

RESOLUTION 2025-78

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CITY CLERKS URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many municipal staff who perform duties that include, or result in, investigations into complaints regarding election fraud, legal enforcement of hearings that could lead to a criminal prosecution, or code enforcement actions are exposed to threats and other acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks often administer elections, and some election workers have been targeted for threats and violence due to the nature of materials they are responsible for; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks are often involved in legal enforcement proceedings in actions related to violations of codes and ordinances and, occasionally, these proceedings have led to retaliation and threats by defendants; and

WHEREAS, currently public records exemptions in Florida include those for local personnel who either investigate, enforce, or otherwise provide a service that can result in contentious interactions when action is taken, and municipal clerks and their staff fall within the need for a window for greater protection; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of City Clerks is very concerned for the safety and well-being of the municipal clerks and their staff who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first contact of citizens with cities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CITY CLERKS THAT:

SECTION 1: The Florida Association of City Clerks hereby urges and encourages the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a municipality.

SECTION 2: A certified copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Ron DeSantis, members of the Florida Senate, the Florida House of Representatives, and the Florida League of Cities.

PRESENTED THIS 27TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025.



Patricia J. Burke, MPA, MMC, RLO
President-Elect, Florida Association of City Clerks
Town Clerk-Manager, Town of Palm Shores, Florida

