



Government Resources

Navigating the logistics of caring for a loved one who is no longer competent to care for themselves, planning for your own future, or transferring titles after the death of a loved one can feel overwhelming. This provides an overview of which local and state offices provide what services to assist you through these times.

Organization	Service	Telephone	Website
<i>Real Estate and Auto Transfer Services</i>			
Franklin County Auditor—19 th floor	The Auditor is often the first stop in filing transfer paperwork, as new deeds, must go through the transfer room	(614) 525-4663	https://www.franklincountyauditor.com/real-estate/transfer-conveyance
Real Estate Transfers and Homestead	The office also administers the homestead program, which may reduce the property taxes owed by eligible seniors or disabled homeowners.		https://www.franklincountyauditor.com/real-estate/homestead
Franklin County Auditor—20 th floor Board of Revision	The Auditor oversees the Board of Revision when a property owner wants to dispute their real estate tax amount.	(614) 525-3913	https://www.franklincountyauditor.com/real-estate/board-of-revision
Franklin County Recorder—18 th floor	Once a document transferring a property has been executed, it must be recorded at this office to be valid. You can also record your DD214 (free of charge) and advanced directives for end of life (\$40 fee), to ensure official copies of these are available to your loved ones.	(614) 525-3930	https://recorder.franklincountyohio.gov/
Franklin County Treasurer—17 th floor	This is the office where you can pay property taxes. You may also choose to set up Budget Payment, monthly tax payments which can provide a small interest-earned tax advantage. The office may be able to refer you to assistance if you are having trouble paying your property taxes.	(614) 525-3438	https://treasurer.franklincountyohio.gov/#
Franklin County Clerk of Courts	Before a vehicle can be registered with the BMV after a loved one has passed, the auto title must be transferred. A surviving spouse may be able to transfer auto title(s) without going through Probate Court, using the affidavit in the link to the right.	(614) 525-3090	https://clerk.franklincountyohio.gov/autoTitle/survivingSpouseCO#Surviving-Spouse https://clerk.franklincountyohio.gov/CLCT-website/media/Docs/auto_title/surviving-spouse-affidavit-automobile.pdf

<i>Other Franklin County Services</i>			
ADAMH Board of Franklin County	Connection to affordable substance use disorder and mental health providers and crisis resources for county residents.	(614) 224-1057	https://adamhfranklin.org/
Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Provides resources and support to adults and children with developmental disabilities and their families.	(614) 475-6440	https://fcbdd.org/
Franklin County Department of Job & Family Services	Public assistance including food, Medicaid, childcare, Ohio Works First, and emergency rent.	(844) 640-6446	https://jfs.franklincountyohio.gov/
Franklin County Guardianship Services Board	Provides guardianship services for adults who are unable to care for themselves and does not have family able to assist.	(614) 525-2279	https://www.guardian.franklincountyohio.gov/
Franklin County Office on Aging	Adult protective services, caregiver support, aging in place assistance.	(614) 525-5230	https://officeonaging.org/default.aspx
Franklin County One Door	Connection to various county social service resources.	Walk in	369 S. High St., 1 st floor Mon – Fri 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Franklin County Veterans Service Commission	Financial, health, survivor, and other social service supports for veterans and their families.	(614) 525-2500	https://vets.franklincountyohio.gov/ vs.intake@franklincountyohio.gov
<i>Non-County Services</i>			
Columbus Public Health	Registration of and certified certificates of birth or death in Franklin County; burial permits, acknowledgement of paternity affidavits.	(614) 645-7331	https://www.columbus.gov/publichealth/programs/birth-and-death-records/
Ohio Attorney General	The Ohio AG can investigate fraud and help Ohio residents in a number of areas, including through their Consumer Protection Unit and Elder Justice Unit.	(800) 282-0815	https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/
Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Information on transferring an auto title so that BMV registration can be kept current.	(614) 752-7671	https://www.bmv.ohio.gov/titles-transfer-death.aspx
Ohio Long Term Care Ombudsman Program	Advocacy services for individuals living in an LTC facility.	(800) 536-5891	https://aging.ohio.gov/care-and-living/get-help/get-an-advocate
Ohio Vital Statistics	Delayed birth, birth certificates, death certificates.	(614) 466-2531	https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/vital-statistics/how-to-order-certificates

PROHIBITED LEGAL PRACTICE IN THE COURTS

Legal practice in local courts is restricted by law to attorneys who are licensed by the Ohio Supreme Court. Due to the complexity of the law, most individuals who have business with the Probate Court are represented by an attorney. Court employees are prohibited by statute from practicing law and cannot give legal advice.