

# DODGE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

### **Office Purpose and Services Provided:**

The mission of the Register of Deeds is to provide safe archival storage, convenient access and immediate retrieval of maintained personal vital records and all public land records in Dodge County, according to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, with its duties prescribed by Wisconsin Statutes, predominately Section 59.43 and 69. The real estate records maintained in the office are used to maintain tax and assessment records and create the County's Geographic Information System (GIS).

- Record, provide access and maintain Real Estate records (deeds, land contracts, mortgages, plats, condominium plats etc).
- Record, provide access, maintain and issue certified copies of Birth, Marriage, Death, Divorce, and Military Discharge Records.
- Review and file all marriages submitted and review all deaths occurring in the county per Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 69.
- To implement statutory changes, system modernization, program and procedure evaluation, and staff development to assure a high level of timely service for our citizens/customers.

### **2025 Changes / Accomplishments:**

- Documents recorded increased by 1568 (14.0% increase) from 2024
- Real Estate electronic recording percentages increased to 86.9% for 2025.
- Maintained efficient turn-around time of recorded documents.
- Worked at back indexing of real estate documents.
- Expanded older document index through LandLink and LandShark for document images from 1918 back to 1916.
- Completed importing images of old Grantor/Grantee index books for importing into LandLink and LandShark for viewing online.
- Continued removing confidential information from Marriage Vital Records and scanning into file director.

### **2026+ Goals:**

- Continue back indexing of older real estate documents prior to 1987 and tract index prior to 1997.
- Continue quality control of all historical real estate indexes and images for disaster recovery.
- Continue improving older plat document images.
- Expand older document index through LandLink and LandShark for documents prior to 1915 and back to 1877.
- Removing confidential information from Birth and Marriage vital records and scanning into file director.

## Number of Documents recorded and Vital Records Issued

	Total Number of Documents Recorded	Electronically Recorded Documents	Percent Electronically Recorded	Average Number Of Daily Documents	Certified Copies Vital Records Issued	Average Number Vitals Issued Daily
2021	18,442	13,581	73.6%	74	14,575	58
2022	13,132	9,665	73.6%	53	13,440	54
2023	10,529	7,819	74.3%	42	12,015	48
2024	11,212	8,987	80.1%	45	12,464	50
2025	12,780	11,115	86.9%	51	13,135	52

## Summary of Fees Collected

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
State Portion of Transfer Tax	\$ 1,246,388	\$ 1,378,956	\$ 1,107,895	\$ 1,185,697	\$ 1,338,437.28	
State Child Abuse Fund	\$ 11,963	\$ 11,137	\$ 8,932	\$ 8,155	\$ 11,606.00	*
State Vital Records Online Revenue	\$ 39,230	\$ 36,037	\$ 30,696	\$ 29,912	\$ 36,547.00	#
WI DOA - Land Information Board	\$ 129,010	\$ 91,875	\$ 73,675	\$ 78,414	\$ 89,460.00	***
<b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$ 1,426,591</b>	<b>\$ 1,518,005</b>	<b>\$ 1,221,198</b>	<b>\$ 1,302,178</b>	<b>\$ 1,476,050</b>	
County Portion of Transfer Tax	\$ 312,855	\$ 342,570	\$ 276,974	\$ 299,821	\$ 334,609	
Real Estate Recording Fees	\$ 276,700	\$ 197,125	\$ 158,250	\$ 168,360	\$ 191,850	
Certified Copies (Births, Deaths, Marriages & Misc. Documents)	\$ 55,184	\$ 51,237	\$ 44,867	\$ 45,661	\$ 49,461	
LandShark Copies	\$ 42,543	\$ 42,450	\$ 38,290	\$ 45,440	\$ 54,332	
Document Images Non-Certified Copies	\$ 61,133	\$ 41,898	\$ 42,000	\$ 41,300	\$ 54,250	x
Credit Card Fees	\$ 8,356	6688	6392	7414	8592	
<b>DEPARTMENT SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 756,771</b>	<b>\$ 681,968</b>	<b>\$ 566,773</b>	<b>\$ 607,996</b>	<b>\$ 693,094</b>	
County Land Information Office	\$ 147,440	\$ 105,000	\$ 84,200	\$ 89,616	\$ 102,240	***
<b>TOTAL COUNTY FUNDS COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$ 904,211</b>	<b>\$ 786,968</b>	<b>\$ 650,973</b>	<b>\$ 697,612</b>	<b>\$ 795,334</b>	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$ 2,330,802</b>	<b>\$2,304,973</b>	<b>\$1,872,171</b>	<b>\$1,999,790</b>	<b>\$2,271,384</b>	

\* \$7.00 from 1st copy of birth certificate goes to Children's Trust Fund

# \$8.00 from 1st copy of birth certificate & \$13.00 from 1st copy of marriage & death certificates for modernization at the state vital records office

\*\*\* Portion of each recording fee placed in separate state and county funds to be used for modernization of land records

\*\*\*\* \$20.00 for each Rental Weatherization Stipulation & Waiver validated by us (**Program ended 12/31/2017**)

x Sale of non-certified copies of document images through LandShark Subscription Agreement

## Statistical Summary of Recordings and Vital Records

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>REAL ESTATE RECORDINGS</b>	18,442	13,132	10,529	11,212	12,780
Commerical Code Filings	126	168	136	190	209
Federal Tax Liens	36	23	39	31	33
Lis Pendens	56	90	91	86	100
Sheriff Deeds	22	27	11	14	16
Military Discharges	0	2	0	1	0
Certified Survey Maps	110	119	107	100	106
Plats - Subdivision	1	2	3	1	1
- Condominium	4	2	3	3	2
- Transportation Project	0	2	3	4	0
<b>Certified Copies of Vital Records Issued</b>					
Birth	2,775	2,570	2,079	1,899	2,599
Death	9,118	8,218	7,963	8,533	8,124
Divorce	20	25	27	27	51
Marriage	2,662	2,627	1,946	2,005	2,361
<b>Total Vital Record Copies Issued</b>	14,575	13,440	12,015	12,464	13,135
<b>BIRTH OCCURRENCES</b>	577	512	498	499	444
<b>DEATH OCCURRENCES</b>	907	935	907	888	844
<b>MARRIAGE OCCURRENCES</b>	521	531	519	471	534
<b>TOTAL RECORDS PROCESSED</b>	34,445	28,038	23,970	25,035	27,293




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Report by:  
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