

# ERIC BROWN

34 West Poplar Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-477-3528  
ebrown@columbus.rr.com

**Accomplished Community Leader** with more than 30 years of experience in public service focused on improving communities and protecting families. A strategic visionary leader with an exceptional understanding of public policy and government. Decisive and influential, with outstanding ability to build consensus, develop partnerships and collaborate with others. Strong mediation, management and negotiation skills. Positive team builder and professional communicator able to establish and nurture rapport with corporate and community leaders, elected officials, business partners, staff, volunteers, and others necessary to carry out the mission and fulfill the values of the organization. Demonstrated success in fundraising. A mentor, motivator, and leader of staff and volunteers at all levels.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Proven Leadership
- Consensus Building
- Experienced Manager
- Budgetary Oversight
- Successful Fundraiser
- Commitment to Community Service

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

<b>Strategic Leadership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Served Ohio as Chief Justice, providing confidence and stability at a particularly challenging time following the death of the long-time former Chief Justice.</li><li>• Provided steady leadership and comfort to probate court staff and bar upon starting as Probate Judge, serving in a position that had not changed during the entire careers of most staff.</li><li>• Provided legal and consulting services to establish and fund an Ohio Tobacco Control Law Center affiliated with a law school.</li><li>• Led Ohio's tobacco litigation for six years, changing the marketing practices of cigarette companies and helping to recover over 10 billion dollars for Ohio.</li></ul>
<b>Building Consensus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helped build a strong and highly successful culture of operating by consensus among my colleagues and administration while serving nearly 15 years as an elected school board member.</li><li>• Developed new rules for attorneys serving as guardians at probate court, providing significant new protections for a very vulnerable population, despite strong resistance from entrenched interests.</li><li>• Developed and implemented new model mediation programs for resolution of consumer disputes.</li><li>• Developed partnership opportunities with federal agencies and state governments for recovery of claims while serving with the Value Recovery Group.</li></ul>
<b>Management Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Effectively led staff of up to 65 administrative, investigative and legal professionals; administered talent acquisition, employee development and training, and performance evaluations.</li><li>• Founded, built and successfully operated several small businesses in Cleveland, having learned business and entrepreneurial skills growing up working in family businesses.</li><li>• As a school board member, helped to oversee a rigorous and highly successful management by objectives process. Participated in Total Quality Management training by Dr. W. Edwards Deming in preparation for applying for the Malcolm Baldrige Award, one of the first public school districts to do so.</li></ul>
<b>Fundraising Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Led creation and development of a successful and well-funded Education Foundation.</li><li>• Helped lead successful bar association charitable fundraising to address hunger issues in Cleveland, collaborating and building successful partnerships with other interested organizations.</li><li>• Helped lead several school districts to raise funds for levy campaigns.</li><li>• Highly successful political fundraising.</li></ul>

## **CAREER CHRONOLOGY**

2014 ■ Consultant & Legal Advisor

2013-14 ■ VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNITY RELATIONS,  
JEWISH FEDERATION OF COLUMBUS ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Jewish Community Relations Committee; Government Affairs; Holocaust Education; Israel and Overseas Programs

2012-14 ■ Judicial Ethics & Professionalism Committee, Ohio Judicial Conference

2012-13 ■ Consultant & Legal Advisor

- Consulted with Franklin County Municipal Court for the successful creation of Veteran's Court
- Research and Planning for creation of a new national mediation firm

2011 ■ JUDGE, FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Appointed by the Governor to preside as a judge of the busiest court in Ohio.
- Based upon professional and personal relationships, developed and facilitated communications among several courts and local governments to address municipal court and community issues.
- Applied knowledge of best practices from numerous other courts to a new setting, such as the successful application of technology to manage large workloads.

2010 ■ CHIEF JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT OF OHIO ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Appointed by the Governor to serve following the death of Chief Justice Moyer.
- Served as Ohio's Chief Justice at a particularly challenging time for the court, and helped to provide continuity and stability to staff, to the legal community and to the public through the successful application of leadership and management experiences previously learned.
- Upon learning of issues with foreclosure mediation in Cuyahoga County, traveled to meet with that court directly to hear from relevant parties and staff to quickly devise and implement a solution that would prevent statistical reporting requirements from limiting the necessary use of mediation to address the huge number of foreclosures. Thereafter, promoted the successful, new procedures to courts throughout Ohio.

2009-10 ■ JUDGE, FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT, PROBATE DIVISION ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Elected by constituents to serve a six-year term.
- Presided over the largest single-judge court in Ohio, serving as both Judge and Clerk of Court.
- Led and managed a staff of 50, including magistrates, administrators, deputy clerks and support staff.
- Developed new rules for attorneys serving as guardians at probate court, providing significant new protections for a very vulnerable population, despite strong resistance from entrenched interests.

2005-09 ■ JUDGE, FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT, GENERAL DIVISION ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Elected by constituents to serve a six-year term to a newly created seat on the Court.
- Actively participated in the planning, design and construction of a new courthouse for Franklin County Common Pleas Court, assuring the courthouse would be technology and disability friendly.
- Implemented expertise in use of technology and demonstrated skill in managing complex litigation.

2003-05 ■ MAGISTRATE, FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Appointed by the court's sixteen judges to serve as a judicial officer.

2003 ■ ERIC S. BROWN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND LEGAL CONSULTANT ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Provided leadership, legal and consulting services on various projects, including efforts to create and fund a tobacco control policy and law program affiliated with a law school. Through collaboration with partners, my efforts resulted in the establishment of the Ohio Tobacco Control Law Center at Capital University Law School.

2002-03 ■ LEGAL COUNSEL, VALUE RECOVERY GROUP ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Developed partnership opportunities with federal agencies and state governments for recovery of claims.

1996-2002 ■ ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, TOBACCO LITIGATION COUNSEL,  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Led Ohio's tobacco litigation team for six years, managing the prosecution of claims against the cigarette companies, including leading a local team of eight Assistant Attorneys General, coordinating the work of three national law firms and three local law firms, all serving as Special Counsel, and coordinating efforts with 40 other states.
- Actively and directly participated in negotiations and drafting of a highly successful multi-state settlement, the largest in history, changing cigarette marketing practices and recovering over 10 billion dollars for Ohio.
- Assumed principal responsibility for implementing and enforcing the tobacco settlement in Ohio, including compliance issues and numerous, complex litigation matters.

1992-97 ■ ACTING AND ASSISTANT CHIEF, CONSUMER PROTECTION SECTION,  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ■ Columbus, Ohio

- Managed and supervised statewide staff of 65, including lawyers, investigators, and consumer complaint specialists.
- Developed and piloted new model mediation programs for resolution of consumer disputes.
- Created statewide consumer education program for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Served as guest speaker to consumer and business groups, students, and the elderly.
- Handled media requests, provided interviews, and wrote a monthly newspaper column.
- Supervised and guided litigation and law enforcement efforts of legal and investigative staff; coordinated efforts with other federal and state law enforcement agencies.
- Developed and implemented training programs for staff; implemented new public records policy.

1979-92 ■ ERIC S. BROWN LAW OFFICES ■ Cleveland, Ohio

- Shared and managed law offices with six attorneys. Law practice included legal services for the elderly, business and civil litigation, criminal defense, business planning and transactions, school law, real estate and leasing transactions and corporate law.

1978-92 ■ ELECTED MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
MAYFIELD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ■ Cleveland Ohio

President, 1983-85, 1990-92; Vice-President, 1980-82. Legislative Liaison.  
Selected to All Ohio School Board, 1986, Ohio School Boards Association.

---

## EDUCATION

**Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Fellow:** Selected to participate in ASTAR, a national program designed to prepare judges to preside over cases involving complex science and technology issues and to serve as a resource to other judges. Completed two year program and awarded a fellowship in 2009.

**Cleveland-Marshall College of Law,** Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, Juris Doctor.

**Kibbutz Ein Harod Meuchad,** Israel, Hebrew Ulpan Study.

**Cleveland State University,** Cleveland, Ohio Bachelor of Arts: First College, History and Economics.

**Denison University,** Granville, Ohio.

**Bar Admissions:** State of Ohio: U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio, United States Courts of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the District of Columbia Circuit.

---