



The Office of the Madison County Recorder Angela Shelton

Thomas L. Morgan, First Deputy

Madison County Government Center • 16 East 9th Street • Anderson, Indiana 46016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Recorder Reduces Budget Twice in Two Years

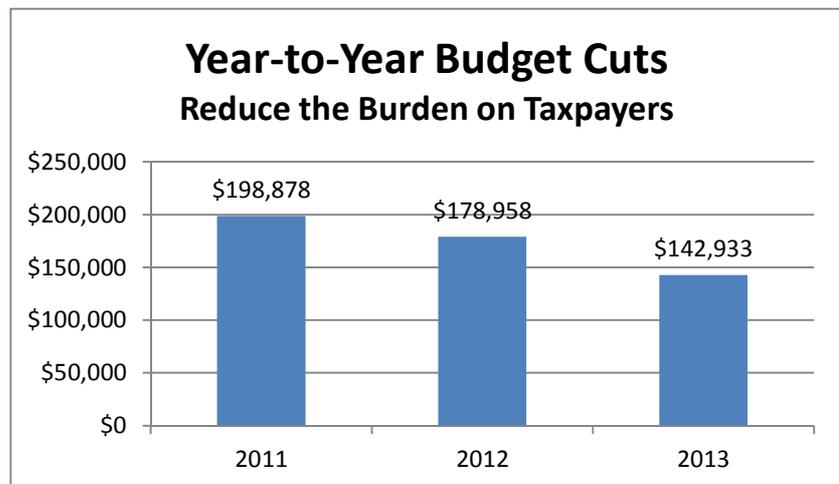
Recorder Proposes 21 Percent Cuts While Elevating Service Levels

ANDERSON, IND., Sept. 27, 2012 – For the second year in a row, the Madison County Recorder’s office has announced significant budget cuts that further reduce the need for property tax funding while making continuing improvements to the services provided.

“Last month, when the County Council asked all government departments for a 5 percent and a 20 percent reduction, my office surpassed those targets with a 21 percent reduction,” Recorder Angela Shelton said. “Despite back-to-back years of strenuous cuts to my budget, we have maintained and continue to improve the quality of service we provide.”

The Recorder’s office is funded from two revenue sources:

- Two-thirds from **the county’s general fund**, which is supported by property tax dollars
- One-third from **user fee revenues**, collected from recording official documents and from providing photocopy services to customers



With the decrease of property tax revenue in recent years, the office has become increasingly reliant on user fee revenue to pay for various projects, such as technology upgrades, digitization of records and staffing needs.

New technology, in particular, has allowed the office to improve service times and have lessened the impact of general fund reductions. In addition, the office has discovered new revenue through the development of remote access services that allow customers to file electronic documents in a process known as “E-Recording.”

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Since first launched in November 2011, E-Recording in Madison County has generated nearly \$30,000 for the Recorder's office. The service is growing in popularity nationwide with 800 counties in 38 states adopting the process.

"Modern technology keeps our costs down, increases access to our office – especially for out-of-town banks, law firms and title companies – and accelerates the document approval process," Shelton said. "This past June, we logged our 1,000th recording via the new service, and we are proud to make E-Recording a permanent fixture in the Recorder's office."

A public hearing on the proposed balanced budget by the Madison County Council is set for Sept. 28, and a final budget adoption is set for Oct. 6.

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