



COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
JEFFREY J. NEWTON, County Attorney

201 South Rosalind Avenue 3rd Floor
Reply To: Post Office Box 1393
Orlando, FL 32802-1393
407-836-7320 Fax 407-836-5888

March 4, 2025

Florida Division of Emergency Management
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700

Deputy County Attorney
Georgiana Holmes

Senior Assistant County Attorneys
Debra Babb-Nutcher
Whitney E. Evers

Assistant County Attorneys
Lee Bernbaum
Joy Carmichael
Tatiana Cordner
James Harwood
James Hetz
Andrew W. Mai
Sawsan Mohiuddin
Desmond Morrell
Matthew Pritchett
Dylan Schott
Scott Shevenell
Kristin Suarez
Heather Wallace
Shonda White

Legal Administrative Supervisor
Dan Randolph

Senior Paralegal
Melessia Lofgren

Paralegals
Rosemarie Guevara
Lamar Sharpe
Maria Vargas

Re: Delegation of Signature Authority for Orange County, Florida

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Orange County Charter, the Orange County Mayor has the following responsibility:

"Be responsible for the execution of all contracts and legal documents, but may delegate such authority." Article III, Section 302(D)(4), Orange County Charter.

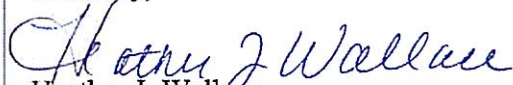
By use of an executive order, the Orange County Mayor has delegated their signature authority as follows:

"As expressly permitted by Section 302(D)(4) of the Orange County Charter, the Orange County Mayor, hereby delegates to the following individuals the authority to sign contracts and grants on my behalf after Board approval:

- A. Vice Mayor of the Board of County Commissioners, or
- B. County Administrator or Acting County Administrator.**
- C. Pursuant to Article III of the Orange County Code, the Purchasing Manager is authorized to sign all contracts and agreements on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners." Part II, Orange County Mayor's Executive Order 06.004 (emphasis added).

The Orange County Mayor is Jerry L. Demings. The County Administrator is Byron Brooks. Mr. Brooks therefore has the requisite authority to sign contracts and grants "for", or otherwise on behalf of, the Orange County Mayor.

Sincerely,


Heather J. Wallace
Assistant County Attorney

Enclosures: Article III, Section 302, Orange County Charter
Part II, Orange County Mayor's Executive Order 06.044

Sec. 302. - County mayor.

The county mayor shall be a registered voter of and resident of Orange County at the time of election to office and throughout the term of office. The office shall be a full-time position combining both the duties of ceremonial head and operational head of those activities within the jurisdiction of the board of county commissioners.

- A. *Compensation.* The county mayor's salary shall be set by ordinance. The salary in effect at the beginning of a county mayor's term in office shall not be lowered during that term.

(Orange County Comptroller note: Ord. No. 96-40, §3, 12-19-96; salary effective 10/01/01 = \$127,146.54/year)

- B. *Vacancy, incapacity, or absence due to military service.* Vacancies in the office of the county mayor shall be defined and filled in accordance with state law. If the county mayor changes residence from Orange County, he or she shall be deemed to have vacated such office. If the county mayor becomes permanently incapacitated and unable to perform his or her duties, a successor shall be chosen in the manner prescribed by general law. If the county mayor becomes temporarily incapacitated, or if the county mayor is absent for a prolonged period due to military service, then to the extent not inconsistent with general law a temporary substitute shall be chosen to serve during the incapacity or absence, as follows:

1. The temporary substitute shall be chosen in the manner provided by ordinance enacted by the approving vote of no fewer than a majority plus one of the board members prior to the beginning of the incapacity or prolonged absence; or
2. Absent such an ordinance, the temporary substitute shall be the person designated by the county mayor, if competent when the designation is made; or
3. Absent such a designation, the temporary substitute shall be chosen by the approving vote of no fewer than a majority plus one of the commissioners.

The county mayor shall continue to receive his or her compensation during the absence or temporary incapacity. Unless defined otherwise by ordinance, temporary incapacity means a situation or condition that renders the county mayor unable to perform his or her duties for a period of more than 90 consecutive days, but does not constitute a vacancy in the office. In no event shall any temporary substitute serve beyond the term of the county mayor.

- C. *Terms.* The county mayor shall be elected for a term of four years and shall be limited to two full consecutive terms. The term of the county mayor shall commence the same day the terms of the commissioners from even-numbered districts commence.

D. *Duties.* The county mayor shall have the following powers and duties:

- 1.

Manage the operation of all elements of County Government under the jurisdiction of the board, consistent with the policies, ordinances and resolutions enacted by the board;

2. Serve as chair of the board of county commissioners;
 3. Vote on all matters before the board;
 4. Be responsible for the execution of all contracts and legal documents, but may delegate this authority;
 5. Prepare and publish agendas for all meetings of the board and submit the annual budget estimate with a plan of action to meet the needs of the county for adoption by the board;
 6. Appoint and dismiss heads of county departments, divisions and other agencies under the jurisdiction of the board except that all such appointments shall be made annually and shall be subject to confirmation by the board;
 7. Assure the faithful execution of all ordinances, resolutions and orders of the board and all laws of the state which are subject to enforcement by the county mayor, or by officers who are subject under this Charter to the mayor's direction and supervision;
 8. Present annually at a time designated by the board, a "state of the county" message, setting forth programs and recommendations to the board;
 9. Supervise the daily activities of employees;
 10. Serve as the official representative and ceremonial dignitary for the government of Orange County, with prerogative to issue proclamations;
 11. Sign ordinances, resolutions and documents for the board;
 12. Call the board into regular and special session; and
 13. Carry out other powers and duties as required by this Charter or may be prescribed by the board.
- E. *Filling vacancies when permissible under Florida law.* If and to the extent that it should become lawful under the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida for this charter to prescribe a method for filling vacancies in the office of county mayor, this subsection shall immediately become effective.
- If a vacancy occurs in the office of county mayor and the remainder of the term of office is one year or less, then such vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment by a majority vote of the board of county commissioners.
- If a vacancy occurs in the office of county mayor and the remainder of the term of office exceeds one year, then such vacancy shall be filled by a special election. The board of county commissioners, after first consulting with the supervisor of elections, shall by resolution fix

the time period for candidate qualifying, the date of the election, and the date of any runoff election. The date of the election shall be a date no later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the occurrence of the vacancy.

(Amended November 1988; November 2004; November 2012)

4. Each Commissioner is responsible for assigning work to his/her administrative support staff and monitoring work habits and performance. The individual Commissioner is responsible for any needed discipline.

5. Each Commissioner may approve salary increases for his/her administrative support staff provided:

a. A performance evaluation has been completed.

b. The salary increase would not cause the employee's salary to be above the maximum of the pay range.

c. Salary increase percentage is within the guidelines established for these employees (guidelines for non-classified service established annually).

d. Salary increases above the guidelines may be approved by the Commissioner in recognition of exemplary performance; however, the increase cannot result in a salary which exceeds the pay range.

6. County Commissioners and the Mayor may elect to provide up to two weeks severance pay to appointed staff at the time of staff members separation.

7. Each administrative support staff member will be expected to carry out all of the duties and responsibilities of the job description and be responsible for the clerical and administrative support for his/her District Commissioner.

8. If additional assistance is required, volunteers may be used. However, such volunteers shall not give direction to County staff.

9. The Mayor reserves the right to adjust this delegation of authority as may be deemed appropriate in the future.

Pay Ranges: Administrative support staff members have a specified salary range. These ranges will be reviewed and adjusted when market conditions dictate, as are all other pay ranges in this series.

Absences from Office: Administrative support staff members may fill in for one another on a voluntary basis, with the concurrence of the supervising Commissioner. Telephone calls will be routed directly to Commission offices. The voice mail system will

record telephone calls for future response.

Authority for Receptionists: The receptionists in the Board of County Commissioners office are not subject to this delegation and will be supervised by the Vice Mayor. The Vice Mayor will be in charge of the work directed to them and will arrange for backup coverage needed at the front desk.

Decorum and Common Areas: The Vice Mayor is delegated the authority to set rules from time to time regarding the following matters:

1. the use of common areas and equipment (for example, the lobby, the conference room, the coffee room, the restrooms, and the copy and facsimile machines);

2. the presence of persons other than visitors and County employees;

3. the County Commissioner reading file, and;

4. any other matter not covered by this Executive Order.

EFFECTIVE DATES: August 1, 2006

ORDERED this 27th day of June, 2006.

By: Richard T. Crotty, Orange County Mayor

06.004 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO SIGN CONTRACTS, RESOLUTIONS, PLATS, DEEDS, ORDINANCES AND OTHER LEGAL DOCUMENTS AFTER BOARD APPROVAL

I. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Section 302(D)(4) of the Orange County Charter allows the Orange County Mayor to designate to certain individuals the authority to sign contracts, resolutions, plats, deeds, ordinances and other documents and instruments on his/her behalf after approval by the Board of County Commissioners where applicable. In an effort to expedite the processing of documents and legal instruments which frequently must be signed by the County Mayor on short notice, a memorialization evidencing that certain individuals have authority to sign contracts, ordinances, resolutions, plats, deeds, ordinances and other legal documents and other instruments, after Board approval where applicable, in the absence of the Orange County Mayor, has been created.

II. ORDER

As expressly permitted by Section 302(D)(4) of the Orange County Charter, the Orange County Mayor, hereby delegates to the following individuals the authority to sign contracts and grants on my behalf after Board approval:

A. Vice Mayor of the Board of County Commissioners, or

B. County Administrator or Acting County Administrator.

C. Pursuant to Article III of the Orange County Code, the Purchasing Manager is authorized to sign all contracts and agreements on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.

As expressly permitted by Section 302(D)(4) of the Orange County Charter, the Orange County Mayor, hereby delegates to the following individuals the authority to sign resolutions, plats, deeds, ordinances, and other documents and instruments on my behalf after Board approval:

A. Vice Mayor of the Board of County Commissioners

B. County Administrator or Acting County Administrator,

C. Deputy County Administrator.

Following Board approval of any such contracts, resolutions, plats, deeds, ordinances, grants, and other documents and instruments, the persons named herein are hereby authorized to sign on my behalf any and all additional documents, including closing statements, grant conditions, or other instruments related to consummating the action the Board authorized so long as any such instrument does not increase the financial commitment of the County specified in such board authorization.

Pursuant to Section 302(D)(4), the authority to acknowledge receipt of any summons or service of process to be served on Orange County as part of the filing process to be served on Orange County as part of the filing or prosecution of a civil action is hereby delegated to and vested in the County Attorney's Office, as long as those individuals are located at their place of business at the time service is attempted, thereby waiving the right of the County to be served as

required by Florida law and the rules of civil procedure in state and federal courts (and any other tribunals with jurisdiction). The County Attorney shall exercise such delegated authority at his or her discretion and may delegate the authority further to any assistant county attorney or to any special counsel representing the County in any proceeding.

A subpoena served on an employee in his or her official capacity shall be served directly on that individual named on the subpoena. In the absence of an individual being named on the subpoena, the subpoena shall be served on the County Attorney's Office.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2006

ORDERED this 27th day of June, 2006.

REVISED: 05/19/08

By: Richard T. Crotty, Orange County Mayor

10.001 TOBACCO IN THE WORKPLACE

I. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of this section is to provide employees with an understanding of Orange County's rules governing the use of tobacco and nicotine dispensing devices in County facilities. The rules are designed to foster the health and safety of all employees and the public as well as reduce adverse impacts and maintenance to mechanical equipment. After careful review and consideration of all the available information, Orange County has decided to take additional positive steps towards providing a tobacco-free and nicotine-free environment for all employees. Use of tobacco poses a significant risk to the health of the user. It can damage sensitive technical equipment and can be a safety hazard. The 1986 Surgeon General's report on involuntary smoking states that second hand smoke is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers. The report continues by saying that the simple separation of smokers and non-smokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of non-smokers to environmental tobacco smoke. Under Section 386.204, Florida Statutes, a person is prohibited from smoking in any enclosed indoor workplace. Nicotine is a highly addictive substance available for public consumption. The FDA has expressed concerns over the safety of nicotine dispensing devices. The potential health risks associated with the use of these devices and the impact of secondhand emissions caused by the use of these devices is largely undetermined. The following rules are provided to demonstrate Orange County's desire to improve and protect the health of its employees and citizens alike.