



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
Clearwater, FL 33756-5165
727-464-3341

Clerk's Self Help Centers for affordable legal assistance FACT SHEET

- Since the two Self Help Centers opened on Monday, October 8, 2007, more than 4,200 citizens who represent themselves in court, also known as pro se' litigants, have used the affordable attorney services.
- The Self Help Centers are a collaborative effort of the Clerk's Office, the Sixth Judicial Circuit, the Community Law Program and the Clearwater Bar Association.
- Citizens can schedule an appointment to consult with an attorney for a minimum of 15 minutes to a maximum of one hour in 15-minute increments, at a rate of \$1 (one dollar) per minute.
- **No income eligibility requirements to use the centers.**
- In January 2008, working with the Hispanic Outreach Center, the Clerk's Office added the free services of a Spanish interpreter at the Clearwater Center on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.
- Self Help Centers' brochures are available in English and Spanish.
- Specialized software to assist in filling out eviction, divorce and/or small claims forms is available in the Centers or on the Clerk's website, <http://www.pinellasclerk.org>, for a fee plus the form-packet fees.
- Citizens may purchase civil court action filing form packets.
- Documents can be notarized and/or copies made for a fee.
- Open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.
- Two locations: Clearwater Law Library, 324 S. Ft. Harrison Ave., Clearwater 727-464-5150; and St. Petersburg Judicial Building, 545 First Avenue North, St. Petersburg 727-582-7941.
- Fees must be paid when an attorney appointment time is scheduled. Payments may be cash, credit card, check or money order. Refunds will not be issued for missed appointments.
- In May 2008, Clerk Ken Burke was honored by the Community Law Program (CLP) for his role in ensuring the establishment of the legal Self Help Centers, with the CPL Outreach Award for "Providing Self Help Centers to serve Pro Se Litigants in Pinellas County."



**Community
Law
Program**



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