



2026

CLERK OF THE COURT & COMPTROLLER OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2024 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

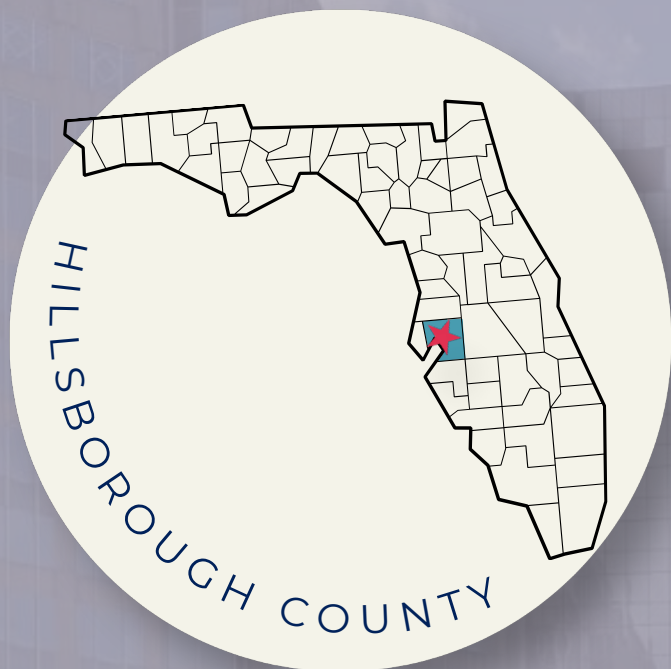


VICTOR D. CRIST

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FL

EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE!





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ABOUT OUR THEME

Hillsborough County is the 4th largest county in the State of Florida. We dedicate our Annual Report to the other residents of Hillsborough County; the animals. We are home to over 7,000 different species that help every day to make Hillsborough great. Look out for some fun facts about our neighbors as you flip through this report.





Welcome to our 2026 Annual Report!

As Clerk, some of my key priorities include empowering our more than 700 dedicated employees, strengthening our organization, continuing to be a trusted partner and building a workforce that prioritizes character, competency and culture.

Together, our goal is to deliver essential services that make Hillsborough County and our court system a model of efficiency and innovation in the state of Florida.

Our 2026 Annual Report is designed to highlight our work in an informative, interactive format accessible to everyone. We included the County's financial overview, performance data, and information about how taxpayer dollars and other revenues are utilized.

As you explore the data, you will notice our playful animal theme woven throughout. Get ready to embark on a wildlife adventure. From our team members' favorite creatures to quirky, delightful facts about species that also call Hillsborough County home, we hope you will enjoy meeting our wild "neighbors" and learning what makes them so extraordinary.

In keeping with our commitment to transparency and accessibility, the full report is also available online at www.hillsclerk.com.

I welcome your feedback and questions. Please feel free to reach out to me at ClerkCrist@hillsclerk.com.

Our office remains focused on conscientious financial stewardship, optimizing resources, modernizing technology, and advancing process review and innovation.

Thank you to all Clerk's Office team members who are committed to "Excellence in Service!"

Sincerely,

Clerk and Comptroller
Hillsborough County
"Enabling Greatness in Others!"

Fun Fact: Roseate Spoonbills hatch with straight bills that slowly flatten to their spoonbill shape after about nine days.

ROLES OF THE CLERK

The Florida Constitution established the Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller as a public trustee, independently elected to safeguard your public records and public funds. We serve many roles, including Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, Board of County Commissioners, Clerk of the Court, County Recorder, and County Auditor

CLERK OF THE COURT

- Processes and files all civil and criminal court documents
- Protects evidence
- Provides the public with access to court records on paper and online
- Manages the County's jury system

COUNTY RECORDER

- Maintains official County records
- Records documents such as mortgages, deeds, liens, judgments, and marriage licenses



ROLES OF THE COMPTROLLER

COUNTY AUDITOR

- Assist management in achieving efficient and effective administration of their areas of responsibility
- Makes recommendations to management to improve internal controls and mitigate risks

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, TREASURER, BOCC

- Prepares County Financial Reports
- Pays all County bills and pre-audits all County expenditures
- Manages the County's investments to earn investment income on taxpayer funds
- Documents and maintains minutes, records, and activities of the County government meetings

Fun Fact: Octopi are highly intelligent, boneless marine invertebrates with three hearts, blue blood, and nine brains.

EXECUTIVE TEAM



VICTOR D. CRIST
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER
Oversees Circuit Court, County Finances, and Audits.
Favorite Animal: Orca



BILL BARRETT
CHIEF OF STAFF
Executive priorities and day-to-day operations.
Favorite Animal: Rottweiler



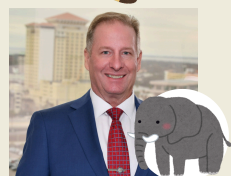
AMY O'ROURKE
ASSOCIATE CHIEF SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE CLERK
Assists the Clerk by providing strategic support and facilitating scheduling.
Favorite Animal: Giraffe



JIM PORTER
GENERAL COUNSEL
Provides legal guidance and risk management.
Favorite Animal: Bison



HERMENGILDO SANTIAGO
CHIEF OF STRATEGY AND OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Assists the Clerk by advising on organizational management matters.
Favorite Animal: Ocelot



ERIC COLEMAN
ASSOCIATE CHIEF OF TRAINING
Assist the Clerk by streamlining processes and troubleshooting issues.
Favorite Animal: Elephant



BRANDI WILLIAMS
CHIEF OF CRIMINAL COURTS
Oversees criminal court operations and case management.
Favorite Animal: Dolphin



HEIDI PINNER
CHIEF AUDIT OFFICER
Leads county audits and compliance reviews.
Favorite Animal: Anything but snakes



KIMBERLY RICHARDS
CHIEF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
Oversees retention, security, and accessibility of official records.
Favorite Animal: Shih Tzu



TIMOTHY SIMON
CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER
Manages Financial Investment Operations, budgeting, and reporting.
Favorite Animal: Eagle



Irina Nashtatik
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Manages Financial Operations, budgeting, and reporting.
Favorite Animal: Snow Leopard



ANDREW BARRIOS
CHIEF OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Manages all human resources functions and payroll processing.
Favorite Animal: Lion



ROBERT RUSS
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Assists the Clerk with Employee and Community relations.
Favorite Animal: Silver Back Gorilla



KATHLEEN ROCAMORA
CHIEF OF CIVIL COURTS
Oversees civil court operations and case management.
Favorite Animal: Dog



RICK VANARSDALL
CHIEF DEPUTY: CLERK TO THE BOARD
Manages board records, meetings, and official documents.
Favorite Animal: Golden Retriever



JARROD KLIMEK
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
Manages IT strategy and cybersecurity.
Favorite Animal: Cockerspaniel

Fun Fact: A group of many different types of animals is typically referred to as a menagerie.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Harry Cohen

DISTRICT 1



Ken Hagan,
Chair

DISTRICT 2



Gwen Myers,
Chaplain

DISTRICT 3



Christine Miller,
Vice Chair

DISTRICT 4



Donna Cameron
Cepeda,
Countywide

DISTRICT 5



Chris Boles,
Countywide

DISTRICT 6



Joshua Wostal,
Countywide

DISTRICT 7



Bonnie Wise

ADMIN

Fun Fact: An average honey bee hive has 50,000 to 60,000 members. These busy bees can visit 50 to 100 flowers in one trip.

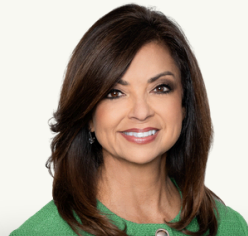
COUNTY GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP



Victor D. Crist,
Clerk of Circuit Court &
Comptroller



Bob Henriquez,
Property Appraiser



Nancy C. Millan,
Tax Collector



Craig Latimer
Supervisor of Elections



Chad Chronister,
Sheriff



Suzy Lopez,
State Attorney



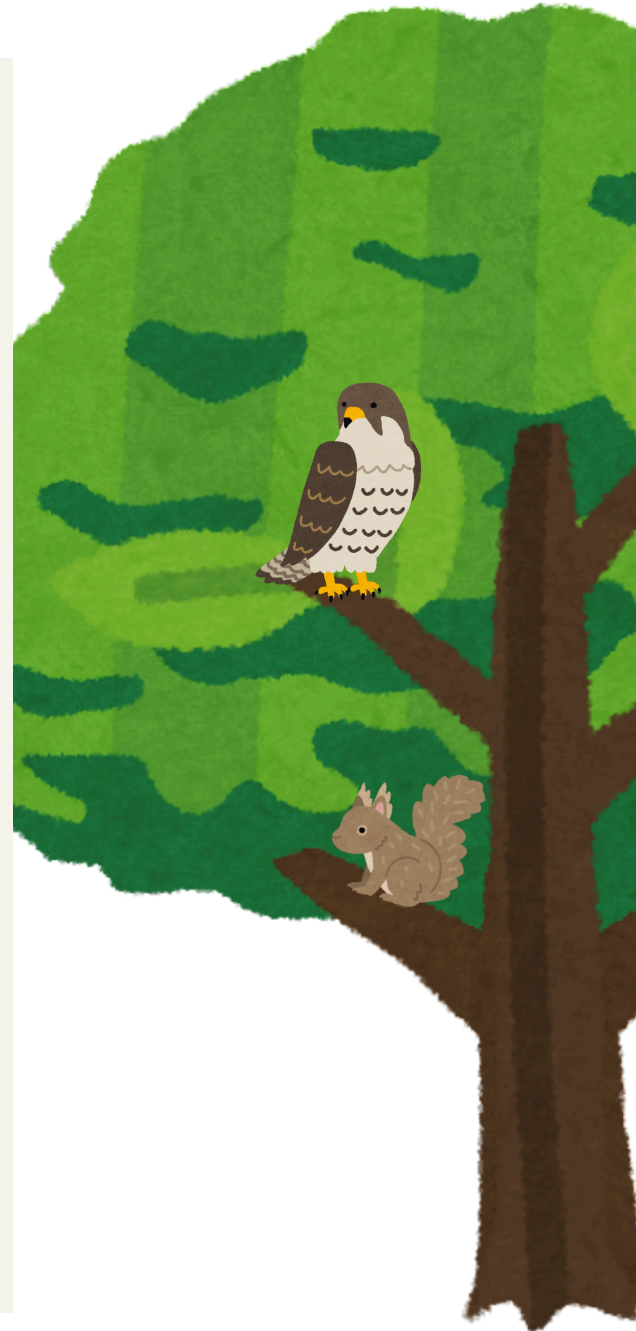
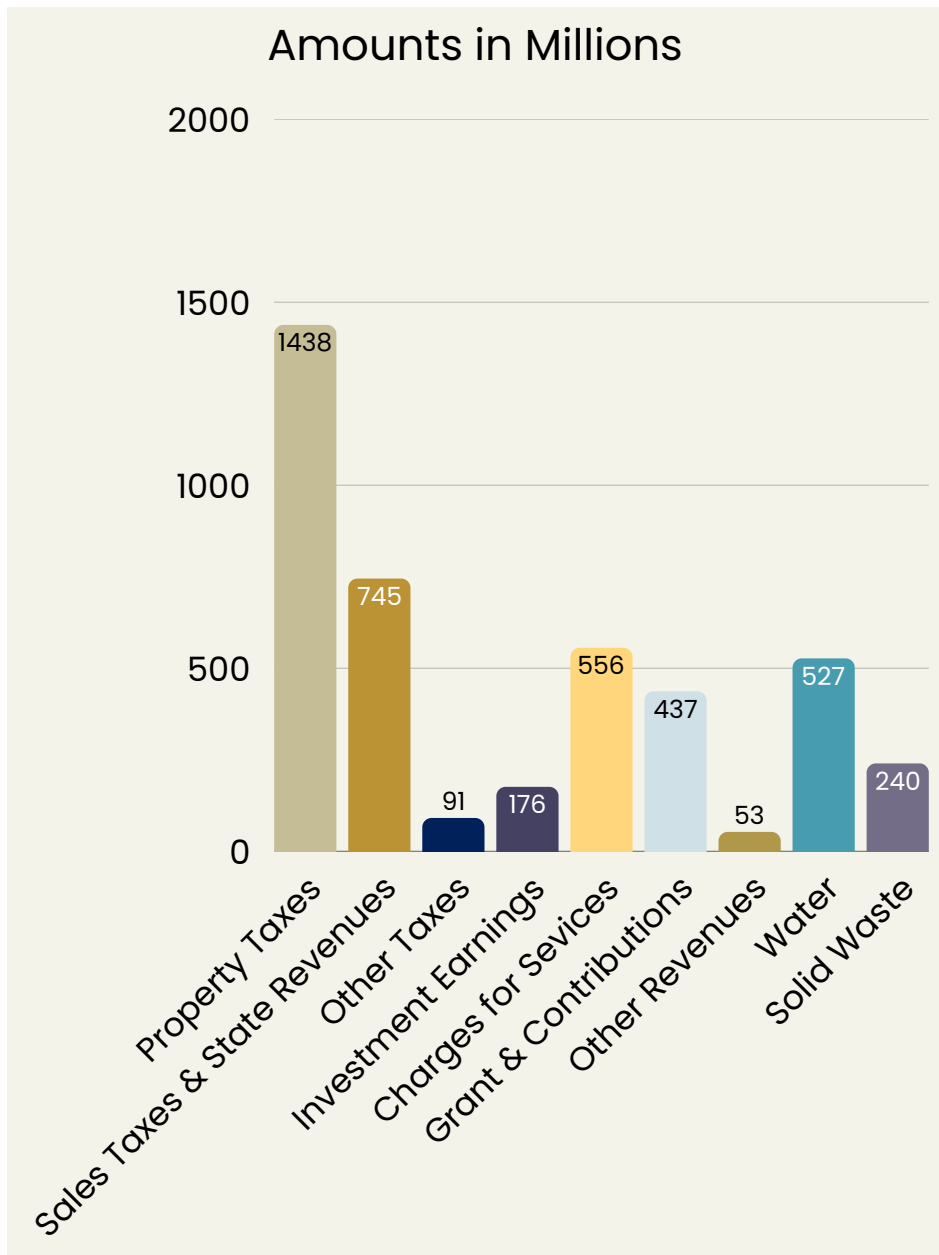
Christopher Sabella,
Chief Judge



Lisa McLean,
Public Defender

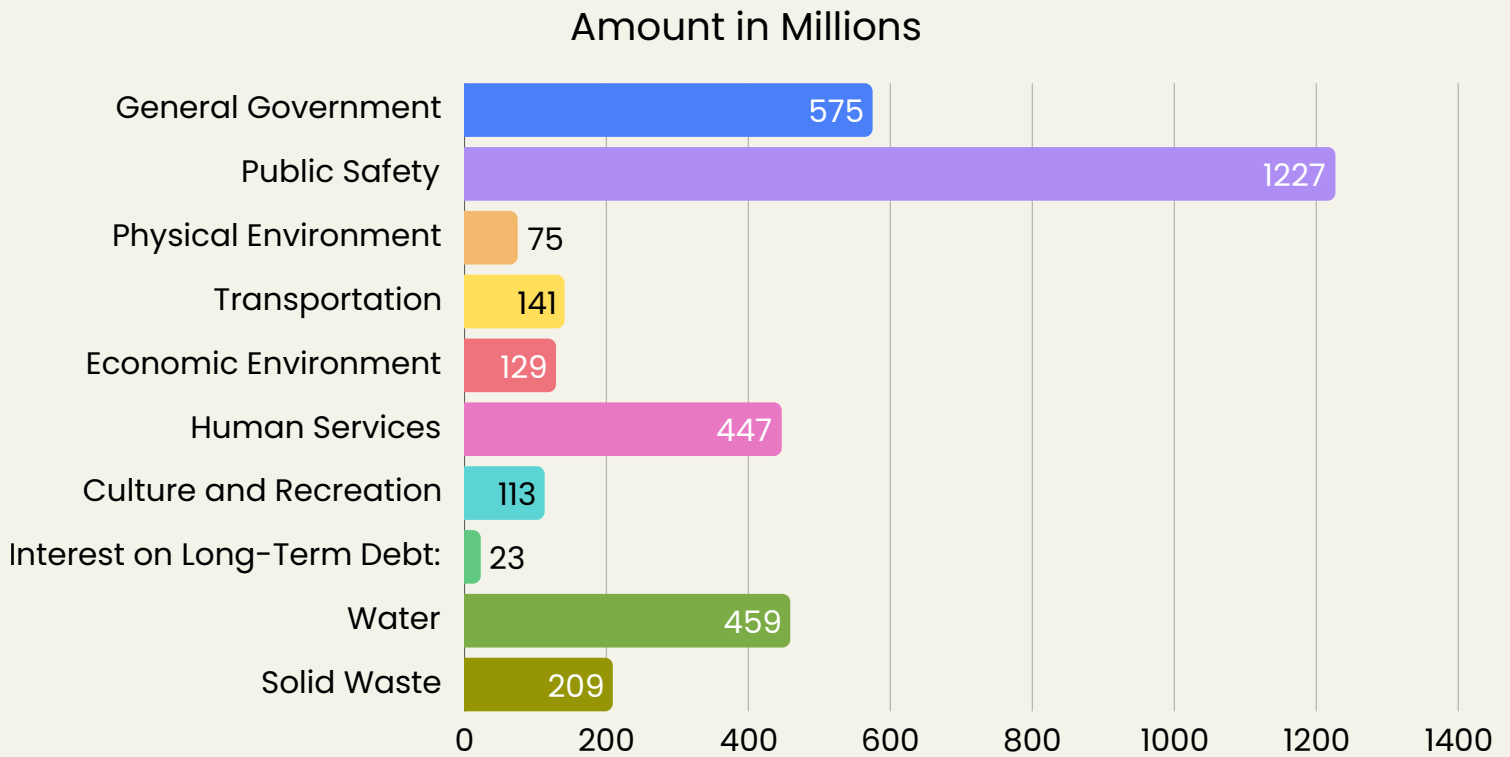
COUNTY REVENUES

Hillsborough County generates revenue from multiple sources, with the largest being taxes. Other revenue generators include user fees, grants, and state-shared revenues. The County uses this money to provide necessary services for residents. Charges for services increased by 14%. Hillsborough County charges for multiple services, including pet registration tags and the removal of wild animals from properties.



Fun Fact: Red-shouldered hawks search for their prey while perched on treetops or soaring over neighborhoods. When they see prey, they catch it by dropping onto it from the sky. They often collect food near their nests for later.

COUNTY EXPENSES



Tax dollars and other revenue must be spent in accordance with the County's budget. Each year, the Board of County Commissioners creates and approves a balanced budget detailing how public money will be spent on government operations, services, and projects. By law, each fund type must be balanced and may not show a deficit. Economic environment expenses increased by 14.5%, primarily due to an increase in distributions to the City of Tampa for Zoo Tampa's Species Survival Program. One of the animals that benefited from this is the West Indian Manatee.

Fun Fact: Manatees are herbivores that feed on over 60 species of aquatic plants in both freshwater and saltwater. When the tide is high enough, they can also feed on algae, grasses, roots, and leaves of trees like mangroves.



THIS YEAR WE ADDED OUR **CLERK W.I.S.E.** TRAINING PROGRAM



This year we introduced our new Clerk W.I.S.E training program. A department focused on raising the standard of our Excellence in Service! Clerk W.I.S.E. transforms employees into trusted stewards of the organization's mission. This curriculum aims to keep team members updated on new technologies, policies, and procedures.

Several of our executive team members have reported that they are receiving employees from the program who are more prepared to start their job assignments than with the previously provided training curriculum. New hires have stated they feel supported by their training managers throughout the process from start to finish. They also rave about our 'WOW' day. The first day of their program. This offers them the chance to get to know our organization, have lunch with Clerk Victor D. Crist, and end the day with a mixer of their leadership team.

Fun Fact: A group of Owls is called a parliament



10%
Increase in
Employee Retention



6
Training Managers providing
group and one-on-one
instruction

100
Courses Offered



90
Staff Members
Have Completed the Program

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

We had another great year serving the citizens of Hillsborough County. The document digitization initiative continues steadily, and we have seen an increase in our citizens applying for passports. The Clerk of Circuit Court's Office delivers all the county agencies' mail. This fiscal year alone, we saw over 800 thousand pieces of mail travel through our mail center.

\$4.2B

Total County Revenue

185k

**Documents
Digitized**

142k

**Jurors
Summoned**



477k

Documents E-Recorded

28

**Audit
Communications**

Fun Fact: Crows and Blue Jays are part of the Corvid family of birds. These intelligent creatures are not only collectors but planners. They will collect what they need in prep for months in the future.

19k

**Passports
Processed**

4k

**Value Adjustment
Board Petitions**

49

**Boards &
Committees
Managed**

583k

Calls Answered

918k

Total Customers Served



18k

**Marriage
Licenses Issued**

45k

**Deeds
Recorded**

6k

**Marriage
Ceremonies
Performed**

176

Felony Jury Trials

9k

**Passport
Photos taken**

830k

Pieces of Mail Delivered

13

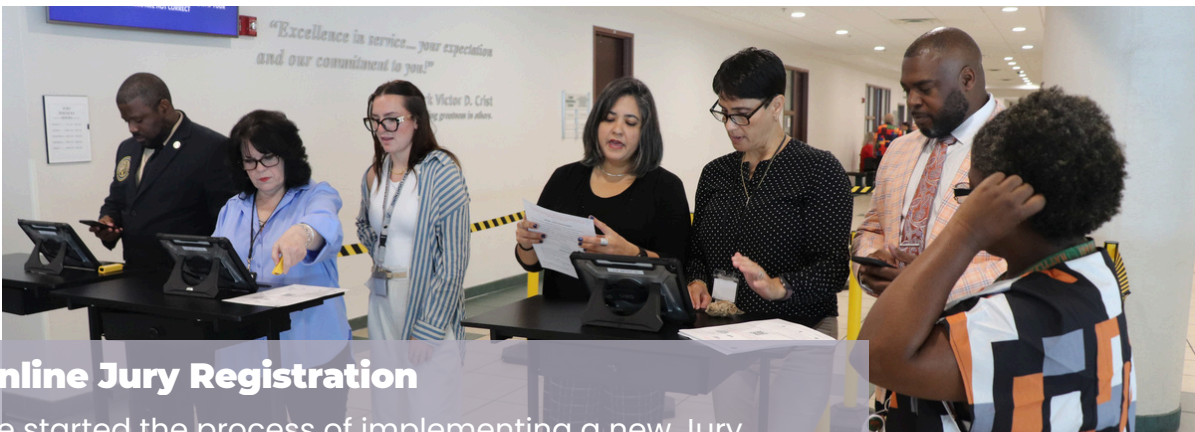
INNOVATIONS AND AI

This Fiscal Year we implemented a wide range of improvements throughout our organization. From changing bank providers to better serve the citizens of Hillsborough to host the installation of our Finger Print scanners in courtrooms to better assist our partners at the 13th Judicial and the Sheriff's Office.



USF Credit Union

Clerk Crist honored the team at U.S.F Federal Credit Union and CEO Rick Skaggs, for their outstanding service in volunteering their time and resources to help our office. They used AI for the first time to review our banking contracts. As a result, we are helping save the County millions over the next several years.



Online Jury Registration

We started the process of implementing a new Jury check-in system! Members of our team have been hard at work testing out the process in hopes of making your future jury report date as seamless as possible!





Finger Printing

We installed fingerprint scanners in all our Criminal Court rooms to help the intake process of inmates and have shared our experiences with other Clerk's Offices looking to adopt the practice.



Continuity Of Operations Plan (COOP) Training

We have instituted yearly Hurricane, Fire, and Cyber Attack Prep training with our team leaders, so we are prepared to continue to serve the citizens of Hillsborough no matter what the situation!



Sharing Our Successes

We're so excited to once again be a *Tampa Bay Times* Top Workplace! We are so proud to work side-by-side with our fellow team members every day to support the citizens of Hillsborough County!



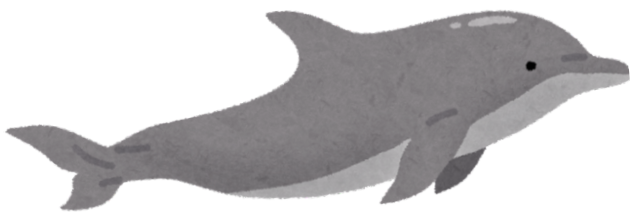
Fun Fact: Sea Otters are innovative creatures that use stones to hammer shells off the rocks and crack the hard shells of prey, making them the only known marine mammal to use tools for decades, until dolphins came along.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SUPPORTING STUDENTS



The Clerk's Office is committed to helping students succeed. Through partnerships with the Future Career Academy and Cristo Rey, we provided valuable career support. As part of the Corporate Work-Study Program, five high school students gained hands-on experience interning with our office!



VOLUNTEER EVENTS



Our team is always ready to get out into the community and offer a helping hand. Throughout the year we participate in backpack, food, and clothing drives to help local programs. As well as attending community events hosted by our county partners.

GOVERNMENT CAREER FAIR



Starting a career in local government can feel overwhelming, but we're here to help. To support local job seekers, we hosted our fifth Annual Government Career Fair, connecting 250 attendees with employment opportunities from various government agencies.

VETERANS COURT



Our annual Veterans Outreach Court event takes court services beyond the office and into the community, providing veterans with a streamlined way to resolve outstanding fines and cases in a single hearing. At our last event, we removed 96 cases from collections, dismissed 36, and waived \$32,000 in court costs; honoring our commitment to those who served.



ANNUAL TIE THE KNOT CEREMONY

We're committed to making our services as accessible and memorable as possible. That's why we host special wedding events throughout the year! On Valentine's Day, we united 23 couples in marriage in our Annual Tie the Knot ceremony. Our ceremony room is decorated seasonally, with themes like Harvest Weddings, Scaremonies, Valentine's, and Winter Wonderland!

Our goal is to create a unique and festive experience for every couple.

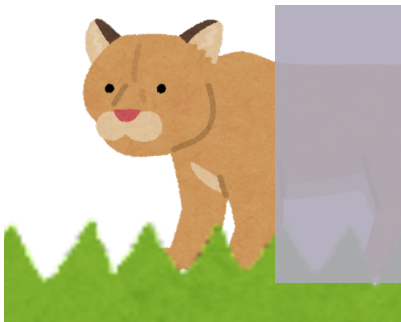
Fun Fact: Bottlenose Dolphins are social creatures. They travel in groups, called "pods", of around 10-15. In these groups they play together, as well as cooperate to raise young dolphin calves and help each other.

GOING ABOVE THE LINE OF DUTY

OUR TEAM DEDICATED TO PROVIDING
EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE



Lily, Glenda, and Bethany of our amazing BOCC Team gave a Board Policy training on Boards and Committees. Over 40 staff members from several outside offices participated and provided tons of positive feedback. Many said that the presentation was informative, expertly put together, and clarified so many questions that people were having!



Omega and Jessica, two of our Customer Service Reps, were awarded our Executive Excellence award for their quick thinking in a medical emergency. During a transaction, a customer reported to Omega that she felt faint. Wasting no time, Omega rushed around the counter and caught the customer before she hit the ground. Seeing the scene, Jessica hurried over to help Omega lower the customer down safely, and both women sat with her until paramedics arrived. 18

GOING ABOVE THE LINE OF DUTY

OUR TEAM DEDICATED TO PROVIDING
EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE



We proudly celebrated the reopening of our Clerk's Table Food Pantry with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony and dedication honoring former Clerk Cindy Stuart.

Clerk Stuart founded the Clerk's Table in 2021.

In partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay, the Clerk's Table has served more than 3,000 county staff members and their families to date.



Our office was happy to donate food for the Camp Street Light event hosted by Hillsborough County Children's Services. The program brings awareness to youth homelessness in our community.

Fun Fact: There are only about 200 Florida Panthers left in the wild. Their biggest predator is habitat loss.



Don't Be a Victim!

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM PROPERTY FRAUD

WITH **FREE** FRAUD ALERTS!



IN FY2025

WE GAINED 16K SUBSCRIBERS!



[HILLSCLERK.COM/
PROPERTY-FRAUD-ALERT](https://HILLSCLERK.COM/PROPERTY-FRAUD-ALERT)

FBI calls it the “fastest growing white-collar crime.”

It takes less than 5 minutes to sign up! Property Fraud Alert is a free service to help you protect your property from fraud by monitoring the documents being recorded in the Official Records of the Clerk of Court.

By signing up for FREE property fraud alerts, you will receive a notification by email or telephone whenever a document is recorded in Hillsborough County using your name or your business name. If you receive an alert about activity not initiated by you, this early notification can provide valuable time to stop criminals in their tracks.

Fun Fact: Studies have shown that the relationship between American alligators and wading birds in the Florida Everglades is a bodyguard relationship, with Alligators protecting bird breeding sites.

INITIATIVES THAT SET US APART



Our Junior Clerks Program

We have started a young employees group (between the ages of 18 and 32) to foster growth within our office. We hope that our next directors are already hired! In FY25 we added 15 members

Our School & Business Tours

From Rotary Clubs to Summer Camps, we love getting the chance to share about our organization with tours around our offices!



Our Juror Compensation Program

This program allows jurors to make a meaningful impact by donating their daily compensation to a statutorily appointed non-profit. In FY25 we collected \$46k for Voices for Children Foundation!



HOW WE SERVE YOU



SEARCH COURT RECORDS



PROCESS MARRIAGE LICENSES



MAKE PAYMENTS



FIND COURT DATES



CHECK JURY STATUS



FILE CASES



SEARCH HISTORICAL RECORDS



PASSPORT APPLICATIONS



Fun Fact: It takes a lot of energy for the Hummingbird to maintain it's intense pace, which is why they can consume up to three times their body weight in food a day.



BRANDON REGIONAL SERVICE CENTER

311 PAULS DRIVE
BRANDON, FL 33511



PLANT CITY COURTHOUSE

301 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
PLANT CITY, FL 33563



PAT FRANK COURTHOUSE

419 NORTH PIERCE STREET
TAMPA, FL 33602



GEORGE E EDGECOMB COURTHOUSE

800 EAST TWIGGS STREET
TAMPA, FL 33602

Fun Fact: Squirrels can have more than one nest!



EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE... YOUR EXPECTATION AND OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU!



CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

