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**Detroit Census Center  
300 River Place Drive,  
Suite 2950  
Detroit, MI 48207  
313-396-5200  
[www.census.gov/detroit](http://www.census.gov/detroit)**

## Detroit Region Local Census Office Grand Openings: West Virginia

West Virginia's capitol city celebrated the opening of the Charleston Local Census Office on April 1, 2009. The event dubbed, "One Year Out and Counting" showcased efforts leading up to Census Day on April 1, 2010. The ceremonies were hosted by Census Bureau Deputy Regional Director Elaine Wagner and Local Census Office Manager Tony Galante.

Charleston Mayor Danny Jones took the podium to announce the formation of Charleston's Complete County Committee and charged it with promoting awareness of the 2010 Census and its importance to the city and the State of West Virginia. Mayor Jones was joined by representatives from U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd, Congresswoman Shelly Moore Capito and Governor Joe Manchin, who also lent their support to count every West Virginian. Several Kanawha County mayors also attended as did Charleston City Council members, statewide partners and the local media. The event was aired on several local television stations initiating a year-long drive to build support and increase participation in the 2010 Census.



Charleston, West Virginia Mayor, Danny Jones announces the formation of the Charleston Complete Count Committee.

The Open House coordinator and Senior Partnership Specialist Richard Hartman leads a team of Partnership Specialists and Partnership Assistants to build a statewide network of community leaders ensuring that every resident of the state is counted. Team West Virginia has been attending numerous association conferences including the WV Association of Counties, Municipal League and Community Action Partnership Councils. The geographic challenges of West Virginia require long days of traveling winding roads, but end with productive encounters with town mayors, civic leaders and community conscious citizen groups. Support has been generous and more contacts are planned as we close on Census Day 2010. A successful Open House celebration was only the start. Two new Census 2010 offices will open in Beckley and Morgantown, West Virginia later in 2009 to further spread the word and lend support to the many local efforts already planned and the new efforts encouraged by Team West Virginia.

*See highlights from other offices on page 2.*

**U S C E N S U S B U R E A U**

*Helping You Make Informed Decisions*



### Partnership Specialist West Virginia Team Leader Richard Hartman

Richard is a native West Virginian who holds a Master's Degree in both Public Administration and History. He served twenty-eight years with West Virginia's state government in a variety of positions including Director of Administrative Law Division, Chief of Staff for the Legislative Rule Making Review Committee, Staff to the House Judiciary Committee, Deputy Commissioner of Tourism & Parks, Director of the Transportation Enhancement Program as a Community Development Specialist and Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the WV Department of Transportation.

He has worked as a legislative coordinator and liaison for the departments of health, tourism and transportation. He has served on the WV Tourism Commission, the White Water Rafting Commission and Chairman of the WV Recreations Trails Advisory Board. Richard served as an Administrative Law Judge for various state agencies and has taught as an Adjunct Professor in the Political Science and History Departments at Marshall University and the History Department at the University of Charleston.

Richard is the Partnership Specialist for the 2010 Census for the counties of Kanawha, Cabell, Wood, Wayne, Putnam, Lincoln, Boone, Mason, Roane, Clay, Jackson, Calhoun, Wirt, Gilmer, Ritchie, Doddridge, Tyler and Pleasants. He is an avid golfer and kayaker and lives with his wife, Lynn in South Charleston.

## Detroit Region Local Census Office Grand Openings, continued:

### Cincinnati

The Cincinnati Local Census office held an open house event and ribbon cutting ceremony on March 16th to celebrate its grand opening. George Conner, Local Census Office Manager – Cincinnati welcomed more than 150 elected officials, local dignitaries and Census Bureau officials to the standing room only event.

Mayor Mark Mallory took the opportunity to thank Detroit Regional Director, Dwight Dean for doing a great job with the Census over a number of years and told the audience, “The City of Cincinnati wants a complete and accurate count. We’ll do this in a way that no city has ever done, and we will be better for it. Our goal is to prove that there are 378,259 people who will count in Cincinnati.”

Hamilton County Board Commission President David Pepper referred to the local Cincinnati Census team as “the A-Team to get the job done.” He thanked Mr. Dean for the jobs the Census has brought to Cincinnati and announced a Complete Count Committee for the County.

Brewster Rhoads, Regional Director, State of Ohio, Governor Strickland’s Office thanked Census employees and said, “The Census is about making sure that every person is counted. It is a movement for inclusion.”

State Representative Denise Driehaus, Ohio House of Representatives, told the audience, “Getting an accurate census count is similar to a campaign. When you connect with people you create a movement.” She also presented a resolution to Mr. Dean, and then there was a ribbon cutting ceremony with elected officials.

In closing remarks George Conner said, “Please be sure to communicate to all of your family, friends, acquaintances and co-workers the extreme importance of completing the 2010 census on time and accurately. When it comes to the census in Cincinnati we want a complete count, and it’s up to each and every one of us to make that happen.”



Congresswoman Denise Driehaus, Ohio State Representative, Cincinnati (left) delivers a Census Resolution at the Cincinnati Open House while Connie Pillich, Ohio State Representative (Blue Ash, Oh) and Louis Blessing, Jr. Assistant Minority Leader house of Representatives, Hamilton Co. look on.



Ribbon cutting at Cincinnati Local Census Office. (LtoR) Michael Kelly, Cincinnati LCO staff; Councilmember, Cecil Thomas; Regional Director, Dwight Dean; George Conner, LCOM Cincinnati; Mayor Mark Mallory; Vice Mayor, David Crowley and Hamilton County Board of Commissioners President, David Pepper.

### Cleveland

The U.S. Census Bureau began its local campaign in Cleveland, Ohio urging people to stand up and be counted in 2010 when it cut the ribbon on a downtown Cleveland field office on Wednesday, April 1. Local political representatives were invited to join Census officials at a reception and tour of the office in the US Bank building on Playhouse Square. “The whole objective is to begin to build awareness to get people to respond to their Census questionnaire,” said John Willse, Media Specialist for the Cleveland office. It is typical for Cleveland and other major cities to have a field office for the decennial Census, he said, In fact, the Bureau is scheduled to open two additional Cleveland offices before Census Day on April 1, 2010.



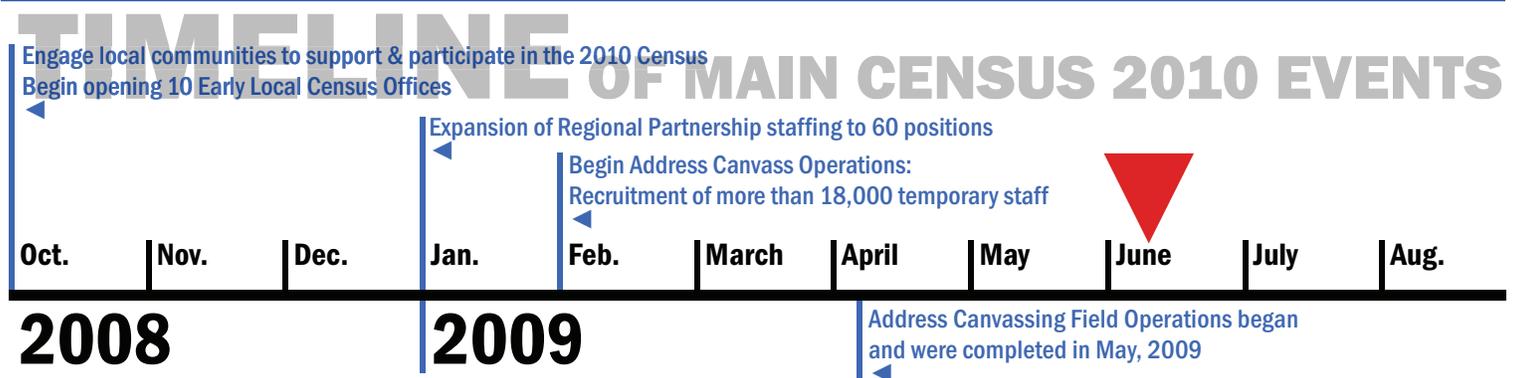
Cleveland City Council President, Martin J. Sweeney emphasizes the importance of the 2010 Census.

### Toledo

On March 27, 2009, Toledo’s Local Census Office officially opened with Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur cutting the ceremonial ribbon. Mayor Finkbeiner reminded those in attendance that the once-a-decade count has a significant and lasting impact, especially as the City of Toledo and the region apply for federal grants and programs. The next wave of hiring by the Census Bureau locally will occur this fall, as the Bureau expands its regional operations and opens up smaller district offices around the State. Those workers will complete the most labor-intensive portion of the decennial count: following up in person at residences that don’t return their Census forms.



(LtoR) Sesario Doran of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, Toledo Mayor, Carty Finkbeiner; Deputy Regional Director, Elaine Wagner; Congresswoman, Marcy Kaptur; Toledo LCOM, Julie Meister and Dr. Robert A. Culp, Pastor – First Church of God cut the ribbon at Toledo Local Census Office opening.



# Columbus

"The City of Columbus will lose \$2,263 for each resident missed in the 2010 Census." With that statement during the Grand Opening of the Columbus Local Census Office on March 26th, Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman set the stage and the context for making clear the importance of the decennial tally, every Columbus resident's role and stake in it, and the consequences of an inaccurate count. The Mayor also stated, "The future and power of the City depends upon an accurate and complete count", further illustrating the need for Columbus to receive its fair share of federal funding and apportionment of state and federal political districts.

Prior to introducing Mayor Coleman as one of the leading local Census partners, Detroit Regional Office Deputy Director Elaine Wagner said "the Census Bureau is one of a few federal agencies with a mandate that is rooted in the Constitution" and emphatically stated, "We take that mandate seriously." Pointing out

that the opening of the Columbus Local Census Office has meant temporary employment for hundreds of



Cutting the ribbon in Columbus from L to R: Jeffrey Reader, AMFO; Steven Kelly, Columbus Dept. of Dev. Senior Economist; Eileen Paley, Columbus City Council Member; Elaine Wagner, Deputy Regional Census Director; Paula Brooks, President of Franklin Co. Commission; Michael B. Coleman, Columbus Mayor; Tasha Hill, LCOM; W. Carelton Weddington, State Representative and Tonya Simpson, AMR.

Central Ohio residents, she explained that the agency designed the hiring plan to purposefully hire workers who represent every neighborhood for the upcoming operations. "It's a small office in size, but it is conducting a tremendous job in the field," she said.

The event was attended by other area dignitaries including Franklin County Board of Commissioners President Paula Brooks who pointed out that people often fear filling out government forms. Commissioner Brooks said, "It [filling out the questionnaire] is nothing to fear. It is a simple form, and you help yourself personally and your community by completing the form."

With greetings from Governor Strickland, Ohio Department of Development's Steven Kelley announced the hiring of staff to promote a complete count statewide and the establishment of a State 2010 Census website to allow Ohio Complete Count Committees to register and download Census promotional materials.

## Address Canvassing Update

It's about a year until Census Day 2010, but area residents were out in force in the first public field operation of the massive Decennial Census. Recently employed Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia residents took to the streets in April through May to verify every address in the region. Census workers used hand-held computers to ensure the accuracy of the mapping process. In addition, Address Canvassers occasionally knocked on a door to verify the information verbally.

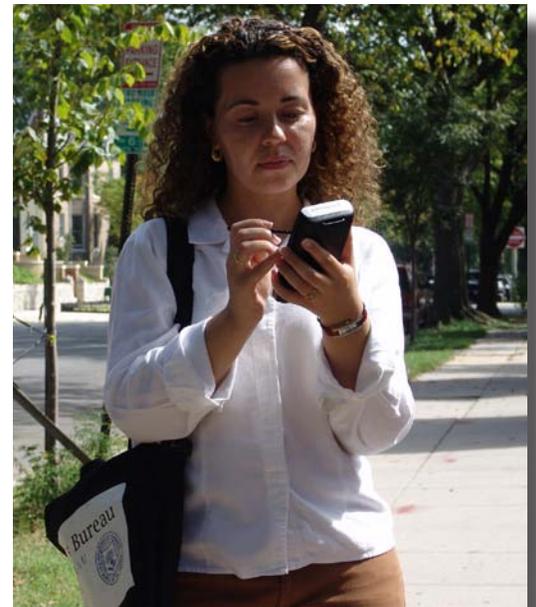
"This address verification process, uses the best of 21st century technology, and is part of our ongoing commitment to accuracy," said Detroit Regional Director Dwight P. Dean. "We are laying the foundation to get a Census questionnaire to each and every household in the state."

The Address Canvassing operation is a phase of the Census Bureau's address verification process that began with a Master Address file corroborated with local municipalities. That program, the Local Update of Census Addresses, took place last year. There will be one final opportunity to add new home

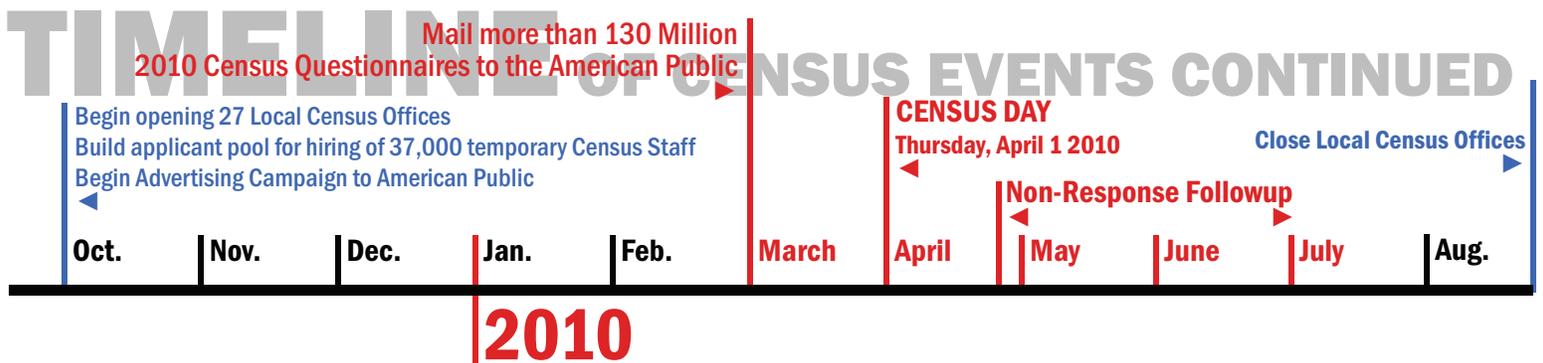
construction in early 2010 prior to the mailing of the census questionnaires.

Census workers can be identified by the official Census Bureau badge they carry. During the Address Canvassing operation, census workers were asked to verify a housing structure's address and whether there are additional living quarters on the property.

For all operations, 2010 Census workers will never ask for bank or social security information. All census information collected, including addresses, are confidential and protected by law. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with the FBI, the IRS, CIA, Welfare, Immigration, or any other government agency. In addition, no court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents' answers. All Census Bureau employees — including temporary employees — take an oath for life to keep census information confidential. Any violation of that oath is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison.



Each address canvasser was equipped with a hand held computer and wore an official identification badge. Many address canvassers carried a U.S. Census Bureau bag, making them easier to identify.



# Jobs at the Census!

While job recruiting at the Census has slowed, we will be testing for Management Positions opening in the Fall of 2009.

## Management — Fall 2009

- Local Census Office Manager — \$51,132-\$59,480
- Assistant Manager for Field Operations — \$41,740-\$50,088
- Assistant Manager for Quality Assurance — \$34,957-\$43,305
- Assistant Manager for Recruiting — \$34,957-\$43,305
- Assistant Manager for Administration — \$34,957-\$43,305
- Assistant Manager for Technology — \$34,957-\$43,305

### All candidates must:

- Pass the Census Bureau written examination
- Be at least 18 years old or older
- Be a citizen of the United States and present proof of identity and employment eligibility

## Office Staff — Fall 2009

Office Clerk / Recruiting Assistant / Administrative Assistant / Office Operations Supervisor

## Field Staff — 2010 (Testing will begin in October, 2009)

Enumerator / Crew Leader / Crew Leader Assistant / Field Operations Supervisor

Those interested in applying for these jobs should go to [www.census.jobs.gov/detroit](http://www.census.jobs.gov/detroit) for full job descriptions, qualifications and applications. Potential applicants can also call toll free 1-866-861-2010.

## COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE (CCC)

Below is an update of some of the Complete Count Committees actively working in the Detroit Region:

### State of Michigan

- City of Detroit
- Wayne County
- City of Lansing
- City of Grand Rapids
- City of Big Rapids
- City of Warren
- City of Eastpointe
- City of Taylor
- Ingham County
- Calhoun County
- Jackson County

- City of Battle Creek
- City of Jackson
- Macatawa Area Coordinating Council

### State of Ohio

- State of Ohio
- City of Cincinnati
- Hamilton County
- Athens County
- Belmont County
- Washington County
- Scioto County

A Complete Count Committee is a group of community leaders appointed by the highest elected official within a jurisdiction for the purpose of developing and implementing the 2010 Census awareness campaign. Bringing together a cross-section of community members whose only focus is 2010 Census awareness; and to increase the Census questionnaire mail-back response rate through a community wide/neighbor-to-neighbor program.

Contact a Partnership Specialist to help you develop a Complete Count Committee in your community.

**Call: 313-396-5200**

## Get Free Copies of IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Stay up to date with the Census efforts in the Region. This newsletter is designed to spread best practices from Complete Count Committees and various civic and community leaders around the Region. It will also illuminate the workings of the U.S. Census.

Keep up with the efforts that affect your community getting its fair share of political representation and its share of billions in federal resources. Subscribe to get electronic copies of *It's in our Hands*.

Send an e-mail message to [kevette.chapman@census.gov](mailto:kevette.chapman@census.gov) and be sure to write "subscribe" in the subject line.

Please send your name and affiliation and let us know what information about Census 2010 would be most helpful to you. You can receive hard copies if you send your name and postal address.

You can also call the Detroit Regional Census Center at 313-396-5200 and give us your information.