



**2020 Walks of Life Honoree**  
**Timothy J. Cosgrove**

During his 40-year career, Tim Cosgrove has worked tirelessly on behalf of the citizens of Cleveland and the state of Ohio. As a result of his efforts, he has been recognized as an Ohio Super Lawyer and is one of Ohio's most highly recognized lobbyists.

At age 18, Tim was working as a waiter at a downtown restaurant when one day George Voinovich, then the mayor of Cleveland, sat down at the table he was serving. The teenager apparently impressed the mayor because a few months later Tim was offered a job in the city's Community Development Department.

Originally from Cleveland's Collinwood neighborhood, Tim earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Cleveland State University and a law degree from the university's law school, all while working for the city and as a waiter in downtown restaurants.

In 1987 when Tim was only 26, he was named as an assistant to the mayor of Cleveland, helping oversee the Mayor's State and Federal Government Policy Agendas. Five years later, when Voinovich became Ohio governor, Tim was appointed Director of Legislation and Policy and was responsible for driving the Governor's agenda through the Ohio General Assembly. While working for the Governor, he also helped to oversee the development of the Gateway project and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, among other civic undertakings. Tim decided to leave government work in 1993 and joined the Cleveland-based law firm of Squire Patton Boggs. He credits his work in City Hall for giving him the practical experience in government and politics that has led to his present success.

He has lobbied the Ohio General Assembly in major policy areas including tax reform, economic development, health care, science and technology, and finance. He helped secure state financing for a variety of Cleveland developments and works on behalf of many of Cleveland's most influential and important institutions.

Now a partner at Squire Patton Boggs, Tim was appointed to the Cleveland State University board of trustees in 1997 thru 2007 and served as board chairman for four years. He later was appointed to the Cleveland State Foundation and became its chairman in 2016. Last May, he was reappointed to the university board and now serves as board vice chairman.

Tim and his wife, Kimberly, live in Kirkland. They are the parents of Michaela, Ian and Dawson.

2020 Walks of Life Award of the Irish American Archives Society, Cleveland OH.