

🔽 Communications@FLClerks.com 🗾 (850) 868-1042 🗾 @FloridaClerks

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**CONTACT:** FCCC Office of Marketing & Communications

EMAIL: Communications@FLClerks.com

**PHONE:** (850) 868-1042

## Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers Celebrates 2025 Sunshine Week

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – This week, Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers (FCCC) is celebrating 2025 Sunshine Week (March 16-22, 2025), the annual recognition week honoring Florida's commitment to transparency and government in the sunshine.

"Clerks of Court and Comptrollers are committed to ensuring our records remain secure and protected, while always upholding the principles of openness and accountability that are essential to a transparent government," said 2024-2025 FCCC President and Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court Tiffany Moore Russell, Esq. "This Sunshine Week, I encourage you to learn more about the records we hold and how to access them."

Clerks of Court uphold transparency in county government and the court system with accurate recordkeeping and efficient reporting. Toward this responsibility, Clerks of Court provide citizens access to public documents such as court and official records, offer fraud services for the public to shed light on allegations of fraud and waste, and enhance access to public information by harnessing new technologies to provide more official documents and services online.

In their function as Comptroller, most Clerks promote fiscal transparency in county government by conducting independent audits and reviews of county expenses and activities and maintaining financial records and reports on financial activities for the Board of County Commissioners. Many Comptrollers also develop annual financial reports, often accessible online, to help constituents understand how their tax dollars are managed and spent.

In honor of Sunshine Week, Clerks of Court are providing quick tips for requesting public records from their local offices:

- Get to know the contacts for requesting public records. Many offices have Public Records liaisons. If you request public records frequently, it may be helpful to contact these individuals.
- Be precise with your public records requests. Putting your request in writing and being specific with your request helps improve efficiency.

- Most public records are available online. For a list of records available online, please visit your
  Clerk of Court's website or contact their office.
- **Don't know what you're looking for? Just ask.** Public Records liaisons are here to assist you with formulating the most appropriate request to fulfil your needs.

For more information, visit www.FLClerks.com/page/SunshineWeek.

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Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers (FCCC) is a statewide, nonprofit member association composed of Florida's Clerks of the Circuit Court and Comptrollers. FCCC provides local government support services, technical assistance and accreditation opportunities for all members of the association. For more information, visit <a href="www.FLClerks.com">www.FLClerks.com</a>.