

2025 Walks of Life Honorees

Anthony J. Coyne



Anthony J. Coyne can take great pride in the changing landscape of downtown Cleveland. After all, he was instrumental in its planning.

Tony, the president and managing partner of the Cleveland law firm of Mansour Gavin, always thought the city deserved to have a beautiful lakefront. Both as chairman of Cleveland's Planning Commission for 15 years and later as chairman of the city's renamed Group Planning Commission, he sought ways to implement this goal.

He led the Group Planning Commission over five years in the creation of plans for the \$50 million renovation of Public Square, the enhancements to the downtown Mall, and the inception of fundraising and initial design efforts for a pedestrian bridge to connect the Mall to the lakefront. The reopening of Public Square in 2016, just months before Cleveland hosted the Republican National Convention, received national acclaim for its design, use, and programming.

Tony, whose father was a former president of the Cleveland Fraternal Order of Police and secretary of the national FOP, attended St. Ignatius High School, John Carroll University, and received a master's degree from the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs in 1984. He received his law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1987. He recently was named a member of the law school's Hall of Fame.

During his career, Tony has held significant positions, including Executive Assistant to the Director of Transition for Cleveland Mayor Michael R. White and Judicial Extern for U.S. District Court Judge Alice M. Batchelder, a position that offers law students and graduates the opportunity to gain practical legal skills by assisting judges and court personnel in legal research and writing legal memos.

Tony has served on the boards of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Ohio Canal Corridor, and the Urban Land Institute—the world's largest network of cross-disciplinary real estate and land use experts. He is chairman of St. Vincent Charity Community Health Center and serves as a trustee for Bluecoats Inc., a non-profit committed to supporting the families of Cuyahoga County safety officers who lost their lives or were disabled in the line of duty.

A sought-after speaker, Tony frequently lectures at various events and to various audiences on topics such as eminent domain, zoning and land use, and municipal law.

Tony and his wife of 31 years, Rachelle, have a son, Anthony W., and daughters, Christine and Katherine. An avid outdoor enthusiast, he enjoys golfing, bicycling, and jogging. The family has resided in Ohio City for 38 years.

2025 Walks of Life Award of the Irish American Archives Society, Cleveland OH