



For Immediate Release:
Tuesday, March 30, 2010

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Governor Appoints David Branstool to Licking County Common Pleas Court

Columbus, Ohio – Ohio Governor Ted Strickland today announced the appointment of David Branstool to the Licking County Common Pleas Court.

Judge David Branstool, 43, of Johnstown, has been named by Governor Strickland to fill the Licking County Common Pleas Court seat vacated due to the retirement of Judge Jon R. Spahr.

“David not only brings judicial experience to the Licking Common Pleas Court but also a proven commitment to serving the citizens of his community through civic organizations and his distinguished legal career,” Strickland said. “I know he will be a compassionate, thoughtful addition to the bench.”

Branstool will take the bench on March 31, 2010. To retain the seat, he must run in the November 2010 general election.

“I am deeply honored by the governor’s announcement and I intend to live up to the confidence he has placed in me,” Branstool said. “Serving on the Licking County Municipal Court has been a rewarding experience, and I think it has been excellent training for serving on the Common Pleas Court. I am looking forward to continuing some of the initiatives I started in Municipal Court such as the mental health and drug and alcohol docket. We’ve been able to help a lot of people get the treatment they need and, hopefully, we can continue to do good work in Common Pleas Court.”

Branstool has served as judge for the Licking County Municipal Court since he was elected by Licking County voters in 2003. Branstool was selected by his fellow municipal court judges to serve as a trustee for the Association of Municipal and County Court Judge of Ohio, and also serves on the Criminal Law and Procedure Committee for the Ohio Judicial Conference. Prior to being elected judge, Branstool was in private practice in Newark for nearly ten years and also served as an assistant public defender for the Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Ohio.

Branstool is an active member of the Licking County community. He served as a board

member for the Licking County Educational Service Center, the Licking County Education Career and Technical Education Center, and the United Way of Licking County. Branstool is an active member of the American, Ohio State and the Licking County Bar Associations.

Branstool received a bachelor's degree from the Ohio State University in 1989 and a law degree from Capital University in 1994.

Go [here](#) to view a high resolution photo of David Branstool.