



**JOSEPH ABRUZZO**  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER  
PALM BEACH COUNTY

# Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

## How Can We Help You?



# Your Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

- Elected in November 2020
- Sworn into office on January 5, 2021
- Oversees an office of nearly 650 employees, with an annual operating budget of \$70.5 million
- Clerk Abruzzo and his team help keep Palm Beach County running, supporting both Palm Beach County government and the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit



*Joseph Abruzzo was sworn in as Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller by Chief Judge Krista Marx. Clerk Abruzzo's son, Joseph II, is holding the Bible.*

# What Does the Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller Do For You?

My office performs more than 1,000 duties, including:

- Clerk of the Circuit Court, supporting the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
- Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Auditor for Palm Beach County
- County Recorder for Palm Beach County
- Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners for Palm Beach County



*Clerk Abruzzo signing his first proclamations for Palm Beach County, in his role as Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners.*

# Setting a New Course for the Office



*Clerk Abruzzo on a Friday “Jersey Day” at the office, visiting one of the Green Bay Packers fans on his Finance team.*

My priorities as your Clerk include:

- Employee morale – because happy employees provide better service for our community
- Community outreach, to connect you with the services you need from my office
- Improving relationships between my office and our partner agencies, which benefits you and our community



# Accomplishments in the First 30 Days



*Clerk Abruzzo, visiting members of his I.T. team*

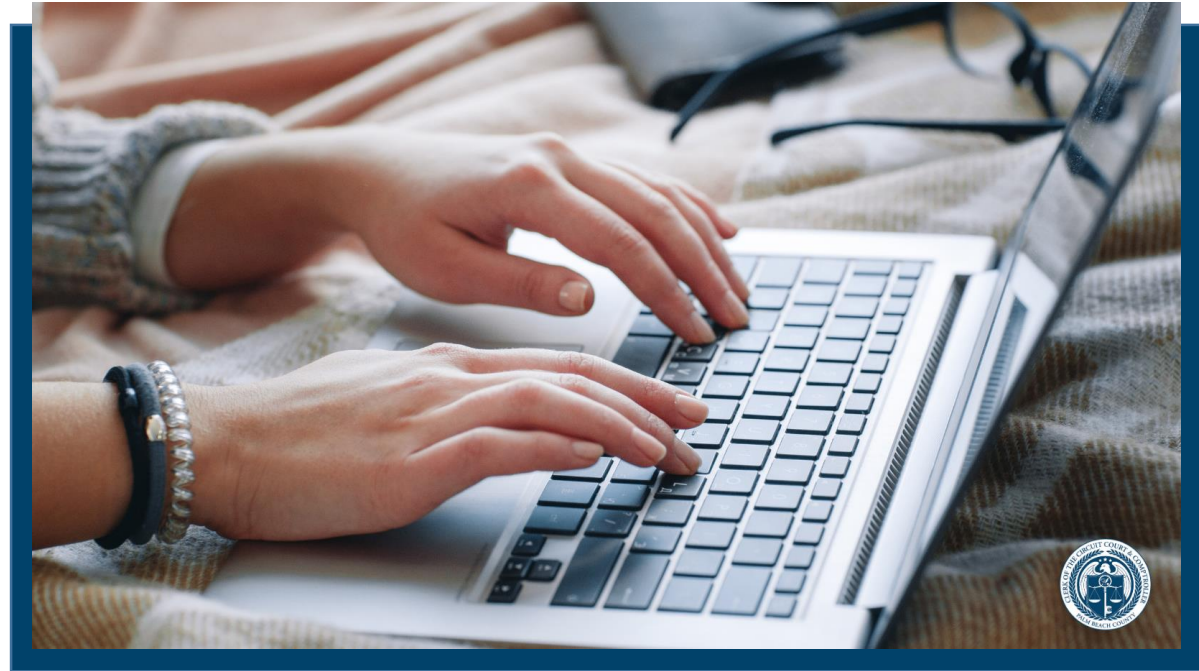
- Raised the office's minimum wage to \$15 an hour
- Created the office's first employee ombudsman position
- Appointed the office's most diverse team in more than two decades
- Ended the office's contract with Penn Credit, an outside collections agency that handled collections on overdue traffic tickets, court fines and fees
- Finalized a brand-new website with a "service finder" and other tools that will make it easy to connect with the information you need

# Services You Need From My Office

## Online Searches and Services: Get What You Need Without Visiting the Office

- Search thousands of court and official records
- Pay traffic tickets, apply for a marriage license or reschedule jury duty
- File court documents, documents for eRecording and petitions for the Value Adjustment Board
- Learn more:

[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/services](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/services)



# Services You Need From My Office

## County Financial Information: See How Your Money is Spent

- In our role as Palm Beach County's CFO, we produce reports that show you where your tax money goes
- Track CARES Act payments, read County financial reports and read updates on Palm Beach County's investment portfolio
- Learn more at:  
[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/publicfunds](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/publicfunds)





# Services You Need From My Office

## Property Fraud Alert: A Free Service to Protect You and Your Home

- This service monitors documents recorded in Palm Beach County official records.
- Once you register, you'll receive email or phone alerts if anything is filed in your name with my office.
- SIGN UP AT:  
[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/fraud](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/fraud)





# Services You Need From My Office

**Self Service Center:** Your One-Stop Shop for Navigating Palm Beach County's Courts

- You'll find a Self Service Center in all of our courthouse locations, including the South County Courthouse in Delray Beach.
- Find user-friendly legal forms, navigators to help with filling out forms, notary services and more.
- LEARN MORE AT:  
[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/selfservice](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/selfservice)



*Members of Team ClerkPBC serving customers at our Self Service Center at the Main Courthouse in West Palm Beach.*

# Services You Need From My Office

## Passport Services: Make Your Appointment Today!

- You can apply for a new passport, or renew your passport if it expired more than 5 years ago, at any of our branch offices.
- We are currently taking passport applications by appointment only.
- BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT AT:  
[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/passports](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/passports)



# Services You Need From My Office

## Guardianship Fraud Hotline: Protecting You From Abuse

- My Division of Inspector General investigates potential incidents of financial fraud or waste involving court-appointed guardians.
- In FY2020, investigators identified more than \$635,000 in unverifiable and questionable expenditures.
- LEARN MORE AT:  
[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/fraud](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/fraud)



# Mark Your Calendars

## OPERATION GREEN LIGHT

March 1-5, 2021

- Collection agency fees are waived for overdue traffic tickets or outstanding court fines and fees.
- Pay outstanding fines in full to save money.
- Pay by phone, or online.

More information coming soon at:

[www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/operationgreenlight](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/operationgreenlight)





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# Questions?

