

At the end of September, Madison County Circuit Clerk's employee Crystal Hale retired after serving 37 years in the office. We sat down with Crystal for a behind the scenes peek at things happening in the Circuit Clerk's office and what she has planned for retirement. Click here for Part 1 where she discussed her role at the Circuit Clerk's office and a hidden gem in the office:

[Part 1 of interview](#)



**CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE: What are you going to miss most about working at the Circuit Clerk?**

**CRYSTAL HALE:** Definitely the people, the different people. There are a lot of different personalities here, and you learn that by working so long. They are great. Seeing people everyday, running into people in the lobby. Some you might know, or talking with the attorneys and judges. Working with all of them, I'm definitely going to miss the key moments I had with all of them.

**Do you have a favorite memory of your time working here?**

I don't know if it was a favorite, but it was definitely a huge eye opener. When I first became what we called supervisors back in 1990. I came into this traffic office, I've always worked in the traffic division and our satellite courts. And I moved into this office, and it was an utter nightmare. Files just everywhere.

We would have a pending drawer, which are supposed to be cases upcoming for court. And when I would go into that pending drawer, there were old court dates in there. And I would be like, what is all of this?.

So I found out that the lady who was here before me, they never pulled anything out of those drawers. They just let them sit, and the only thing that they went into court would be the brand new cases. There were thousands of files that were sitting here, not being acted upon. To where the courts actually purged a bunch of cases, dismissing them and all of that. We worked overtime after overtime trying to get caught up on things, closing cases out, it was just a multitude of things we had to do to get up to speed.

That is when they decided to put traffic on computers. Just in the very beginning of it, just numbering our cases and trying to get ahold of the new things coming in. And then it gradually built on other things. To where traffic is now and has been since 1990, up on computers.

**Do you have plans for retirement?**

I really don't. I mean except reorganizing my home and going through papers. The things you can't do on a daily, weekend basis. Trying to get that all taken care of and a little bit of painting

We camp, we boat. So I have told my husband, I can have the camper ready on Friday you come home, boom we can leave. We go down to Bull Shoals Lake, we love that place. That's probably most of my travel, back and forth there. A few other spots, but nothing definite. And after that I have no clue.