

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: S-2026-18-B

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

**AND
AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND REPLACING
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER S-2026-18-A**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 102.141(1), Florida Statutes, the county canvassing board shall be composed of the supervisor of elections; a county court judge, who shall act as chair; and the chair of the board of county commissioners, and alternate canvassing board members must be appointed pursuant to Sections 102.141(1)(e)1. and (e)2, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit has the responsibility, pursuant to Section 102.141(1), Florida Statutes, and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215, to appoint a county court judge as the chair of the Sumter 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 county court judge as an alternate member of the county canvassing board; and

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WHEREAS, Section 102.141(1)(d), Florida Statutes, empowers the Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit to appoint substitute and/or alternate member(s) to the 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 may serve as a member and Chair of the Sumter County Canvassing Board; and,

WHEREAS, the **HONORABLE SHELBY SENN** is a County Court Judge for Sumter County and 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 may serve as the alternate in any seat; and,

WHEREAS, the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners has named **MR. GARY GIRARD**, 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, to serve as substitute to the seat held by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, and may serve as a member of the Sumter County Canvassing Board; and,

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WHEREAS, MR. TERRY MICHAEL HINKLE, who 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 has been appointed by the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners to serve as an alternate, and may serve as an alternate in any seat;

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

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 pursuant to section 102.141(1), Florida Statutes.

2. The **HONORABLE SHELBY SENN**, Sumter County Court Judge, is hereby appointed to serve as an alternate, pursuant to section 102.141(1)(e)1., Florida Statutes, and may serve in any seat.

3. **MR. TERRY MICHAEL HINKLE** has been appointed by the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to section 102.141(1)(e)2., Florida Statutes, to serve as an alternate, and may serve in any seat.

4. **MR. GARY GIRARD** is hereby appointed as substitute for the seat held by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to Section 102.141(1)(d), Florida Statutes, and will serve on the Sumter County Canvassing

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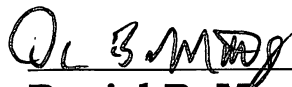
Board.

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-2026-18-A** is hereby amended, superseded and replaced with this Order.

7. This Order is effective when signed and shall remain in full force and effect until amended, superseded, replaced, vacated, or rescinded.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at, Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida on this 24th day of July 2026.



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