



# NEWS RELEASE

Russell M. Pry – Summit County Executive

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** February 8, 2010

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## **Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry Seeks Medical Gas System Inspection Certification**

On Monday, February 8, 2010, Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry announced the County of Summit's intentions to apply for and obtain Medical Gas System Inspection Certification from the State of Ohio Board of Building Standards.



Pry made his plan known during a press conference held at the Ohio Building, County Council Chambers, located at 175 S. Main Street in downtown Akron. Backing Pry's proposal at the press conference was Akron Regional Hospital Association (ARHA) CEO, Marianne Lorini.

In the State of Ohio, facilities that contain permanently installed medical gas systems, medical oxygen systems and/or vacuum piping systems (i.e., dental offices, hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, etc.) must be inspected to ensure they are constructed and installed to code. The Ohio Board of Building Standards presently performs all medical gas system inspections across the State of Ohio; except for Erie and Franklin counties.

"When certification is obtained, we will be the third Ohio county to take on the task of performing medical gas system inspections," stated John Labriola, chief building official for the Summit County Division of Building Standards. "We already employ two individuals who are qualified to conduct inspections; therefore, providing this new service will not generate a significant amount of new expenses."



"It will actually generate revenue," stated Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry. "We estimate that this new service will produce a minimal revenue stream of \$30,000 a year."

If certification is obtained, the County of Summit plans to offer their medical gas system inspections at 20% below the rates being charged by the State of Ohio.

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"In addition to saving money, local medical industry/design professionals will no longer need to drive their plans to Reynoldsburg, wait for approval and then wait days for a state employee to perform the inspection," added Labriola. "We hope to provide local businesses with same day plan reviews and inspections."

"This is just another incentive tool we are using to attract the medical industry to Summit County," added Pry.

Legislation regarding Medical Gas System Inspection Certification will be introduced to Summit County Council this evening during a Regular Council Meeting.

For more information on the services being offered by the County of Summit Division of Building Standards, visit [www.co.summit.oh.us/executive/bldgstds.htm](http://www.co.summit.oh.us/executive/bldgstds.htm). Citizens without access to the Internet may call 330-630-7280.

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