

Melissa Coyne

From: Florida Association of City Clerks <apayne@flcities.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 3:04 PM
To: Melissa Coyne
Subject: Public Records Exemption

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Florida Association of City Clerks

Public Records Exemption

The FACC Board of Directors is considering how to pursue state legislation to provide a public records exemption for the personal information of current Municipal Clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work.

Thank you to everyone who recently sent responses and comments to FACC President-Elect Elizabeth Garcia-Beckford!

The City Commission of the City of Sanford, Florida, recently adopted a resolution [here](#) 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. We are asking you to adopt a resolution in your municipality urging the same. Click [here](#) to download a resolution template. Once the resolution is adopted in your municipality, please email a PDF copy to FACC staff at facc@flcities.com.



Florida Association of City Clerks

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, Florida Association of City Clerks
Town Clerk-Manager, Town of Palm Shores, Florida