



**Jeffrey J. Newton, County Attorney**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
and  
County Commissioners

**FROM:** Jeffrey J. Newton, County Attorney *JJN*  
Tatiana Cordner, Assistant County Attorney *TC*

**DATE:** June 25, 2026

**SUBJECT:** July 14, 2026 – Public Hearing  
Ordinance Amending Chapter 28, Article IV, Drug Sales and  
Nuisance Abatement

On July 14, 2026, staff will present an ordinance amending Chapter 28, Article IV, of the Orange County Code, currently titled "Drug Sales and Nuisance Abatement." The proposed ordinance is necessary to conform the County Code to recent amendments to Section 893.138, Florida Statutes, which authorizes counties and municipalities to create local administrative procedures for abating certain activity that constitutes a public nuisance.

Senate Bill 168 was signed into law on June 16, 2026, as Chapter 2026-145, Laws of Florida, effective July 1, 2026. Because Orange County has an existing nuisance abatement ordinance under Chapter 28, Article IV, the County Code must be updated so that the local ordinance remains consistent with the revised state statute.

The proposed ordinance would retitle Chapter 28, Article IV to reflect its broader public nuisance abatement purpose. It would revise definitions, including the definition of "public nuisance," to conform to the amended state law. In addition, the ordinance would update the jurisdiction of the Orange County Nuisance Abatement Board, revise the fine provisions available to the Board, address liens imposed as a result of continuing nuisance activity, and provide for mandatory foreclosure on liens after two years if the public nuisance activity remains unabated.

**ACTION REQUESTED** **APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RETITLING CHAPTER 28, ARTICLE IV OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CODE TO "NUISANCE ABATEMENT"; MODIFYING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE SHORT TITLE, INTENT, DEFINITIONS, JURISDICTION OF THE NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD, THE CONDUCT OF HEARINGS BEFORE THE NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD, THE ADMINISTRATIVE FINES ORDERED BY THE NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD,**

**AND THE LIENS THAT MAY BE PLACED UPON  
PROPERTIES AS A RESULT OF ONGOING NUISANCE  
ACTIVITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**and**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR STAFF TO CORRECT ANY  
NON-SUBSTANTIVE GRAMMATICAL OR SCRIVENER'S  
ERRORS WITHIN THE ORDINANCE.**

c: Byron W. Brooks, AICP, County Administrator  
Georgiana Holmes, Deputy County Attorney  
Jon V. Weiss, P.E., Deputy County Administrator