

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN  
AND FOR SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: S-2026-18**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER APPOINTING SUMTER COUNTY  
CANVASSING BOARD MEMBERS, SUBSTITUTE(S) AND  
ALTERNATE(S) FOR 2026 ELECTION CYCLE**

**AND**

**VACATING AND REPLACING  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: S-2025-03-B**

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit has the responsibility, pursuant to Section 102.141(1), Florida Statutes, to appoint a county court judge as the chair of the Sumter County Canvassing Board; and,

**WHEREAS**, the **HONORABLE PAUL MILITELLO**, Sumter County Court Judge, is a qualified elector of Sumter County who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 102.141(1)(a) and (e)1., Florida Statutes, requires the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit to appoint a county court judge as an alternate member of the county canvassing board or, if each county court judge is unable to serve, an alternate

*DBM*

member who is qualified to serve; and,

**WHEREAS, JOHN CALANDRO** is a qualified elector of Sumter County who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is qualified to serve as a substitute member under 102.141(1)(a), Florida Statutes; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 102.141(1)(d), Florida Statutes, empowers the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit to appoint substitute or alternate member(s) to the county canvassing board; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners has named **COMMISSIONER TODD COON** to serve as substitute to the seat held by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners; and,

**WHEREAS, DON WILEY** is a qualified elector of Sumter County who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed;

Based upon the above-stated factual finding, it is hereby **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that:

*DBMR*

1. The **HONORABLE PAUL MILITELLO**, Sumter County Court Judge, is hereby appointed to serve as a member and Chair of the Sumter County Canvassing Board for the 2026 election cycle.

2. **JOHN CALANDRO** is hereby appointed to serve as an alternate and may serve in any seat in accordance with 102.141(1)(e)1., Florida Statutes. In the event that Judge Militello is unable to serve as Chair, **JOHN CALANDRO** shall serve as Judge Militello's substitute and the members of the Sumter County Canvassing Board shall meet and elect a Chair in accordance with Section 102.141(a), Florida Statutes,

3. **DON WILEY** has been named pursuant to, and in accordance with, Section 102.141(1)(e)2., Florida Statutes as an alternate member and may serve in any seat.

4. **COMMISSIONER TODD COON** has been appointed as substitute to the seat held by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Section 102.141(1)(c), Florida Statutes.

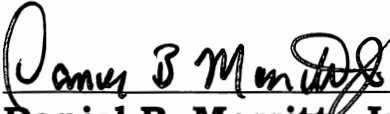
5. **THE HONORABLE MR. WILLIAM "BILL" KEEN**, Sumter County Supervisor of Elections, will serve on the canvassing board pursuant to Section 102.141(1).

6. Administrative Order **S-2025-03-B** is hereby vacated and

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replaced with this Order.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at, Brooksville, Hernando  
County, Florida on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.

  
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**Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.**  
**Chief Judge**  
**Fifth Judicial Circuit**