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7 **ORDINANCE**  
8 **NUMBER 2023-5**  
9

10 **AN ORDINANCE OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE**  
11 **OF ORDINANCES OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA RELATING TO CODE**  
12 **ENFORCEMENT; BY REVISING GENERAL PROVISIONS AND**  
13 **CREATING A CODE ENFORCEMENT SPECIAL MAGISTRATE AS AN**  
14 **ALTERNATE CODE ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM; PROVIDING A**  
15 **SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE;**  
16 **PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND PROVIDING**  
17 **DIRECTIONS TO THE CLERK AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, Section 162.03, Florida Statutes, states that a “charter county, a  
20 noncharter county, or a municipality may, by ordinance, adopt an alternate code  
21 enforcement system that gives code enforcement boards or special magistrates  
22 designated by the local governing body, or both, the authority to hold hearings and assess  
23 fines against violators of the respective county or municipal codes and ordinances. A  
24 special magistrate shall have the same status as an enforcement board under this  
25 chapter. References in this chapter to an enforcement board, except in s. 162.05, shall  
26 include a special magistrate if the context permits;”  
27

28 **WHEREAS**, currently Levy County code enforcement cases are heard in County  
29 Court;  
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the County is mindful of the demands on the County Court system  
32 and desires to lessen those demands by authorizing a special magistrate to hear County  
33 code enforcement cases;  
34

35 **WHEREAS**, at its December 20, 2022 Regular Meeting, the County Commission  
36 discussed this matter and directed County Staff to move forward with this ordinance and  
37 with the procurement of a special magistrate; and  
38

39 **WHEREAS**, at least ten (10) days’ notice has been given once by publication in a  
40 newspaper of general circulation notifying the public of this proposed ordinance and of a  
41 public hearing in the Levy County Government Center in Bronson, Florida.  
42

43 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of County Commissioners  
44 of Levy County, Florida, that:  
45

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1           **SECTION 1.** New Secs. 2-122 and 2-123 are created within Chapter 2, Article V,  
2 Division 1 to read as follows.

3  
4       **Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION**  
5       **ARTICLE V. ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT**  
6       **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

7  
8       **Sec. 2-122. Definitions.**

9  
10      As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below, unless  
11 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

12  
13      *Code Enforcement Officer* means any designated employee or agent of Levy County or  
14 the Levy County Sheriff's Office whose duty it is to enforce codes and ordinances enacted  
15 by the county. This includes, but is not limited to, officers, inspectors, and other code  
16 compliance personnel such as those for or related to building, zoning, solid waste  
17 management, environmental protection, animal, and fire safety.

18  
19      *Code or Ordinance* means any local law adopted by ordinance of the Levy County Board  
20 of County Commissioners. Codified ordinances are referred to as the Code of  
21 Ordinances.

22  
23      **Sec. 2-123. Code Enforcement Officers.**

24  
25      No code enforcement officer or other designed employee and agent of Levy County  
26 whose duty it is to enforce the code and ordinances shall render himself/herself personally  
27 liable for any damage(s) that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act  
28 required or permitted in the discharge of his/her duties. Each code enforcement officer  
29 shall be immune from all civil and criminal liability, for his or her reasonable, good faith  
30 entry upon real property while under the discharge of duties imposed by this article.

31  
32      **Secs. 2-124 122—2-135. Reserved.**

33  
34  
35      **SECTION 2.** Secs. 2-136 and 2-137 within Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2 are revised  
36 as set forth below. Except as amended herein, the remainder of Division 2 remains in full  
37 force and effect.

38  
39       **Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION**  
40       **ARTICLE V. ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT**  
41       **DIVISION 2. CITATIONS**

42  
43       **Sec. 2-136. Reserved. Definitions.**

44  
45      ~~As used in this division, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth in this~~

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1 ~~section, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:~~

2  
3 ~~Code enforcement officer means any designated employee or agent of the county whose~~  
4 ~~duty it is to enforce codes and ordinances. enacted by the county. Employees or agents~~  
5 ~~who are designated as code enforcement officers for purposes of this section may~~  
6 ~~include, but are not limited to, code inspectors, code compliance officers, code~~  
7 ~~enforcement officers, law enforcement officers, animal control officers, fire safety~~  
8 ~~inspectors, landfill or recycle supervisors or employees, or any other employee or agent~~  
9 ~~designated as a code enforcement officer by the county coordinator or county~~  
10 ~~development department director.~~

11  
12 ~~Code or codes means any ordinance or ordinances of Levy County, Florida, and any~~  
13 ~~section or sections contained in this Code of Ordinances of Levy County, Florida, as any~~  
14 ~~or all of the same exist and as they may be amended.~~

15  
16 ~~Ordinance or ordinances means any ordinance or ordinances of Levy County, Florida.~~

17  
18 **Sec. 2-137. Provisions supplemental.**

19  
20 The provisions of this division are adopted pursuant to F.S. §§ 162.21 and ~~462.23~~ 828.27,  
21 are enacted to protect the public health, safety and welfare, and are additional and  
22 supplemental means of enforcing county codes or ordinances. Nothing contained in this  
23 division shall prohibit the county from enforcing any or all codes or ordinances by any  
24 other means.

25  
26 **Secs. 2-143 – 2-149 160. Reserved.**

27  
28  
29 **SECTION 3.** A new Division 3 titled “Special Magistrate” is created within Chapter 2,  
30 Article V to read as follows.

31  
32 **Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION**  
33 **ARTICLE V. ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT**  
34 **DIVISION 3. SPECIAL MAGISTRATE**  
35

36 **Sec. 2-150. Special Magistrate.**

37 (a) Creation; alternative proceedings; jurisdiction. There is hereby created a county  
38 code enforcement special magistrate to hear alleged violations of the code or  
39 ordinances. Code enforcement proceedings pursuant to this division are alternative  
40 and supplemental to all other methods of code enforcement provided by Florida  
41 law. Any special magistrate under contract with the county shall have jurisdiction  
42 and authority to hear and decide any alleged violation of the code or ordinances in  
43 accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1 (b) Selection. The board of county commissioners may, through a request for  
2 proposals or other competitive solicitation, select and contract with one or more  
3 qualified individuals or firms to act as a primary special magistrate and/or alternate  
4 special magistrate in the event of conflict of interest or absence of the primary  
5 special magistrate.

6 (c) Minimum qualifications. To be considered for appointment or reappointment, a  
7 special magistrate must have the minimum qualifications set forth below. In  
8 addition, the county may specify further qualifications and/or requirements in its  
9 solicitation documents.

10 (1) Membership in good standing in the Florida Bar;

11  
12 (2) Relevant experience in litigation, quasi-judicial proceedings, administrative  
13 hearings, code enforcement and/or local government law; and

14  
15 (3) Must not hold any office, employment or represent other clients that would create  
16 frequently recurring conflicts of interest if appointed as a special magistrate.

17  
18 (d) Term; removal. A special magistrate contract shall be for a term of 4 years from the  
19 effective date. The board of county commissioners may extend the contract term  
20 for subsequent periods of 4 years without additional competitive procurement  
21 process. Any such extension must be approved by written amendment between  
22 the parties and may contain other amended terms as negotiated by the parties.  
23 During any term, the board of county commissioners may remove a special  
24 magistrate, with or without cause, as set forth in the contract between the parties.

25  
26 (e) Compensation. Special magistrates are not county employees, they are  
27 independent contractors compensated as established by contract with the county.

28 (f) Public officer. Special magistrates are public officers and are, therefore, subject to  
29 the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees found in Chapter 112, Florida  
30 Statutes, and are subject to Florida's Public Records laws.

31 (g) Administrative support. A special magistrate must provide any administrative  
32 support they deem necessary to perform their duties.

33 (h) Recusal. At any point before, during or after a hearing, a special magistrate may  
34 recuse themselves to assure a fair proceeding free from potential bias or prejudice. A  
35 special magistrate shall not hear any case in which they have a conflict of interest.  
36 In the event of such recusal or conflict, the alternate special magistrate may hear  
37 the case or the county may request a hearing officer from the Florida Department of  
38 Administrative Hearings to hear the case.

39 (i) Ex parte communication. Special magistrates should avoid ex parte communication  
40 concerning cases which may come before them. If a special magistrate receives ex  
41 parte communications, the special magistrate must disclose the source and nature

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1 of the ex parte communication before hearing that violation and must consider any  
2 motion for recusal by a party, including the county.

3 (j) Powers. Pursuant to Sections 162.03 and 162.08, Florida Statutes, the special  
4 magistrate shall have all of the powers of a code enforcement board, including the  
5 power to:

6 (1) Adopt rules for the conduct of hearings.

7 (2) Subpoena alleged violators, witnesses and evidence to the hearings.  
8 Subpoenas may be served by the sheriff's office.

9 (3) Take testimony under oath.

10 (4) Issue orders having the force of law to command whatever steps are necessary  
11 to bring a violation into compliance.

## 12 **Sec. 2-151. Clerk.**

13 The county coordinator will designate county employee(s) to serve as the clerk for  
14 special magistrate hearings. The duties of the clerk include providing public notice of  
15 hearings, preparing agendas, preparing minutes, distributing orders issued by the  
16 special magistrate, recording orders in the public records, sending requests for payment  
17 of fines and costs, preparing and recording satisfactions and releases, and handling  
18 other administrative duties related to the special magistrate program as are assigned by  
19 the county coordinator.

## 20 **Sec. 2-152. Enforcement procedures.**

21 Enforcement procedures shall be as follows:

22 (a) Code enforcement officers will initiate code enforcement proceedings. A special  
23 magistrate has no authority to initiate enforcement proceedings. A code  
24 enforcement officer is authorized to issue a notice of violation to a person when,  
25 based upon personal investigation, the officer has reasonable cause to believe that  
26 the person has committed a violation or the property they own is in violation of the  
27 code or an ordinance.

28  
29 (b) A code enforcement officer may initiate an investigation based upon:

30  
31 (1) The code enforcement officer observing an alleged violation while performing  
32 his/her duties.

33  
34 (2) A complaint received from a person who provides his or her name and address  
35 to the code enforcement office.

36  
37 (3) An anonymous complaint from a person, but only if the officer has reason to  
38 believe that the violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety, or  
39 welfare or imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources. Otherwise,

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1           Section 162.21, Florida Statutes, prohibits initiating an investigation based on an  
2           anonymous complaint.

- 3
- 4 (c) Except as provided in (e) below, if an initial violation is found, the code enforcement  
5 officer shall notify the violator in accordance with (f) below and provide a reasonable  
6 time, which shall be no more than 30 days, to correct the violation. The case may  
7 then be presented to the special magistrate even if the violation is corrected prior to  
8 the special magistrate hearing.
- 9
- 10 (d) If a repeat violation is found, the code enforcement officer shall notify the violator in  
11 accordance with (f) below, but is not required to provide a reasonable time to correct  
12 the violation. The case may be presented to the special magistrate even if the repeat  
13 violation is corrected prior to the special magistrate hearing.
- 14
- 15 (e) If the code enforcement officer has reason to believe the violation presents a serious  
16 threat to the public health, safety, or welfare or is irreparable or irreversible in nature,  
17 the code enforcement officer shall make a reasonable effort to notify the violator, but  
18 is not required to provide a reasonable time to correct the violation and may  
19 immediately schedule the matter for a special magistrate hearing.
- 20
- 21 (f) A notice of violation issued to a violator must contain, at a minimum:
- 22
- 23           (1) The date of issuance of the notice.
- 24
- 25           (2) The name and address of the person or entity to whom the notice is  
26 issued.
- 27
- 28           (3) A description of the violation(s) and the date they were observed by the  
29 code enforcement officer.
- 30
- 31           (4) The number or section of the code(s) or ordinance(s) violated.
- 32
- 33           (5) The name and title of the code enforcement officer.
- 34
- 35           (6) The date for compliance and the corrective action necessary for  
36 compliance.
- 37
- 38           (7) The procedure for the person to request a compliance inspection.
- 39
- 40           (8) The date, time and location of the special magistrate hearing to contest  
41 the violation. If the hearing information is not known and cannot be  
42 included in the notice of violation, then a second notice must be sent to  
43 the violator informing them of the date, time and location of the hearing.

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1           This second notice must be sent at least 10 calendar days prior to the  
2           hearing date,

3  
4           (9) A statement that if the violator fails to come into compliance within the  
5           time allowed, or fails to appear before the special magistrate to contest the  
6           violation, the violator shall be deemed to have waived his or her right to  
7           contest the violation and that, in such case, an order imposing fines, costs  
8           and fees may be entered against the violator and shall constitute a lien  
9           against real and personal property.

10  
11           (10) A statement advising the alleged violator that the case may be presented  
12           to the special magistrate even if the violation is corrected prior to the  
13           special magistrate hearing.

14  
15           (g) The notice of violation shall be provided by one of the means set forth below.  
16           Evidence of mail delivery or hand delivery or the affidavit of posting shall be  
17           sufficient to show that notice requirements have been met without regard to whether  
18           or not the alleged violator actually received such notice.

19  
20                   (1) Certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address listed in the tax  
21                   collector's office for tax notices or to the address listed in the county  
22                   property appraiser's database. For property owned by a corporation,  
23                   notices may be provided to the registered agent of the corporation. If any  
24                   notice sent by certified mail is not signed as received within 30 days after  
25                   the postmarked date of mailing, notice may be provided by posting the  
26                   property. Proof of posting shall be by affidavit of the person posting the  
27                   notice, which affidavit shall include a copy of the notice posted and the  
28                   date and place of its posting; or

29                   (2) Hand delivery by the sheriff or other law enforcement officer or a code  
30                   enforcement officer; or

31                   (3) Leaving the notice at the violator's usual place of residence with any  
32                   person residing therein who is above 15 years of age and informing such  
33                   person of the contents of the notice; or in the case of commercial  
34                   premises, leaving the notice with the manager or other person in charge.

35  
36           **Sec. 2-153. Transfer of property during enforcement proceedings.**

37           If the owner of property which is subject to an enforcement proceeding transfers  
38           ownership of such property between the time of the notice of violation and the time of  
39           the hearing, such owner shall:

40  
41                   (1) Disclose, in writing, the existence and the nature of the proceeding to the

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1           prospective transferee.

2  
3           (2) Deliver to the prospective transferee a copy of the pleadings, notices, and  
4           other materials relating to the code enforcement proceeding received by the  
5           transferor.

6  
7           (3) Disclose, in writing, to the prospective transferee that the new owner will be  
8           responsible for compliance with the applicable code and with orders issued in  
9           the code enforcement proceeding.

10  
11           (4) Notify the code enforcement office of the transfer of the property, with the  
12           identity and address of the new owner and copies of the disclosures made to  
13           the new owner, within five days after the date of the transfer.

14  
15           A failure to make the disclosures described above before the transfer creates a  
16           rebuttable presumption of fraud that may be enforced by the prospective transferee. If  
17           the property is transferred before a hearing, the proceeding shall not be dismissed, but  
18           the hearing may be rescheduled to provide the new owner (if they purchased in an arms  
19           length transaction for valuable consideration or obtained the property through  
20           foreclosure or deed-in-lieu of foreclosure) a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 30  
21           days, to correct the violation.

22           **Sec. 2-154. Special Magistrate Hearings; post-hearing process.**

23           (a) *Schedule of hearings.* The county coordinator, or designee, may schedule special  
24           magistrate hearings on an as-needed basis and/or may establish a fixed schedule  
25           of hearings, any one of which may be cancelled if no cases are ready to be heard.  
26           When possible, multiple cases will be scheduled for each hearing.

27           (b) *Sunshine law.* As required by Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine law, the  
28           county will provide reasonable public notice of the special magistrate hearings, the  
29           hearings will be open to the public and minutes of the hearings will be kept.

30           (c) *Burden of proof.* The county has the burden of proof to show by a preponderance  
31           of the evidence that a violation exists.

32           (d) *Evidence.* All testimony shall be under oath. A special magistrate, the county and  
33           the violator may inquire of any witness. Formal rules of evidence do not apply, but  
34           fundamental due process shall be observed and shall govern such proceedings.

35           (e) *Absence of alleged violator.* If the notice provisions of this division have been met,  
36           a hearing may take place in the absence of an violator.

37           (f) *Order of enforcement.* At the conclusion of the hearing, if the special magistrate  
38           finds that enforcement action is necessary, the special magistrate will issue a  
39           written order that contains: findings of fact and conclusions of law and, if applicable,

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1 the date by which compliance must be achieved, the fines that will be imposed if  
2 compliance is not achieved by the date set, and, if granted pursuant to sec. 2-155  
3 (b) and (c) below, the payment of abatement and/or enforcement costs incurred by  
4 the county . The special magistrate must issue the order and file it with the clerk  
5 either at the hearing or within 20 calendar days after the hearing.

6 (g) *Delivery of order.* Within 10 calendar days from the date that the clerk receives the  
7 executed order from a special magistrate, the clerk shall send the order to the  
8 violation by certified mail, return receipt requested.

9 (h) *Inspection; affidavit of compliance or non-compliance; recording of order.* The  
10 code enforcement officer shall inspect the violation(s) upon request of the violator  
11 or after the date for compliance set forth in the order, whichever first occurs. Upon  
12 inspection, the code enforcement officer shall issue and file with the clerk an  
13 affidavit of compliance (if they find the violation(s) fully remedied) or an affidavit of  
14 non-compliance (if they find the violation(s) not fully remedied). The clerk shall  
15 send the affidavit to the violator by certified mail, return receipt requested. When  
16 sending an affidavit of compliance, the clerk shall provide instructions for the  
17 payment of all fines, costs and interest (if any) ordered and accrued. If payment in  
18 full is received by the County within 60 calendar days of the date the affidavit is  
19 sent, the clerk will prepare a satisfaction and receipt of payment and mail same to  
20 the violator.

21 (i) *Recording of order.* If payment in full is not received by the county within 60  
22 calendar days of the date the affidavit of compliance is sent, or if an affidavit of non-  
23 compliance is sent, the Clerk shall then record a certified copy of the special  
24 magistrate's order, together with the affidavit of compliance or affidavit of non-  
25 compliance, in the public records of Levy County.

26 (j) *Compliance and payment; Satisfaction and release.* If, after recording of the order,  
27 the violation(s) are fully remedied and payment in full is made to the county, the  
28 county shall record a satisfaction of the order and release of lien. The county is  
29 entitled to collect from the property owner all costs incurred in recording and  
30 satisfying the lien

31 (k) *Compliance without payment.* If, after recording the order, the violation(s) are fully  
32 remedied but the fines, costs and interest (if any) ordered are not paid, the county  
33 shall record an affidavit of compliance to stop the accrual of daily fines, but the  
34 recorded order will remain a lien and will not be satisfied until all amounts due  
35 thereunder are paid to the county.

36 (l) *Reduction.* After violation(s) are fully remedied and upon request of the property  
37 owner, the county coordinator is authorized to negotiate a reduction of the amounts  
38 due to the county; however, final approval of any reduction requires action of the  
39 board of county commissioners.

40 **Sec. 2-155. Fines, abatement action and costs, enforcement costs and liens.**

41 (a) *Fines.* Upon finding a violation or repeat violation exists, the special magistrate may

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

1 impose fines that do not exceed \$250.00 per day for a first violation, \$500.00 per  
2 day for a repeat violation, and \$5,000.00 per violation if the special magistrate finds  
3 a violation to be irreparable or irreversible in nature. In determining the amount of  
4 the fine, if any, the special magistrate shall consider the following factors: (1) the  
5 gravity of the violation; (2) any actions taken by the violator to correct the violation;  
6 and (3) any previous violations committed by the violator. Fines imposed shall  
7 continue to accrue until the violator comes into compliance or until judgment is  
8 rendered pursuant to this division, whichever occurs first.

9  
10 (b) *Abatement action and costs.* If the violation or the condition causing the violation  
11 presents a serious threat to the public health, safety, or welfare or if the violation is  
12 irreparable or irreversible in nature, the special magistrate may authorize the county  
13 to board and seal, make reasonable repairs or demolish or remove the violation in  
14 order to bring the property into compliance. The special magistrate shall order the  
15 violator to pay the reasonable costs incurred by the county, along with the fines  
16 imposed pursuant to (a), such costs will be considered an additional fine and  
17 included in the lien. Any such action taken by the county does not create a  
18 continuing obligation on the part of the county to make further repairs or to maintain  
19 the property and does not create any liability against the county for any damages to  
20 the property if such action was undertaken in good faith.

21  
22 (c) *Enforcement costs.* In addition to the fines in (a) above and abatement costs in (b)  
23 above, the special magistrate may order that the violator pay the costs incurred by  
24 the County in enforcing the code and bringing a case before the special magistrate.  
25 If awarded, such costs will be considered an additional fine and included in the lien.

26  
27 (d) *Lien.* Upon the recording of a certified copy of an order imposing fines and/or costs,  
28 it shall thereafter constitute a lien against the land on which the violation exists and  
29 upon any other real or personal property owned by the violator, and it shall  
30 constitute notice to and be binding upon the violator and any subsequent  
31 purchasers, successors in interest, or assigns.

32  
33 (e) *Execution and Levy; Foreclosure.* If, after three months from the recording of the  
34 order, the lien remains unpaid, the county may foreclose on the lien or sue to  
35 recover a money judgment for the amount of the lien plus accrued interest. Upon  
36 petition to the circuit court, each recorded order shall be enforceable in the same  
37 manner as a court judgment by the sheriffs of the State of Florida, including  
38 execution and levy against the personal property of the violator, but such order shall  
39 not be deemed otherwise to be a judgment of a court except for enforcement  
40 purposes. The foreclosure and money judgment provisions of this division shall not  
41 apply to real property or personal property which is exempt under Section 4, Article  
42 X of the Florida Constitution. In an action to foreclose on a lien, the prevailing party  
43 is entitled to recover costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, incurred in the  
44 foreclosure. The continuation of the lien affected by the commencement of the

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1 action shall not be good against creditors or subsequent purchasers for valuable  
2 consideration with notice, unless a notice of lis pendens is recorded.

3  
4 (f) Duration of Lien. In accordance with Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, no lien provided  
5 by this division may continue for a period longer than 20 years after the certified  
6 copy of an order imposing a fine has been recorded unless, within that time, an  
7 action to foreclose on the lien or for a money judgment is commenced in a court of  
8 competent jurisdiction.

9 **Sec. 2-156. Appeals.**

10 Pursuant to Section 162.11, Florida Statutes, an aggrieved party, including the county,  
11 may file an appeal of a final order of the special magistrate to the circuit court within 30  
12 days of the date of the order. The appeal is not a hearing de novo, but rather is limited  
13 to appellate review of the record created before the special magistrate.

14  
15 **Sec. 2-157 – 2-160 Reserved.**

16  
17 **SECTION 4. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase,  
18 portion or provision of this ordinance is for any reason declared or held invalid or  
19 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such section, subsection,  
20 sentence, clause, phrase, portion or provision shall be deemed a separate, distinct and  
21 independent provision, and the remainder of this ordinance shall be not affected by such  
22 declaration or holding.

23  
24 **SECTION 5. Repeal.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances and all resolutions or  
25 parts of resolutions of Levy County that are in conflict with this ordinance are, to the extent  
26 of the conflict, hereby repealed.

27  
28 **SECTION 6. Inclusion in the Code.** The provisions of Sections 1 through 3 of  
29 this ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Levy County Code, and the  
30 sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered and the word “ordinance” may  
31 be changed to “section,” “article,” “regulation,” or such other appropriate word or phrase  
32 in order to accomplish the codification.

33  
34 **SECTION 7. Effective Date.** In accordance with Section 125.66, Florida Statutes,  
35 the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners is directed to file this ordinance with the  
36 Florida Department of State within 10 days after adoption and upon such filing, this  
37 ordinance shall become effective.

38  
39 **ADOPTED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2023.

40 **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
41 **OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
42

Note: deletions shown ~~stricken~~, additions shown underlined.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Brooks, Chairman

**ATTEST:** Danny J. Shipp, Clerk of  
the Circuit Court and Ex-Officio Clerk  
to the Board of County Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
Danny J. Shipp

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicolle M. Shalley, County Attorney

Note: Additions shown underlined, deletions shown ~~stricken~~.