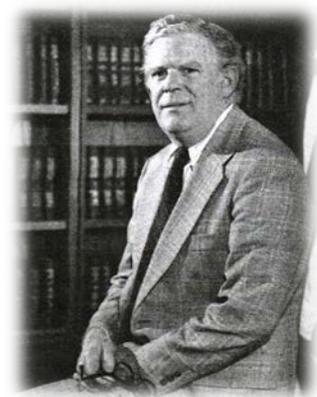


*Court Administrator  
Biographies  
of the  
Municipal Court of Cleveland  
1973 to Present*

## *John O'Toole*

John O'Toole was born in Cleveland after his parents emigrated from Ireland in the mid-1920s, settling in West Park. The family grew to four children with O'Toole's birth in 1934. His father was unable to find steady work to support the family. His mother was forced to return to Ireland because of financial and health problems and the children were placed in foster homes. He graduated from St. Edward High School and served two years in the Army Signal Corps.



O'Toole joined the municipal court staff in 1958, serving the court as a Deputy Bailiff, Chief Deputy Bailiff and as an Administrative Assistant. He was appointed to the newly created position of Court Administrator in 1973. Under his guidance, the Office of Court Administration coordinated all the non-judicial activities of the court, supervising the court's personnel, managing the budgetary accounting and procurement procedures and preparing the court's annual report for the chief justice. As the Court Administrator, he continued his education at Dyke College, receiving a degree in Public Administration. Later, he participated in the Executive Development Program with the Institute for Court Management. O'Toole was a charter member of the Ohio Court Administrators Association and past president of the organization. He was a treasurer and board member of the Civil Service Employees Credit Union. While he retired as court administrator in 1998, he returned briefly as a special consultant.

Witnessing the devastating effects of alcohol on his family and friends, O'Toole was deeply committed to the recovery of alcoholic men and women. Quitting drinking himself, he served as a board member and president of the Matt Talbot Inn in Cleveland, a halfway house for recovering alcoholic men. He was also a co-founder of the Scarborough Hall in Cleveland, a facility for recovering chemically dependent women.

He reunited with his mother in Ireland and was so taken by her troubled life, he wrote a booklet which told her story and the family's history.

He passed away in 2007, succumbing to lung cancer at the age of 72.

John O'Toole served Cleveland Municipal Court in various positions, eventually as the first Court Administrator, for 40 years, from 1958 to 1998.

## *Linda M. DeLillo*

Linda DeLillo was born and raised in the Greater Cleveland area and has given the Cleveland Municipal Court nearly 30 years of service. She began her court career in 1971 as a Probation Officer. In 1983 she was promoted to Probation Supervisor, having direct oversight of a unit of probation officers and responsibility for training new probation officers. In 1995, she became Deputy Chief Probation Officer and served in this capacity until she was appointed Court Administrator in 1998. She served as Co-Director of the Greater Cleveland Drug Court since its inception in 1998.



A licensed social worker, she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Ursuline College and her Master of Public Administration degree from Cleveland State University. She was elected to Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society for public affairs and administration.

Linda DeLillo served Cleveland Municipal Court from 1971 until her retirement in 2001.

## *Michael E. Flanagan*

Michael E. Flanagan joined Cleveland Municipal Court in 1971 as a Deputy Bailiff. He has since served in a number of key positions, including Criminal Assignment Commissioner, Special Projects Officer, Chief Bailiff and Deputy Court Administrator. In October 2001, he became Court Administrator.



A graduate of St. Edward High School, Michael attended Cleveland State University and Notre Dame College. He has been a member, as well as a past president of the Ohio Association of Court Administrators. He is a member of the National Association for Court Management, and a contributor to several local and state wide committees, including the Supreme Court of Ohio's Technology Advisory Committee, and their Personnel Education and Training Committee.

Retiring from the Court Administrators position, he continued to serve the court as Personal Bailiff to Judge Joseph Zone until July, 2016.

## *Russell Brown III*

Russell Brown III is a native Clevelander, who graduated from John F, Kennedy and Aviation High Schools. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, logging over 1,000 flight hours and been all over the world as crew chief on our largest transport aircraft, the C-5A Galaxy.

His military service completed, he graduated from the Kent State University School of Business and the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He has served the city of Cleveland as an Assistant City Prosecutor, and Assistant Director of Law.

He came to the court as a Magistrate and Mediation Coordinator and has held the position of Court Administrator since August 1, 2006.

