



# THE MORRIS COUNTY CLERK CHRONICLE



Ann F. Grossi, Esq.  
Morris County Clerk

www.morriscountyclerk.org

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(973) 285-6120

## END OF YEAR REPORT

<b>Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021</b>	
Deeds Recorded:	14,190
Mortgages Recorded:	62,971
Notary Public Commission Recorded:	1,911
Trade Name Certificates Recorded:	248
Total Documents Recorded:	104,111
Passport Applications Processed:	3,957
State Realty Transfer Fee Revenue:	\$64,448,462.07
County Realty Transfer Fee Revenue:	\$9,353,871.22
Total Realty Transfer Tax Revenue:	\$73,802,333.29
Total Receipts Collected:	\$82,252,735.49
<b>Total Given to County:</b>	<b>\$14,913,040.59</b>

The Morris County Clerk is proud to report that although COVID-19 and related viruses created havoc throughout the nation, the State of New Jersey and Morris County, the Clerk’s Office maintained a “business-as-usual” stance. The Office continued to provide services to the residents of Morris County without interruption. This is primarily because of the dedicated staff that came to work each day and tackled the job at hand regardless of the obstacles.

The Clerk’s Office continues to surpass the yearly revenue generated by this office. In 2021, the total revenue generated was an impressive **\$82,252,735.49**, of which **\$14,913,040.59** was credited directly to the County for 2022 tax relief to the 2022 general fund. This total revenue represents an increase of 13% over the previous year’s revenue. This revenue goes to offset the County tax rate.

This Office continues to be on the cutting edge of new and innovative technology to better service the residents of Morris County. January 2022, marked the launch of the Morris County Mobile App which allows for access to all services offered by the county to be available on mobile phones. The App allows access to not only all the services offered, but also the ability to make appointments for various departments. The App can be downloaded for Apple devices in the App Store and for Android devices in the Google Play Store. This is a **free service** offered to residents. In essence, “let your fingers do the walking.”

The Passport Office has created a “children’s corner” equipped with table, chairs and activity books to entertain the little ones while passport business is being conducted. This allows for the application process to proceed efficiently. The Passport Office also has extended hours on Thursday night by appointment only. Appointments can be made on the County website: [www.morriscountyclerk.org](http://www.morriscountyclerk.org).

The Election Department continues to respond to election and voter information inquires. Many residents have questions regarding if the “vote-by-mail-only” is still mandated. The answer, for now, is no!. If you voted in person in an election prior to 2020, you are eligible to do the same going forward. However, if you previously did vote-by-mail, you need to complete an “opt-out” form to be able to vote in person at the polls. The Election Department continues to provide unparalleled service as they are continually preparing for Primary, School Board, Fire and General Elections.

The Morris County Clerk was proud and pleased to promote several well-deserving staff members this past year. **Anna McMahon** was promoted to Deputy County Clerk; **Ann Bedkowski** promoted to Chief Clerk; and **Bernadine Rea** promoted to Assistant Chief Clerk. Their cumulative years of service to the County is almost 100 years! Congratulations!

Although, personal appearances were not always possible due to restrictions, the Clerk's Office was still able to participate in several events throughout the year. Below are some of those "Highlights".

**The Annual Morris County Manual Cover Contest.** Each year, local high school students are invited to submit a rendition representative of Morris County. There are three winners selected. Each student receives a monetary award and the First Place winner's submission will be the cover for the next year's manual.

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science.** This event honors the role of women and girls in the development of science and technology. In attendance, from Parsippany, was "Team Robo" a robotics club.

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.** Clerk Grossi was part of a panel to discuss "Local Elections! Understanding the Process".

**Certification of Recognition** was awarded by the County Clerk, in memory of former Deputy County Clerk, John Wojtaszek, to Isabelle Abate for outstanding leadership.

**Interfaith Food Pantry:** The Morris County staff contributed food and sundries to help those in need for their Thanksgiving dinner.

**Proclamations:** It was the Morris County Clerk's honor to present proclamations to the following Morris County residents:

**Mary Pearson:** presented to her family to commemorate her many years of service to the Town of Netcong.

**Carson Barone:** presented for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

**St. John's Ukrainian Church:** commemorating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## *About the Clerk's Office*

*The Morris County Clerk is a "Constitutional Officer" holding a 5-year position that is established by the New Jersey Constitution. The position was initially created to serve the public by acting as the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions though duties have grown to include the recording and maintenance of every conveyance of real property such as deeds, mortgages, liens, maps and other related legal documents.*

*The Morris County Clerk's Office is also a passport application acceptance facility. Our office issues ID cards to Morris County senior residents and veterans. Our office records military discharges of veterans (DD-214), administer the oath of office to all Notary Publics, and record the trade name certificates of all non-incorporated businesses. The County Clerk even officiates marriage ceremonies regularly!*

*In addition, the Morris County Clerk's Office administers several important election functions. These include the preparation and mailing of all mail-in and sample ballots, the acceptance of nominating petitions, the design and preparation of voting machine ballot layouts and the tallying of election results.*

Office of the Morris County Clerk

**Ann F. Grossi, Esq.**

10 Court Street

Administration & Records Building, 1st Floor

P.O. Box 315

Morristown, NJ 07963 - 0315

(973) 285 - 6120

[www.morriscountyclerk.org](http://www.morriscountyclerk.org)

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Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/morriscountyclerk](http://www.facebook.com/morriscountyclerk)

Twitter:

[www.twitter.com/morrisctyclerk](http://www.twitter.com/morrisctyclerk)

Instagram:

[www.instagram.com/morriscountyclerk](http://www.instagram.com/morriscountyclerk)