



## **KEN BURKE**

### **CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Clerk of the County Court • Recorder of Deeds • Clerk and Accountant of the Board of County Commissioners  
Custodian of County Funds • County Auditor • Clerk of the Water and Navigation Control Authority

315 Court Street  
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#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **Legal help centers earn Clerk prestigious award**

***Clerk Ken Burke received the "Outreach Award" during the Community Law Program's Pro Bono Award ceremony.***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 22, 2008 – Clerk Ken Burke was honored by the Community Law Program (CLP) for the legal Self Help Centers. Burke received the Outreach Award for "Providing Self Help Centers to serve Pro Se Litigants in Pinellas County" during CLP's Pro Bono Awards Reception at the St. Pete Yacht Club.

CLP, a local non-profit organization, has played an integral role in providing access to the civil legal system to those who are economically less fortunate, primarily through the use of private attorneys who volunteer their time to represent clients and participate in free legal advice clinics.

The Clerk's Office partnered with Chief Judge Morris and CLP to provide attorneys to serve at the Centers. Attorney appointments are scheduled for a minimum of 15 minutes in 15-minute increments at the rate of \$1.00 (one dollar) per minute. Unlike free legal assistance programs, there are no income eligibility requirements to use the Centers' services.

"Since inception, the attorneys have assisted approximately 1500 people. This program serves citizens in the areas of family, landlord/tenant and small claims matters, said Burke.

The two Self Help Centers are located at the Clearwater Law Library, 324 S. Ft. Harrison Ave., 727-464-5150; and the St. Petersburg Law Library, 545 First Ave. N., 727-582-7941. A Spanish interpreter is available at the Clearwater location on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

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