

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-3382

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR THE PERSONAL INFORMATION OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many municipal staff who perform duties that include, but are not limited to investigations into complaints regarding election fraud and/or legal enforcement of hearings that could lead to a criminal prosecution or code enforcement actions, are exposed to threats and other acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks often administer elections, and those involved in elections have been targeted for threats and violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks are often involved in legal enforcement proceedings in actions related to violations of codes and ordinances and, occasionally, these proceedings have led to retaliation and threats; and

WHEREAS, currently public records exemptions in Florida include protections for the personal information of personnel who either investigate, enforce or otherwise provide a service that can result in contentious interactions when action is taken, but such protections are not in place for municipal clerks and their staff; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of City Clerks is very concerned for the safety and well-being of the municipal clerks and their staffs who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first contact of citizens with their municipal government; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission finds it is in the best interest and welfare of the Town that the State enact public records exemptions protecting the personal information of municipal clerks and their staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals Adopted. Each of the above-stated recitals are hereby adopted, confirmed, and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Urging Exemption of Personal Information. The Mayor, Vice Mayor and Town Commission hereby urge the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public records exemption for the personal information of municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a municipality.

Section 3. Transmittals. The Town Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida League of Cities (FLC), and the State Senator and Representatives of the Town of Surfside.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.


PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of March, 2025.

Motion By: Vice Mayor Paul

Second By: Commissioner Coto

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION:

Commissioner Ruben A. Coto	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Nelly Velasquez	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Gerardo Vildostegui	<u>Yes</u>
Vice Mayor Tina Paul	<u>Yes</u>
Mayor Charles W. Burkett	<u>Yes</u>




Charles W. Burkett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra N. McCready, MMC
Town Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE
AND BENEFIT OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:**



Thais Hernandez, Esq.
Town Attorney