

Biography for Hon. Jeremiah D. Zook, Judge of the 39th Judicial District of Pennsylvania

Judge Zook was born and raised in the State of Ohio, graduating from Central Christian High School in Kidron, Ohio in 1993. He enrolled in Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and graduated in 1997. He then attended the University of Akron School of Law in Akron, Ohio, graduating in 2000. While in law school, Judge Zook clerked for the Honorable Robert J. Brown, Judge of the Wayne County Court of Common Pleas in Wooster, Ohio. He passed the Ohio Bar Exam and began practice as a staff attorney, and later sworn prosecutor, for the child support enforcement agency in Wayne County.

In 2002, Judge Zook sat for and passed the Pennsylvania Bar Exam. The Zooks then moved to Franklin County, where he began the private practice of law with the then firm of Dick, Stein & Schemel, LLP, in Waynesboro.

Judge Zook joined the Franklin County Public Defender's Office in 2003 as a full-time assistant public defender. After two-years as a public defender, Judge Zook was appointed as an assistant district attorney by then District Attorney John F. "Jack" Nelson. Upon D.A. Nelson's passing in 2009, newly-appointed District Attorney Matthew D. Fogal appointed Judge Zook First Assistant District Attorney of Franklin County. In 2013, Judge Zook sought election to the Court of Common Pleas. He won election in November, and began a 10-year term on January 6, 2014. He was retained by the voters in 2023, commencing his second 10-year term in January 2024

Judge Zook is married to Melanie (Baer) and they reside in Guilford Township. They have two adult sons, and a daughter in the 10th grade at Shalom Christian Academy . They attend King Street Church in Chambersburg. In his spare-time, Judge Zook enjoys playing Farming Simulator, kayaking, fishing, golf, and watching the Ohio State Buckeyes.