

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2025-015 PA/PI-CIR

**RE: TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS FOR ELECTION-RELATED CASES**

Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states the Chief Judge must consider available resources to ensure the efficient and proper administration of all courts within the circuit. Legal challenges to local, state, and national elections filed on the date of the election require expedited review. Lawsuits may be filed after hours when the Pasco County Clerk of Court and the Pinellas County Clerk of Court are closed. A managing judge is necessary to address election-related issues to ensure a timely response, consistency, and transparency.

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

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. The Chief Judge, or the Chief Judge's designee, will be the judicial officer who will oversee lawsuits involving the election process in Pasco County and Pinellas County on election days. This includes lawsuits filed by a candidate, the candidate's party organization, the supervisor of elections, the media, or an interested party. This also includes emergency petitions filed on any election day.
2. New filings will be marked in the e-portal as "emergency" in order for the Clerk of the Circuit Court's Office (the "Clerk") to docket the filing and bring it to the attention of the Chief Judge or the Chief Judge's designee.
3. Upon receipt of a newly-filed civil action arising from any election taking place in Pasco County or Pinellas County on an election day, the Clerk must immediately notify the Chief Judge or the Chief Judge's designee.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida, this \_\_\_\_ day of March 2025.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON MARCH 18, 2025  
BY SHAWN CRANE, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges  
The Honorable Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney  
The Honorable Sara Mollo, Public Defender  
The Honorable Nikki Alvarez-Sowles, Clerk of the Court, Pasco County  
The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of the Court, Pinellas County

The Honorable Chris Nocco, Pasco County Sheriff  
The Honorable Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff  
Jennifer Parker, Trial Courts Administrator  
Michele Emmerman, Deputy Trial Courts Administrator  
Ita M. Neymotin, Regional Counsel, Second District  
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel, Second District  
Kimberly Thompson, Chief Operations Officer, Pasco County Clerk's Office  
Brian E. Corley, Pasco County Supervisor of Elections  
Julie Marcus, Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections  
Law Library, Pinellas County  
Bar Associations