



# FLORIDA COURT CLERKS & COMPTROLLERS

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## Clerks & Comptrollers Praise Amendment 10 Court Decision

**TALLAHASSEE** — Florida’s clerks and comptrollers today praised 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Judge James O. Shelfer’s decision that confirms Amendment 10 is eligible for the ballot, affirming that the proposed ballot language is clear and accurate. An appeal has been filed in the First District Court of Appeal, which may certify the matter directly to the Florida Supreme Court in order to meet time constraints in printing the November ballot. Passage of Amendment 10 would ensure Florida’s constitutional officers are accountable directly to the people they serve, Florida’s voters.

FCCC President Sharon Bock, the Clerk & Comptroller for Palm Beach County, said, “On behalf of the Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers, we applaud Judge Shelfer’s decision. Amendment 10 guarantees your right to vote for the public trustees who protect public funds, communities and our way of life. I am proud to stand with all court clerks and comptrollers to educate the public about the importance of Amendment 10.”

Martin County Clerk & Comptroller Carolyn Timmann served as a commissioner on the 2018 Constitution Revision Commission (CRC), which developed Amendment 10. Timmann is the only clerk in the CRC’s 40-year history to serve as a commissioner.

“Amendment 10 protects the people’s right to vote for their constitutional officers: clerks of court, supervisors of elections, property appraisers, tax collectors and sheriffs,” said Timmann. “I am proud that the hard work of the CRC has been validated by the court, and I am happy that the people of Florida will have the opportunity to vote on this, along with other measures important to protecting our veterans, families and tax dollars.”

FCCC members voted unanimously to endorse an Amendment 10 educational campaign during the association’s 40th anniversary annual summer conference in June.

In addition to protecting the election of constitutional officers by voters, Amendment 10

- preserves the structure and governance of the Department of Veterans’ Affairs,



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- creates the Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within FDLE, and
- improves state budgeting by starting legislative session in January of even-numbered years.

Constitutional officers across Florida have joined to educate the public about Amendment 10.

Florida Sheriffs Association President, Columbia County Sheriff Mark Hunter, said: *“Judge Shelfer made a sound ruling today for the voters of Florida. Every county deserves the right to have an elected and independent sheriff who works directly for the people. Sheriffs of Florida are pleased to know that this November, Floridians can guarantee their right to vote for their sheriff is protected in our Constitution.”*

Florida Tax Collectors Association President, Suwannee County Tax Collector Sharon W. Jordan, stated that today’s ruling: *“makes clear that the Florida Constitution Revision Commission and its outside counsel drafted ballot summary language in a manner that clearly states the chief purpose of proposed Amendment 10. This Amendment protects every Floridian’s right to vote for their Tax Collector, Clerk of Court, Supervisor of Election, Property Appraiser and Sheriff.”*

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*FCCC is a statewide nonprofit member association composed of Florida’s clerks of the circuit court and comptrollers. In most counties, the clerk of the circuit court also serves as the county treasurer, recorder, auditor, finance officer, and ex-officio clerk of the county commission. FCCC provides technical assistance and accreditation opportunities for all members of the association, as well as local government support services. For more information, visit [www.flclerks.com](http://www.flclerks.com).*