

Employee Recognition

Exceptional employees are recognized by OCC's directors throughout the year. Employees are acknowledged for their outstanding work on behalf of Ohio's residential utility consumers and for exemplifying OCC's mission, vision and values. From among these recognized employees, OCC's staff annually selects an employee of the year.

2013 Employee of the Year



Kyle Kern

Kyle Kern, assistant consumers' counsel, was selected as OCC's 2013 Employee of the Year by her peers.

Ms. Kern began her career as an OCC attorney in 2010 after having been a legal intern for the agency. In 2013, she served Ohio's residential consumers with distinction on a variety of issues affecting their electric bills. Working with her OCC colleagues and other stakeholders, she advocated in regulatory cases and in the legislative process to advance OCC's vision of affordable utility services for Ohioans.

Prior to joining OCC, Ms. Kern worked as an associate for a law firm in Dayton. She earned her juris doctor with cum laude distinction from the University of Toledo College of Law in 2008, her master's degree from the University of Akron and her bachelor's degree cum laude from Ashland University. She was chosen as the July/August 2012 Employee of the Months.

Jim Williams

Jim Williams, chosen Employee of the Months for November/December 2012, serves OCC as the senior consumer protection research analyst. Mr. Williams researches consumer protection issues and advocates for utility improvements. He joined OCC in 1996 as a compliance specialist.

Wilson Gonzalez

Wilson Gonzalez was chosen as Employee of the Months for January/February 2013. He was formerly a senior energy policy advisor, providing expertise in energy efficiency, renewable energy and smart grid technologies. His career at OCC was from 2004 through 2013.

John Schroeder

Employee of the Months for March/April 2013, John Schroeder is the network administrator for OCC. He assists employees with needs related to software and databases, as well as works to maintain security of OCC's networks. Mr. Schroeder joined OCC in May 2012.

Larry Sauer

Selected as OCC's Employee of the Months for May/June 2013, Larry Sauer is an assistant consumers' counsel who handles complex electric and natural gas issues, including distribution rate cases. Mr. Sauer joined OCC in March 2003.

Greg Slone

Greg Slone, selected as Employee of the Quarter for July-September 2013, is a senior energy analyst at OCC. He provides technical assistance on various energy issues, prepares reports and conducts studies.

Marty Berkowitz

Marty Berkowitz, chosen Employee of the Quarter for October-December 2013, is the senior media specialist for OCC. He responds to media inquiries and develops such educational materials as newsletter articles and fact sheets. He joined OCC in 2008 as a public information specialist.