

What... 2023 is over! We blinked here in the Clerk's Office and now we are wishing everyone a Happy New Year!

We have been busy! Here is what we have accomplished in 2023!

- 1. We went from one to two Cash Registers**
- 2. Three workable windows with dividers for privacy**
- 3. Take-a-Number**
- 4. A bell that rings within the office for service**
- 5. Cubicles for staff**
- 6. Kiosk is now located on outside wall and no longer in the window**
- 7. Okanogan County Clerks Webpage updated**
 - a. History of all Okanogan County Clerk's since 1888**
 - b. Clerk's Office Mission Statement**
 - c. Clerk's Office Commitment to Excellence**
 - d. Superior Court Future Court dates updated every Monday for next seven days**
 - e. A page for Correspondence from the Clerk**
- 8. Clerk's office now has Legal Atoms for obtaining a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO)**
 - a. This can be accessed at the front kiosk**
 - b. Or a person can ask to use our DVPO laptop for privacy**
- 9. E-Submission page for audio or written records requests on website**
- 10. More virtual training for each staff member**
- 11. E-filing (this is the electronic submission of documents on our website)**
- 12. A Helpful Website Link Sheet to be handed out at the window**
- 13. Clerk vehicle**
- 14. Class from Brewster visited (*We are trying to spark interest in our Criminal Justice System for future generations one class at a time!*)**
- 15. Class from Oroville visited**
- 16. Digital fee chart displayed in the window**
- 17. Exchange program with local partners**
 - a. Northwest Justice Project (representation for all low-income individuals)**
 - b. The Support Center (advocates for victims of Domestic Violence)**
 - c. FYRE (Foundation for Youth Resiliency & Engagement)**
 - d. Enhancing our partnership with the Colville Tribes to ensure a seamless working relationship**

In addition to these many changes, I have also taken on the Vice-President position for the Washington State Association of County Clerks. I believe being involved at

the state level only adds value locally. I am able to ensure our county is aware of changes and implement them swiftly, keeping Okanogan County in compliance.

***What does 2024 look like for the Clerk's office?* Thank you for asking! I am hopeful we will be adding the following services and continuing our outreaches in 2024.**

- 1. Passport Photos**
- 2. Self-Serve Kiosk for payment of legal financial obligations**
- 3. Additional community outreach to our schools**
- 4. Continued exchange programs with our local partners**

I would like to take a quick moment to talk about my staff! The Okanogan County Clerk's office Staff is simply amazing. Each deputy in this office shows up to work ready and willing to assist as needed! I would like to thank each of them for their dedication to the Office and their position!

In closing, I would like every citizen in Okanogan County to know the Clerk's Office is here to help. It may be the worst day but given the opportunity we will try to point you in the right direction and make it just a bit brighter.

May the New Year bring blessings to you and yours!



**Very Warmly,
*Your County Clerk, Susan Speiker***