

**During my tenure as Register of Deeds, which began in December 2004, the office has completed numerous projects to improve the efficiency of the office. We are proud and would like to share with you some of those implemented to date.**

- ✓ Successfully obtained Certification for Advanced Register of Deeds at UNC Chapel Hill.
- ✓ Assisted in insuring that all Surry County staff members held 100 % certification hours and meet all qualifications for employment.
- ✓ Continued efforts to bring a historical office of 200 years old into a full 21st century technical office.
- ✓ Brought Technology initiatives to office with implementing Internet access, Email & Voice mail for staff.
- ✓ Negotiated a new improved Computer & Software system for Land Records Management from a NC base company
- ✓ Installed new computerized accounting reports for daily collections and distribution of funds for end of day, yearly and monthly reconciliation reports for county tracking purposes.
- ✓ Instigated a new receipting process called "Instant Scan at the front counter" for faster service.
- ✓ Joined Forces with Surry County Management Information Technology and created a website.
- ✓ Implemented an "electronic Index from the Image" with no document handling for staff.
- ✓ Successfully installed a Marriage Kiosk computer service center for customers to retrieve inside and outside of office.
- ✓ Converted over 182,682 real estate images to digital format.
- ✓ Completed digitization and importation of all real estate books dating back to 1771.
- ✓ Implemented a change in plat recording procedures to reduce number of Mylars required for recording from surveyors.
- ✓ Assisted in the conservation project of the original 1916 Historical Courthouse Blueprints.
- ✓ Assisted many Surry County citizens in receiving their service awards for their Century Farms/recognitions from NC State..
- ✓ Completed digitizing/importing over 4500 land plats and also many right of way plans for easier viewing and searching. .
- ✓ Consolidated 1995-2004 paper Real Estate Index Books for Non electronic users for quicker searching.
- ✓ Implemented and streamlined a Deed/Tax Certification Program jointly with the County Tax Director.
- ✓ Installed computer program for access to judgment filings from Administrative Office of the Courts.
- ✓ In conjunction with SOS (Secretary of State), implemented an electronic Notary Oath program.
- ✓ Successfully completed encapsulation and restoration program of our oldest historical records that began in 1771.
- ✓ Updated our paper records security system in the event the need ever arises to recreate those images.
- ✓ Successfully ran OCR (optical character reader software program) on all images containing SSN and redacted them dating back to beginning of social security implementation in 1936.
- ✓ Implemented Internet Access program to office Real Estate while being mindful of rapid growing identity theft.
- ✓ Consistently worked hard to hold the line on any additional funding request beyond our currently budget from year to year.
- ✓ Initiated a backup system off site for disaster recovery.
- ✓ Replaced and Implemented new computer equipment ( that is considered to be "green"
- ✓ Implemented another form of payment through Credit and Debit Cards.
- ✓ Converted all Deed of Trust books back to 1935 to a digital format.
- ✓ Successfully scanned over 120,000 original births dating back to the beginning of recording births in 1913.
- ✓ Joined NCARD Land Records committee to help implement new indexing real estate standards for all statewide offices.
- ✓ Recently negotiated contract with the North Carolina Vital Records in Raleigh to allow us to access their statewide birth website from 1971 forward for faster turnaround service. Called the EBRS (Electronic Birth Registration System).
- ✓ Currently installed a new program called "Get Certificate Now" to assist in a speedier process for obtaining birth records
- ✓ Implemented new program called PFA (property fraud alert system) for all property owners in Surry County.
- ✓ Established an aid for genealogist and historians of pre-civil war Slave information for researching.
- ✓ Compiled a historical collection of older loose leaf documents such as marriage consents, barter records and jail records..
- ✓ Initiated a Coop plan (continued office operations plan) and updated current disaster plan.
- ✓ Currently in process of printing a FINAL Consolidated paper index for RE 1995-2012 saving space and ongoing printing cost..
- ✓ Implemented full E-Rec system by partnering with EDL (electronic document logistics) for your E-Recording needs..
- ✓ Adopted a Surry County "THANK A VET PROGRAM"

These accomplishments were generated and approved by Carolyn M Comer, Register of Deeds, and could not have been met without the help of a dedicated county staff, current and past members of the Board of County Commissioners since 2004-2014, and for that I remain grateful.

**Carolyn M Comer, Register of Deeds**

**REVISED 11-10-2015**