

**Item # 100**

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**JUNE 16, 2020**

**SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF**  
  
**COUNTY**  
**ADMINISTRATION**



**BRENDA D. FORMAN**  
CLERK OF CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT  
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

June 1, 2020

Bertha Henry, County Administrator  
Broward County  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 409  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

*Via Email and Hand-delivery*

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
JUN 8 '20 4:43:46

Dear Ms. Henry,

I am writing to follow up on our May 27, telephone conversation. Specifically, you mentioned the County was working on creating broad categories for CARES Act funding disbursement. Given that, I want to ensure that a payroll support program is included, as outlined in my letter dated May 15, 2020.

As mentioned in my initial request, several of the large counties receiving CARES Act funding were entertaining payroll support programs for their clerk's office. Just recently, the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners approved over \$7 million in CARES Act payroll support to the Pasco County Clerk. The link to view the Pasco County Board of County Commission meeting and the agenda dated May 19, 2020, is available at <http://pasco.siretechnologies.com/Sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=2168&doctype=AGENDAGOOD>. Please see Item C6 of the agenda and the recording of the meeting beginning at 31 minutes and 15 seconds.

Further, Palm Beach Clerk and Comptroller's office intends to present its funding request to the Palm Beach Board of County Commissioners ("PBBCC"). It is my understanding that the PBBCC has committed to providing the Palm Beach Clerk initial payroll support from their contingency funds with a potential funding shift to the CARES Act. Additionally, Hillsborough County has committed to provide their Clerk with payroll support through its reserves.

The payroll support program is necessary due to the unprecedented impact of COVID-19 on government operations. During the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation's ("CCOC") budget meeting on May 27, 2020, I learned that they have exhausted all available existing funding sources and are preparing for drastic budget reductions for all 67 clerk's offices across the state. For Broward County residents, that means that there will be a severe limitation on my office's ability to provide essential services in support of the constitutional rights of all litigants, the public's access to courts, and effectively support all of the judicial stakeholders in conducting court proceedings.

I plan to schedule a meeting with Chief Judge Tuter to discuss the dire financial realities facing my office, which may include up to a 35% staffing reduction to offset the potential budget cuts mandated by the CCOC in our last fiscal quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Because my office provides county-wide essential services, my request for payroll support funding provides one of the widest uses of CARES Act funding to ensure our community's public health, safety, economy, and security.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



BRENDA D. FORMAN  
Clerk of Courts

Copies to: Mayor V.C. Dale Holness  
Chief Judge Jack Tuter, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, Broward County  
J.D. Peacock, Executive Committee Chair, and John Dew,  
Executive Director, Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation  
Chris Hart, IV, Chief Executive Officer, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers  
Ken Burke, CPA, Clerk of the Courts and Comptroller, Pinellas County, and  
Large County Clerks Chairperson  
Capital City Consulting, LLC  
Peebles, Smith and Matthews, Inc.