

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2020

Franklin County Recorder Daniel J. O'Connor, Jr. Announces Updated Paid Family Leave Policy

Columbus, OH- Franklin County Recorder Daniel J. O'Connor, Jr. is excited to announce the establishment of an improved Paid Family Leave policy for his staff at the Recorder's office. The policy will allow employees who qualify for the leave to have up to three months of paid time off to take care of a new child.

On February 25, 2020 at 11:00am, Recorder O'Connor held a press conference at the Recorder's office with Kelley Griesmer, CEO of the Women's Fund of Central Ohio, and Melissa Cropper, Executive Secretary of AFL-CIO Ohio, to officially announce the updated policy.

"Every single day I am focused on fighting for the dignity of working families," said O'Connor. "Every family should have a chance to spend crucial and valuable time with their loved ones at the most important times of their lives. Workers need to be treated with dignity and with respect. I am proud to fight for these things and for family values with this new policy."

This policy is an expansion of the two weeks paid time off the Recorder's office and other Franklin County agencies already offer. The Women's Fund of Central Ohio is one of a number of organizations that has research showing how paid leave policies in the workplace impact public health and the well-being of families.

"Paid leave not only promotes maternal and infant health and women's participation in the workforce, it also promotes wealth building for women, especially for women of color who experience a far greater wealth disparity than white women," said Griesmer. "When we provide access to policies such as paid leave, we pave the way for women and their families to prosper and therefore, for our community to prosper as well."

As a result of this change, the Recorder's Office will now offer the longest paid parental leave coverage in the public sector in Franklin County.

"Paid family leave is good for employees, their families, and their employers. It helps employers retain talent and create a more productive work environment," said Cropper. "Labor unions have always fought for the wellbeing of workers on the job and at home. It is crucial that our leaders join the fight and demonstrate this by example."

All media interested in attending the press conference should contact Nelson Devezin, Franklin County Recorder's Office Outreach Director, at 614-525-2239 or nmdevezin@franklincountyohio.gov.