



## Letter from the Chairman

The Honorable Richard Weiss, Polk County Clerk

We all know that at the eleventh hour of the Session, the Legislature slashed Clerk budgets. The decision came without warning and without opportunity to demonstrate the devastating effects of the action. Clerks statewide will be severely hampered in our ability to carry out our constitutional responsibilities. Sadly, our staff and our customers will pay the price in the form of more work, longer lines and extended processing times.

Of this I am certain: in recognition of the critical role we play in state and local government, Clerks will pull together to make the best of this devastating situation. CCOC and FACC leadership continues to maintain open and productive lines of communication in meeting the challenges we all face. And CCOC staff is always available to provide assistance to Clerks as we collaborate to chart the best course for the coming year.



## Letter from Finance and Budget Committee

The Honorable Bob Inzer, Leon County Clerk

Another rough year!!! I won't repeat what you already know about what happened in the final days of the session but instead will provide some insight into the activities of the CCOC Finance and Budget Committee as we work to support Florida's clerks.

For several years, the Legislature and Legislative staff have questioned why some Clerks unit costs are so high. For the past several years, the Finance and Budget Committee, in their deliberations, has sought to understand these differences. The Committee recognizes that there are legitimate reasons for differences in unit cost and our recommendations reflect that understanding. We also appreciate that the disparity is greater than can be explained by external factors and our recommendations have sought to narrow the disparity in unit costs by both increasing those Clerks that have been the most underfunded and have very low unit costs and also to reduce the unit cost for those Clerks with the highest unit cost.

## Calendar of Events

- April 13 Executive Council Election Interest Survey Due
- April 24 Executive Council Meeting  
*Gainesville UF Hilton*
- May 11 Ballots Sent Out  
*Executive Council Elections*

## CCOC Links

[February 2012 Service Unit Workshops](#)

[Annual Audit to Supreme Court](#)

[Russ Duncan's Blog on Collections Up and Running](#)

[Fiscal Management Report Status](#)

## Other

Executive Council Elections are coming soon. Please keep checking our website for more information as it is available.

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I'm pleased to report that the Budget recommendations have proven to be a credible product with legislators and legislative staff. The Legislature adopted our recommendations. Unfortunately, they then applied an across the Board cut of \$31 million.

[Continue reading the full story...](#)

## CCOC Collection Program Activities

Appropriation [proviso language](#) requires that CCOC budget staff conduct a study identifying and assessing the effectiveness of collection methods for court-related fines and fees owed to the state. The CCOC shall provide the study to the chair of the Senate Budget Committee and the chair of the House Appropriations Committee no later than December 1, 2012. [Continue to the full story...](#)

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### Our Mission:

As a governmental organization created by the Legislature, we evaluate Clerks' court-related budgetary needs and recommend the fair and equitable allocation of resources needed to sustain court operations.

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FL CCOC  
2560-102 Barrington Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

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