



KEN BURKE, CPA

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER - 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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CLERK'S SPENDING IN THE SUNSHINE RECEIVES NACo 2014 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – The National Association of Counties (NACo) has chosen the Spending in the Sunshine website, created by the Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, as a recipient of the 2014 Achievement Award in the category of Civic Education and Public Information. Started in 1970, the annual Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs in 21 different categories.

“It is very rewarding to have our financial transparency initiative be recognized in the community, as well as nationally,” stated Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller. “It was my goal to ultimately set an example of what constitutes open government and thanks to the talented staff of the Clerk’s office, this initiative is empowering citizens with every click of a button.”

About Spending in the Sunshine

Spending in the Sunshine is a financial transparency website which goes beyond state standards and actually surpasses the level of transparency many governmental offices offer. It is centered on the public’s right to open government and was designed to provide easy access to expenditures processed within Pinellas County government. With this site, information is just a click away on the Clerk’s webpage (www.mypinellasclerk.org) through a tab titled “Spending in the Sunshine.” Since its official release date of March 17, 2014, the program has been well received by the public garnering nearly 1,500 site hits.

About NACo – The Voice of America’s Counties

NACo is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo assists America’s 3,069 counties in pursuing excellence in public service to produce healthy, vibrant, safe and resilient counties. NACo promotes sound public policies, fosters county solutions and innovation, promotes intergovernmental and public-private collaboration and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information, visit www.naco.org.

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ABOUT THE CLERK’S OFFICE:

The Clerk of the Circuit Court was established as a public trustee by the Florida Constitution in 1838. The Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as the Clerk of Courts, the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, Auditor, Recorder and Custodian of all county funds.