



Auditor
Charles E. Walder
Chief Fiscal Officer

Return Voucher Form

Date: 02/26/2026

To: Elected Official, Department head, or Accounting Staff of Board – Probate Court

From: Auditor's Office Fiscal Department

SUBJECT: Batch #2026-00000412

Schraff Thomas Law \$1000.00

☐ Dept. Head Signature Missing on Cover	☐ Incorrect Vendor Numbers (s)
☐ Incorrect Account Number	☐ Incorrect/No Encumbrance No.
☐ Incorrect Remit Address	☐ Incorrect Voucher Amount
☐ Insufficient Cash Balance Available	☐ Incorrect G/L Date
☐ Batch not Approved in New World	☐ Expense Precede Encumbrance
☐ Insufficient Balance Available on PO	☐ Remit Copy Missing
☐ Missing Original Invoice/Supporting Documents	☐ Due Date Deadline Missed
☐ Missing "OK to Pay" Initials/Signature	☒ Other

Solution: Please be advised that this letter is a formal request pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 319.16(A)(2) for "legible copies of any court-approved invoice, bill, receipt, check, or contract related to the order, redacted as required by law." As that statutory requirement provides, the above-referenced requested evidentiary matter is required along with a "proper court order" in order for the Geauga County Auditor's Office to process the at-issue requested payment out of the Geauga County Treasury. No original signature on the voucher. Services from 2025; however, the encumbrance G/L date is 01/02/2026. Wrong date on voucher.

Courthouse Annex, 231 Main Street, Suite 1A, Chardon, OH 44024-1293

Direct Line: (440) 279-1600

FAX: Fiscal Office (440) 279-2184 * Real Estate/Appraisal (440) 286-4359

Web site: <http://www.auditor.co.geauga.oh.us>

Email: auditor@co.geauga.oh.us

AUDITORS CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS
O.R.C. 5705.41D

Geauga County, Chardon, Ohio January 2, 2026
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the money required to meet the foregoing
contract, agreement, or obligation in the sum of
\$50,000.00

has been lawfully approved, authorized or directed for such
purpose and is in the Treasury or in the process of collection to the
credit of the fund listed next to the item below,
free from any previous encumbrances.

CHARLES E. WALDER
GEAUGA COUNTY AUDITOR

by _____, Deputy Auditor
GEAUGA COUNTY FEDERAL I.D. NO. 34-6001208
SALES AND USED TAX EXEMPTION - POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
STATE OF OHIO

FOR AUDITORS USE ONLY

Date: _____

Then and Now Certificate: _____

Warrant Received by: _____

Date: _____

SHIP TO:

GEAUGA COUNTY

PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT -JUDGE GRENDALL

231 MAIN STREET SUITE 2

CHARDON, OH 44024

WARRANT NO.	VOUCHER DATE	VOUCHER AMOUNT
	3/2/2026 +	\$ 1,000.00 ✓
P.O. DATE	ADJUSTMENT	ACCOUNT NO.
01/02/2026		
1099 AMT.	dr.	
	cr.	

PURCHASE ORDER NO. 2026-00001394 ✓ KC

GEAUGA CO. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

SESSION _____

RESOLUTION _____

JOURNAL _____

PAGE _____

BUDGET APPROVAL - ENCUMB _____ VOUCHER _____

VENDOR I.D. NO.

9470

PURCHASED FROM:

Schraff Thomas Law

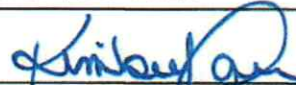
INVOICE TO:

GEAUGA COUNTY

PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT -JUDGE GRENDALL

231 MAIN STREET SUITE 2

CHARDON, OH 44024


DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

QUANTITY	UNIT	FUND	DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
1.0000	Each	1001	Contracted Services - Contract Services 1001-008-00-601 - Contract Services 50,000.00 25PG25	50,000.0000	\$50,000.00
TOTAL DUE					\$50,000.00

Presented by Court as a
courtesy only,
NOT statutorily required

See State ex rel. Grendell v. Walder,
Slip Opinion No. 2022-Ohio-204

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PROBATE DIVISION
GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO**

IN RE:

PROBATE COURT
EXPENDITURES
SCHRAFF THOMAS LAW LLC

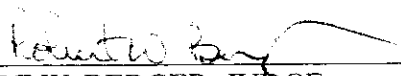
) JUDGE TIMOTHY J. GRENDALL
)
)
) **PROPER ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**
) **2026-48**

Pursuant to R.C. 319.16(A)(2), this order hereby directs timely payment by the Geauga County Auditor in the amount of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars and No Cents) from 1001-008-00-601 payable to SCHRAFF THOMAS LAW LLC, for attorney fees for 25PG25, which the Probate Court has determined to be an expenditure for a proper public purpose. **Kindly provide this Court with the original check which it will mail to the vendor.**

Pursuant to R.C. 319.16(D), "if the auditor questions the validity of [this] expenditure... the auditor shall notify the court that presented the documents, shall issue the warrant under protest, and shall notify the auditor of state of the protest."

As an elected official and member of the judicial branch of county government, the Judge of the Geauga County Probate/Juvenile Court is authorized to fix the amount due to court vendors who perform services for the court. Therefore, pursuant to R.C. 307.55(A), this payment is to be processed "Live".

IT IS SO ORDERED.



ROBERT W. BERGER, JUDGE
Sitting by Assignment #26JA0683

CC: Fiscal Director

PROBATE COURT OF GEauga COUNTY, OHIO
JUDGE TIMOTHY J. GRENDALL

2026 JAN 14 PM 1:56

Guardianship of _____

Case No. 25 PG 25

PROBATE-JUVENILE
DIVISION
GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO

APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT OF FEES FROM PUBLIC FUNDS

John P. Thomas, Schraff Thomas Law, LLC, as: ☐ guardian ☒ attorney

☐ guardian ad litem ☐ other _____

in this matter applies for a court order for payment of fees, for services rendered during the calendar 2025

The applicant is seeking a court order for payment of \$1,000.00, for such services rendered during the calendar year stated above.

Signature: [Signature]
Applicant Name: John P. Thomas, Schraff Thomas Law, LLC
Street: 2802 SOM Center Road, Suite 200
City, State, Zip: Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
Phone: 440-569-1505 Atty. Reg. #0079630

☒ Judgment Entry ☐ Magistrate's Order

☒ The application is well taken and it is **ORDERED** that the Applicant be paid \$1,000.00 for the calendar year of 2025.

☐ The application is denied

Date: January 29, 2026

Robert W. Berger
Judge / Magistrate
Robert W. Berger
Sitting by Assignment

FILED
IN COMMON PLEAS COURT
2026 JAN 30 AM 8:53
PROBATE-JUVENILE
DIVISION
GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A
TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE DOCUMENT ON
FILED IN THIS OFFICE, EXCEPT FOR THE REDACTION
OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, IF ANY.
WITNESS MY HAND
AND SEAL OF SAID COURT THIS 29 DAY OF
JANUARY 2026

Robert W. Berger

GC PF 15.16A - Application for Payment of Fees from Public Funds
Judge, sitting by assignment