Media Advisory
For Immediate Release

November 18, 2026

Free Workshop helps nearly 150 people address suspended licenses

Recognizing that having a valid driver's license is more important now than ever before, Franklin County Municipal Clerk of Court Lori Tyack partnered with Legal Aid of Southeast and Central Ohio, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), and other agencies to organize a one-stop event for individuals to address license suspension issues.

On Oct. 1st, nearly one hundred and fifty people visited the workshop, which was hosted by the Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library. Attendees saved over $28,000 in waived costs, fines, and reinstatement fees. An estimated 80% of people who were assisted by the BMV left the workshop as valid drivers.

Over sixty thousand (60,000) drivers are currently suspended in Franklin County based on 2026 BMV statistics. Non-compliance, license suspensions/forfeiture, and child support suspension are three of the top five reasons individuals are currently suspended in Franklin County. Organizers look forward to hosting future workshops with the same participating partners at the library in the near future to help even more Ohioans.

"For many Ohioans, a suspended driver's license can stand between them and a job, a doctor's appointment, or the ability to care for their family," said Mary Gadd, LASCO pro bono coordinator. "The overwhelming turnout and positive outcomes from this workshop demonstrate both the need for these services and the power of partnership. We are deeply grateful to the court, the BMV, the library, volunteer attorneys, and all of the organizations that came together to help our neighbors overcome these barriers. When we work together, we can create pathways to stability, opportunity, and success for thousands of people in our community."

Clerk Tyack stated, "Our workshop helps individuals whose daily lives have been stalled, sometimes for years, by guiding them toward a clear path forward. The support offered by our partnering agencies is essential for people caught in the cycle of repeated license suspensions and reinstatement challenges."

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