

## In various roles, goal the same: Make a difference

Business Courier of Cincinnati - by [Lisa Daumeyer](#) Courier Contributor

Kreg Allison can trace his desire to become a judge all the way back to seventh grade. At the time, Allison's mother worked in the Shelby County juvenile probate office in his hometown of Sidney, Ohio, where he often spent time after school. There he saw the interesting role of the judge she worked for and was inspired by the qualities he saw in the man. "He had to be fair and respectful," Allison said, "and I was drawn to the profession because he was one of the best guys I knew. At the end of the day, he was always trying to make the world a better place."

Allison has not yet reached that goal to be a judge, but the 32-year-old is certainly on the right path for it. As administrator in the Clerk of Courts office for Hamilton County, Allison reports directly to Greg Hartmann and manages the largest Clerk of Courts office in the state of Ohio – with more than 300 employees and a \$15 million annual budget.

An attorney, Allison held the position of the Clerk of Courts' chief legal officer prior to becoming administrator. This position has him tackling new projects of all sorts, like the **Homeowners Preservation Group**, formed to give support to homeowners facing foreclosure. He also has rolled out a daily bulletin providing alerts on the criminal activity of foster parents, and works to make sure his office runs smoothly every day in a variety of areas like human resources, budget and office policy.

Allison earned undergraduate degrees in economics and political science from **Vanderbilt University**, though he started out with the intention of becoming a Methodist minister.

"I firmly believed I could make the world a better place," Allison said. "But I realized I didn't have to major in miracles to do that."

So he went on to law school at Ohio State, tacking on an MBA during his first year as well as teaching while there.

Not long after graduation, Allison started as a consultant for **Communications Counsel Inc.** in Columbus, where he helped run campaigns for judges, county officials and congressmen. His work there included two local campaigns in 2004, Greg Hartmann for clerk of courts and Joe Deters for county prosecutor.

Also plugged in to the young professional movement in the city, Allison, an Oakley resident, is a founding member of the Freedom YP Project, a young professional organization for racial healing in Cincinnati. He's also active with Give Back Cincinnati and the **Hamilton County Republican Party**.

Allison hasn't given up on his dream to become a judge, but he's in no hurry.

"I like where I am, and I enjoy my job," he said. "But really it's about doing good things for the community. Whatever job allows me to do that, I'd consider."



Paula Norton  
Kreg Allison

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