

Governing Board

About the Governing Board

By statute, the Ohio Attorney General appoints members to the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board. The Board consists of nine members, with three members appointed for each of the three organized groups, residential consumers, labor and family farmers. No more than five members of the Board may be from the same political party. Board members are confirmed by the Ohio Senate and serve three-year terms. The Board is responsible for appointing the Consumers' Counsel and Deputy Consumers' Counsel.



Jason D. Clark

Board member, 2012 – 2015
Representing organized labor

Jason Clark serves as the business representative for the members of Millwright Local 1090, a statewide organization that is a division of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. He previously served in various positions with both the Cincinnati and Dayton AFL-CIO's.



Fred Cooke

Board member, 2013 – 2016
Representing family farmers

Fred Cooke is a 30-year member of the Richland County Farm Bureau and runs a 1200-acre farm in Shelby, Ohio with his son. He also had a 30-year career as an educator teaching agriculture at Greene County Vocational School, Willard High School and Shelby High School in addition to various courses at Southern State College in Wilmington. He is a member of the Hazel Grove Farm Bureau Community Council and the Malabar Farm Foundation.



Sally A. Hughes

Board member, 2011 – 2014
Representing residential consumers

Sally Hughes serves as president and chief executive officer of Caster Connection, Inc., a company she founded. Ms. Hughes currently serves on the Board of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Entrepreneurs Organization, Women's Presidents Organization, and Women's Business Enterprise National Council. She is on the Board of The Wellington School and the Women's Leadership Network Advisory Council for Otterbein University.



Gene Krebs

Chair, 2012 – 2014
Vice Chair, 2011 – 2012
Board member, 2005 – 2016
Representing residential consumers

Gene Krebs was appointed to the OCC Governing Board in 2005 and has been appointed or reappointed to the Board by both Republican and Democrat Attorneys General. Mr. Krebs spent three years on the Eaton City School Board, eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives, four years as Preble County Commissioner, and five years on the Preble County Planning Commission. He has served on the Joint Committee on High Technology Start-up Business, Sales Tax Holiday Study Committee (Chair), and the Eminent Domain Task Force, all by legislative appointment. Mr. Krebs was appointed by Governor Ted Strickland to serve on Ohio's 21st Century Transportation Task Force and most recently by Governor John Kasich to the Local Government Innovation Council. Currently he is a Senior Fellow with The Center for Community Solutions and is working on their behalf on a series of video interviews of thought leaders, human service advocates and youthful entrepreneurs.

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Joe Logan
Vice Chair, 2012 – 2013
Board member, 2007 – 2013
Representing family farmers

Joe Logan served as director of agricultural programs for the Ohio Environmental Council. He is the president of the Ohio Farmers Union and has served on the Board of Directors of the National Farmers Union. He previously served as president of the National Association of Farmer Elected Committees.



Susheela D. Suguness
Vice Chair, 2014
Board member, 2012 – 2015
Representing residential consumers

Susheela Suguness cofounded and served as CEO of Prime Engineering & Architecture, Inc. and was responsible for day-to-day management of all aspects of business operations. She has served on the Board of Women Transportation Seminar (WTS) Columbus, which is dedicated to the professional advancement of women in transportation and has been a Transportation Advisory Board Member with the City of Columbus. She also served as the President of Asian Indian American Business Group (AIABG) of Columbus, Ohio.



Roland "Butch" Taylor
Board member, 2013 – 2016
Representing organized labor

Roland "Butch" Taylor has served as a member of Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 396 since 1992 where he has been the Business Manager since 2010. During his membership with Local 396, Mr. Taylor has also held other positions, including Union President (1995-2000), Executive Board Member (1992-1995) and Business Agent. Mr. Taylor also serves on the Boards of Leadership of the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber and Chamber of Commerce. He was honored as the Regional Chamber's Labor Leader of the Year in 2012.



Michael A. Watkins
Board member, 2010 – 2014
Representing organized labor

Michael Watkins has served as a member of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), Lima Lodge No. 21 since 1976. He currently is serving his third term as president of FOP Lodge No. 21 after working for 12 years as its secretary. He is currently employed by the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. in Columbus as the Administrative Assistant. Mr. Watkins was trustee of the FOP's 6th district from 1993 – 1995 and re-elected to the position, which he has held since 2007.



Fred Yoder
Board member, 2011 – 2014
Representing family farmers

Fred Yoder is the owner and operator of Fred Yoder Farms. He also is a partner and executive vice president with Yoder Ag Services LLC. Mr. Yoder currently serves as an Ohio delegate to the USA Poultry and Egg Export and U.S. Grains Councils; on the Ohio Corn and Wheat Political Action Committee, Wheat Growers Association; Ohio Corn Marketing Boards of Directors; Madison County Farm Bureau Board of Trustees; and as chairman of the Ohio chapter of the 25 by '25 Alliance.



Stuart Young
Board member, 2012 – 2015
Representing family farmers

A third generation dairy farmer, Mr. Young is an owner and manager of Young's Jersey Dairy Inc. in Yellow Springs, Ohio. He previously served as Clark County Farm Bureau President and on the Board of Directors for eight years and has served on the Husted Volunteer Fire Dept. for 32 years.