

Name: **Mark F. Fairchild**  
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**co.muskegon.mi.us/deeds**

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**1. Have you ever been appointed or elected to public office?  
If yes, what office?**

Yes!, In 1986 I was Elected as a Muskegon County County Commissioner and Served until October 1, 1999 when I was Appointed The Muskegon County Register of Deeds and have served since then.

**2. Have you ever owned a business or has someone in your family owned a business? If yes, please describe.**

Yes, I Previously Started and Owned Marine Master a World Class Manufacturer of Marine Seating in the 1980's & 90's.

**3. Briefly describe the qualifications and experience you possess that make you the best candidate for this office.**

I have served as your Muskegon County Register of Deeds for the last 21 Years. I am a Past Muskegon County Commissioner for 13 Years & Vice President Branch Manager for a National Mortgage Lender. As Your Register of Deeds I have achieved the following Accomplishments -

- \* Cleaned up the "Dirty Deeds" by Eliminating a Four Month Delay in the Recording and Returning of Real Estate Records. Today without the Politics we provide Public Service and Exceptional Customer Service by Recording, Protecting and Returning Real Estate Records in 24 Hours !
- \* Implemented a State of the Art Real Estate Document Recording System which improves Customer Service, Operating efficiencies and Saves Taxpayer Dollars !
- \* Converted Previous microfilmed Real Estate Records Dating back to 1859 to Computer Digital Form, improving operating efficiencies and Customer Service !
- \* Implemented Internet Access for Muskegon County Citizens and Businesses to the Register Of Deeds Records, located on the web at [co.muskegon.mi.us/deeds](http://co.muskegon.mi.us/deeds).
- \* To Protect the Integrity of the Register of Deeds Records, I Created and Implemented " PROPERTY FRAUD GUARD " which is a simple internet application that is provided Free of Charge to help protect you or your Business from becoming the victim of fraud. Property Fraud Guard will notify you via e-mail when your name is on a document being recorded in the Register of Deeds office. With Fraud Guard, you will stay informed about how your name is used by others. You can Enroll Free today at @ [co.muskegon.mi.us/deeds](http://co.muskegon.mi.us/deeds).

4. **What do you believe should be the role of government in today's world?**

Imagine a Country where Nobody can Identify who owns what, addresses can not be easily verified, People can not be made to pay their debts, resources can not be conveniently turned into money, ownership can not be divided into shares, descriptions of assets are not standardized and can not be easily compared and the rules that Govern Property vary from Neighborhood to Neighborhood or even from Street to Street.

**" Identifying, Securing and Preserving the Ownership of those Assets and Resources, That is the Role of Government, Specifically of the Muskegon County Register of Deeds", which allows You to Secure and Preserve Capital and Wealth** which ensures Prosperity and Growth ultimately providing for a Stable and Safe Democracy.

5. **What do you consider to be the top three (3) issues facing Muskegon County business today and how can the county government address them?**

A. **" Support for Business through the COVID-19 Economic Crisis Recovery - by facilitating Economic Stabilization and Development Grants "**, through the creation of a New Muskegon County Economic Development and Planning Commission.

B. **" To remain competitive, successful and grow "**, business will need access to critical and essential ultra modern broadband "Fiber To The Premise" and wireless information technology and telecommunications infrastructure. This should be accomplished through the Implementation and Development of a Countywide Technology Authority.

C. **" The Retention and Recruitment of Qualified Employees "**, which requires the County to maintain and offer advanced education and training facilities.

6. **Name one thing that you think is going right in Muskegon County and one thing that you think could be changed right away.**

The "Watch Muskegon" Campaign initiative focused on promoting our County and Communities as a great place to live, work, play.

7. **In what areas do you feel you can make the most difference as a local elected official?**

**"Experienced, Dedicated, Leadership"** - When the COVID-19 State of Emergency meant the Closure of all Non-essential County offices and facilities. I knew and determined that it would be Impossible to close The Register of Deeds office because of its Importance to the citizens of Muskegon County. The citizens would still need the ability to originate new Mortgages and sell Real Estate. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cyber Security and Infrastructure Agency also Deemed that The Register of Deeds was Essential Critical Infrastructure and should remain operational. Although the Deeds office lobby was closed to the public during the "Governors COVID-19 Stay at Home Order" until June 15, 2020, the Deeds office continued to operate fully behind the scenes and remotely with the Deeds staff working from home. During this period, the Register of Deeds successfully Recorded over ten thousand documents, responded to thousands of telephone calls and e-mails, while fulfilling thousands of copy request for previously Recorded Documents. Even after the Deeds office lobby opened back up in June and the County closed all their offices on Fridays in June and July, I kept The Register of Deeds office lobby open to the serve the citizens of the County.

8. **How will you leverage and utilize the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce as a resource should you be elected?**

*The Register of Deeds office is a "Supporting Partner to The Chamber of Commerce" and is recognized as the "Pinnacle Intersection of Business and Government" because of its Very Important Statutory Mission. The Register of Deeds is Entrusted with the Duty and Responsibility of Recording and Indexing over 100 different types of Real Estate Records along with their Perpetual Safekeeping. This degree of Record Integrity protects your individual property rights.*

9. **If elected, what are your top 3 priorities?**

As your Register of Deeds My Top Priorities are to - Continue to Protect your Real Estate Records, Public Tax Dollars and Improve the Register Of Deeds Office efficiency by:

- 1) Perfecting the Electronic Recording of Real Estate Records which improves customer service, saves time, money and Taxpayer Dollars.
- 2) Continue to convert and expand the Register's Data Base of Recorded Real Estate Records, which improves retrieval of records in the office and over the Internet. This project improves customer service and saves Taxpayer Dollars.
- 3) Continue to operate the Register of Deeds Like a Business where for "**The Last 21 Years**", I have been able to carry out the Mission and Statutory Responsibilities of the Office at "**No Cost To The Taxpayers**", The fee-based recording and revenue generation environment that I have initiated "**Saves you as a individual user of The Register of Deeds office money, while generating over \$1,000,000 Net Profit Per Year for the Tax Payers and Muskegon County Government**".

10. **Is there anything else that you would like to share?**

*I would appreciate your support because - The Register Of Deeds Office is very Important to the Citizens, Business and Local Economy of Muskegon County and has become one the Most Efficient Recording Offices in the Nation recording billions of dollars in real estate transactions, protecting the investment of our taxpayers, financial institutions and individual investors.*

I recognize how important my office is to you and I have been successful in achieving many positive improvements in the Register Of Deeds Office. Those improvements allow me to protect your most Important Real Estate Assets, deliver exceptional customer service and save your Tax Dollars. I believe I have the Experience, Dedication and Professional Background to continue providing the Government Leadership and Great Customer Service that the Register Of Deeds Office currently provides, "**No politics-just public service, The Door is Always Open**" **Thank you, Mark F. Fairchild**