

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PINELLAS AND PASCO COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2014-043 PA/PI-CIR

RE: PROHIBITED CONDUCT TOWARD SUMMONED JURORS

The Chief Judge has the authority and power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice, in accordance with Article V, section 2(d), Florida Constitution and section 43.26, Florida Statutes.

The Chief Judge is also to ensure the safe and orderly transaction of court business and use of court facilities, and to minimize activities which unreasonably disrupt, interrupt, or interfere with the fair and orderly conduct of jury trials, and the orderly and peaceable conduct of court business in a neutral forum free of actual or perceived partiality. *See* Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215.

Citizens who come to the courthouse to perform their civic duty in response to a summons for jury duty should not be subject to intimidation, harassment, or attempts to influence their jury service or prospective jury service.

Oral expressive conduct and the dissemination of leaflets and other materials containing written information tending to influence summoned jurors as they enter any courthouse complex may be in violation of section 918.12, Florida Statutes. Such occurrences severely impact the court's ability to efficiently, promptly, and properly administer of justice.

Restriction upon oral expressive conduct and the dissemination of leaflets and other materials containing written information tending to influence summoned jurors as they enter the courthouse is necessary to serve the State's compelling interest in protecting the integrity of the jury system.

Such regulation is a proper exercise of the Court's inherent authority to take supervisory and administrative actions necessary to implement its judicial functions.

The Court finds that explicit regulation of conduct and materials that tend to influence summoned jurors is necessary and is the least restrictive means to effectuate the proper administration of justice.

The powers of courts to punish for contempt is of immemorial antiquity, and is inherent in all courts as a necessary power in order to enable courts to accomplish the purposes for which they were designed; that is, the orderly trial and decision of causes, the enforcement of public order, the prevention of interferences with their proceedings, and the enforcement of the due respect belonging to them as institutions of the government.

In accordance with Article V, section 2, Florida Constitution, Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, it is

ORDERED:

1. The dissemination of all leaflets and other materials to summoned jurors containing written or pictorial information tending to influence summoned jurors, as well as communicating or attempting to communicate with a summoned juror for the purpose of displaying a sign, or engaging in oral protest, education or counseling with information tending to influence summoned jurors on any matter, question, cause, or proceeding which may be pending, or which may by law be brought before him or her as a juror, is prohibited on the courthouse complex grounds in Pasco and Pinellas Counties.

2. For purposes of this Administrative Order, the term “courthouse complex grounds” includes the following locations as also indicated on the attached maps.

a. Pinellas County

The **Pinellas County Justice Center** complex grounds, which includes the courthouse courtyard, courthouse parking lots and parking garage, all other grounds surrounding the courthouse from the intersection of 49th Street North and 144th Avenue North, to the intersection of 49th Street North and 140th Avenue to the most westward side of 140th Avenue and the courthouse parking garage continuing along the westward side of the County Justice Center to the Pinellas County Jail entrance, from the Pinellas County Jail entrance to the intersection of 49th Street North and 144th Avenue North, but excluding the private property at the intersection of 49th Street North and 140th Avenue. The public sidewalks that comprise the boundaries of this designated perimeter are excluded from this designation of the courthouse complex grounds. See Attachment A.

The **Clearwater Courthouse and the Clearwater Historical Courthouse** complex grounds, which includes, the courthouse courtyard, courthouse parking lots, and all other grounds surrounding the courthouse, from the intersection of South Ft. Harrison Avenue and Court Street to the intersection of Court Street and Bay Avenue, to the intersection of Bay Avenue and State Road 60 (also known as Chestnut Street), to the intersection of State Road 60 and South Ft. Harrison Avenue to the intersection of South Ft. Harrison Avenue and Court Street. Also included in the courthouse complex grounds are the metered parking lot located on Court Street and the east side of Osceola Avenue and the metered parking lot on Oak Avenue between Court Street and Chestnut Street. The public sidewalks that comprise the boundaries of this designated perimeter are excluded from this designation of the courthouse complex grounds. See Attachment B.

The **St. Petersburg Judicial Building** and the **501 Building** complex grounds, which includes, the courthouse courtyard, courthouse parking lot, and all other grounds surrounding the courthouses, from the intersection of Mirror Lake Drive North and 5th Street North, to the intersection of 5th Street North and 1st Avenue North, to the intersection of 1st Avenue North and 6th Street North, to the intersection of 6th Street North and Mirror Lake Drive North, to the intersection of Mirror Lake Drive North and 5th Street North. The public sidewalks that comprise the boundaries of these designated perimeters are excluded from this designation of the courthouse complex grounds. See Attachment C.

b. Pasco County

The **West Pasco Judicial Center** complex grounds, which includes the adjacent courthouse parking lot, the courthouse courtyard, and all other grounds surrounding the courthouse, from the intersection of Little Road and Government Drive, to the intersection of Government Drive and Citizens Drive, to the intersection of Citizen Drive (running North-South) and Citizen Drive (running West-East), to the intersection of Citizen Drive and Little Road, to the intersection of Little Road and Government Drive. The public sidewalks that comprise the boundaries of this designated perimeter are excluded from this designation of the courthouse complex grounds. See Attachment D.

The **Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center** complex grounds, which includes the adjacent courthouse parking lot, the courthouse courtyard, and all other grounds surrounding the courthouse, from the intersection of Robinson Avenue and 5th Street, continuing on the dirt road extension of Robinson Avenue to the intersection with Lakeland Road/US 301 (aka Old Lakeland Highway), to the intersection of Lakeland Road/US 301 and Meridian Avenue to the intersection of Meridian Avenue and 5th Street to the intersection of 5th Street and Robinson Avenue. The public sidewalks that comprise the boundaries of this designated perimeter are excluded from this designation of the courthouse complex grounds. See Attachment E.

3. Regardless of whether the conduct at issue occurs on the courthouse complex grounds, any person who influences the judgment or decision of any grand or petit juror on any matter, question, cause, or proceeding which may be pending, or which may by law be brought, before him or her as such juror, with intent to obstruct the administration of justice, may be in violation of section 918.12, Fla. Stat.

4. Anyone engaging in the type of expressive conduct prohibited by this Order may be in violation of section 918.12, Florida Statutes, may be subject to criminal trespass as provided in section 810.09, Florida Statutes, and may be subject to contempt of court.

5. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the Pasco County Sheriff's Office shall give a copy of this Order to anyone who is violating the provisions of this Order within the courthouse complex grounds, as described in this Order, and shall advise such person of the restrictions on expressive conduct contained within this Order. Further, law enforcement shall instruct anyone violating the provisions of this Order to cease and desist immediately.

6. When law enforcement observes anyone continuing to engage in such conduct as prohibited by this Order after such person has received a copy of this Order and has been instructed to cease and desist by law enforcement, law enforcement shall notify the Chief Judge and facility coordinator of such violations. Such persons may be charged with civil or criminal contempt of court. If a person is found to be in contempt of court, penalties include confinement, fine, or both.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida, this ____ day of July, 2014.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON JULY 15, 2014
BY J. THOMAS MCGRADY, CHIEF JUDGE

Attachment A: Map of Pinellas County Justice Center

Attachment B: Map of Clearwater Courthouse and Clearwater Historical Courthouse

Attachment C: Map of St. Petersburg Judicial Building and 501 Building

Attachment D: Map of West Pasco Judicial Center

Attachment E: Map of Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center

cc: All Judges

The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney

The Honorable Bob Dillinger, Public Defender

The Honorable Bob Gualtieri, Sheriff, Pinellas County

The Honorable Chris Nocco, Sheriff, Pasco County

The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pinellas County

The Honorable Paula O'Neil, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pasco County

Gay Inskeep, Trial Courts Administrator

Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel

Myriam Irizarry, Chief Deputy Director, Pinellas County Clerk's Office

Mark S. Woodard, Interim Pinellas County Administrator

Michele Baker, Pasco County Administrator

Jim Bennett, Pinellas County Attorney

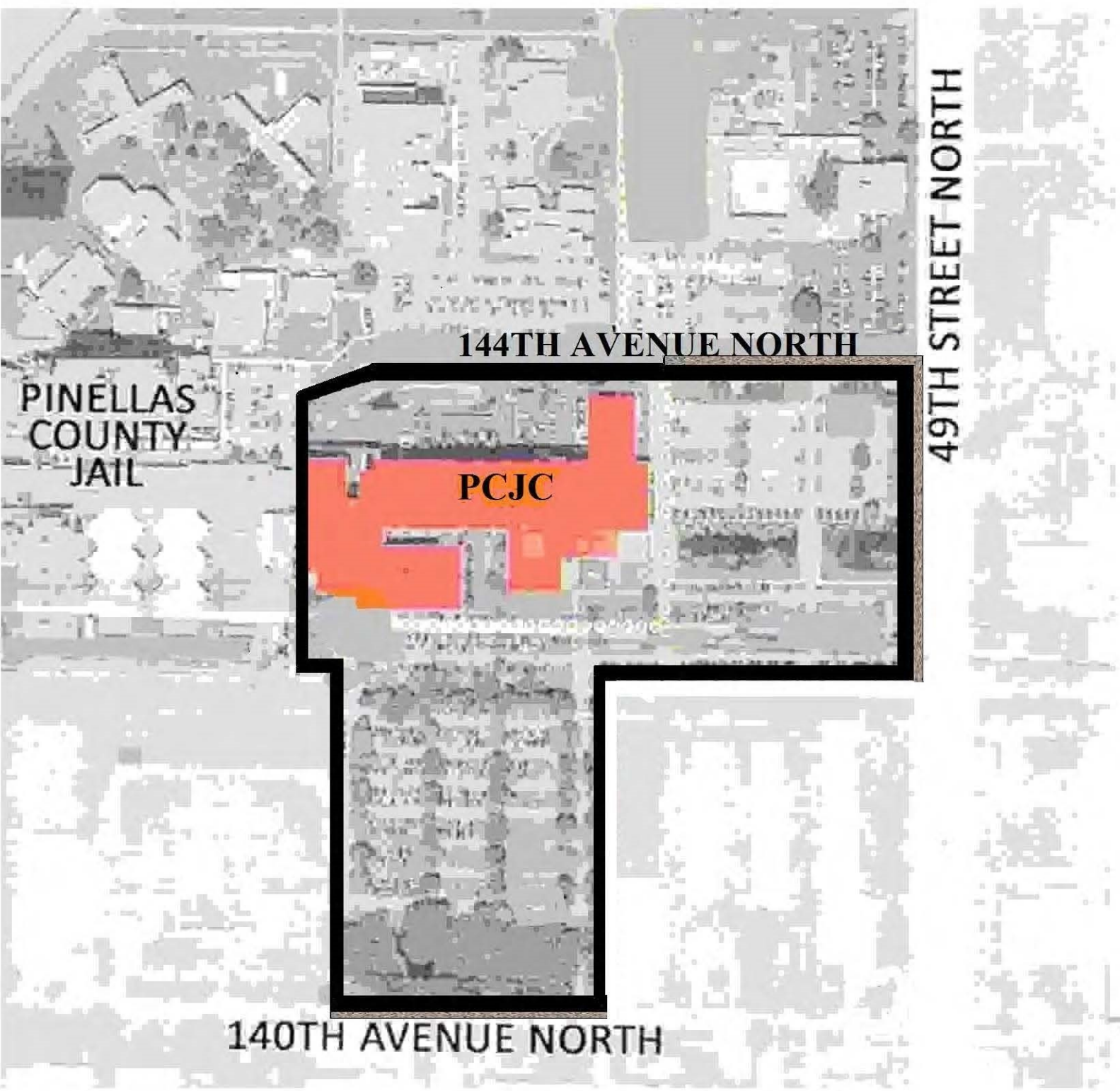
Jeffrey Steinsnyder, Pasco County Attorney


Pinellas and Pasco Law Enforcement Agencies

Bar Associations, Pasco and Pinellas Counties

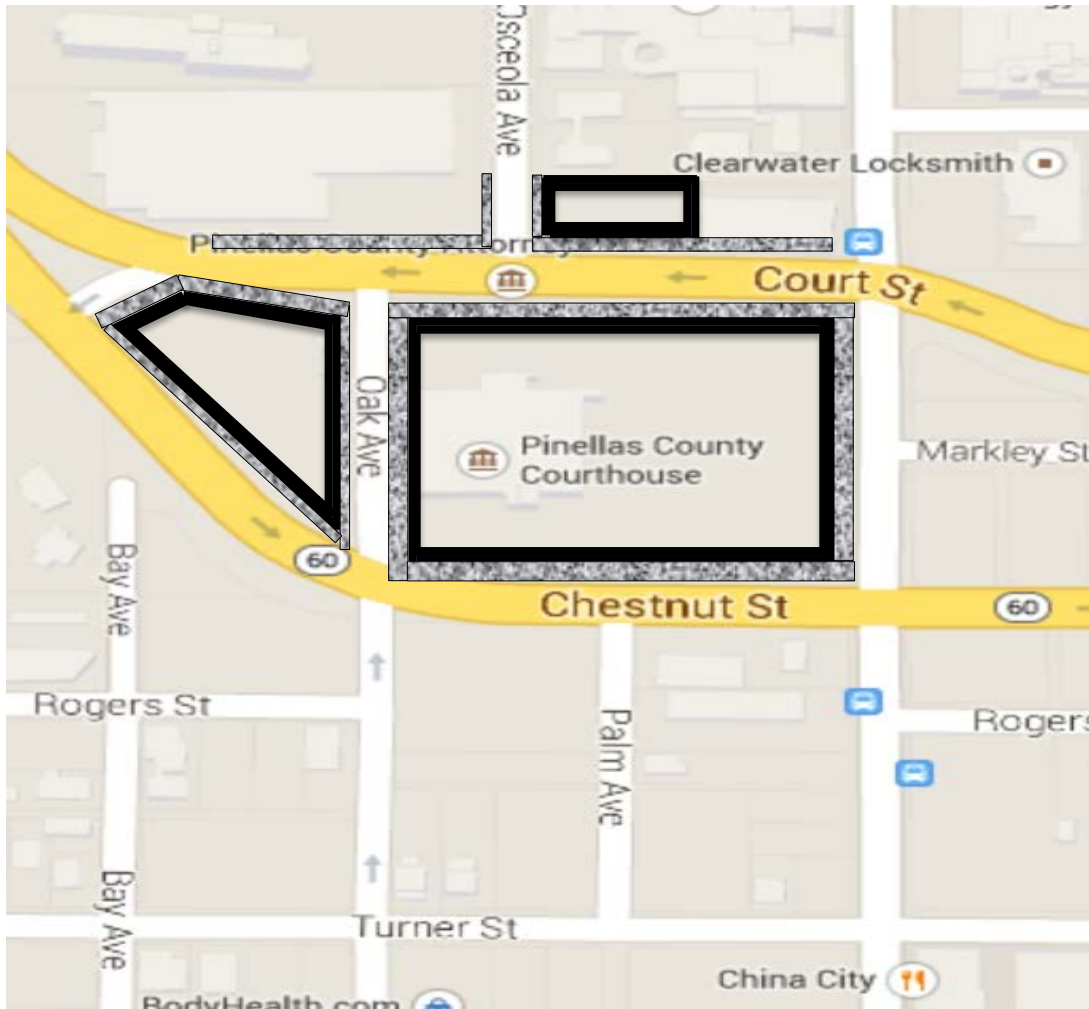
Law Libraries, Pasco and Pinellas Counties

Map of Pinellas County Justice Center:





-  Restricted areas referenced in Administrative Order 2014-043, paragraph 2(a)
-  Public side walk perimeter

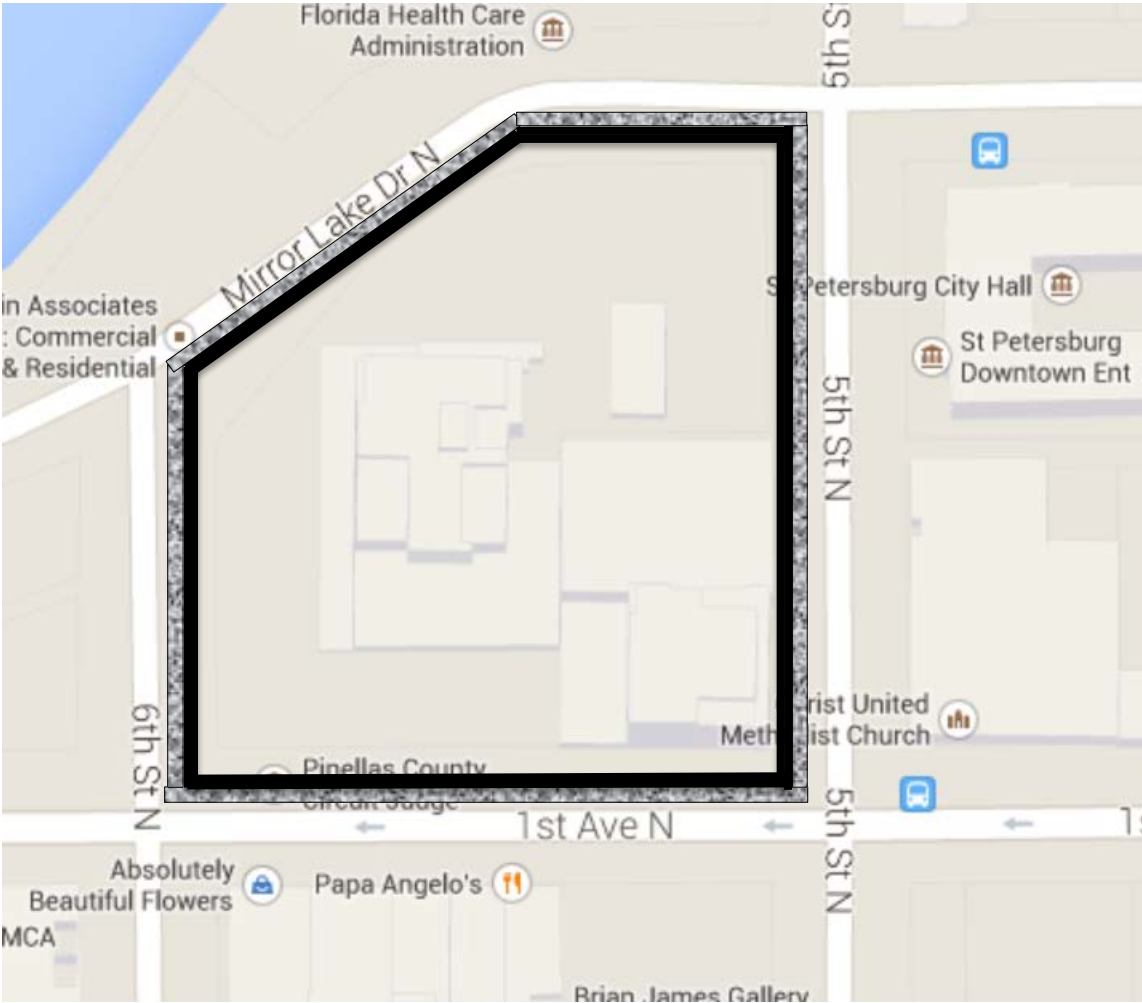
Map of Clearwater Courthouse & Clearwater Historical Courthouse:





Google Maps

-  Restricted areas referenced in Administrative Order 2014-043, paragraph 2(a)
-  Public side walk perimeter

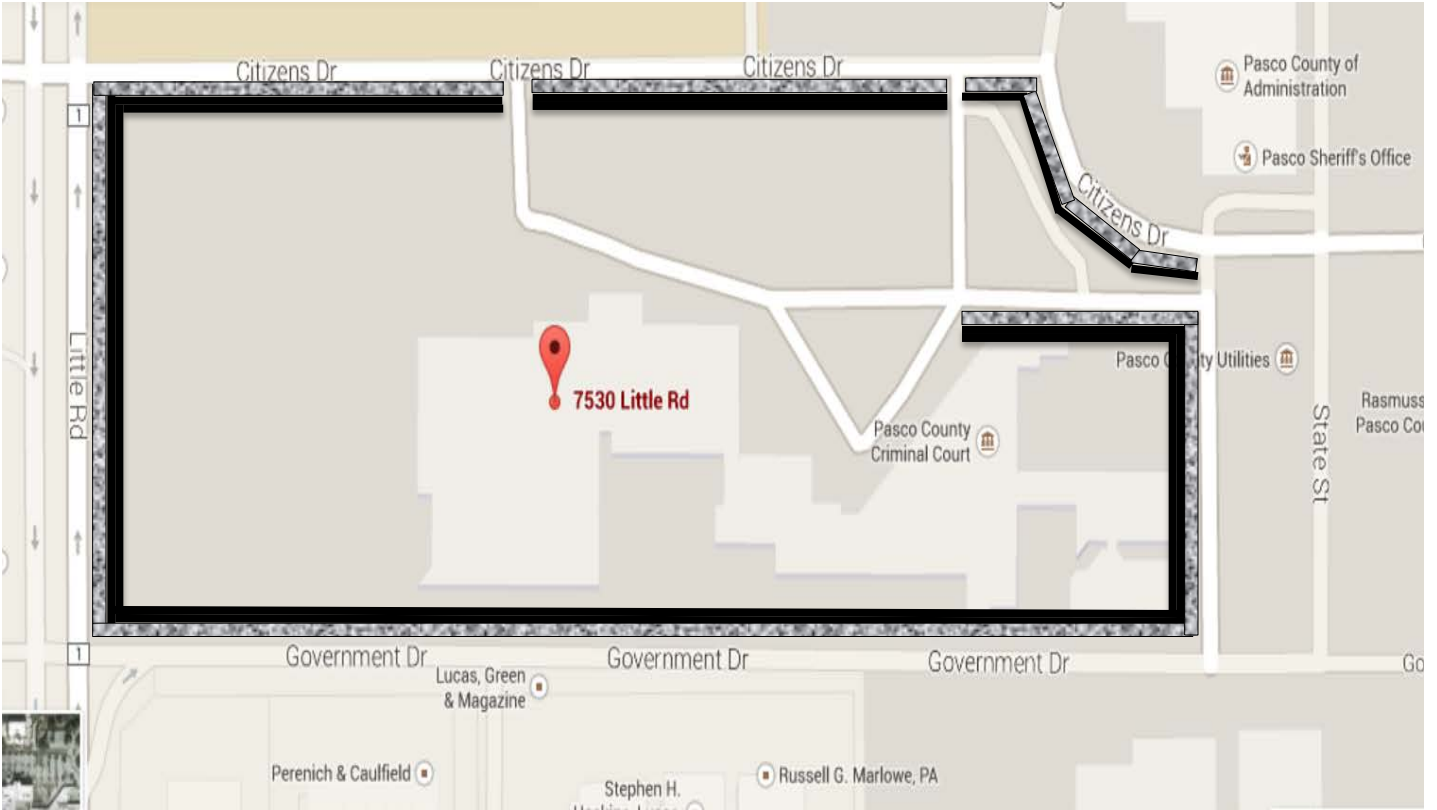
Map of St. Petersburg Judicial Building & 501 Building:



Google Maps

-  Restricted areas referenced in Administrative Order 2014-043, paragraph 2(a)
-  Public sidewalk perimeter

Map of West Pasco Judicial Center:

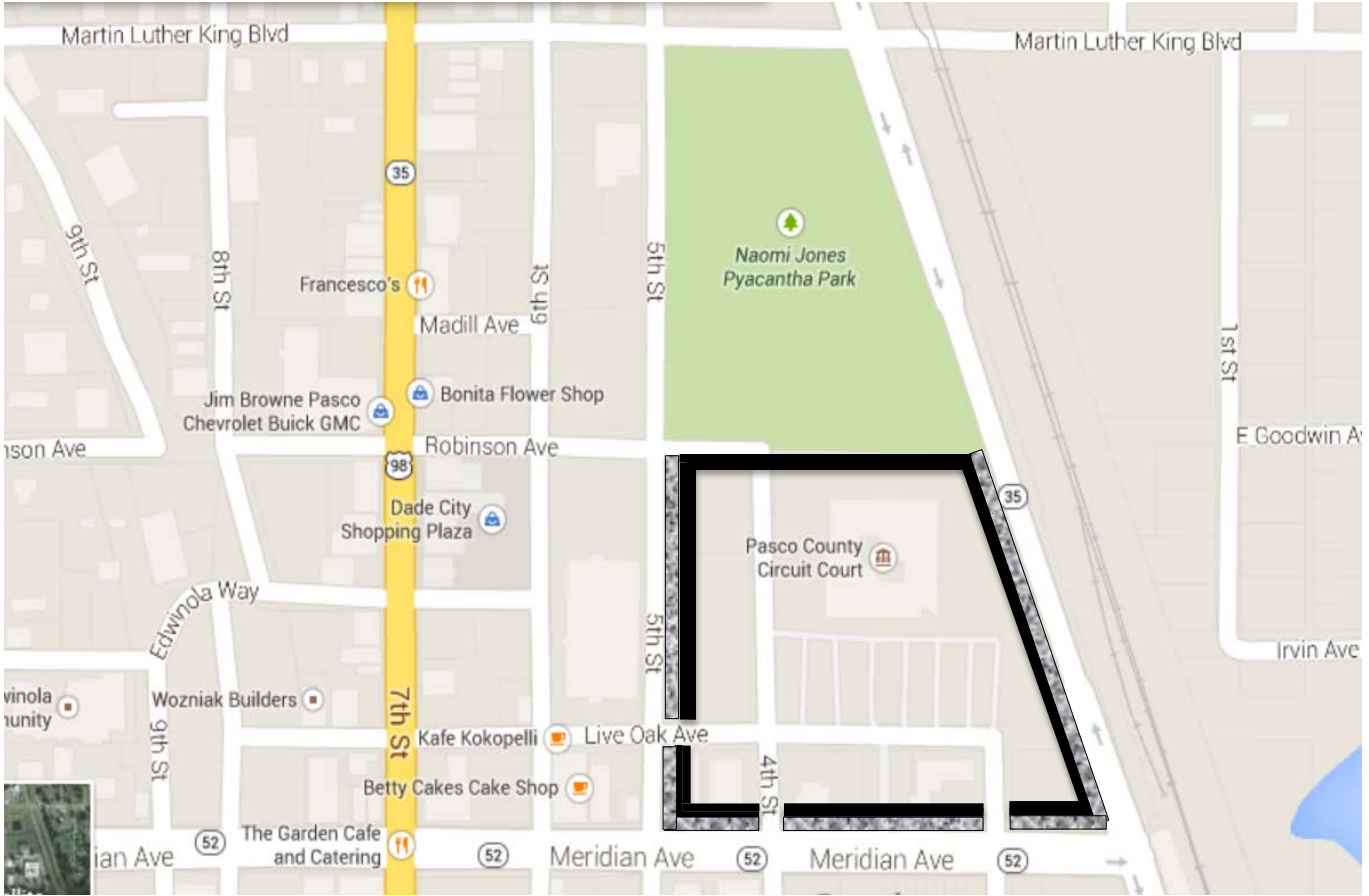


Google Maps


— Restricted areas referenced in Administrative Order 2014-043, paragraph 2(b)


▨ Public side walk perimeter

Map of Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center:



Google Maps

 Restricted areas referenced in Administrative Order 2014-043, paragraph 2(b)

 Public side walk perimeter