



DUNN COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

Heather M. Kuhn

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(715) 232-1228

2017 ANNUAL REPORT REGISTER OF DEEDS (ROD office)

MISSION STATEMENT:

- To provide and protect the integrity of the official county repository for: Real Estate Records, Vital Records (Birth, Marriage, Domestic Partnerships, Termination of Domestic Partnerships, Death and Military Discharges)
- To provide safe archival storage and convenient access to these public records.
- To implement statutory changes, system modernization, program and procedural evaluation and staff development to assure a high level of timely service for our citizen-customers.

THE CORNERSTONE OF THE COUNTY ECONOMIC SYSTEM:

- The ROD office was established before the State Constitution
- 1848 the Wisconsin Constitution created the ROD as a permanent part of county government
- Elected every 4 years
- Vacancies appointed by the Governor
- Protect our people and our land
- Perpetually maintain the history of the county, its land and its people

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE:

- Tax roll creation
- GIS mapping
- Financial Institutions rely on our records to generate loans
- Proof of Title
- Proof of Identification
- Race-Notice State

2017 REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

General Fund Revenue	\$277,927.93
-Transfer Fees \$93,517.63	
-Miscellaneous Fees \$7,760.80	
-Laredo Contracts \$55,838.50	
-Vital Records Fees \$19,321.00	
-Recording Fees \$101,490.00	
Expenditures	<u>(\$236,410.74)</u>
Net Profit (General Fund)	\$ 41,517.19

ADDITIONAL COUNTY RETAINED REVENUE -Statutory Earmarked Funds:

Land Information Fund	\$ 54,088
Social Security Redaction Fund	\$ 61,011

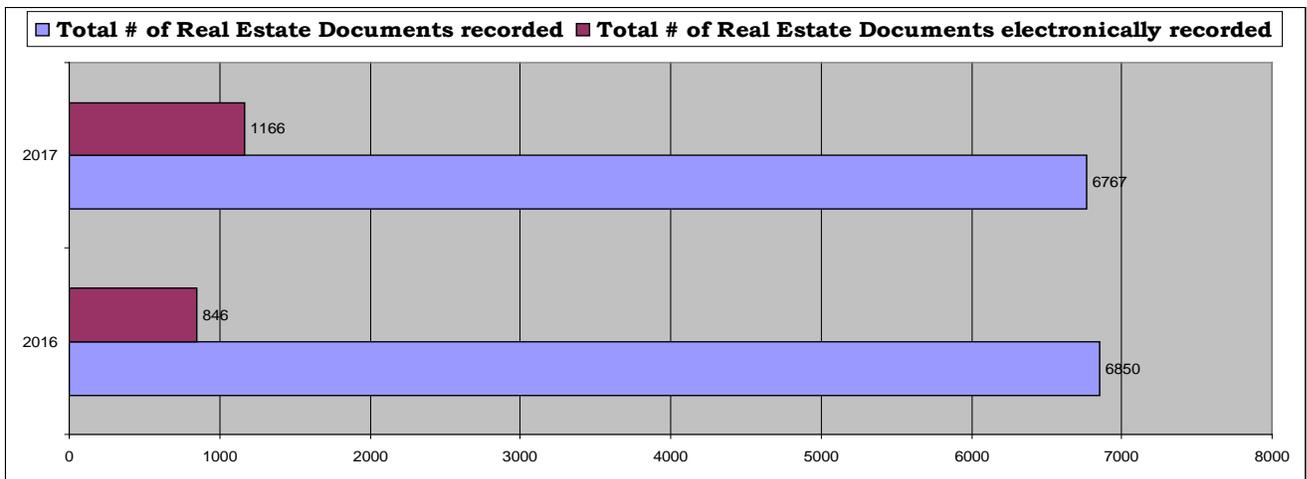
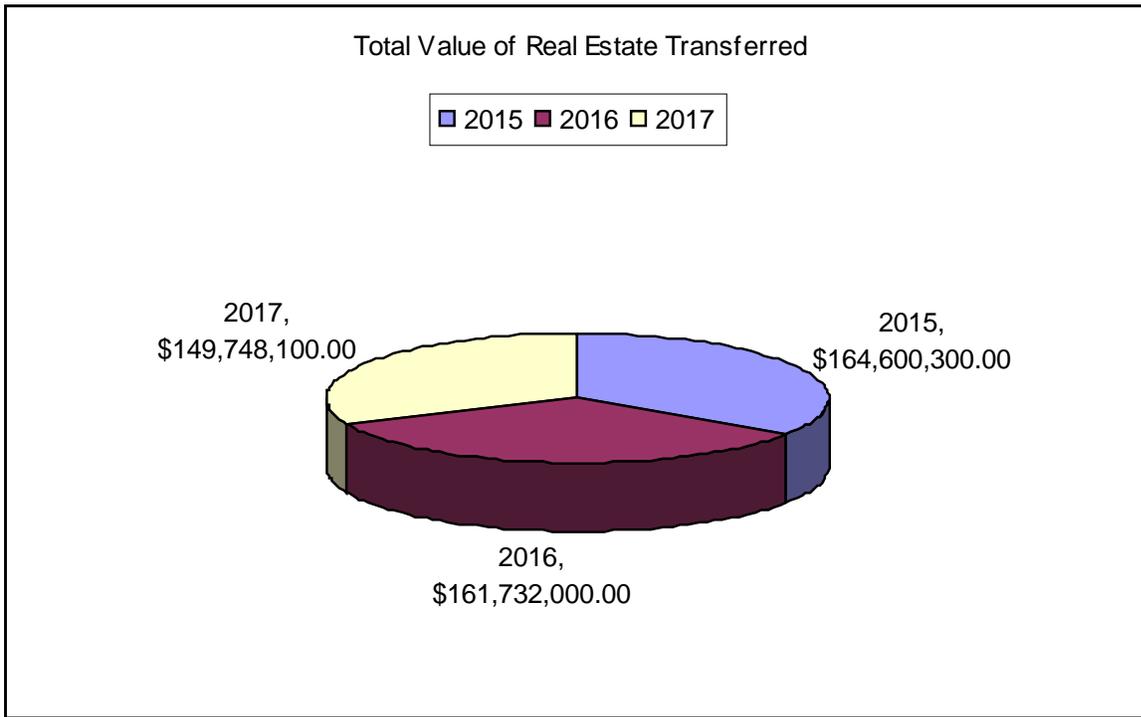
The Land Information fund is to be utilized in the implementation of the countywide plan for land records modernization. The Land Information Officer, Steve Kochaver, along with the Land Information Council manages these funds.

The SSN Redaction fund is retained by our office for ongoing projects related to redacting social security numbers from records placed online.

STATE OF WISCONSIN REVENUE ALLOCATION:

Transfer Fees	\$359,395.44
Land Information Program	\$ 47,327.00
Births	\$ 6,680.00
Children's Trust Fund	\$ 5,845.00
Marriages	\$ 4,706.00
Deaths	\$ 4,550.00
Divorces	\$ 13.00
Domestic Partnerships & Terminations	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

TOTAL	\$428,516.44
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(17% of documents electronically recorded in 2017)

Certified Survey Maps Filed

2015 = 91
 2016 = 74
 2017 = 90

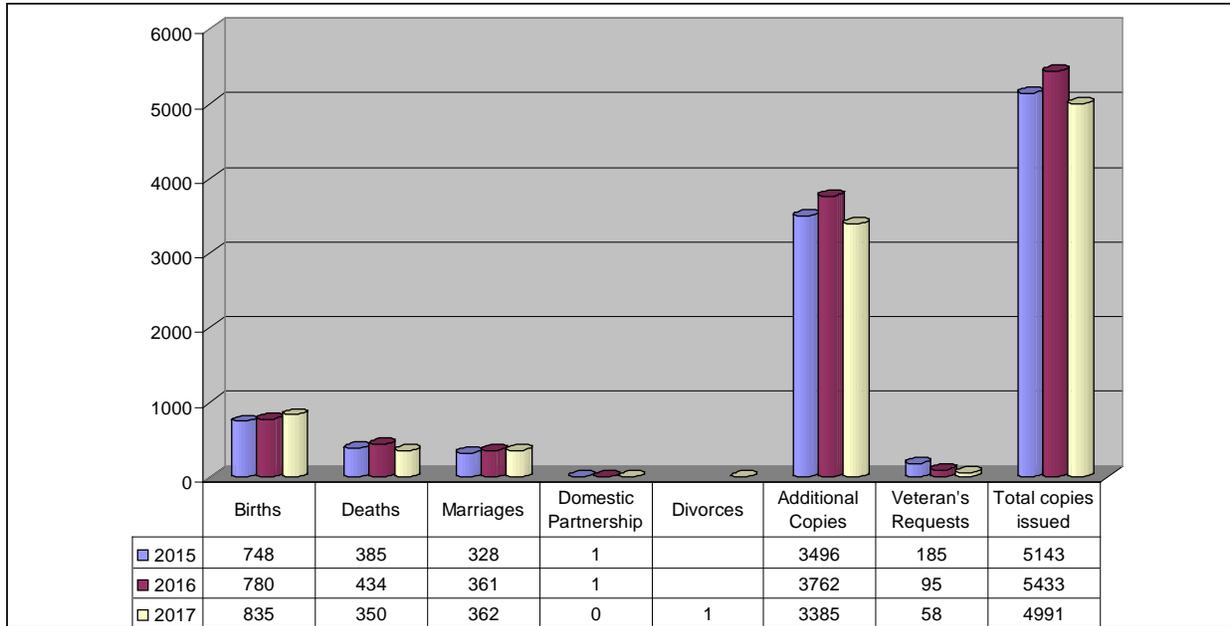
Subdivision Plats Filed

2015 = 4
 2016 = 0
 2017 = 0

Lis Pendens Recorded = Foreclosure Notices

2015 = 80
 2016 = 59
 2017 = 48

Requests for Vital Records



Military Discharges Filed

2015 = 51
 2016 = 22
 2017 = 15

The Dunn County Veteran's Service office coordinates with our office to provide certified copies of discharges and vital records as needed for veterans at no charge.

Statewide Vital Records Issuance – Effective 1/3/2017

We are now able to issue records of birth, death, marriage and divorce from all Wisconsin counties, if the records are enabled in the Statewide Vital Records Information System (SVRIS).

Births – October 1, 1907 to Present

Deaths – September 1, 2013 to Present

Marriages – June 21, 2015 to Present

Divorces – January 1, 2016 to Present (NEW as of 1/3/2017)

2017 Projects:

Media Conversion Project – Scanning project utilizing earmarked funds from the Social Security Redaction Fund to digitize early land records

Back Indexing – adding searchable data from real estate records as we continue to digitize more deed, miscellaneous and mortgage volumes

Electronic Recording – time savings as documents are recorded and returned same day in digitized form and easy to track, cost savings in check writing, postage, envelopes, cover letters

Official Records Online – make purchases via credit card for certified copies

2017 Legislation:

2017 WI Act 48 – Authorizing Clerk of Court to photocopy birth certificates for passport use only. The passport agency requires a 2nd copy to be submitted with passport application and it is a felony in Wisconsin to photocopy a certified copy of a vital record.

2017 WI Act 59 – Elimination of the rental unit energy efficiency standards and certifications. The Budget Bill repeals §101.122 in its entirety; thus, a deed or other ownership conveyance document submitted to a Wisconsin Register of Deeds on or after January 1, 2018 will not require a certificate, waiver or stipulation under §101.122.

2017 WI Act 90 - This bill makes the transfer by affidavit procedure for a small estate, which is an estate that does not exceed \$50,000 in value, available to a person who is named in a decedent's will as the personal representative. The transfer by affidavit procedure is a method to transfer a decedent's assets without court supervision.

2017 WI Act 102 Clean-up Legislation – Updates the statutes to allow for efficiencies in the Register of Deeds while staying current with new technologies available. This legislation accounts for documents that previously were organized in a paper world by volume and page to make the main document identifier become the document number to prepare for the electronic future of all documents.

2017 WI Act 104 Sheriff's Deed – Ensures the sheriff's deed is recorded in a timely manner to accurately reflect land ownership in the county land records. The requirement is now the sheriff's deed, transfer return and any related fees must go directly from the Clerk of Court to the Register of Deeds.

Register of Deeds Deputies:

Annette Larson – full-time

Dawn Andraschko – part-time (30hrs/wk)

Lori Schneider – part-time (20hrs/wk)

Thank you to my wonderful staff for their dedication in protecting the valuable records maintained by our office along with providing efficient and professional customer service to our constituents.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to continuing to serve Dunn County.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather M. Kuhn
Register of Deeds