community.

Your tax bill is based on the assessed value of your property, multiplied by the tax rate in your community. Special assessments such as sewer, water, street paving, and lighting are then added to this total.








Auditor Kovack determines the eligibility of homeowners for various tax reductions under the Homestead Exemption Act, Current Agricultural Use Value, Forestry Program, and other tax reduction programs. Reductions are then granted by the Auditor to qualifying applicants. The Auditor also prepares and maintains accurate real property records, which are open for public viewing and available on the internet.



LICENSES The Auditor's Office has numerous licensing responsibilities for the County. Medina County Auditor, Michael E. Kovack, along with the Dog Warden, share the responsibility of ensuring all dogs throughout the county are properly registered and tagged. Vendor's licenses, cigarette licenses, junk yard licenses, and kennel licenses are all required by state law and may be obtained through your Auditor's Office.

TAX SETTLEMENT Medina County Auditor, Michael E. Kovack, distributes tax revenues to over fifty (50) governmental units in Medina County. The Auditor's tax settlement process is very important to your local community and school district. By ensuring a quick tax settlement with each taxing district, the Auditor helps the district avoid the need to borrow money, saving the districts interest payments and helping to hold down taxes.

The Auditor prepares the annual tax duplicates and settlements which include:

-  REAL PROPERTY TAXES
-  PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES
-  UTILITY TAXES
-  VENDOR TAXES
-  MOBILE HOME TAXES
-  ESTATE TAXES
-  CIGARETTE TAXES

BUDGET COMMISSION Auditor Kovack is responsible for presenting the annual tax budgets of over fifty (50) governmental units in Medina County to the Budget Commission. The Auditor is Secretary of the Commission which also includes the Treasurer and the Prosecutor. The responsibility for all the records and proceedings of the Budget Commission belongs to the Auditor.

Additionally, the Auditor calculates all the levies for each district, presents requests for amendments by the districts to the Commission and allocates funds to the libraries.

ESTATE TAX The Auditor works with the State of Ohio Department of Taxation to report the release of assets (over \$25,000 per account) of all decedents within Medina County.

ACCOUNTING As Chief Fiscal Officer of Medina County, Auditor Kovack is responsible for the custody and disbursement of over \$550,000,000 in funds received each year by the county. As the guardian of all county funds, the Auditor maintains the official records of all receipts, disbursements and funds available.

The Auditor is paymaster for over 1500 county employees. The Accounting Department also handles all purchase orders, vouchers, internal auditing, monthly and annual reports to the State Auditor and maintains the accounting system's computer input and processing.

CONSUMER PROTECTION - WEIGHTS AND MEASURES In addition to guarding the county's dollars, the Medina County Auditor, Michael E. Kovack, is the chief Consumer Protection Advocate for the citizens of Medina County through his Weights and Measures Division. Auditor Kovack ensures fairness and equity in the market place through regular inspections.

Annually, Auditor Kovack must certify the accuracy of all measuring devices within Medina County. Meat and produce scales, gasoline pumps, timing devices, pharmaceutical scales and UPC check-out scanners are all inspected and sealed regularly to protect both consumers and merchants. Look for the inspection seal to ensure your merchant is in compliance.

Court action can be taken against those who intentionally weigh, measure or post prices that are inaccurate and Auditor Kovack vigorously pursues these claims.



If you have any questions regarding these or any other programs provided by Medina County Auditor, Michael E. Kovack contact our office at:
Medina: 330-725-9754 • Brunswick: 330-225-7100 • Wadsworth: 330-336-6657
www.medinacountyauditor.org • Monday-Friday 8:00 - 4:30