

# Employee Recognition

The staff of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) is made up of 71 professionals including accountants, attorneys, communicators, educators, economists, engineers, investigators and support staff. The OCC directors value the dedication and hard work of the staff.

The OCC employees are committed to lending a helping hand to fellow co-workers, as well as the community by participating in the Combined Charitable Campaign, Operation Feed and various other charitable events throughout the year.

Exceptional employees are recognized by the OCC directors on a monthly basis from September through August. All OCC employees select an employee of the year based on outstanding contributions and exemplification of the OCC mission, vision and values.

## 2009 Employee of the Year



### Larry Sauer

As an assistant consumers' counsel, Larry Sauer has handled complex electric and natural gas issues, including distribution rate cases.

Larry received a bachelor's degree in accounting from Indiana University and earned his law degree from Capital University Law School.

Larry, who joined the OCC in March 2003, was selected Employee of the Month for October 2008. He was then selected Employee of the Year for 2008-2009.



### Mary Seltzer

Mary Seltzer is the human resources coordinator, where she oversees payroll, benefits and related issues.

She received a bachelor's degree in business management in 1999 and a master's in marketing and communications in 2004 from Franklin University. She joined the OCC in January 2008. Mary was selected Employee of the Month for September 2008.



### Beth Hixon

Beth Hixon is the assistant director of analytical services and leader of the OCC's electric team. Beth manages staff members and provides oversight and coordination of the OCC's activities on energy issues.

Beth received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Ohio University. Beth first joined the OCC in 1982 and stayed until 1987. She returned to the agency in May 1988. Beth was selected Employee of the Month for November 2008.



### Maria Durban

Maria Durban is the manager of OCC's Consumer Services Division.

Maria earned an associate degree from Tallahassee Community College, a bachelor's degree in criminology from Florida State University and a master's degree in human resources from Central Michigan University in 2007. She joined the OCC in October 2001 as a compliance investigator. Maria was selected Employee of the Month for December 2008.



### Sue Orme

As staff assistant, Sue Orme is responsible for assisting the director of operations and the administrative staff with the creation and maintenance of confidential personnel and medical files, disciplinary action files, payroll and applicant information and tracking. Sue is a member of the OCC recognition team. She joined the OCC in January 1999. Sue was selected Employee of the Month for January 2009.



### Steve Hines

Steve Hines is a senior regulatory analyst with the OCC. His current duties include research, investigation and analysis of utility applications for increases in rates. Steve has served as the agency's water team leader since March 2006 and is the OCC's representative on the water team for the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates.

Steve received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Ohio University in 1978, a master's degree from The Ohio State University in 1981 and a Master of Business Administration degree from Ashland University in 2000. He joined the OCC in April 1984. Steve was selected Employee of the Month for February 2009.

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## Sarah Schaible

Sarah Schaible was the executive secretary to the Analytical Division, where she provided administrative support to the division and was librarian for the agency.

Sarah attended Sinclair Community College from 2002 to 2005. She joined the OCC in October 2007 and left the agency in October 2009. Sarah was selected Employee of the Month for March 2009.



## Jeff Small

Jeff Small's primary responsibilities as a staff attorney involve team leadership with cases filed at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) by electric

utilities and associated appeal activities before the Supreme Court of Ohio. As assistant legal director, he assists the legal director in a variety of activities that involve all regulated industries and acts for the legal director in his absence.

Jeff earned bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his law degree from Capital University Law School. He joined the OCC in January 2002. Jeff was selected Employee of the Month for April 2009.



## Marty Berkowitz

As a public information specialist, Marty Berkowitz's responsibilities include writing news releases, fact sheets, stories for newsletters and annual reports, and serving as communications support on

the OCC's natural gas team. He also works on the OCC projects serving low-income customers.

Marty has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Florida. He joined the OCC in April 2008. Marty was selected Employee of the Month for May 2009.



## Amy Carles

Amy Carles is an outreach and education program specialist with the OCC. Her responsibilities include conducting presentations to social and human service agencies, community and professional

organizations and other interested groups on a wide range of utility topics. Amy coordinates the OCC's outreach and education efforts in Northwest Ohio.

Amy graduated from Owens Community College with an associate degree in sales and marketing. She is currently working on a bachelor's degree in organizational management at Bluffton University. She joined the OCC in June 2004. Amy was selected Employee of the Month for June 2009.



## Karen Hardie

As a principal regulatory analyst in the Analytical Division, Karen Hardie specialized in analysis of utility rate increase requests, specifically in the telecommunications and electric

industries. Karen also served as leader of the OCC's telecommunications team.

Karen earned her associate degree in accounting from Columbus State Community College. She joined the OCC in 1981 and retired in July 2009. Karen was selected Employee of the Month for July 2009.



## Angelique Goliday

Angelique Goliday is responsible for investigating and resolving consumer complaints and concerns, identifying consumer issues, making recommendations for action and negotiating informal resolutions

with utility companies. Angelique also is a member of the Low-Income Dialogue Team.

Angelique earned a bachelor's degree in 1995 from The Ohio State University, a Master of Business Administration degree in 2004 from Franklin University and a master's degree in public administration from Walden University. She completed her doctorate at Walden University. She joined the OCC in December 2007. Angelique was selected Employee of the Month for August 2009.