

Doug Chorvat, Jr. – Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

Clerk Website

Introduction

Born and raised in Hernando County, Doug graduated from Hernando High School in 1995 with High Honors, where he was a member of the BETA Club and the National Honor Society. After high school, he went on to attend the University of South Florida where he attained a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems in 1999. He was the first Certified Government Chief Information Officer in Hernando County, completing a two-year program through the Florida Institute of Government in 2011. He also was one of the first three Certified Public Managers in Hernando County, completing that program through the Florida Center for Public Management in 2017.



Prior to the voters overwhelmingly selecting Doug to represent the citizens of Hernando County as Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller in November 2018, Doug was brought into the Clerk's Office by Clerk Karen Nicolai in April 2000. He started in the service desk area of the Information Technology Department. Within six years, he was managing the Information Technology Department for the Clerk's Office and in 2009 he began managing both the Clerk and County technology departments. He did this successfully for four years and returned to the Clerk's Office full-time when Clerk Don Barbee, Jr., took office in 2013. For a period of two years, Doug also served as the Records Management Liaison Officer to the State of Florida for the Clerk and the County. Doug has been instrumental in the evolution and success of the Clerk's Office over the past two decades.

Duties & Responsibilities

It is the duty of the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court to provide a wide range of services to the public, judicial system, County government, and other agencies.

The mission of the Clerk of Circuit Court's Office is to provide these services with pride, in an honest, professional, and efficient manner while fostering a spirit of friendliness and cooperation.

Our "Customer Vision" is to see our services through the customer's eyes and respond to their needs as a team. It is the duty of the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court to provide a wide range of services to the public, judicial system, county government, and other agencies.

Budget Regulations for Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

Florida Statute 218.35 County fee officers; financial matters.—(1) Each county fee officer shall establish an annual budget for carrying out the powers, duties, and operations of his or her office for the next county fiscal year. The budget must be balanced so that the total of estimated receipts, including balances brought forward, equals the total of estimated expenditures and reserves. The budgeting of segregated funds must be made in a manner that retains the relation between program and revenue source, as provided by law.

(2) The clerk of the circuit court, functioning in his or her capacity as clerk of the circuit and county courts and as clerk of the board of county commissioners, shall prepare his or her budget in two parts:

(a) The budget for funds necessary to perform court-related functions as provided in s. 28.36.

(b) The budget relating to the requirements of the clerk as clerk of the board of county commissioners, county auditor, and custodian or treasurer of all county funds and other county-related duties, which shall be annually prepared and submitted to the board of county commissioners pursuant to s. 129.03(2), for each fiscal year. Expenditures must be itemized in accordance with the uniform accounting system prescribed by the Department of Financial Services as follows:

1. Personnel services.
2. Operating expenses.
3. Capital outlay.
4. Debt service.
5. Grants and aids.
6. Other uses.

(3) The clerk of the circuit court shall furnish to the board of county commissioners or the county budget commission all relevant and pertinent information that the board or commission deems necessary, including expenditures at the subobject code level in accordance with the uniform accounting system prescribed by the Department of Financial Services.



Doug Chorvat, Jr.

Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller - Hernando County
20 N. Main Street, Brooksville, FL 34601 - (352) 754-4201

May 30, 2025

Hernando County Board of County Commissioners
20 North Main Street
Brooksville, FL 34601
Via Electronic Mail

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

The Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court and County Comptroller respectfully requests a total budget authority of \$14,469,830.00 for fiscal year 2025-26. This budget request includes the placement of the GIS set up and maintenance, should the County decide to add this to the Clerk's IT Department for the 2026 Fiscal year. The GIS portion of the budget would be for 11 positions at an estimated personnel cost of \$1,080,846 and operational cost of \$240,000, totaling \$1,320,846.

The budget request *without* the GIS addition for the Clerk's Office would be \$13,148,984. Also, we have not been apprised of the new health care costs for FY 2026, therefore a second request may be forthcoming should we be notified by the County of changes to the health care rates.

The budget includes funding based upon the following statutory object codes:

Personal Services	\$ 7,877,546
Operating Expenses	6,112,884
Capital Outlay	300,000
Debt Service	0
Grants and Aids	0
Other Uses (Article V - Court Communications)	5,000
CARE ATC	174,400

Pursuant to Florida Statute 218.35(2), I hereby certify that the amounts requested are reasonable and necessary for the statutory and constitutional functions that my office performs on behalf of county government. My staff and I have worked diligently to ensure that we are operating at the most efficient levels possible while continuing to provide the excellent service our constituents have come to expect.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Chorvat, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

Constitutionals - Clerk of Court

	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET		RECOMMENDED BUDGET	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026		
Expenses					
Non-Operating	\$9,975,597	\$12,435,042	\$14,469,830	\$2,034,788	16%
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$9,975,597	\$12,435,042	\$14,469,830	\$2,034,788	16%
Revenues					
Charges for Services	\$3,577,869	\$4,290,887	\$4,290,887	\$0	0%
REVENUES TOTAL	\$3,577,869	\$4,290,887	\$4,290,887	\$0	0%
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$6,397,728)	(\$8,144,155)	(\$10,178,943)	-	-