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CITY OF WESTLAKE

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, 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

**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 staffs 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 staffs who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first contact of citizens with cities; and

1           **WHEREAS**, The City Council of the City of Westlake, Florida has complied with  
2 all requirements and procedures of Florida law in processing and adopting this  
3 Resolution.

4           **Now, Therefore, be it Resolved By The City Council of the City of Westlake,**  
5 **Florida follows:**

6           (1). The City Council of the City of Westlake, Florida hereby adopts the  
7 recitals set forth in this Resolution (whereas clauses) as the legislative findings of the City  
8 Council of the City of Westlake, Florida.

9           (2). The Mayor and The City Council of the City of Westlake, Florida, hereby  
10 urges and encourages the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public  
11 records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections  
12 work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a municipality.

13           (3). The City Council of the City of Westlake, Florida is hereby directed and  
14 authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, each  
15 State Senator and Representative serving in the Palm Beach County Legislative  
16 Delegation, the Palm Beach County League of Cities, and the Florida League of Cities  
17 (FLC).

18           (4). This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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20           **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by City Council for the City of Westlake, Florida this  
21 \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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Zoie Burgess, City Clerk

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Approved as to form and legal sufficiency.

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Donald "DJ" Doody, City Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_

City of Westlake

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor