

Bio for Scott Yamamoto

Scott was born in Cleveland, Ohio and raised in Newbury Township in Geauga County. After High School Scott attended The University of Akron as an accounting major. After 2 years, Scott was introduced to the mass appraisal industry and changed his major to Business Management while also going to school to become an appraiser. Starting out as a data collector at age 21 (working for various county auditor's offices in Ohio) for an Akron real estate appraisal firm to fulfill the 2-year apprenticeship requirement to become State-Licensed as an appraiser. By age 23 Scott had risen to the position of project manager for the Akron firm and graduated from the University of Akron, and by age 24 he successfully completed the requirements and state examination to become a state-licensed real estate appraiser.

Scott traversed the State working on various projects for county auditor's offices. By age 27 Scott was promoted to Vice President of the appraisal firm and oversaw multiple projects concurrently. Counties served: Ashtabula (1996), Geauga (1991-2001), Portage (1995), Lorain (1999-2002), Huron (2000), Washington (1997-2002), Marion (1993-2002), and Auglaize (2000).

In 2002 Scott was recruited to "come home" and begin public service in Geauga County as the Chief Appraiser of the County Auditor's office. During the 10 years spent there he managed a triennial update and two reappraisals. He also was project manager for a software conversion to update the appraisal/tax accounting software system. Scott supervised the CAUV program as well as all appraisal-related operations. Scott was instrumental in implementing the use of aerial photography and GIS mapping systems. In 2008 Scott applied for and upgraded his appraiser license to a certification with the State of Ohio.

In 2012 Scott was recruited to be the Chief Deputy of Real Estate for the Lake County Auditor's office. Supervising the daily activities of the Transfer and Appraisal Departments (including CAUV and Board of Revision) he streamlined and modernized the operations going paperless in some instances and using the GIS system to work smarter – not harder. Here, Scott also managed a software update and conversion of the appraisal/tax accounting software systems. Scott left this position in late 2020.

In 2016 Scott was appointed to be a Hambden Township Trustee in Geauga County and subsequently won 2 re-election bids before resigning to avoid a conflict of interest with a job. While a trustee, Scott served his constituents by being the road department liaison crafting a 5-year plan for improvements and better budgeting by working with the county engineer and securing grants to ease financial burdens. Scott could be found plowing roads, repairing trucks, and mowing the park when help was short. During this time Scott sat on the Ohio Public Works Committee for Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula Counties.

In 2020 Scott returned to the private sector working for Integrity Appraisal Services as a project supervisor working exclusively in Northeast Ohio Counties. Scott performed statistical analysis and fine-tuning as well as informal valuation hearings for the Ashtabula County reappraisal of 2020. Counties served: Ashtabula, Geauga, Trumbull, Mahoning, and Portage. Services provided: field data collection (all property types), appraisal, statistical analysis.

In late 2021 Scott was recruited by the Geauga County Engineer's office to be the Administrator. The Engineer had specific goals for Scott to implement a new workflow software application, audit construction project documents, and improve relations with townships with respect to planning and budgeting for road projects. Scott is uniquely qualified to appraise highway easements (as an ODOT-pre-qualified appraiser) and he performed several easement negotiations during his time here. Scott also took classes and became qualified (Local Public Agency) to sign off on financial documents for federally funded highway projects. Scott also assisted with budgeting, human-relations activities, creating an on-boarding process for interns, and public outreach. Due to the amount of work Scott did with townships he resigned as a township trustee in early 2022 to avoid the possibility of conflicts as his roles in the Engineer's office grew.

In 2022 the Ashtabula County Auditor recruited Scott to take over the Real Estate Manager position. As the Real Estate Manager, Scott was responsible for the areas of appraisal, CAUV, GIS, and real estate transfers. During this time Scott developed the GIS department to provide low-cost services to the townships (outside the county purview) and expanded services to other departments (first responders). Scott personally handled 9-1-1 mapping and worked with the dispatch center to make sure that our emergency services have the best available mapping services possible.

In late 2024 when then-auditor David Thomas was elected to the Statehouse, Scott was honored to step in and assume the role of County Auditor on January 1, 2025. Since that time Scott has continued the tradition of providing transparency in our County by putting more financial information on the Auditor's website. Scott also believes in outreach and being visible and accessible in the county. Within the first 10 months of office Scott visited each township trustee meeting, city and village council meetings as well as department board meetings to make sure that they know they have a resource at the Auditor's office.

Scott and his wife have been together since age 16 and married since age 25. They have 2 adult daughters. They reside in the City of Geneva. Scott has always had a passion for volunteering. He coached little-league baseball for many years, cooked at the Chardon VFW for many years, and more recently participated in mock interviews for A-Tech, was co-captain of a team at Feed the Hope, and has volunteered since 2022 with the Ashtabula County Ag-Day teaching first-

graders about fruits and grains and can be found helping out or supporting many of the organizations around Ashtabula County.

Other

Ohio Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser (in good standing) 2008 (previously licensed from 1994-2007)

Qualified Mass Appraisal Project Manager (Per Ohio Revised Code 5713.012) since 2013

Graduate: Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy (2020)

Graduate: Leadership Ashtabula (2025)

Professional Organizations

Ashtabula County Realtors (member)

Ashtabula County Township Association (associate member)

Government Finance Officers Association (member)

Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce (member)

Greater Ashtabula Chamber of Commerce (member)

Rotary Club of Jefferson (member)

Veterans of Foreign Wars (Lifetime Auxiliary member – Chardon Post)

Ashtabula County Veterans Task Force (member)

Ashtabula County Community Action (member)