

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: M-2026-24

**APPOINTMENT OF HONORABLE ROBERT E. LANDT AS CHAIR
AND THE HONORABLE LORI COTTON AS ALTERNATE MEMBER
OF THE MARION COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD**

AND

VACATING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: M-2023-01

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 Marion County Canvassing Board; and,

WHEREAS, Section 102.141(1)(e)1., Florida Statutes, requires the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit to appoint a Marion County court judge as an alternate member of the Marion County Canvassing Board; and,

WHEREAS, the **HONORABLE ROBERT E. LANDT**, Marion County Court Judge, is a qualified elector of Marion 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,

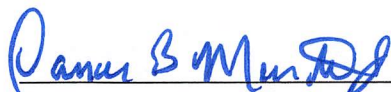
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WHEREAS, the **HONORABLE LORI COTTON**, Marion County Court Judge, is a qualified elector of Marion County who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any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

It is therefore **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED**:

- 1. THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. LANDT**, Marion County Court Judge, is hereby appointed to serve as the Chair of the Marion County Canvassing Board for the 2026 election cycle.
- 2. THE HONORABLE LORI COTTON**, Marion County Court Judge, is hereby appointed to serve as the alternate judicial member of the Marion County Canvassing Board for the 2026 election cycle.
- 3.** Administrative Order M-2023-01 is hereby vacated.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at, Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida on this 8th day of July 2026.



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