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Clerk Report - November 2023

Clerk Abruzzo Orders \$160 Million Investment in Israel Bonds



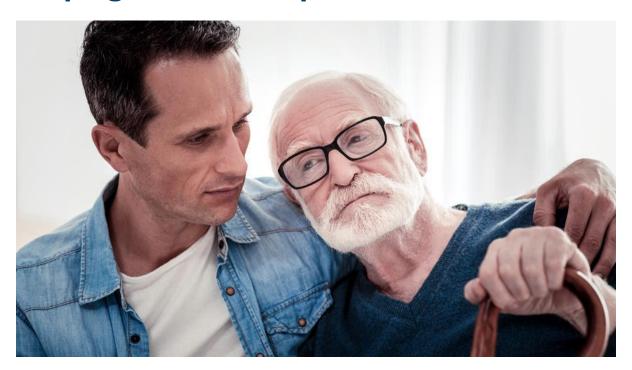
Clerk Abruzzo speaking at Congregation Torah Ohr in Boca Raton on Tuesday, October 31, 2023

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller Joseph Abruzzo <u>directed additional money from Palm Beach County's investment portfolio</u> to be invested in Israel bonds in a show of steadfast support for Israel following their declaration of war against Hamas militants.

Palm Beach County has a total of \$200 million invested in Israel Bonds and will earn \$21 million in interest off the most recent purchases.

Clerk Abruzzo has advocated increasing Palm Beach County's investment in Israel bonds since taking office in 2020. In 2021, he championed a change to the County Investment Policy to allow for the doubling of Palm Beach County's investment in Israel bonds. That change was unanimously approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Keeping Guardianship Fair and Accountable



Guardianship is a tool of last resort, available to make sure that loved ones are taken care of when they can no longer care for themselves.

But what exactly is guardianship? Are there different types? Do I need an attorney?

We're here to answer your guardianship questions, provide important resources and keep guardians accountable for their actions.

Discover How We Keep Guardians Accountable

Improving Court Records Access with Searchable Documents



Palm Beach County's court documents can now be searched by keyword and are more easily accessed by customers using screen readers, thanks to a months-long project by the Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller's I.T. team to convert millions of images into PDF/A format documents.

"Our goal is simple: To help connect people quickly with the information or services they need from our office," Clerk Abruzzo said. "I applaud our I.T. team for their initiative to go beyond what was required and ensure all of our court records are in one, accessible format."

Learn How 75 Million Images Were Converted

Clerk Abruzzo Shares Priorities with Legislative Delegation



Clerk Joseph Abruzzo spoke to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation at the Greenacres Community Center on Wednesday, November 1 about his priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

Those priorities include funding bills for Florida's Clerks of Court and legislation related to the Jeffrey Epstein grand jury records.

The Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Office is a nonpartisan office that serves all thirteen members of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives who represent Palm Beach County in Tallahassee.

Clerk Abruzzo Meets with Alliance of Delray Residential Associations



Clerk Joseph Abruzzo had the honor of speaking with Alliance of Delray Residential Associations on Wednesday, November 1, sharing how the Clerk's office is netting record-setting investment income for the county and how residents can keep a digital eye on their property with <u>Property Fraud Alerts</u>.

What Does Customer Service Mean to Us?



We are here to help - with empathy, listening and understanding of each customer's situation. Our team is dedicated to working hard every day to make sure people feel like they are more than just a number.

For October's National Customer Service Week, we asked members of our Clerk team what customer service means to them. Hear their stories in our YouTube playlist.

Clerks for Arts Program at Dr. Joaquín García High School



Clerk Joseph Abruzzo and Chief Deputy Clerk Shannon Ramsey-Chessman present a check to Principal Oscar Otero on Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

Clerk Joseph Abruzzo and Chief Deputy Clerk Shannon Ramsey-Chessman met with Principal Oscar Otero of Dr. Joaquín García High School in western Lake Worth on Wednesday, October 25 to kick off our Clerks for Arts partnership.

Thank you to Vice Chairwoman Karen Brill and School Board Member Alexandria Ayala for their support of Clerks for Arts.

Clerks for Arts encourages creativity and civic engagement by providing local students a public venue to display their artwork and curate their own exhibitions.

Clerk Abruzzo personally matched the \$1,000 raised by our Clerk staff for student supplies!



Clerk's Office Closed November 10 to Observe Veterans Day

Our offices will be closed on Friday, November 10 in observance of Veterans Day.

South County Branch Extended Closing November 20 - 24

Our South County branch offices located at 200 W. Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach <u>will</u> <u>be closing</u> for the entire week beginning Monday, November 20 for extended maintenance.

Customers needing in-person access to service are welcome to <u>visit our four other</u> locations through Wednesday, November 22.

All Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday



Our offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday. You will still be able to access <u>our online services</u> including payments, record searching, eFiling and eRecording.



In Our Community - We're Here to Help!

Wrapping Gifts for Needy Kids in Palm Beach County



Thanks to all of our hard working volunteers, 459 local kids are getting wrapped presents this year!

Clerks from across our office spent Saturday, October 28 with <u>Back to Basics</u>, Inc. to help wrap gifts for children in Palm Beach County.

Keeping Our Beaches Clean, One Cleanup at a Time



Our incredible Clerk volunteers trekked out to Jupiter beach on Saturday, October 14 to help make it a cleaner place to enjoy.

Thank you to our volunteers who gave up their morning to make it possible!

We're hiring!

From courtroom clerks to accountants, and everything in between.

Start your career at the Clerk's office.















Joseph Abruzzo Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller Palm Beach County 301 N. Olive Ave., 9th floor West Palm Beach, FL 33401

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