

RESOLUTION 2012 - 05

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE SANDUSKY COUNTY COURTS

WHEREAS, Sandusky County presently maintains and operates a County Court system consisting of Sandusky County Court No. 1 in Clyde, Ohio and Sandusky County Court No. 2 in Woodville, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the County Courts, along with the Fremont Municipal Court, hear and determine important matters including misdemeanor criminal and traffic cases, felony criminal arraignments and preliminary hearings, small claims, evictions and other civil matters all originating within each Court's respective geographical jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, it has been suggested, but not quantified, that some savings may inure to the County by consolidating these Courts under a single Judge and/or in a single, centralized location; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Board of Trustees of Woodville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, that no comprehensive study, survey or investigation has been undertaken to fully assess and accurately quantify the financial, political, judicial, legal and practical impact of consolidation, particularly at the local level; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Board of Trustees of Woodville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, that consolidation of the Sandusky County Courts will provide very little if any actual financial benefit to the County, will cause undue financial hardship on each Court's constituent jurisdictions and will run counter to the principles of decentralization, local control and accountability upon which local government in Ohio is predicated; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Woodville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, is opposed to the consolidation and centralization of an important and co-equal branch of local government without due forethought, reasoned consideration, and thorough research;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WOODVILLE TOWNSHIP, SANDUSKY COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. – The Board of Trustees of Woodville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, strongly opposes the consolidation of the Sandusky County Courts and hereby resolves to support the continued maintenance and strengthening of the current County Court structure.

SECTION 2. – That this Board of Trustees hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board which resulted in formal action were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.